

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

FEBRUARY 19, 1967

TEN CENTS

FILE COPY

“YES,
LORD...”

THEME FOR WOMEN'S MISSIONARY
COUNCIL SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 26)

IN A RECENT REREADING of the Olivet Discourse (one of my favorite passages), it occurred to me that in our preoccupation with the more obvious signs of Christ's second coming, we may have neglected one that is vital to the point of being a spiritual life-and-death matter. It is Matthew 24:12: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many [literally, *the many*—the majority] shall wax cold."

A sermon on the mark of the Beast, the international preparation for Armageddon, or the increase in earthquakes and famines is more likely to attract a crowd than is one on this text.

Spiritual coldness is definitely one of the signs enumerated by Jesus. It is not a new thing, but this verse indicates it will be intensified and grow to such proportions near the end of the age that it will engulf all the professing Church except a faithful minority.

The cause of this fading love is "iniquity"—better translated *lawlessness*. It will not be confined to a few,

but will *abound* until it literally floods the human race. This multiplied lawlessness will do two things to many Christians:

1. It will weigh them down with discouragement. They will reason, "The world is in such a mess that there's no use even trying to do right."

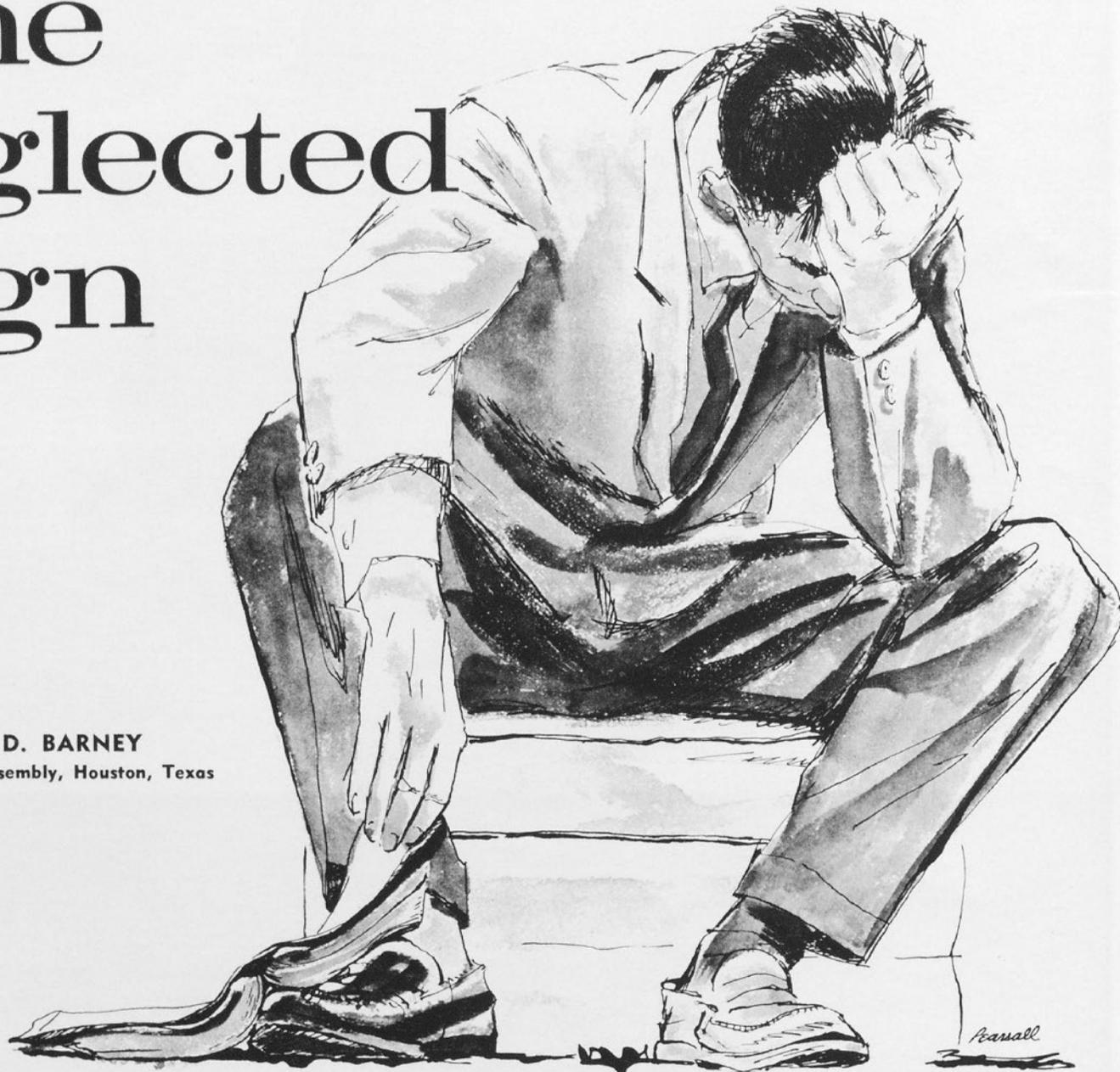
2. It will exert a strong spiritual pull away from God. You may throw a ball high into the air, but eventually it will yield to the downward pull of gravity. The lawless atmosphere of the end time will have this kind of influence on many who have formerly served Christ.

This spiritual decline is described by Jesus in the expression, "wax cold." The Greek here does not imply a sudden chilling, but rather a gradual cooling off. To resist this relentless evil tide will take very strenuous countermeasures. It will be necessary to really *work* at our Christian life. A passive spiritual attitude is not enough.

What are these countermeasures the overcomer must employ? They are very simple. It is only a matter of returning to old, tried fundamentals.

The Neglected Sign

By **KENNETH D. BARNEY**
Pastor, Heights Assembly, Houston, Texas



UNFAILING COMMUNION WITH GOD

If you place a piece of iron in a fire, it will heat until it glows. But if you take it out of the fire, the glow will disappear; eventually the metal will cool to the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere. *It must be left in the fire if it is to stay hot!* So the Christian's spiritual glow is maintained only by staying in very close contact with his God.

When the Lord visited Joshua just before the battle of Jericho, He commanded him, "Loose thy shoe from off thy foot, for the place whereon thou standest is holy" (Joshua 5:15). Joshua's shoes were the part of him closest to the earth. They had been soiled with the dust and grime of the way. The removing of the shoes was symbolic of casting off every defilement in order to come into God's presence.

The real defilement comes to us, not from our shoes, but through our mind. As long as we are in this world the mind is almost certain to become soiled by wrong kinds of thoughts and suggestions. If we would stand on holy ground, these must be diligently removed and cast away.

There is no better cleansing agent than the Bible. How vital the Word of God is to our communion with Him. It has the most miraculous power to remove mental stains. It is God's great Detergent for this dirty age!

UNFAILING ASSEMBLING WITH THE BODY OF CHRIST

When the Ammonites and Syrians marched against David (2 Samuel 10:9-11), Joab divided his forces so that part of them were fighting the Syrians and the others the Ammonites. As he took command of the Syrian front, he reasoned this way to the officers on the other front. "If either of us is defeated, it will also be a defeat for the other. Therefore, if you're having a hard time, I'll come to your rescue; and if I run into trouble, you can send aid to me."

This is a picture of the Church. Some are fighting different battles than others; but if one goes down, it is a loss to the rest. One of the glories of Christian fellowship is the support we can give each other when the going is hard.

In Acts 14:22 we read that Paul and Barnabas returned to several of the cities where they had preached for the purpose of "confirming the souls of the disciples." These people had been saved, but the apostles came back to *confirm* them, "to give further support." This is why we have churches—to give further support, nurture, and stimulation to those who have been born again.

Nothing can drain a Christian spiritually as quickly as the deliberate practice of absenting himself from the house of God. But many are doing it, with the inevitable result of cooling off in their souls.

This is one of those unfortunate by-products of our affluent society. There are so many other places to go now, and we have the money to go, so the church has immense competition. Those who surrender to this pull of the world are rapidly being numbered among "the many" whose love is waxing cold.

UNFAILING FAITH

Jesus assured Peter, "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." When faith breaks down and the heart becomes cynical and questioning, it is a dark day indeed.

When the angel appeared to Gideon with the salutation, "The Lord is with thee," Gideon's disheartened reply was, "If the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen?" (Judges 6:12, 13).

How many times have God's people asked the same question: "If the Lord is with us, why are things so bad?"

What was God's answer to Gideon? Actually there was none. He simply said, in so many words, "Your place is to *go!* Start marching in faith, and see what God will do for you." In other words, Gideon was to stop questioning and commit to God the discouraging conditions around him. His place was not to ask, "Why?" but to fulfill his own God-ordained destiny.

The same is true of Christians in any age and under all circumstances. Outward appearances are not to regulate our faith. Our confidence and trust must be secured by the immutable promises of God and not by the turn of events. A shaken faith will soon produce a heart from which all of the spiritual fire has departed.

UNFAILING DETERMINATION

When all is said and done, the quality most needed in the Christian life is just a good stiff backbone. We all can do just about what we *want* to do. Many have grown cold simply because they have not been *determined* enough. They have been too weak in their resolution to serve the Lord. This is a problem in which God will help us, but the determination to serve Him must be our own.

Too many Christians have the character of Jacob's oldest son, Reuben, whom his father described as "unstable as water" (Genesis 49:4). There is nothing more easily disturbed than water; the slightest breeze starts the ripples moving. Water always takes the path of least resistance. It travels downhill, not up—unless it is pumped. And it doesn't take a very large obstacle to make some streams change their course. You have seen the water in a creek even detour around small sticks and stones. What a picture of weak-willed Christians!

When Gideon's call went out for soldiers to fight the Midianites, it was answered by 32,000; but by the time the enemy was encountered there were only 300. It is easy to answer the call and join the ranks when the trumpet blows and there is a flurry of excitement. But it is quite another thing to be faithfully at the post of duty when the fight gets hot.

This is where determination comes in. There are times when we must simply stand fast, pray hard, and wait out the storm. Even the strongest grow weary. Paul had to warn the early Christians not to be weary in well-doing. We have to keep going in *spite* of our weariness. The spine must remain strong even when the legs are shaky!

Many are being overwhelmed by the relentless flood of godlessness and are throwing down their weapons. There is no doubt about God's power to keep us in this hour, but the question is, "How *willing* are we to be kept?" It is distressing to see the evidence that some once-glowing hearts are now cold as stones.

This "cold love" is the often-neglected sign of the soon return of our Lord, but it does not have to spell spiritual ruin. Jesus had a word of hope for those who would recognize the danger in spiritual coldness: "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Revelation 3:19).

Temples of God

ANOTHER CHURCH has been dedicated to God—this one in Springfield, Missouri. The story is told in this *Evangel* (pages 20 and 21). Pastor Ralph Kay and his co-workers have transformed a former milking barn into a beautiful sanctuary which is the new home of *Evangel* Temple.

At the dedication service, District Superintendent N. Cleo Tapp preached from a very appropriate text: "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it" (Revelation 21:22). There will be no need of temples in that future city of God, the holy Jerusalem, which shall descend out of heaven; for the entire city shall be filled with divine glory, and it shall be sanctified by the presence of the Lamb of God. But there is need of many gospel temples in the earth today—sanctuaries set aside for worship, where people may gather to hear the Word of the Lord and to offer up spiritual sacrifices well pleasing in His sight.

In the Old Testament era, the purpose of the temple was to offer sacrifices (2 Chronicles 2:6). Solomon built the temple at very great expense of time, effort, and money. It was a magnificent building, but as long as it remained empty it was nothing more. Not until God moved in did it become His temple.

On dedication day the priests, Levites, and others gathered to sing praises to the Lord and to offer sacrifices in the new temple. They carried the ark of the covenant, the holy vessels, and the portable tabernacle of wilderness vintage, and brought these up to the door of the magnificent new building. Then the supernatural manifestation of God's presence (the shekinah) moved out of the tabernacle and into the temple. The fire fell upon the altar; the cloud of glory filled the building; the service of dedication suffered a glorious interruption when God moved in, as it is written: "The priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God" (2 Chronicles 5:14).

So often in the history of the Church the procedure has been reversed: the glory of the Lord has had to move out of the fine temples and into the humble tabernacles. It is not the finery of the sanctuary, or its plainness, that makes the difference. It is the hearts of the people who worship in it. It is the presence of God that transforms any building into a house of God.

Both Solomon and Stephen affirmed the fact that the Most High cannot be contained in houses made with hands. "The heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain Him," said Solomon. "Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord" (Isaiah 66:1, 2). But God has told us where He delights to dwell: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit" (Isaiah 57:15). The sacrifices that delight Him are a broken spirit (Psalm 51:17).

How empty is any life—or any church—without that holy Presence. How powerless without God's power, no matter how attractive it may be in outward appearance. Spiritually we sometimes seem more stupid than a certain half-wit whose companion, working beside him, dropped dead. The stupid fellow was found trying to hold up the dead man, trying to make him stand or sit upright. Finding his efforts in vain, he was saying to himself, "He needs something inside him."

We need something inside—a glorious Presence, the Spirit of God. May the Fire fall; may the cloud of glory descend, until we—and the places where we worship, be they tabernacles or temples—shall be filled with God.

—R.C.C.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule 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.

AS FAR BACK as memory stretches, I had felt the wooing of God's Spirit. Responding in the only way I knew how, I fingered my rosary and recited thousands of times the lengthy formal prayers I had learned in catechism classes.

Nothing satisfied my hunger. As I grew into young womanhood, this inner famine reached terrifying proportions. I could find only temporary relief in the activities and studies that crowded my life. Exploring the art, literature, and philosophy of man through the ages, I concluded that all knowledge was imperfect and wondered bitterly if I must go through life without knowing the ultimate truth.

The intensity of my frustration brought on nervousness, depression, and even unwelcome thoughts of suicide.

I KNEW I MUST LEAVE CATHOLICISM NOW. FAMILY AND FRIENDS ROSE UP AGAINST THIS DECISION; PRIESTS GAVE DARK WARNINGS OF SPIRITUAL SHIPWRECK.

God met my hungry soul

By JUNE LEWIS

Fearful of a nervous breakdown, I forced the same old formal prayers almost constantly from my exhausted lips.

Then one day I overheard a discussion of the second coming of Christ. I had never heard about this before, but as soon as I heard it, I knew it was *truth!*

With this knowledge came a keen sense of personal unreadiness for His coming, which sent me again to my knees. This time I forgot about priests and confessionals. I bypassed all angels and saints and prayed directly to this soon returning Lord, Jesus Christ. It was a prayer of confession, of surrender.

Abruptly a warm brightness engulfed me. It was night, and I knelt by a window. So suddenly had the light appeared that I opened my eyes to see if an automobile had turned into the driveway. It was dark outside. Closing my eyes again, I both felt and saw the blazing light and amidst the streaming brilliance a Presence—my Lord was there!

I pleaded with Him not to leave me, and He impressed me to open my Bible. I did so, and read the words He indicated, "Thou hast seen the light," and, "Henceforth walk ye no more as the other Gentiles." I was born again in those moments!

From that day on I saw that His Word was the Truth I had despaired of finding. I recognized that He had watched and waited in readiness for the first moment when I should look to Him, not to a priest or a church. Breaking the rules I had been taught He must follow, He had come to me directly, quieting my confused heart and delivering me from the miry clay of sin.

He saw to it that I soon heard about the baptism in the Holy Spirit, even though I still attended the church of my childhood and my three school-age children attended a parochial school.

I tried to witness to a priest one day, but he brushed aside the importance of personal experience.

Deeply troubled, I went to the Lord in prayer and

was at once directed to the needful scriptures. How perfectly the Lord protected me from confusing arguments against the baptism in the Holy Spirit during those crucial days. I never once heard a single reason why I should not seek the Baptism, but under the umbrella of God's love I heard only those things that deepened my hunger and kept me seeking.

During the Lenten season in 1964, I attended mass daily. Each night I sought the Lord for the Baptism while others slept.

Resolutely I went to a revival at an Assemblies of God church. Many saints gathered to pray with me, and I began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit came in. This was a week before Good Friday, 1964.

Within four days the Spirit of Truth had turned my cozy, tidy world upside down. I knew I must leave

Catholicism now. My family and friends rose up against this decision, and priests gave dark warnings of spiritual shipwreck. I felt a little like Peter must have felt as he stepped from the safety of the boat out onto the unknown waters. Catholicism had been solid beneath my feet, and I had prayed for a bridge to walk on. But the time had come for me to walk, and I did not know where I was to go.

The greatest moment of trial in this faith-walk came on Easter Sunday. For the first time in my life I purposely missed Easter Mass, a cardinal sin in Catholicism. I worshiped instead at a simple sunrise service.

I began to be greatly burdened for the salvation of my own family, and prayed much for them. My children were saved within weeks of my decision to leave Catholicism, and two of them have received the Baptism since that time.

It was not long before I discovered Edgewood Temple Assembly of God, only a mile from my home. Soon I felt at home there, and my children and I followed the Lord in water baptism.

In the days of my searching, I found many things that spoke to me of Christ in whispers, but now I know Him as the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the eternal Truth, the great I AM. He is the sum total, the breathtaking composite of all the finest, the dearest, the highest things men cherish and strive for. And though now we see Him "through a glass, darkly," there is coming a time when we shall see Him "face to face."

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

(Endorsed by Pastor Michael Lord, Edgewood Temple Assembly of God, Columbus, Georgia, who writes: "I can testify to Mrs. Lewis' consistent Christian life. She is faithful to our local assembly in attendance, effort, and support. Recently she joined our assembly.")



A HELPFUL MESSAGE FOR HOMEMAKERS

WHEN TROUBLE STRIKES

By ELLA MAY MILLER

EVERY HOMEMAKER HAS HER SHARE OF TROUBLES—because she and the family are human, subject to natural laws. The washer is broken down; the baby cried several hours last night. Johnny cut his toe; there are misunderstandings. But these soon pass. She does well to avoid thinking about them because “troubles, like babies, grow larger by nursing.”

The homemaker shouldn't make trouble, either, thinking of what *might* happen, because the shadow of a trouble is usually blacker than the trouble itself. “Of all our troubles great or small, the greatest are those that don't happen at all.”

There are also the times of deep sorrow, suffering, disappointment, and failure which seem insurmountable. These may drain our strength, silence our song, open the wells of self-pity and complaint, and produce mental and physical illness—or they may be steppingstones to a nobler life.

TROUBLES ARE WINDOWS

In a touching story, a young mother related how trouble struck their home. Newly born twin girls completed their happiness—but only briefly, for she discovered one of the babies had a harelip.

“Why did this happen to us? Why did God allow it?” she sobbed. But soon her anguish gave way to rational thought. She began reminding herself there was much to be thankful for. It could be corrected. Instead of doubting God, she remembered that “love dependent on what the eye sees is no love at all.” They would love this baby. That was the first step. She accepted her trouble.

Next, she steeled herself to master the technique of feeding the baby, with what looked like an oversized hypodermic syringe. That was her second step: she did something constructive about her problem.

When the twins were brought home, five-year-old Sue questioned, “Why did God make her like that?” The father replied that sometimes it looks as though God makes mistakes, and added, “But He gave her to us anyway, because He knew we would love her just the same.”

Sue beamed, “He was right, wasn't He?” That was step number three. They didn't doubt God.

The baby developed as a normal child. Several operations were performed to correct the lip. Now she talks as clearly as her sister. One more operation is needed for her appearance to be as normal as her twin's.

A disfigured, frightened baby has been transformed into a lovely, self-confident, happy child, with a normal life ahead of her, because her parents made a window out of their trouble and saw their daughter as she could be in the years to come.

You can use trouble as a mirror, seeing only yourself, your shattered hopes, your desires. Or you can use trouble as a window through which you see something greater than yourself, where you see something beautiful and majestic—something that will bless others for years to come.

Bunyan used a prison to produce the world's second-best seller, *Pilgrim's Progress*. Fanny Crosby used blindness to give to Christendom some of the greatest hymns it has known.

SORROW IS FRUIT

Victor Hugo said, “Sorrow is fruit: God does not make it grow on limbs too weak to bear it.”

I'm thinking just now of a former classmate of mine, a pastor's wife and mother of three boys. For more than 10 years she has lain helpless in an iron lung, and yet from her room of pain and suffering have gone out many women, blessed with a new devotion and love for God and life. She has also blessed many through her poems.

SUFFERING IS A SCHOOL

Many of life's lessons are learned in the school of suffering. “The school of suffering graduates rare scholars.”

God often uses trouble to trim the sharp edges from our personalities, to make us loving, kind, and sympathetic.

I have learned many lessons from troubles. It works like this: I discover some new promise or a new truth about God. My entire heart responds. “I believe, Lord; it's true because You've said so.” Then soon comes a difficult situation to which I need to apply the very truth I've recently discovered. God wants to see if I've really learned the lesson.

TROUBLES BRING BLESSINGS

When troubles come, remember God wants you to get to the end of yourself—to turn to Him in utter abandonment. In your nothingness you don't hinder God's strength.

Through sickness you come to a standstill for a time of meditation and seasons of prayer for yourself and for others. "Be still and know that I am God," is His command.

Troubles and difficulties acquaint you with an almighty, miracle-working God with whom anything is possible. Your faith is increased. Through trouble God becomes real and personal.

When trouble strikes, how do you react? Do you protest, "If God is love, He wouldn't do this to me!"

Really, God doesn't make you suffer, but He does allow suffering to come.

God understands human nature perfectly. He knows that without difficulties we humans beings would forget we were created for His glory. We'd get self-sufficient, feeling no need of Him.

I recall the words of an aged blind man, minus arms, who read his Braille Bible with his tongue: "I thank God daily for the accident that took my sight and my arms. If this hadn't happened, I would have continued in my selfish ambitions, then spent eternity in hell. God had to bring me low so I'd look up—to Him."

CAUSE OF SUFFERING

"Is all suffering punishment from God?" you ask. No, most is not. Some comes as a natural result of breaking natural laws. You go out in the chilly air scantily dressed and you catch a bad cold.

Some suffering comes from Satan's powerful evil force. He attacks us. He tempts us to sin, and when we do we pay the penalty of sin in one way or another—in body, mind, emotions, or personality. Even forgiven sin may leave its wounds. The mother who in anger cruelly beats an innocent child may care for a cripple the remainder of her life, even though God has forgiven.

We may suffer from our own faults. The wife who nags at her husband from morning till night may suddenly find herself alone.

Some good people suffer from those who feel condemned by watching a good life. The Bible tells us that the wicked queen, Herodias, who was living in adultery, had John the Baptist killed because his teachings condemned her.

Then we may suffer chastisement or discipline from God. As a father disciplines the child whom he loves, so God disciplines His dear children for their benefit.

In time of trouble we feel helpless; there's no one else to go to, so we turn to God. We grasp the ropes of faith swinging from His hands. Then gently He pulls us up from the pit of distress.

When trouble strikes, accept it. God has allowed it to come. Use it as a window through which you see something grand as a result. Do something constructive about your trouble. God promises you the grace you need. Just turn it over to Him to remove, in His time, in His way. Remind yourself often of His words: "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me" (Psalm 50:15).

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Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

Please explain, "We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

While it may include more, it refers to the truth that we shall be changed; our immortal bodies will be similar to the glorified body of our Lord Jesus (Philippians 3:20, 21).

What is the teaching of the Parable of the Ten Virgins? (Matthew 25:1-12).

The central truth is found in verse 13: "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."

The parable is a warning to sinners that they must be born of the Spirit; to believers that they should not grow cold in spirit.

Some say the virgins do not represent Christian believers, but rather Jewish bridesmaids waiting to welcome Christ to the wedding feast which follows the wedding. Teach what one may, the central truth remains the same: "Watch therefore. . . Be ready."

Please explain, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free" (Galatians 5:1).

This refers to Christian freedom from bondage to the Law. In Galatians 4:22-31, Paul used Hagar to represent Sinai, and Ishmael to represent those seeking righteousness by the Law; Sarah to represent grace, and Isaac as the heir of grace, the child of promise. Then Paul said, "Cast out the bondwoman and her son." In other words, the Galatians were admonished to stand fast in their Christian liberty of redemption by grace, not by the works of the Law.

Please explain what Paul meant when he spoke of "not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

Let us think of this as having a double meaning. Connected with observance of the Lord's Supper was a practice called the "love feast." Jude speaks of this as "your feasts of charity" (Jude 12).

Paul would have the love feast discontinued because of certain abuses (1 Corinthians 11:20-22). As a result of these feasts, he saw that the Lord's Supper was becoming more of a ritual than a time of worshipful appreciation for what Christ had purchased for them. This would be partaking unworthily, or in an unworthy manner, "not discerning the Lord's body." We need to think on and worship Jesus as we observe the Lord's Supper.

We also need to have proper consideration for each other as fellow members of the Body of Christ. The Church is spoken of in a number of Paul's letters as "the body of Christ." If we have a wrong attitude toward a fellow believer, we are not in proper spiritual condition to partake of the Lord's Supper, for "we are members one of another" in the body of Christ, which is His Church.

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, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT in our lives? Is it our minds, our bodies, or something else?

Advertisements tell us our food plays a definitive role. "You are what you eat," they stress. According to medical science, food gives us blood, muscle, and nerves.

Being less interested in the physical side of life, philosophers and psychologists point out the importance of the intellect. "You are what you read and think," they stress. "Think right thoughts and you will lead a satisfying life."

The Bible discounts neither material nor intellectual needs. Of the two, the mind is more important; but it is not everything, especially when it has not been renewed.

The heart is the essential thing, the Bible points out. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

The Bible's use of the word *heart* is usually vastly different from our own. While Biblical writers sometimes speak of it as a physical organ that is vital to human life, their main use of the word is quite different.

In his valuable lexicon Arndt tells us that the heart is the "center and source of the whole inner life, with its thinking, feeling, and volition, in the case of the natural man as well as the spiritual man."

G. M. Hardy points out that "in the New Testament, *heart* is the word most commonly used to denote the inner nature of man, the secret core of his being, where the springs of his intellectual and moral activity reside."

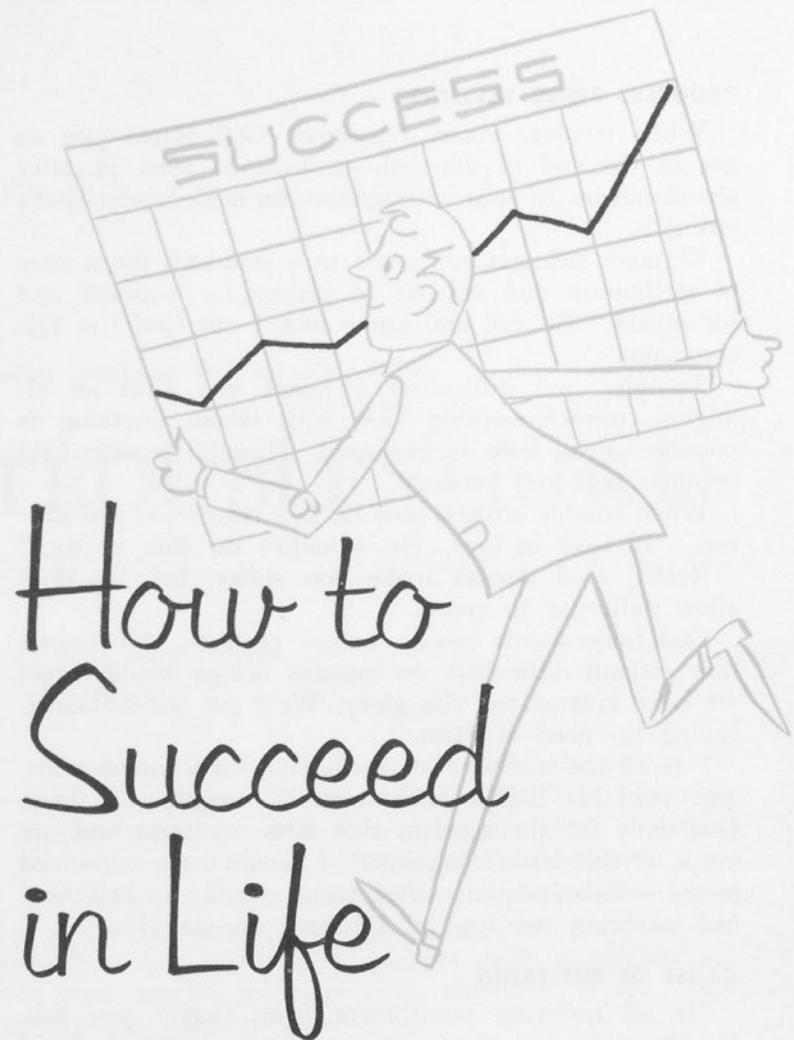
There is good reason for guarding the heart. What is within must come out. Our Lord said: "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasures of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh" (Luke 6:45).

The inner life is related to the outer life as the fountain is to the stream. "The heart is... the fountain of moral and spiritual life... As is the fountain so will be the streams which issue from it. As the streams which flow from a natural fountain are clear or turbid according to the condition of the fountain, so will the conduct of the human life, the deportment of the outer man, be virtuous or vicious according as the inner man is pure or corrupt" (Dr. J. Mienscher).

The inner life controls the outer life and is responsible for its goodness and its sin. It is said that Thomas K. Beecher, who could not tolerate deceit in any form, had a clock in his church which always was either too fast or too slow. Beecher placed a placard above the clock: "Don't blame my hands! The trouble lies deeper!" When our hands do wrong, it is because our hearts are wrong.

How can we have a right issue from the heart? There must be a new man if there is to be the right sort of heart. This comes by repentance, a change of conduct. We read: "Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17).

The heart is the place where God works in regeneration. What God promised to Israel thousands of years ago He will give to the repentant man today. This is His promise: "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away



By GORDON CHILVERS

the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26). Then Christ can dwell in our hearts by faith (Ephesians 3:17). Further, "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Romans 5:5).

Repentance is followed by obedience to the Word of God. The wisest of men exhorted: "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments" (Proverbs 3:1). "Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh" (Proverbs 4:21, 22).

In a news dispatch from Washington, veteran news correspondent Walter Trohan of the *Chicago Tribune* related how President Eisenhower, on being informed of a recent development on the political scene, "reached for his Bible." The ex-President often does this when he is suddenly angered. The habit of reaching for his Bible, the correspondent went on to say, dates back to his boyhood days when his mother taught him self-control by sending him to a corner to read the Bible whenever his temper got the best of him. He read it that he might obey the principles it taught. Obedience to the Word of God will keep our hearts right before God.

With obedience there is the surrender of our lives to God for His direction. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him" (Proverbs 3:5, 6), Solomon admonished us.

God is asking for our lives. Our surrender is an ac-

knowledge of His existence, personality, and power. Far more than that, it is an acknowledgment of His absolute authority over us. He is to be taken into account in every department of life: home, school, and business as well as church life. He is to have the last word in every situation, crisis, and decision.

A short while before the missionary to China, Betty Stam, sealed the testimony of her lips with her life's blood, she wrote: "Lord, I give up my purposes and plans, all my own desires, hopes, and ambitions, and accept Thy will for my life. I give myself, my life, my all, utterly to Thee, to be Thine forever. I hand over to Thy keeping all my friendships. All the people whom I love are to take second place in my heart. Fill me and seal me with Thy Holy Spirit. Work out Thy whole will in my life, at any cost, now and forever. To me to live is Christ!"

Charles Wesley put it:

*Be it my wisdom here
To serve the Lord with filial fear,
With loving gratitude:
Superior sense may I display,
By shunning every evil way:
And walking in the good.*

*O may I still from sin depart;
A wise and understanding heart,
Jesus, to me be given:
And let me through Thy Spirit know
To glorify my God below,
And find my way to heaven.*

Those who refuse to surrender to the right authority can run into serious difficulties. A conceited young captain would not wait for a pilot to come on board to take his ship through the narrows of the harbor. "I am my own pilot," was the proud reply to all remonstrances. And he promised to be in the harbor by daybreak. He was cast ashore, dead, amid the fragments of his wrecked vessel. Such has been the fate of many who would be their own pilots instead of leaving their lives in the hands of the Lord.

Our thoughts seriously affect our lives, so with this surrender to God we are to couple right thinking. The apostle Paul tells us what this is: "Whatsoever things

are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

We may suppose that entertaining a wrong sort of thought is neither harmful nor sinful. But if it brings pleasure, it will also bring a wish for fulfillment in action. We must cast out every wrong thought or it will kill the right thought. Since we cannot think right and wrong thoughts at the same time, the right ones will automatically eject the wrong ones.

The principle was stated somewhat quaintly by Brother Juniper, the Franciscan: "When carnal desires come, I occupy myself with holy meditations and holy desires, and so when the carnal suggestion knocks on the door of my heart, I say to it, 'Begone, for the house is already full, and there is no more room for any guests.'"

From such a God-directed course distinctive advantages will follow. George Macdonald in *Robert Falconer* summarizes in this way the position of a man who trusts God for everything: "This is a sane, wholesome, practical, working faith: first, that it is a man's business to do the will of God; second, that God takes on Himself the special care of that man; and third, that therefore that man ought never to be afraid of anything."

A heart that is rightly guided will lead a God-pleasing life. "So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man" (Proverbs 3:4). To share the testimony given to Enoch that "he pleased God" (Hebrews 11:5) is our highest ambition. Paul certainly made it his. "Wherefore we labor," he said, "that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him" (2 Corinthians 5:9).

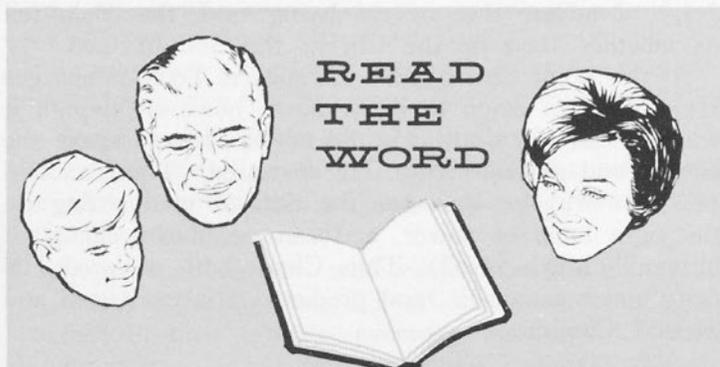
Spiritual prosperity will also come to us: "He shall direct thy paths," said the wise man (Proverbs 3:6). We tread a difficult path. There are many temptations to be overcome, constant dangers to be faced, and critical decisions to be made. The man whose heart is right is the only one who will be able to live right.

Such a heart will have further reward in a life that is integrated and purposeful. Quality of life will be improved. We shall know where we are going and be sure that we shall reach our goal. We shall be fully equipped for the complex problems of life. Our decisions will be marked with wisdom, and we shall be guarded against the folly of the world around us.

The well-known Bible teacher, Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, related the following experience. On the first morning when he was leaving home for school, his father told him: "I want to give you a text for school and for life." He gave it to him without note or comment, except that of his own godly life. The text was: "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Dr. Morgan adds: "I have not always been obedient to the injunction. I have often forgotten Him, often failed in the acknowledgment commanded; but so far as I have been obedient, I have proved the promise true. He has directed my paths."

We all want a life that is courageous, pleasing to God, spiritually prosperous and purposeful. It is certainly within our reach. It comes when our hearts are right before God. We are what our hearts are. When our hearts are right, we are right.



READ THE WORD

CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19-26

Sunday	Mark 9, 10	Thursday	Luke 1, 2
Monday	Mark 11, 12	Friday	Luke 3, 4
Tuesday	Mark 13, 14	Saturday	Luke 5, 6
Wednesday	Mark 15, 16	Sunday	Luke 7, 8

"Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein" (Mark 10:15).

The King On Trial

Sunday School Lesson for February 26, 1967

MATTHEW 26:57-68

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

THE SLANDERED SAVIOUR (vv. 57-61)

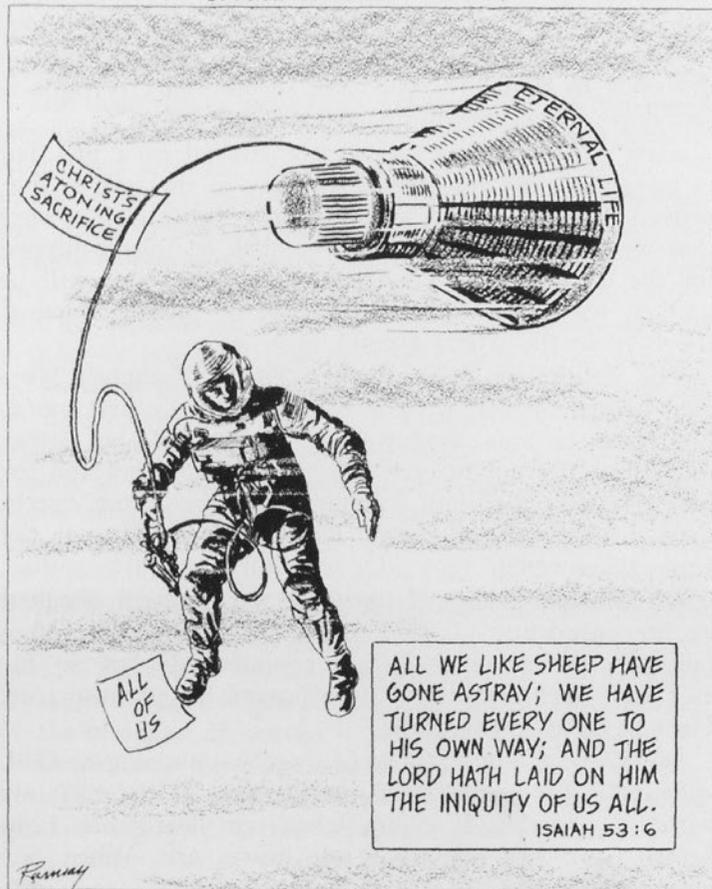
Christ's trial before the Jews was in three stages. He was tried before Annas, the former high priest—a man of great political power and father-in-law to Caiaphas, the present high priest. (See John 18:13.)

Annas had Christ bound and taken to the chambers of Caiaphas where members of the Sanhedrin had been hastily summoned. Night trial was illegal according to Jewish law, thus haste was necessary, for the leaders could not risk trial by day lest the people rise up against them. If they could pass sentence at night and hold another meeting early the next morning—having already found Christ guilty—the danger would be reduced.

The whole business of trying Jesus was a farce—a travesty of human justice. I once saw a book in which someone acquainted with legal procedures showed at great length in how many respects the proceedings were illegal.

Caiaphas had much earlier planned and predicted that

SPACEWALKER'S LIFELINE



Christ should die as a scapegoat—blamed for the treachery against Rome of which the Jews themselves were guilty (John 11:47-51). Thus the judge in the case was the chief accuser and was prejudiced.

Those who were called “witnesses” were liars and perjurers. There was no attempt whatsoever to ascertain the truth; but instead, an overpowering determination to accomplish their own ends.

The trial began with Caiaphas' attempt to question Jesus concerning His disciples and His teaching (John 18:19). This showed He had no real evidence against Christ, and thus had no grounds for holding Him.

How Christ's answer must have stunned and further infuriated the leaders, for He replied, “Why ask me?” Christ had nothing to hide. He had taught openly. As for His followers, they were not secretive insurrectionists and traitors. Their conduct was known by all. Such poise and courage in the face of those who were used to having men cringe or fawn and flatter would be most embarrassing!

Matters were further complicated when they found it difficult to find any who would witness against Christ. And when witnesses were found, Mark tells us (14:56) their stories did not agree.

THE SILENT SAVIOUR (vv. 62, 63)

False witnesses were finally found, but the best they could do was to take words Christ had spoken long before and misapply them. He had spoken of the temple of His body; they applied His words to the temple building.

The high priest, realizing the weakness of the charge, attempted to make up for it by emotionalism and pressure. “Answerest thou nothing?”

“But Jesus held his peace.” Once again Christ's majestic poise arrests us. Silence is often the best way to face accusers. How blessed is the poise of committal to God and the peace that perplexes the worldling. Christ's conduct is detailed fulfillment of Isaiah 53:7: “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth.” (See also Psalm 38:13, 14.)

Christ's silence deepened Caiaphas' frustration, for he was driven to put to Christ a question under oath which He must answer, according to law. (See Leviticus 5:1.) “I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.”

At this point Christ broke the silence. To false charges He would not deign to reply. Now, however, though it would mean His death, He did not hesitate to speak the eternal and glorious truth. He answered, “I am: . . . and [furthermore] ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven” (Mark 14:62). Thus Christ both declared His deity and messiahship, and predicted His exaltation and Second Coming.

THE SUFFERING SAVIOUR (vv. 65-68)

In pretended horror the high priest tore his clothes. Then he and his whole crowd showed their true character, proving the falsity of the trial proceedings. In fulfillment of Isaiah 50:6, they spat in His face, buffeted Him with their fists, slapped Him with the palms of their hands, and ridiculed His claims. Such are the terrible depths to which men may sink when once they reject divine light.

ONLY ONE ANSWER IS RIGHT WHEN HE CALLS. IT MUST NEVER BE LESS THAN A
WHOLEHEARTED SURRENDERING, "YES, LORD!"



By BARTLETT PETERSON, General Secretary
of the Assemblies of God and
Executive Director of Women's Missionary Council

Old Testament 'LADY BIRD' Became First Lady

CHORES CAN TURN INTO ROMANCE. Service is lofty and noble by reason of intentions expressed and benefits given. True service is never insignificant or inconspicuous. We are as sure of notice and reward whether we respond to duty and stay "by the stuff" or go "down to the battle."

To some a recitation of the distinguishing exploits of Moses, Joshua, or Deborah becomes somewhat of a depressant for fear of inability to be as great; to others it becomes a challenge, a call, and a charge. Those who can say a wholehearted "yes" to everyday service and see sublime purpose in the unflavored mundane will share the glory and reward of the great.

Who, in advance, could have convinced Zipporah, one of the seven daughters of the priest of Midian, that it was a high and holy calling to draw water for his stench-ridden herds, and worse still, be compelled to perform similar unladylike chores for arrogant, audacious Bedouin shepherds?

No sooner had the seven daughters of Jethro filled the troughs with water than their own herds would be driven away by ill-mannered strangers whose thirsty animals would then consume the water drawn by the maidens. It appears that these incivilities and indignities continued until Moses, who had fled from Pharaoh, came to Midian.

Moses saw the plight of the dutiful and toilsome young ladies. His eyes flashed with righteous light, his muscles flexed with indignation as he gallantly fought and drove off the invading villains.

Among the daughters who went home after chores that day with a feeling that a great and good man was a partner in their ignoble, everyday task, was Zipporah. The report to her father was, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock." Her father was astonished that they had completed their chores and returned home so early. Evidently the rude Bedouin shepherds had hindered and annoyed them each day. Upon being apprised of the chivalrous Egyptian brave who had persevered for them, he ordered that Moses be invited in as a family guest.

In the midst of the everyday sameness and faithful

performance of unglamorous tasks, the girl who wouldn't say "no" to grime and dirt in the face of indignities, was rewarded. Her father gave approval to the quest of the promising suitor, and with all her being she said "yes" to Moses!

Her name was *LADY BIRD!* *Zipporah means a little female bird.*

The events that followed indicate that Moses took over even the mundane chores which she had previously done and "kept the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law."

Why should it have mattered to Moses that the herds of the seven daughters of the priest were driven from their watering troughs by barbarous, impudent herdsmen? This was to be the site of the altar of his call, the threshold and springboard for delivering Israel, for while he kept the flock at the backside of a desert, "the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush... And he said... the place whereon thou standest is holy ground... I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob... I have surely seen the affliction of my people... and I am come down to deliver them... Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people... out of Egypt."

Zipporah could have chosen to remain at ease and refused to soil her hands and feet in service. Now her faithfulness was rewarded by becoming a *partner* with Moses in his great exploits, glory, and rewards. The very ground upon which she performed her undignified chores became holy, and God came down upon it.

She who had ministered to sheep and camels now ministered to an unstoppable giant, the general, leader, and ruler of the nation of Israel—one who, under God, would wall up seas, drown armies, and lead a great nation under heaven's pillar of cloud and fire from serfdom, hot brick kilns, and the sting of the slavemaster's lash, to a land that flowed with milk and honey.

The church needs Zipporahs, Ruths and Deborahs, Marys and Marthas!

It pays to say "yes" to the tasks and opportunities at hand. Zipporah, the Lady Bird of her day, said "Yes, Lord" and became *first lady of a great, new nation.*



The Women's Missionary Council of Chambersburg, Pa., at the close of their 1966 National WMC Day service. Theme for the day was "Reach Out."

1967 NATIONAL WMC DAY THEME STRESSES PERSONAL COMMITMENT FOR WMC'S AND MISSIONETTES

YES,

AN OVERSIZED QUESTION MARK will greet Assemblies of God congregations as they gather in churches to observe National Women's Missionary Council Day, February 26, 1967. A symbol of the nail-pierced hand of Jesus will point to the challenge of unselfish love and sacrifice.

At the close of the meeting many will bow at altars to erase the question mark from their hearts by answering, "Yes, Lord," to the Spirit's query.

A DAY OF SPIRITUAL IMPACT

National WMC Day is a day of spiritual impact upon individuals and congregations. It has been so since the observance began in 1951. From coast to coast came representative reports of the accomplishments of last year's special service:

"Six young people dedicated their lives to Christian service at the close of the WMC Day program in our church"—*Tennessee*.

"There was a growing lack of interest in our WMC group activity until the WMC Day program, 'Reach Out,' put a new vision in our hearts"—*Georgia*.

"The observance was like a one-day revival in our church"—*Midwest pastor*.

"Participants in our service varied in age from 77 to six years. Everyone was inspired by the program"—*Minnesota*.

"We are a newly organized WMC group in a pioneer church. We have 10 enthusiastic members, two of whom belong to other churches in the city. Already we have been able to help in home and foreign missions projects. The WMC Day program has spurred us on"—*New York*.

"This program was definitely ordered of God for our worship today"—*California pastor*.

"We want to give thanks for the good WMC Day program material provided for us by the National WMC Department. Especially significant was the visual aid, opening our hearts to a spirit of compassion for the lost"—*Maine*.

A DAY OF PROVISION

National WMC Day is a day of provision for the National WMC Department. Pastors, WMC members, YWMC's, Missionettes girls, and other churchgoers, enlightened by the facts they hear about world ministries of the organizations and moved by the spirit of the service, will give a love offering to maintain the national WMC office and all its ministries. Their contributions will help provide: thousands of pieces of literature



A float, using the WMC Day theme, was entered in the Clay County 4H parade last year to represent the Assembly of God in Clay City, Ind. Mrs. Ed Summerfield, wife of the pastor, is active in district WMC and Missionettes programs.

printed for free distribution each year; assistance for district and sectional leaders; educational materials for all ages; seminars for district WMC presidents; thousands of dollars to meet shipping costs, office equipment, and other expenses connected with the district, sectional, and local WMC organizations and their missionary and benevolent ministries.

In the past, because of the generous cooperation of pastors and congregations, the once-a-year offering has been sufficient to keep the department self-supporting. No part of operational costs is underwritten. Churches, large and small, take great pride in being part of such a plan. A typical note that accompanies contributions says, "How glad we are to be able to send our check this year." All offerings are acknowledged with appreciation and credited to world ministries giving.

Offerings should be sent direct to the National WMC Department, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

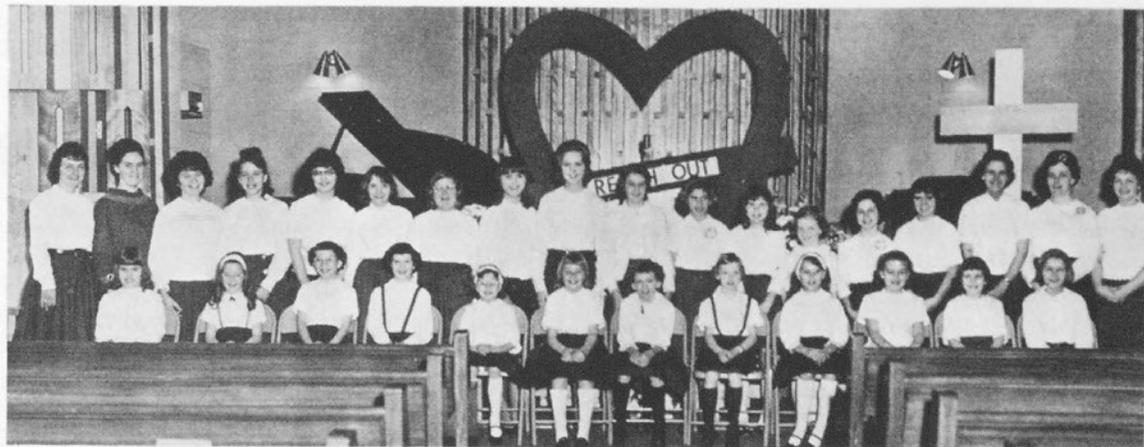
AN INFLUENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

WMC Day materials may be a witness in the community. Mrs. Ed Summerfield, wife of the Assemblies of God pastor in Clay City, Indiana, tells how her church used the 1966 WMC Day visual for a float in the Clay County fair parade. She says:

"The county fair is a big event in our city each year. Every business place and church is invited to participate. The WMC visual aid was just what we needed to emphasize the message we wanted our float to bear. Much prayer and planning and more than 20,000 handmade flowers went into its makeup. Banners highlighting WMC's and other departments of the church floated out

LORD

By ANN AHLF



Missionettes groups (junior and senior) of Chambersburg, Pa., participated in the National WMC Day program of 1966.



WMC's of the Bahama Islands celebrated WMC Day, 1966. Mrs. Bernice Vandermerwe, WMC president at the time, is sixth from the left on the second row. Mrs. Hutchens Lowe, vice-president, is fourth from the left on the first row.

the windows of the car that pulled the display. Missionettes and Royal Rangers in uniform marched behind.

"Because of the spiritual impact it carried, the float was entered in the Indiana Sesquicentennial, where, to our surprise, we saw the district WMC president, Zella Anthony, a long-time minister, in a convertible immediately following the float. Her hometown, Jasonville, had named her '1966 Homecoming Queen.'

"Though it was not constructed with prizewinning in view, the visual appeared in four parades where it took an award each time. We are so pleased with the results of witnessing in this way."

WMC DAY "DELAYED RELEASE"

There are many WMC groups in other lands who participate in the annual observance, but at a later date.

Mrs. Bertha Stawinski, missionary to Paraguay, serves as national WMC president in that country. After returning to the field following furlough she wrote to the National WMC Department: "While we were in Springfield attending the School of Missions, you gave me a copy of the WMC Day program, 'Take My Best.' My national ladies and I have translated the materials into the language of our field and are using the theme for our own WMC annual conference. It is such a help to us. Please send me other packets as you produce them each year."

Mrs. Bernice Vandermerwe, then WMC president on her mission field, wrote: "Here is another first for the Bahama Islands. The WMC material reached us too late to have the observance on the same date as the churches in the States, so we planned a later one. Our

ladies were overjoyed with the program for the day. Our offering is enclosed. For a special project we raised funds to purchase a nice apartment-size cookstove for a young missionary couple on one of the outer islands. We surely plan to have another observance next year."

PERSONAL COMMITMENT ON WMC DAY

WMC's everywhere are well aware of the fact that statisticians expect the world's population to double within 35 years. The percentage of Christians will shrink in comparison to the multitudes without Christ. Women are asking, "What is our duty at this critical point?"

The WMC Day program will emphasize the fact that the Spirit of God is calling every believer to accept personal responsibility to carry the gospel to persons near him. WMC women and Missionettes will respond by making personal commitment to demonstrate the gospel in loving deeds for suffering mankind. They will extend to those in special ministries every encouragement possible so that Christian workers may be equipped to give maximum service to the Lord.

WMC's and Missionettes will give themselves to Christ anew that He may be "Lord of All." They will rededicate themselves to intercessory prayer and bring a sacrificial portion of their substance to the Lord that they might serve to the fullest extent in this critical day for world evangelism.

When the Spirit speaks, "Thou shalt love... go... be—," WMC's will answer, "Yes, Lord."

* * *

WMC-Missionettes giving to world ministries, which has exceeded \$1,000,000 annually for eight years, reached \$2,000,000 last year.



Paraguayan national WMC officers are (left to right): Betty Emory, secretary-treasurer; Bertha Stawinski, president; Ercilia de Borgarin, vice-president.



THIS PRESENT WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

Are Drinking Drivers a Major Disaster?

Major disasters in the U.S. since the Civil War have claimed over 30,000 lives, according to the National Safety Council's recently published *Accident Facts*—or just about as many as were lost on U. S. highways in one year in accidents involving alcoholic beverages.

"The National Safety Council does not link these two items together, but its published statistics warrant it," according to Arthur De Moss, president of the National Liberty Life Insurance Company.

The catastrophies include the explosion and burning of the river steamship *Sultana*, filled with wounded Union soldiers 102 years ago; the Chicago fires; the Galveston tidal wave; the San Francisco earthquake and fire; the Florida hurricane of 1928; the Johnstown flood; and similar disasters.

Accident Facts declared that drinking was involved in more than half of the 49,000 motor vehicle accident fatalities of 1965.

Canadian Baptists Would Liberalize Divorce

In a brief submitted to the Dominion parliamentary committee on divorce laws, the Baptist Federation of Canada endorsed widening grounds for divorce. Desertion for five years, legal separation for seven years, continuous physical cruelty, insanity, drug addiction, long and repeated imprisonment, and extreme alcoholism were considered adequate reasons for divorce. Under present Canadian laws, adultery is generally required as grounds.

The Baptists said different methods of processing uncontested divorce actions should be found, and final

The Brazilian Bible Society operates this 50-ton boat on the Amazon River and its tributaries which distributes Bibles to a huge area. Many souls have been saved through the Bible ship "Luz na Amazonia" (Amazon Light). For the past three years, the Brazilian Bible Society has been exceeded only by the American Bible Society in distribution of Scriptures. In 1964 the organization distributed 6,000,000 copies; in 1965, 7,000,000; and in 1966 approximately 8,000,000.



decrees should be granted after seven years of separation. In this way, they said, divorce costs would be lowered and the incidence of common-law marriages and perjured divorce "evidence" would be reduced.

NAE Announces Silver Anniversary Convention

The National Association of Evangelicals will mark 25 years of service to American evangelical Protestantism with a silver anniversary convention at the Statler-Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles April 4-6. With the theme, "Evangelical Certainty in a World of Confusion," the conclave is expected to attract 1,500 key evangelical leaders to consider today's major church issues. Evangelist Billy Graham will address the gathering April 6.

The nature of evangelism is a major topic for discussion. Seminars and workshops for all church leaders have been arranged by the Association's commissions and affiliated organizations.

Lutherans Coordinate 450th Year Plans

Lutherans throughout the United States will coordinate their observance of the 450th Reformation anniversary under the leadership of the Lutheran Council in the USA. Theme of the yearlong commemoration of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 theses in 1517 is "Life—New Life."

The newly formed council represents the Lutheran Church in America, the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, the American Lutheran Church, and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Plans include "evangelism" festivals and Bible reading programs. The year's observance will climax on October 29, the 450th Reformation Sunday.

Plain People "Out of Line," Leave Arkansas

Out of step in a world they cannot accept, a small band of pilgrims are leaving the Ozark Mountains of northern Arkansas for a new start in Central America rather than compromise their religious principles.

"More and more we are out of line because of our simple way of living," their minister, Harold Stoll, explained. "We will fit in better in another country."

The colony of eight families is akin to the Amish branch of the Mennonite Church. The strict sect requires its members to shun electricity, automobiles, and any ornamentation in dress. The men have beards and black suits; the women wear long skirts and black bonnets.

No Religious Question in 1970 Census

The director of the Bureau of the Census, A. Ross Eckler, announced that because "a substantial number of persons again expressed an extremely strong belief that asking a question on religious preference would infringe upon the traditional separation of church and state," no such question will appear in the 1970 census.

EUB Church Refuses to Ease Temperance Stand

A move to ease the strict temperance stand of the Evangelical United Brethren Church failed at the General Conference of the denomination held in Chicago.

The defeated resolution called for total abstinence on a voluntary basis but would have eliminated a section of an official statement by which persons involved in manufacturing or distributing alcoholic beverages are barred from church membership.

Peoples Church Gives \$324,000 to Missions

Canada's largest evangelical congregation, The Peoples Church of Toronto, recently pledged \$324,000 to foreign missions for the current year. The money will help support 340 missionaries.

The church has now contributed more than \$6,000,000 to world missions in its 38-year history. This amounts to 76 percent of its total income. The congregation recently completed a new Sunday school wing costing \$71,000.

Church Membership Drops Behind Population Growth

For the first time since 1961, church and synagogue membership has failed to keep up with population growth in the U.S. The 1,374,973 increase at the end of 1965 represented a 1.1 percent gain from 1964 membership, contrasted to a population rise estimated at 1.3 percent. The statistics are based on the 1967 *Yearbook of American Churches* just released by the National Council of Churches.

Church membership presently constitutes 64.3 percent of the total U. S. population.

ABS Publishes "The Inside Story" for Collegians

A new 300-page paperback published by the American Bible Society presents the heart of the New Testament in modern English. Entitled "The Inside Story," the pocket-sized publication offers the Gospels of Luke and John, Acts, and Romans in the popular translation of J. B. Phillips, an Anglican clergyman.

Designed to reach new Bible readers among collegians and other young adults, the paperback is priced at 35c per copy in keeping with ABS's policy of making the Word of God available inexpensively. It is illustrated with dozens of contemporary news photographs. It can be ordered from the American Bible Society at 1865 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10023.

WORLDWIDE

Colombia's Protestant Churches Doubled Since 1960

Communicants in Colombia's 39 Protestant church bodies have almost doubled since 1960, according to a comprehensive census prepared by the Office of Information of the Evangelical Confederation of Colombia. The increase was from 33,156 to 63,810.

Seventh-Day Adventists (19,213) and Pentecostals (15,352) are the largest non-Catholic churches in the country. The Pentecostal Church has multiplied its membership five times in the last six years.

The total Protestant community—including Sunday school pupils and sympathizers—is estimated at four times the communicant figure, or more than 250,000.

Archaeologists Confirm Joshua's Victory

Recent findings confirm the fact that Joshua did indeed lead the exiled Israelites into the Promised Land of Canaan, according to Dr. Paul W. Lapp, board president of the Palestine Archaeological Museum.

"There have been a large number of excavations in the last six years," he said, "which clearly stratify the material of the different stages of history. . . . I think

the history of Israel goes at least back to the time of [Joshua's] conquests about 1200 B.C."

30,000 Protestant Christians in Cuba

Protestant Christians number about 30,000 in Cuba, but this number is diminishing as Cubans migrate to the United States. That was the report of a clergyman who recently spent two weeks visiting and lecturing there.

One church lost one-fourth of its membership through emigration. There is a shortage of ministers, aggravated by the fact that the government conscripts students and young men for work camps, he reported.

While there apparently is freedom of worship, most other church activities are sharply curtailed, he said.

Roman Catholic Scholars Publish "Jerusalem Bible"

The Jerusalem Bible, a new English translation made from original sources by Roman Catholic scholars in Great Britain, has been published simultaneously in New York and London. It claims to be the first completed English translation to make use of the Dead Sea Scrolls.



CAN THE LORD USE STOCKS AND BONDS?

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If you wish additional information, please clip and return this ad. Just check the box or boxes for which you desire information. Send to: Division of Stewardship, Assemblies of God, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65802.

By **LOWELL E. DOWDY**
Missionary to Ecuador



Arena soon after it was purchased.



Arena after it was renovated.

from SPORTS ARENA to EVANGELISTIC CENTER

GOD IS BRINGING A MIRACULOUS AWAKENING IN ECUADOR

ECUADOR, named after the equator which crosses it, is a land of considerable scenic charms. There are towns backed by snowcapped volcanoes; there are lush jungles and tropical plantations; and there are high, windswept mountain passes.

Because the nation has been under the influence of the Roman Catholic Church for five centuries, the professing Protestants number only one-half of one percent of the total population of four million, or 20,000 according to a recent survey by the American Bible Society.

Often as we worked in Chile, we wondered why the Assemblies of God had no work in Ecuador; so when we were asked to consider opening that field, our answer was affirmative. It was furlough time, and friends were told of our transfer.

Suddenly, though, Mrs. Dowdy had doubts and fears. For the first time in her Christian experience she told

God He just must answer definitely. (A missionary wife should be as certain of God's will as is the missionary husband.) Like Gideon, she put out a "fleece." She asked God, if it were His will for us to transfer to Ecuador, to please send in \$1,000 to be designated for the first building for the Assemblies of God in Ecuador.

Just three days later in a Sunday morning missions convention service, the Lord answered. Pastor Russell Griffin told the people at Central Assembly in El Sobrante, California, that God had told him the congregation should give not less than \$1,000 for the Assemblies of God building in Ecuador! Within a few minutes they had given \$1,500. From that moment we have never had another doubt about our going to Ecuador.

To make it even more wonderful the students of Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, California, promised to give \$2,000 within the follow-

ing three months. We now had more than three times the amount of the "fleece." This was only the beginning of a series of miracles the Lord has wrought in the last four years.

The first Assemblies of God church in Ecuador was opened in December 1962 in Guayaquil—a port city of more than 600,000. In March of the following year, Missionary-Evangelist Watson Argue was with us for a campaign. The attendance was as high as 1,300. Each night many were at the altar seeking salvation. The results of this first special effort were gratifying.

OFFERINGS FOR ECUADOR

should be sent to:

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Foreign Missions Department

**1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802**

With generous help from Light-for-the-Lost, copies of the Gospel of John and other appropriate literature for new converts were purchased. The young Christians were given two weeks of instruction in personal evangelism. Then on weekends they went from house-to-house giving out the Gospel portions and printed invitations to the special meetings.

One Saturday morning two of our Christians were standing in the back of a pickup to hand out tracts. The people made such a rush for the literature that the men had to run for their lives—they were being smothered! One of them was badly scratched as people grabbed for the tracts.

On making the acquaintance of a sailor named Alejandro Jaime Pozzo, we learned he was hungry for more of God. He had prayed for the Holy Spirit, and the Lord had graciously met him and called him to full-time ministry. One day as he was praying for the leading of the Holy Spirit, I knocked on his door to visit him for the first time. It was God's answer to his prayer for guidance. He became our first national worker and has been in full charge of a fruitful radio ministry.

From the beginning the converts were taught about the Pentecostal experience. When Missionary-Evangelist Gladys Pearson came, approximately 40 had already received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. During her month of meetings, 60 or more were filled, including many from other churches.

Because of the distance and poor transportation it was necessary to have small groups meeting in various parts of the city. The Lord gave us dedicated men who could take care of these groups, which at first were organized on the "mother church" plan as branches of one Assemblies of God church.

The Paul Coopers transferred to Ecuador the following year to start the Bible institute.

The main church in Guayaquil is of strategic importance. From the beginning we had been able to rent a sports arena in the center of the city. The ground floor has a large auditorium where our record attendance has been more than 2,000 people.

On the second floor is an apartment for the national pastor and a small guest apartment; the third and fourth floors are for the Bible institute and Sunday school rooms.



Pastor Jaime (left) discovers Guayaquilenos are eager for tracts. Lowell Dowdy (left in photo below) welcomes Evangelist Watson Argue to Ecuador.



A bookstore, the only outlet in the entire republic for Pentecostal literature, occupies one side of the ground floor at the entrance; and the offices of the Assemblies of God of Ecuador are on the other side. Due to its location, the land alone is worth \$80,000; but because God performed a series of miracles, we are buying the building and land for \$63,000.

While still in the States we were impressed to have 13-foot benches made; they were being made even before a hall was rented. Another important link in the story is that by faith our telephone number was listed under the address of the sports arena. This was to be the future permanent home of the Assemblies of God of Ecuador.

Because of an error in the check for the payment of the building, the bank with which we had transacted the church affairs refused to honor the cabled draft. Just 15 minutes before the deadline hour, a different

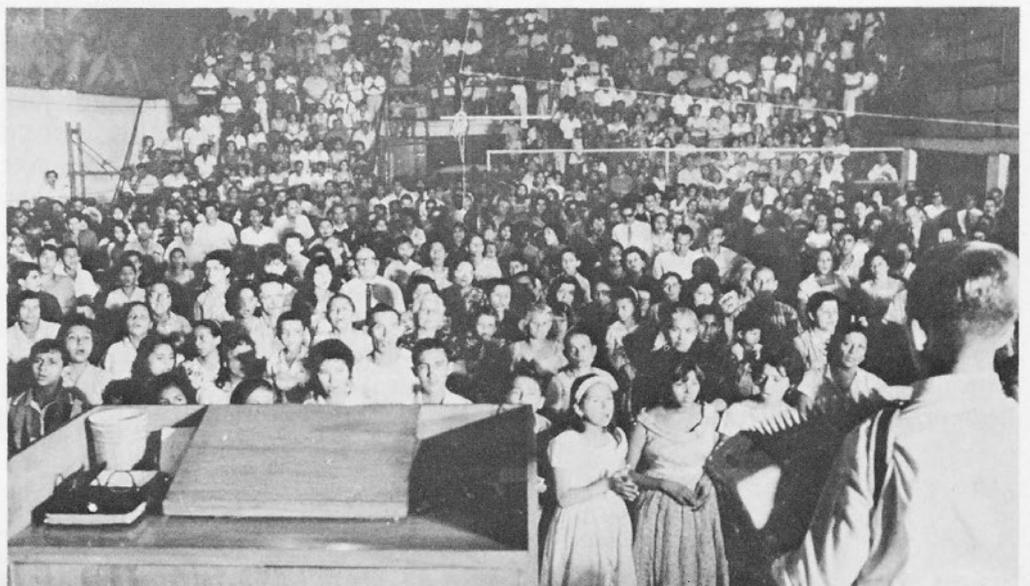
bank accepted it. God is always on time!

A number of cities now have Assemblies of God churches. Quito, the beautiful 9,300-foot-high capital city, has a growing congregation. Missionary Eugene Willis is doing a splendid work there.

For the past few months Lawrence and Miriam Mora from La Puente Bible School in California have worked in Ambato, another commercial center in the mountain region. The Lord is blessing their efforts. Three months ago was their first water baptismal service at which time 14 were baptized.

Appreciating the help extended to us by Global Conquest, Light-for-the-Lost, Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade, Women's Missionary Council, and churches everywhere, we thank God for the privilege of presenting Christ and this wonderful Pentecostal message to the people of Ecuador these past four years.

The Guayaquil church has grown rapidly during its four-year existence.





Today Alvie and Ruth Roy are united in their dedication to Jesus Christ. (In the background is the Amcelle Plant of the Celanese Corporation of America at Cumberland, Maryland. The Roys have been employed here for many years.)

THROUGH PERSISTENT PRAYER GOD
UNITES A DIVIDED HOME

God Can Reach Unsaved Husbands

FOR TWO YEARS my husband has been running around with another woman, going to beer parties, and in general making life miserable for me and our children. Now he is talking about divorce. I don't know whether to go through with it or to continue relying on God to see if He will fix everything.

"Brother Ward, I have heard you preach many times on the need for wives to intercede for the salvation of lost husbands. Will you join me in praying for my husband?"

Prayer requests for the salvation of unsaved husbands, such as this letter from a woman in North Dakota, comprise a large segment of mail received by *Revivaltime*.

In many instances the wives have been interceding for years with no apparent results.

Is there any hope to which these distressed women can cling? Is there any meaningful word of encouragement? Mrs. Alvie Roy, Cumberland, Maryland, is a living testimony that God honors the persistent prayers of His children. Her story is featured in C. M. Ward's latest book, *More Than Twenty Years*.

Ruth Roy violated the New Testament commandment: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Corinthians 6:14). *She married an unsaved man.*

"I offer no excuses," says Mrs. Roy. "And I do not recommend that any single girl marry an unsaved man. In one way or another I paid for my disobedience—for more than 20 years. I can only say with all honesty that my main goal from the moment I met Alvie Roy was to lead him to the Saviour."

Indifference and a streak of stubbornness were the primary problems which stood between this husband and God.

"Petty gambling, smoking, and occasional foul language were a part of my husband's life," explains Mrs. Roy, "but from the time we first met, he was always good, kind, and courteous to me."

Through his self-designed ethical pattern of living Alvie Roy fell victim to a favorite trick of hell—he was looking to man, not Christ, for the perfect example. Time and again he would remark, "I think I am living as good a life as most of those people at church."

His reaction to the behavior of a few church members sounds a note of warning to every professing Christian. Believers are continually being watched for flaws in their Christian conduct. Those who fall short of godliness often thwart the efforts of Christians who hope to win friends or loved ones to Christ.

As the years dragged by, Ruth never stopped praying for her husband. But Alvie Roy stubbornly maintained his hard shell of indifference. *He was determined not to change.*

"One thing seemed to penetrate Alvie's conscience," reflects Mrs. Roy. "That was gospel music. Often when I would sing gospel songs around the house I could see my husband was touched by conviction—especially when I would sing a favorite of mine, 'Something Got Hold of Me.'"

"I learned that he dreaded the times when I tuned our radio to gospel services, such as *Revivaltime*. I never did it to annoy him. I did it only when I felt I needed the strength and help of others to stand firm in the home. Frequently he left rather than hear the message."

Finally the day came when God closed in on Alvie Roy. At a tent meeting he yielded to the call of God and was gloriously saved. You will be greatly blessed as you read of the unusual circumstances which prompted his decision to accept Christ.

Now an active church member, he testifies, "I have wasted so many years. Now I want to make up for lost time."

Pastor Frank Fratto of Central Assembly, Cumberland, Maryland, says: "In my 20 years as pastor here,

it would be difficult to find anyone to surpass the record for faithfulness and devotion to the cause of Christ that the Roys have established. Every week Brother Roy calls upon visitors who attend our Sunday school or church. He never fails to cooperate with me in the Lord's work. Mrs. Roy stands by his side, ever willing to be of service."

Ruth Roy, like many other wives who have interceded for their husbands' salvation, has met the challenge head-on and won. She testifies:

"I share this intimate experience for God's glory alone. I pray that it may help another wife who is interceding

for the salvation of her marriage partner. I know the agony, the loneliness, and the times of despondency and discouragement involved. *But God is faithful.* So I say, 'Hold fast!'"

Mrs. Roy's story will be a continual source of encouragement and inspiration to every wife who is burdened for her husband's eternal destiny.

A FREE copy of *More Than Twenty Years*, which also includes C. M. Ward's sermon, "The Woman Who Won Her Husband," can be obtained by writing: *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Missouri 65801.



NEEDED: Men with Vision

By PAUL HUTSELL - Missionary to Paraguay

of salvation with the Jews. He knew it was also for the Gentiles, and his vision of this truth took him to "regions beyond." His obedience brought him powerful spiritual experiences, the telling of which still blesses us today. His hand, through the Epistles, has guided God's flock through nearly 2,000 years.

God has had His men of vision in every generation, and these spiritual giants have done much to keep the gospel going out to the ends of the earth.

Men who conquer the sea, explore strange lands, and probe space need courage, persistence, knowledge, and the equipment to realize their vision. Men who would bring the lost to the knowledge of Christ need all this and more. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Men who would be giants in this arena must first surrender their lives and talents to Christ. They must decrease and He must increase.

Millions of lost souls are waiting today to hear the steps of such men, for the vast bulk of the world's population lives outside of the realm of Christian churches and gospel sermons.

Men of vision cannot remain inactive, nor can they be content to enjoy life without having contributed their best to the service of God.

Men of vision are needed to carry this glorious message of the Cross to those yet in darkness.

Men of vision are needed to stir the Church and to lead it to spiritual victory.

Men of vision are needed to serve as pastors, teachers, deacons, and youth leaders.

Men of vision are needed to carry the influence of the Church out from its four walls and into the business world.

Men of vision are needed to carry the message of Christ's love to people in every walk of life. This is the kind of vision that compelled Paul to say, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise..."

Men with a vision are not optional to the survival of the Church or to the spread of the gospel. They are vital, for "where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18).

IN THE FIELD of geographical exploration, one man's dreams become another man's vision. Men such as Columbus, Magellan, Coronado, Balboa, Lewis, Clark, and a host of others contributed to the opening of vast territories in the new world because they had a vision of the possibilities. Today men of vision are on the verge of new discoveries in space.

God has had His men of spiritual vision too. Abraham could not stay in Ur of the Chaldees because he had a vision of a city whose builder and ruler is God. He believed that God had called him to leave his homeland and his friends, and he went out, "not knowing whither he went." For this, he is called the "father of the faithful."

Moses could not be content when God's people were suffering in Egypt. Not all the splendor of the treasures of Egypt could dim the vision for their deliverance that burned in his soul. To this man God gave the honor of leading His people to the borders of the Promised Land.

Christ Himself gave us a divine example of the force of vision. He could not be content to let us perish in our sins when He knew how to save us. His vision of what we could be by His grace brought Him from heaven where He was King of kings, to become "obedient unto death, even the death of the cross," that He might redeem us to God.

The apostle Paul could not simply share the message

THIS IS A BARN . . . OR IS IT A CHURCH?

AN UNUSUAL CONVERSION

By MICHAEL CARRIER

TURNING A BARN INTO A HOUSE OF WORSHIP is still a valid project for evangelistically minded Pentecostals. At least it is working for Pastor Ralph Kay Jr. and his Evangel Temple congregation in (of all places) Springfield, Missouri.

Few would have thought of our headquarters city, where there are already 14 Assemblies of God churches, as a field for pioneer work. But the unusual conversion of a barn to a church took place recently on the south side of the city in an attractive development of new homes.

This new assembly was born two years ago. Until a building was available the congregation met for services on the Evangel College campus. The work grew steadily, and the church soon made plans to build. Not wanting to overburden the young congregation financially, Pastor Kay and his building committee fixed their attention on a picturesque brick barn with the thought of converting it.

The new church obtained a \$10,000 loan from the Home Missions Department as a *Sites-for-Souls* project. With this and an additional \$2,000 raised by the congregation, they purchased 3.7 acres. The church later purchased three-fourths of an acre of adjoining land. Then across the street from this property they purchased another acre and a half which included a fine brick home (now used as a parsonage) as well as this sturdy milking barn.

The barn, formerly the pride of Springfield's Twin Elms Dairy, lent itself well to rehabilitation. It was a



Evangel Temple (top photo) was dedicated recently in Springfield, Mo. Pastor Ralph Kay Jr. (above) stands at the pulpit of the renovated church. Lower photo shows congregation and interior of church.



carefully constructed building with concrete floors and adequate window space. Two jetting silos, which remain even after conversion, added an almost stately air to the building.

As the church opened the doors of the converted barn for worship on December 6, a ceremonial ribbon was cut by Mrs. Eileen Straton, widow of Warren B. Straton, noted architect and former head of Evangel College's art department. (Brother Straton designed the sanctuary the congregation hopes eventually to build.) Mrs. Straton served as chairman of the interior decoration committee.

More than 300 persons attended the first service with J. Robert Ashcroft, president of Evangel College, participating in the morning's proceedings.

At an open house on January 8, many visited the remodeled edifice and adjoining educational facilities.

The Southern Missouri District and the Springfield Section have both helped the new congregation. The section contributed \$750 which was used to purchase church school furniture. Pastor Kay also expressed sincere thanks for the "good will and warmth" he received from the other Assemblies pastors in the city who helped make the project possible.

Dedicatory services were held January 22, 1967, with N. Cleo Tapp, superintendent of the Southern Missouri District, as guest speaker. These meetings were followed by a special dedication-missions crusade with Norman Correll, former missionary to Tanzania, now field representative of the Spiritual Life—Evangelism commission. Pastor Kay said Evangel Temple plans to stress missions at home and abroad very strongly.

Pastor Kay, a widower with two daughters, Sheila, 16, and Ramona, 13, and a son Bruce, 11, is also professor of religion at Evangel College in Springfield.

MORE CHURCHES URGENTLY NEEDED

THE AMERICAN CHURCH is asked to play a role in the drama of the missionary ages that no other church has ever been asked to play. Some of the last resources for world evangelism are to be found in the West, and specifically in the United States. Because of our unique freedoms, economic attainments, and world position, we are thrust on the stage at a moment when we alone can play this role.

The American government encourages overseas participation by its youth. We are the only nation in the world which grants military deferment on the basis of a missionary call.

To date there are no currency export conditions imposed on American churches. At different times I have had Scandinavian millionaires in my office who were burdened to do something for world missions but found it impossible to get money in large sums out of their countries. The millions we disburse yearly are never questioned. Indeed the President has indicated that he feels missionary enterprise to be at the front line of our government's overseas objectives.

Do we need more Assemblies of God churches to accomplish more foreign missionary work? The answer is a resounding *yes*. The light that shines the brightest at home will always be seen the farthest away.

—J. PHILIP HOGAN
Executive Director of Foreign Missions

Sullivan Section Builds a Church

IN APRIL 1964 the Sullivan Section of the Southern Missouri District purchased two acres of land with 220-foot frontage in Washington, Mo., for \$3,500. The property was paid for from district home missions funds.

Ministers of the section met in June 1965 and laid plans to build a new church. They then contacted Charles Upchurch of Jackson, Mo., who accepted the challenge to erect the building. Brother Upchurch had built the church at Jackson. Churches of the section were requested to take pledge to support Brother Upchurch during the construction period.

Construction was begun in August 1965, and the first service was conducted in the new church a year later with 29 present.

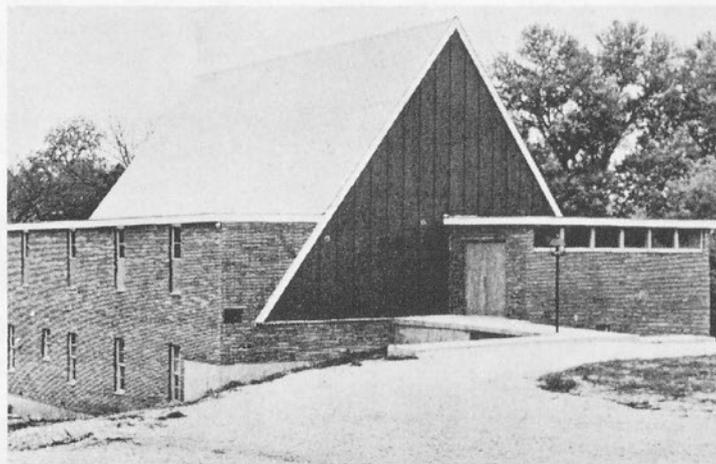
The current enrollment is 55, with an average attendance of more than 40 in Sunday school. Brother Upchurch is pastor of the new church.

Thus, through the combined efforts of the ministers and contributions from the churches of the section, an-

other new congregation and a fine edifice have been added to the Assemblies of God.

The new building with 5,000 square feet of floor space, includes a main auditorium which will seat 150, several Sunday school rooms, a nursery, and a three-bedroom home for the pastor.

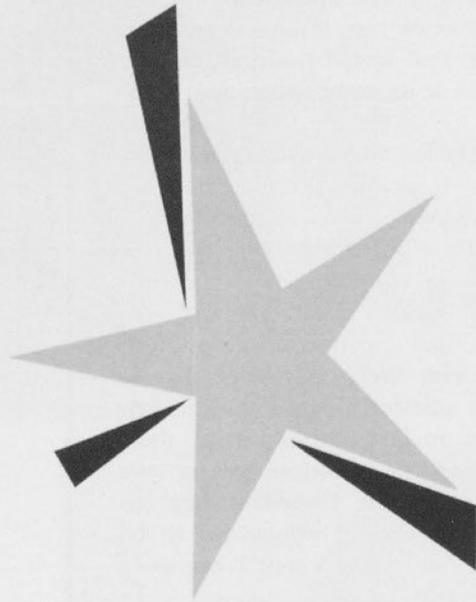
The property is appraised at \$50,000 but present indebtedness is only \$20,000. 



The new church in Washington, Mo., was built through the combined efforts of the ministers and churches of the Sullivan Section of the Southern Missouri District.

I WAS THERE

ONE OF A SERIES OF EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS OF EARLY PENTECOSTAL REVIVAL DAYS, WRITTEN BY VARIOUS PIONEER PASTORS, EVANGELISTS, AND MISSIONARIES



MIRACLES in TEXAS

By E. B. CRUMP

MY FATHER WAS A DEACON in the Baptist church for nearly 50 years, and ours was a devout Christian home. We never ate a meal without first giving thanks to God for the food and all His blessings to us. Each night the entire family (10 children) gathered in the living room for Bible reading and prayer.

With this background it is not surprising that I became a Baptist minister. I was ordained and called to be pastor of my home church in northern Mississippi; but after serving for about three years, I went to Texas to obtain further training at the Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary.

While at the seminary I began to hear about the "latter rain." There were reports that God was pouring out His Spirit as in the days of the Early Church. My interest was aroused particularly by accounts of a great campaign conducted in Dallas in 1921, though I did not attend the meetings.

Later, while pastor of a Baptist church in Hamlin, Texas, I attended a full-gospel crusade in Fort Worth, conducted by Evangelist Raymond T. Richey. This changed the course of my life. Many miracles of healing took place in those meetings, and I was convinced that the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit was for all who would seek God for it.

In my desire to know more about the working of the Spirit I followed Brother Richey to his meetings in Oklahoma City, and it was there I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit (in a church on West California Street, where Willa Short, later Willa Sturgis, was assistant pastor). That was in 1923. I returned to Texas, resigned my pastorate, and immediately united with the Assemblies of God.

The first revival campaign I conducted was in Breckenridge (Texas) oil field with H. H. Wray. We saw God's power in operation in those meetings. A hundred people were saved and 75 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

As a member of this Assemblies of God fellowship for over 43 years I have been privileged to see some mighty moves of God among His people. My field of ministry has been as evangelist, pastor, and Bible teacher. I served as secretary-treasurer of the North Texas District for 29 years. In October 1965 I accepted the pastorate of Calvary Temple in Wichita Falls, Texas.

The Assemblies of God movement has been compared to the Early Church. Truly God has blessed us, for which we all are grateful. God raised us up in the closing days of time to preach the soon return of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. World events clearly show us our Lord's coming is near. I thank God for allowing me to participate in this great movement. The end is not yet, for God will still answer our prayers and show us "great and mighty things" (Jeremiah 33:3) if we meet His conditions.

STUDY THE BIBLE AT HOME
FREE DETAILS

PASTORAL THEOLOGY
ALSO 10 OTHER COURSES

WRITE TO
BEREAN SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE
1445 BOONVILLE AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

Thirty Too

MR. BELL, THE PREACHER was always punctual. He was never late for any meetings, worship services, or other occasions. If he was called upon to preside at a wedding, he was always on hand and ready when the clock was striking the hour for the ceremony to begin.

It was at first quite annoying to his flock to attend a funeral and meet it on the way to the grave, or to go to a wedding and find it was all over before they arrived.

One day, Old Mr. Slow asked the minister why he was always in such a hurry and so afraid of being too late.

"Well, my good friend, I will tell you. After you have heard my story, I believe you will see that I am right in my emphasis on punctuality," Mr. Bell replied.

"That's certainly fair," drawled Mr. Slow, as if afraid to commit himself.

"When I was a young man and had been preaching only a few months, I was invited to go to a distant mountain town to preach to a destitute people. I went for some weeks and then returned home for a few days, promising to go back, without fail, the next Sunday.

"Well, I had a pleasant week among my relatives and was so busily engaged that I hardly thought of my responsibilities until Saturday. Then my sister and a friend of hers persuaded me to go for a boat ride on our beautiful lake. When we got ashore, I found it was two o'clock, and I knew the train would depart in 15 minutes!

"I left the ladies, ran home, picked up my suitcase, and ran for the depot. The train had arrived, and I heard the bell ring. With all my strength I ran. I saw it leaving the station. I redoubled my efforts and got within 15 feet of the train. Oh, for 30 seconds more! But it was too late!

"The next day was a fair, quiet

Seconds Late

By H. L. HASTINGS

Sunday. The mountain people, coming down from the glens and following the rills, filled the house of worship. But there was no minister, and the hungry sheep had no shepherd to feed them. He was 30 seconds too late!

"There was a poor old blind man who lived four miles from the church. He seldom was able to attend the services. That day he ate breakfast early, and his little granddaughter led him all the way down the mountain so that he could hear the preacher. How weary and sad this old man was! There was no minister to speak! The minister was 30 seconds too late!

"There was a great gathering of children in the Sunday school. Their little eyes glistened, for the minister had promised to give them a little sermon that day; but he was not there. He was 30 seconds too late!

"There was a sick child in one of the glens of the mountain. She had been inquiring all the week for her minister. She was anxious to see him and have him pray with her. How she hailed the day when he would come! But, no, he was not there! He was 30 seconds too late!

"That old blind man never came to the church again. He was too feeble. He never heard another sermon or prayer. The minister was 30 seconds too late!

"That little girl was dead before I got back, and I could only shed tears over her casket! I had been 30 seconds too late!

"On my bended knees, I asked God's forgiveness and promised Him that, if possible, I would never again be 30 seconds too late.

"And now, Mr. Slow, am I not right in always being prompt?"

"Well, I guess—it—doesn't—look—quite—so—unreasonable—as—it—might—seem."

—The Family Circle

NOTICE OF BOND REDEMPTION

by
The General Council of the Assemblies of God
Springfield, Missouri
to

Holders of General Council of the Assemblies of God Administration Building Bonds

A call for redemption of certain bonds of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, known as its First Mortgage Serial 5% Bonds Series A, dated September 1, 1960, is hereby given.

The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a corporation, in accordance with the terms of the Indenture of Trust securing said bonds which is recorded in the office of Recorder of Deeds of Greene County of Missouri, in book 1204 at page 509 and supplemental in book 1258 at pages 296-298, has elected to redeem and pay to the bearer or if the bond is registered as to principal, then to the registered holder thereof, the following listed bonds on March 1, 1967.

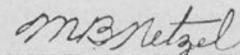
CCL-111	CCL-231	D-404	D-613	M-592	M-718	M-811	M-1361
113	232	405	614	593	719	812	1362
114	233	406	615	594	574	813	1363
121	234	409	616	595	575	814	1364
122	235	424	617	596	720	815	1367
123	236	425	743	597	721	865	1398
124	237	433	745	598	723	866	1399
143	238	447	747	599	754	867	1400
165	239	448	748	607	755	868	1401
166	240	449	749	608	756	892	1402
167	D-271	450	750	609	757	923	1403
177	272	451	751	610	758	924	1404
178	273	452	752	611	759	927	1405
179	274	453	762	612	760	989	1406
185	275	454	763	613	761	990	1407
187	283	471	336	614	762	1051	1672
188	292	472	343	615	763	1055	1673
189	309	494	443	616	764	1187	1674
195	311	495	456	645	765	1188	1675
199	312	496	M-455	646	766	1189	1676
200	313	497	456	650	767	1190	1677
201	331	498	501	651	788	1261	1678
202	334	499	502	652	789	1262	1679
221	335	541	503	653	791	1263	1680
222	337	542	565	654	803	1264	1681
241	338	566	566	655	804	1265	1682
242	339	567	567	656	805	1342	1686
244	340	588	568	711	806	1343	1687
253	368	589	569	712	807	1344	991
254	369	590	570	713	808	1345	5M-16
275	402	591	571	714	809	1346	28
276	403	612	572	715	810	1360	30

The above listed bonds which were selected by lot according to provisions of said Indenture will be redeemed at face value March 1, 1967, plus the amount of interest coupons payable to March 1, 1967. The above bonds should be presented to the Trustee The Citizens Bank, 1661 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri, for payment on March 1, 1967, or the first business day thereafter.

Interest on the above listed bonds will cease to accrue from and after March 1, 1967. Interest coupons due on the above date must be detached and presented to The Citizens Bank for payment. All remaining coupons must remain attached to the bonds.

DATED: January 8, 1967

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD



M. B. Netzel, General Treasurer

MIGHTY MIDGET

SINCE THE FIRST BIBLE was produced, an estimated billion Bibles or portions have been distributed.

And these Bibles have been in almost every imaginable size. A Bible printed in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1901 is the smallest on record. It contains 876 pages, each 1¼ by 3¾ inches

(just slightly larger than two regular postage stamps!). Without the cover, this mighty midget measures only 7/16 of an inch thick. A magnifying glass in a pocket of the cover enables a person to read the minute print.

Regardless of the size of the Book, the Bible has a big message—a message able to change a man's life and make him fit for heaven.

TESTIMONIES OF HEALING

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY, AND TODAY, AND FOREVER (Hebrews 13:8)



BABY HEALED OF POLIO

OUR BABY GIRL, Christine, was stricken with polio two years ago. Today, in answer to prayer, she is a perfectly normal child.

She was nine and a half months old and had just learned to walk. She had seemed so strong and healthy but now suddenly she was very weak and had a high fever. It was September 1964. We rushed her to a doctor, and he told us she had a virus. "If she isn't better in two days, bring her back," he said. And we did—again and again.



When she didn't improve, he told us it might be polio, and sent us to the Methodist Hospital for tests. (She had had some immunization shots, but her doctor had not started her on polio vaccine.)

"Why, God, why?" I pleaded silently.

We called Pastor Calloway's home, and he was away. But

his wife reminded us that "all things work together for good to them that love God." We lived on that verse for the next few weeks; for after a spinal tap and other tests, the doctor said, "I think we can safely diagnose it as polio."

He explained that they would not know what kind it was for a couple of weeks. "There is nothing we can do but wait. There's no cure for polio. It just has to run its course. It can be anything from partial paralysis to death. Just wait."

We waited, and slowly her body lost its functions. Her bowels, her legs, her back were useless. One arm was partially affected. Her body was like rubber.

"No cure... Paralysis to death... Just wait..." We waited, but while we waited we prayed, and over 40 congregations joined us in special prayer for Christine. Pastor Calloway came and prayed for her many times.

The paralysis crept into her chest, and an iron lung was rushed to her bedside as breathing became more difficult.

Then I prayed, "O God, I know she belongs to You. We dedicated her to You when she was 12 days old.

If God has healed you recently, we invite you to write out your testimony for publication. This can encourage others who need healing to believe and receive the Lord's healing touch. Please make your testimony as brief as possible, and ask your pastor to sign it. Then mail it to: *The Pentecostal Evangel*, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802.

But we love her too. Please let us keep her. Use her for whatever your purpose is, dear God."

Then God came. He touched her. The disease stopped. We were so happy that God had spared her life that the possibility of her being an invalid the rest of her life did not enter our minds.

One day as we were visiting Christine at the hospital, my wife and I both noticed a slight movement of her left leg. Then we began thinking of the future. We stood on the promises of God.

Twelve days later we brought our little girl home. Daily we saw God adding strength to her body. She continued to move her left leg and then began an occasional slight movement of the right leg.

Finally she was able to sit alone, and then to stand up by holding to some furniture.

The doctors marvelled. They had told us her legs would not develop and she would never walk. A wheelchair was to be her closest companion, and possibly someday in the distant future braces could be used.

Dr. Rogers shakes his head every time he sees Christine, because within two and a half months from the time she was stricken with polio, God had so touched her that she was walking. Today, two years later, there is no sign of paralysis. She has never had a brace, and her body is developing perfectly. Except for the medical records, it is impossible to tell that Christine has ever had polio.

God is the Great Physician. He does the impossible!—Douglas Cummings, Indianapolis, Ind.

(Endorsed by Pastor M. L. Calloway, Parkway Assembly, Indianapolis, Ind.)

PRAYER ANSWERED IN GOD'S WAY

ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO I became concerned because my Christian experience did not seem as vital as it once had, and as I knew it should be. I had just become too busy with the cares of this life. One evening I prayed that God would definitely renew my vision and that I might be used in His work. Nothing unusual happened, but God did not forget my prayer.

In the summer of 1965 I had a heart attack while visiting my sister in California. The doctor there reluctantly allowed me to make the trip home to Washington after a few days. It was a number of weeks before I could be active again, and then only because the Lord intervened.

God was answering my prayer, but not in the way I had expected. I asked why I had to be inactive for so long, and He reminded me that His ways are higher than ours. From that time on I began to yield to Him and to pray that He would mold me and make me a vessel He could use to bless others.

One night I dreamed of a harvest field, its grain decaying because it was not gathered. This spoke to me of the souls yet ungathered for the Master.

After I had been in bed for six weeks, I began to feel weary and lonely. Then one evening the Master appeared to me, standing at the right side of my bed. How He filled the room with His presence! I began to weep, and asked Him for some assurance that He had touched my body. He gave me Isaiah 53.

In His right hand He held a sieve over my bed, and He made me know that a sifting time is coming soon when the wheat will be separated from the chaff. I felt that what we do for Him we must do quickly, for time is running out and He will soon return. He was grieved that so many are lukewarm and growing cold in their experience with Him.

When my husband came in a little later, I asked him to read Isaiah 53. As he read the fifth verse, I felt it was for me: "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed."

Peace and joy flooded my soul, and for five days the presence of Jesus continued to fill my room.

The following Saturday the doctor gave me the first encouraging report concerning my heart condition. I continued to improve, and the doctor told me he knew that all the way through my illness I had been helped beyond what the medicine was able to do.

On my first Sunday at church my pastor made time for me to tell what the Lord had done for me.

The doctor has told me I can begin to live a normal life again, for my physical heart is strong. But ever since that evening when my Lord stood by my bedside, my spiritual life has been different too. Jesus is so real. The Word is alive. My heart burns again with that first love for the Master, and I want more than anything else to please Him.

By taking me aside for a while from the ceaseless activities in which I had been involved, He answered my prayer that I might return to my first love.

I shall never cease to praise Him, for He means so much to me.—Mrs. O. M. (Bess) Miller, Oroville, Wash.

(Endorsed by Pastor Kenneth B. Gregg, Assembly of God, Oroville, Wash.)

DELIVERED FROM EPILEPTIC CONDITION

DURING MY SENIOR YEAR in high school, I began to have brief periods when I lost awareness of my surroundings. Sometimes when people would talk to me, I did not even realize they were there.

After graduation I went to work as a shoe salesman in Fairfax, Va. My trouble continued to manifest itself, sometimes while I was waiting on customers. The manager of the store sent me to a doctor. After a series of tests, cardiograms, and X rays, they found I was suffering from a form of epilepsy. My doctor prescribed pills for control and told me I would have to take them the rest of my life. He said I was not to drive a car and would be unable to serve in the Armed Forces.

A year later I became assistant manager of a shoe store in Towson, Md. I began to attend services at Essex Assembly of God. There a miracle took place. On

January 24, 1965, I was praying at the altar during the evening service. Pastor Steve Bogdan asked me if I would like to be prayed for. I said I would, so he anointed and prayed for me and then walked away.

Suddenly I became almost paralyzed from my waist up. I tried to open my eyes, but they seemed sealed shut. Finally I got them open enough to see Pastor Bogdan sitting on the platform. He was praying, but God must have made him look up. He saw something was wrong and asked the people to pray. I was fighting against the enemy, and Satan's power was so strong I thought I was going to die. But I had the Lord on my side, and He is more powerful than all devils combined. As Pastor Bogdan and the people prayed for me again, God gave complete victory.

I praise the Lord that He has made me whole. This took place about two years ago, and I have not taken the pills since that time. My Lord has brought me closer to Himself through this experience, showing me how great He is.—Tom D. Riley, Vietnam.

(Endorsed by Pastor Steve Bogdan, Essex Assembly, Baltimore, Md. Pastor Bogdan says Tom Riley is now serving with the Armed Forces in Vietnam. He is continuing to serve the Lord and requests prayer that he will be strengthened to witness more.)

THANKFUL FOR MANY BLESSINGS

I WAS REARED A ROMAN CATHOLIC. Although I went to church faithfully, I was always seeking for something more than I could find. It seemed to be a never-ending, hopeless search until I found the Lord as my Saviour.

I began to attend the Assembly of God in February 1962. My husband already belonged, and my son started going too. It made us feel much closer.

Not long after I began going to this church, I tried to stop smoking. My attempt lasted about a year but my efforts were in vain, so I asked the Lord to help me. One Sunday I spent the whole day in tears praying for God's help. Thank the Lord, He did help me, and I have never wanted a cigarette since.

That summer, realizing I must "walk in the light," I was baptized in water. It seemed God's blessings became more wonderful with each new day—but greater blessings were yet in store for me.

On January 2, 1966, as I sat in church listening to the Sunday morning message, God healed me of a kidney infection. The speaker urged us to cast all our burdens on the Lord, and I realized I hadn't turned to the Lord to heal me. As I did, I was healed. This brought a wonderful thrill to my heart, as well as relief from the pain.

The most thrilling of all, however, was the next Sunday evening when Christ gloriously baptized me in the wonderful Holy Spirit. This did so much for me that I could never explain. I praise the Lord each day for the blessing He has brought to my life. I'm so happy, for I've found the Lord to be so real. I know he's all I need!—Mrs. Clara Wallace, Garland, Tex.

(Endorsed by Pastor Leonard Wood, First Assembly, Garland, Tex.)



HIM

THYSELF

ONE ANOTHER

Considerations for Christians

By E. LESLIE THOMAS

A GREAT DEAL IS BEING SAID in the Christian world these days about doctrinal differences, ecclesiastical structure, and ecumenicism. While these subjects demand consideration by some, the basic question for most Christians is how to be a victorious, practicing Christian in the midst of the tensions and pressures of modern life. We need to know how to live the Christian life fully, happily, and triumphantly for our own sakes and to be effective witnesses.

The New Testament points out three basic considerations in this. First, we are told to "consider him," that is, the Lord Jesus (Hebrews 10:3). This will certainly lead to another directive found in Galatians 6:1: "Consider thyself."

Considering Jesus' humility, His gentleness, His concern for others, His unselfishness, we are forced to ask ourselves: Are we like *that*?

Consider His dedication to truth, His zeal for the right, His commitment to God's will. Are we like *that*? Consider His compassion, His concern for the lost. Are we like *that*?

The world has recognized that some Christians are like that. They "took knowledge" of Peter and John that they had been with Jesus. They saw in them a likeness to Him. It was the world that first called the disciples at Antioch Christians, "little Christs." They were like Him.

Shouldn't the world today be able to recognize that we have been with Jesus?

The Christlikeness of the first Christians was demonstrated particularly in the third consideration: "Let us consider one another" (Hebrews 10:24). This consideration was revealed particularly in terms of the love that bound them together. Theirs was the unity of a mutual faith in Him who had so recently demonstrated the love of God in human terms. It was this *first love* of Christian believers that impressed the world, as Jesus prayed it would. "Behold, how they love one another," was the comment of unbelievers. This was not an artificial or superficial unity. It was the natural result of the love of God indwelling all their hearts.

We should consider that others too are beset before

AFTER READING THE ARTICLE, "When Adversity Comes," by Leslie W. Smith, and the testimony of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Santure concerning their baby (both in the August 14, 1966, issue of the *Evangel*) I felt compelled to give my own testimony.

I was recuperating from surgery at the time I read these articles, and was reminded of the many times I had to draw deeply on God's grace myself.

Except for the minor tests that come to all of us, my wife and I had never had to face a serious crisis in our home until July 22, 1960. We were expecting our third child in a little over two months from that time, and my wife was under the care of a specialist because of possible complications. On this July day she called me at work, and I had to rush her to the doctor. After making a hurried examination, he instructed me to take my wife on to the hospital.

"Mr. Ledkins," he said. "I must tell you now not to have any hope at all that the baby will live." We had been wanting this baby a long time, but his words shattered our hopes.

Those next few hours I learned to put things into God's hands. A baby girl was born, weighing three pounds, five ounces. The specialist in charge of the baby would

God's Grace Is Sufficient

give her only a 50-50 chance to live because one lung would not open properly. She lost nine ounces before beginning to gain. But six weeks later we were able to take her home. We praise God today for a perfectly normal six-year-old girl.

In December 1964 this child was in the hospital with pneumonia in both lungs. One lung collapsed, but again God intervened for her. I called the presbyter of our section, Brother Elbert Jackson, and asked him to help me pray, and she began to improve at that time. We still have a God who answers prayer.

Another crisis in our lives began December 12, 1961. We had taken our second child, who was nine years old, to our doctor for an examination as she had not been feeling well. He advised us to take her to Mobile for further examinations and tests. We did so the next day.

After examining her, the doctor came to me and said, "Are you familiar with the disease called leukemia?"

I told him I knew it usually was fatal. He then told

and behind with the infirmities of the flesh, and that they need our love and prayers. We are not to judge, to criticize, to condemn. Rather, let us *consider one another*. This rules out the hasty word, the impatient action.

It means asking, "Will my actions as a Christian help my brother? Will my life provoke him to love and good works, or will it frustrate and hinder his spiritual life? What is the effect of my life as a Christian on others? Does it encourage, comfort, strengthen them? Or is my influence negative, casting down those I should be lifting up?"

This matter of showing loving consideration one for another is more important than some have realized. Paul said, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

This consideration of one another comes so naturally with our "first love," but carnal divisions can obscure that unity and blur our witness to the world. "For whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

There is need for a convincing demonstration of the power of God's love both within the Christian community and in the world without. It will come as we surrender afresh to the Lord Jesus; as our wills are lost in His; as we make a total commitment; as we allow our lives to be invaded by the Holy Spirit.

So then, let us consider our Lord in the sense that we look to Him as our example as well as our Saviour. Let us consider ourselves in the light of His perfection and in the knowledge of our own imperfection. Let us consider one another with patience and compassion, for each of us is a "brother for whom Christ died."

As we individual Christians carry out these considerations, our own lives will be transformed and the world will take knowledge of us that we have been with Jesus.

me that our little girl had the acute type and in an advanced stage.

Seven weeks and one day later, God took her to heaven. With the exception of Christmas and one or two weekends, she spent those weeks in the hospital.

Her Homegoing was hard for us to understand, for she had been such a worker for the Lord. She accepted Christ as her Saviour before she was six. When she was eight, God filled her with the Holy Spirit. She had become an inspiration to our church and to all who knew her. A few months before she became ill, she told me she felt the Lord wanted her to become a missionary.

While she was in the hospital, she would put her arms around my neck and say, "I am glad I had a mother and father that took me to church and told me about Jesus, because I need Him now, and He is with me."

May this cause parents to see the need of taking their children to church and encouraging them to trust in Him.

Through all the sorrow and disappointments we can say God's grace has been sufficient to meet every need, and that He knows what is best.—Ralph Ledkins, Monroeville, Ala.

(Brother Ledkins is a licensed minister affiliated with the Alabama District of the Assemblies of God.)

A GOOD SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD

WHEN A CHARTER MEMBER of our church stopped young Bob Dawson on the street in McAlester, Oklahoma, and offered him a nickel if he would attend Sunday school the following Sunday, he decided to go.

Once inside First Assembly Sunday school, the 12-year-old boy became interested enough to return again and again, until he had chalked up six years of perfect attendance.

At the age of 18, Bob went into the service, and the prayers and interest of the church followed him during his years in the armed forces.

When he returned, he started back to Sunday school, and he has not missed a single Sunday in the 21 years since!

Bob Dawson has a family of his own now, and he teaches a Sunday school class. When trips take the family away from McAlester, Bob still drives back on Sunday mornings to teach his fifth-grade class, the Explorers.

That first tentative venture into Sunday school at the invitation of a stranger on the street has resulted in more than 1,900 consecutive Sundays in Sunday school for Bob Dawson, and immeasurable blessing for himself and his family, as well as those he teaches. What if Mrs. Carr had not invited him? What if he had not found a warm, friendly welcome when he came that very first Sunday?

—JACK L. ROBERTSON, *Pastor*
First Assembly of God, McAlester, Okla.



COME ON INSIDE!

If you are going to unveil your Loyalty Campaign on April 2, you need to get the *inside story* on the 1967 ideas and materials now! The 1967 Loyalty Campaign Planning Guide appears as a clip-out in the March issue of *Advance*. For a sample packet of the materials themselves, rush your request and 30c to the Gospel Publishing House, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Be sure to ask for the 1967 *Loyalty Campaign Sample Packet*, order no. 8-EV-5674.

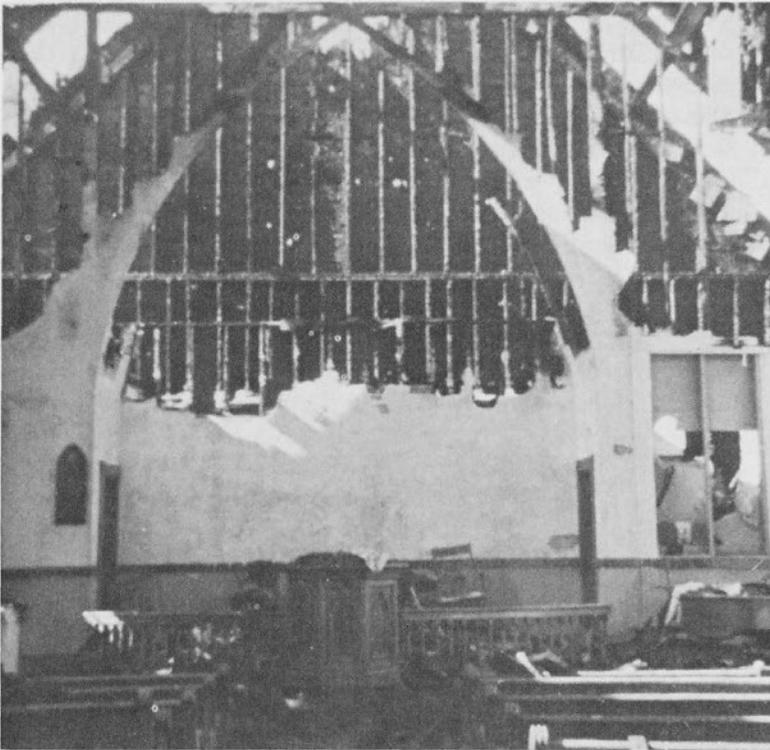
NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

FIRE DESTROYS CHURCH— CONGREGATION TO REBUILD

LYNN, MASS.—While vacationing in New Jersey in August, Timothy Adams, pastor of First Assembly here, received word that fire had totally destroyed his church. He immediately returned to Lynn and found that fire in a vacant house had spread to the church, burning both buildings.

Other religious groups in Lynn offered the use of facilities. Merchants and private citizens came forward with financial aid. Helped by this kindness, First Assembly was able to break ground for a new building at a new location. The congregation is trusting God to continue to direct them.

Charred ruins of First Assembly of God in Lynn, Mass.



SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—A record 9,200 people attended Bethel Temple's tenth annual presentation of the "Singing Christmas Tree" at the Memorial Auditorium here. Accompanied this year by a 30-piece orchestra, the 130 vocalists sang from a 30-foot structure on the auditorium's stage. Bethel Temple sponsors the event free of charge to the community. Clyde Henson is pastor of the church.



COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.—Board members of First Assembly here join Pastor and Mrs. Lloyd Christiansen in recent mortgage-burning ceremonies. Standing left to right are Sister Christiansen, R. John Fuller, Roy Paxson, Stuart Combs, Stanley Smedsrud, and Pastor Christiansen. Board member Jack Leeman was not present.



Pastor Leo E. Tippit (right) led the congregation of First Assembly in building a new sanctuary, seating 225, and educational facilities on the site of the old church.

NEW BUILDING LEADS TO SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

PORT NECHES, TEX.—First Assembly here had the joy of dedicating its new building to the Lord this past summer. W. S. Graham, South Texas District superintendent, was guest speaker.

The congregation demolished the old church and erected the new building on the same site. During this time services were held in a school auditorium, a union hall, and a neighboring Assemblies of God church.

Much donated labor went into the new building which is completely air-conditioned. The sanctuary walls are paneled mahogany stained driftwood gray to blend

with the oak pews and furniture of a soft gray tone. Blue nylon carpeting matches the padding of the pews. The sanctuary seats approximately 225.

Other facilities include a nursery, church office, pastor's study, seven classrooms, and a kitchen. Four of the classrooms open to provide a fellowship hall.

God has blessed the church and the people have a renewed interest in its spiritual progress since moving into the new building. Many have been saved and filled with the Holy Spirit.

Leo E. Tippit is pastor of the church.

MAKE HOUSING RESERVATIONS NOW FOR PENTECOSTAL WORLD CONFERENCE

"No room in the inn," the declaration that chilled Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem centuries ago, may also chill delegates to the eighth Pentecostal World Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this July.

Slated for July 18-23, 1967, the convention comes at the peak of Rio's winter tourist season, as seasons south of the equator are opposite those to the north.

Alipio da Silva, a resident of Rio de Janeiro and chairman of the conference housing committee, urges delegates to the conference to make housing reservations just as soon as possible. A \$10 deposit should accompany each reservation.

Rio de Janeiro hotels are usually completely reserved weeks ahead for the entire month of July, a fact which emphasizes the need

for making reservations well in advance.

The housing committee reports reservation requests are coming from all over the world. To meet these requests, the committee has arranged for space in a wide variety of places ranging from rooms in the city's finest hotels and private homes to economy dormitory-type housing in local churches and a large government pavilion near the stadium where the convention will be held.

Housing reservation forms and other information on the triennial world parley are available from: Housing and Information, Eighth Pentecostal World Conference, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Mo. 65802.

Thomas F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God (USA), is planning chairman for the world conference.



FIRST ASSEMBLY'S FLOAT WINS FIRST PRIZE

ANNISTON, ALA.—First Assembly's float took first place in the annual Christmas parade here. The float depicted the theme, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

The float consisted of four scenes: the Christ-child in a manger, Jesus blessing the children, Christian worshipers, and God's throne with attending angels.

Some 85,000 people viewed the float which was given front-page coverage in the local newspaper.

The church was presented with a 27-inch trophy and \$25. Members of every department in the church participated in the project, thankful for this opportunity to witness to the community.

—O. M. Dykes, pastor

EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Helena	First	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Hoyt Ming	Royce L. Lowe
Calif.	Crescent City	*A/G	Feb. 19-24	Charles Senechal	H. B. Pencovic
	Hollister	A/G Tab.	Feb. 12—	Bonetta C. Rabe	DeWayne Gorrell
	Sacramento	Trinity	Feb. 19-26	Howard Rusthoi	Paul C. Trulin
	Santa Monica	Central	Feb. 12—	Diehl Evangelists	Philip Hawthin
	Whitehorn	*Redwood Chapel	Feb. 26-Mar. 3	Charles Senechal	H. E. Huffman
	Whittier	First	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Arne Vick	Ronald Prinzing
	Yuba City	Tierra Buena Calvary	Feb. 22-26	The Ellison Family	Marvin M. Long
Colo.	Nugla	First	Feb. 26—	T. J. & Wanda Taylor	H. C. Russell
Fla.	Auburndale	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	Freddy Clark	Harvey T. Pumphrey
	Cape Canaveral	Palm Chapel	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Keetah Jones	Thomas G. Sutton
	Clewiston	A/G	Feb. 19-Mar. 5	B. R. Minton	Bernard Browne
Ga.	Columbus	Central	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Colen & Carol Lassiter	Ulus Luker
	Dexter	Glad Tidings	Feb. 13-19	Roger & Sandra Wood	Lamar Taylor
	Moultrie	Northside	Feb. 26-Mar. 5	Chas. & Mrs. McKnight	Joseph White
Ind.	Hammond	Hessville	Feb. 22-26	Eddy Anderson	C. Ron Hembree
Minn.	Minneapolis	Full Gosp. Temple	Feb. 22-26	The Tanner Team	J. M. Strand
	Slayton	A/G	Feb. 14-26	Joel Palmer	James F. Allen
Miss.	Natchez	First	Feb. 27-Mar. 12	Ed Eaton	W. H. Richardson
Mo.	Farmington	First	Feb. 22-Mar. 5	Samuel & Patricia Calk	John W. Allen
	Joplin	Faith	Feb. 22-Mar. 5	Leonard Norville	T. R. Shepherd
	Rich Hill	A/G	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Knott-Olson Team	Kenneth G. Smith Sr.
Nebr.	Valentine	A/G	Feb. 21-26	Norman & Evelyn Hays	Harry Blakkolb
N. J.	Rockaway	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	John Hamercheck Jr.	Levi L. Storms
Ohio	Canton	Mt. Olivet Memorial	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Daena Cargnel	Ken Haddaway
	Kettering	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	John Higginbotham	Allen T. Ross
	Marysville	Gospel Tab.	Feb. 22-Mar. 5	Paul Hild	Don Mocerri
Okla.	Cement	A/G	Feb. 20-Mar. 5	Danny & Elizabeth Kennedy	H. C. Eslinger
	Crescent	A/G	Feb. 21-26	Ray & Elaine Leonard	R. C. Allen
	Cushing	First	Feb. 19-Mar. 5	Eddie Hundley	Clyde C. Miller
	Rattan	First	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Mathers-Pharr Team	Gertrude Bell
	Sterling	A/G	Feb. 26-Mar. 12	Salisbury-Screase Team	Chester Powell
	Velma	First	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	Leonard Negrin	Harold J. Baker
Oreg.	Medford	Bethel	Feb. 19-Mar. 5	James W. Lynd	Lawrence D. Krause
Pa.	Ambridge	A/G	Feb. 21-26	Ken & Gloria Kashner	Eugene Petroski
	Philadelphia	Full Gospel Tab.	Feb. 14-19	John Hamercheck	Larry Albanese
S. Dak.	Lake Preston	A/G	Feb. 25-Mar. 5	Charles Frederick	Eldon Albin
Tenn.	Memphis	Raleigh	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	The Singing Lunsfords	J. D. Middlebrook
Tex.	Commerce	First	Feb. 20-26	Terry D. Johnson	A. Lee Alexander
	Lubbock	Central	Feb. 15-26	Tommy & Esther Lance	Bill S. Thomas
Va.	Arlington	A/G	Feb. 12-26	H. Ryan-R. Blount Tm.	Claude R. Qualls
	Belviour	A/G Tab.	Feb. 15-26	Irving & Mary Lou Howard	E. C. Hunt
Wash.	Hartline	A/G	Feb. 21-Mar. 5	David & Mona Lewis	Robert R. Mayfield
Canada	Swan River, Man.	Pentecostal Ch.	Feb. 22-Mar. 5	Gene & Heather Burgess	Laverne Clary

* Children's Crusade

Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach *The Pentecostal Evangel* five weeks in advance.



SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Flower Hall, new residence hall at Central Bible College, is now completed; students have moved into its attractive rooms. Bonds are still available to help us liquidate the balance of the indebtedness. Your investment in these bonds is an investment in youth preparing for Christian ministry.

CENTRAL BIBLE COLLEGE
3000 N. Grant, Springfield, Mo. 65802

I am interested in helping to finance CBC's new J. Roswell Flower Residence Hall. Please send information.

I want to invest \$..... in bonds of the following denominations:

.....\$100\$250\$500\$1,000

(Available maturity dates: 1974-82)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

\$500,000 CHURCH DEDICATED IN NORTHWEST DISTRICT

AUBURN, WASH.—Culminating three busy years, Calvary Temple here was recently dedicated to the Lord by R. J. Carlson, Northwest district superintendent.

Valued at \$500,000, the building was erected at a cost of \$215,000. The congregation donated approximately \$50,000 worth of labor.

Calvary Temple has three stories. The upper floor contains a

three-room nursery, classrooms, two carpeted prayer rooms, the amplification and lighting control room, and a balcony which seats over 250.

The main floor with ground-level entrances on three sides, has a large lobby, restrooms, a lounge with a gas-log fireplace, and the carpeted sanctuary which seats 550.

At the right are the pastors and their wives who have served Calvary Temple. Left to right in order of service are: the James Nicholsons (present pastors), the R. Dean Youngs, the J. Ed Southards, the Winston Nelsons, the Herbert Crowders, the Percy Joneses, and the Percy Willses. The lower photos show the main sanctuary which seats 550 and the exterior of the church which has three floors. The first and second floors open on the ground level.

On either side of the platform are two more carpeted prayer rooms which also serve as classrooms.

The lower area, also with a ground-level entrance, has a library, church offices, choir and youth room, a large reception area which seats 250 at tables, a wood-burning fireplace, WMC work-

rooms, kitchen, and Sunday school rooms.

Among dedication activities were a banquet honoring all former pastors of the church and the Tacoma Section fellowship meeting.

James W. Nicholson is pastor of Calvary Temple.



AVON PARK, FLA.—First Assembly here experienced its greatest move of God in recent years during services with Evangelist Freddy Clark. Seventy-five people were saved, 20 baptized in the Holy Spirit, and 40 testified to miracles of healing in their bodies.

Six joined the church. Large

attendances were recorded, many coming from surrounding towns.

—E. B. Boykin, pastor

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MONROE, LA.—The College Town Assembly here just concluded three weeks of special services with Evangelist Robert Stephens of Waxahachie, Tex. Eighteen were saved and two were filled with the Spirit.

Attendance was good, and people were blessed in every service. Several testified to receiving healing in their bodies.

—E. J. Graves, pastor

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JASONVILLE, IND.—First Assembly here is experiencing a real move of God in its regular services.

Six adults have recently come to Christ and two have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. There is also a revival in the ministry of the gifts of the Spirit.

The love of Christ is being shed abroad in the hearts of many people as evidenced by several benevolent acts by members of the congregation.

There is a steady flow of visitors, many of whom have enrolled

in the Sunday school. Giving to the church has increased and much-needed facility improvements have been made.

—Larry L. Patton, pastor

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WENATCHEE, WASH.—First Assembly here is giving thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit during a 10-day Spiritual Life Campaign with Evangelist John M. Tappero of Seattle, Wash.

A seminar on the Holy Spirit, conducted each morning, proved to be a real blessing. God moved and many persons have testified to new life and blessing in their lives.

—John J. Clement, pastor

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CLOVERDALE, CALIF.—The Assembly of God here was greatly edified in special services with Evangelist J. L. Jeffrey.

—Robert T. Jackson, pastor

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Anticipated enlargement of the electronic data processing operations at general headquarters of the Assemblies of God will require the employment of additional trained personnel. The following job opportunities will be available:

1. Manager of Electronic Data Processing
2. Methods and Systems Analysts
3. Electronic Data Processing Programers

Write to the Personnel Office, Assemblies of God, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802.

WITH CHRIST

ANTONIO REYES, 66, of Silver City, N. Mex., went to be with the One he served September 17, 1966. Brother Reyes, a licensed minister in the Latin American District, was engaged in pioneer work.

CAIN BOLING, 75, of Jasper, Ark., went to be with the One he served December 16, 1966. Brother Boling, an ordained minister in the Arkansas District, began his ministry in 1913 and served as an evangelist and pastor in the Ozarks region. He is survived by his wife Zetta and two children.

CLIFTON B. THOMAS, 77, of Bellflower, Calif., went to be with the One he served December 2, 1966. Ordained to the ministry in 1923 by the Rocky Mountain District, he was a member of the Southern California District. Brother Thomas attended the first General Council in 1914 at Hot Springs, Ark. He served as an evangelist and pastor in Colorado and Nebraska. He also served as assistant district superintendent in Nebraska and was a presbyter there as well as in the Rocky Mountain District. Brother Thomas is survived by his wife Edna, three sons, one daughter, and 10 grandchildren.

CAMPUS COLUMN

Hardy W. Steinberg
NATIONAL EDUCATION SECRETARY

SCC STUDENTS PLEDGE \$6,000 DURING MISSIONS CONVENTION

Over \$6,000 was pledged to missions during the annual four-day missionary convention at Southern California College, Costa Mesa.

T. C. Cunningham (center), assistant superintendent of Southern California District, with Phil Sloan and Darlene VandeVelde, missionary curators of Southern California College, check total pledges received at the annual missionary convention of SCC in Costa Mesa, Calif.



The theme for the week, "No Man Careth for My Soul," challenged the students to give themselves and their financial support to the work of reaching lost souls.

Among the guest speakers were SCC graduates Larry and Dorothy Cederblom, missionaries to the Dominican Republic. Other missionaries ministering to the student body were Ralph Cobb, Nigeria; Paul Pipkin, Far East; Naomi Dowdy, missionary-evangelist; and Lawrence Olson, Brazil.

Student leaders of the missions program at Southern California College were pleased with the results of the convention. They noted that since every student at the college is a member of some missionary prayer group, the students will be backing up their financial gifts with prayers for the missionaries.

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN GIVEN BY SAGC STUDENTS

Fifty children were guests of Southwestern Assemblies of God College at a Christmas party. The children were from the Daniel Memorial Children's Home, a child-care institution in Fairfield, Texas, sponsored by the North and South Texas Districts of the Assemblies of God.

Adopted for the day by SAGC students, each child was given a young lady to represent his mother and a young man to represent his father. A party was held around a large Christmas tree in the college gym. The program included games, stories, and refreshments.

Each child received as a gift some article of clothing and a toy from his SAGC "parents." One of the day's highlights for the children was going out to eat with their adopted "parents."

CHAPLAIN DEBOCK SELECTED NCAG ALUMNUS OF YEAR

Lt. Cdr. Ronald G. DeBock, chaplain in the U. S. Naval Reserve, was selected as the first "Alumnus of the Year" by the Northwest College of the Assemblies of God Alumni Association. The presentation was made by the association's president, E. A. Born, at the annual Homecoming Banquet held on the campus of the college.

In the citation it was noted that Chaplain DeBock entered Northwest College in 1949 after serving in the Navy in World War II.

While in college he held a number of leadership positions including class president and vice-president of the student body.

After pastoring for several years, he entered Western Evangelical Seminary in Portland where he completed his B.D. degree requirements and subsequently entered the Navy chaplaincy.

Chaplain DeBock has recently served in Vietnam. Since his return from the combat area he has been stationed at the Naval Supply Depot in Seattle. There he has distinguished himself not only in his work as chaplain, but also in his outreach to the church community at large in the Pacific Northwest.

Chaplain Ronald G. DeBock, selected first "Alumnus of the Year" by Northwest College of the Assemblies of God, speaks at the homecoming banquet at the college.



DONATED LABOR HELPS ALABAMANS CUT CHURCH BUILDING COST

WILMER, ALA.—Georgetown Assembly here dedicated its new sanctuary recently. T. H. Spence, Alabama District superintendent, officiated.

Other officials present were C. C. Hidle, district secretary-treasurer; George Walters, district

Sunday school director; C. O. Cope, general presbyter; and W. E. Smith, sectional presbyter. Approximately 300 people attended the service.

The new 38- by 80-foot addition also contains a nursery, conference room, two prayer rooms,



and baptistry besides the sanctuary. The old sanctuary will be converted into a chapel.

Although the new building is valued at \$40,000 it cost only \$21,000 because of labor donated by men of the church.

Georgetown Assembly was organized in 1945 under the leadership of Woodrow Oxner.

D. Z. Finch has been pastor since 1963.

Sunday school enrollment is 127 with an average attendance of 96.

The new addition to the Georgetown Assembly is connected with the old sanctuary. The new sanctuary (below) is furnished in oak stained to match the antique birch paneling.



The Truth About SALVATION

By WILLIAM L. PETTINGILL

LET US BEGIN by understanding each other. When we speak about salvation, we are not talking about religion.

Many people suppose that salvation and religion are the same thing, but this is a mistake. Salvation and religion are by no means identical. You may have a great deal of religion without having a bit of salvation.

It is true that the Bible speaks of a religion which is "pure and undefiled," but even this religion is not salvation; it is only a product of salvation. The Bible frequently warns against religion as a substitute for salvation.

The dictionary will tell you that the word *religion* is derived from a root meaning "to heed" or "to have care." It is the exact opposite of "neglect." It is a good thing to take heed and have a care for the things of God, but even this will be of no value unless it leads to salvation.

Religion, by itself, is death. Salvation is life.

HOW IS SALVATION OBTAINED?

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ told us how salvation is obtained in His words to Nicodemus: "Ye must be born again." There is no other way.

No one gets salvation by getting religion, nor by joining the church, nor by turning over a new leaf and trying to serve God. Neither does he get it by praying, nor

by confessing his sins (the promise of 1 John 1:9 is for those already saved). Nor is it by sorrow for sin, nor by asking God to forgive his sins; by none of these means is salvation obtained.

Salvation is obtained through a definite receiving of the Lord Jesus Christ as one's personal Saviour. The instant this is done, salvation is an accomplished fact. This is shown by John 1:11, 12: "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them which believe on his name."

The next verse goes on to tell what happened to those who "received him," that is, those who "believe on his name." They were at once "born... of God."

Just so it is today. As many as receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, giving up all else and holding only to Him for salvation, are instantly saved. His own declaration of John 5:24 stands good through all time: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life."

SALVATION IS IN THREE TENSES

There is the *past* tense. When a man takes the Lord Jesus Christ as his own Saviour, he may at once truly say, "I am saved!" Putting the matter in the past tense as to time, he may truly say, "Then and there I was saved!" This work is instantaneous; it is salvation from the penalty of sin.

There is the *present* tense. When a man is "born again," the Holy Spirit begins to work in him both to will and to do of God's good pleasure and to conform him to the image of Christ. This work is progressive; it is salvation from the power of sin.

There is the *future* tense. When the Lord Jesus comes again, it will be "apart from sin, unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28). It is then that we who are now the sons of God will be instantly changed into the image of Christ: "We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). This work is instantaneous: it is salvation from the presence of sin.

"This is the way. Walk ye in it."

—Courtesy of Christian Laymen's Tract League

MY DECISION

Believing that the Lord Jesus Christ died for me, and that God raised Him from the dead:

I NOW receive Him as my personal Saviour and Lord.

I WILL trust Him at all times and with His help confess Him before others.

I HEREBY record my acceptance of Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour by writing my name (instead of "who-soever") in John 3:16, as follows:

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that

Who believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Date _____

(After filling this out, kindly mail it, with your address, to: *The Pentecostal Evangel*, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65082. The editors would like to send you some further spiritual help.)