

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

"BE NOT DECEIVED,

GOD IS

NOT MOCKED:

FOR WHATSOEVER A

MAN SOWETH, THAT

SHALL HE ALSO

REAP. FOR

HE THAT

SOWETH TO

HIS FLESH SHALL

OF THE FLESH

REAP CORRUPTION;

BUT HE

THAT SOWETH

TO THE

SPIRIT SHALL

OF THE SPIRIT

REAP LIFE

EVERLASTING."

GALATIANS 6:7,8

FILE COPY
THE
SPIRITUAL
LIFE
EDITION



Go Deeper with

WE LIVE IN A SHALLOW AGE. Our times are characterized by shallow emotions and shallow thinking. We suffer the effects of a shallow sense of moral values. We hold light views of sin, of God, and of eternity.

The shallow spirit of this age seeks to invade the church and the lives of God's people. The devil would like us to be as shallow and as empty as this age in which we live. He would say to us: "Pray, but let it be shallow, ineffectual praying! Read your Bible, but do it without deep, reverent thought! Worship, but don't carry it too far! Don't get emotional! Don't put your whole being into worshiping and serving God!"

In two of His parables the Lord Jesus Christ pointed out the need of real depth of life and experience. The apostle Luke ended his account of Christ's Sermon on the Mount with these words:

"Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will show you to whom he is like:

"He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the floods arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock."

And then there are the words of Christ recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, where the Saviour, speaking in the Parable of the Sower, said, "Some seed fell upon stony places, where they had not much fruit: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth."

It was the depth of foundation on the rock that saved the house. And it was the lack of depth that caused the seed to be scorched and to die. The Lord Jesus used these parables to emphasize that we need to go deeper into the things of God. I urge the Saviour's message on you—*go deeper with God!*

The devil doesn't mind if we go to church, just so long as we don't take it too seriously. He doesn't mind if we have revival meetings, provided we don't get concerned about our lost neighbors and friends!

The call of the Spirit is to go deeper with God! Dig the well of worship until you strike an artesian flow! Intercede for the lost until your spirit is heavy for the unsaved and your eyes flow with tears.

Do you realize that the devil doesn't mind if you study the Bible, as long as you don't seek



WAS THE "INNER CIRCLE" RESERVED ONLY FOR THREE FISHERMEN IN THE FIRST CENTURY? HOW CAN A PERSON GET INTO THAT "INNER CIRCLE"?

to practice what you learn! The Bible is like a mirror. It is possible to become completely absorbed in studying the beauty of the glass, the beveled edge, the silvered back—and forget that a mirror's chief function is to reveal. What good is Bible study if we fail to see ourselves and our spiritual state reflected in the Word? What profit is there unless we hear the call of the Spirit to go deeper with God?

God



By **EMIL A. BALLIET**

Is it a surprise to you to learn that not all redeemed ones go deeply into the things of God and the things of the Holy Spirit?

Paul tells us that the risen Christ was seen of above 500 brethren—mind you, they were brethren. And yet when you study the Scriptures, you have to classify most of them as being in a sort of outer circle of relationship. They were satisfied to be brethren, and that's

all! Out of the 500 emerges a group of 120 who obeyed the command of Christ and tarried in Jerusalem. We might call them the circle of the obedient.

There was another group of 70—and this is the circle of service, but it is not the nearest circle to Christ. There was the circle of the apostles—12 men chosen that they might be with Christ. And yet, even from this group there emerges a highly favored inner circle of three—Peter, James, and John.

"But who can get near Christ?" you ask. "How do you go about getting into the inner circle? Was it something reserved only for three fishermen in the first century?"

The Word of God gives a clear answer as it exhorts us to go deeper with God.

Listen as the mother of James and John approaches Christ with a request. She asks, "Grant that my sons may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left." What a request! She wanted the highest and the best for her children. Note that Christ did not rebuke her for this desire. Rather, He gave her an answer that should set us all on fire with a holy ambition. He said that these favored places on His right and on His left would be given to those for whom they had been prepared! He made it clear that the positions were open! The occupants of those places had not been chosen as yet! In the days of Christ's flesh, three fishermen wanted intimate companionship with Christ more than they wanted anything else—and they got their heart's desire. If this is what you want more than all else, you can have it too! The Holy Spirit urges us to go deeper with God.

Pizarro and his Spanish conquistadors came to the new world in search of gold. They heard tales of the fabulous wealth that awaited them in Peru, the land of the Incas. An expeditionary force was formed, and they started on the way to the land of gold. But they had not reckoned on the long marches they must make nor the fever-ridden lands through which they must go.

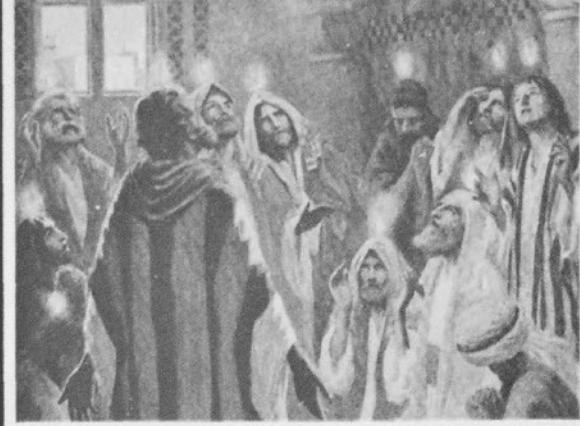
Finally mutiny broke out among the soldiers. Pizarro gathered his men together. He stood before them and repeated the stories of the wealth that lay before them. And then he dramatically unsheathed his sword, drew a line in the earth before them, and cried, "All who go with me must cross this line. Let the others return to Spain if they will."

God grant to you the spiritual vision to see the line which the Holy Spirit draws before you today. He challenges you to pass from indifference, from self-satisfaction, across the line into a life of all-out devotion to Christ and His Word.

Go deeper with God!



By WILLARD T. CANTELON



WHEN A PERSON IS CONVERTED, he is born a spiritual babe into the heavenly family. Just as the physical babe needs to grow into physical manhood, so spiritual babes should grow to spiritual maturity—and the infilling with the Spirit is an aid to spiritual growth.

But doesn't a person receive the Holy Spirit at the time of conversion? Yes, in a measure, for when a man is saved, he is born of the Spirit. But there is a big difference between being born of the Spirit and being baptized with the Spirit. Spiritual birth means spiritual life, but the baptism of the Holy Spirit adds power for development of Christian life and Christian service. A man may take a drink of water to satisfy his thirst, but it is an entirely different matter to be buried, or baptized, in water.

Once a person is converted, he should become a candidate for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. In most of the cases recorded in Scripture the persons who received this Baptism were new converts.

They were new converts who received the Holy Spirit following Philip's revival at Samaria (Acts 8). Paul was a new convert when Ananias was sent to him that he might receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 9).

Those of Cornelius' household had just been converted when they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 10). And Paul's question to the Ephesian believers (Acts 19:2) was, simply, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" The Word pictures them receiving immediately after the truth of the Baptism was unfolded to them by Paul.

Why do some have the impression that they must tarry indefinitely for this precious gift? One reason is they are trying to arrive at a certain level of holiness where they will merit the Holy Spirit. This can never be accomplished, for two reasons. First, the Scripture is emphatic concerning the fact that the blood of Christ is our only means of approach to God. The second reason is that it is a gift.

The repeated emphasis on the word *gift* in the Scripture is not just a play on words. It is of tremendous importance that we realize that the baptism of the Spirit is a gift.

A gift is something given to me, not a reward for my labor. If I must earn it, it is not a gift. Suppose a friend were to say to me, "I have purchased for you a lovely new Bible because I love you and feel that it will help you; it is a gift, and I want you to come and receive it." If I were to offer my friend a dollar or even a dime as part payment, would he not be offended? Would I not violate his act of love if I offered to pay for what he had purchased as a gift?

In Hebrews 4:14-16 Paul gives us the authority on which we may approach God to obtain the Spirit, and we are urged to come boldly to the Throne of Grace. You cannot come to a throne of justice, or you would be condemned. You cannot come with boldness if your eyes are fixed on your own life. If your eyes are upon your failures, turn your eyes upon Jesus instead. Behold the

BELIEVING AND RECEIVING THE SPIRIT

Blood shed to wash away all your sin and to make you worthy to receive this Baptism.

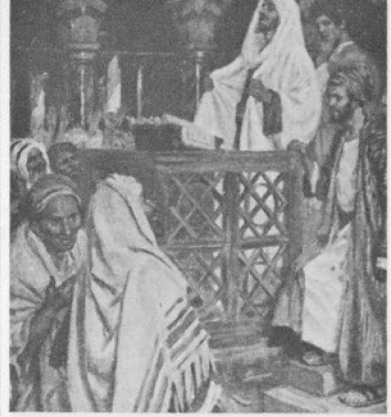
How long did it take the dying thief to confess his sins? If the blood of Jesus could cleanse such a sinner in a moment of time and make him ready for heaven, that same Blood can cleanse you this very moment and make you a fit candidate for receiving the Holy Spirit.

Why could God give the Holy Spirit to those of Cornelius' household when they were just new converts? Because they had obtained cleansing from sin and a standing before God through the merits of the shed blood of Christ. Why does God bestow the Spirit as a gift rather than as an achievement award for human endeavor? Because He does not want the recipient to have any reason to be proud. God must have all the credit.

But how is one to receive this gift? James 1:6, 7 gives us the answer: "Let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."

We must ask for this gift in faith. Begging and pleading is not faith. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." The Word of God reveals Christ; it reveals God's plan for our lives; and as we learn the Word, we move with confidence into His presence, knowing that we are asking according to His will.

Faith is not just accepting God's Word as true; it is



an act. Any supernatural work is accomplished only through active faith. The Red Sea parted for Moses only when, in obedience to the command of God, he raised his rod over the raging billows. The River Jordan parted for Elisha only when he, in an act of faith, smote the river with Elijah's mantle. The walls of Jericho fell down after the children of Israel had marched in faith.

The little woman who was afflicted with hemorrhaging said, "If I can but touch the hem of His garment, I shall be healed." She had faith in her heart while she made her way through the crowd, but she was not healed until she reached out in an act of faith and touched the hem of the Master's garment.

Jesus said, "If thou shalt believe, thou shalt see the glory of God." He did not say, "Thou shalt see and then believe." When you were saved, you felt the joy of salvation *after* you believed. Faith comes first, then feeling.

I believe in feelings. All that is beautiful and worthwhile in life touches the emotions: the music of the symphony, the whisper of a mother, the song of a bird, the laughter of a child, the glory of the sunrise, the majesty of the mountains, and the color of the rainbow: all touch the emotions. Of course I believe in feelings! But feelings should never be equated with faith. We are not saved by joy, but by faith. Feelings are a by-product of faith. Faith is a man's first step toward God in taking Him at His Word and acting upon His promise.

Why does this apply in receiving the Holy Spirit? Because receiving the Spirit is an act of faith. John 7:39 says, "But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that *believe* on Him should receive." Paul's only question to the Ephesian believers was, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye *believed*?" He asked the Galatian Christians, "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of *faith*?" The answer is, by faith. Faith is not sitting down helplessly, begging and pleading. It is reading the Word, knowing God's conditions, and meeting them.

Before receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the

heart must be cleansed by the blood of Christ. Then the body must be presented as a temple in which the Holy Spirit may dwell. Paul manifested no doubt whatever that God would baptize believers with the Spirit. His only concern was that men would meet God's challenge, so he wrote, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies."

The Holy Spirit is gentle. He will not force Himself upon anyone. He will occupy that temple of yours only as you make room for Him. That is why the appeal of the Word is to submit, to yield, to present. The mind and the tongue are two members of the body most reluctantly given over to the control of the Spirit. Since the baptism of the Spirit means literally to be immersed or buried in the Spirit, God wants not only your hands and your feet; He wants your mind and tongue too. He will not conscript them. You must present them to Him willingly.

How may I know that God accepts what I present and that His Spirit occupies my temple? How did the disciples know on the Day of Pentecost? They spoke in other tongues. How did the company with Peter know that the household of Cornelius had received the Baptism? They heard them speak with tongues.

I was preaching along this line one Sunday morning, and a little Episcopalian lady sat in the audience with a hungry heart. She came back to the evening service with this testimony: "As I went about the house after the service today, I repeated over and over, 'If I confess my sins, He is faithful and just to forgive. If I yield myself to the Holy Spirit, He will occupy my temple.' As I continued presenting myself in faith to God as a temple for His Holy Spirit, I soon became filled with His blessing and power; and in faith I lifted my voice, saying, 'Oh, Lord, you can have my voice, too'; and I spoke in other tongues for hours."

Man furnishes the voice; the Spirit supplies the utterance. If man had no part whatever, he would no longer be a free moral agent but would be forced to do something over which he had no control. If the Spirit spoke through men and they had no control, the Spirit would not be leading but rather He would be forcing Himself upon them. The Spirit of God is gentle, and He has come to help, to lead, and to guide.

Speaking in tongues is an act of faith. Paul placed tongues, interpretation, and prophecy as inspired utterance, and we are told that we are to speak according to our proportion of faith (Romans 12:6).

In one of our services on the West Coast a husband and wife were sitting on the front row. Tears of blessing poured down the wife's cheeks as the Word was preached. I walked over and encouraged her to continue to press in by faith and receive. Up till this point her husband, who had been seeking the Baptism for many years, had been sitting quiet and unmoved; but as the truth of the Word broke upon his heart, he saw the value of active faith. He raised his voice in faith and worshiped God. In a moment he was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues for several hours. He told me later that his life had been changed, and that he was gaining spiritual strength and power daily since he had seen the power of active faith in receiving what God offers to give us.

Have you received the Holy Ghost since *you* believed?

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THEY ARE SAYING

SUPERNATURAL POWER NEEDED

"Let us not limit God in His working, and let us not fail to be ready for new and great outpourings of the Holy Spirit in this critical period of history. We are now living in a generation when nothing will avail to break through the overwhelming power of Satan except supernatural power beyond what most Christians have known anything about. If the Church was supernaturally blessed of God at its birth, who will say that in the closing days of its witness here on earth it will not be blessed in an even mightier way?" —BILLY GRAHAM

IN A.D. 2000

"If present currents continue without a great moving of the Holy Spirit in revival among the established denominations, the year 2000 will see most of these churches near the end of any vital missionary ministry.

"...The Pentecostal groups will be at the apex of their influence. In many Roman Catholic lands, evangelical work of Pentecostal type will be huge in scope.

"Renewal could conceivably come to the old-line denominations. But this turn seems, at the moment, unlikely."

—CAL GUY in *Christianity Today*

THE ANSWER TO RATIONALISTS

"I believe that we cannot limit God by some pre-conceived theory that He cannot manifest the gifts of the Spirit in this age... Should this movement prove valid and a modern manifestation of the supernatural, it could be an answer to the rationalists in the Church who accept no argument for the Biblical faith and who even go so far as to proclaim in the name of Christianity that 'God is dead.' God may be giving a supernatural demonstration that will confound unbelief."

—HAROLD JOHN OCKENGA

PENTECOSTAL PENETRATION

"Nearly all the major denominations have been affected by what is called the charismatic revival, Episcopalians and Lutherans preeminently so. Greatest strength of the new penetration is in Southern California, but reports of developments have come in from across the nation:

"...Some 2,000 Episcopalians are said to be speaking in tongues in Southern California; also speaking in tongues are upwards of 600 folk at the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, world's largest Presbyterian church;... a journal relates that in the entire state of Montana only one American Lutheran pastor has not received the experience of speaking in tongues; Dr. Francis E. Whiting, director of the Department of Evangelism and Spiritual Life of the Michigan Baptist Convention (American Baptist Convention) speaks in support of present charismatic works of the Spirit, declaring the choice is Pentecost or holocaust;... members of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at Yale speak in tongues, ... and echoes of penetration come from evangelical institutions and organizations such as Fuller Seminary, Wheaton College, Westmont College, Navigators, and Wycliffe Bible Translators."

—FRANK E. FARRELL in *Christianity Today*

EVERYONE EXPERIENCES SPIRITUAL HUNGER. God planned it that way. And just as He provided food to satisfy physical hunger, He made provision to satisfy the longing soul.

But people tend to hide their spiritual hunger. Even preachers have admitted living for years with an empty, fruitless ministry because they were too proud to face the fact that they were victims of a gnawing hunger of soul.

One such preacher served several pastorates with a deep sense of frustration. Outwardly his efforts were

IN THE CHARISMATIC REVIVAL THAT IS SPREADING THROUGHOUT CHRISTENDOM, THE SPIRITUAL HUNGER OF CHRISTIAN PEOPLE IS BEING SATISFIED—REGARDLESS OF THEIR DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATIONS.

comparable with his fellow ministers, but inwardly he was keenly aware of emptiness.

He had seen his college roommate transformed by an experience he described as "the baptism in the Holy Spirit." Without a doubt his friend underwent some kind of change—what zeal for the Lord he had! What joy!

However, the seminary instructors told him he did not need what his friend received. Such manifestations as "speaking in tongues" are not for today, they said, assuring him that his spiritual experience was complete. But his hunger persisted.

Years later in the privacy of his study he sought the Lord. "Oh God, I am empty and powerless," he prayed. "Fill me any way You choose."

In a few minutes he became aware of Jesus' presence in a manner different from any other occasion. He heard himself praying in a language he could not understand, and a sweet ecstasy filled his soul for nearly an hour.

Suddenly he remembered it was Sunday morning. Soon the people would be arriving. What would he tell them?

I will not tell them anything, he thought. *If what I received has not changed my ministry, I'll know my professors were right.*

After the morning service he stood near the door to shake hands with his parishioners.

"Pastor," a smiling woman spoke with enthusiasm, "today you preached like the preacher we thought we were getting when we called you to our church!"

Intensely interested in the remarkable change in their Baptist pastor, several members of the congregation accepted his invitation to special prayer sessions in the parsonage. Soon others received experiences similar to their minister's.

There was misunderstanding and persecution. But a spirit of Christian love prevailed, and today the baptism of the Holy Spirit is freely preached in that church.

And the people testify that their spiritual hunger is being satisfied.

An Episcopalian minister's wife spent several years seeking the answer to her spiritual hunger. Not only did she take an active role in all church activities, she traveled hundreds of miles to attend religious retreats seeking something that would satisfy.

One night God gave her a remarkable dream. She saw an ocean of whiteness. Never had she seen so vast an expanse of purity. A tiny cork floated in the midst of those brilliant white waves.

Then she heard the gentle voice of Jesus say, "You are that cork. My presence is making you clean and pure."

Overwhelmed with joy, she began to praise and thank



God Satisfied Their Hunger

By E. S. CALDWELL

the Lord. Words poured from her lips in a torrent—words she could not understand, but she knew she was expressing her deepest feelings to God.

She awakened from her dream, but the "heavenly language" continued. Oh, the satisfaction that filled her soul!

Telling her friends about the experience, she says, "I was so quiet and self-conscious by nature, the Lord had to 'put me out' in order to fill me with the Holy Spirit."

No longer timid, this minister's wife conducts home prayer meetings to help others who want to find the answer to their spiritual hunger.

Sometimes this inner hunger is misinterpreted. Millions of dollars are wasted by pleasure-bent throngs seeking to placate a hunger that sin can never feed. Revelry cannot satisfy your soul.

Here is where the young so often miss their way and discover they are on a dead-end street!

The blaring of rock 'n' roll attracted a young man away from his godly home. He decided to go the full route—alcohol, marijuana, illicit sex, perversion—nothing was too low. And nothing satisfied.

Finally in desperation he turned back to God. And God met him!

A few weeks after he accepted Christ, he knelt again at a church altar. The minister told him that the Saviour who had forgiven his sins could totally satisfy the hunger of his soul.

Let him tell you what happened:

"I raised my hands to God and began praising Him. Shortly afterward I began to speak in tongues, and it was like I had found the secret valve to the outlet of my heart. God was running His cleansing Spirit through every fiber of my being. At last I had found the 'hot line' to heaven. Joy flooded my soul, and power and love

came into me. Thus I stepped across the threshold of the door to the 'walk in the Spirit.'"

Are you unsatisfied with your religious experience? If so, return again to Jesus Christ. Tell Him of your spiritual hunger.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you are a candidate for the soul-satisfying Baptism He alone can give—the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

When Peter announced, "Ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost," he did not restrict God's promise to a select group. He boldly declared: "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:39).

That's big enough to include you!



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THIS STRANGE STORY HOLDS THE
ANSWER TO THE MOST IMPORTANT
QUESTION A MAN CAN ASK

By OSWALD J. SMITH

A Night in

THE CITY SLEEPS. All is still and quiet as the stars shine brightly overhead. The Oriental moon sends down a flood of light, and the shadows darken beneath the prison walls as the long, lonely night throbs on.

But in the corridors of the prison a strange sound is heard. There is singing—even though it is midnight. And it is not guards but prisoners who are singing hymns at this eerie hour.

We quietly pass down the corridor and we see them. There they are—two men, chained in the inner prison. Their feet are fast in the stocks, and they are scarcely able to move—but, oh, how happy they appear. Their faces glisten with a wonderful joy, and their voices are raised in a song of praise to God.

Singing hymns—in a prison cell—and at midnight! The other prisoners awaken, one by one, and rise on their elbows to listen. They are evidently amazed at the strange sound and spectacle that faces them this night.

Suddenly, as if moved by a great supernatural hand, the earth begins to shake. The prison walls tremble. There is a mighty upheaval, an earthquake, causing doors to fly open and chains to drop off. The singing ceases, and the prisoners jump up to rush from the dangerous building.

A cry rings out through the prison corridors. It comes from the lips of the jail keeper, frantic with fear.

Like a maniac he bounds from his couch and, seeing the prisoners loose on every side, draws his sword to end his own life. Then from the darkened shadows a voice is heard, saying, "Do thyself no harm, for we are all here."

The jailer recognizes that voice. He knows it is Paul, the preacher, who is speaking. It is the voice that had enraged all Philippi; the voice that had rung through the prison with songs of praise but a moment ago. So the jailer pays attention to that voice. He runs and falls at the feet of Paul in anguish of spirit. It is then he utters the cry that echoes far and wide on the midnight air:

"What must I do to be saved?"

This is the cry of a million hearts. All down the centuries it has sounded out, sometimes in a deep, quiet earnestness, at other times with a shriek of despair. It is the cry from the deathbed; the cry of sin-cursed souls.

Haven't you heard it? Haven't you sometime felt it ringing in your own mind? It is the most important question a man can face. Be sure you find the right answer, for your eternal life depends on it.

Paul had the right answer. He stated it very simply when he said to the jail keeper: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

You see, the Bible says each of us is lost. It says, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." "The wages of sin is death." "All have sinned." "All we like sheep have

gone astray." It is a terrible thing to be lost. No hope of heaven, no knowledge of the Saviour, no peace and happiness in eternity—nothing to look forward to but everlasting night, endless despair, separated from God and all the good things, confined with Satan in an eternal hell.

What a dreadful thing to be without God and without hope—forever lost! This is the fate of all who die with-

A MINISTER CAN BAPTIZE YOU IN WATER, but no man can baptize you with the Holy Spirit. Only the Lord Jesus can do that. It is significant that each of the four Gospels contains a direct statement to the effect that Jesus is the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.

"I indeed baptize you with water," said John the Baptist, "but He that cometh after me is mightier than I.... He [Christ] shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" (Matthew 3:11; see also Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:32, 33). This prediction was fulfilled after the Lord Jesus had died on the cross, risen from the dead, and ascended back to heaven. Jesus poured the Holy Spirit down from heaven upon His disciples, beginning on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2), and He has been doing it ever since.

You may ask, What does it mean to be baptized with the Holy Spirit? It means that the Holy Spirit comes upon a person in an overwhelming measure, causing manifestations that are physical as well as spiritual—as described in various portions of the Book of Acts. The experience will be new, and to fear the unknown is only natural—but since it is Jesus Himself who is baptizing you, there is not the slightest need to fear.

Do you wonder how long it will take? The Lord Jesus said to His disciples on the eve of His departure from them, "John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence" (Acts 1:5). The reason they had to wait a few days was that Jesus was not yet glorified (John 7:39). The Holy Spirit could not be poured out from heaven because Jesus had not yet returned to heaven. But Jesus is there now and is ready to baptize you without delay.

 JESUS WILL

n Jail



out Christ. But you may be saved if you wish to be saved. If, while you still have time, you will believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, He will save you. The decision rests with you. God will not save people against their will. You have the power of choice. You may be saved if you wish—if you believe on Christ as your personal Saviour.

The jail keeper accepted Christ without delay. There

in the jail while it was still night, he put his trust in Jesus and surrendered his life to the Saviour. That is what it means to be saved—to accept Him as your Sin-Bearer, your Forgiver, your Saviour and Master.

Place your life in His hands the way a young bride hands her life over to the man she has married. Surrender yourself completely to His loving care. Your sins should not keep you from coming to Him. Instead they should draw you to Him this moment, without delay, for He is the only One who can forgive you and give you a clean heart. Tell Him you are repentant. Ask Him to forgive your sins. The Lord's promise is, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

On the Day of Pentecost the followers of Jesus acted a bit strange and some onlookers made fun. They mocked their strange behavior, particularly their "speaking in other tongues," and accused them of being drunk. The apostle Peter contradicted the mockers. He said it was not drunkenness but a fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy that God would pour out His Spirit on all mankind (Joel 2:28). He declared it was the resurrected Christ who was making His followers act this way. "This Jesus hath God raised up," he said. "Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear" (Acts 2:33).

Jesus is alive today. Though He is in heaven, He can touch your life. He can pour the Spirit upon you until you are filled to overflowing and you will "speak with other tongues" as described in Acts 2:4.

It is the glorified Christ who will baptize you. Therefore it is by praising and magnifying and worshiping Him that you open up your heart and life to receive the Holy Spirit in His fullness.

This wonderful Baptism is the work of a Person. You must yield yourself to His control, just as you yielded your body to the minister when he baptized you in water. Jesus cannot baptize you with the Holy Spirit until you put yourself in His hands: your body, soul, and spirit must be in His control. If you will ask for the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13), and if you will put yourself at the Lord's disposal, He will baptize you—and you will taste the ecstasy of being "filled with the Spirit" (see Ephesians 5:18-20).

—R.C.C.

BAPTIZE YOU

I SHALL COME FORTH

"He knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tried me I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

*I shall come forth—this prison's frowning towers,
Its dungeons dank and dark impossible may seem;
God holds the key and, when my patience flowers,
Worthy of full release His child will deem.*

*I shall come forth from furnace seven times heated,
The kindling flame God only doth control;
Naught of His purpose good shall be defeated
To purify from dross my inmost soul.*

*I shall come forth—assurance kindly given
To cheer my heart in darkest night of pain!
A song flows forth, knowing my God in heaven
Will grant to me a morn of joy again.*

*I shall come forth to sound anew His praises—
Testing most sore makes testimony sure;
The sacrifice of praise my voice now raises
Shall then swell forth in fullness rich and pure.*

*I shall come forth to shine in His rare beauty—
Comfort enough this thought to hold me still,
Keeping me restful, true through hardest duty,
Since all my life is patterned by His will.*

*I shall come forth—oh, let me never question
The love of Him who knoweth all my way!
I trust the One who marks the sure direction
Unto the brightness of His perfect day.*

—ALICE REYNOLDS FLOWER



REJECTION OF ELI

Next Week's Sunday School Lesson

1 SAMUEL 2:27-36

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

DURING THE CHILDHOOD OF SAMUEL the spiritual tide of the nation of Israel was at very low ebb. There was a definite need for strong, resolute spiritual leadership such as God would provide in Samuel and David.

THE MINISTRY OF A CORRUPT PRIESTHOOD

1. *The character of their deeds* (1 Samuel 2:12-17, 22). Eli's sons were "sons of Belial," that is, "worthless men." The record states, "They knew not the Lord"—they had no experience with God, and their godlessness was thus the source and explanation of their frightful and abominable conduct. They violated the Ten Commandments; they were guilty of sacrilege; they perverted sacred and God-ordained acts of worship to their own selfish and lustful ends.

2. *The privileges they enjoyed.* Hophni and Phinehas, Eli's sons, were sons of a righteous man; they were of priestly descent and occupied a high and holy office.

CAREFUL—HE'S FOLLOWING YOU!



Furthermore, they were well supported by their portion of the meat sacrifices brought by the people, by tithes, and by having Levitical "parsonages" provided.

3. *The influence they exerted.* "Ye make the Lord's people to transgress" (1 Samuel 2:24; see also v. 17). It is dreadful when those who teach others to live holy lives do not live holy lives themselves. It was even worse that Eli's sons, by their godlessness and wickedness, positively discouraged sincerity and encouraged disregard for sacred things among the people. Example has far more persuasive power than precept. And who does more damage to the kingdom of God than the leader or layman whose practices contradict his profession?

THE ADMINISTRATION OF A WEAK HIGH PRIEST

A careful reading of all that is told concerning Eli (see 1 Samuel 1:9-17; 2:22-36; 3:13; and 4:13-18) reveals that while he may have been a good man, yet he was weak, indulgent, and lacked moral courage in his relationship as a father to his sons. For instance, he alertly and vigorously rebuked Hannah for supposed drunkenness, but expressed only a mild rebuke to his sons who were guilty of open sacrilege, robbery of God, and immorality.

THE PREDICTION OF A FAITHFUL PROPHET

"And there came a man of God unto Eli." (See 1 Samuel 2:27-36.) Eli here seems to be set in contrast to the "man of God," meaning "a prophet of God"—as if to point out that although Eli still occupied the priestly office, he no longer merited the title "man of God." This is the second instance where God had to speak to Eli through an intermediary. It had happened before when God sent Eli a message through the boy Samuel.

The message brought by the "man of God" included:

(1) *A reminder of special privilege* (vv. 27, 28). Eli was of the priestly line, called to a holy office, privileged to offer spiritual sacrifices, and provided with a bountiful living. Yet he had been guilty of gross carelessness.

(2) *A charge of serious unfaithfulness* (v. 29). "Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering?" This word from the Lord identified Eli with his sons' sins of dissatisfaction with the portion of offerings which was divinely set apart for them, and with taking from God that which belonged to Him. He is further charged with being more reluctant to displease his sons by punishing them than he was to dishonor God.

(3) *A statement of just and fair principle* (v. 30). "Them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed."

(4) *A proclamation of severe judgment* (vv. 31-34). The messenger declared that Eli's family line would be cut off entirely; his sons would die before their time—both on the same day. God's judgment upon those who sin may be delayed (even, as in this case, for some years), but it is certain. And God's judgment is especially severe upon those who, like Eli's sons, willfully persist in wickedness in spite of divine and human warnings.

How important it is that we hold proper esteem for our high calling as Christians. When finer sensibilities are continually crushed, spiritual degeneracy sets in. Our safeguard is a God-fearing, humble walk with the Lord.

GOD HAS A VINEYARD, and all Christians are parts of it. He expects good grapes from His vines, just as any grape grower should expect from his vineyard. Vines that stop bearing are cut off and destroyed.

The Lord Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches" (John 15:5). He said His Father is the keeper of the vineyard, and when He finds a branch that will not bear fruit, He trims it off. The fruit He looks for is Christlikeness in daily living.

Doesn't the owner of a vineyard have the right to expect good grapes at harvesttime? He has planted the vines at a considerable cost and has spent much time and effort to irrigate them, trim them, and protect them from harm. If he goes through the vineyard at harvesttime and finds the fruit is scarce or small, he gets a faint taste of the bitter disappointment which God, the great Husbandman, must undergo each time He inspects some of His "vines" and finds little or no evidence of the "fruit of the Spirit."

God brought His people out of Egypt and placed them in a promising land, hoping they would yield a bountiful harvest of righteousness. He wanted them to be holy so He could have fellowship with them—for God's heart is hungry for fellowship. But when He went to His "vineyard," all He found, the prophet said, was "wild grapes" (Isaiah 5:4). In His bitter disappointment He said He would lay the vineyard waste. He would stop pruning it and digging it, and He would stop watering it with rain. Great was the grief and disappointment of God the Father over the spiritual barrenness in the lives of His people in the land of Israel.

When God the Son appeared among men, He too met with opposition and enmity. Men resisted His call to holy living. They loved their own selfish ways more than the new way of righteousness He preached. The Saviour described His disappointment by telling a parable about a man who planted a fig tree. Each year at harvesttime this man came to harvest some figs, and he never could find any. Finally the man said, "These three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?"

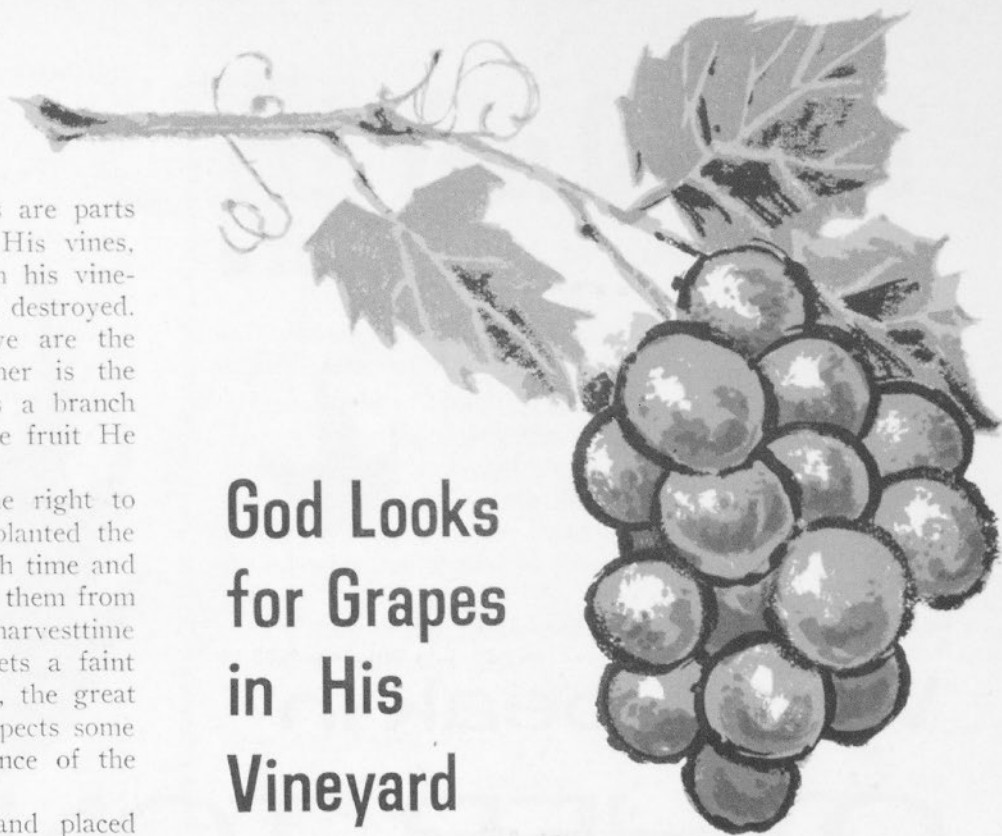
Well might the Son of God have called down total destruction upon the Jewish nation for the way they rejected His teachings and mistreated Him during the three years of His preaching! There was such a scanty spiritual harvest. How disappointed He felt.

But the Lord is merciful. He did not cut down His "fig tree." Instead He gave His life on Calvary to save it; and then He asked the Father to send down the rain of the Holy Spirit upon the "trees of the Lord" to cause them to yield the fruit for which the triune God waits and yearns.

What is this "fruit of the Spirit" that God is seeking? It is simply the various manifestations of the divine nature. It is the outward evidence of the indwelling Spirit of God.

If people claim to be filled with the Holy Spirit, God expects them to show evidence of the fact by the purity of their daily lives and their deeds of Christian love.

In the Epistle to the Galatians, chapter 5, we are



God Looks for Grapes in His Vineyard

By ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM

given two lists. First is a list of certain "works of the flesh," and what a collection of corruption it is: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strife, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such things. These are "wild grapes"—manifestations of the unregenerate nature. The Epistle warns that "they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Then, in contrast to the ungodly works of the flesh, the Epistle describes the good fruit God is seeking in our daily lives. It says: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." These are some of the traits of the divine nature we will manifest from day to day if we have been filled with the Holy Spirit and if we continue to walk in the Spirit.

The Scriptures put it in clear and simple terms by saying: "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."

What kind of grapes are growing in your life? How much of the "fruit of the Spirit" does the Heavenly Husbandman find in your branch? Examine yourself and see how much self-sacrificing *love* is there. How much spiritual *joy* do you have? Is the *peace* of God ruling in your heart? Are you *long-suffering* when called upon to endure some hardness for His sake?

If you find the harvest is slim, you can do something about it. You can let God fill you with His Spirit, and you can keep filled with His Spirit by yielding your life to God *every day*. You cannot bear the "fruit of the Spirit" by self-effort. The harvest God is looking for must be produced by the Holy Spirit who dwells in the hearts of those who obey the Scriptures.

Let the Holy Spirit fill you and let Him control your life every day. Then your Heavenly Father, when He comes looking for grapes on His vine, will not be disappointed.





Why Speak in OTHER TONGUES?

By ROBERT J. LUNDSTROM

WHEN I WAS A BOY in New Britain, Connecticut, I attended some classes in an evangelical church. One day a student asked the instructor who the Pentecostals were. She answered: "Oh, they're just people who speak in tongues all the time."

As a teen-ager, I heard a certain Christian university president say concerning Pentecostals, "I admire their soul winning, but I wouldn't give two cents for some of their doctrines."

Sometime ago I was denied the opportunity of earning a degree from a certain fundamental college because I would not sign a statement to the effect that I did not believe in speaking with other tongues.

Since speaking in other tongues is a controversial point with many, let us examine its validity and value.

To begin with, proof that speaking in other tongues is the initial physical evidence of having been baptized in the Holy Spirit is to be found in Acts 2:4; 8:17 with Mark 16:17; 9:8 with 1 Corinthians 14:8; 10:44-46; 19:6. What God has so plainly set in the Church we have no right to set aside.

But tongues serve definite spiritual purposes in the life of the believer beyond the moment of the initial infilling.

1. *Speaking in tongues is a symbol of complete control by the Holy Spirit.* This is important, because, as James said: "The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: . . . it defileth the whole body . . . it is set on fire of hell . . . The tongue can no man tame" (3:6-8).

The taming of the human tongue by the Holy Spirit as He takes control of it and speaks through it a supernatural language is evidence of complete submission

to Him of the life that has been cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

2. *Tongues provide a God-given means of expressing praise and worship and communion with Him.* The human vocabulary is inadequate to express to God our gratitude for His marvelous grace to us. It is here that the blessed Holy Spirit comes to our aid with a heavenly language which serves both for communion and for edification. "For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh . . . unto God; . . . He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself" (1 Corinthians 14:2, 4).

3. *Tongues make it possible to intercede according to the will of God.* It is through spiritual travail that souls are born into the family of God (Isaiah 53:11; 66:8).

Paul stated in Romans 8:26: "We know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Jude speaks of this as "praying in the Holy Ghost."

4. *Tongues afford spiritual rest and refreshing.* In Ephesians 6:12, Paul shows that the Christian is in a spiritual battle against the forces of Satan. At times we get spiritually, mentally, and physically weary in this great struggle for the souls of men. But there is a rest and a refreshing in God's presence. "For with stammering lips and another tongue will I speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest, and this is the refreshing" (Isaiah 28:11, 12).

5. *Tongues are a sign to the unbeliever.* Paul brings this out very definitely in 1 Corinthians 14:22: "Where-

fore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not."

There are many testimonies on record as to how the Holy Spirit has spoken to unbelievers in their own native language through someone who has no knowledge of that language. Then as the unbeliever has heard the correct interpretation given by another who did not know the language, he has been convinced of God's dealing with him and surrendered to Him.

Sometime ago a university student came into a service where I was preaching. He was somewhat confused about Pentecost and asked God that if this were the right way, he might hear a message in tongues.

At the close of the sermon the Lord used my wife, who knew nothing of the presence of the student, to give a message in tongues. An interpretation which seemed meant for the student was given through another person under the direction of the Holy Spirit. As a result, this young man was convinced. He accepted the Lord that night as His personal Saviour.

6. *Tongues are evidence that Jesus is alive and with the Father in heaven!* Jesus said in John 16:7: "It is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you."

When the Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost, the waiting believers in the Upper Room understood the significance of the event. They already knew Jesus was alive, but now they knew He was with the Father, for He had fulfilled His promise to send "another Comforter."

Peter explained to the crowds that gathered around the Upper Room that day: "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear" (Acts 2:32, 33).

This was not hard for Peter to say or believe, for he had listened to Jesus make these promises just a short time before. He had heard Jesus say that the disciples should wait in the Upper Room for the "promise of the Father." So when the promise was fulfilled, what could he do but believe?

Now how can I, 2,000 years after Peter, never having seen Jesus physically, still prove that He is alive to my own personal satisfaction? The answer is that the same thing that happened to the 120 on the Day of Pentecost happened to me as a 13-year-old boy in 1945 at Framingham, Massachusetts. I was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance and have been blessed with manifestations of the Spirit ever since!

According to John 16:7 and Acts 2:32, 33, this makes me a witness of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in this 20th century.

Every time someone speaks in other tongues under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, he is witnessing afresh that Christ is alive, His sacrifice is complete, and all mankind can be saved if they will.

The Bible supports the fact that speaking in tongues is not a spiritual novelty. It is an integral part of God's total plan for winning the lost and building up His Church.



Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

Is there any place in the Bible which indicates that we should seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Jesus said, "How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" (Luke 11:13) and told the disciples to tarry until they were endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49). While waiting for the Promise, the disciples "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication" (Acts 1:14).

"Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18).

I have been told that I must speak in other tongues to have the Spirit. Can you help me?

Our reason for believing that speaking in tongues accompanies a full Pentecostal experience is the record in the Book of Acts. It clearly states that at Pentecost and at the home of Cornelius, as well as at Ephesus, speaking in tongues accompanied the Baptism. The same is also implied elsewhere. It is a blessed experience, and to worship the Lord in another tongue brings wonderful enrichment to the soul.

But there is more to the baptism in the Spirit than speaking in other tongues. It would be a mistake for a person to set his heart on tongues and begin seeking tongues. Rather, he should give his soul to God in consecration and worship, then recognize and appreciate every quickening by the Spirit. Some, because they do not speak in other tongues, seem to disregard all the Lord is doing for them. This is a great mistake. Every manifestation of the presence of God should be honored and accepted as from God.

Let the Lord live through you. Commit to Him the matter of manifestations. Be sure you recognize and accept as the work of the Holy Spirit all that God bestows upon you. In this way you will retain what you have already received, while pressing on for more.

What is the "fire" that is promised in Matthew 3:11 "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire"?

Some of the ancients taught that the fire referred to the sufferings which would come to one receiving the gospel. Others believed it meant the judgment when every man's work will be tried as by fire. I believe the meaning is that the Holy Spirit comes as a sanctifying power, as well as to endue us with power from on high. In the yielded believer a work of purging, or cleansing, is taking place so that we may be presented to Christ a glorious Church without spot or wrinkle. In connection with this there may be "fiery trials," all of which are part of Christian discipline and development.

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.



HE TRUSTED THE WRONG FRIEND

By BELVY C. WHITE

argue. I remember so vividly his words:

"How do we know there is a God? How do we know that some of the heathen religions are not right? How do we know but what they are right and you are wrong?"

I prayed for guidance, but could hardly get a word in edgewise. When I did try to say anything, he only became more irritated. Realizing the futility of trying to change his mind, I told him we would appreciate his visiting the church and left with an offer to help him in any way I could.

He passed our church and parsonage several times each week, always riding his red bicycle, his little brown dog trotting along behind or riding in the basket. On rare occasions he would look our way as he coasted down the slight incline in front of the parsonage. We waved to him, but he seldom responded.

I kept visiting him, even though he seemed odd, unfriendly, and withdrawn. He conversed intelligently on

many subjects, but anything said contrary to his beliefs aroused his ire. Then his slow drawl would change to a defensive, high-pitched staccato. I always left with the feeling that he was hopelessly mixed up about spiritual things.

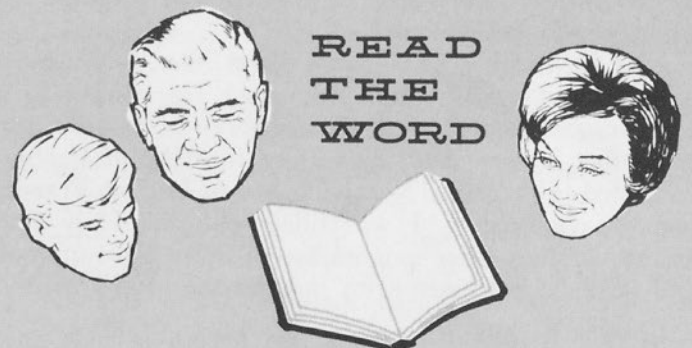
Even so, little did I, or anyone in our quiet little community, realize that this man was responsible for the "terror by night" that began to plague Shade Gap in the spring of 1964.

It started when a barrage of gunfire tore through the

PEOPLE IN SHADE GAP, PENNSYLVANIA, are a little more relaxed than they were this time last year. That's because the kidnapper and murderer who had terrorized our usually peaceful community is not here any more. He is dead.

Around here we called William D. Hollenbaugh "The Bicycle Man." He came to Shade Gap about five years ago and rented a little brick-siding covered cabin in the hills about two miles from the Fair Ridge Assembly of God.

As pastor of the church, I called on him soon afterward to invite him to Sunday school and church. He met me at the door and talked from the back step. His response to my invitation wasn't encouraging. In fact, he made it plain he didn't believe in the Bible and began to



CHAPTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday	Numbers 13-15	Thursday ..	Numbers 25-27
Monday	Numbers 16-18	Friday	Numbers 28-30
Tuesday	Numbers 19-21	Saturday ..	Numbers 31-33
Wednesday ..	Numbers 22-24	Sunday	Numbers 34-36

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19).

home of a widow, barely missing her. Six weeks later a lady was slugged over the head by a masked assailant wearing boots and a raincoat.

A young mother was driving along a country road on a hot July night with her infant son beside her. At a crude roadblock a masked gunman fired into the car and shot the milk bottle out of the baby's hands.

People were locking their doors by now, and most kept guns handy in the house. One night a young man came to our house asking us to make a call concerning his mother who was ill. Even as he sat in our home, a masked gunman kicked in the door of his house, attacked his wife, and shot a gun out of her hand.

Then there was the Good Friday shooting of a man. His mangled leg had to be amputated.

The daylight abduction of a 17-year-old school girl brought Federal authorities on the scene, and Shade Gap's terror came to the attention of the nation.

One evening at dusk before this Hollenbaugh had ridden his bicycle by the parsonage. I was near the road so I stopped him and began a conversation. It turned to spiritual things as soon as I could guide it that way, for I was concerned about his evident spiritual need.

He reviewed again his well-organized reasons for not going to church, then changed the subject abruptly.

"Do you know a dog is a man's best friend?" he began. Then he proceeded to cite incidents of dogs' faithfulness to their masters. His own life had been made less lonely by the companionship of his little brown dog, he said.

Ironically, after Hollenbaugh became the prime suspect in Shade Gap's reign of terror, it was that little dog that finally betrayed him.

Federal agents, state police, National Guards, forest rangers, and literally hundreds of civilian volunteers had combed thousands of acres of mountainous woodland without finding a trace of the kidnapper, until his dog unwittingly led them to his approximate location.

Even then Hollenbaugh killed an FBI agent and his dog before he was finally shot on May 18, 1966.

Yes, it's peaceful here in Shade Gap now. The man on the red bicycle doesn't ride by any more by day, nor terrorize the people by night. But I keep wishing I could have helped him see that Jesus, not a dog, is a man's best friend. How different his life would have been!

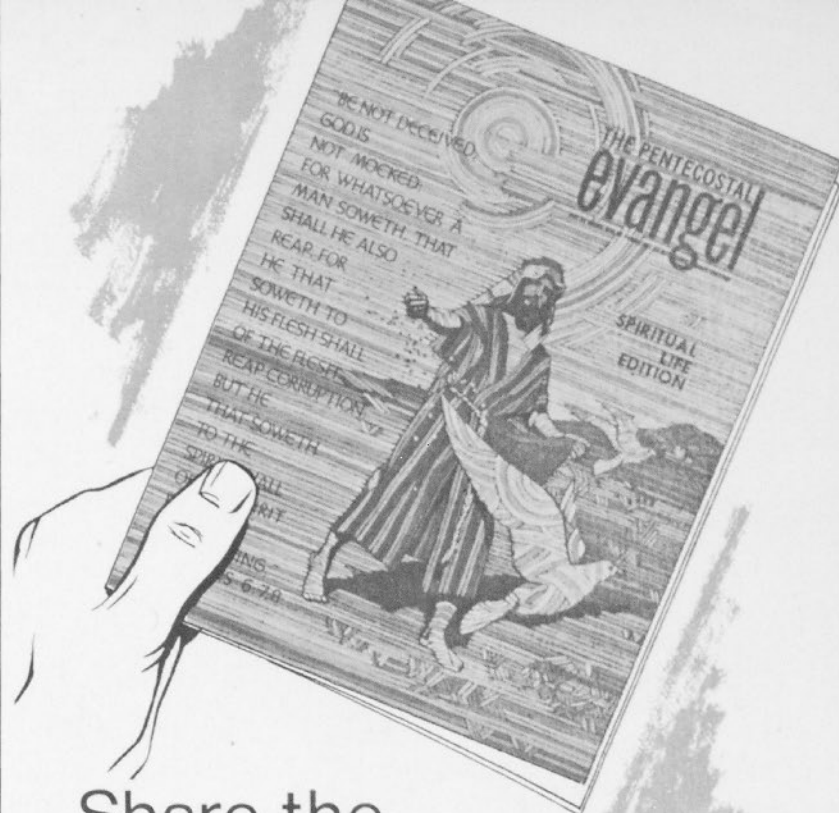
I wonder if he thought about God and His Word as the helicopters hovered overhead by day, while men searched the woods below. What did he think about when at night the huge searchlights dotted the countryside?

He said he had read the Bible. Did he remember that it said, "The wages of sin is death"?

He had sown the seeds of fear and anguish for two years. Now he feared for his own life. He had hunted out the helpless. Now he was a hunted man. He had shed the blood of others. Now his blood was to be shed. Did he, in those last hours, realize that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"?

That strange lonely man on the red bicycle needed love and friendship. What a tragedy for him and others that he rejected God's love and substituted that of a little brown dog. How different his life might have been had he chosen the Friend who sticks closer than a brother.

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'It Will Take a Miracle'

MY HUSBAND AND I are thanking God for healing him of a serious heart attack, on August 24, 1966.

He had had two previous attacks, but this one, which came as we were eating breakfast one Sunday morning, proved to be much more serious.

Our family doctor had me bring him to the hospital where they gave him oxygen and started tests and X rays. They found his blood was about twice as thick as normal. His heart was being overworked because of this and it was enlarged. His lungs were filling with fluid.

Since we both were Sunday school teachers and he directed the youth choir in our church, I called our pastor to report the reason for our absence, and to request prayer.

By late Tuesday evening my husband's condition was

such that our doctor, who is a Christian, called me at home after I had left the hospital for the night. He said that although they were doing all they could for him, my husband's condition was critical, and that a heart specialist had been called in.

Early the next morning (August 24) I awakened and dropped on my knees to bring our need again before the Lord. I got back into bed, and as I slept or dozed the words came to me, "I have heard thy prayer, I have seen..." Then I was awake.

I went to the hospital early that morning and because of my husband's condition was allowed to stay with him. A little later the specialist came in and I told him the linens on his bed should be changed. He said, "No, never mind; just let it go." I felt he was inferring it would soon be over. Then he told me he did not want to depress me but my husband's heart was greatly enlarged, his fever 104 degrees, his blood pressure dangerously high, and his lungs were filled with fluid. "Not many pull through when they have gone this far," he said.

"Then you would say that nothing short of a miracle would save him?" I asked.

"That's right."

I turned to my faithful friend who had stood by me in this trial and said to her, "Then we have to have a miracle. Let's go where we can be alone and pray."

We went to my husband's real estate office, put the "Closed" sign on the door, and sought the Lord. We reminded ourselves of God's promise in Matthew 18:19, "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." As we prayed, we felt the Lord's presence to be very real, and we got up from our knees confident we had the answer.

When we returned to the hospital at 11:30, we found my husband sitting up in bed. He was hungry for the first time in days, and was preparing to eat his lunch.

It was about that time that I realized the Lord had been trying to give me the promise of 2 Kings 20:5 earlier that morning: "I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee."

The doctors were amazed at my husband's recovery. Before the end of that day they X-rayed his heart and found it had returned to normal size. His blood pressure and temperature were also normal, and he was breathing regularly without effort.

Our family doctor told my husband, "This is just like a dream to me. What has happened is unbelievable."

This has been a testimony to many people of God's goodness. Several of our friends and family have been especially touched by it, and we hope it will be the means of bringing the unsaved ones to the Lord.

We both have learned much through this experience, and we praise God for all that has happened.—Mrs. Loudon A. Phillips, California.

(Endorsed by Pastor Douglas G. Scott, Sunnyslope Union Church, Riverside, California, who says, "Loudon Phillips is a deacon in our church. This is exactly what happened to him and I can vouch for this testimony. He is a living miracle. To use his own words, 'According to the doctors, everything happened to me that happens to a man when he is dying, but I am a man raised from the dead!'")