

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

MAY 1967

TEN CENTS



FAMOUS MENDENHALL GLACIER NEAR JUNEAU, ALASKA



In the 50th year of its ministry in Alaska the Assemblies of God salutes the 100th anniversary of the territorial purchase.

## Alaska Centennial Edition



THE FOUR WEEKS WHICH FOLLOWED MY LSD TRIP GRADUALLY BECAME A LIVING HELL. I SEEMED TO BE SPIRITUALLY LOST, WANDERING IN A GREAT VOID BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH.

**F**OUR YEARS AGO I became a Christian after 30 years of skepticism and agnosticism. I abandoned church and Sunday school at the age of seven. Science and human wisdom were my gods and the source of my enlightenment for many years.

Six years of college made me aware, however, of an inner emptiness, a sense of inferiority and inadequacy, a feeling of guilt and a vague awareness that I was not reaching my full potential as a man. A career in physics and space science proved challenging and financially rewarding but always with a note of disappointment. *There must be more to life than this*, I thought.

Believing moral standards were relative, I lived experimentally the philosophy, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die." I wrestled with guilt, becoming more frustrated and discouraged, aware of decreasing happiness and isolation from others.

Following the advice of a Jewish friend, for two and a half years I invested in psychoanalysis as a means of finding myself, only to discover I was a prisoner of the past unable to change my basic nature and behavior patterns.

Sensing deep inner mysteries in the unconscious mind, I became interested in the religions of the world and began to explore and to seek religious experience and spiritual awakening. Yet I came to see that religious truths were also relative and quite unable to bring peace of mind.

With little motivation to live in a meaningless world governed by the laws of chance, I accepted an invitation to church from concerned Christian friends. It was there I began to discover the Bible and for the first time became acquainted with its deep, rich insights. In a pastor's office not long afterward I made the exciting scientific discovery of meeting Jesus Christ, the God of the Bible, in personal experience.

The pastor explained God's love and plan for salvation, and when he invited me to receive Jesus Christ by faith into my heart I realized that God had been the missing element in my life. With a flood of light and healing love, I was spiritually born and began a new life in Christ.

But during the next few months, foolishly I began to wonder about other religions and how they fit in with the Bible. I was also intrigued at reports of religious experiences resulting from controversial new drugs such as LSD, mescaline, and psilocybin. Troubled by persisting emotional and psychological conflicts I decided to try LSD with an experimental research group.

After several preparatory sessions with carbogen gas (which produces momentarily an anesthetic effect), I was ready for a massive dosage of LSD and mescaline. A male psychologist and female medical doctor were present in the comfortable living room setting of the research clinic for my all-day trip to LSD-land.

Shortly after taking the drugs I began to experience heightened audio and visual perception. Background music became ecstatically alive and full of living richness. The musical instruments became spatially deep and vividly

alive inside of me. Vivid color patterns and phantasies in three dimensions filled my mind when I closed my eyes, and with open eyes I perceived the objects in the room with amazing depth, clarity, and a shimmering, crystalline glow. Gradually I lost awareness of my body and seemed to be pulled downwards ever deeper into the past and into myself. Strange emotional experience and long-forgotten dreams bubbled up inside.

I had the feeling that I was outside myself from a new perspective, looking into thousands of corridors of my life as if I were a whole universe in miniature. At times I seemed to be a vast cathedral. I was aware of history and the past as neither gone nor inaccessible. Time became strangely distorted and I even experienced the terrible sensation of time stoppage and endless eternity.

Unpleasant and terrible fears associated with conception, birth, and early childhood gripped my mind and for painfully long periods of time I was caught up in closed cycles of temporary insanity and vast worlds of terrible unreality. Everything around me became strangely alive and hauntingly familiar.

Strange forces and powers seemed to seethe about me, calling and pulling at my soul. And I was aware of the remoteness of God who seemed far off and inaccessible. It did not occur to me to pray. Instead I wondered who I was and how I would ever find myself.

The immediate effects of the drug wore off that night although I was aware of the movement and glow of paintings and the animation of photographs which came alive before my very eyes, until after dark.

The four weeks which followed my LSD trip gradually became a living hell. I was aware of a strange, immense spirit world all around me. There were visions of the universe so overwhelming and overpowering I was sure I could never come back to life on earth. I was obsessed with haunting, seductive voices suggesting suicide or strange behavior.

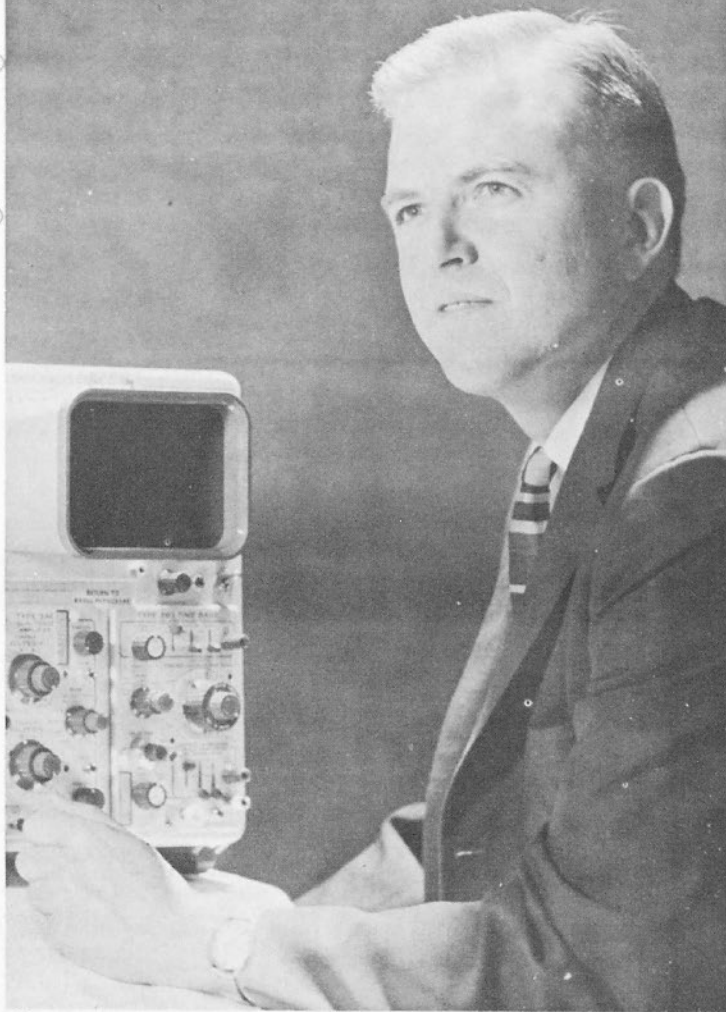
While I was aware of people and events, I began to slip out of touch and lose the desire to relate and communicate with my fellow human beings in the everyday world. An overwhelming flood of unconscious material poured through my mind. I was lost in space, unable to sleep for nights on end.

I became aware that something was very wrong, and called my pastor. In his office he drew two circles. One he labeled "the material world," the other "the spiritual world." As God guided him, he showed me that I seemed to be spiritually lost, wandering in a great void between heaven and earth.

As we prayed together, I gained an immediate sense of the presence of God and a restored relationship of love with Jesus Christ. Haunted by terrible visions, I left several days later for two weeks' rest, spent in sleeping, Bible study and long prayer.

Gradually stability was restored, and I began to relate in real time to real people and to react normally to life

Lambert Dolphin Jr. lives at Palo Alto, California, and does research in ionospheric and space physics.



# The Christian and LSD

By LAMBERT DOLPHIN JR.

on earth. I became aware for the first time of my serious error in taking drugs, my disobedience to God, and the subtlety of temptation.

Six months elapsed before I was fully myself again. Those six months brought strong and painful discipline of my Heavenly Father and inner spiritual surgery which at times were nearly unbearable.

I had a terrible vision of hell and heard the scream of torment of the lost. I saw that the indirect effects of the drug had brought great inner damage which only time and God's Spirit could heal. I was so thankful for the steadfast love of God and the miracle of His healing hand.

Today, fully recovered from the effects of this fantastic experience, I am greatly concerned for the growing number who take such drugs. The serious dangers and problems which mind-distorting chemicals present to individ-

uals and to society should be made known to everyone.

As a Christian who learned a most painful lesson about life, I am glad to report that total commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Master has brought me the full deliverance from my past problems which I had been seeking, and daily rich spiritual experiences far surpassing in beauty and reality the *counterfeit experiences* of LSD.

As the Lord Jesus expressed it, I have found rivers of living water welling up within to replace the previous void of emptiness (John 7:38). The experience of full life is found not from the use of drugs but by losing one's life for Jesus' sake and walking daily with Him.

Drugs which open the mind and expand human consciousness are not new. Religious cultists have for centuries made use of drugs in their rites and mystical ceremonies. Thus every generation has had to deal with similar phenomena and to answer arguments from the authoritative and trustworthy Word of God.

Describing the terrible end-time judgments of God on an unbelieving and unrepentant mankind, the apostle John wrote: "And the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot either see or hear or walk; nor did they repent of their murders or their *sorceries* or their immorality or their thefts" (Revelation 9:20, 21).

A key word in this passage in the original Greek is the word translated "sorceries." The Greek is *pharmakeia* from which our modern word "pharmacy" or drugs, is derived. Thus, the misuse of drugs is what the Bible calls sorcery. God's warning against sorcery, divination, and spiritism date back to the time of Moses (Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 20:6-8, 27; Deuteronomy 18:9-14). From these passages we are made aware that modern idolatries often come in new guises, but seen in the light of eternal truths are nothing more than the age-old deceptions of the devil.

The influence of evil spirits in astrology, palmistry, mysticism, metaphysics, and spiritism is well known. The present-day activity of demons and evil spirits is well known by Christians in pagan environments. The modern use of consciousness-expansion drugs is nothing but a new wile of the wicked one.

In 2 Thessalonians 2 the Bible tells us that the coming of Antichrist will be accompanied by spiritual power and deceiving satanic revelation which will to all appearances seem to be from God. That false christs and false prophets (Matthew 24:4, 5; 2 Peter 2) arise from modern drug cults is already established in literature.

The use of the psychedelic drugs such as LSD increases divorce rates, leads to open sexual immorality in many cases, and brings about a Babylon of religious confusion which well fits the Bible picture of sinful, decadent, human life (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

Individuals who use LSD and related drugs over long periods often seem to possess an "enlightened" philosophy and mysterious power which seems religious and good. Only when the religious statements of such cultists are

(Continued on page fifteen)

## Seward's Fortunate Folly

WAS ALASKA REALLY WORTH 2 cents an acre? That was the decision Secretary of State William Henry Seward had to make 100 years ago.

He was faced with the opportunity to buy all Russia's territory in North America for \$7,200,000. To him it looked like a bargain, but the American public called it "Seward's Folly." They couldn't see how that empty northland, so far removed from the rest of the country, would ever be worth all that money.

It wasn't an easy decision to make, for popular opinion was strongly against him; but Mr. Seward decided the day would come when the American people would be glad if Alaska was a part of the U.S. and not a part of Russia. Since Czar Alexander II was ready to sell, and since the opportunity might never come again, the Secretary of State acted without delay. He talked Congress into authorizing the purchase.

The public called it folly, but history calls it foresight. For in these 100 years over \$700 million worth of gold has been produced in Alaska and \$2 billion worth of fish have been harvested. In addition, rich deposits of coal, copper, and other minerals have been discovered. Vast wealth in forests and fur, in natural gas and oil, is being tapped. In economic terms alone, apart from its value for defense purposes, Alaska's purchase was providential; so Americans are celebrating the centennial with joy and gratitude.

"North to the Future" is the centennial theme and Alaska's 250,000 citizens have been busy erecting museums, restoring historic sites, establishing information centers, extending roads, and getting ready for the greatest influx of visitors since the gold rush days. One of the main attractions is the Centennial Exposition at Fairbanks where \$3 million has been spent on historic and cultural exhibits. Here on a 40-acre plot Alaska's colorful past, bustling present, and exciting future are portrayed through various features including an authentic gold-rush town and a restored stern-wheeler of bygone days.

But that is just one of Alaska's attractions. Tourists will see the tallest mountains in North America and some of its greenest valleys. They will explore Eskimo villages and tour modern cities. They will gaze upon fabulous glaciers, innumerable icebergs, and scenic shorelines dotted with fishing villages, lumber camps, and Indian settlements. They will be glad Mr. Seward made the right decision.

Isn't there a lesson here for all of us—maybe two or three lessons? For one thing, popular opinion is not necessarily right. It wasn't in 1867. The Bible says the majority of people are missing the road to heaven. "Narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:14).

Another thought suggested by "Seward's Folly" is that values are not necessarily what they appear to be. A worldly life seems glamorous now but the future consequences may be very different. Money-making and pleasure-seeking may indicate nearsightedness. For "what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

The third lesson is that opportunities won't last forever—but eternity will. "The things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:18).

You have just one life to invest. Use it wisely. Give yourself to God and discover how useful and satisfying a person's life can become in Christ.

A hundred years from now you'll still be glad you did. —R.C.C.

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

**I**N EASTERN LANDS it is not uncommon to see a potter at work by the wayside with his revolving wheel. He puts a lump of clay on the wheel and molds it into the vessel he desires to make.

The Lord told Jeremiah to go down to the potter's house to learn a lesson. Let us go down with him and see what we can learn.

When Jeremiah arrived, he found the potter busy at work molding a vessel of clay on the wheel. And as he watched, he saw that the vessel was marred in the potter's hand.

At that moment the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, "O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel" (Jeremiah 18:6).

In the Book of Isaiah God compares all flesh to mere grass; here He compares us to clay. Now what does God expect from a lump of clay? Just one thing—yieldedness. That is the first lesson that He wants us to learn in the potter's house. It is the secret of living a victorious Christian life. It is written, "To obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Samuel 15:22).

Let us face it. To obey God is the hardest lesson for us to learn. There are not many men and women who will yield to the Lord in absolute surrender, like the clay in the hands of the potter. God is looking for people who will yield to Him.

"And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter." The vessel was marred, not because of any fault of the potter, but because there was something in the clay that would not yield. The clay must yield to the potter's hand; otherwise he cannot mold it into the vessel he desires to make.

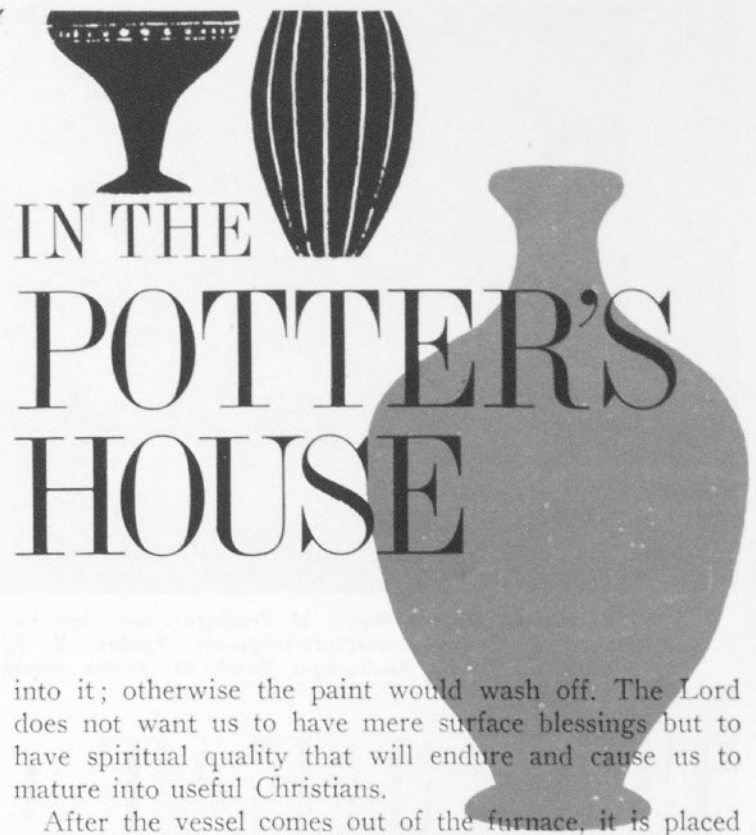
How many of us are like unyielded clay! How many precious years are wasted because of our disobedience! The Israelites wandered 40 years in the wilderness when they might have been in their Promised Land enjoying the milk and honey. What beautiful and useful Christians our heavenly Potter would make of us if we were wholly yielded in His hands!

However, if we have failed God, we need not despair or be discouraged. There is still hope, for when the vessel was marred in the hands of the potter, "he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it" (Jeremiah 18:4).

After the vessel has been shaped it is heated gradually in the furnace; *sudden intense heat would break it*. The vessel is not fit for use until it has been baked.

We wonder sometimes why we are tempted and tried. God is putting us through His furnace to train us for service. We cannot comfort people in their afflictions until we know what it means to be afflicted. Jesus was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin, and "in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted" (Hebrews 2:18).

God's furnace of affliction accomplishes what nothing else can. There are some things to be burned out of us and other things to be burned in. Handpainted china has to be placed in the furnace to have the design burned



into it; otherwise the paint would wash off. The Lord does not want us to have mere surface blessings but to have spiritual quality that will endure and cause us to mature into useful Christians.

After the vessel comes out of the furnace, it is placed on sale in the bazaar. It is now picked up and knocked to see if it sounds right. If there is a flaw in the vessel, it will not sound right. When we get knocked, people can tell by the sound we make what kind of Christians we are.

None of us like to be knocked, but Jesus was knocked more than any other man, and the servant is not greater than his Lord. What kind of sound did Jesus make when knocked? It is written, "When he was reviled, [he] reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously" (1 Peter 2:23). He prayed for those who nailed Him to the cross.

A Christian nurse who worked in a hospital full of wounded soldiers complained to the chaplain that she was rudely treated by some of the patients.

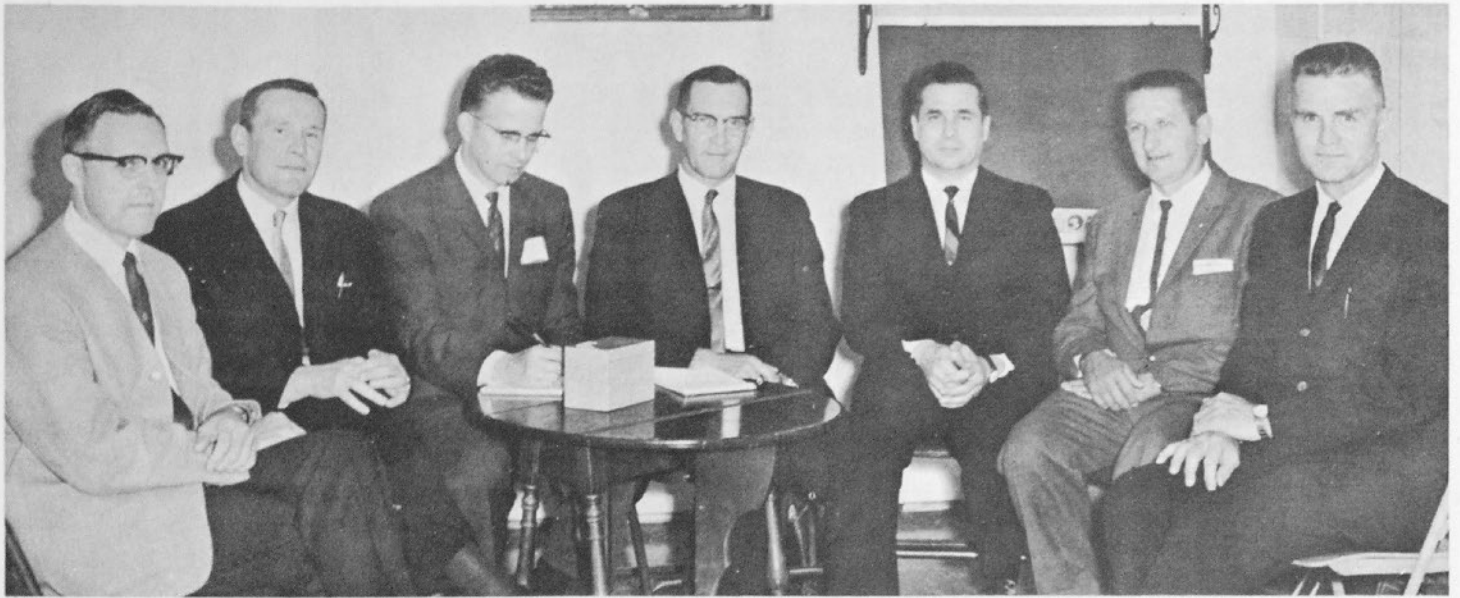
"Thank God for that," he said.

"What do you mean?" said the astonished nurse.

"If you are carrying a vessel and somebody knocks against you, you can spill out of the vessel only what is inside. If your heart is filled with the love of Christ, when you are slighted, you will manifest the gentleness and love of Jesus and bring men under conviction."

It is written, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

To be witnesses for the Lord does not mean merely to give a testimony in church. That is a good thing to do, but the best testimony is not the spoken one; the best sermon is not the one preached from the pulpit. The life we live in the home, store, office, or factory counts far more than what we say. Jesus knew that His sermons and miracles could never accomplish His work of redemption—even though the people marveled at the words of grace that fell from His lips and were amazed at His mighty works. He knew His best sermon would be the silent one on the cross. So He said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32).



The Alaska District Board of Presbyters are (left to right): John E. Phillips Jr., Sitka; Paul E. Bills, Nome; Robert E. Cousart, secretary-treasurer, Valdez; B. P. Wilson, superintendent, Fairbanks; Harold C. Bither, Anchorage; Ralph M. Miller, North Pole; A. E. Capener, general presbyter, St. Paul Island.

# The GREAT COMMISSION and the LARGEST STATE

By B. P. WILSON ■ Alaska District Superintendent

**F**IRED WITH VISION and zeal to obey Christ's command to witness, young C. C. Personeus and his bride moved to Juneau, Alaska, in 1917. There they witnessed of God's saving grace in Jesus Christ and proclaimed the joyful truth that it is the privilege of people today to be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit in the same manner the Early Church enjoyed.

Thus was Alaska's first Assembly of God established

in its capital city. As this young couple labored faithfully for the Lord, they were well aware that it would take more than human efforts to accomplish the task placed before them. They realized that whatever was achieved would be "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zechariah 4:6).

The Personeuses prayed earnestly that God would send more laborers into the territory. They wanted to see this



Pentecostal message penetrate other villages, towns, and cities.

And others did come, fired with the same zeal and love for souls, to establish new congregations. As a result all of the cities, as well as most of the major towns and villages of Alaska, now have Assemblies of God churches or mission stations. These ministers and churches are endeavoring to tell everyone the good news that mercy and pardon are freely offered in Jesus Christ.


Great progress has been made at the price of sacrificial ministry and intercessory prayer. In many cases, particularly in small villages, the missionary must be fully supported from outside because no local employment is available. The Assemblies of God has endeavored to confine its activity in these smaller villages to places where there is no other effective evangelical witness.

Although many have found salvation and have been filled with the Holy Spirit, much remains to be done. A large proportion of Alaska's population is transient, which fact, while enlarging our sphere of influence, also increases the problems of reaching this ever-changing population.

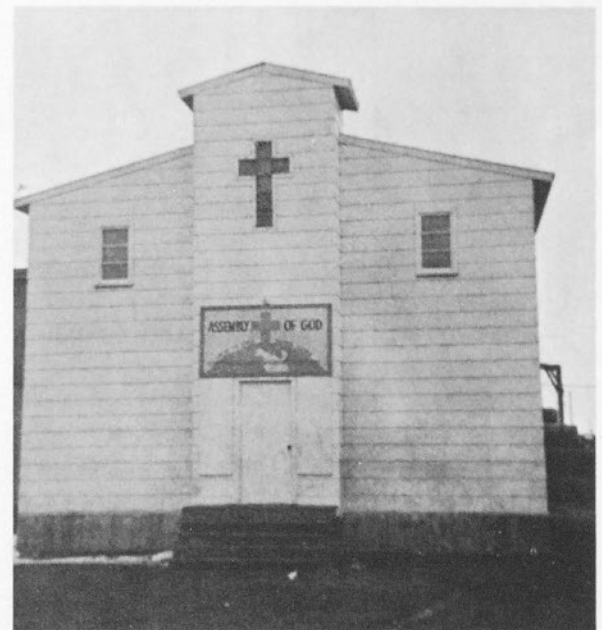
The military also presents a challenging mission field, as does the white civilian, native Eskimo, Indian, and Aleut population.

In some respects, Alaska is one of the most difficult mission fields in the world. Its missionaries face spiritual opposition, physical hardship, and sheer loneliness. It is only as the love of Christ constrains them that they can stand against the powers of darkness and discouragement.

To God be the glory for all that has been accomplished. If we are to fulfill completely the Great Commission as it pertains to Alaska, it must be by the power of the Holy Spirit. We need the help of others who share the vision in intercessory prayer and faithful support.

Much remains to be done. In Alaska as in other places, the fields are ripe but the harvesters are few. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38). 

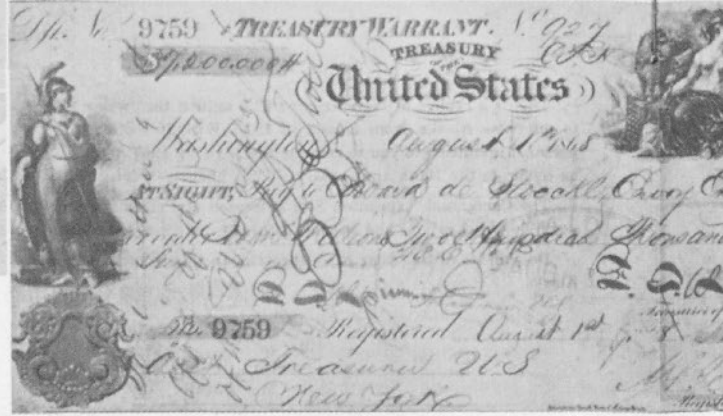
**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Assemblies of God churches in Fort Yukon (left) and Pelican pictured in summer green.  
**BELOW:** Churches in Stevens Village (left) and Haines robed in the ermine of Alaskan winter.



**ABOVE:** The most northerly Assembly of God, located in Point Barrow.  
**AT TOP:** Pastor Paul Bills distributing gospel literature on the main street of Nome.



Scene on Seward Highway, named after the U.S. Secretary of State who authorized purchase of the territory from Russia. Other photos show an authentic full-sized reproduction of the old Russian blockhouse at Sitka where the transfer took place, and the payment check.



# Salute to Alaska

We salute the vast State of Alaska, America's last frontier, on the 100th anniversary of purchase. In this centennial year we pray the life-giving rays of Christ's glorious gospel may outshine the Northern Lights, scattering the spiritual darkness. May every Alaskan discover Christ's great love a personal treasure more precious than all the gold in fabled mine and stream.

Statue of "The Old Pioneer" in Sitka.

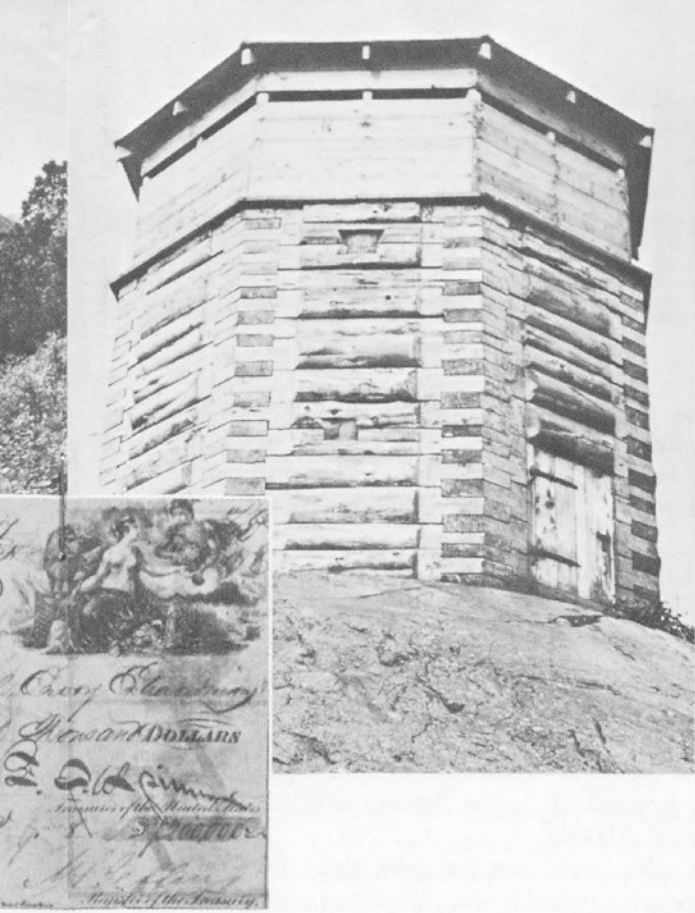


Eskimo children are happy and friendly.

Museum at University of Alaska, near Fairbanks, attracts many tourists.

Wrangell is famous.





Alaska

1867

Anniversary of its  
ous gospel may  
askan discover in  
mine and stream.

ALASKA CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION  
FAIRBANKS—MAY 27 TO SEPT. 30



Kodiak is famous for its sawmill, fishing fleet, and canneries.



ABOVE: Eskimos once lived in this type of "skin house" on St. Lawrence Island. AT TOP: Mount Edgecombe is the backdrop for this view of small boats at Sitka.



BELOW: Huge Alaska brown bears, biggest on earth, are shot first with camera, then with rifle. AT RIGHT: This boy at Petersburg is holding an Alaska king salmon, largest species of salmon known.



FROM A SMALL BEGINNING IN 1917 THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD HAS DEVELOPED A WIDESPREAD WITNESS FOR CHRIST.

# FIFTY YEARS IN

AS OUR FORTY-NINTH STATE celebrates its centennial, the Assemblies of God marks its 50th year of Christian witness in Alaska. The denomination was only three years old when the C. C. Personeuses went to Juneau with the full gospel.

A host of dedicated men and women followed, taking the message of Christ to all segments of Alaska's scattered population. The full record of their sacrificial service is written in heaven by the loving God who called them to go forth, not for gold nor glory, but simply "to seek and to save that which was lost."

It was for this purpose they entered the cities, went into the villages, pressed up to the Arctic, and penetrated the vast interior of Alaska.

Young people who could not go gave their money to equip the missionaries with boats, airplanes, and other vehicles to speed the gospel light. People of all ages in the "lower 48" stood back of the missionaries with prayer and financial support.

Today five planes are operated by our missionaries as they spread the gospel throughout the state. But old-timers remember the dogsleds and the gospel boats by which the gospel was carried to snowbound villages or taken to salmon canneries along the coast.

The situation called for rugged pioneers, but not all the pioneers were men. Numerous single women heard God's call and dared to follow Him into the hard places. Other women faithfully helped their husbands in the work and reared families in isolated areas.

Typical of these courageous women is Miss Harriett Brown who gave 12 years of devoted and fruitful ministry as pastor at Nome in the far north. Another is Mrs. Alvin Capener who, with her missionary husband, has spent more than 20 years among the Eskimo people—learning the language, preaching the gospel, building a church, and then moving on to pioneer a church in another place. Five

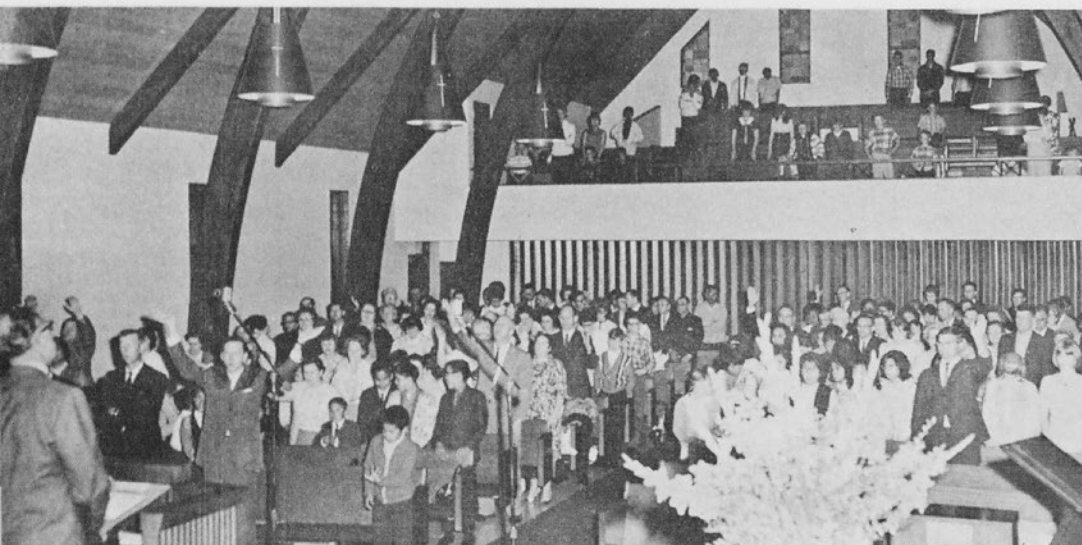


Assemblies of God Children's Home at Juneau.



ABOVE: Eskimo hut on Kenai Peninsula such as our missionaries visit.

BELOW: Worship service at Bethel Assembly of God in Juneau.  
AT RIGHT: Baptizing convert in the Arctic.



# ALASKA



Eskimo churches have been built by the Capeners and their sons. At present they are pioneering again, this time on St. Paul Island.

Baptismal services in the far north present peculiar problems. Water must be heated, when this is done in an unheated church, missionaries may see ice form on the top while fire heats the water underneath! It takes persistent determination to get enough warm water in a baptismal tank when the temperature outside stands at forty below zero!

Constructing churches in remote settlements also requires much patient planning. Supplies have to be transported great distances. Prices are so high and summers so short; but God's servants find a way to do His work.

Many homeless children in Alaska have been helped by the Assemblies of God. The Lyle Johnsons opened the Juneau Children's Home 40 years ago. Since that time, hundreds of young men and women have "graduated" from the Home to become useful citizens.

In 1944 the Ray Cathers opened the Children's Farm Home at Palmer in the Matanuska Valley. During the 17 years of its existence the Home gave loving care and Christian guidance to scores of boys and girls. Homes also were operated at Valdez and other points as the need and opportunity arose, and all have made a contribution to the lives of Alaskan children committed to their care.

"Alaska may have been a bargain when we bought it from Russia," one of our missionaries remarked, "but there is no markdown on its souls, and there is no easy way to win them." Pioneering in Alaska has taken its toll in hardships, sickness, disease, and even death among our missionaries.

W. R. Gunn was a missionary who wouldn't retire. He didn't build great churches; nor did he make long speeches about his work. He simply lived for God and told the

people of Wrangell about the Saviour—in his own quiet way—until he died in 1955.

Pastor Carl Glick, who pioneered and built a church at Kenai, died in a plane crash during a blinding snowstorm in 1962. The Glicks had answered the call to Alaska five years earlier. They pulled a house trailer all the way from Pennsylvania to the Kenai Peninsula, and God used them to build a good work there. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Glick has continued to serve in Alaska. At present she has a fruitful hospital visitation ministry in Anchorage.

The 1964 earthquake claimed the life of a young Assemblies of God minister—Duane Carriker, pastor at Valdez, Alaska. This dedicated Christian worker left a wife and two small children.

Last month Mrs. Lyle Johnson of Juneau passed away. Our finest tribute to these workers who have finished their course is to pick up where they left off and continue their work of seeking the lost.

The growth of the Assemblies of God in Alaska has kept pace with the growth of the state itself. While the territory was progressing toward statehood, our churches were maturing toward self-supporting congregations. Many of them have not yet reached this stage of development; nevertheless in 1965 the General Council took necessary action to organize them into the Alaska District Council. We now have 44 churches and six mission stations.

But just as statehood did not suddenly solve all of Alaska's problems, or fully develop its vast potential, neither did the raising of half of Alaska's churches to a district status mean there is no more missionary work to be done. There are still many churches which need missionary funds. There are still numerous towns and villages without the gospel. Missionaries, pastors, and other workers still need our prayerful support as they move forward in Alaska.

Our first 50 years in Alaska were years of conquest for Christ. Now we look ahead to consolidation of our gains and further advancement until there is no village, however small or isolated, and no community, however large and growing, that does not have a strong full-gospel witness.

**Assemblies of God missionaries use five planes to reach remote areas of Alaska with the gospel. Pontoons enable them to land on sylvan lakes in summer—but when winter comes the planes' pontoons must be replaced by skis.**



## ISRAEL DEMANDS A KING

Sunday School Lesson for May 14, 1967

1 SAMUEL 8:1-19

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

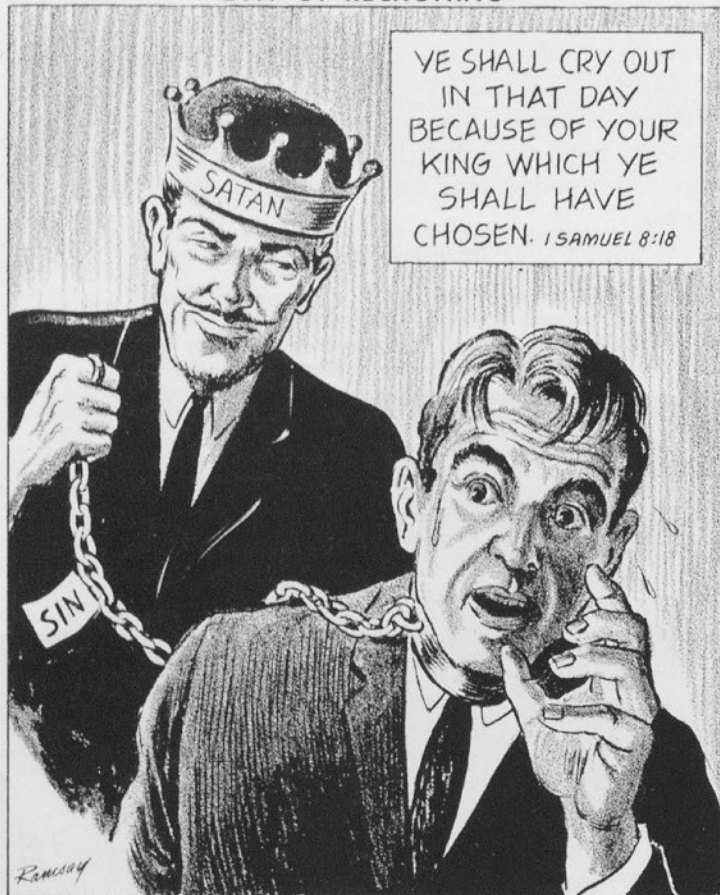
### THE CARNAL REQUEST (1 Samuel 8:1-5)

Israel demanded a king. Why this revolutionary request? It is a good thing to analyze one's desires, for the human heart is capable both of deceiving others and of self-deception.

1. *The Plausible Pretext.* The people appealed for a change in leadership on the basis that Samuel was advanced in age, and his sons' misconduct made them unworthy to succeed him. However, the unworthy sons could have been removed from office and a God-appointed leader chosen without changing Israel's *form* of government.

a. Excuses are not reasons. The real reason back of the request was that the people had rejected God and His will. Had the elders been truthful, they would have said, "The doctrine of Jehovah, our invisible King, is lovely—but a rather dreamy idea. We must be practical and up-to-date like other nations."

### DAY OF RECKONING



b. A common device of the human heart is to conceal the real truth beneath a camouflage of plausible excuses—what the psychiatrist calls rationalizing. A man leaves the church because there are so many hypocrites there—so he says. Actually he wants to be free from the church's restraining influence.

2. *The Real Reason.* Israel's real sin lay not in *what* they wanted, but in *why* they wanted a king. They wanted to be "like all the nations" (v. 5) whereas it was their peculiar glory to be different from other nations and far superior to them (Exodus 19:5, 6; Deuteronomy 7:6; Leviticus 20:26). This desire to be like others is strong in us all and it can ruin spiritual life and character. We are told, "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2).

Israel failed God because of the desire to conform. We face the same issue today. Shall it be divine favor or worldly fashion? Shall we conform or be transformed? Conformity always begins in the mind. Therefore we are told to keep our minds renewed. This is done only as we make God's Word the ruling authority in our lives.

### THE DIVINE CONCESSION (1 Samuel 8:6-9)

1. *Samuel's Displeasure.* Samuel felt Israel's request was contrary to God's will. The criticism of his sons, though justified, hurt him. Very spiritual people can be "touchy" when their children are criticized and often find it difficult to keep their affections from blinding them to their children's faults.

2. *Samuel's Action.* "And Samuel prayed unto the Lord" (v. 6). How wise he was! Instead of resorting to carnal temper tantrums (which would have spoiled his testimony), he took his trial to the Lord in prayer.

3. *Jehovah's Decision.* God instructed Samuel to let the people have their way. Israel had a King—Jehovah Himself. This invisible King had ruled through human representatives—Moses, Joshua, priest, and judges. Now the people rejected their divine King in favor of a human one because they wanted a visible leader (and one who would tolerate their worldliness and idolatry).

### THE WILLFUL INSISTENCE (1 Samuel 8:10-19)

When men are bent on disobedience, God may let them have their way; but He will not allow them to do so with their eyes shut! Therefore, Samuel predicted a king who would conscript labor to minister to his own royal pomp. He warned that this king would raise up a huge army, give the people's land to officials, tax them heavily, and so conduct himself that they would find him a curse rather than a blessing. Nevertheless, the people insisted on gratification of their carnal desire and closed their eyes to its consequences.

What a foolish thing to do! And yet it is done every day. The drunkard is not hindered by knowledge of the evil consequences of drink. The young man indulges in sin—although warned that his bones shall be "full of the sin of his youth" (Job 20:11). Many Christians know beyond doubt the consequences of thinking, saying, and doing things contrary to the Word of God, but they proceed to act in willful oblivion.

Wise and happy is the Christian who will regulate all his actions—the expenditure of his strength, time, talent, and money—with a view to the future consequences both in time and in eternity.

# THE LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

By RON ROWDEN

NEARLY DOUBLING ITS POPULATION between 1950 and 1960, majestic, multiclimate Alaska presents a challenging frontier for radio evangelism.

Because of the vast state's rugged terrain, transportation between villages is difficult. Many villagers in remote areas depend upon bush pilots as their only method of transportation.

In this type of environment radio evangelism has many advantages. Aware of this, the Assemblies of God is releasing *Revivaltime* on six Alaskan radio stations. By providing weekly contact with men and women throughout the 49th state, radio bridges the seemingly insurmountable barriers of snow-covered mountains, frozen rivers, and rugged forests. And it reaches an audience as varied as the surrounding terrain.

Eskimo families, scattered throughout the northland, still cling to age-old animistic religious practices. Many living in the sparsely populated Arctic region have never heard about the Man Christ Jesus.

In mining and fishing communities live rough, unsaved men who came to Alaska seeking wealth, motivated by the spirit of adventure. Many of them have forgotten the religious teaching they received as children.

Through neglecting God's plan of salvation, they face the same hopeless eternity as the uninformed Eskimo.

These groups alone make radio evangelism extremely important in Alaska. But besides these unsaved persons there are hundreds of Christians, many of them isolated from the fellowship of other believers.

Each year, for instance, scores of young teachers accept positions in Alaska's public schools. Thousands of miles from homes and families, they anxiously await some word of spiritual encouragement.

A former student at our own Evangel College, Springfield, Missouri, wrote to us from Wrangell saying:

"I really enjoyed hearing *Revivaltime* this past Sunday. It was like something from heaven dropped into my apartment. I sang the songs and followed the sermon and prayed the prayer, and all of it was just what my soul needed.

"When I was a student at Evangel, I often visited the broadcast service; but little did I realize what a blessing it was to folk faraway and cut off from fellowship.

"Now I'm teaching first grade in Wrangell and helping in the Assemblies of God church here. My duties are many, varying from junior choir, Sunday school superintendent and teaching to song leading and preaching. Yes, it was missionary experience I wanted and I'm getting it—but, oh, how I need a refreshing in my own soul. Your program was the encouragement I needed Sunday morning before I began my duties in our mission."

Another former Springfield student, a graduate of Central Bible College, is engaged in mission work at Fort Yukon. He testifies:

"Last Sunday evening, after church, I turned the radio on and to my surprise I heard *Revivaltime*. I couldn't tell you the praise that filled my soul! While at CBC I watched you broadcast many times. Hearing you on the radio was like being there in the auditorium once again.

"This village is in desperate need of the Saviour. Many live in such sin! One's heart is sick to see the immorality and alcoholism. I am going to try to hook up my radio to a loudspeaker and let the entire village hear the program."

Families moving to Alaska, as to any unfamiliar area, face problems of adjustment. The climate, strange customs, transportation difficulties, and the search for a suitable church can be discouraging. These people appreciate *Revivaltime*.

"We listen to your broadcast every Sunday night and wouldn't miss it," writes a listener in Soldatna. "We have just moved here from Bakersfield, California. Your message is just like home and gives us such a lift."

This letter from a woman in Chatham exemplifies the loneliness and isolation some must face:

"We are caretakers of a salmon cannery during the winter months when it is shut down and deserted. There is no one here but my husband and me. Our only visitor is

## ALASKAN RADIO LOG

"Revivaltime" is currently heard over the following Alaskan stations each Sunday:


Anchorage	KFQD—730	10:30 p.m.
Barrow		2:30 p.m.
Cordova	KLAM—1450	5:30 p.m.
Juneau	KINY—800	9:05 a.m.
Point Hope		
Sitka	KSEW—1400	9:30 p.m.

an occasional boat that comes in for fuel or groceries. We find great blessing listening to the *Revivaltime* broadcast each Sunday."

*Revivaltime* is influencing lives in the "Land of the Midnight Sun," but we have only scratched the surface. With an area of 571,065 square miles, it is by far the largest of the 50 states. Because of inaccessibility, thousands of persons are beyond the missionaries' reach.

This note from a serviceman in Driftwood Bay indicates an urgent need for greater radio coverage:

"I am stationed at a remote site in Alaska. My wife sends me *The Pentecostal Evangel* each week, and that's the only church news I receive. I do have several of the *Revivaltime* broadcasts on tape, sent to me by a minister in Anchorage. They are old recordings, but they sure help me. I listen to Brother Ward, and the music of the choir is like honey to a bee."

This man and thousands like him deserve to hear the full gospel regularly. Pray with us that *Revivaltime's* Alaskan outreach will be expanded. 

**M**IRACLES DO HAPPEN TODAY!" says John W. Everett, pastor of the Assemblies of God church in Worthington, Minnesota. "The Bible says that Jesus Christ is 'the same yesterday, and today, and forever' (Hebrews 13:8) so why shouldn't we expect Him to heal us if we're sick, just as He did when He walked in Judea and Galilee so long ago?"

Three miracles of healing can be cited to prove his point—all of which happened in Pastor Everett's congregation.

#### DENNIS BERGER'S EXPERIENCE

"It will be a miracle if Dennis lives," the doctor de-

Fifty-one hours later Dennis opened his eyes. Three hours later he began to talk some. By the next morning he was completely rational. Exhaustive tests were made two weeks later at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and Dennis was sent home to resume work. He has enjoyed fine health ever since.

#### MERLIN ECKERSON'S HEALING

"This baby cannot live" were the grim words of the doctor to the anxious father of the newborn baby over which the doctor had worked for almost 50 minutes in an effort to start the infant breathing.

Due to a delay in birth, little Merlin Eckerson was

# 3



Dennis Berger

# MODERN MIRACLES



Merlin Eckerson



Vernon Bruxvoort

clared as he administered massive doses of penicillin to the young man writhing in pain on the hospital bed.

Dennis Berger, 29 years old, married and father of three children, was suffering his fourth attack of spinal meningitis. Following a severe automobile accident Dennis had spinal meningitis twice while in the U. S. Army and once following his discharge.

On the morning of February 22, 1966, Dennis, who lives at 913 8th Avenue in Worthington, didn't feel well. He decided not to go to work. Later in the morning his wife Clara, who is a nurse, checked to see how he was feeling. She found him in a semicoma, with a temperature exceeding 105 degrees, and his neck was stiffening. A call to the Worthington Clinic immediately dispatched an ambulance to bring Dennis to the hospital. Within a half-hour he seemed to stop breathing, turned black, and appeared to be dying. Convulsions began and continued every 15 to 20 minutes for almost nine hours! His temperature rose to 107 degrees.

At this point the doctor declared that only a miracle could save him. And, if he were to live, there was a strong possibility of brain damage due to the high fever.

But prayer was made! The church, Pastor John Everett, the family, and friends began to seek God.

born with a heart beat but no breathing could be detected. Complications in delivery had broken an arm which hung limply. The lack of oxygen had been such that quite possibly severe brain damage had already occurred.

Merle Eckerson, of RFD 2, Worthington, called Pastor Everett, and together they stood in the corridor of the hospital and prayed. After 50 minutes the baby began to breathe rapidly and was placed in an isolette with oxygen. Merle felt the assurance in his heart that the child would live.

The next morning, X rays showed no break in the arm and the breathing was more regular now. The doctor told the parents not to get their hopes up since he had seen other babies born this way, and they had never lived. Tests were given to see if there was brain damage. The tests were negative! Within five days the baby was taken from the isolette. Three doctors told the parents that *it was a miracle* the child had lived.

At Merlin's six-week checkup the doctor again took tests and every reaction was normal. Again the doctor stated that it was a miracle of God because he was helpless in trying to get the infant to breathe.

Today, at two and one-half years of age, Merlin is a picture of health and is a very normal, active child. His

parents say, "We give God all the glory because if He had not healed him, Merlin would not be with us today."

**THE CASE OF VERNON BRUXVOORT**

"We advise you to take Vernon to Minneapolis and have one lung removed," was the consensus of three doctors as they talked with Mr. and Mrs. Don Bruxvoort, 616 Morningside, Worthington.

For nine years Vernon had spent time in the hospital each winter with pneumonia. Each year the condition had worsened. By 1962, when Vernon was 12, he had been taken off all sports in school and even exempted from physical education classes.

In November, 1962, the doctors at the Worthington Municipal Clinic decided that they must find the cause of Vernon's susceptibility to pneumonia. After intensive examinations they discovered hidden pockets of infection in his lungs that would not respond to medicine.

Consideration was given to advising Vernon's parents to move him to a drier climate, but it was doubtful that even that would help him. Reluctantly the doctors concluded there was no other answer than to remove all of one lung and possibly part of another.

A date was set (November 24, 1962) for a final examination before Vernon would be sent to Minneapolis for surgery. In the intervening three days, much prayer went up to God from the church and from Christian friends in Vernon's behalf. On the evening before Vernon was to enter the hospital Pastor and Mrs. John Everett went to the Bruxvoort home for a final session of prayer with Vernon.

The next morning a tube was put into Vernon's lung, and a dye was injected in order that clear X rays might be taken. The doctors were amazed! There was no sign of infection. "Your prayers have been answered!" exclaimed one of the doctors as he broke the good news to the parents.

Five Minnesota winters have elapsed since then, and Vernon Bruxvoort continues in excellent health.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever!

# The Christian and LSD

*(Continued from page three)*

carefully compared with Scripture is the error made evident. The scriptural tests given in 1 John 2:18-25 and 4:1-6 must be applied to discern the satanic religion of Antichrist from the reality which is in Jesus Christ, the Lord.

From drug cult groups arise such religious statements as, "We are all one," "Christ is your true self," "God is love," "Jesus was a great teacher," and "All religions lead to God"—statements which characterize the pantheistic world religions and modern pseudo-Christian cults.

While LSD "trips" bring greater insights into natural man and access to the deeper layers of human consciousness, apart from spiritual regeneration there is no true knowledge of God. Spiritual birth as described in John 3:1-12 is literally to be "born from above" and is a result of inviting or receiving Jesus Christ into one's heart (Revelation 3:20; John 1:12).

Large doses of LSD do produce experiences similar to rebirth, tongues phenomena, changes in personality and attitude, "cures" from alcoholism and other emotional disturbances, but a careful check with Scripture reveals that the drug-religious phenomena are counterfeit and relative.

The call of our Lord to enter by the narrow gate (Matthew 7:13, 14) is a reminder of the broad and deceptive ways that lead men to eternal destruction and total separation from God. The fact that Jesus Christ is Himself the truth (John 14:6; Colossians 2:3, 8-10) is a reminder that all religions are essentially man's best efforts to find God by good works and self-improvement programs (Ephesians 2:8, 9; Galatians 3:10-14).

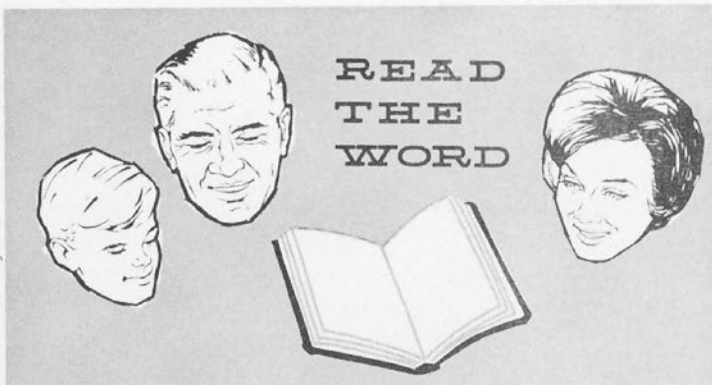
The overwhelming and shattering effects of LSD on a human personality are a reminder of the tremendous potential latent in man, and of the endless possibilities of life in Christ which few Christians appreciate or lay hold of. In view of the shallow faith of so many professing Christians today it is not surprising that spiritually hungry and unchallenged college students, work-weary housewives, and over-pressured businessmen are turning to the revolutionary and exciting promises of new life through LSD.

The Church of Jesus Christ has failed to make known the fullness and relevance of her treasure who is the Lord of life. The pleasures and unlocked sensuality that consciousness-altering drugs afford draw a materialistic, hedonistic nation ever closer to the terrible judgments of God which must come.

The serious implications of modern pharmacology and power-packed idolatries of our time are a challenge to deep Christian living.

Not only should Christians begin a more extensive preaching and proclamation of the everlasting gospel which is the "power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16, 17), but surely God's call to full surrender, genuine Christian discipleship and empowerment by the Holy Spirit could not be clearer to all who today name the name of Christ. "The gates of hell," He said, "shall not prevail against my Church."

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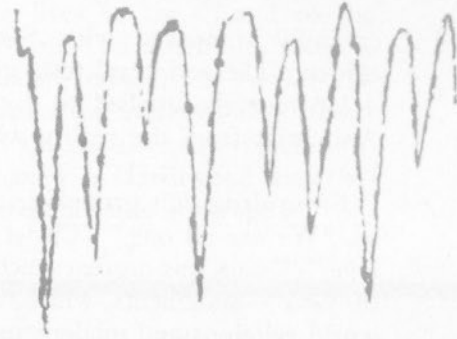
**READ THE WORD**

**CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 7-14**

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

**"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).**

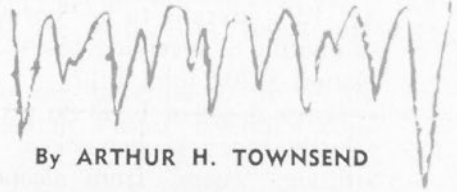
# FROZEN FEET &



AFTER LIVING 14 WINTERS in the north country and experiencing temperatures as low as 58° below, I can tell of many people who suffered with frozen feet. Permit me to mention three such cases.

One man I met had frozen his feet badly while battling against a northern blizzard. His passion for gold had kept him in the wilderness until winter engulfed him. He did not pay the full price as some outdoor men have done—he did not forfeit his life. He battled against the biting

# FROZEN SOULS



By ARTHUR H. TOWNSEND

blizzard and gained shelter, but froze both his feet. One foot was later amputated.

That man had been seeking gold; but he failed in his objective and froze his feet. "If I have made gold my hope, or have said to the fine gold, Thou art my confidence . . . this also were an iniquity to be punished by the judge: for I should have denied the God that is above" (Job 31:24-28).

The next man had frozen his feet while walking in light socks and shoes to a dance. He never danced that night but was later given medical attention. Whether he lost his feet or pulled through, I do not know; but I saw the blackness of his flesh—the aftereffects of frostbite. I know that he did not dance for some time to come—if ever again. "Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter" (James 5:5). Contrast this verse with the following: "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:24, 25).

I met another victim of winter's wrath who had been drowning life's responsibilities and sorrows with the contents of a bottle. Half stupefied with drink, he retired for the night but failed to properly latch his cabin door. The wind blew it open. Feeling the cold, he pulled the blankets up over his head, without realizing in his half-stupor that his feet were exposed. They turned black and were almost as hard as granite. I banged my knuckles against his frozen flesh, and it was like banging one's fist against stone. Both feet were later amputated. Solomon said: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

One man froze his feet while seeking gold, another man while seeking pleasures; and yet another while ensnared by the bottle.

Frozen feet are bad enough; but along with frozen feet were "frozen" souls, and a "frozen" soul is far worse. To lose one's feet is indeed a tragedy; but to lose the soul is eternal destruction.

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world [gold, pleasures, drink] and lose his own soul, or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

