



MARCH 15, 1964  
TEN CENTS

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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



# VBS

 ○○○ OPPORTUNITY TO REDEEM THE WASTED SUMMER

WE MUST NOT SAY "THE HARVEST IS PAST, THE SUMMER IS ENDED, AND WE ARE NOT SAVED."  
(See pages 16 and 17) Jeremiah 8:20

# The Baldwin Hills DISASTER

BY CATHERINE DAMATO

**W**HAT IF THERE HAD BEEN NO WATCHMAN? WHAT if it had happened at night? So said one person after another as the drama of that day unfolded.

The morning dawned crystal clear. It was a warm day for December, even in southern California. The people of that city went about their business, buying and selling, preparing for the weekend, preparing for Christmas. Few gave thought to the reservoir whose waters lapped placidly in the hills above the city. Many did not even know it was there.

At 11:15 a.m. a caretaker at his duties on the reservoir noticed the sound of water rushing with unusual fury through the pipes that drained the dam. He called his supervisor. The supervisor came, heard the noise, was alarmed. He called the man next above him, who summoned a group of men and gave orders.

Almost at the same moment a sheriff's deputy piloting a helicopter above the city on a routine patrol to survey traffic problems noticed a crack in the face of the dam. Water, if freed, would pour down on the homes below. Alarmed, he radioed his department headquarters. Within five minutes the Sheriff's Department notified the Water Department that one of its reservoirs was in danger.

Frantically engineers at the dam worked to control drainage. Release gates were thrown open to relieve the pressure against the weakened wall. A dozen men worked mightily to stop the leak with sandbags, but failed. A trickle of water forced its way through the crevice, crept down the face of the dam, and spilled into the street below. The trickle quickly became a stream and went plunging down the street.

The dam officials, thoroughly alarmed, contacted the Chief of Police. "This whole area is in danger," they told him. "It must be evacuated. There are thousands of people down there, helpless. It would sound better if the evacuation order came from someone with authority."

The chief lost no time. Every available police officer was ordered to the scene. The massive work of preserving life began. An alarm was sounded to every radio and television station in the city. Civil Defense, Red Cross, and other disaster agencies were alerted. An evacuation center was set up. Police began a house-to-house patrol of the neighborhood. Doorbells shrilled and heavy fists pounded authoritatively on doors as the warning was given. "You are in danger of your lives. Get out as fast as you can!" Roads were blocked off to stop cars from coming into the area.

TV sets on display at a department store in the area started broadcasting the alarm. Shoppers stopped, looked at the flickering screens, heard the words, gasped, and

fled. "May God have mercy on us! That's happening right here!" they cried.

Police cars crowded into the neighborhood with red beacons flashing and sirens screaming to alert any who did not yet know. A helicopter circled the area blaring warnings over a bullhorn. Residents snatched up children, pets, clothes, money, and hurried to their cars or ran through the streets.

"Go to the high school. Go to the high school. They'll take you in there. You'll be safe there." Within an hour's time all but a few had fled.

As the minutes raced by, workmen bent their backs in one frantic last-ditch effort to hold off the disaster. But by 3:38 p.m. hope was gone. The crack in the dam was beyond repair, gaping now, frightful. "There she goes!" shouted someone, and tons of water ripped

**'It  
Won't  
Reach Me'**



BY EVANGELIST BOB WATTERS

**A**TINY GIRL CARRIED A LETTER TO THE MAILBOX. I watched as she struggled on tiptoe to get the envelope into the slot. Stretching to her full height, her arms trying to span the remaining inches, she gave up in despair. "But, Mommy, *it won't reach me!*"

That humorous little incident reminded me of many people whom I have met. They seem to want God, and try to reach Him by stretching to the full height of

through the opening and thundered down the slope toward the homes below. In five minutes the flood had shouldered aside and crushed a dozen homes, and gone surging on to look for other prey.

All in the city knew that something was happening. Those in danger were out of harm's way. The more fortunate whose homes were not in the path of the floodwaters could only sit in their living rooms and watch the drama unfold on their TV screens. The devout prayed. The less faithful, knowing not how to pray, could only hope.

"I saw cars in clusters bobbing along on the crest of the flood like plastic toys," said one TV viewer.

"I watched a home worth a fortune disintegrate before my eyes," said another.

In an hour's time it was all over. The dam was empty, revealing cracks in its muddy floor to show what had happened. The flood waters surged, spread, found their level, and became quiet. The mopping-up operation got under way immediately.

And a miracle of mercy came to light. Damage to property ran into a hundred million dollars. Hundreds of homes were destroyed. Hundreds of people were homeless. But only five lives were lost—it could have been thousands. A score of people were injured, none seriously.

No human effort could have saved the property. But

the lives were spared because someone saw the danger and gave the alarm. And out of every heart, from every voice, came the cry, "What if there had been no watchman? What if it had happened at night?"

The news was flashed across the nation that on December 14, 1963, the Baldwin Hills Reservoir in Los Angeles burst and flooded, that hundreds of citizens were homeless, but the loss of life was small because the warning had been given in time.

Around the world today, in heathen lands, multitudes of souls sit daily in the shadow of doom. They are fearful, apprehensive, uncertain. Some would heed the alarm, some would not, but none hear it. They have no watchman. They live in the night. There is none to tell them that their sins have condemned them but that Jesus will save them if they will only believe on Him.

A host of others are in a different situation. They walk lightheartedly in the day. They dwell where the sound of the gospel goes forth daily from the pulpit, over radio, over television, in books and pamphlets, by personal testimony. But they are unheeding, indifferent, unconcerned. Yet the doom stands as pronounced. "Your sins condemn you. You are lost. Jesus can save you. Believe on Him. Receive Him." But they go their way. And the verdict stands. "You have been warned. For you there was a watchman. You did not dwell in the night. You are without excuse." ◀◀◀

self-effort. I have heard people say, "I've tried this and that religion—this or that church—and God just doesn't reach me." The codes and rules of the various religions are unable to reach to the depths of human need. As long as we use man-made methods of self-improvement, struggling in our weakness to become something better than we are, God cannot reach us—and we cannot reach Him.

True Christianity—the vital flow of God's power in our lives—is not *attained*. It is *obtained*. If we could lift ourselves into the good things of God, Christ Jesus would not have been born. We would not have needed Him.

From my observation, too many people try to *deserve* God. Even those who have entered into a measure of Christian life and blessing are guilty of trying to *merit* God or win His favor in some matter. Some give large contributions of money hoping to be rewarded with material prosperity; others attend church faithfully in order to have a good name, or to make themselves feel better. The sharing of our finances with the church is an ancient and rewarding form of worship; faithful church attendance brings untold refreshing to the mind and spirit—but pity the person who does these things hoping thereby to earn salvation. The use of *methods* will not reach God. God is obtainable, but only on *His* terms.

Are you like the little girl, struggling to reach something too high, too far beyond you? "So are my ways higher than your ways," says the Lord in Isaiah 55:9.

God sees your need. He sent His Son to meet that need. "His hand is not shortened that it cannot save."

Many years ago I heard a story which I shall relate to the best of my remembrance. It concerns a man who

had fallen into a dark pit and lay in its miry depths, groaning, unable to move.

Religious Ceremony walked by with stately tread without volunteering any help.

Philosophy, walking by, approached the edge of the pit, and said, "Poor fellow, I am sorry for you. Why were you such a fool as to get into that predicament? Let me give you some advice: *If you ever get out, don't get in again.*"

Next came Moral Living. "*Poor fellow, it pains me to see you down there. If you could get two-thirds of the way up, I could reach you.*"

Then Jesus Christ came by. He heard the poor man's cries, fell down upon the brink of the pit, stretched forth His arm to the depth of the trap, and laid hold of the sufferer. He brought him up and said, "Go, and sin no more."

If you want God's help, if you need a prayer answered, if your guilt of sin is too great for you to carry any longer, God will reach all the way to help you. But you must want this help. You must ask for it. God's help finally, and completely comes to us when our *will* is turned in His direction.

The moment you *let* God help you, you have made contact with divine power. The eternal resources of life enter into you. You have a new beginning to life. This is what Jesus meant when He said we must be "born again." Have you been born again? You can be, right now.

If help hasn't reached you, even though you have tried "religion," remember, Christianity is more than a religion. It is God reaching all the way to you. He will save you *if you will let Him*. ◀◀◀

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

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Happy Hearts

Many have heart trouble today. Some suffer from diseased hearts, others from broken ones, but the worst kind of heart trouble is spiritual and it is very common.

Men and women are setting their hearts on objects which, in some cases, are unobtainable and, in other cases, unworthy. As a result they grow frustrated and miserable. No lives are so empty as those who have "everything." That is why people turn to drink and dope. It also explains the great increase in divorces and suicides. People wear themselves out to reach a goal, only to find they are still dissatisfied when they reach it.

A happy heart is to be coveted more than anything else, for with it a person can be content in any circumstance, and without it he cannot enjoy life no matter how successful he may be. For centuries the Bible has been throwing light on men's spiritual problems and it is still the best guide to human happiness. Notice what it says:

"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God" (Psalm 146:5). "Whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he" (Proverbs 16:20). To be a Christian and to have faith in a Power that is outside ourselves, a Power greater than ourselves, is to have a contented, well-adjusted life.

"Rejoice," said Jesus, "because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20). The basis of true happiness is to know that God is our Father, that He loves us, that He is caring for us individually, and that He has forgiven all our sins. If we have been converted our names are written "in the book of life" (Philippians 4:3) which means we shall live eternally.

Happy hearts are obedient hearts. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them," said Jesus (John 13:17). Happy hearts are loyal hearts. "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye" (1 Peter 4:14). Happy hearts are disciplined ones. "Happy is the man whom God correcteth" (Job 5:17). Happy lives are those that possess patience. "Behold, we count them happy which endure" (James 5:11).

The apostle Paul knew the secret of happiness, for he said, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Philippians 4:11).

A minister in Florida went to see a dear Negro woman 101 years old. She was bedridden. All her folks, she said, had already died—her husband about fifty years before, and the children one by one. She said they would get along to about 50 or 60 and then they seemed to drop off! There she was, bereft of husband and children, absolutely helpless, so the minister had been asked to call on her and cheer her up. "Bless my soul," he said, "I had not been there ten minutes until I had her praying for me and cheering me up!"

The old woman said, "I am going to talk to my Pappy in heaven about you," and she did. She was happy, in spite of her earthly circumstances. Like David she could say, "My heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord." She had a happy heart, and the person who is happy on the inside is not troubled by conditions on the outside.

—R.C.C.

WHEN I THINK OF "HEAVEN," THERE COMES BEFORE my mind a picture of a *celestial* city—a city which has love for its law, perfection for its standard, and Jehovah for its God. It is a city with jasper for its walls, angels for its guards, and saints for its citizens. A city in which may be heard the glad "hallelujahs" of the redeemed! Oh, the wonders of heaven! When I try to describe it I feel as if I were going forth with a tallow candle to illuminate a golden sunset!

### I

*The first wonder of heaven is that such a place could ever be!* Never was there a historic description that approached in grandeur the words we find in Revelation 21.

The glories of heaven! A city not made by hands and whose citizens have never been numbered. A city without grief or graves, without sin or sorrow. A city with gates never shut. No night there—just one eternal day.

Heaven is a place of incomparable beauty. Earthly scenes may be described by poets but heaven is so wonderfully grand that even the inspired writer could not pen it in earthly language. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." Who can describe the beauties of a heavenly mansion fresh from the Saviour's hand?

Heaven is a place entirely free from sorrow. In this world all must taste of sorrow. Even Jesus while here was "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." But of the inhabitants of heaven it is written: "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

No grave digger's spade ever marred the hillsides of heaven. No hospitals are there. No one carries a handkerchief for no one cries. In heaven there are no aching limbs, no darting pains, no swelling tongues, and no sinking eyes. It is a city without cradles or coffins, without marriages or mournings!

### II

*The second wonder of heaven is the equality of its inhabitants!* Think of the inequalities of this life. We have the rich and the poor, the learned and the illiterate, the sick and the well, the young and the old, the favored and the oppressed. In heaven the rich man and the beggar sit side by side at the King's table, each robed in spotless white. The poor widow who toils by candlelight will come into her inheritance there. The aged pilgrim, tottering with uncertain step toward the end of his journey, will find in that land that none ever grows old.

Some have conceived the idea that heaven is a place of idleness, but this is not so. It is a place of rest, but at the same time it is directly said of the citizens of heaven: "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and *serve* him day and night in his temple." Oh, what a delightful change it will be to go from the foul sweatshop to the temple of God, to exchange the pickaxe for a scepter, to trade a trowel for a harp, and engage in the occupations of heaven!

# The Seven Wonders of Heaven

by

**Clarke E. Gage**

Pastor, Assembly of God  
Luverne, Minnesota



### III

*The third wonder of heaven is that its inhabitants should be interested in this sin-cursed world.* Why should the God of heaven be interested in you and me? To think that He seeks after us as a shepherd seeks after his lost sheep, or as a woman seeks after her lost coin! Is it not wonderful that the God of heaven should send His own Son into the world to live and die for us that we might be saved? Yes, it is a wonderful fact. You and I have the opportunity to set the joybells of heaven ringing—for "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth!"

### IV

*The fourth wonder of heaven is that it should be opened to foreign immigration.* It would be of little value to us to hear of heaven if there were not a possibility for us to gain admission. But the great heart of God invites us to become citizens in that celestial city.

Jesus came to the earth as a foreign immigration agent—not only to tell us of the place, but to arrange our entrance. The Bible is His inspired letter to inform us of that great city of God and to tell us how to prepare for citizenship in it!

### V

*The fifth wonder of heaven is the conditions of citizenship.* If we would reason on the basis of this world, we would conclude that such a place as heaven would be just for the aristocrats. But the proclamation is, "Who-soever will, let him come!"

We can see how the good men of earth might be  
(Continued on next page)

accepted but we marvel that Jesus should say: "Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring thither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind." We notice also that "those servants went out and gathered together as many as they could, both good and bad," and brought them to the wedding feast.

But do not think for a moment that there are no conditions to meet before we may become citizens of heaven. The Lord Jesus said: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Sinners may enter heaven, but first they must be converted, changed, "born again." None can enter heaven as naturalized foreigners; all must be citizens by birth—by the New Birth.

## VI

*The sixth wonder of heaven is that all its splendor will remain forever unchanged.* Earth's great cities do not abide. Where is Rome with her ancient pomp and glory? Athens with her learning? Babylon with her hanging gardens? All have faded like the beauties of a plucked rose. But heaven is an abiding city—its glories never fade.

A little girl who had been blind from birth underwent surgery. The operation was a success and when the last bandage was removed from her eyes the child was able to see for the first time. First she ran into the arms of her mother; then she ran to the window, and out through the open door. As her eyes took in the glories of earth she screamed with excitement. "Oh, Mama," she cried, "why didn't you tell me it was so beautiful?"

The mother wiped away her tears of joy and replied, "My precious child, I tried to tell you, but I couldn't put it into words."

And one day when we go sweeping through the gates of pearl and catch our first vision of that heavenly city, I think we shall run to John and ask, "John, why didn't you tell us it was so beautiful?" And John will answer, "I tried to tell you when I wrote the twenty-first and twenty-second chapters of Revelation, but I couldn't find words equal to the occasion."

## VII

*The seventh wonder of heaven is that more do not prepare to make their home there.* When we think how quickly time is passing, and that we cannot stay here always—when we think of the heartaches, the sorrows, the disappointments—it is a wonder that more do not hasten to prepare for an eternal home where happiness and joy abide forever!

Friend, are you prepared today to be a citizen of that heavenly home? If not, you may be by accepting Christ as your personal Saviour.

Heaven, that land where none ever hungers, and where all earth's wrongs are made right. There David is triumphant, though once he mourned for Absalom. There Abraham is jubilant, though once he wept for Sarah. There Paul is exultant, though once he sat in a cold dungeon with his feet in stocks. There John the Baptist is radiant with joy though his head was severed from his body. There Polycarp wears a crown though he was burned at the stake. There the martyrs are blessed who once were torn on torture racks.

Friend, if you miss heaven you will have missed everything. ◀◀

**Gracious living requires something more than a suburban home and wall-to-wall carpet. The free flow of the grace of God is the secret of gracious living in every life and home.**

**A**DVERTISING MEN GO THROUGH CYCLES IN THE USE of expressions to appeal to the public. Currently the words "gracious living" are used in ads offering everything from homes in a new subdivision to carpets for the homes we already have. The use of the term is intended to convey the general idea of status and luxury, two wanted commodities in our day.

However, for the Christian home the expression should have a very different connotation—suggesting a place where Christ is the head and the peace of God rules!

Some folk have the mistaken idea that a home is Christian if a Bible reposes on the coffee table, and if they go through the motions of family worship and bedtime prayers, or if they have hung on the wall of the breakfast nook the motto: "God Bless Our Home." But a family is truly Christian not because of externals, but because of the grace of God in the lives of its members. An old-fashioned, God-given grace plays a vital part in gracious Christian living.

Consider the basis of this kind of life. A man and woman, as "heirs *together* of the grace of life" (1 Peter 3:7), covenant together to found a home. Upon the foundation of their mutual Christian experience they erect and maintain their castle of love.

Since the grace of God links us with spiritual things and puts us in touch with heaven, some folk are inclined to neglect its earthly and practical aspects. Grace is not only the unmerited favor of God which brings peace to one's guilty soul and justification in the sight of God, but in every area of life it is also God's enablement to effect the Christ-life within us. By it all of us can face reality, obey the Word of God, and live successfully for Christ whatever our circumstances.

Consider the extent to which grace will go: "For this is thankworthy if a man endure grief, suffering wrongfully . . . if when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is thankworthy with God . . . because Christ . . . leaving us an example . . . when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously!" (1 Peter 2:19-23).

Even when personality differences or incompatibility arise in the Christian home, love and grace can bring about an understanding. If there is no real agreement, the grace of God can at least impart respect for each other and pour the oil of forgiveness upon misunderstandings. And when patience is exhausted, grace can come with its undergirding arms and impart *forbearance* to the offended and *restraint* to the offender. This is one aspect of gracious living.

Natural affection is not enough to carry us over all the rough places. Even in the most dedicated Christian homes there are occasions when natural love weakens

and great gulfs exist in delicate and intimate issues of life. Even then, the grace of God can keep the home intact, successful, and Christian by causing the love of God—His own love—to refine and renew the natural, human love.

Do you want a "close-knit" family? Husbands and wives, parents and children, and all the relatives can find a unity of purpose by seeking the help of God for problems, the cares of life, and pressures from within and without! The grace of God will even help to solve your money problems by enabling you to live within your means.

Your neighbors know when there is gracious living in your home, whatever your address, and whether you have wall-to-wall carpets or not. A genuinely Christian household is a mighty evangelistic force in the neighborhood. Maintaining Christian standards of living before your unsaved neighbors sometimes carries a rebuke to them; it has a moral effect upon the community. It is a saving influence in any situation. Letting "your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6), is a powerful antidote to petty neighborhood squabbles!

But let us remember that it is a tragedy to frustrate the grace of God in any part of our lives. There is a solemn warning in the words: "Looking *diligently* lest any fail of the grace of God: lest any root of bitterness . . . trouble you" (Hebrews 12:15). It is so easy in the confines of the home to let down. Without realizing it, our attitude may be: "Well, I'm at home; I'll just be myself. Whose business is it if I yell, fuss, scold, and act a bit selfish?" Yet we need to be very alert, for if we "fail of the grace of God" in the citadel of our home, chances are we shall fail elsewhere!

"We have access *by faith* into this grace" (Romans

5:2). Read the Word, believe, and obey it. Above all, do not overlook the promise: "God giveth grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5). It takes humility to achieve "gracious living."

Years ago the son of a very strong-willed woman married a young lady of equally strong personality. Both wife and mother loved him devotedly, and circumstances seemed to demand their living under one roof. Because they were earnest Christians, things went well for a time; but as the months passed, conflicts arose—those indefinable conflicts—and life became unhappy for all. Eventually there was an open rift.

Deeply hurt, the young wife sought the face of her Saviour. As she prayed, He reminded her of Philippians 2:5-9, and revealed to her His own deep humiliation. Pleading for grace, she promised her Saviour that she would do like Jesus—take the place of a servant! She would have done it, too, but within a week a most unexpected chain of events altered the entire picture and, without any scars of bitterness to haunt their lives, the mother was happily settled in a home of her own!

God challenges us all to grow in grace and our homes are wonderful proving grounds for it. He urges us to "come *boldly* unto the throne of grace . . . and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). "Gracious living"—in a home which is the expression of the grace of God—is blessed to behold and something to enjoy. It can be yours if you give Jesus first place in your life.

Christian friend, there is a sufficiency of grace for your home. Unsaved friend, or backslider, if your home is unhappy just remember there is a grace of God that brings salvation (Titus 2:11). It can help you to remake your home into one of beauty and graciousness. Try it; it works! ◀◀◀



# Gracious Living

—By F. Helen Jarvis

# THIS PRESENT WORLD

## Schools

### Memphis Concert to Feature Evangel Students

"Living Sound and Song," an original dramatized musical program, will be presented at Memphis, Tenn., on Saturday night, March 21. The engagement in the Music Hall of Memphis Municipal Auditorium is the first in a two-week tour for the concert band and concert choir of Evangel College. (For balance of tour schedule, watch next week's *Evangel*.)

### "Released Time" Popular in New York

New York City's Board of Education reports a total of 109,572 pupils enrolled in released-time religious education classes this year. This is an increase of nearly 6,000 over a year ago. The classes, conducted in churches and synagogues, are not compulsory but are during school hours. (The total includes 95,210 from elementary schools, the remainder from junior high schools.)

### Sunday School Convention Draws 3,000

The third annual midwinter Sunday school convention sponsored by NSSA (National Sunday School Association) attracted delegates of many denominations representing 20 states plus 71 California cities. The eight general sessions and 100 workshops drew over 3,000 persons per day.

The convention was held in First Presbyterian Church, San Diego, Calif., January 28-30. The program was in charge of Dr. Harold H. Etling, NSSA president, and Richard W. Cooke, acting administrator.

## Evangelicals

### Billy Graham to Address NAE Convention

One of the speakers at the 22nd annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals will be Evangelist Billy Graham. He will address pastors, leaders, and laymen from some 50 denominations on Tuesday evening, April 7.

Theme of the three-day convention will be "Evangelicals Unashamed." More than 1,000 persons including representatives of the Assemblies of God and other Pentecostal bodies are expected to participate in the public meetings and sessions of the 15 commissions and related agencies of NAE.

Among topics to be discussed will be "Evangelical Relationships with National Ecumenicity" and "The Vatican Council and Protestant-Catholic Relationships." The convention sessions will be held April 7-9 at the Pick-Congress Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

Congressman John B. Anderson of Illinois will address one session. Other speakers will be Dr. Robert A. Cook, president of NAE and also of The King's College, Briarcliff Manor, N. Y.; Myron Augsburger, a Mennonite evangelist from Atglen, Pa., who heads Inter-Church Evangelism; Dr. K. Owen White, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.; and Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann, radio speaker heard regularly on "The Lutheran Hour."

Dr. Howard P. Courtney of Los Angeles, general supervisor of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, will lead a morning devotional session.

## Revenue

### Massachusetts Finds Liquor a Liability

*The Union Signal* reports that "Gov. Endicott Peabody of Massachusetts received a hearty commendation from the Distilled Spirits Institute. . . . The praise was for a speech the governor made in Boston before the National Coordinating Committee of the Beverage Industry, in which among other things he said: "The alcoholic beverage industry is one of the nation's highest taxpayers, contributing public revenues to the extent of \$5 billion annually.' He further pointed out that the economic revenues were only a small part of the fine contribution made to the country."

The magazine makes this comment: "Let us take a peek



Billy Graham,



Robert A. Cook



Myron Augsburger



John B. Anderson



K. Owen White



Oswald Hoffmann

into your own state, Governor Peabody. In one year the alcohol tax revenues were more than \$13 million, but in the same year known alcohol-related costs were \$46.5 million. A reliable study showed that for every dollar of beer and liquor tax received, the state of Massachusetts spent more than \$3.50 for known and measurable costs."

### "Nevada Counts the Cost—Too Late"

Under this heading, an article in *The Christian Challenge* pointed out that Nevada's revenue from its legalized gambling is not worth the high crime rate. According to the FBI the state has the highest crime rate in the U.S. and the situation is growing worse. "The FBI compilation on seven categories of major crimes gives Nevada the unenviable number one spot, with an incidence of 1,915 crimes for each 100,000 population. This is almost double the average for Nevada's neighboring states of California, Arizona, Utah, Oregon, or Idaho."

## Sunday

### South Africans Warned on Sabbath Violations

Casual dress, elaborate meals, and unnecessary travel on Sunday were condemned as violations of the Sabbath at a regional congress of the Dutch Reformed Church, Capetown, South Africa. A church leader said far more care should be taken to avoid creating the impression that Sunday is a public holiday. It is not a day for festive eating, he said; nor should disrespect be shown by sloppy clothing.

### Sunday Sports Banned by N. C. School Board

The North Carolina State Board of Education has banned Sunday sports including meetings or practices for high schools and elementary schools. This means that athletic teams cannot get together on Sunday for practice, chalk talks, or to watch game movies.

## Spain

### Protestants in Spain Get Concessions

There are numerous indications of an easing of restrictions on Protestant churches in Spain, not the least of which is the fact that Assemblies of God congregations in that country recently formed a national organization.

The British and Foreign Bible Society dedicated a new Spanish agency headquarters in Madrid a few weeks ago. The society, which started work in Spain about 130 years ago, resumed operations early in 1963 after its activities had been blocked for seven years by the Spanish government.

Ten more Protestant houses of worship were authorized to reopen in January, including three in Barcelona. Prior to this, 13 Protestant places of worship were allowed to reopen during 1963; and Protestants who wish to contract civil marriages in Spain now find it easier to do so.

Three Bible correspondence courses produced by World Gospel Crusades of Los Angeles have been approved by the government of Spain. It is reported that 20,000 Spanish students have been enlisted to take these courses, which is remarkable inasmuch as there are only 30,000 Protestant church members in Spain out of a population of more than 30 million.



# Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

*Why did Paul go back to Tarsus after his conversion, and why did Barnabas have to go there for him?*

According to Acts 9:30, because of persecution against Paul, the brethren at Jerusalem felt it best for him to leave, so they "sent him forth to Tarsus." Knowing Paul's value, Barnabas later went to Tarsus and brought him out (Acts 11:25). Even Paul needed one to show interest in him and give him a helping hand. We all need help one from another.

*Was Cornelius saved before Peter preached to him? (Acts 10)*

He was a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house. This is a better record than some Christians have. He was evidently walking in all the light he had, with a heart earnestly seeking after God. I believe he would not have been lost had he died; but we could hardly think of him as a New Testament Christian if he had not accepted the Lord Jesus as his Saviour. (There is little profit in arguing questions like this which cannot be resolved.)

*How do you harmonize Christ's admonition to "judge not" (Matthew 7:1) with such passages as, "Mark them which cause divisions and offences...and avoid them" (Romans 16:17); and, "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Ephesians 5:11)?*

In Matthew 7:1 Jesus was warning against suspicion and criticism, while in the other passages you quoted we are instructed to "judge righteous judgment." All through life we have to judge people and decide whether they are the kind of friends God wants us to have; but such decisions ought to be made in love and compassion and not in a proud, faultfinding, suspicious spirit. See Galatians 6:1.

*Do you believe that Jesus' death made provision for us to be as free from the punishment and results of sin as if we had never sinned?*

When a person is saved through faith in Christ he is forgiven and justified. To be justified means to be declared as righteous as if he had never sinned. However, this does not mean that the consequences of sin are all removed. For example, a man might shoot another, crippling him for life. The one who shot the other might later be saved, and all his sins would be cancelled, to be remembered against him no more; but this does not cancel the result of his sin, the crippling of another. This is a valid argument against the "sowing of wild oats." It is true that one may be saved any time but forgiveness does not necessarily prevent a harvest of regret.

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*If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.*

# Mary's Sacrificial Love

Sunday School Lesson for March 22, 1964  
 JOHN 12:1-9; 1 JOHN 4:16-19

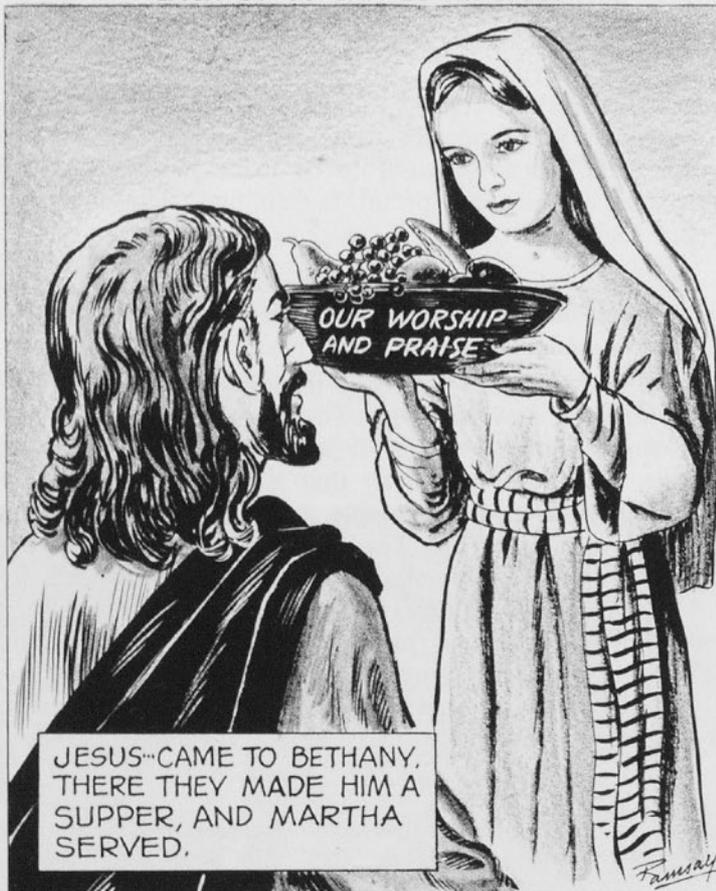
BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

In an age so largely characterized by cold and heartless religion, how welcome and necessary is such a lesson as ours today! The act of Mary of Bethany is probably the most beautiful and highest expression of love to Christ to be found anywhere in the Gospels.

## MARY'S DEVOTION (John 12:1-3)

1. *Mary's act reveals many elements which ought to characterize all spiritual worship and service.* It contained the following qualities: (1) *Gratitude.* She was grateful for Christ's love, for the inspiration of His teaching, for snatching from the grave the brother who now sat before them in vigor and health. (2) *Spontaneity and Wholeheartedness.* She acted not from a sense of duty. There was nothing hesitant, calculating, or grudging in her conduct. (3) *Sacrifice.* Judas told the value of that which Mary offered; she would not have done so! And authorities tell us that three hundred pence was the equivalent of nearly a year's income of

## EACH OF US CAN BE HIS HOST



a working man! Ordinary ointment would not do for Mary. Nothing less than the best was an adequate expression of the love she gave!

2. *Mary's act illustrates the originality of love.* It has been said that "necessity is the mother of invention." It is also true that there is no force in the universe so original and so intensive as love! Thus Mary devised a new way of honoring the Lord, a way not appreciated by those who, because they lacked the same depth of love, had gotten into a selfish rut. Love such as Mary's led General Booth to find a way to the down-and-outers and slum dwellers. Such love led John Wesley to a new way to reach the working class of England. Such love has since then led thousands of men and women to devote themselves to soul-saving endeavor around the world. As one great modern preacher put it, "What is needed to fill the church with original preachers, original givers, original helpers in all departments of Christian work, is not more brains, or more training, or more opportunities, but above all, more heart."

3. *Mary's act illustrates the influence of a devoted life.* Though what she did was done for Jesus alone, others caught the fragrance of it. "The house was filled with the odor of the ointment." How many of us have known men and women whose devotion to Christ is such that His fragrance emanates from them in every place where they go.

Not only is there the influence of a devoted character, but also the influence of a consecrated ministry. Jesus, in Matthew's account of this incident, predicted that the influence of Mary's ministry to Him should extend over the centuries—and so it has! And millions of Christians through the ages and to the present time have profited through the influence of the apostles and members of the Apostolic Church and from others whose ministries have contributed toward the spiritual heritage and privileges which are ours today.

## THE DISCIPLES' CRITICISM (John 12:4-6)

Though Judas is specifically mentioned as the one objecting to Mary's act, Matthew adds that all the others joined him in his criticism. Their attitude suggests the following lessons:

(1) Wholehearted devotion and zeal are a rebuke to those who are without it.

(2) True consecration is regarded as waste by those who do not possess it. Matthew words the objection thus, "To what purpose is this waste?" This is the cry of the worldly wise when they behold time, money, and strength spent by dedicated Christians in praying, giving, and going with the gospel to those that have never heard.

## THE SAVIOUR'S COMMENDATION (John 12:7, 8)

Jesus justified Mary's act by pointing out first that Mary was simply anticipating His burial and pouring out her perfume on Him while He was yet alive. Then He showed that she was wise in taking advantage of an opportunity which would never come again rather than favor an opportunity which would always be present. Two lessons suggest themselves: (1) Let us express our love while people can appreciate and benefit by it. "Flowers to the living." (2) Let us weigh opportunities well! Blessed is the man who does not allow an ordinary opportunity that comes every day to rob him of some great opportunity which comes but once.

## FRUIT-BEARING CHRISTIANS

Fruit is the most perfect development of a plant and the object for which it was created. And fruit is never produced at once, but grows gradually out of the life of the tree. Trees may be vividly alive, and yet have no fruit, or very little or very imperfect fruit.

It is as our Lord puts it: first the blade, proving a living plant; then the ear, or fruit beginning; and only finally the full corn in the ear. Thus we realize the radiant character for which we were born again.

"How is it," Plutarch asks, "that the fig tree, whose root, branches, and leaves are extremely bitter, bears fruit so sweet?" It is the presence of *God* in the soul which alone can ever make man God-like.

—D. M. PANTON

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## LET GOD BE THE VINDICATOR

We make a mistake in trying always to clear ourselves; we would be wiser to go straight on, humbly doing the next thing and leaving God to vindicate us. "He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday."

There may come hours in our lives when we shall be misunderstood, slandered, falsely accused. At such times it is very difficult not to act on the policy of the men around us in the world. They at once appeal to law and force and public opinion. But the believer takes his case into a higher court and lays it before his God.

—F. B. MEYER

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## GOD'S MESSAGES TRAVEL RAPIDLY

*It is a fact* that American scientists are probing billions of light years into space with giant new radio telescopes. They hope to discover and decode signals that might be sent by peoples in other galaxies, should such people exist. Yet the distances are so great that should a communication be detected, interpreted, and answered by our scientists, the return message from space would not arrive until many years had passed!

*It is also a fact* that, down through the ages of man's history, people who love and trust God have sent desperate prayers upward to God's throne in heaven and have received instantaneous answers to their pleas. And God's messages of guidance and encouragement are always sent in the clear language of the receiver's heart.

—*Haven of Rest*

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## HIS PASTOR'S WAY

After the death of McCheyne, the most devout and fervid of Scotland's sons, a minister called to see his manse and pulpit.

The old sexton took him reverently into the library and bade him sit down at his desk. "Now," he said, "put your elbows on the desk and your face between your hands, and bow your head. Now let the tears flow. That was the way my pastor studied."



Then the sexton took him to the church and made him stand at the pulpit, open the Bible, and again put his face between his hands, and bow his head. "Now," he said again, "let the tears flow. That was the way my pastor preached and prayed."

—A. B. SIMPSON

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## BURNING BRIDGES

"Burn the bridge behind you," was the command of a general when his soldiers had filed over a bridge beneath which a deep river rushed. Then he pointed to the foe. "Yonder," he said, "is the enemy; behind you is death; there is no retreat; you must either conquer or die."

To you who have lately given your lives to Christ, I say, "Burn the bridge behind you. Do something to break with your past. Commit yourself in some way; so that others may know, and you leave no way of retreat open."

—HENRY DRUMMOND

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## When Thou Passest Through the Waters

Isaiah 43:2

Is there any heart discouraged as it journeys on its way?  
Does there seem to be more darkness than there is of sunny day?  
Oh, it's hard to learn the lesson, as we pass beneath the rod,  
That the sunshine and the shadows serve alike the will of God.  
But there comes a word of promise, like the promise of a bow,  
That however deep the waters they shall never overflow.

When the flesh is worn and weary, and the spirit is depressed,  
And temptations sweep upon it like a storm on ocean's breast;  
There's a haven ever open for the tempest-driven bird;  
There is shelter for the tempted in the promise of the Word.  
For the standard of the Spirit shall be raised against the foe,  
And however deep the waters they shall never overflow.

When a sorrow comes upon you that no other soul can share,  
And the burden seems too heavy for the human heart to bear;  
There is One whose grace can comfort if you'll give Him an abode;  
There's a Burden Bearer ready, if you'll trust Him  
with your load.  
For the precious promise reaches to the depths of human woe;  
That however deep the waters they shall never overflow.

When the sands of life are ebbing and I near the Jordan's shore,  
When I see its waters rising and I hear its billows roar,  
I will reach my hand to Jesus, in His bosom I will hide  
And 'twill only be a moment till I reach the other side.  
It is then the fullest meaning of the promise I shall know:  
When thou passest through the waters they shall never overflow.

—*Selected*



Missionary George Hemminger (left) escorts Prime Minister Sir Milton Margai of Sierra Leone to the new Limba church in Freetown.



A partial view of the platform at the dedication of the Limba church. More than 2,000 attended.

# Limba Tribe Dedicates Church in Freetown

BY GEORGE HEMMINGER, MISSIONARY TO SIERRA LEONE

**T**HE NEW LIMBA CHURCH WAS DEDICATED ON DECEMBER 1—a hot, sunny day. At 2:30 p.m. the Right Honorable Sir Milton Margai, Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, arrived with his police escort. On alighting from his car he was met by Pastor Daniel Conteh of the Limba church, Superintendent Simon T. Grant of the Assemblies of God in Sierra Leone, and myself. I then escorted him to the entrance of the beautiful building.

Before cutting the tape to declare the building open the Prime Minister said: "The new Limba church symbolizes not only unity, but also the cooperation and determination of the Limba people. The Limbas have proved their worth." After the ceremony, Sir Milton said he was greatly impressed with what he had seen and remarked that God does not belong to any particular individual.

The building was packed and there was a large crowd outside. More than 2,000 attended the dedication. A number of Limba people from the interior—members of the American Wesleyan Mission—came to Freetown for this occasion. They brought an offering of a hundred dollars, a cow, and some rice and palm oil. Superintendent

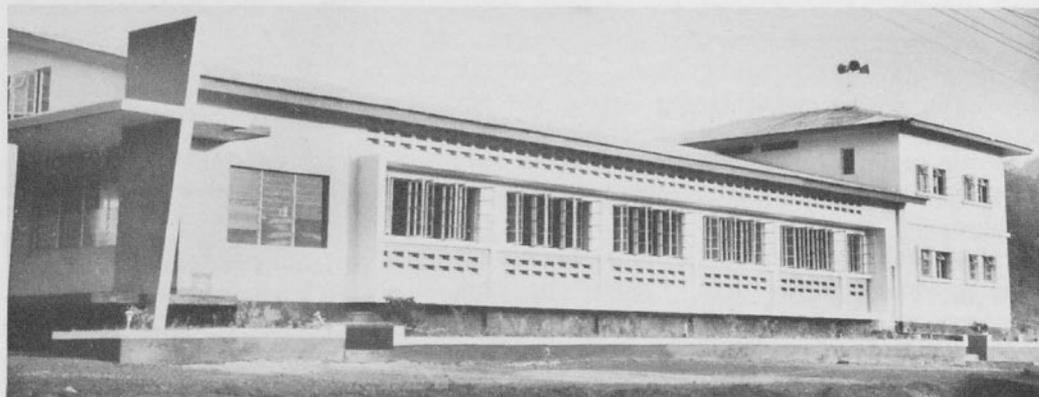
N. Saunders of the Wesleyan Mission preached the dedicatory sermon and Superintendent S. M. Renner of the Evangelical United Brethren Mission in Sierra Leone offered the dedicatory prayer.

This church, which was planned and constructed by Elwin Grundy, is a sample of what can happen when a group of people and their pastor are determined to succeed. Brother Conteh is a thoroughly dedicated Christian who has raised up four Limba congregations in Freetown. This building program alone entailed the expenditure of \$32,900 without any overseas assistance except a few hundred dollars given by friends and a \$3,000 loan from the Foreign Missions Department. The congregation is now making monthly payments on the loan.

One has to sit in the services and feel the touch of God and the initiative and ability of the pastor in order to understand how this group of Africans—all of them new converts with less than five years of Christian experience—could accomplish this feat.

Already Brother Conteh and some leaders of other Limba congregations are planning another church in Freetown! ◀◀

☆  
The photo shows the outside view of new Limba church in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The building was erected by the local congregation with very little overseas assistance.



# REVIVAL

in

## British Honduras



**E**VANGELIST ROBERT HARRISON, ORDAINED ASSEMBLIES of God minister and associate of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, recently conducted a three-week revival in Belize, British Honduras. The meeting, which began in Bethel Assembly of God, was moved to the new city auditorium to accommodate the crowds who came to hear the evangelist, the first American Negro to preach in meetings like this in Belize.

Of this campaign Missionary Russell Schirman reports: "The auditorium was packed out night after night. Brother Harrison's singing and piano playing were inspiring. Best of all, his anointed messages from God's Word resulted in many souls responding nightly to the wooing of the Holy Spirit."

The meeting was well attended by all denominations including clergy. Press and radio gave unlimited cooperation. Brother Harrison also ministered to large crowds in several outlying districts. Many people traveled for miles to attend these services.

"The Lord blessed in every detail," Brother Schirman



Assemblies of God Evangelist Robert Harrison and Evangelist Billy Graham, with whom he has served as an associate evangelist for several years.



Crowd attending the Harrison evangelistic meeting in Bethel Temple in Belize. Later the meeting was moved to the city auditorium because of the large attendance.

says. "He gave unusually good weather and the time of the campaign was strategic. The celebration of Internal Self-Government which took place at this time brought many people into Belize."

Brother Harrison was twice the guest of the Premier of British Honduras and was invited to a special State reception given by the Premier and his Cabinet. Brother Schirman feels that the Assemblies of God churches have reached a new dimension of influence in British Honduras as a result of this revival.

Following the Belize meeting, Brother Harrison held a campaign in Jamaica, the land where his father was born. From there he proceeded to Barbados for a meeting before returning to the United States to help prepare for a campaign the Billy Graham Team expects to launch in San Diego, California, in May.

Brother Harrison was born in San Francisco, California, of a very religious family. His grandmother was one of the pioneers of Pentecost. At an early age the fear of God was instilled in Robert's heart but for many years he never committed himself to Christ. He was pursuing a successful career in secular entertainment until one Sunday afternoon he attended an evangelistic rally and was saved. Since that time his greatest desire has been to proclaim the gospel through preaching and music.

Robert received his education at San Francisco State College; Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, California; and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Married and the father of four children, he served as a pastor for six years and was an evangelist for five years.

Brother Harrison is one of 36 evangelists currently approved by the Assemblies of God Foreign Missions Department for overseas ministry. ◀◀

SEND FOREIGN MISSIONARY OFFERINGS TO  
**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**  
 FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

1445 BOONVILLE AVE., SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65802



Highway Tabernacle in Philadelphia, Pa., will be the site of a *Revivaltime* crusade and broadcast origination. The beautiful sanctuary of the church is shown at right. W. Howard Roberson (inset) is pastor.

# International Christian Broadcasters Give Award to Revivaltime

**R**EVIVALTIME RECEIVED THE 1963 AWARD OF MERIT FOR "distinguished leadership in the field of religious broadcasting" from the International Christian Broadcasters at the annual meeting in Washington, D. C., January 21-23. In making the presentation Eugene R. Bertermann, cochairman of the association, said:

"The International Christian Broadcasters pay a sincere tribute to *Revivaltime* on its 10th Anniversary and address special congratulations to its speaker, C. M. Ward; its producer-narrator, D. V. Hurst; and executive director, Bartlett Peterson.

"During the decade of its history on the network, *Revivaltime* has rendered distinguished service to the entire cause of religious broadcasting throughout the

nation and the world," Dr. Bertermann added. "May it, under God's blessing, go forward into a long and successful history and spiritual ministry to America's millions and the peoples of the world."

International Christian Broadcasters was formed last year through merger of the National Religious Broadcasters and the World Conference on Missionary Communications. Cochairmen of the international body are Dr. Eugene R. Bertermann and Dr. Clarence W. Jones.

The convention was a triple event combining the first convention for International Christian Broadcasters, the 21st annual convention of National Religious Broadcasters, and the 4th Triennial World Conference on Missionary Communications.

Two representatives of the Assemblies of God were reelected to offices in the National Religious Broadcasters. T. F. Zimmerman will serve as first vice-president. Bartlett Peterson holds the office of secretary. Other officers of the organization are Dr. Eugene R. Bertermann, president; Dr. Ralph W. Neighbour, second vice president; and Dr. T. W. Willingham, treasurer.

A total of 243 delegates from around the world swelled the attendance to the largest ever at a National Religious Broadcasters convention. Representing the Assemblies of God were T. F. Zimmerman, Bartlett Peterson, C. M. Ward, and D. V. Hurst. The conference featured inspirational messages on the place of radio in missionary work, panel discussions on various aspects of broadcasting, and workshops on the practical problems of radio. Christian broadcasts such as *Revivaltime* were challenged by a report that 45 missionary radio stations are in operation and under construction. Latin America leads with 23 and there are 13 in the Far East. Africa has three, Europe one, and North America five.

# REVIVALTIME CRUSADE AND ORIGINATION IN PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 17-22

**N**EXT SUNDAY, MARCH 22, REVIVALTIME WILL ORIGINATE from the Highway Tabernacle, Philadelphia, Pa. The *Revivaltime* team—C. M. Ward, speaker; D. V. Hurst, producer; Cyril McLellan, choir director; and Bartlett Peterson, narrator—will be in the city for this broadcast.

Preceding the origination C. M. Ward will be the featured speaker for a *Revivaltime* crusade, March 17-22, in Philadelphia. W. Howard Roberson, pastor of Highway Tabernacle, 18th and Spring Garden Streets, reports that the area is looking forward to hosting the crusade and origination.

Chairmen of the committees set up to handle the details of the meeting are Howard Roberson, steering; Walter Servin, ushers; Cliff Lewis, Dominic Mariano,

and Larry Cerullo, publicity; Walter Wilhelm, Allan Dron, and M. Patrelli, finance; James A. Griep, personal workers; Betty Roberson, program; and Mrs. McDowell, choir organizer. Cyril McLellan, *Revivaltime* choir director, will direct the local choir in the broadcast service.

Since 1957 *Revivaltime* has been released over station WRCV in Philadelphia. At 8 each Sunday morning the 50,000-watt station transmits this full-gospel radio service to a large metropolitan audience.

The Radio Department requests everyone to pray that the *Revivaltime* crusade broadcast origination will stir this great metropolis. Friends in the Philadelphia area are invited to note the dates—March 17-22—and attend the nightly services. Bring your unsaved friends. ◀◀

The Assemblies of God radio ministry began in 1946 with a taped 15-minute program called "Sermons in Song" carried on 72 stations. In 1950 the broadcast was enlarged to a half-hour service and renamed *Revivaltime*. It joined the ABC network "live" in December 1953.

Revivaltime now reaches more than 12 million persons

each week in the continental United States and many more millions abroad. The release is heard on approximately 425 stations, including 51 outside the United States.

Your prayers and support are needed to continue this worldwide ministry. Send your letter to *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Missouri 65801.



*Revivaltime* received the annual Award of Merit from the International Christian Broadcasters, meeting in Washington, D. C., January 21-23. Pictured (left to right) during the presentation are Dr. Eugene R. Bertermann, cochairman of the International Christian Broadcasters, and Assemblies of God representatives—Bartlett Peterson, executive director of radio; Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent; C. M. Ward, *Revivaltime* speaker; and D. V. Hurst, secretary of radio.



# Pastor's Report from Grand Prairie, Texas: 'VBS A GOLD MINE'

One of 2,302 Vacation Bible Schools reported by the Assemblies of God in 1963



*S. Worth Williams says: "In the past few months since V.B.S. I have experienced the reaching-out aspect of V.B.S. in a 'gold mine' of prospects for our church and Sunday school. Half the children enrolled in our V.B.S. were not members of our Sunday school. Many were not attending Sunday school anywhere..."*

An enrollment of 256 children kept the workers of First Assembly of God, Grand Prairie, Texas, busy during their 1963 VBS. The staff realized the inestimable value of vacation Bible school as they saw 107 children kneel for salvation.

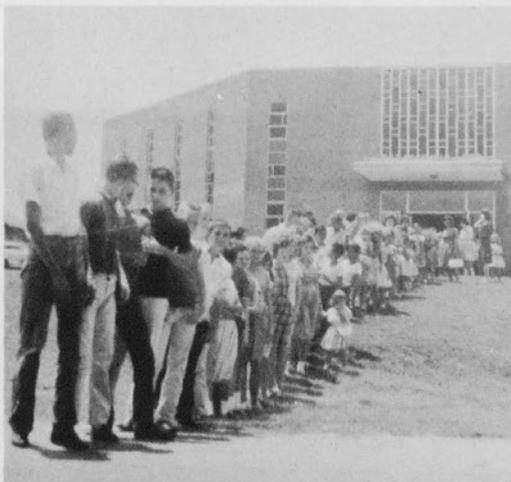
Selecting the "Wagons Ho" theme, the VBS team began planning the 1963 program immediately after the close of the 1962 school. Plans for enrollment were laid using the previous year's address file as a basis. Workers were enlisted, encouraged, and trained. Facilities were readied.

An enrollment contest began several weeks before the school opened. The prize was a trip to children's camp or youth camp. Enthusiasm rose. By the third day of the school it was necessary to use the adult department of the Sunday school for the overflow.

In addition to the immediate outreach of VBS, Pastor Worth Williams believes there is a dual blessing to the

Sunday school. "First, volunteer teachers for VBS often become faithful Sunday school teachers. Second, VBS is a gold mine for prospects for our church and Sunday school. This year 128 children who were not members of our school attended VBS. Many of these do not attend Sunday school anywhere. For some it was the first time inside a church."

A funeral emphasized the worth of VBS to Mrs. Bennie Wyatt, principal. "A junior boy accepted Christ in last year's VBS (1962). During this year's VBS he took suddenly ill and died within a few hours. At his funeral, as I passed the casket, I remembered him as he knelt with tears and surrendered his life to Jesus. I realized at that moment that this one boy's soul was worth far more than all our labor for the Lord. I cried within my heart, **'O, GOD, FORGIVE ME FOR WASTED SUMMERS THAT I COULD HAVE USED FOR YOU IN VBS!'**"



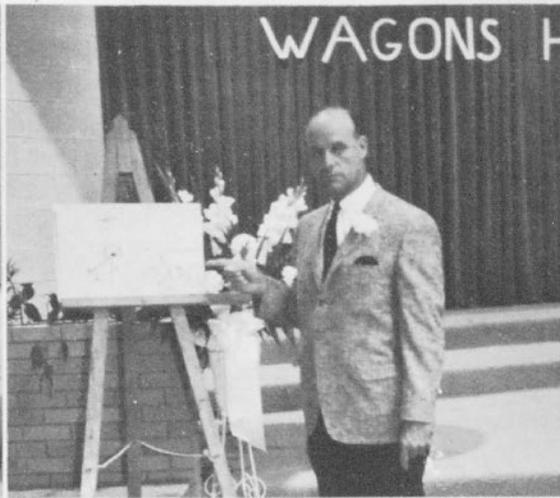
All set! Let's begin the processional. An average of 192 students marched daily.



"I pledge allegiance..." Saluting the American and Christian flags was the first order of the day.



Pinning a cowboy scarf... Carrying out the "Wagons Ho" theme, beginners wore scarfs.



And, don't forget the intermediates...24 enrolled for the school. Time out for devotions. Pastor Worth Williams (right photo) led the school in 30 minutes of sermon and song each day.



A cup of punch and a cookie...Gallons of punch and stacks of cookies were served each day following recess. It tasted wonderful to the junior boys after their ball game. . . . And here's the Wagons Ho Trail Crew.



Commencement. . . . The last song is sung, VBS activities are ended, but results continue. Eternity will reveal the complete story.



Do as the Grand Prairie church has done. DON'T LET THIS BE A WASTED SUMMER FOR CHILDREN'S WORK IN YOUR COMMUNITY. ▶

A winner must wait... Too young to attend kids camp, Sabrena Lacy was given a check for winning the enrollment contest. Sabrena will save the check and attend camp next year.



# THE WORLD'S GREATEST SPACE EVENT!

By EVANGELIST W. E. KIRSCHKE  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Yes, the apostle John, while on the Isle of Patmos, received a news scoop on the soon return of the greatest Space Man. "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" (Revelation 1:7).

The certainty of the second advent of Christ to this earth is made clear in the Holy Bible. The prophecies in this Book are history written in advance. While we burn yesterday's newspapers as obsolete, we study the Bible written centuries ago by holy men of God moved by the Holy Spirit. The Bible has stood the tests of hatred, abuse, malice and persecution through the years.

Because unbelievers have never destroyed the Bible, they have never destroyed the hope of the return of Jesus Christ to this world. The atheist's pen has become dry, the materialist's dreams have faded into dust, the astronomer's telescope has been too small to disprove the Bible. Men have been thrown to wild beasts, burned at the stake, and died in dungeons because they possessed a copy of the Holy Scriptures. Yet the Bible has survived all attacks and will one day be the word that shall judge the hearts of men through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Atheistic professors may laugh and scoff at the Bible and our belief in the first and second advents of Christ, but the Good Old Book has never been improved upon by all the learning of scholars throughout the ages. Man may have improved everything in the world that he himself has made, but he has never improved upon the Bible. He has seen Fulton's steamboat become an ocean liner. He has witnessed the spark from Benjamin

Franklin's kite become a mighty power to run our industrial plants and operate our cities. He has weighed the planets and tried to count the stars, but in the last two thousand years he has never improved upon the Bible.

The glorious truth of the return of Christ, the Son of God, from outer space is not based upon old wives' fables. Sir Isaac Newton, brilliant and renowned scientist and Bible scholar, said: "There is scarcely a prophecy in the Old Testament that does not, in some way, relate to the second coming of Christ." Someone counted 1,845 references to the Second Coming in the Bible.

In Matthew 16:27 Jesus said: "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." More certain than General Douglas MacArthur's word to the people of the Philippine Islands, "I shall return," is the promise Jesus made to His disciples.

Forty days after His resurrection from the grave, Christ was talking to an assembled group of His followers on Mount Olivet, when suddenly he began to rise and a cloud received Him into heaven. The people gathered at that place saw Him go up bodily and gloriously. As the disciples stood watching their precious Lord ascend, two white, shining angels came and stood beside them and said: "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 promise was given to the disciples in the moment of their keenest desolation and loss; and it comes down through the centuries to us today as

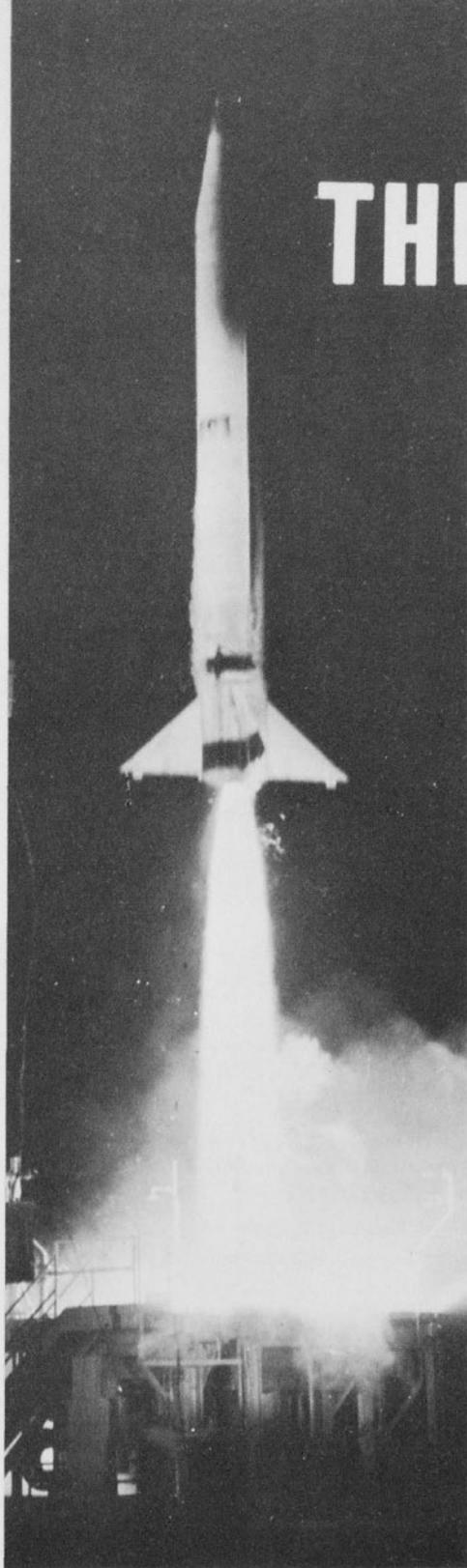


PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

**O**NE OF THESE DAYS A MAN FROM outer space will change the entire course of human activity upon the earth.

The only spacemen about which this world knows are the ones who have been blasted off from a rocket pad, have orbited the earth a few times and descended back into the scenes of human activity. But the greatest space event will be when a Man returns to this earth who ascended from the earth almost two thousand years ago.

a divine assurance of the literal, bodily and premillennial return of Jesus Christ to catch away His waiting bride.

The prophets witness to the necessity of Christ's second coming to the world to bring peace to humanity. Isaiah, who dipped his pen in the fire burning with the Spirit of God, wrote in the second chapter and fourth verse of his prophecy these illuminating and inspiring words: "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

When I read part of this verse on the United Nations building in New York, I thought: "It is a wonderful sentiment that the nations of the world have, but it is going to take more than sentiment, more than organization. It will take more than a communistic,

shoe-pounding dictator and autocrats with their international ideology and diplomatic machinery to bring peace to this blighted and broken world. It will take nothing less than the coming of the Prince of Peace Himself, in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Time and again have foreign ministers sat around peace tables with burdened hearts and gigantic barriers, trying to mould a policy of peace out of the pieces left by selfish and warring men. They have been powerless to lift the oppression and bondage that grind the subjected peoples of the world with a barbaric, tyrannical slavery that is the concoction of demented minds. While men talk "peace" they continue to build their stockpiles of munitions, spy systems, and secret police. They are afraid that one or the other will light the fuse for a nuclear attack that will all but destroy this present civilization.

Historians tell us that out of over

3,000 years of recorded history, this world has known only 286 years of international peace. But thanks be to God for the victory that is promised through our Lord Jesus Christ; for when He comes He will accomplish what the United Nations and thousands of international diplomats never could accomplish.

When He comes He will raise the dead, rapture the church, reward the righteous, judge the nations, set up His kingdom and bring to a mighty consummation God's redemptive plan of the ages.

The great question today is, "Will you be ready for Christ when He comes?" Every time an astronaut streaks through space we should remember that a greater Man of Space is coming. The moment of His re-entry into the earth's atmosphere may be very near.

—Reprinted from C. A. Challenge, youth organ of the German Branch, Assemblies of God

## ATTEND THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, APRIL 20-23, 1964

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# BUYING THE THRESHING

*We marvel at the mighty ministry of the Early Church but forget the price she paid for it.*

**A**RAUNAH THE JEBUSITE SAID, "Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant?" And David answered, "To buy the threshing floor of thee, to build an altar unto the Lord" (2 Samuel 24:21). David must buy the threshing floor before he can build his altar. Let us learn some spiritual lessons from the story.

The threshing floor, where the grain is separated from the chaff, is made on hard ground. The grain is spread

on the floor and a sledge driven by oxen goes over it again and again. Next a flail is used to beat the grain, and then it is lifted up in the wind. "Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor."

Shall we, as grains of wheat, find our way to God's threshing floor? For some of us there may be quite a way to go, for we are so high up. But when the Lord puts a hunger and a thirst in our hearts for Himself, there

is no way too far. Our cry then is,

*O Christ, who once has seen Thy  
vision's beauty,  
He counts all gain but loss;  
And other things are nought if he  
may win Thee  
And share with Thee Thy cross.*

Let us follow a disciple to the threshing floor. We can hear him say, as the cruel instruments are being used, "Why, I never realized there was so



1907



## *I Remember*

BY MRS. MARIE E. BROWN



1964

**I** REMEMBER OCTOBER 18, 1906, WHEN the Lord baptized me in the Holy Spirit. For six hours He moved upon me in intercessory prayer for various mission fields.

First He took me to China. I saw high stone walls and from beyond them heard the Chinese crying for help. As I prayed, it seemed stone after stone came out of the walls, and I saw a great multitude of Chinese waiting to hear the message of salvation. Then the Lord took me to India. There I saw the people of different castes, and I wondered and wept. But even as I wept for India's lost, the Lord showed me the continent of Africa. I preached to those people and they were espe-

Marie Estella Brown, the former Marie Burgess, was born October 18, 1880. In May, 1907, she opened Glad Tidings Mission (now Glad Tidings Tabernacle) in New York City. In 1909 she was married to Robert A. Brown who went to be with Christ in 1948. At the age of 83 Sister Brown continues to serve the Glad Tidings congregation as pastor, ably assisted by her nephew, R. Stanley Berg. She will participate in the 50th anniversary convention at Springfield, Mo., next month as prayer leader and panel speaker.

cially responsive. Then in a vision I went to Japan. There I entered an orphanage, and one by one the children came to me.

Each of these fields was laid heavily upon my heart, and it seemed God was calling to me to service in one of them. While I was waiting upon the Lord to know to which field He would have me go, I was asked to come to New York. And this has been my mission field all these years.

Since I had the vision of foreign missions in my heart, Glad Tidings Tabernacle soon became a missionary church. Its great burden through the years has been to send the gospel into all the world. Missionaries have been sent to each field represented in my vision, and to others besides. The General Council of the Assemblies of God, through the able and anointed leadership of its Home and Foreign Missions Departments, has contributed much to the achievement of Glad Tidings Tabernacle's missionary enterprise. That which has been sown continues to bear fruit both at home and

beyond the seas, and occasions this time of mutual rejoicing.

During the past fifty years God has given the General Council of the Assemblies of God a great vision, as with lifted eyes we have beheld the fields white unto harvest. It is my prayer that the coming years will bring to the General Council a greater fulfillment of its supreme objective in obedience to the heavenly vision, lest the oil of the Spirit which has distinguished its ministry during these past fifty years should ever stop flowing.

At the conclusion of one of the early General Council sessions which Pastor Robert A. Brown had attended, he was asked how the meetings had been. With a reference to Deuteronomy 33:24, he replied, "It seemed to me that the delegates came with their feet 'dipped in oil.'" The foot "dipped in oil" proved to be the "best foot forward" and unity of the Spirit prevailed. There is a great need today not only for the foot "dipped in oil" but for the head "anointed with oil."

# FLOOR

By Mrs. Marie E. Brown

much chaff, so much self-life, in me."

The flail beats the wheat, but as the wheat holds steady the wind (a type of the Holy Spirit) lifts it up, blows upon it. How comforting is this wind after the sledge and the flail! The wind of the Holy Spirit always comes to heal the crushed and broken heart.

Let us go again to the threshing floor. "Behold, he [our heavenly Boaz] winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor" (Ruth 3:2). That barley may be you or I. See how tenderly the kinsman works. "Who art thou?" he asks. He wants to hear our testimony. Will it be like Ruth's, "Thy servant," or will it be, "The Reverend John Somebody, leader of great campaigns"? Those who give the latter answer have not really been down to the threshing floor, for no titles are there. He who winnows the barley cannot spread his skirt over them, for they are not near kin, as Ruth is.

Ruth lay at the feet of Boaz till morning. What security and faith she found there. What a place of fellowship, to be able to uncover His feet and behold the nail scars and realize just a little more deeply their meaning. Once we behold those scars, we can never be the same again.

There is still another lesson for us down on the threshing floor. David was buying it to build an altar unto the Lord. The Jebusite said: "Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood." All these things he offered to David as gifts. But David said, "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price; neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing."

So David bought the threshing floor, and built an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the Lord. "And he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering" (1 Chron-

## BROTHER SWIFT CALLED 'HOME'



ALLAN A. SWIFT, known and loved by thousands throughout the Pentecostal Movement, went to be with Christ on February 13 after preaching the unsearchable riches of divine grace for over half a century. He was 78 years of age.

Brother Swift's ministry as a Bible teacher made a deep impression upon people of all ages, and particularly on the young folk. The greater part of his life of ministry was spent as pastor of Trinity Pentecostal Church, Elizabeth, N. J., and as principal of Eastern Bible Institute at Green Lane, Pa. He also had a prominent part in the life of Bethel Bible School which later merged with Central Bible Institute.

In recent years he traveled about as a "minister at large." He passed away at the home of his daughter in Toronto less than a month after his last preaching engagement which was in Jacksonville, Fla.

Born in London, England, Allan Swift migrated to Canada and was saved in the Methodist Church in Stratford, Ontario, in 1906. A year later at the age of 21 he received his Pentecostal Baptism in Calgary, Alberta. Subsequently he enrolled as a Bible student at Nyack, N. Y., where he became associated with such Pentecostal pioneers as David H. McDowell, Frank M. Boyd, the late W. I. Evans and the late G. F. Bender.

Brother Swift was ordained to the full-gospel ministry in 1912 by Bethel Pentecostal Church in Newark, N. J., of which he was the first pastor. He pastored Bethel for two terms of three years each. During his first term there the church and convention building were erected. During his second term at Bethel Church he also pastored Bethel Bible School.

The Lord called him to China and he served as a missionary in that land for nine years. A son Kenneth died in China. In 1929 he became pastor in Elizabeth, N. J., a church he founded through cottage prayer meetings which he conducted while pastoring at Newark. He continued at Elizabeth for over eight years.

After pioneering Eastern Bible Institute (now Northeast Bible Institute) and serving as head of this school for 11 years (1938-49) he returned to the pastorate in Elizabeth. Altogether he was pastor of this church for about 20 years.

Brother Swift loved to minister God's Word and his faith-building ministry took him to many parts of the country—from Maine to Michigan, Texas, Florida, and other states, as well as throughout the Eastern states and Eastern Canada. Many were enriched by his Bible teaching in camp meetings, conventions, and local churches.

He served as an officer in the Eastern District of the Assemblies of God for some years, and also was a member of the New Jersey district presbytery, as well as the general presbytery.

Brother Swift is survived by his wife Carrie L., by one son Milton of Newark, and by one daughter Margaret who is married to Pastor M. David Bowen of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The funeral service at Trinity in Elizabeth was an hour of spiritual triumph. Frederick Eide, New Jersey district superintendent, had charge of the service. Over 50 ministers were present. Pastor Richard Bergstrom of Taunton, Mass., a member of the executive presbytery, was the main speaker. The Holy Spirit moved upon the congregation, speaking through tongues and interpretation, so that the bereaved were comforted and all in attendance were challenged and inspired to dedicate themselves fully to the service of the Lord whom Brother Swift served so faithfully.

icles 21:26). Perhaps the reason so many of our offerings and prayers are not answered is that we have not built our altar on the threshing floor or we have not paid the full price. So often we are willing to let others make the sacrifice for us. But not David. His heart was crushed, and in that deep resultant humility he was glad to pay the full price. Then after the proper preparations were made he called on God and the Lord answered by fire.

We look at the Early Church and marvel how she grew in power and ministry. It is true she also suffered persecution for Christ, but she gloried in suffering for His name's sake. Paul asked the church to remember those former days, "in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight

of afflictions; partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions. . . ." Sometimes when we think of the tortures endured by those early Christians we wonder that they could keep true to the Lord, for today we see so many turning away from Him for very trifling reasons. But the answer is that they were *filled* with the Holy Spirit and they kept in constant communion with God.

May these words search our hearts. Let us ask ourselves if we are holding back from paying the price, from following the Lord all the way, even down to the threshing floor where our Pentecostal altar is waiting for our offering—our whole burnt offering unto the Lord. ◀◀



The Mt. Hope Assembly of God in Lansing, Mich., launched the Calvary Assembly of God in April, 1963 (Pastor Carl F. Graves, inset).



The Calvary Assembly of God is located in a rapidly developing section of Lansing, Mich. (Pastor Charles Ford, inset).

## HOME MISSIONS

# Another Mother Church Reported

By CHARLES FORD  
Pastor, Calvary Assembly, Lansing, Michigan

**T**HERE WERE ONLY TWO ASSEMBLIES in Lansing, Mich., a city of 113,000 with an additional 28,000 university students. Now there are three!

About two years ago the official board of Mt. Hope Assembly of God in Lansing decided to "mother" a new church in the city rather than enlarge its own facilities. In spite of the fact that Mt. Hope Assembly's Sunday school numbered 200 and its membership only about 62 at the time, the church felt it to be the will of God to start another church in a needy area.

The new church is located in the most rapidly developing section of the city with new subdivisions springing all around it. Lansing is one of the car manufacturing centers of America.

With the enthusiastic approval of the congregation, the board purchased a corner lot 105 by 300 feet and drew up plans. After six months of persistent effort to get the land rezoned and to acquire the necessary permits, they broke ground on August 5, 1962. Throughout the fall and winter months the men of the congregation labored with might and main on Saturdays and many evenings after their own day's work had been done. One of the board

members served as general contractor, the rest cooperating in every way possible.

A neighbor remarked, "I have never seen volunteer laborers work so harmoniously and zealously in any project." Many of the Mt. Hope ladies assisted by providing hot dinners for workers each Saturday. One neighbor provided his picnic table and yard for the noonday meals. Another gave free electricity and water until the church could get its own connected.

The cement work and all the carpentry and finish work were done by church members. The sanctuary, seating about 175, was completely furnished with oak pews, pulpit, altar rail, wall-to-wall carpet, as well as hymnbooks and a piano. Furniture for the Sunday school rooms and nursery was also donated by members and friends.

The completed structure is 40 by 60 feet with an additional foyer 20 by 25 feet. It has a full basement containing a junior auditorium and eight classrooms, a Sunday school office, rest rooms and a modern heating plant. The cement block building has an exterior of beautiful sandalwood and buff Miami sandstone. Although

valued at about \$65,000 the total indebtedness is approximately \$23,000.

There is sufficient land to build on an extension of 20 or 30 feet if necessary and still retain the needed parking facilities. The new church was dedicated April 7, 1963, with District Superintendent Everett D. Cooley officiating.

Besides erecting the building, the mother church has given five families as a nucleus in starting the new congregation. Even before the building was completed weekly prayer meetings were held in the area and the little group began helping to support a missionary. Although they have been in operation only a few months, they are now prepared to take care of their utilities and to assist in the support of their pastor. (I have been teaching school to support my family, while serving as pastor.)

God has blessed the mother church in return for her sacrifice. Brother Graves says that already more people are being reached than they were reaching before the "new baby" church was born. ◀◀

### 134 CHURCHES OPENED

Congratulations to the four districts listed below that led the nation in the number of new Assemblies of God churches opened in the U.S. in 1963:

<i>Southern California</i>	18
<i>Latin American Branch</i>	12
<i>Southern Missouri</i>	10
<i>Louisiana</i>	7

As of January 31, 37 districts and two branches had reported a total of 134 new churches added to the Assemblies of God in 1963.



Pastor and Mrs. L. V. Coons (left) are pictured with Richard Bishop (pastor of Calvary Tabernacle in Chicago) who was the anniversary speaker at the First Assembly in Lockport, Ill.



# Proclaiming the Full Gospel in Lockport

BY L. V. COONS, PASTOR, ASSEMBLY OF GOD, LOCKPORT, ILLINOIS

**T**HE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD AT Lockport, Ill., is concrete proof that God helps those who help themselves by doing all they can do and then relying on Him for the rest.

In June 1961, a group of people in Lockport, Ill., desiring to establish full-gospel testimony, rented the Youth Center (an old church) in downtown Lockport. The rent was \$20 a week and the church was available only on Sundays. Forty-three people attended the first Sunday school service.

In August Mrs. Coons and I were elected as pastors. We moved to Lockport from Omaha, Nebr., and I obtained secular work to help support the new church. A revival spirit has prevailed from the beginning. Almost every Sunday souls have been saved and believers filled with the Holy Spirit. Sick bodies have been healed in answer to prayer. (Our Sunday school averaged 121 for the last quarter of 1963.)

We soon started a building fund. The WMC's of the Illinois District contributed \$1,000 and Speed-the-Light gave \$500. We obtained a loan from the National Home Missions Department along with a loan from our dis-

trict. The church made a down payment of \$8,000 on a two-acre plot of ground which includes an attractive parsonage, a building 25 by 75 feet which is being used as an auditorium, and a two-story building 32 by 32 feet which is being used for Sunday school. The location of the property would be termed in Army language as "commanding terrain." Shrubbery on the grounds would cost about \$2,000.

We celebrated our second anniversary with an all-day meeting at which Pastor Richard Bishop of Calvary Tabernacle, Chicago, was the special speaker. Sunday school attendance reached 130.

The church is now in the process of buying two adjoining acres upon which to build a new edifice. The church is now self-supporting and I am able to devote full time to my ministry.

Two attractive signs 8 by 12 feet grace the entry way of our church. One reads: "Christ is coming. Are you ready?" The other carries the message: "Life begins with Christ. He is your answer." These signs, lighted at night, display the name of

the church, as well. They were painted by Richard Hart of Bushnell, Ill.

We want this always to be a New Testament church. We believe great things are in store for us as our Assembly continues to shed the light of the full gospel in the Lockport community. ◀◀

## NEW "SITES FOR SOULS" PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

A new pamphlet, *Sites Are Important*, is available free of charge from the Home Missions Department. It covers the *Sites for Souls* facet of the Assemblies of God Breakthrough program. This cleverly designed pamphlet answers such questions as: "What does this do for the pioneer congregation?" "Is the money an outright gift?" and "What can I do about it?" It explains how churches and individuals may share in the *Sites for Souls* program.

During the hundreds of February *Breakthrough* rallies across the nation, over 54,000 copies of this pamphlet were distributed.

# A MIRACLE OF GRACE

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BIBLE COLLEGE



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Age ..... Last grade completed .....

UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO I DID NOT know what it meant to be "born again," as the Bible describes it. I had attempted to serve the Lord, but I never found a place of complete consecration.

In spite of the fact that I had a good job, a wonderful wife, and three lovely children, I sold out to Satan. I no longer appreciated good surroundings, but wanted to be among the roughest, most vulgar crowds. The way down for me started with just a social drink and a few worldly habits. I saw nothing wrong with a little moderate drinking, smoking, and profanity. (The word *moderate* is one of Satan's most effective weapons when applied to drinking.)

Satan took the love I had for Christian friends and my loved ones and put it into the pleasures of the world. When I got off from work I often would go to a bar and stay there or in a nightclub until daylight. In the early morning as I left the crowd just in time to get to my job I would feel restless, hopelessly lost, and confused. I endured the demands of my job with one thing in mind—to get back to the night crowd!

I neglected my business and began to go into debt, borrowing money on which to drink, gamble, and "party." Grasping for relief, I started taking pills of all kinds. Frightened and worried, I leaned more heavily on the bottle which gave me a false courage and pseudo-energy. Even this failed, and I felt there was nothing left for me except suicide, which I tried unsuccessfully. Thirty days in a mental institution followed.

During my confinement I did not hear a word or receive a visit from any of the social clubs or the gang I thought loved me. The only ones who visited me or helped my family were the very people I had shunned—people with the love of God in their hearts.

In an effort to change my life, I went to church a few times. But I did not quit the worldly crowd and, depending only upon my own determination to do better, I fell flat! After a three-week drinking bout I was again hospitalized, and this time prom-

ised myself I would never drink again. But I drank again, and finally it seemed my body could no longer endure the demands made upon it. I wanted to die but could not. I could not face people or the responsibilities of life any longer. Drink had long given me false courage, but now I saw myself as I really was—a coward on the run from God and life!

Early the morning of November 27, 1961, I was with the most boisterous crowd I had ever seen. But right in the middle of the party I became very lonely. The more I drank the lonelier and sicker I became.



Troy Collier, after he was saved, witnessed to his customers in the barber and beauty shop. In the photo he is holding up one of the tracts he gives to customers.

I telephoned my wife and asked her to come and take me home. (Can you imagine a woman doing this for such an outcast?) She came for me, and she put me to bed. When I awoke I saw a picture of Christ on the wall by my bed. As I looked at it, I knew what I had to do. I staggered to the living room couch, fell on my knees, and told Jesus all about it. I asked Him to make something out of me and salvage my wrecked life.

By the time the pastor and a few others my wife had called arrived, God had sobered me, given me a new heart, a new mind, and a new life!

Although I was financially bankrupt, I started going to church and paying my tithes. Immediately I began to tell others I had accepted Christ as my Saviour. I started reading God's Word and read the Bible through in nine and a half months.

Christ has blessed my business, and I try to witness to my customers in the barber and beauty shop as the Holy Spirit leads me. The Lord has given me a Sunday school class of ten-year-old boys, and is healing the deep wounds of hurt and distrust I had inflicted on others. I joined First Assembly, North Little Rock, Ark., was baptized in water on Christmas Eve of 1961, and received the baptism in the Holy Spirit soon thereafter.

I just pray that as others watch me they will desire Him as their King and Saviour. I know from experience that what the world needs is Jesus.—Troy B. Collier, North Little Rock, Ark.

*(Endorsed by David Hastie, Fort Smith, Ark., former pastor of Assembly of God, North Little Rock, Ark. Pastor Hastie says: "We witnessed a miracle of divine grace in the life of Troy B. Collier. I served as his pastor all during his reawakening and return to God. His growth in God was wonderful to see. Surely his is the story of a modern-day miracle.")*

## How the Furnace Was Fixed

IN THE FALL OF 1962 WE WERE ASKING the Lord to meet a special financial need. Our oil furnace needed a new switchbox, but we were unable to pay the approximately \$40 needed. It happened that the Lord had been dealing with me to ask forgiveness of a neighbor with whom I had had a disagreement that summer, so I called her. Though she was not friendly I was able to tell her I was sorry before she hung up. It was a hard thing to do, but I felt this step of obedience was necessary before our prayer

about the furnace could be answered.

The next day I fasted and prayed that the Lord would supply the need for our furnace. That night one of the ladies where I work was telling some of us about her son's arm which had been in a cast and had not healed right. She was crying in distress, and I breathed a prayer that the Lord would help her. I put my arm around her and said: "Don't cry. Everything will no doubt work out all right. I know how you must feel—I have been praying all day about our furnace—but your problem is much greater than mine."

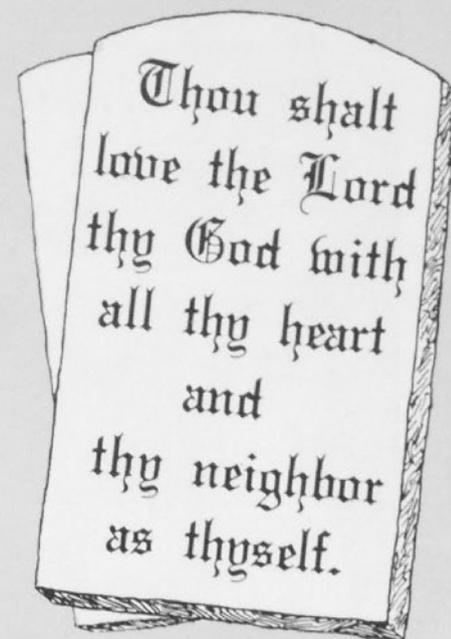
When she learned we were having trouble with our furnace, she said her husband used to be in the furnace business. She suggested he might be able to fix it for us without much expense, if any.

He came over, bringing a switchbox he had located, and installed it without charge. Our furnace has been working ever since.

I do thank the Lord for this. He said He would supply our needs, and to me this was a need. God always keeps His Word.—Mrs. Maxine Joseph, Normandy, Mo.

*(Endorsed by Pastor Ray Thorn, Bridgeton Assembly of God, Bridgeton, Mo.)*

God . . . needs no protoplasm to build His magnificent edifices of worlds. "He spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast." Into the soul that has no basis or remnant of goodness but is dead in trespasses and sins, He can speak life and holiness. Into the body whose constitution is exhausted and whose springs of life are run out, He can command health and strength. And so faith begins where human hopes and prospects end.—A. B. Simpson.



*To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. James 4:17.*

## YOU KNOW...

- ★ that the Assemblies of God has accepted the responsibility and support of scores of neglected children.
- ★ that the operation of the Hillcrest Children's Home, where one hundred of these children reside, depends on contributions from Assemblies of God churches and members.
- ★ that the cost per child is a minimum of \$50 per month.
- ★ that only one day in the year is set aside for gathering the greater part of the finances needed to operate, and it is March 22, 1964.
- ★ that unless you do your share, some part of this important ministry will suffer.

If you had not known about the children at Hillcrest, you would be excused from any obligation. But after reading this column your prayer should be, "Lord, show me how much I can help." Don't fail to do your part—

# MARCH 22 Hillcrest Children's Home Day!

Sponsored by: Department of Benevolences, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Missouri 65802

MUSEMENTS FOR MINORS

BY DICK CHAMPION

### CODE MESSAGE

Like to figure out secret codes? Then this one's for you. Here's the key:

All vowels (A, E, I, O, U) are unchanged. Consonants are changed according to the following key: B=Z; C=Y; D=X; F=W; G=V; H=T; J=S; K=R; L=Q; M=P; N=N.

#### MESSAGE

O FOKJTIM HTE QOKX IN HTE ZEAUHC OW TOQINFJJ:  
WEAK ZEWOKE TIP, AQQ HTE EAKHT. JAC APONV HTE  
TEAHTEN HTAH HTE QOKX KEIVNEHT.

*(To check your answer, look up Psalm 96:9,10.)*



Walter Hanson gave instruction in the "know-how" of personal soul winning at the seminar sponsored by the Arizona District Men's Fellowship Department.

During the seminar two nights were spent in door-to-door visitation. The photo below shows the group, supplied with literature, ready to leave for visitation. Russell J. Cox, district MF director, is seated on the front row at left.



# PHOENIX SOUL-WINNING SEMINAR SPONSORED BY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Soul winners Roy Smeya and Bill Wind visited the home of Carol and Sophie Hethcoat and led them to the Lord. At the soul winners' supper (top right photo) Bill Wind introduced the new convert, Carol Hethcoat (right). Hethcoat said, "This is wonderful, but I am discovering that you can only keep it by giving it away."

PHOENIX, ARIZ.—The soul-winning seminar sponsored here by the Men's Fellowship Department of the Arizona District was described as "something new, different, wonderful." Eight churches participated.

Held at the First Assembly of God in Phoenix, the seminar was conducted by Walter Hanson, real estate consultant from Sacramento, Calif. The District MF Director, Russell J. Cox, said the seminar was very practical, not merely inspiring workers with a desire to win souls to Christ but showing them how to do it.

"Throughout the nine-day event the participants won at least 25 souls to the Lord personally and soundly. Beyond this, the fact that the men, women, youth, ministers and laymen who attended the seminar are still introducing persons to Jesus indicates an ever-widening circle of influence and New Testament revival throughout Arizona.

"Pastor Jack Brock of Central Assembly in Tucson conducted a similar course in his church with the same kind of interest and results that were seen in Phoenix.

"We have observed a restoration of personal, primal passion for souls. This passion resulted in a personal involvement in soul winning, based on a deep sense of obligation.

"The deepening and strengthening of dedications are evidenced by prayer, Bible study, and witnessing. There has been a pressing through the natural reluctance to speak and thus engage the enemy on his own soil; a wrestling for the salvation of eternal souls.

"Great emphasis was laid on a personal love for the Lord Jesus Christ so that we would share Him, a personal concern for hell-bound souls so that we care, and a strong active faith in what the miracle-working Saviour can and will do.

"During the nine-day seminar there were five day sessions, each two-an-one-half hours long; three night sessions lasting two hours each; and two nights of actual door-to-door visitation and soul winning. On Saturday there was a massive tract distribution, followed by a soul winners' supper. As the testimonies of souls won to the Lord were given, our hearts were melted and humbled; we rejoiced that God was willing to use us to win men to Himself.

"The enthusiasm of the laymen has been so great that most of the participating churches are continuing the soul-winning course on a local scale, and all of the churches have scheduled regular visitation nights on which to send soul winners out into the whitened harvest field of their own hometowns." <<<



On Saturday there was a massive tract distribution. Photo at right shows one of the groups that distributed tracts throughout the city. A soul-winning team witnessed and gave tracts to firemen and policemen.



District MF Director Russell Cox (left photo) presided at the soul winners' supper and gave opportunity for reports on the two nights of visitation. Among those who told about the results of their visitation work were (left to right) Mrs. Pauline Hicks, Mrs. Halstead, Pastor Willis K. Hirschy, Pastor V. E. Shores, and Jack Wallace. At least 25 people were saved as a result of the visitation work.



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### MISCELLANEOUS

WHEN VISITING PUERTO RICO, ATTEND First Assembly of God, (English language). Write: D. L. Hasch, Pastor, D-132 Cartagena St. Flamingo Gardebsm Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

14TH ANNUAL MISSIONARY CONVENTION—Mar. 19-22 at Assembly of God, Bellflower, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Epler and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie E. Bedell, speakers.—by David D. Pearce, pastor.

NINTH ANNUAL EASTERN DISTRICT C. A. CONVENTION—Mar. 26,

USE THE COLORFUL "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" LOYALTY MATERIALS

# APRIL 5

## IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE 1964 LOYALTY CAMPAIGN

*are you ready?*

Full information is given in the "Loyalty Planner." Price 25 cents per copy. Order from the Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

27 at Zembo Mosque, Harrisburg, Pa. Olson Evangelistic Team, speaker and musicians. Other musicians include First Assembly of God choir of Lancaster, Pa., The Harmonaires Trio of Canada, and a brass ensemble.—By Robert Clayton, D-CAP.

AREA-WIDE RALLY with "God Save America" Team, Apr. 3 at Oak City Assembly of God, Highway 90 West, Tallahassee, Fla. Michael and Peggy Lord, and O. L. Thomas, West Florida district superintendent, speakers.—by Clayton Wilkinson and Bernard Browne, co-chairmen.

DEDICATION of remodeled and redecorated Assembly of God in Hartshorne, Okla., Mar. 21, 22. R. L. Steger, speaker; Evangelist and Mrs. Kenneth Harris, musicians.—by Burl Rogers, pastor.

46TH ANNIVERSARY of Assembly of God in Canalou, Mo., Mar. 21, 22. Former pastors speaking in the services. All former pastors and members invited.—by Roy G. Bennett, pastor.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY in the new Calvary Assembly of God, 8200 W. Blue Mound Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis., Mar. 22-24. Hans Waldvogel of Brooklyn, N. Y., speaker. Invitation extended to friends in Milwaukee area.—by John Wannemacher, pastor.

### WITH CHRIST

HENRY BARTON, 63, of Frederick, Md., went to his eternal reward December 14. Ordained in 1939, he was affiliated with the Potomac District. He served as evangelist and pastor, having pastored in Falling Waters, W. Va., Chester, Pa., and Frederick, Flintstone and Kitzmiller, Md. Survivors include his wife Anna Bell and four children.

MRS. L. R. STURGIS, 70, of Oklahoma City, died suddenly of heart failure on January 31. Sister Sturgis was ordained in 1912 and became affiliated with the

Assemblies of God in 1933. Previous to her marriage to Brother Sturgis in 1955 she was Willa Short, and was widely known as an evangelist. She co-pastored with her husband in Kansas City, Mo., for two years, after which they engaged in evangelistic work together for five years before accepting a call to be pastors of the Assembly of God at Kingfisher, Okla. She is survived by her husband and a daughter, Rosa Mae, wife of Pastor Roy Wead, South Bend, Ind.

### WESTPORT ASSEMBLY SETS NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Pastor Estel I. Moore reports good results from special meetings conducted recently by the A. R. Vander Ploegs at the Westport Assembly of God. The previous peak of 215 in Sunday school was surpassed on February 2 when the attendance climbed to 223.

"The blessings of the Lord were upon the services," says Brother Moore. "The church had been praying for a move of God, and from the first evening that the 'Musical Vanns' were with us there were souls coming to Christ for salvation.

"The special music and singing attracted many people. Each Saturday evening there was an all-musical service of worship and witness unto the Lord. Pictures were shown on Fridays.

"This was one of the best attended revival campaigns in the 18 years we have been pastoring at Westport Assembly. There were 16 persons who knelt to accept Christ as their personal Saviour."

The Lord has blessed the ministry of Brother Moore in Springfield. When he came in 1945 there were only 15 in Sunday school. Today the church has a new sanctuary which will seat 325. It is 50 by 72 feet in size, with full basement. It is air-conditioned throughout and has all new furnishings. With these beautiful new and larger facilities there is every indication that the steady growth which the Westport Assembly and Sunday school have enjoyed will continue.



**BREAKING THE RECORD**—The old Sunday school attendance record of 215 was broken at Westport Assembly recently with 223 present. Shown here are: Kenneth Dalton, Sunday school superintendent; Estel I. Moore, pastor; A. R. Vander Ploeg, evangelist; Mrs. E. I. Moore; and Mrs. A. R. Vander Ploeg.

# EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Eight Mile	Victory	Mar. 11-22	Don Carroll	W. W. Vaughn
Ark.	Hot Springs	Central	Mar. 17-29	H. M. & Mrs. Lednicky	G. C. Kirksey
Calif.	Bell Gardens	First	Mar. 15-29	Norman Jones	Harvey Mitchell
	Dinuba	A/G Tab.	Mar. 17-29	Gary Archer	John Scaggs
	El Monte	First	Mar. 15-29	Ernie Rogers	Paul McKeel
	Fort Bragg	A/G	Mar. 18-29	Garfield J. Unruh	George McQueen
	Hawaiian Gdns	Calvary	Mar. 17—	Knouse-Stovall Team	Bob L. Curtright
	Lodi	First	Mar. 15-29	Carolyn Lindblad	Gene Forrest
	Long Beach	Glad Tidings	Mar. 17-22	Arthur & Anna Berg	Allan G. Snider
	Los Gatos	First	Mar. 17-27	Christian Hild	Kelsey C. Prinzing
	Modesto	Bethel 1st	Mar. 18-29	Tommy Barnett	Bill Lewis
	National City	First	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Linfield Crowder	Harris Lidstrand
	N. Hollywood	First	Mar. 15-29	Gene & Mrs. Martin	D. Leroy Sanders
	Sacramento	Country Centre	Mar. 18-29	Steve & Pat Rexroat	Jim Grams
	San Bernardino	First	Mar. 15-29	George Hayes	Louis Hauff
	Santa Ana	New Hope	Mar. 15-19	Neale Sheneman	J. R. Daily
	Santa Clara	Glad Tidings	Mar. 17-29	Wayne Pyzer	Esther Brady
	Terre Bella	A/G	Mar. 17-22	Doug Payne	Earl Finch
	Vista	A/G	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Marvin Schmidt	Oran Duncan
Colo.	Colorado Spgs.	First	Mar. 8-22	Sara E. Sharp	George E. Smith
Fla.	Ft. Pierce	Calvary Tab.	Mar. 17-29	Jack Martz	Robert L. Raburn
	Miami	Bethany Tab.	Mar. 22-29	R. S. Peterson	Dale B. Peterson
	Orlando	Calvary Temple	Mar. 18-29	E. Eskelin	Dale Zink
	Sanford	Pinecrest	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Fred Numrick	Hubert Wilder
	Winter Haven	First	Mar. 16-29	Don & Sharon Parker	Emerson Jones
Ill.	E. St. Louis	State St.	Mar. 15-29	C. M. Smitley	Otis Runyon
	Hartford	A/G	Mar. 22—	L. L. Ferguson	Roy B. Warner
Ind.	Gary	Full Gospel Tab.	Mar. 15-29	Bob Watters	Karl D. Strader
	Marion	Westside	Mar. 18-29	Musical Lebsacks	A. W. Thomason
	South Bend	Calvary Temple	Mar. 1-Apr. 5	Don & Dixie Cox	Roy Wead
	Washington	A/G	Mar. 17—	Donald & Mrs. Lunsford	Robert Covington
Iowa	Fort Dodge	First	Mar. 18-22	Frank Martin	D. D. Underwood
	Jewell	Evang. Center	Mar. 17-22	John French	S. E. Carlsen
	Oskaloosa	A/G	Mar. 17-29	E. L. Surratt	Max Johnson
Kans.	Topeka	Highland Park	Mar. 18-29	Diehl Evangelists	David Howe
Ky.	Nicholasville	A/G	Mar. 17-29	J. E. Friend	M. Hudson
La.	West Monroe	First	Mar. 18—	Jimmy Swaggart	F. D. Wall
Maine	Westbrook	A/G	Mar. 22-27	E. Howard Anderson	Paul Johnson
Md.	Lonaconing	First	Mar. 17-Apr. 5	L. K. Dodge	Chas. E. Fussell
	Westernport	First	Mar. 15—	Daniel Summa	A. Newton Chase
Mich.	Albion	A/G	Mar. 18-29	Jerry & Joy Spain	James George
	Livonia	Bethel Missionary	Mar. 17-29	William H. Kautz	Jacob J. Traub
	Muskegon	Lakeside	Mar. 15-29	Wilfred Klingspohn	Jack Pepple
	Troy	A/G	Mar. 17-22	Dave Tonn	Louie H. Calaway
Minn.	Barnesville	A/G	Mar. 17-29	W. L. Serdahl	Joseph Robins
Mo.	Flat River	A/G	Mar. 16-29	Willis-Hall Team	C. R. Hampton
	Kennett	First	Mar. 17-29	Arnold & Anita Segesman	G. W. Westlake, Jr.
	St. Louis	Friendship	Mar. 15—	Billy Don Heady	Ancil Wampler
N. Mex.	Albuquerque	Highland	Mar. 15—	Glen Shinn	Robert P. Northrop
N. Y.	New Rochelle	First	Mar. 17-22	Bob & Pat Ludwig	Maurice Cudmore
N. Dak.	Alfred	A/G	Mar. 15-29	Ivan & Mrs. Kimmel	Otto Strelau
Ohio	Chillicothe	First	Mar. 17-29	Frank J. DePolo	Paul L. Dear
	Conneaut	A/G	Mar. 18-29	Daena Cargnel	Earl Hart
	Girard	First	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Eddie Wilson	Delmar Ross
Okla.	Alma	Pruitt City A/G	Mar. 16-29	James R. Tucker	J. E. Frady
	Bixby	First	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Wallace E. & Mrs. Joice	Billy D. Guthrie
	Cyril	First	Mar. 15-27	Joe & Nancy Henegar	E. L. Ostrom
	Oklahoma City	Sunny Lane	Mar. 17—	J. Nathan Phillips	Bob Hill
	Sand Springs	First	Mar. 15-29	S. B. Douglass	T. A. McDonough
	Stillwater	First	Mar. 22—	Steve & Vada Allen	Joe Stumbaugh
	Tulsa	Carbondale	Mar. 17-29	Oren & Inez Paris	H. D. Pieratt
	Tulsa	Lewis Avenue	Mar. 18-29	William Caldwell	V. O. Brassfield
Pa.	Brookville	First	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Monty Garfield	Vernon P. Boyer
	Irwin	A/G	Mar. 18-29	H. B. Helchner	Samuel Weidler
	Mercersburg	First Pent. Ch.	Mar. 17-29	Rose Marie Meringola	Paul Baughman
	Mifflintown	A/G	Mar. 17-29	Culpepper and Gourlas	H. A. Christopher
	Orbisonia	A/G	Mar. 17-29	Stan Morris	John DeNicola
	Windsor	Pent. Lighthouse	Mar. 10-22	Ralph A. Creider	Robert H. Shipp
Tex.	Amarillo	First	Mar. 22-Apr. 5	Jack & Clara Peters	E. R. Foster
	Dallas	Lovefield	Mar. 18-29	A. G. Caloway & wife	W. E. Hand
	Irving	Calvary Temple	Mar. 15-18	Bill Sharp	Bill Ferrel
	Quanah	First	Mar. 16-30	W. Glenn Mangrum	N. W. Brooks
	San Antonio	First	Mar. 22-29	Roland & Leanna Hastie	Kermit Reneau
Va.	Hampton	*Calvary	Mar. 15-20	Dave & Pat Johnson	T. B. Pierce, Jr.
Wash.	Camas	A/G Tab	Mar. 17-29	The Tanner Team	N. Glen Rich
	Oroville	A/G	Mar. 17-29	Lloyd Perera	J. J. Wagner
W. Va.	Pennsboro	First	Mar. 17-22	Peter DeLeon	Louis P. Jensen
	St. Albans	First	Mar. 17-29	J. B. Woolums	Roy Mallory, Sr.
Chile	Talca	Central Park	Mar. 15—	Bob Hoskins	J. Mazurek, Chm.

\*Children's Crusade



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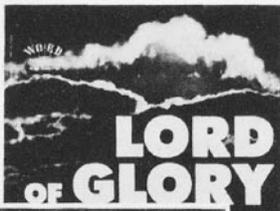
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# The Godly Art of MEDITATION

BY SYLVA DOOLIN

**D**AVID PRAYED, "LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH AND the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14). And he said, "I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches" (Psalm 63:6).

Meditation is a mental reflection on all we know about a subject. It is a compiling of information, a quiet consideration of all the facts. It is the examining of our own opinions and conclusions with an open mind. It is honestly seeking the real truth and trying to find the correct solution to our problems. The Christian's meditations will be guided by the Word of God.

Meditation is different from prayer and praise. In prayer we are so often concerned with our own needs; in praise we may be conscious of our blessings; but in meditation we merely contemplate. In meditation we relate our thinking to God and what He says in His Word about our particular situation or problem. Meditation is a godly art that should not be neglected.

In Genesis 24:63 we are told that Isaac went out to meditate while waiting for his bride. Joshua encouraged the Israelites to meditate in the book of the law day and night and to do what is written in the book in order to make their way prosperous. David used the theme of meditation throughout the Psalms. He also called that man blessed and prosperous who meditates in God's Word day and night. Jesus spoke of it in Luke 21:4 and Paul advised young Timothy to meditate "that thy profiting may appear to all."

The child of God needs some time alone with God

every day, away from activities and crowds, to pray and meditate. Often, like David, he may find the night hours afford the best opportunity.

James Truslow Adams wrote: "Perhaps it would be a good idea, fantastic as it sounds, to muffle every telephone, stop every motor, and halt all activity for an hour some day to give people a chance to ponder for a few minutes on what it is all about, why they are living and what they really want."

In meditation, with the Bible as our authority, we may face ourselves as we really are. "Know thyself," Socrates advised. Another wise man said, "A growth towards one's best follows a personal knowledge of one's worst."

We can't even begin to make ourselves better until we admit that we are sinners and need a Saviour.

Many people become mentally ill because they refuse to see themselves as they really are. They try to maintain a vision of themselves as virtuous persons doing good against many unfavorable odds. In this frame of mind they attribute their faults and failures to others. They justify their behavior as good intentions hindered by circumstances over which they have no control.

The overly ambitious person sees everybody pushing him aside so as to get ahead of him. The selfish person sees everybody trying to take what is his. The proud sees the vanity of another as being worse than his.

In 2 Corinthians 13:5 we are told: "Examine yourselves..." Self-examination is not a one-time experience but a habit. As we learn how to meditate we find ourselves continually examining ourselves to see how we measure up to God's Word.

Emerson said: "A man is what he thinks about all day long." Proverbs 23:7 says it this way: "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he..."

So there are some things we are *not* to meditate about. A teacher told his class: "Never borrow trouble from the future. If you live in dread of what will happen and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. Even if it does happen, you have to worry twice." Edward Everett Hale said: "Some people have three kinds of trouble: all they ever had, all they now have, and all they expect to have."

Elijah could have had a nervous breakdown when he saw the brook drying up, but he quietly waited for the Lord to tell him where to go next.

Peter slept peacefully in chains, even though he was scheduled for execution the next day. He had no assurance then that he would be delivered. He could have lain awake thinking about what had happened to James a short time before, but he had a source of peace. Later he wrote: "Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator" (1 Peter 4:19).

A woman said that when she was troubled she just relaxed in the rocking chair of 1 Corinthians 10:13: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

The art of meditation in the light of God's Word is worth cultivating. It causes us to prosper in soul, mind and body. Have you tried it lately? <<<