

The Pentecostal
EVANGEL

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Special Outreach Issue



AMERICA MUST CHOOSE . . .

God is on the side of those
who in humility and faith
put away the trivial
for the sake of the eternal.



PHILIP GENDREAU

America Must Choose!

... between three evils that will dash any nation to eternal destruction
... and three altars that can lift it to everlasting glory.

By CHAS. W. H. SCOTT

Assistant General Superintendent, Assemblies of God

AS AMERICANS WE SHOULD LIFT GRATEFUL HEARTS TO God for the liberties which we enjoy and for all the blessings which we have received as a nation. We should realize also that our liberties were not easily won, nor can they be easily preserved. While enjoying the blessings of freedom we ought to heed the warning of Abraham Lincoln—

“The greatest danger that threatens America will not be from across the waters, but from within our own borders.”

Is it possible that while we as a nation have been busy throughout the world, exerting an influence in Europe, seeking allies in Asia, rendering aid wherever we can to those in need of help, we have forgotten Lincoln's warning? Have we permitted ourselves to become blind to the grave dangers that are gnawing like a cancer at the very vitals of America?

The late Marshall Henri Petain, who ruled France during the German occupation, said: “The road over which the Nazi invader traveled into France was prepared by three fifth columnists; they were Immorality, Alcoholism, and Irreligion.” All signs indicate that these same three evils are threatening America only.

IMMORALITY is reaching serious proportions as laxness permeates the movies, magazines, and other media. Police records show that vagrancy is on the increase. Disorderly conduct, prostitution, and sex crimes are increasing in alarming numbers. The divorce mill is grinding out more broken homes than ever before. Juvenile delinquency has become a national menace as teen-age gangs join the throng of adult offenders in helping to fulfill the prophecy of Christ that the last days of this age would be like the days of Noah. Genesis 6:11 describes those days: “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.” The corruption and violence of our day, clearly revealed by the findings of the Congressional investigating committees, is aided and abetted by the insidious undermining influence of Communism which is spreading its debasing doctrines everywhere.

Just as ALCOHOLISM affected the moral fiber of France until it collapsed before the invader, so alcoholism

today is weakening America. Billions of dollars each year go down the drain for liquor. The number of alcoholics is increasing at a frightening speed. Drunkenness with its attendant problems of crime, vice, disease, poverty, and insanity is exacting a high toll on our nation. Drunken drivers are littering our highways with death and filling our hospitals with maimed and injured.

Evangeline Booth said: “Drink has drained more blood, hung more crepe, sold more homes, plunged more people into bankruptcy, armed more villains, slain more children, snapped more wedding rings, defiled more innocence, blinded more eyes, twisted more limbs, dethroned more reason, wrecked more manhood, dishonored more womanhood, broken more hearts, blasted more lives, driven more to suicide, and dug more graves than any other poisoned scourge that has ever swept the world.”

While there is a new interest in religion today, the vast majority are still dominated by IRRELIGION. They love gold more than God, throng the places of amusement, seeking the pleasures of the world and exchanging their priceless heritage of freedom of worship for freedom from worship.

Our present civilization has outmoded the Bible, turned its back on God, rejected the rule of His Son Jesus Christ, and turned away from righteousness and truth. Thereby it has cut the moorings of restraint and thrown overboard the only Pilot who knows the dangerous waters. As a result, the world drifts helplessly toward the abyss of hydrogen warfare and nuclear destruction.

The way out of our present dilemma is to abandon these evils and walk the path of righteousness. “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”—so spoke the wise man in Proverbs 14:34. *America must choose.* Probably it would be more correct to say that *Americans* must choose—for *we* are America. The responsibility lies with each citizen to turn away from all sin, follow God, and set a Christian example for others. There may not be much time left in which to do it!

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If we truly love America we will arise and build again the three altars which made her great in the past: the family altar, the church altar, and our private altar.

THE FAMILY ALTAR is basic. The first thing Abram did after leaving Haran and arriving in the land of Canaan was to build "an altar unto the Lord" (Genesis 12:7). This altar of worship became the center of Abram's family life. It affected his thinking, his planning, his actions, and it directed his life Godward into an intimacy with Deity so binding that God revealed to Abram the impending destruction of Sodom before the judgment fell.

The entire history of Israel revolved around the altar which Abram began that day. When the altar was neglected and forgotten, captivity and sorrow came upon the nation. When the altar was rebuilt, blessing and prosperity resulted.

The rebuilding of America's family altar will arrest the tide of delinquency and raise a wall against the scourge of divorce. Daily prayers and Bible reading around the family table will equip the parents with wisdom and anchor the children's faith in the Rock of Ages.

Henry Grady visited Washington and then went back to Atlanta to write an editorial about our national capital. He described its beauty and called it the center around which our whole nation moved. Some months afterwards he visited his old home. When he returned again to Atlanta he wrote another editorial, admitting that he had made a tremendous blunder. "The heart of the country," he said, "is not the U. S. capital, but the cottages and farmhouses and homes of this country where there is a family altar."

Wherever the family altar is found, there will be peace and happiness, accompanied by God's blessing on that family and ultimately upon the nation.

THE CHURCH ALTAR is the second altar needed today. The church is the greatest influence for good in all the world. Its message brought liberty to America. It has no parallel or competitor. It stands alone, distinct from all else. There is no point of fraternity between the church and the sinful world.

The Christian church promotes and maintains faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. To faith in Christ we owe practically everything which we prize. The church is a bulwark against the erosion of sin. It is vital to our national existence.

THE PRIVATE ALTAR is the third important altar needed in America today. In Romans 12:1 the apostle says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice. . . ." Salvation for this nation is a personal matter multiplied by approximately 180 million Americans. When we turn to God as individuals the nation turns and finds help for every problem. Our President, our statesmen, our military leaders, have repeatedly called America to rebuild the altars of personal devotion to God, that our nation may have the divine favor and be healed of its sin-sickness.

The Bible says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12). If we will rebuild these

BAKERY EXECUTIVE SAYS SPACE AGE NEEDS THE CHURCH



I am grateful for the church. Some of my happiest boyhood memories are of Sundays when we all climbed into the old wagon and went to church.

Since that time my work has taken me into most every state in the union and wherever I have gone, even into the little cross-road communities, it has always been thrilling, regardless of the architecture or size of the building, to find a house of God. It is my belief that most men believe in a higher power, even though they may not serve God, yet in their hearts they acknowledge Him. I do not know anyone who would wish to live in a community where there is no church.

Every time I see a steeple pointing heavenward, I am reminded that God and His word can fill every need of mankind, in the space age, as in every age. There is not a moral, social, or economic problem that would not be solved if everyone would embrace the teachings of Christ and obey Him.

The Lord is real. I have found Him so in my everyday business life. He answers prayer today, and will guide those who really desire and seek His leadership, which is, after all, what we desperately need.

—by Allen Lawrence

important altars and worship the Lord as a family, as a church, as individuals, God will be our ally just as He has been the ally of righteous men and nations of the past. He was an ally to Elijah, providing him with food and water in the time of famine and drought. He was an ally to Gideon, delivering the nation out of the hands of a powerful enemy. He was an ally to Israel, when He turned the Red Sea into a thoroughfare of deliverance for Israel and a terminus of destruction for the Egyptians. He was an ally to Joshua, as He went before the armies as their Captain, overcoming and destroying great nations before the onslaught of Israel.

God is on the side of those who in humility and faith put away the trivial for the sake of the eternal. Such people become true patriots who seek by their daily example to destroy corruption, intemperance, wickedness, and selfishness.

Let us return to Him as individuals and as a nation; let us rebuild the altars which have crumbled and fallen, that America under God may maintain her exalted position and be a blessing in the earth. ❧

FOUR THINGS GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW:

THERE ARE FOUR THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW IF YOU wish to make your home in heaven for eternity: (1) you need to be saved; (2) you cannot save yourself; (3) Christ died to save you; (4) you may be saved NOW.

I

Perhaps you thought that no one needs salvation except murderers, safebreakers, or men who run off with their neighbors' wives. The truth is that EVERYONE needs to be saved, for "ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God." The Bible says, "There is none righteous, no, not one."

"Christ died for our sins," it says—not only the thief's sins, and the drunkard's, but everyone's. The Scripture says He takes away "the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Again in 1 John 2:2 we read that He cancels "the sins of the whole world."

You may be a good neighbor, an honest citizen, a moral person, but the Bible says *you need to be saved.*

II

The second thing God wants you to know is that you cannot save yourself.

Some years ago a Pullman car caught fire, and a medical doctor on board was burned to death. At the inquest, one of the porters testified that he thought all the passengers had been rescued from the burning car. He said he looked and could not see anyone, but just to make sure he shouted, "Is there anybody in here? If so, save yourself."

For some unknown reason, the doctor did not hear—or perhaps he was overcome with smoke and unable to save himself. No one is able to save himself from sin or its consequences. Salvation is "not of works, lest any man should boast," the Bible says. "By the works of the law shall no flesh be justified" (Galatians 2:16).

III

But Christ died to save us. He did not treat us as the porter treated the unfortunate doctor. He did not call down to us from His throne in heaven, saying, "Poor sinners, you are in great danger. Save yourselves." No, He personally came down into the world to save us. "He loved us, and gave Himself for us" on the cross. He died, "the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God."

IV

Therefore it is possible to be saved—and furthermore, you may be saved NOW. The Bible says you may be saved today (but it does not say you may be saved tomorrow). "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Life is very uncertain, and brief at the best. There's too much at stake to gamble on a later opportunity!

The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." If you are wise you will do it today. God will forgive your sins if you will repent and turn away from them. He will give you a new life if you will ask Him to. His promise is definite and clear enough for all to understand: "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).



A TRUE STORY

PEAC

RICARDO SAT ON A BENCH IN PLAZA CONGRESO IN DOWNTOWN Buenos Aires, Argentina. Only the lazy breeze from the River Plata kept the Plaza from being a boiling inferno. Buenos Aires in February is hot, for the climate is exactly opposite to that in North America. Ricardo was planning a rendezvous with a friend. At 6:30 they would assault and rob the first likely victim they could find. Money for food—the thought filled the teen-ager with desire.

Ricardo had shifted for himself since he was nine. Four years selling papers in the capital city of Argentina were enough to teach him the wiles of self-preservation long before he should have faced the adult world. At least that is what the *Padre* told the boy when he entered seminary at the age of thirteen.

His two years in seminary had only disillusioned Ricardo and made him doubt the existence of God. By the time the boy was sixteen, he had left the seminary and was frequenting the night spots of Buenos Aires. He came into contact with what seemed to be a respectable crowd, but it was not long before their godless practices enticed the boy into the stream of indulgence. Before he realized it, Ricardo found himself in a ring of dope smugglers.

Lively political discussions which lasted into the night intrigued him. Politics became an obsession. He joined a local *Peronista* cell which had been organized to support the regime of Dictator Juan Perón.

As he sat under the shade of a towering palm in Plaza Congreso, Ricardo watched the pigeons darting in and out among the passersby who dropped kernels of food for them. "On the go, but going nowhere" he thought as he watched the birds. How like his own life! All Perón had had to do was suggest a political demonstration and Ricardo was on the spot to carry out the party's wishes. Ricardo had risen quickly in the ranks and was secretary of his cell before he reached his twentieth birthday.

Then it happened—the day Ricardo never anticipated! Juan Perón's government was overthrown. The dictator went into exile.

Although under age, Ricardo had been such a notorious *Peronista* that he was quickly arrested. He spent the following month in prison. Impressionable as teen-agers can be, Ricardo resented the ill treatment he experienced in the political prison. He never forgot, nor forgave. As soon as he was released he sought his former companions. They quickly formed terrorist gangs. Disorders, harassments, violence erupted throughout the country. Argentina was in chaos.

On June 9, 1956, a concerted effort to overthrow the new regime and bring Perón back to power was crushed. Ricardo was again imprisoned.

His quick release seemed to be a miracle. Instead of reforming, however, Ricardo became more clandestine in his activities—and more malicious. Two months seemed to be the longest stretch Ricardo could stay out of prison.

PEACE IN HER EYES

BY R. T. BROCK



Fights and assaults were the only way he could maintain his "standard" of living which included smoking, drinking, gambling, and other vices.

Ricardo's heart had hardened. As he sat on the Plaza bench, the lines of his face evidenced a spirit that was far too old for his youthful years. When estranged from his family in the fall of 1960, Ricardo quit his job and threw himself without reservation into youthful pleasures and terrorism. In neither did he find the satisfaction for which he was looking.

An oath involuntarily slipped through the boy's lips as a shadow fell cross the bench. He wanted to be alone. He looked up and saw a woman handing out tracts. "Another evangelical!" he snorted, turning away.

As she approached the figure on the Plaza bench, the woman smiled. "So young," she thought. "So creased by the marks of dissipation." Her heart went out to the youth on the bench, for she knew he needed Christ. Without knowing why, the woman looked directly into the boy's eyes. There she saw a longing, a yearning. "Oh, God," she silently prayed, "save this young man!"

Ricardo looked at the woman. There was something different about her. It hadn't happened in years, but a prayer escaped his lips, that so recently had uttered a foul oath. "God, make this woman speak to me about you!"

The peace in the woman's eyes tormented Ricardo. He realized he had never experienced what she was enjoying. Longing to possess it tormented his soul.

Breaking the silence, Ricardo asked for a tract. The woman handed one to him and moved a short distance away. A group of boys and girls quickly surrounded her. They seemed to have been waiting for her arrival. Seating themselves around the woman, they listened intently as she told them about Jesus.

Ricardo leaned toward the group. Not wishing to appear to be listening, he pretended to be busy reading the tract, but at the same time he listened to the gospel story. He was strangely affected by what he heard.

When the story hour ended Ricardo approached the woman. "What is the address of your church?" he questioned.

Without speaking the woman took the tract Ricardo had read and gave him another. This was imprinted with the address of the Hidalgo Street Evangelistic Center where Louie Stokes, an Assemblies of God missionary, is pastor.

Still the woman had not spoken to the boy. Ricardo could wait no longer. He began to talk. The burden of sin weighed heavily. He must have relief. As Ricardo

(continued on next page)



A prayer arose in the young terrorist's heart when he saw the look in her eyes



Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

✧ *How may we maintain an attitude of peace in these upsetting days?*

First we must be at peace with God, by putting our faith in the Saviour. "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). Then we must trust Him to care for us. We are not promised exemption from troubles, for the Bible says, "In the world ye shall have tribulation"—but faith in God will give us inner peace in spite of outward turmoil.

✧ *What do people mean when they say they have "heartfelt religion"?*

Those who use this expression mean they have salvation in their hearts, not just a theory in their heads. It is a way of saying they have assurance they are saved.

✧ *What do people mean when they say, "Give your heart to Jesus"?*

To give the heart to Jesus means to give one's love to Him. When a young lady gives her love to the young man of her choice, she gives to him herself, her life, her all. It is like this when we give our hearts to Jesus.

✧ *What is the sinner's prayer?*

The sinner's prayer is not made up of words only, for prayer is more than words. It is the cry of the soul seeking peace with God. The prayer of the publican is a good example of this, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). When the repentant sinner prays in faith, God will answer and will forgive his sins through our Lord Jesus Christ.

✧ *Does Hebrews 6:4-6 teach that a backslider cannot be restored to salvation?*

No, it does not. The warning of this passage is against apostasy—turning one's back on Christ and denying the faith completely. Peter denied his Lord but the words of the angel, "Go tell his disciples and Peter," show that, though he had failed, he could be restored. We also have the promise: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Jesus' portrayal of the return of the prodigal son teaches that the Father is glad to welcome those who return in repentance to Him (Luke 15:11-24).

✧ *I have been saved recently, but have not been baptized in water. Is this really necessary?*

As soon as possible after accepting Jesus as your personal Saviour, you ought to be baptized in water in obedience to the commandment of Jesus (Matthew 28:19). As you live the Christian life you will learn that the secret of success is in being able always to say, as Jesus did, "Not my will, but thine be done." In baptism you acknowledge that you are not your own, but that you belong wholly to the Lord and wish to be His love servant.

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unburdened his heart, the woman prayed for wisdom to lead the boy to Christ.

"Come to my home," she suggested. "Several of my friends are waiting there for our regular Saturday afternoon prayer meeting."

Ricardo accompanied the woman to her home. Every time he had an opportunity, he surveyed her face. It was still there—the peace in her eyes.

Arriving at the woman's home, Ricardo entered without hesitation. A strange compelling force was leading him into a new experience. In all of his social and political experiences he had never felt such a driving sensation. The woman began to explain the way of salvation. It was very different from what Ricardo had heard at home and in seminary!

After listening for some time, he said: "I want to receive the Lord as my Saviour, but I know I am not going to be faithful. I have many vices that dominate my life."

The answer was strange: "You have to receive the Promise." And the woman with peace in her eyes motioned the boy into another room where the ladies were praying. Falling on his knees, Ricardo surrendered his life to Christ. Joy filled his soul. After a time of prayer, Ricardo arose and surveyed the room. A clock said 6:30—it was time for the rendezvous! His accomplice would be there with Ricardo's most prized possessions—his revolver and knife. After the assault and robbery, both would have food for their empty stomachs.

But Ricardo, happy to know his sins were forgiven, did not keep that rendezvous. Instead he accompanied the ladies to church. Following the service, there was another prayer meeting with a group of young people present. At midnight Ricardo and the others were still on their knees.

While Ricardo was praising the Lord for deliverance from sin, the woman's words echoed in his mind: "You have to receive the Promise." If there were more to this experience, he wanted it! As a result, six and one-half hours after his conversion, Ricardo was filled with the Holy Spirit. "He strengthened me with His Spirit so that I can overcome the weakness of my flesh," the joyful youth exulted. The emptiness of his stomach was eclipsed by the spiritual joy that filled his soul.

* * *

I watched Ricardo as he stood to sing in the Hidalgo Street Evangelistic Center last January. His testimony was simple: "I can only say in the poor meaning of human expression: I will never forget the day in which I found the Lord and accepted Him as my Saviour." Though Ricardo sang in Spanish, I could feel the fervency of his song of praise as his rich baritone voice filled the sanctuary.

Surveying the audience, I knew that somewhere in the congregation was the woman who, with peace in her eyes, had led Ricardo to Christ. How her heart must have thrilled as she heard her convert declare: "I am returning to the River Plata Bible Institute to prepare myself for the ministry!"

Ricardo, once a *Peronista* terrorist, is now preparing to sing and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ among his own people because one day he met a woman in the Plaza—a woman with peace in her eyes. ■■

How to Have A HAPPY HOME

By HARRY GOLDSMITH, Ph. D.
Clinical Psychologist

HAPPY FAMILY LIFE IS THE DESIRE OF EVERY TRUE PARENT but many fathers and mothers seem to overlook some of the basic ingredients. Unhappy and maladjusted children are the inevitable result.

What contributes to a happy, stable family? While conceived in love, the family must be nurtured by an understanding of each other's needs. Each member must care more for the other's welfare than for his own. When such self-effacing love is present, children can be taught to co-operate, be helpful, and accomplish useful work. Without it they are often unable to learn. Instead they get discouraged and may become delinquent.

Primarily, then, the training ground of love is in the family. Here children must see love in operation in the lives of their mother and father. Otherwise, they have no model from which to learn what true love is, and so will not be likely to build their lives upon a basis of love and co-operation.



In addition to love, each person needs security. At the beginning of life he has dependent security; that is, he feels secure to the extent that his parents love, guide, and protect him. As he grows older and develops in an atmosphere of love and understanding he is able to develop independent security, which is the ability to obtain satisfactions from within himself. He becomes willing and able to make decisions, and to be responsible for following through on them.

While the ingredients of love and security are essential for a stable and happy family, yet they are insufficient in themselves. An individual who puts all his trust and hope in human beings, whether in himself or in others, is likely to suffer much disappointment. There is painful disillusionment when a person in whom we have put great trust falls. It seems that all the support has gone out from under us.

This points up the fact that the family structure needs the undergirding of a foundation which is unshakable. Such a foundation is beyond human achievement; it must be provided by our Lord Jesus Christ. Without Him, the circle is incomplete.

Independent security is a very fragile ingredient by itself. The individual must understand the necessity of relying on God, and must grasp the magnitude of Christ's love for him so he rightly can practice complete dependence upon the Lord. Here he will never be disappointed. His trust will be on a rock that endures from generation to generation. Consequently, such a person will have a security that is independent entirely of this present world.

When difficulties arise in the family relationship, it is essential to turn to Christ for spiritual fellowship. The companion who feels that their partner is unable or unwilling to meet their emotional needs, instead of con-

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Housewife Finds Rich Reward in Serving Christ



While preparing the evening meal for our family I felt two small arms go around me. My young daughter was hugging me. I looked down into big blue eyes shining with love.

"Mother, I hope you never die," she said. And I dropped to my knees to embrace her.

Expressions of affection like this are not rare at our house. I often experience happy moments of love with my children. This is one of the rewards of Christian motherhood.

There are problems, of course. Every parent has them. It seems each day is more unpredictable than the day before. But having Jesus in our home makes such a difference. We find that prayer always changes things. And in serving Christ we have a way of life to offer our children that is full of real meaning.

—by Joyce Harrell

templating separation from their family, should admit the existence of the problem and place it squarely on Christ's shoulders.

When we ask the Lord for His guidance in our time of need, we may be assured that no matter what happens the Lord will be at our side to succor and to love us in a more perfect and understanding way than any human being ever could. In such an atmosphere, with divine guidance, a real family reconciliation is possible, not just the kind where the parents stay together merely "for the sake of the children."

Occasionally, professional assistance may be desirable. The husband and wife may find that a trained outsider, if it be one who fears God, can provide an insight and understanding into feelings that exist within them, but of which they are unaware.

One other ingredient is necessary. Each person must be willing to change, not just superficially, but in the depths of his being where it sometimes hurts to change. Here love meets its sternest test. Does each partner love the other enough to consider that the other's needs are more important than his own? And does love for Christ so control the life of each partner that what He wants for them surpasses each individual's wants? To do all this may seem humanly impossible, and at times it is. But what is impossible for man is easy for Christ, who dwells within us, to accomplish.

An understanding of God's world does not develop overnight. As children we learn to understand our par-

ents and to love them. In the same way it takes time and proper teaching to understand Christ's purpose here on earth and His desires for us. It takes experience in His presence to comprehend His love and to love Him in return.

In the Sunday school the children can gain a knowledge about God's world and Christ's redeeming grace; in the worship service they gain the experience of meeting the Master face to face. Thus, Sunday school and church attendance are vital ingredients in bringing up children.

But we cannot shift the entire responsibility to the church. The church should serve as a model to assist the parents as they take the major share of responsibility. The parents must see that Bible study, worship, and communion with the Lord become as habitual as eating and sleeping. The family altar must be regular, and it should provide an opportunity for the children and adolescents to ask questions and air doubts. Prayer will be the anchor to keep the family together.

The happy home will radiate the spirit of love and security. It will be Christ-centered, with the parents willing to make changes in order to further such an objective. The Sunday school and church are to furnish spiritual stimulation in both instruction and worship to the growing family, which in turn maintains its daily contact with God through the family altar. So held together by a mutual devotion to Christ, the family will have a happy home. "

FOLLOW AFTER...

Bible Puzzle for Junior Readers

BY DICK CHAMPION

When the apostle Paul wrote his first letter to Timothy, he told this young man some things the "man of God" should "follow after."

You can find those things here in the puzzle. Start at the square in the upper left-hand corner. Then find the next letter of the word by moving either right or left, or up or down. Never move diagonally. A gray square lets you know you have come to the end of a word. Use each letter only one time. The puzzle ends at the lower right-hand corner.

There are six words to find. The first one is the longest—it has thirteen letters in it. The shortest word has four letters in it.

You can check on your answer by looking up 1 Timothy 6:11 in your Bible.

START	R	I	G	E	N	C	E
E	T	H	I	T	E	M	
O	U	S	N	A	E	K	
D	O		E	P	E	N	
L	G	S	S		V	E	
I	S	S	I	T	O	S	
N	E	F	A	H	L	S	END

Sunday's Lesson

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH



DAVID SHOWS TRUE GREATNESS

Next Week's Sunday School Lesson

1 SAMUEL 24:3-7; 26:7-11; MATTHEW 5:43, 44

Rather than limit the illustrations of David's true greatness to the present lesson text, we shall take illustrations from David's entire life. God said, "I have found David . . . , a man after mine own heart which shall fulfil all my will" (Acts 13:22). What were some of the reasons why God held this high opinion of David?

1. *Throughout his life David possessed a great and abiding passion that God should be glorified in all things.* At a young age he volunteered to engage Goliath in battle, being stirred by the fact that God's glory and honor were at stake. Thrice he pointed out that Goliath was defying the "armies of the living God." His purpose in defeating Goliath was not "that all the earth may know" what a great hero David was, but "that there is a God in Israel!" Both the motivating principle and ultimate goal of David's entire life was, "Hallowed be thy name."

2. *David was a great lover of God Himself.* No one can read the Psalms he composed without being aware of the inherent spirituality of his life. We hear him crying: "I will praise thee with my whole heart." "I will love thee, O Lord." "I will bless the Lord at all times." "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." "My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee." What a devout worshiper was David! Above all God's gifts he was taken up with God Himself!

3. *David was a great repentant.* In contrast to the ease with which some men deceive themselves, refuse to face their own sins, and seek to shift personal blame to others, David's transparent honesty before God is most challenging. Unbelievers delight in calling attention to David's double sin of murder and adultery—and these were grievous sins indeed. Yet we cannot afford to overlook the fact that David knew how to say some of the most difficult words in the human language—"I have sinned." Nowhere in the Bible is there a more perfect example of deep and wholehearted repentance than David expressed in Psalm 51. As Paul points out in 2 Corinthians 7:9-11, such "godly sorrow" transforms one's life and character.

4. *David exhibited great reverence toward Saul as God's anointed.* Although Saul's conduct became such that he forfeited any right to respect for his *personal* character, as long as he was permitted of God to be king his divinely given *position* must be respected. God has always dealt drastically with those who were guilty of irreverence toward God-appointed leaders (see Numbers 12:1-16; 16:1-50; 2 Kings 2:23-25). David knew

this and refused every opportunity to lay his hand on Saul.

5. *David was great in his refusal to seek personal revenge upon the man who had been his bitterest enemy.* At least twice David might easily have slain this man who was out to kill him. David's men sought to persuade him that God had arranged circumstances to help him do this. However, David realized that the circumstances provided only a test of his own character, and recognized that even friends sometimes may be unwitting tools of Satan!

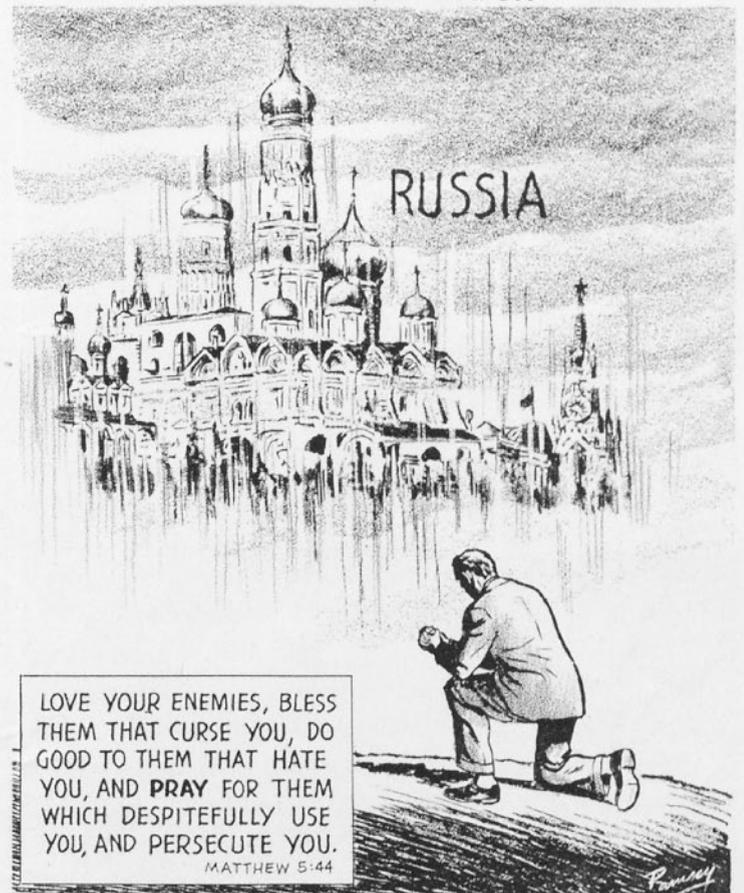
6. *David was great in that he genuinely loved the man who had sought to destroy him.* Read the beautiful tribute he paid to Saul when told of the king's death. Hear his words, "How are the mighty fallen . . . Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives." How could David sincerely say such a thing? He simply dwelt upon Saul's good qualities and refused to remember the dead man's failures! (See 2 Samuel 1:17-27).

7. *David was great because, in all the sorrows and trials of his life, he never questioned the love and justice of God.* Not all of David's troubles were related to his own sins or mistakes. Some, however, definitely resulted from his own personal failures, and in such instances David's attitude was one of full submission, abject humility, and complete trust in the love and goodness of God.

Although he lived in what we consider a far less privileged age, David in all these points of greatness set a beautiful example of Christlikeness. Such an image the Holy Spirit longs to produce in every Christian today!

—J. Bashford Bishop

AMERICA'S SECRET WEAPON



Prayer Saved Rex's Life

By LEWIS A. MESSICK, PASTOR, ASSEMBLY OF GOD, HAMPTON, IOWA



Rex McClain

"REX, THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THIS I DO NOT understand," the doctor said, shaking his head. "You should have been under the sod for the last two months!"

"I would have been, Doctor," was the reply, "if..."—and Rex McClain told how prayer had saved his life.

* * *

It happened one night in November, 1952. The startling, incessant clamor of the telephone awakened me. While yet half asleep I reached for it clumsily and heard a woman's anxious voice.

"Oh, Pastor," she said, "please hurry to the hospital. Rex has been hurt badly at work." It was the wife of Ernie, Rex's foreman at the foundry.

"He has been hurt real bad," she went on. "Ernie asked me to phone and say you should go to the hospital right away. Will you stop by his home and take Mable with you, and *please hurry!*"

Both Rex and Mable, his wife, were members of the Gospel Tabernacle at Bettendorf, Iowa, and I was their pastor at the time. Of course, I lost no time in driving first to Rex's home, then to the hospital.

Personnel Supervisor Finds the Bible a Constant Help



In this work-a-day world I cherish, above everything else, the opportunity of having heard the gospel call and the privilege of serving Christ, my Saviour. I am glad I am a Christian. I am grateful also for the Bible which is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

A favorite Scripture of mine is Isaiah 30:15—"In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." In the business world there are daily incidents which might disturb us, but with God's help we can rise above them. We can know that as we trust Him these circumstances will work for our good, not only in developing Christian character but also in enabling us to be witnesses to His wonderful grace.

I cannot enumerate all the blessings of Christian living. With Christ in our hearts there is a peace which passes understanding, an unspeakable joy, and a consciousness of the abiding presence of One greater than ourselves as our Guide.

—by Margaret Kameron

Arriving at the hospital, we ran up the stairs and found Rex's mangled, suffering, half-conscious form lying upon a bed that was so clean, so white, and yet so impersonal. I knew there must be internal injuries as well.

Rex McClain worked in the maintenance department. His job that night was to grease and oil the machinery, readying it for the next day's work, and it was necessary for him to crawl inside the big machines that mix sand for core-making. He had often done this before, but that night something strange and unexpected happened. Someone noticed the switch was open and—for some unexplainable reason—closed the switch to test that machine!

A piercing scream of extreme pain charged the air with evil portent, and the machine was shut off immediately.

It was too late! Rex was caught inside. His anguished, urgent plea, "Get me out!" hurried the helping hands, but some minutes passed before he could be removed and placed in the waiting ambulance.

It is impossible to put into words one's feeling in a situation like this. My faith was put to the acid test. I walked over to the bed, put my hand upon his forehead, and said, "Rex, this is Brother Messick. I'm here to help you all I can."

In a gasping, almost inaudible voice Rex replied, "Thanks . . . I . . . I . . . just can't . . . get . . . my breath. I can't . . . breathe . . . any . . . more."

Philippians 4:13 immediately came to my mind and I said, "Yes, you can, Rex; you *can* breathe, and you *will!* *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.* Remember that now—and try."

One painful breath followed another. It seemed to our anxious ears that each one was just a little deeper and a bit more confident.

"Yes . . . I can. I . . . believe . . . I . . . can. It's easier . . . now."

Prayerfully I waited by the bed and watched the doctor make the preliminary examination—now and then shaking his head. I led Rex's wife out of the room and we waited in the hall for what seemed hours in order to speak to the doctor.

When he appeared Mrs. McClain asked, "How is he, Doctor? I want to know the truth. Give it to me straight."

The doctor, looking first at Mable and then at my nod, said, "All right, I will tell you the truth, and it isn't good. Rex is injured very seriously. At present he is in severe shock—with his blood pressure way down. It is seldom, if ever, that anyone recovers from such severe shock. Even if there were no other injuries, he probably cannot survive the shock. I can't give you much hope. *He probably will die before the day is over.*"

The doctor turned and walked away. Mrs. McClain turned to me with such a helpless look in her eyes.

I said to her, "But we still have God—He's on our side."

I phoned to my wife and asked her to call the church to prayer. *Never underestimate the power of a church united in prayer!* Earnestly, fervently, the Christians lifted their voices in prayer that God would spare this husband and father.

A series of X rays revealed the startling extent of the injuries: pelvis broken in four places; eight vertebrae crushed; left leg and arm almost pulled off, and dislocated; crushing injuries to the right chest; right lung collapsed; both hips out of joint.

How could a man live with these injuries—and in extreme shock? He was placed in a Thomas splint, with a fifteen-pound weight on the right leg. They said that if he lived—which was improbable—he faced long months in the hospital.

But prayer saved Rex's life. He began to recover. There was a steady improvement in his condition, in spite of some setbacks. Each time the issue was momentarily clouded, faith prevailed!"

I was talking with the doctor one day and he said: "Pastor, go and see this man as often as you can. I have left instructions with the attending nurse to call you immediately if difficulties arise—just as she would call me. Feel free to go right away, for I believe you can do that man more good now than I can." (This doctor was not of my faith, but was quick to recognize the importance of spiritual ministration in physical emergencies.

The days went by slowly. The tentative time for release from the hospital was moved forward from June to May, then to April, but Rex was able to leave the hospital on March 13.

Ten years have passed. Today Rex doesn't look much like a candidate for the undertaker. He and his family still live in Bettendorf, Iowa, and he is working every day.

"I have missed only four days of work in the last number of years," Rex says, "and that was last winter—with the 'flu bug.' Oh, I have the few aches and pains that most men have at forty years of age. But I have no ill effects from my accident."

That which seemed impossible when we stood in the corridor of that hospital actually happened. For we had God—He was on our side. He answered prayer. What other explanation could be given? ❧

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THIS PRESENT WORLD

NEWS AND NOTES ON OUR TIMES

Getting Water from Ancient Reservoirs

A newspaper says, "Jerusalem is being supplied with fresh water from reservoirs built by King Solomon. Water is brought to the city by means of an aqueduct which passes through Bethlehem." We are reminded of the water of eternal life, that flows from the Throne of God. It comes to all men who are willing to drink of it—and it comes through Bethlehem (see Matthew 2:6).

Israeli Prisoners Go Home for Holidays

Four years ago Israel, which has a most enlightened philosophy on prisons, began issuing 98-hour passes to selected prisoners to permit them to go home unescorted for a visit with their families. So far, not a single prisoner has failed to return.

During Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur the penal authorities expanded their humane custom. As an experiment, they issued 48-hour passes to a record number of prisoners. The experiment was highly successful. All but a few prisoners returned to jail on time. One of them came rushing to meet the deadline in a stolen car!

Millions Prepared to Live in Caves

It is not only in America that people are going underground to avoid nuclear destruction. European nations are ahead of the U.S. in providing shelters for fallout protection. An article in the *New York Times* says that Sweden has made plans for moving 3,500,000 people (nearly half the country's population) in the event of a new world war. Fourteen vast structures have been made under some of Sweden's largest cities and 30,000 smaller shelters under apartment houses. In case of a sudden attack 2,250,000 Swedes could go underground at once!

Millions will hide when the Almighty sets out to judge the world for its sins. We read in Revelation 6, verses 15-17, that everyone from kings to paupers will hide themselves "in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains" and will say to the mountains, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne... for the great day of His wrath is come." Well might the wicked wish to hide from an angry God! But there is not an underground shelter being built today that is strong enough to protect sinners from divine judgment when that hour strikes.

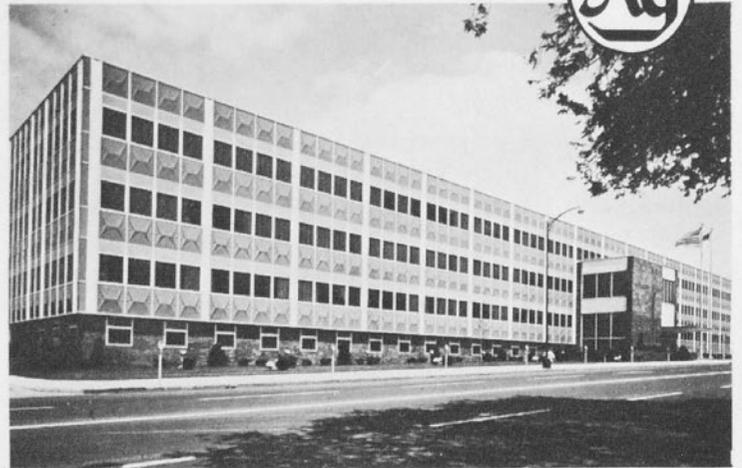
Claims Medical Science Will End Death

According to the *Saturday Review*, a Yale psychiatry professor "envisions the day when medical science will free mankind from death, and people will develop their hitherto unused brain capacity to give meaning to their endless lives."

Christians know that man will never be able to put an end to death. In Hebrews 9:27 we read, "It is appointed unto men once to die..." And Paul writes, "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For [God] hath put all things [including death] under [Christ's] feet..." (1 Corinthians 15:26, 27).



Interesting Facts About the Assemblies of God



International Headquarters of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Mo.

THE LATEST SURVEY SHOWS THAT THERE ARE 8,273 churches of the Assemblies of God in the U.S. It is one of the most rapidly growing religious denominations in the country, having registered a gain of over 40 per cent in number of churches and over 59 per cent in membership in the past ten years.

Church members in the U.S. now total 514,317 and Sunday school enrollment has reached 992,366. There are Assemblies of God churches in every one of the 50 states and in 72 foreign lands.

Due to the denomination's aggressive missionary program the growth in foreign lands has surpassed that in the U.S. There are now 11,922 foreign churches and preaching points, and the membership including adherents and communicants had reached 1,393,173 at the last count.

The Assemblies of God is a comparatively young denomination having been organized in 1914. International headquarters are at Springfield, Missouri, where a new three-million-dollar administration building was dedicated in March 1962 to house the offices of the various departments of the church. These include benevolence, education, evangelism, foreign missions, home missions, men's fellowship, women's missionary council, youth, Sunday school, publications, and radio.

The radio voice of the Assemblies of God is *Revival-time*, heard each Sunday over approximately 400 stations in the U.S. and abroad (including the ABC network).

Visitors always find a friendly welcome awaiting them

at the Assemblies of God church in their community. They find that lively singing and an atmosphere of fervent worship characterize the meetings. The love of Christ and His power to save are exalted in all the preaching. The Bible is the main textbook for the various Sunday school classes.

Assemblies of God churches subscribe to the following statement of faith:

"We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. *We believe* that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. *We believe* in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future, return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. *We believe* that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. *We believe* that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. *We believe* that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. *We believe* that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. *We believe* in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. *We believe* in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation."

You are invited to write to the Editor of this magazine for any further information you might desire, or you may contact an Assemblies of God pastor in your community. The purpose of this special Outreach Issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel* is to share with you the good news of full salvation. Whatever your spiritual needs may be, the Bible has the answer for it points to an all-sufficient Saviour whose love for men has never waned and whose power to answer prayer is just as great today as when He performed His miracles in Judea and Galilee so long ago. //

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Filled With the Spirit

Read what the Bible says about a spiritual experience that is gaining very wide attention among Christians of all faiths.

By ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM
Editor, The Pentecostal Evangel

THE NEED OF BEING "FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT" IS RECEIVING increased emphasis throughout the land. Pastors, evangelists, and Bible teachers of many different church denominations are stressing the fact that unless a Christian believer is "filled with the Spirit" he is living below the standard for New Testament Christianity.

Perhaps you have wondered what the expression means. It is a term frequently used in the Scriptures. Peter was "filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 4:8), as also was Paul (Acts 13:9), and so were all the disciples of Jesus.

It is strange, therefore, that the Church for so long said very little about this Spirit-filled life. Only in recent years has it come into prominence. Actually the Lord desires every person who believes on Him to have this experience, for He has given us a clear command to "be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18).

If we are to obey this command we first must know more about the experience, and the place to go for this knowledge is the Bible. Then if someone asks us, "Have you received the Holy Spirit?" we will not have to appear mystified nor answer as the Ephesian church members did, "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost!" (Acts 19:2).

JOHN'S TEACHING

First let us open the Bible at Matthew 3:11 where John is preaching at the Jordan. He is addressing the people and saying, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." When we turn to John 1:33 we find that God showed him who it was that would baptize (or fill) people with the Spirit. It was Jesus.

In other words, John spoke of two different baptisms: the baptism in water, and the baptism with the Holy Spirit. A man named Apollos heard about John's message and preached it to the Ephesians, but actually he had only half the message. He knew about water baptism, but that was all. Paul the apostle came along and told the Ephesians about the other baptism; then he laid his hands upon them and they received. "The Holy

Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied" (Acts 19:6).

This experience that the Ephesians received may be called either "the baptism in the Holy Ghost" or "the baptism in the Holy Spirit" for the terms are synonymous. (The Holy Ghost is merely another name for the Spirit of God, the third Person of the Trinity.) You might also call it "the baptism of Jesus," in contrast to "the baptism of John," for according to Acts 2:33 it is Jesus who baptizes (or fills) us with the Holy Spirit.

CHRIST'S TEACHING

Now let us notice that, although Jesus did not baptize people in the Holy Spirit until after He arose and went back to heaven, yet He taught His disciples about it while He was on earth. He told them God would give the Holy Spirit to those who asked Him for it (Luke 11:13).

Please read John 7:38. Here Jesus says, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water." If you do not understand what Christ means here, just read the verse that follows—"This spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Spirit was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified." In other words, Jesus could not baptize them in the Spirit as long as He was on the earth with them; but He was getting them ready for the experience.

THE MIRACLE OF PENTECOST

After Jesus left them and returned to heaven, the disciples, in accordance with His instructions, departed not from Jerusalem but waited for the coming of the Spirit (Acts 1:4, 5). They went into a large upstairs room and there, in the course of their prayer meeting, a miracle occurred. "Suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind... and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:2-4).

There were over a hundred men and women in that prayer meeting besides the apostles, and the Bible says they were all filled with the Spirit on this occasion. It

(Continued on next page)

was a miracle, for these people were speaking languages they had never learned. Word of these marvelous events spread throughout the city and soon a great crowd had gathered. Some looked on with respect; others made fun of the strange behavior of these followers of Jesus. "These men are full of new wine," they said. But Peter preached to that crowd and said: "These are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day [9 a.m. according to our method of reckoning time]. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel: And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh . . ." (Acts 2:6-21).

This happened on the Day^a of Pentecost, just a few days after Christ's departure. Christ had ascended, and now the Holy Spirit descended. This baptism in the Holy Spirit which came in A.D. 33 was a fulfillment of the words of Joel, the prophet, which he spoke in 800 B.C.—eight centuries earlier!

THE GENTILES' EXPERIENCE

Evidently all the people who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost were Jews or Jewish proselytes. Therefore Peter and the other apostles supposed that the baptism in the Spirit was for Jews exclusively; but God surprised them by giving the Spirit to the people of Samaria also. It was Philip who, being full of the Spirit himself, preached this full gospel to the Samaritans. The Jews despised the Samaritans, who no doubt returned the same sentiment; yet when this Spirit-filled Jew preached to them they listened in rapt attention. They recognized that Philip was no ordinary preacher—the sick were healed when he prayed for them, and there was an irresistible power in his words. They accepted his message, believed in Jesus, were baptized in water, and afterward received the baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17).

Perhaps the apostles, to temper their surprise at what happened in Samaria, rationalized the situation by recalling that the Samaritans, while not exactly Jews, were not exactly Gentiles either (being a mixture of Jews and heathen). But an event at Caesarea completely upset such reasoning. Peter and some Jewish companions were led, against their personal wishes, to visit Caesarea and to enter a Roman officer's home. This officer, Cornelius by name, was very anxious to obtain spiritual help. Peter therefore preached the gospel of Christ in the home of the despised Gentile! His audience drank in the message so avidly that while Peter was still preaching to them they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:45).

Later, when reporting the event to the other apostles, Peter said, "The Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning"—referring to the events on the Day of Pentecost eight years earlier. They concluded that this baptism in the Spirit was not for Jews only, but was for everyone.

THE SCRIPTURAL EVIDENCE

When people are filled with the Spirit they give evidence of the fact. There is a new radiance to their lives. They have a greater zeal for God's kingdom. They love to read their Bibles and pray. They especially love to talk about their wonderful Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, and their lives are characterized more conspicu-

ously by love, joy, peace, and other Christian graces which the Bible describes as "the fruit of the Spirit."

When we study the Bible we discover also that spiritual gifts are imparted to Spirit-filled believers, which make them effective Christian workers.

Another discovery we make is that persons always speak with new tongues when they are filled with the Spirit. Occasionally these are tongues which can be understood by other people. Usually, however, they are languages known only to God (see 1 Corinthians 14:2).

In three cases the Bible specifically says the sign of speaking with tongues was present: at Pentecost (Acts 2:4), at Caesarea (Acts 10:46), and at Ephesus (Acts 19:6). In the other two instances where the Baptism was received this sign is inferred. See Acts 8:18 for what happened at Samaria. See also the story of Paul's experience (Acts 9:17; 13:9) and read what he says in 1 Corinthians 14:8.

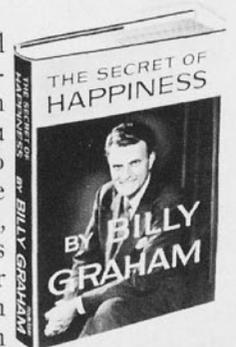
It is clear from studying these and other verses that there was no doubt in the minds of the early Christians concerning the importance of being "filled with the Spirit" nor concerning the evidence. There is no such doubt in the minds of today's Christians who have the experience, either. This great blessing was promised to all believers throughout all generations, for Peter, speaking by divine inspiration, said: "The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:39). Have you claimed this blessed promise? Have you obeyed the command, "Be filled with the Spirit"?

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by Billy Graham

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'I Shall Return'

Christ will keep His promise—and the signs of the times indicate His second coming will be very soon.

IN THE DARK DAYS OF 1942, AS THE ENEMY FORCES tightened their grip on the Philippine Islands, General Douglas MacArthur had to withdraw; but before he departed he gave his Filipino friends a promise. He said, "I shall return." And he kept his word. He directed the victorious sweep of the American forces as they fought back across the Pacific and then he appeared in person. It was a dramatic moment when the general waded ashore at Manila in his familiar field uniform and announced, "I have returned."

One of the most precious statements in the entire Bible is the promise Christ made to His disciples: "I will come again." We are still waiting for His return, but the "signs of the times" lead us to believe His second coming will be very soon.

WHAT THE ANGELS SAID

When Jesus was ascending back to heaven, the apostles watched Him go up; and as He disappeared from their sight they heard the angels say: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). This reminded the apostles of His promise to "come again." It assured them that He would return in a cloud, just as He had ascended in a cloud, and that He would come back in a bodily form—"this same Jesus."

WHO WILL SEE HIM

The New Testament is full of references to the second coming of Christ. It teaches that first He will come secretly and take away all the born-again Christians who are ready to go into heaven with Him; and that soon afterward He will make a great public appearance when "every eye shall see Him." The pattern of His second coming is given very clearly in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18. The Christians (not the sinners) will meet Him "in the air," before His feet ever touch the earth.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN

Our Lord's coming will produce a twofold effect. It will cause great joy among the righteous, who suddenly will leave all the troubles of this life behind them. Sorrow, pain, disfigurement, and death shall be known to

them no more. But it will mean terror for all who do not love Him. The Bible says Christ is going to make war against His enemies and become ruler over all the world.

HOW TO GET READY

Jesus said, "Be ye therefore ready also; for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not" (Luke 12:40). There will be no advance warning to give anyone time to get ready. Those who are wise will get ready now, without delay, by turning away from all sin in heart-felt repentance and by trusting in Christ as their personal Saviour.

Remember: all mankind is divided into two classes—those who are ready and those who are not. Those who have asked God for a clean heart and a new life will arise to meet the Lord when He comes. Those who have refused to be saved will be left behind to suffer with the ungodly. //



College Athlete Tells What Christ Means to Him

In Christ I find a reason for existence. I am convinced that the truly worthwhile life is one that is sold out to Jesus Christ with no strings attached—unconditionally surrendered.

I have no definite idea of the course of my life after college but I do have one ambition—an ambition that must have priority in every phase of my thinking and living. That is to find God's plan for my life and to follow it constantly to the best of my ability.

If I can do His will in everything—in little things, as well as in the major decisions of my career—I will be content. For I consider this the only kind of life that is truly successful.

—by Jim Hall



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