

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

MAY 26, 1968

TEN CENTS




PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

**THOUGHTS AT
EVENTIDE**

HOME TO STAY

***FORSAKE
ME NOT***



THE 'THREE-AND-TWO'SITUATION

By "Revivaltime" Evangelist C. M. WARD

THE GAME OF BASEBALL affords many pictures of life, none better than what is called the "three-and-two" situation. That means the umpire's count has reached a full quota on the hitter—three balls and two strikes. The next pitch is decisive.

Belshazzar reached a "three-and-two" situation. He saw the writing on the wall. God gave him full opportunity. The great Daniel, who called the play, reminded him:

"Thou . . . O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart . . . but hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou and thy lords, thy wives and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified. . . .

"In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain" (Daniel 5:22-24, 30).

Belshazzar was called out with the bases loaded. And his failure cost an empire that has never risen again. Look at the last, terse sentence of chapter five. "And Darius the Median took the kingdom."

Herod of New Testament ignominy, reached a "three-and-two" situation. He let his options pass. Suddenly it was play or yield for this oily politician.

John the Baptist was there. He called it as courageously as Daniel. There was no compromise. The rules were clear. "It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife" (Mark 6:18).

Then came Herod's birthday. The birthday supper was as wild as Belshazzar's drinking party. The entertainment was as lewd. Suddenly Herod was face to face with a final choice.

"And she came in straightway with haste upon the king, and asked, saying, I will that thou give me by and by in a charger the head of John the Baptist" (Mark 6:25).

Herod *squirmed*. "And the king was exceeding sorry; yet for his oath's sake, and for their sakes which sat with him, he would not reject her (Mark 6:26). *He had put himself on the spot.*

You think you can keep "looking them over" indefinitely. You think, "It is early in the count. If I wait, I will have a better chance. Why make up my mind so soon?"

Herod trifled with his soul. The record says, "For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just man and a holy, *and observed him*; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly" (Mark 6:20).

Herod never planned to let the situation develop the way it did or to let matters get out of hand the way they did.

There is a *limit*. You see that truth written everywhere. Each ship has a waterline. It determines the limit of cargo that ship can carry. Each truck has a *weight load*. It must not venture upon the highway with an amount of freight beyond the limit fixed for wheel and axle. Every piece of steel has a *tension capacity*. It must not be stretched beyond that point of safety.

God says, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man" (Genesis 6:3).

There is a *limit*. An entire earth system went down the drain. Everyday living became so corrupt that "it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Genesis 6:6).

A brilliant civilization came to a "three-and-two" situation. *Suddenly a final 120 years faced a proud and boastful mankind*. Like a person on death row who has been granted one reprieve after another, there finally comes that moment of truth when hours tick away, then minutes, then seconds.

None of us like to face it. We like to feel we have a few more opportunities. We postpone and say, "There is no immediate necessity."

A politician felt that way. His name was Felix. Paul stood before him just as Daniel stood before Belshazzar, and as John the Baptist stood before Herod.

Felix trembled as Paul reasoned with him "of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come" (Acts 24:25). He had a Jewish, God-fearing wife. She felt the same way about their marriage as Mrs. Pontius Pilate felt about hers.

Pressure to do the right thing had increased until Felix called time. "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee" (Acts 24:25).

He never did. Like an attorney asking for a continuance, he had asked for his *last*. He had reached the point of no return.

So often a sports announcer, describing a "three-and-two" situation will say of the hitter, "He was caught looking." That means he stood in the batter's box, and when the pitcher threw, he made no attempt to hit the ball. He simply stood there and watched the ball go by and his opportunity come to an end. *There is no more disgusting moment in the ballgame*.

History is filled with such examples—examples where men and women were "caught looking." Archaeologists have picked the ruins of Pompeii. They have discovered a Roman city "caught looking."

Jesus used this language to describe another city: "They did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all" (Luke 17:28, 29).

It was "business as usual" in Sodom. There was always going to be a tomorrow—another chance. They got "caught looking."

The fact is your chances narrow with each passing moment. The sinking of the *Titanic* is a reminder of folk who got "caught looking." They were confident. The ship was big enough and strong enough to handle any situation. They told the world

that their new technique made it unsinkable. It just took three quarters of one voyage to prove them wrong. Hundreds of persons slid into the icy Atlantic while the ship's orchestra played "Nearer My God to Thee."

Fifty thousand people in the United States will lose their lives this year through automobile accidents on the nation's highways. *You could be among them*. The percentages narrow.

There is a lesson the old ballgame teaches us all. *You have got to get out of the way and give the other fellow a chance*.

Abraham reminded a certain rich man of that fact. He said to him in another world, "Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things" (Luke 16:25).

He had had his fair and full chance. He could not look back and say, "I did not have an opportunity." He had had the best of clothing, "purple and fine linen." He had had the best of food; he had "fared sumptuously every day." He had had preaching and the Word, "Moses and the prophets." Suddenly he was in hell. "And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments" (Luke 16:23).

There comes a moment when your decision is final. It cannot be amended. You have used your full quota.

Make no mistake about it. Dying is not as easy as it seems on your television screen. Dying is that "three-and-two" situation—*that full count*. It can be full of torment—looking back and thinking, "I could have done it. I had the opportunity and missed it. Now I will never have another chance." What will it be like for you?

Samson came down to a "three-and-two" situation. He was pressed on all sides by the Philistines. The grandstand was crowded. It was a home crowd, and Samson did not have a friend in the place. They were yelling for him to strike out.

"And when their hearts were merry . . . they said, Call for Samson, . . . out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars" (Judges 16:25).

They *jeered* him. He looked so helpless. His eyesight was gone. His locks of strength had been shorn. His secrets had been publicized. It seemed he had nothing left. He was a pathetic figure of what had once been. *But he had one more strike left!*

And before those crowded, unfriendly stands, Samson lifted his soul in prayer, "O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, *only this once*, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes" (Judges 16:28).

He made that final opportunity count. "And he bowed himself with all his might" (Judges 16:30).

He more than made up for wasted opportunities. "The dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life" (Judges 16:30).

This could be your last strike. *Make the most of it!*

Team Up With God

THE GLORY OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE is that you never need to face your problems alone. "Come unto me," the Lord has said, "and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

If you feel weak today, this is for you. If your heart is heavy with grief—if you are loaded down with care until you are ready to faint—then Jesus is saying this to you: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

You cannot carry the burden alone. God does not expect you to. He will help you if you will let Him. He wants you to get into the yoke and team up with Him.

"There would be much less strain on men and women if they teamed up with God as a daily partner," wrote Dr. George W. Crane in one of his newspaper columns.

"People who try to live independently and ignore God, are soon overwhelmed with innumerable fears and worries. They become the typical hypochondriacs, always fretting about gall bladder or ulcer or appendix or impending cancer or insanity.

"If people learned to team up with God, the human race would soon be able to throw off the 50 percent of its ailments that medical authorities admit are psychological."

Fear or worry never solves the problems. It only makes them multiply. There are plenty of troubles in the world already without adding to the number. Wars and rumors of wars. Riots in the streets. Violence at the colleges. Lawlessness rampant. Insecurity and perplexity. In chaotic times like these can a person keep the chaos out of his own heart forever?

The answer comes from the eternal Word of God: "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6, 7, A.S.V).

Said S. D. Gordon: "It is God's peace. It acts as an armed guard drawn up around heart and thoughts to keep unrest out. It is too subtle for intellectual analysis but it steals into and steadies the heart. You cannot understand it, but you can feel it. You cannot grasp it with your head, but you can with your heart. You do not get it. It gets you. You need not understand in order to experience. Blessed are they that have not understood and yet have yielded and experienced."

You need to look away from the earthly turmoil to the heavenly throne and remember that God still reigns. He has the situation under His control. He may permit troubles to increase but He will not let them overwhelm you. He may allow conditions to worsen but He will protect and provide for you. As long as you are yoked with Christ you have nothing to fear. He will take you safely through the most perilous times. He will keep you in perfect peace if you keep your heart fixed on Him.

Team up with God. Learn to "rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him." Then you will be fit to play your part in God's redemptive program. Your restful soul will be as a magnet drawing restless ones to Him who can give inner peace. Offer a prayer in the words of John G. Whittier: "Drop Thy still dews of quietness till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of Thy peace."
—R.C.C.

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IF THESE SHOULD HOLD THEIR peace, the stones, would immediately cry out" (Luke 19:40). By these words Jesus answered the critical Pharisees. They had appealed to Him to rebuke the disciples for their exuberant, noisy testimony to His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Since we know that Jesus never indulged in high-sounding platitudes, let us consider the significance of His words, "If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

In the Old Testament stones were often used to communicate a message or a testimony. The Ten Commandments were written on tables of stone. In Joshua are the familiar words, "What mean ye by these stones?" They were there to testify of the delivering power of God to the generations that followed.

In the New Testament Peter said, "Ye also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5). The people of God are alive, telling, witnessing!

In the Word of God, stones are often associated with judgment. In Joshua 10:1 we read that the "Lord cast great stones out of heaven" and that more died by this means of judgment than by the sword.

Stone's have cried out. In the wilderness when Israel refused to praise God and instead murmured against Him, the rock cried out with the gushing water at the command of Moses.

Look also at the tremendous words in Habukkuk 2:11: "For the stones shall cry out of the wall, and the beam . . . shall answer it." Scientists tell us that every word and every sound emitted in a building is forever recorded in its walls and structure. They only lack the know-how to play it back to us.

Some have questioned how God could manage to record man's deeds for judgment, and how every idle word could be called to account. This will pose no difficulty to our God, for it appears that His record-keeping is as much a part of the process of life as are day and night. How tremendous that "the stones shall cry out of the wall."

Jesus said, "If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." Very soon after, men did "hold their peace." Jesus was dying on the cross. Triumphant hosannas were no longer heard. And the Saviour of the world died.

Then it happened as Jesus said it would! "And behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom, and the earth did quake and the rocks rent" (Matthew 27:51). The rocks could not keep silent when "the lively stones" of humanity had ceased their cries of adoration. These faithful witnesses opened their throats



Norman Gardner

of granite in earth-shaking testimony that caused the centurion to exclaim, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

But this was not all, for on the third day "there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it" (Matthew 28:2). The stone, designed to keep Jesus Christ in the tomb and His followers out, became the resting place of the angel of God. There he awaited the opportunity to pass on the good news that would transform the disciples' sorrow into triumphant praise and testimony once again.

The tomb of Jesus was hewn out of a rock. God Almighty opened the rock's mouth by rolling away the stone. That rock cried out, "Empty!" Jesus meant it when He said that stones would cry out.

John the Revelator saw that in the last days the ungodly would call upon the rocks—those witnesses of God that refuse to be silent—to hide them from the face of God (Revelation 6:16).

But what a different fate for the child of God in that day. "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it" (Revelation 2:17).

A little glimpse of the New Jerusalem is provided in Revelation 2:10, 11: "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal."

Yes, stones have cried out. And stones will continue to cry out—the "lively stones" of the redeemed—for all eternity.



STONES CRY OUT

By **NORMAN GARDNER**
Pastor, Bethel Temple, Los Angeles, California

THE ELEMENTS OF CHOICE ARE NOT ALWAYS BETWEEN THAT WHICH IS TOTALLY BAD AND THAT WHICH IS TOTALLY GOOD.



BETWEEN THE BETTER AND THE BEST

By WILLIAM L. THORNTON

Pastor, Bethel Temple, Hayward, California

ONE DAY LONG AGO a young man sat caressing the polished wood of his violin. He loved this instrument, his friend of long hours. It was capable of such lovely music, expressing as in no other way the deep musings of his spirit. He was a good violinist; his future was promising.

Then he placed the cherished instrument in its case, closed the lid firmly, turned and walked away. He never picked it up again.

On that day the Battle of Waterloo was won and Napoleon went down in defeat. Oh, not literally on that day, for the battle was not to be fought for many days. But that was the day the Duke of Wellington decided to be a soldier, to allow nothing to hinder his development in the career he had chosen. He intended to have but one aim—to be a good soldier. So he made his choice.

Life is filled with choices like this—between the better and the best. It is inevitable that such choices be made. We are creatures of choice, and the elements of choice are not always between that which is totally bad and that which is totally good. Most of our life-changing choices are in the realm of good, but there is quite a distinction between the good and the best.

This becomes vitally important in spiritual matters. We are constantly tempted to choose that which will bring us the most comfort, the greatest material gain, that which will be easiest. These temptations are hard to overcome.

We know there is a high road of Christian victory. We know that God blesses the life totally dedicated to holiness. There is a lower road of compromise and half-victory where the passions of the body and spirit are not fully controlled by the Holy Spirit.

There is a high road of Christian stewardship where one's all is dedicated to extending Christ's kingdom throughout the world. Walking this road the Christian is very aware that all that he has is the Lord's. A regular share of time, energy, material wealth, and talent is set

aside and dedicated wholly for this great cause. There is a lower road where self is king and stewardship is spasmodic, momentary, and prompted solely by emotional urges.

There is the high road of Christian service. Paul said he was "an apostle by the will of God." The Christian who walks this high road is able to say, no matter what his occupation or status, that he is what he is and where he is because this is what God has ordained for him. There is the lower road. The Christian who walks it has thoughtlessly chosen a vocation without earnestly seeking God. There has been no firm dedication of the life to God.

Many have chosen these lower roads. They are the safest to walk. It is the comfortable life. But it is God's second best.

God is not going to leave the man who takes the second best. Because of our choices perhaps we can never know His perfect will. But the Master Potter knows how to make another vessel "as it pleaseth him."

Perhaps most of us have in many ways chosen the second best. And we can be glad that the judgment of God does not fall upon all those who miss His absolute and perfect best.

But this is true: when a man takes the second best, leanness comes into his soul. He cannot know full intimacy with God on the lower road.

He cannot know the greatest sense of fulfillment when occupied with God's second best. He will be lean in the assurance that he is pleasing his Lord.

He cannot know the fullest flow of spiritual power. He will be lean in the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

He cannot know the fullest glow of the glory of God. He will be lean in joy.

He cannot know the fullest calm of His peace. He will be lean in the serenity that belongs to those who have chosen His best.

These truths are demonstrated throughout the Bible.

Certainly Adam chose the second best for his life. He will be in heaven, but history records his terrible choice.

Lot selfishly chose the well-watered plains of Jordan and became bound by that choice. He lived a life of frustration, agony, and fear, later haunted by his poor choices.

Esau was not smitten with leprosy the day he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. But throughout his life he reaped the pitiful results of his choice.

What about Jacob? Can we think he chose God's best when he plotted with his mother to gain the blessing by fraud? The best for Jacob surely would have been for this to come to him in God's time and in God's way.

We wonder sometimes if Solomon's great exemplary choice was indeed the very best. He asked for wisdom to go out and come in before the people. Why didn't he ask for holiness of heart? Why didn't he ask for divine strength to resist the temptations that came from wealth and power? His failures indicate there might have been a choice that was best rather than a choice that was admittedly good.

Israel constantly reaped the results of these lesser choices. At Kadesh-barnea they chose the sure comfort of the wilderness rather than the challenge of possessing the new land. They asked for a king so they might be like other nations. Psalm 106:15 records a summary of Israel's experience: "He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul."

Because this matter is so important, we would do well to think how we might fortify ourselves against choosing the second best.

We must develop the ability to make sound judgments. What does the Bible say is best? How does the Holy Spirit lead us? What good counsel can we glean from spiritual people? Is our judgment sound and trustworthy when these decisions need to be made?

We can be sure we will choose the best only when we have reached the place of surrender of self. As long

as self is on the throne, the choice will be wrong. Until we can say, "I am crucified with Christ," we will always choose the comfortable and the easy.

It is also important to have a settled purpose. We must make definite, firm decisions that involve our entire lives in relation to the will of God, holy living, and dedicated Christian service. Any threat to this overall settled purpose must be immediately, strongly, violently rejected.

In this realm a strong will is imperative. Unless a will is firmly set there can be no achievement. Finding this will of God demands sustained effort. We can never let down, never slacken the pace.

And we know there must be spiritual power. We are insufficient for these things in ourselves. Only as the power and grace of God fill our lives are we able to choose His absolute best for our lives.

A young executive walked into my office one day. He had been in our city only a matter of months. It was the rule in the company that any man must stay at least two years in a position before being considered for advancement. Yet this young man had been with the company less than a year when the home office in New York City tapped him for an important position, bypassing company rules.

I think I shall never forget his words. "Pastor, will you pray for me? I cannot trust my own judgment. This opportunity is everything I have worked for, but I know that the most important thing for my life is the will of God. I need spiritual guidance to make the right choice. I need the help that prayer can bring." He wanted not the good, nor the better, but the best.

Had this young man stubbornly made his own choice, thinking only of himself and his desires, it might have been said of him, "God gave him his request, but sent leanness unto his soul."

Let us never choose the good or the better when we can choose the best.

LESSONS FROM A RAINDROP

SPARKLING IN THE SUNSHINE, the drop of water glistened like a diamond. First a shaft of red, then of gold. As I watched, other colors became visible—green and blue, the rays of light creating a tiny prism. The full range of prismatic colors was there all the time, but I saw them only as the drop quivered in the gentle breeze.

How like this our lives should be! The tiny droplet revealed no evidence of the dark and violent storm through which it had come; only the radiance of the light now available to it. It was unworried although it was

soon to fall from the downspout to oblivion in the ground beneath. Crystal clear, it simply let the light shine through.

And it is only as we remain calm and unharried by the cares of life, refusing to bear the weight of tomorrow's concerns that the light of God shines through us. The drop of water, hanging so precariously outside my window, was unaware of the moment of glory it brought to me. Just so we bless others and magnify His name when without display we simply let His light shine forth.

The Bible tells us our lives are as a vapor that vanishes away and as the grass which quickly withers in the burning sun. How we live these fleeting moments is vitally important.

Some seem to be cut down before their time. But even in the midst of the harsh reality of death, the crowning beauty of the life through which the Sun of Righteousness has shone lingers in the hearts and memories of those who beheld the full prism.

And although the earthly tabernacle drops to the earth, the spirit rises to exhilarating reality in the presence of the Lord. There is no oblivion for the child of God—but everlasting life and the full radiance of the Light of the world in that land where there is no need for the sun.

—VERNA B. FLOWER

When the General Sent for Me



By Evangelist JAMES L. SNYDER

WHILE SERVING IN THE MARINE BARRACKS at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, I was often assigned as noncommissioned officer in charge of headquarters. My office was located at the opposite end of the building from that of the camp officer of the day.

During the evening hours it was not uncommon for a few men to come in and spend their free time talking and drinking coffee. Sometimes five or six of us would be gathered there.

One night one man left the group without being noticed and went into an office nearby. There in the darkness he dialed the officer of the day and for about 15 minutes maliciously attacked his country, corps, commanders, and comrades. He called the Marine Corps a home for bums, alcoholics, and misfits who couldn't make it in civilian life. The general, he said, was a rat. In fact, all officers and other Marines were rats too, he said. All this because he had been denied a weekend pass.

Still listening, the officer dialed the operator on another phone and asked to have the incoming call traced. The operator traced it, but she made a mistake and gave him *my* number!

The next morning my captain informed me that at 9 a.m. I was to appear before the commanding general himself. "And," he added curtly, "he wants to meet you alone!"

I waited nervously outside the general's door, wondering why he would want to talk to me. In seven years of duty with the Marine Corps I had seldom even seen a general, much less been noticed by one. Shortly a lieutenant came out and said sharply, "You can go in now, sergeant!"

I walked briskly into the office, halted two paces in front of the big polished desk and said, "Sergeant Snyder reporting as ordered, sir."

Without looking up he said quietly, "At ease, sergeant."

He was short and stockily built, and his gray hair was closely cropped. Several rows of ribbons on his uniform showed him to be a veteran of Marine campaigns from Belleau Wood in 1918 through the World War II Pacific Island battles.

Without turning my head, I saw that the office was furnished with a leather sofa and several matching chairs, grouped around a large oval-shaped coffee table. The general sat in a big brown leather swivel chair. United States and Marine Corps flags stood in opposite corners behind the general. The stars that decorated his shoulder straps and shirt collar glistened like diamonds in the morning sunshine. I knew I was in the presence of power and authority.

The general removed his dark-rimmed glasses, leaned back in his swivel chair, and asked, "Do you like the Marine Corps, Snyder?"

"Yes I do, sir," I answered. "I'm on my second enlistment." At that moment I realized he already had that information. My service record book was open on the desk in front of him.

"Last night," he began stoutly, "someone called Major Rolfe from your office and chewed him out; called him vile names and cursed the Corps. Was that you?"

"No sir!" I said emphatically.

He was questioning me as to whether anyone else could have used my phone when the general's aide entered. He walked directly to the commander's side and showed him a paper. There was a brief, quiet conversation, then the general dismissed the lieutenant.

"It was hard for me to believe that a regular Marine with your rank and time in service would do that, sergeant," the general said. "Lieutenant Goode just showed me the telephone number of your office and the number that was traced. There is one digit difference. The lieutenant also said that a man has confessed making the call."

"I am sorry you had to come in here," he apologized. After a few more words he stood up and said, "You may leave now, sergeant."

A mistake! It was all a mistake! I had been called on the carpet, not because of my failure, but because of the transgression of another man.

It never crossed my mind at reveille that morning that within a few hours I would stand before the general. But it had happened.


How different it is with the appointment to appear before the Lord. No one will be able to plead ignorance of that appointment. The Bible says, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27) "Everyone of us shall give account of himself to God," and then there will be no mistakes. Each will be judged according to his own deeds.

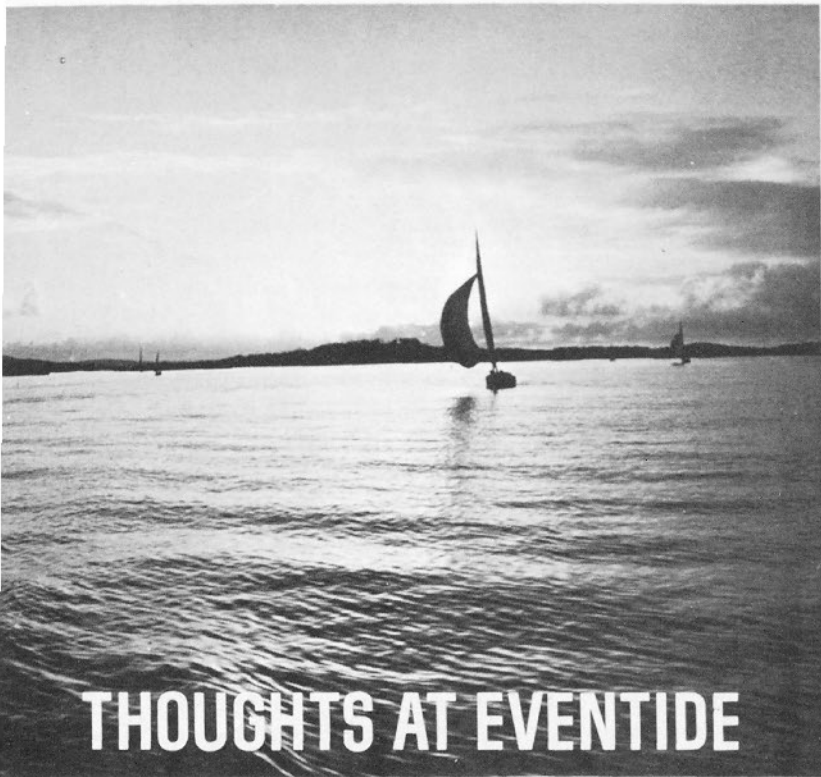
John saw the day of judgment in a vision. The small



and the great stood before the Lord, and every man was judged "out of those things that were written in the books, according to their own works" (Revelation 20:12).

Will you stand before Christ in the guilt of transgressions or in the forgiveness of His mercy and grace? Whether you appear saved or lost on that day will depend

on whether you accept or reject Christ now. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:16, 17). 



H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

THOUGHTS AT EVENTIDE

By **W. O. COX**

Pastor, Assembly of God, Norwood, Missouri

I AM GLAD God did not say He was the Lord only of the young and handsome. If He had, we would be forced to conclude He loved us for our good looks and that when our beauty fades away He will love us no more. He did not say He was the Lord of the busy, middle-aged folk either. If He had, we might think He loved us for what we can do and that when our strength fails He will forsake us.

He is actually the God of all ages, from the youngest to the oldest. "And even to your old age I am he: and even to the hoar hairs will I carry, and will deliver you" (Isaiah 46:4).

God will never forsake us because we are old and feeble. We may suffer pain in our bodies until we have no pleasure in our years. But we can still testify that the God who was precious in our youth also satisfies our souls in our old age.

(Incidentally, if you have come to old age without preparing to meet God, it is not too late. You may yet prepare. God can forgive 70 years of sin as readily as seven.)

You may not wish to consider yourself old, but if you have passed the 60-mark, you have already done a full week's work by Saturday and your body needs to rest on the Lord's Day.

It will not make you one day younger to conceal your age. Some ladies paint up, dye their hair, and have their faces lifted. They may fool some of the people by looking 20 years younger; but if they have to climb three flights

of stairs, they will not fool anyone. They will be huffing and puffing like anyone else their age.

Older folk often complain about what they cannot do. They would be better off if they would think more on the many things they can do. They often make the excuse, "I'm getting so old." They are not getting old faster than anyone else. We all grow older one day at a time.

Age is a time of special memories for the child of God. We remember the many happy times of blessing, deliverances, victories. The memories of answered prayer are like cancelled checks. They have been paid off in full. To the young Christian, God's promises may look as thin as a spider's web or as flimsy as tissue paper, for they have not yet rested their full weight upon them and found them faithful. But we know they are true. We have tried them out. We have faced the fiery darts of Satan and have come through the battle with victory in our souls. We have waded through waters of discouragement and the waters have not overwhelmed us.


We can witness to those coming along the road behind us that God will lead them through their hard places in victory also. Older folk, our warning is the best. If a bridge is washed out and a youth tries to wave down a traveler, he will probably travel on, saying, "Get out of my way, you young smarty." But if he sees a gray-headed man or woman trying to wave him down, the traveler will stop.

Your many years of experience in Christian living can open up mysteries to younger folk they have never known before. The young Christian staggers as he looks at the promises of God, and says, "I wonder if they are true?" The older Christian can say, "I know they are true for I have tried them out."

Our physical strength may be failing, but inwardly we are renewed like the eagle. It is right that we should have less earthly business as we near the heavenly shore, and we should spend more of our time on spiritual things.

The law of nature shortens our steps, grays our hair, and dims our eyes, alerting us that we are nearing the end of our journey. Death is near, but heaven is near also. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Corinthians 5:1).

You are not bad off because you are old. There are others younger than you who are footsore and weary, whose pathway is strewn with thorns. They would gladly trade places with you if they could because you are so near home.

Why should we weep when harvesttime comes? It is then that we receive the reward of our labors. The Bible says, "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age" (Psalm 92:14). No fruit is so sweet as that which is allowed to stay on the vine and mellow with ripeness. Let us stay sweet and mellow so that in our old age we will be a benediction to those who have yet many miles to travel before they reach the end of their journey. 



HOME TO STAY

By MRS. H. L. CUTLER

PUT THE TELEPHONE BACK in its cradle. Florence, my next-door neighbor, had called to tell me that our mutual friend, Stella, had gone to be with the Lord.

I listened almost in disbelief as I remembered a conversation I had had with Stella less than a week before. I too had been hospitalized, only a few doors away from her room. But I hadn't considered her condition critical when I had come home.

I remembered how greatly surprised I was when a walker slowly appeared in the doorway of my hospital room and her frail figure tottered into view. Enjoying my surprise, she chatted awhile. I hadn't known of her illness and was shocked to learn she had been there nearly a month. We live in different communities, and our meetings, while infrequent, had always been a joy.

Her unexpected visit had been brief, but long enough for me to sense her great sadness. She had been told she couldn't return to her own home since she required constant nursing care. She lived alone.

I reminded her of our blessed hope in Jesus Christ and His promise never to leave us nor forsake us.

Her sad face haunted me, and she was much in my prayers during the stillness of the night hours.

Late the next day she appeared again in my doorway. This time she was bubbling over with joy.

"I must tell you how the Lord blessed me today," she exclaimed. "He gave me the one perfect day of my life."

Hers has been a long life, I reflected. There must have been many happy days. What could have occurred to make this the one perfect day of her life?

I had become acquainted with her eight years ago when the Lord brought us together as an answer to a prayer. The neighbor who had telephoned this morning had been called of the Lord to organize and teach a home Bible class for preschoolers. As she was called to teach the class, so I was called of Him to assist her.

When the class grew, we needed another helper. When

we laid the petition before Him, Stella was the answer.

How thrilled we were to learn she had retired from her employment a year earlier than the compulsory retirement age to serve in whatever way He opened. "I'd like to think I'd helped a little child find Christ," she had responded happily to our need. We three worked together in harmony.

"I am sure a little child can know the Lord," she had commented. "I haven't been a Christian very long, even though I had considered myself a Christian most of my life."

"How did you come to know the Lord?" I asked her one day.

She laughed as she answered. "A young man who worked near me in the factory told me a good life

READ THE WORD

CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 26—JUNE 2

Sunday	John 7, 8	Thursday	John 15, 16
Monday	John 9, 10	Friday	John 17, 18
Tuesday	John 11, 12	Saturday	Isaiah 19, 20
Wednesday	John 13, 14	Sunday	Isaiah 21, 22

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:3).

wouldn't save me. I was furious with him, and in the days that followed I did my best to break down his faith.

"He stood firm and insisted I must have Christ in my heart, through the new birth. I began to get uneasy, all the while intensely disliking him for having upset my theories."

"What finally brought you to a decision?" I asked.

"I had stopped my car to wait while the Franklin Street bridge lifted to let a big riverboat go through. In those few moments conviction suddenly took hold of me. I was terrified for I knew I was lost. I knew that Jesus Christ might not always plead with me if I kept refusing to call on Him.

"By the time that riverboat had passed and the bridge was let down again, I was a new creature in Christ. I knew the exact instant Jesus Christ answered my plea and saved me.

"Everything has been different ever since. I remember I was glad the young man had the courage to tell me I was lost."

After our little class disbanded, our ways crossed only occasionally. I hadn't seen her for several months when I entered the hospital. A mutual friend told her I was there, and she trudged haltingly down the corridor to see me.

"I must tell you of this perfect day of my life," she was saying again.

"Tell me," I urged. "What happened?"

"My pastor and his wife asked the doctor for permission to take me home for the day. It was all a beautiful surprise. I walked through my home, touched its walls, ate lunch at my own table. They stayed with me all day and cared for me as the nurses do here. Oh! I had a wonderful day. I've been gone from home so long," she added wistfully. "I had thought I'd never see my home again."

Then our conversation turned from that earthly homecoming to the Christian's sure hope of going home to be with the Lord.

"I can't even imagine how it will be. An earthly homecoming is a joyous occasion, yet we know there is no comparison," I said thoughtfully. "It is a foretaste of heaven, don't you think?"

Her face glowed; again she repeated: "I've had a perfect day. I went home, even though I couldn't stay. Wouldn't it be wonderful if I could really, truly go Home tonight and be with the Lord?"

Our eyes met in warm understanding, but no words came.

She pressed me for an answer: "What would you say if they told you tomorrow morning I had gone to be with the Lord?"

As I looked at her smiling face, the answer formed in my heart. I replied: "I'd say, 'Praise the Lord. Stella has gone Home to stay!'"

She faced me again, her face shining with happiness.

"To stay," she repeated, her voice almost a whisper. "Promise me that you'll say just that when you hear it?" she entreated earnestly. "Promise?"

"I promise," I agreed. "Let's make a covenant. The one who is left will rejoice for the one who has gone Home, whenever it occurs."

Today, less than a week later, I kept a promise. "Praise the Lord—Stella has gone Home—to stay."

And I wept as I rejoiced for her.



PHOTO BY JOSIE LUDWIG

Forsake Me Not

By CHAS. W. H. SCOTT

Executive Director of Benevolences

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED the greatest fear of the aged? The fear of being forgotten is awesome, especially after many years of active ministry and service to people. And just as terrible, after years of sacrifice and dedication, is to be forced to retire with little hope of sufficient funds to meet daily requirements.

Section III of Article 16 of the General Council Bylaws reads: "The Department of Benevolences shall be authorized to solicit regular contributions from the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God. Each church in the Fellowship is expected to cooperate by sending two special offerings annually for National Benevolences or by placing the Department of Benevolences in its monthly budget."

Section IV, identified as "Aged Ministers Assistance," reads as follows: "Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers and missionaries of the Assemblies of God and to their widows because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available."

Based on this authorization, the Department of Benevolences has established the Aged Ministers Assistance Fund. Checks are sent monthly to many of our retired ministers and their widows according to their need.

The number of superannuated and retired ministers of the Assemblies of God continues to grow. This necessitates additional allotments. These workers are pioneers who helped lay the foundation for our Movement and established churches which have become the backbone of our great Fellowship.

They labored in a complete dedication, without any
(Continued on next page)

thought of themselves or their security for old age. Without financial assistance from district or National Home Missions funds, without adequate support, without pension programs—they actually took no thought for tomorrow, feeling only the urgency of the day in which they lived and the need to preach the gospel to every creature.

The needs of these ministers have not diminished with the arrival of old age. Instead, new and greater needs arise to plague them. Sickness, infirmities, anxiety, despair, and loss of income all contribute to the strain these faithful warriors of the Cross face.

We who enjoy the fruit of their labors must not forget these who have done so much in building our Movement and ask so little of us in return. They deserve our love, our respect, our concern, our interest; they deserve the best we can give them.

Take time to visit them in their homes or in the single room of their lonely surroundings. Include them in the activities of the church. Honor them by acknowledging the work they have done. Help them in the midst of


confusing moments and frustrations. Love them for their godly lives and their sacrificial labors which have helped make possible what we are enjoying today.

These are responsibilities we can neither reject nor delegate. Constrained by the love of Christ, the church and its membership must reach out a helping hand to support these pioneers. They deserve the concern of every church, every pastor, and every member of the 8,500 congregations of our fellowship.

This concern should be manifest in a tangible way as each of our churches sends its semiannual or monthly offerings to the Aged Ministers Assistance Fund so the monthly check can be sent to assist in providing the necessities of life in this era of high living costs.

They entreat us in the words of the Scripture, "Cast me not off in the time of old age; *forsake me not when my strength faileth.*"

The ancient Romans looked to the old men of the senate to guide the ship of state. The patriarchs, prophets, and judges of the Bible were venerated for their wisdom and their years of service. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The Aged Ministers Fund needs the support of all so that these pioneers can be provided for now. *Forsake them not* in the hour of their greatest need. 

AGED MINISTERS ASSISTANCE THIS YEAR


THOSE APPROVED FOR MONTHLY Aged Ministers Assistance in 1968 include 35 couples, 57 widows or widowers, and 22 others (single persons, missionaries, etc.).

A total of 149 persons depend on what we can send to help. These persons represent 37 districts. They may have a place to live, but their monthly support is far from adequate to meet daily needs. Some must pay rent out of an already small Social Security check, and a great many also must have medical care.

The approved monthly budget to help these friends is \$4,346.49, an average of \$29.17 each per month.

With the coming of twilight years, illness and physical breakdown is normal. These dear friends know what it was to struggle through hardships and pioneering. The physical strain has taken its toll. A hospital bill, a lengthy illness, doctor and medical costs—all require a great deal of finance. Any savings is soon wiped out, and only a few can rely on friends or families.

Although some are not eligible for monthly support, we must help during a financial crisis through our Emergency Assistance Fund. This past year, \$1,255 was needed. How much will be needed in 1968? We are never sure. But there are always needs. Who knows—the pastor who led you to Christ may need assistance this year.

On *Memorial Sunday, May 26*, don't forget them! Pray for our aged ministers. Give a substantial love offering in memory of that pastor or his widow who started the church where you found the Lord. 

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

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A SPIRIT-ANOINTED LEADER

Sunday School Lesson for June 2, 1968

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

2 SAMUEL 22:29-37; 23:1-5

OUR LESSON IS COMPOSED OF TWO SONGS of David. The first undoubtedly was written after David, delivered from Saul and installed as king, had defeated the enemies, tribes, and peoples who had opposed his reign. (See 2 Samuel 8:9, 10.) The second, much shorter song is said to have been "the last words" of David. This probably means the last of his many Spirit-inspired utterances in song.

THE FIRST SONG (2 Samuel 22:1-37)

This is a repetition of Psalm 18, but with understandable differences in phraseology. It is a song of deliverance.

David's God (vv. 1-3). David looked back in happy retrospect on the manifold and marvelous mercies of God, and his heart was overwhelmed with love and devotion. With eight endearing figures of speech he attempted to express what God was to him—Rock, Fortress, Deliverer, etc. Nine times the word *my* occurs in this passage. We may have nothing of this world's goods, but if we can say with David, "God is *my* God," then we possess the greatest of all riches.

David's prayer for deliverance (vv. 4-7). In strong, figurative language David recalled perils he had known and enemies he had faced. But these perils did not make him forget that Jehovah was his God.

David's God to the rescue (vv. 7-19). "He heard my voice" (ASV). In beautiful, poetic language David described God coming to his rescue, terrible in wrath against His enemies, moving heaven and earth in order to deliver His child. Is David's language exaggerated? Not at all. God's intervention on behalf of His own is indeed supernatural and miraculous.

Reasons for deliverance (vv. 20-24). Back of all God's mercies to man is free grace, unmerited favor. Yet that grace is not available to those who harbor sin. Thus David said, "He delivered me because he delighted in me. The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness." Not that David was a legalist, nor that he felt he was worthy of God's favor; he simply had fulfilled the conditions whereby he could receive the grace of God.

Lessons learned from deliverances (vv. 25-37). Experiencing God's help gives one confidence in God for future trials and teaches him valuable lessons concerning God and His ways.

1. "The Lord will lighten my darkness." Because God had given light in the past, David was certain He would give light in future times of darkness.

2. David realized God was the source of his strength, that God's power alone had enabled him to "run through a troop" and "leap over a wall."

3. "As for God, his way is perfect." Perhaps this is the greatest lesson David learned. He might have complained against God because of the many hardships and trials to which he had been subjected, yet he looked on them all and acknowledged that God is wise, just, and loving in engineering and arranging circumstances.

4. "Thy gentleness hath made me great." David refused to fight and contend for what God intended him to inherit. His policy of meekness, gentleness, and refusal to retaliate did not make sense to many of his friends, but it did bring the approval of God upon his life and secured the throne for him.

DAVID'S LAST SONG (2 Samuel 23:1-5)

These words probably were written in the sunset of David's life, during the period of calm after he had recovered from the grief and consequences of his sin and was conscious of God's renewed favor.

He spoke of himself as having been "raised up on high" through the grace of God; of having been "anointed of . . . God" to lead the people aright.

Finally, in beautiful and metaphorical language he described the character of an ideal ruler. As the sun rises to dispel the darkness of night and as the rain falls on dry ground and is followed again by benevolent rays of the sun, so a righteous ruler blesses those over whom he rules and inspires beauty and growth in his kingdom. David admitted his own rule had fallen short of the ideal, yet he rejoiced that God had kept His covenant with him and expressed his desire to measure up to the ideal.

NON-SLIP FEET



HOME MISSIONS SCHOOLS GRADUATE MORE PROSPECTIVE WORKERS



The choir of Latin American Bible Institute, El Paso, Tex., is a blessing to the school and Spanish churches of the vicinity.

By RUTH LYON

HOME MISSIONS BIBLE SCHOOLS are giving the Assemblies of God a big boost in its evangelistic outreach. This year they are graduating 261 students, many of whom will enter some type of ministry among their own people. Enrollment reached a high of 845.

During 1967 the Spanish Eastern and Latin American Branches led the nation by opening 28 new churches between them. No doubt some of the progress of these two districts has been made possible by the enthusiastic participation of their youth in evangelism outreaches.

The Special Ministry fields represent a potential ministry to 35,000,000 people. The dedicated graduates of our Home Missions schools have prepared themselves to work among these ethnic and minority groups.

The Home Missions Department supervises nine Bible schools: American Indian Bible Institute in Phoenix, Ariz.; the Far North Bible School of Alaska; the Institute of Missions in Rhinebeck, N.Y.; Latin American Bible Institutes at El Paso, Tex., La Puente, Calif., and Chicago, Ill.; Spanish American Bible Institute, New

These graduates of the American Indian Bible Institute at Phoenix, Ariz., look forward to ministry among their people.



York City; Assemblies of God Bible Institute, Bayamon, P.R.; and Spanish Bible Institute, Miami, Fla.

AMERICAN INDIAN

On February 20, 1968, the new site for the American Indian Bible Institute was dedicated in Phoenix. Indebtedness remaining on the tract of land is in excess of \$20,000, and this amount needs to be cleared before new buildings are erected. Plans call for constructing two dormitories, a dining-kitchen complex, and a classroom building as the first phase of the relocation and enlargement project.

Don Ramsey is president of the school which is sponsored by the National Home Missions Department and by six districts: Arizona, New Mexico, Northern California-Nevada, Southern California, West Texas, and Rocky Mountain.

The largest senior class in the history of AIBI was graduated on Thursday evening, May 9, at the Salt River Pima Indian Assembly, Scottsdale, Ariz. All graduates plan to enter some phase of home missionary activity.

The Latin American Branch has three schools with a total enrollment of 230.

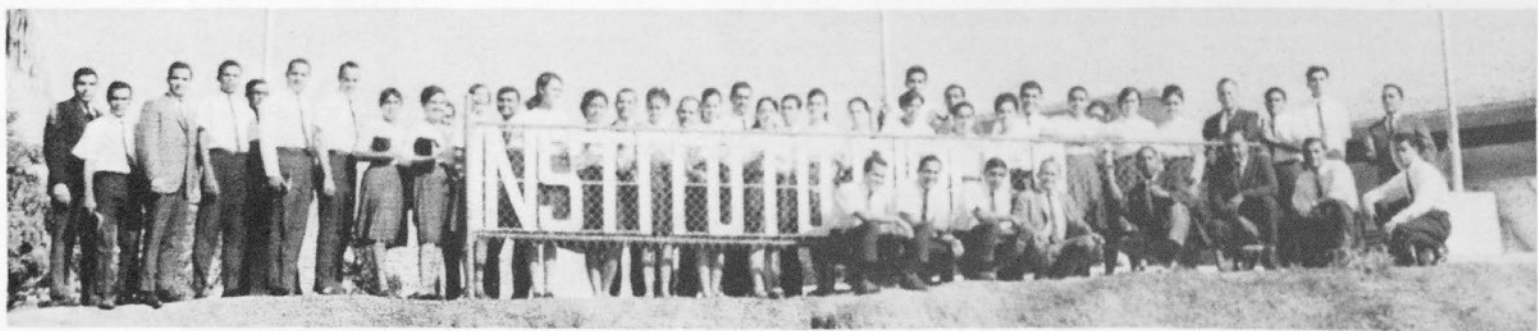
LATIN AMERICAN BRANCH

The Latin American Bible Institute of El Paso broke its record with 115 students enrolled this year. Of the 16 graduates, some young men have already been elected pastors of churches.

The school's greatest handicap is lack of facilities for growth. They need a new building to house classrooms and a library.

Archie Martinez, superintendent, reports the school had one of the best revivals in its history, with several students receiving the Baptism, and some visitors finding Christ as Saviour.

The Latin American Bible Institute of La Puente enrolled 80 this year, which is the largest enrollment in its history. The school is crowded beyond capacity. One girl and 11 young men make up the graduating class. The



Students of Instituto Biblico Asambleas de Dios in Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

school has not added any new facilities but urgently needs more dorm space and a library.

Some of the students have been assisting a Spanish home missions work. On Saturday afternoons they do visitation and then hold Spanish services in the evenings in Bethel Temple in Los Angeles. Other students have been holding jail services and ministering to young delinquents. The school choir was on tour for a week in northern California and was a great blessing to the churches they visited. Joel B. Torres is school superintendent.

The Instituto Biblico Latino Americano in Chicago, located at 2024 N. Halsted St., is a night Bible school which has been operating for six years. Although not a full-time institution, it is supplying a need for workers in that area. The school enrolled 35 students this year and has graduated a total of 30 students since 1962. It offers a three-year course. Some of the school's graduates have become pastors and some are teaching in the Bible school. Graduation exercises will take place June 29. Miguel Arroyo is superintendent.

SPANISH EASTERN BRANCH

The Spanish Eastern Branch has schools in New York City; Miami, Fla.; and Bayamon, P. R.

The Spanish American Bible Institute, New York City, reports 389 students enrolled and 195 graduates. The main school, located in Manhattan, has five extension schools. Adolpho Carrion, superintendent of the Spanish Eastern Branch, is school superintendent. Each extension school also has a director.

Commencement exercises will be held in the Bronx (John 3:16 Church) on June 29 at 7 p.m.

The six-year-old Spanish school in Miami enrolled 32

students and graduated three. More adequate facilities are becoming an urgent need. This is the only Spanish Bible school in the South; and as it gains recognition, more students seek admission. Classes for this night school are conducted in Evangel Temple.

Most of the graduates of the school are now pastoring or teaching and helping in Spanish churches, thus making a great contribution to the growth of the work. Many students cannot afford the tuition of \$100 a year plus books, so the school appreciates those who help to underwrite the expenses of such students. Andres Roman is school director.

Commencement exercises will be held May 27 at 8 p.m. at Evangel Temple, Miami.

The school at Bayamon, P. R., is also making strides. They enrolled 46 students and graduated eight from the third-year class and 17 from the Christian education program. Funds are urgently needed for several new buildings to care for the growing student body. They hope to be able to accommodate 60 next year.

Students of the school helped some missions that are being started in Caguas, Ceiba, and Royal Town. Also two students are beginning a work in Cayé.

The school had 40 days of prayer (16 hours of prayer daily) before Easter. Students and faculty are praying especially that some U.S. churches will feel the burden to underwrite the education of 10 students (\$25 a month per student) who have talent but need Christian training to be able to put their talent to work for God in Puerto Rico.

Graduation exercises at Bayamon were held at the Jerusalem Temple in Santa Juanita, Bayamon, on May 17. Andres Rosa is the school director.

Students and faculty of the Spanish Bible Institute in Miami, Fla. Andres Roman, director, and his wife are at the right, front row.



Graduates of the Latin American Bible Institute in La Puente, Calif. The school had its largest enrollment with 80 students.



CONSIDER THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE BLIND

HANDICAPS ARE SOMETIMES VEHICLES TO SUCCESS. The business world now recognizes this. "Hire the handicapped" is an oft-heard slogan, and employers testify that these individuals become conscientious, dependable, and proficient employees.

Helen Keller, both deaf and blind, speaks freely with her voice; she converses fluently in several languages. Miss Keller reads braille and writes lively, sparkling poetry.

There are more than 6,000 deaf-blind people in the USA and 416,000 blind people. They too have latent abilities, potentials which must be developed.

John Milton, renowned English poet, wrote his vivid descriptions of hell, angels, and paradise after he became blind from glaucoma. He has blessed succeeding generations through literature despite his handicap.

Many blind organists have contributed some of the finest musical compositions for the organ. Among the earliest of these is Francesco Landino of Florence, Italy. Blinded in childhood by smallpox, he devoted himself to music and left a legacy of approximately 150 organ compositions. Landino's name continues to be highly revered in 20th-century musical circles. A contemporary

THE MISSIONARY AWOKE EARLY IN THE MORNING. The birds had not yet begun their joyful songs, and the morning sun had not yet risen. He was wide awake, with a gnawing feeling way down inside. The thought drummed over and over in his mind: *My nearest neighbor is the medicine man and his charming wife and lovely family. Today I must visit them and tell them about Jesus.*

The interruptions of the night had fatigued him. An Indian family had needed the missionary's car jack so they could fix a flat tire and get home. Another Indian man wished a ride home during the night; still another

WILL YOU BRING JESUS TO MY HEART?

"I remember all you told me before, every word. There may not be time to tell me again," the sick Indian woman said to the missionary.

By **FREDA DOUGLAS** / Parker, Arizona



Fred Sweeney mails gospel tapes from the gospel tape library he and his wife Edna operate for the blind in cooperation with the Home Missions Department.

By **HARRY J. BROTZMAN JR.**
Coordinator of Deaf and Blind Ministries

of today, blind Helmut Walcha of Frankfurt, Germany, has recorded the complete organ works of Bach.

The Christian church has felt the impact of such blind people as Didymus, a fourth-century theologian. Although blinded at the age of four, his excellent memory and great gifts enabled him to become one of the most learned men of his time. He was recognized as an

stopped in the middle of the night to use the telephone, to ask for prayer, and to discuss an urgent problem.

After breakfast the exhausted missionary looked out his living room window across the road to the medicine man's house. "Today I must go to them," he repeated aloud.

He watched for signs of life, movement, the opening of the door, but nothing happened. The hours ticked away. The missionary prayed awhile. Then, opening the door, he gazed once again across the road to the house. *Today salvation must come to this house. This is the day of joy. Can I wait much longer?* he thought to himself, for he felt the Holy Spirit's urgent leading to witness to this family.

Hopefully the missionary waited. Finally a small puff of smoke came from the chimney of this weather-beaten house.

When the missionary was sure breakfast was over, he went to the home to deliver the burning message God had given him. He did not knock. He shuffled his feet and cleared his throat so the occupants would know that someone was outside waiting to be acknowledged.

After a time, the door opened. The medicine man's wife stepped outside on the loose brown sand. The wind tossed her jet black hair. She was wearing a yellow dress and her prized possession, a multicolored beaded necklace. Her feet were bare.

The missionary began to deliver the message on his heart—the message of salvation. Clutching tightly the loose seed beads in her hand, the Indian woman gazed intently at the ground as she listened. Then she said, "Go now! I must finish my bead work on my loom. It is almost time for the Indian Fair. My work is known all


Didymus was associated with the School of Alexandria (Egypt) for more than 50 years and served as one of the last masters of this catechetical institution. One of his pupils, Jerome, translated the Latin Vulgate.

Within blind people today lie the possibilities to bless the lives of others. Our society provides increasing opportunities for the blind to give expression to their talents.

But the Assemblies of God has stepped into an area of service untouched by others—providing full-gospel braille literature. In 14 countries of the world and most of our states, more than 800 blind people are receiving braille materials produced by the Home Missions Department.

Through Sunday school quarterlies written for various age groups and *The Pentecostal Digest*, blind people are receiving Biblical instruction and spiritual encouragement. And they are able to share these blessings with others.

More than 300 gospel tapes are now available to blind people who have tape recorders. These afford inspiration and enjoyment to many who have limited full-gospel braille materials or who are unable to read braille.

It is the desire of the Home Missions Department to enlarge its ministry to the blind. As soon as it is feasible, a circulating library of full-gospel books in braille will be established. When this becomes a reality, we will begin to fill the long-standing need of the blind for additional wholesome reading material. 

over this area. I like to sit by the booth where my work is displayed to hear what white people say as they pass by. You must go now! I cannot talk another minute. My loom needs me, but I will think about what you told me."

The missionary returned home. He had delivered his soul. But he wondered, *Have I failed in some way? Did I explain in words she could understand?* After all, she was a Mohave Indian and he a Canadian. Was the gap too great? Had he said something wrong? Had he made a breach of etiquette of some tribal custom? If he could only use words in her vocabulary that had meaning to her. He had tried, but perhaps he had failed!

Suddenly the missionary remembered one ray of hope. The woman had promised to think of all he had said while she worked at her loom. He had sown the seed.

A few days passed. Someone came to the missionary's door. It was Flying Arrow, son of the medicine man. He stood there, his head down and his voice trembling between sobs. "Mama," he said, "they took her to the hospital; she will die. She tell me to come, tell you."

The missionary and his wife rushed to the Indian hospital and visited the sick woman. The missionary softly said, "I want to talk to you again about the salvation story."

The medicine man's wife replied, "Stop! I don't need talking now. I remember all that you told me before, every word. There may not be time to tell me again! Missionary, will you bring Jesus to my heart and life? Will you tell Him I want Him? I need Him right now! I need Him now and in my life afterward in my Happy Hunting Ground. Hurry or there might not be enough time."

The missionaries prayed a simple prayer. The woman's

OUR UNIQUE MINISTRY



AT HOME

SO DIFFERENT—YET ALL ALIKE!

Blind, deaf, problem teens, Jews, foreign language groups, Eskimos and Aleuts, American Indians, prisoners—how different they all are. Yet so much alike, for all are cut off from the mainstream of our life in America, and multitudes of each group are without Christ or a Christian witness. This unique mission field right here at home is our focus on June 2, Special Ministries Day. We trust that churches and individuals will participate in this special emphasis. The Home Missions Department has program materials available upon request. Offerings from churches or individuals should be sent to the address given below.


SPECIAL MINISTRIES DAY • JUNE 2

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
1445 Boonville, Springfield, Mo. 65802

eyes remained closed, but after a time, they flickered a bit, and tears coursed down her cheeks. A big smile lighted her face. "Something happened," she said. "I feel so calm, so quiet, so restful. I feel so clean way down inside. I am not afraid to die. The rough river that I must cross is a peaceful river now. I am ready for my long home. I will live in His pasture field with my many Indian friends forever. I am so happy. I want to sing a Jesus song, but I don't remember any to sing. Missionary, you know so many songs. Why can't I sing just one?"

In a few days, with bubbling joy, the medicine man's wife went to the Home she had described.

The missionary's loom is his work for the Lord. He must do all he can and trust the Holy Spirit to weave His own beautiful pattern in the lives of these precious, neglected Indian people in the mission field at our own front door. The need for workers is great.

Remember the Indian woman's words: "There may not be time to tell me again. Will you bring Jesus to my heart?" Time is running out for many Indians who have never been told the old, old story of redemption. 



WHEN REVIVAL WILL COME

By OSWALD J. SMITH

THERE WILL BE REVIVAL when God's people pay the price. When I say that, I realize certain objections will be raised. I am well aware of two distinct views regarding revival. Some say that revival cannot be worked up. God works when He wants to work, and no man can ever hinder or hurry Him. Our part is to pray. Others say that man has a great deal to do with revival.

It reminds me of two farmers. One looks at his fields and says, "I would like a crop this year. However, there is nothing I can do about it." With that he goes into his house, sits down, and prays for a crop.

The other farmer says, "I would like a crop this year, and there is a great deal for me to do." He goes to work. He plows the ground. He harrows and rolls it and then plants the seed. After he has done all he knows is necessary, he looks to God to send the sunshine and the rain. With perfect confidence he looks forward to the harvest.

Which of the two farmers would you prefer? I would choose the second. He is the only one using common sense.

So it is with revival. God sends it, I know, but there is a great deal that you and I can do—and will have to do—before there can be revival. It is my conviction, based on personal experience and the histories of the revivals I have studied, that any church or community can have a revival at any time, if it wants to pay the price.

If revival depends upon our meeting the conditions and paying the price, then what are those conditions? What is the price to be paid?

CONFESSION OF SIN

When we get right with God, there will be revival. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18). God will not even bend down and listen to what I have to say if I am harboring sin in my heart. No one else may know anything about it; but unless I confess it and put it away, God will not listen to my prayer.

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:1, 2). The picture is that of a man who has fallen into the water and is being swept away by the current. Men reach out their hands to save him, but they

fail because their arms are not long enough. God can reach the drowning man. Where is the trouble? "Your sins," He says, "your iniquities." Like a cloud, man's sin hides the face of God, separating man from God so that God is unable to rescue and save. The fault lies with man.

If you are a Christian, you may have a besetting sin. You have been delivered from most of your sins, but there is one that holds you in bondage. It may be a habit, something you try to persuade yourself is harmless. Perhaps you have been living a life of sinning and repenting by turns; there has been no clear break. In a moment of weakness, you surrender yourself to your besetting sin. It now has a hold on you that you are unable to break. You know what it is, and God knows what it is. That sin robs you of divine power. That sin makes it impossible for God to use you. Until you confess it and put it away, forsaking it utterly, you will not be right with God. Have you turned from everything you know to be wrong, or are you allowing deliberate, known sin in your life?

RESTITUTION OF WRONGS

Not only must there be confession; there must also be restitution. Wrongs must be made right. If you have injured others, apologies may be in order. You cannot be right with God and at the same time wrong with your fellowmen. Perhaps there are debts that will have to be paid. If you will humble yourself before the Lord and give yourself to prayer, allowing the Spirit of God to search you and try you, He will reveal everything. You will know the wrongs that have to be made right, the sins that must be forsaken. I know of no other way to get right with God except by means of confession, renunciation, and restitution. Sin is the one great barrier. That barrier must be removed at all costs.

When I was converted in 1906 in the great Torrey-Alexander campaign in Toronto, I noticed along the streets, in the stores, and in streetcars thousands of little white cards. On both sides these four words were printed in bright red type: "Get Right with God." It made no difference which way the card fell; the message was always there. As a result, thousands were convicted. Those four little words preached a sermon that could never be forgotten.

That is what is needed for revival. God's people must get right. As soon as they do, they will be well on the way toward revival, for the choked channel will be cleared and the way opened for the outpouring of the Spirit of God.

Oswald J. Smith, founder of The Peoples Church, Toronto, Canada, has preached the gospel for 60 years. He plans to celebrate his diamond jubilee in the ministry by conducting citywide campaigns in six Australian cities August 10 to September 8.

TRAVAIL IN PRAYER

When we learn how to travail in prayer, there will be revival. Isaiah 66:8 tells us that "as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." Can a baby be born without pain? Most certainly not. So it is with newborn babes in the family of God. There has been soul agony. Because there is so little travail today, few souls are saved. Once again there will have to be nights of prayer.

Many evangelists take a song leader with them. Charles G. Finney took a pray-er, Father Nash. While Finney was preaching, Nash was praying. Somewhere out in the woods this mighty prayer warrior would cry out to God to use Finney to the conversion of lost men and women. William Bramwell agonized for some 36 hours in a sand-pit without food for the souls of men. All God's servants down through the centuries have travailed in prayer. Soul travail is part of the price that must be paid for revival.

WITNESSING THROUGH THE WORD

When we boldly witness for Christ, there will be revival. We must get back to preaching the Word. God's Word is a hammer and it breaks hard hearts. It is a sword and it pierces. It is a fire and it burns. God's people must boldly proclaim the Word if there is to be revival.

In my study of revival and evangelism I have discovered that those most mightily used of God always majored on five subjects: sin and salvation, then heaven and hell, and finally, judgment.

A great many messages must be given on sin, for sin must be exposed if there is to be genuine conviction. When I speak of the subject of sin, I am thinking of unbelief and the rejection of Christ. The fact that men are sinners in God's sight must be definitely emphasized.

Then there must be salvation—the remedy, the cure for the disease.

Souls must be brought face to face with eternity; hence the necessity of messages concerning heaven and hell. Men must realize that this life does not end all and that they must begin to give thought to the life to come.

But even that is not sufficient. There must also be messages on the judgment. Man must know that some day he must meet his Creator. Hence the importance of the warning, "Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12).

If those five subjects are presented, there is bound to be conviction, salvation, and ultimately, revival.

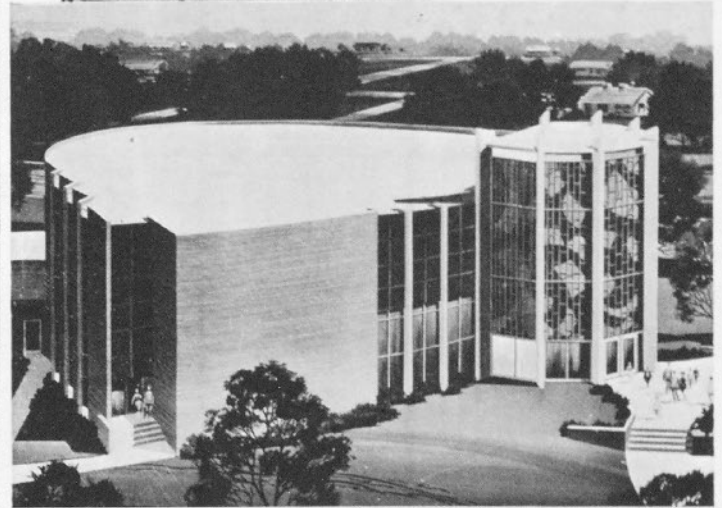
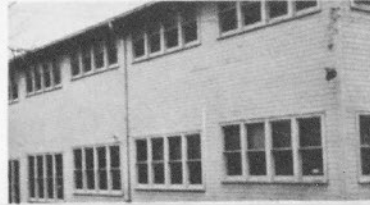
ANOINTING OF THE SPIRIT

When we work in the anointing of the Holy Spirit, there will be revival. The Holy Ghost is the One through whom men are born again. It is the Holy Spirit who takes the Word as it is proclaimed and applies it. We must depend upon Him. We must be certain we have been anointed and that we are preaching with the unction of the Spirit of God upon us.

Those used of God have always been anointed men.

(Continued on page twenty-five)

NEEDED



The E. S. Williams Chapel is an urgent need at Central Bible College

For over 35 years the youth of our Assemblies of God at CBC have been worshipping in a converted camp-meeting tabernacle. Now, in 1968, it is essential that we solicit your aid to erect this beautiful contemporary worship center. But we cannot do this alone . . . we need your help. Let members of the Alumni Association, our many churches and Sunday schools, and our personal friends—let us all see the dire need, and **DO SOMETHING NOW** . . . you will agree that our youth deserve the best place for their worship—the *most important phase of their Bible school training*. Please send your generous gifts to the address below. *God bless you, and thank you.*

President's Office
Central Bible College
3000 N. Grant
Springfield, Mo. 65802

I (or we) by faith pledge \$..... to be paid in 12 months for the construction of the new **E. S. Williams Chapel**.

Enclosed find \$.....

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My Church

My Address:

City

State Zip



OKINAWA BEACHHEAD

By FREDOLF B. SONDENO
Missionary to Okinawa



Pentecostal servicemen stationed on Okinawa take part in the gospel team that invaded Kin.

On April 4, 1945, U.S. Marines moved north across Okinawa and took the village of Kin. Leatherneck George Sondeno directed the construction of the bunkers; and before he left Okinawa, he said to the natives of Kin, "I promise to send you a missionary."

On April 4, 1968, the promise to those villagers was fulfilled as Missionary Fredolf Sondeno, George's own brother, "invaded" Kin to preach the gospel. A beachhead has now been established, and the villagers are turning to Christ.

LOOKING ACROSS THE BAY from my office window I can see Kin village. The burst of big guns, the constant rattle of machine guns at the practice range, the screaming jets overhead, the rumbling of dozens of huge tanks through our main street, convoy after convoy of military vehicles—all remind us that we are very close to the fighting in Asia.

Okinawa—the keystone of the Pacific—has become one tremendous military base. A recent newspaper article says, "It has developed into one of the mightiest military bases in the world."

And the Assemblies of God is here

Special Offerings for FOREIGN MISSIONS

should be sent to:
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Foreign Missions Department
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802

to stay! This is evidenced by the completion of our first church building on Okinawa.

On January 17 Brother Yumiyama, general superintendent of the Japan Assemblies of God, dedicated a beautiful church in Agena. It is constructed to withstand the strongest typhoons which so frequently lambaste this vulnerable little island. From this first stronghold the gospel of Jesus Christ is freely preached. Souls are being saved, and believers strengthened.

The work in Okinawa was officially organized in June 1967. We started construction on this first church in Agena last September and signed a contract for \$8,600 even though we had no money in the bank. I knew this was God's will, so we took a step of faith and saw the Lord perform a miracle. We are still amazed how the four payments of \$2,150 each were made on time. The Lord be praised!

A formidable task force for Christ has been a group of Pentecostal servicemen stationed on Okinawa. These dedicated GI's have gone out with us to the villages every Sunday afternoon and passed out Light-for-the-Lost literature from house to house. These young men are real missionaries. They


call themselves *Modern Centurions* after Cornelius and his band of soldiers.

Ours is a military world as it was in Cornelius' day, and our Great Commission is the same—*Conquer the world for Christ!* It is estimated that there are over 200,000 Americans here on Okinawa. Thousands of troops pass through here every month. Hundreds of them will never see America again. The need for a full-time worker for servicemen is obvious.

The College Internship Program of the Assemblies of God also is a God-inspired strategy. John Snyder and Jack Nobel, with us from Southern California College, Costa Mesa, last summer, gave new impetus to this out-

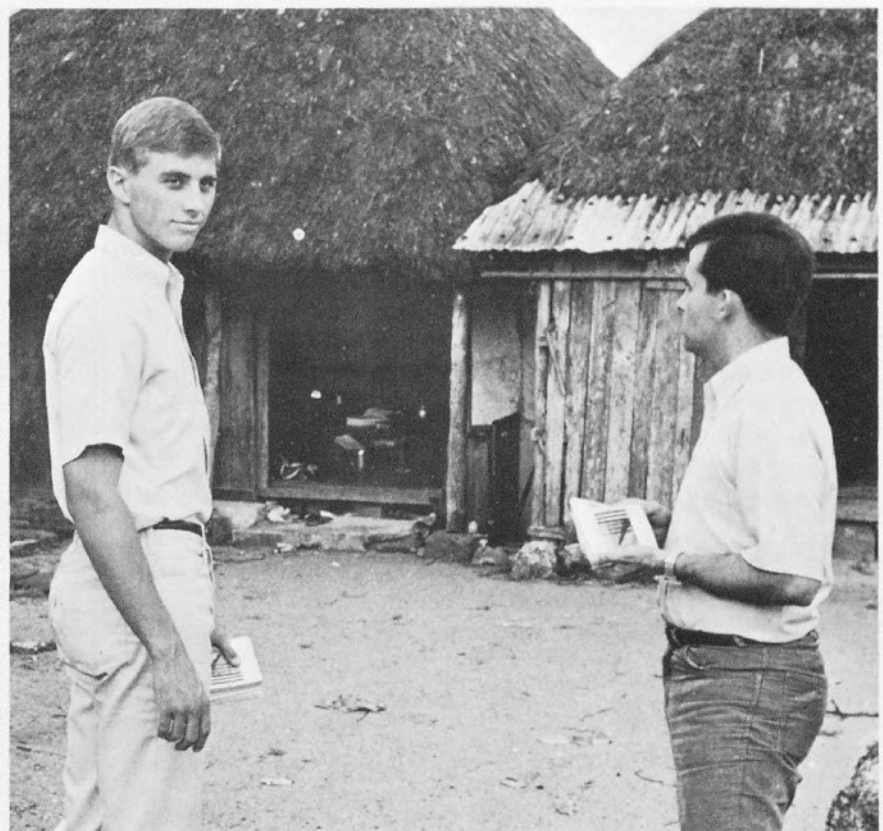
reach for Christ. Their experiences here with us have made them more determined to follow the call of God in their own lives.

Our goal is to establish a stronghold for Christ in each major area of central and northern Okinawa—Agena, Kin, Kadena, Ishikawa, and Nago. We don't need money for guns, but we do need money for bricks—bricks to build the second Assemblies of God fortress at Kin.

The United States Marines have been here for 23 years. We have just begun our work on the island, but God is our Commander, and a great invasion is in progress! Will you *pray* that many heathen souls will surrender to Jesus Christ? 



ABOVE: Many attend the dedication of the first Okinawa Assemblies of God located at Agena. LEFT: Field Secretary Maynard L. Ketcham and Missionary Fredolf Sondeno examine Light-for-the-Lost literature. BELOW: John Snyder (left), and Jack Nobel, students from Southern California College, learn about missions firsthand.



YOUR QUESTIONS

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS



Are people damned who have never had the opportunity to hear the gospel?

This we must leave with God, knowing that "the Judge of all the earth [shall] do right" (Genesis 18:25). Romans 2:14-16 indicates that the heathen may be judged according to the law of conscience.

God is quoted as saying: "I make peace and create evil" (Isaiah 45:7). How can this be reconciled with James 1:13, which says, "God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man"?

In different places in the Bible, the word *evil* is used in the sense of difficulties. For example: "Some evil beast hath devoured him" (Genesis 37:20). "A prudent man foreseeth evil" (Proverbs 22:3). In other words, he sees ahead and prepares. (See also 1 Samuel 20:7; Proverbs 1:33; Ecclesiastes 2:21.) "Deliver us from evil" is not only a prayer that we be kept from sin, but that God will so direct us that we may be spared the bitter things of life. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew 6:34).

I hear people say, "God talks to me." Why doesn't God talk to me?

When I was young, this bothered me too. I wondered why God wasn't talking to me. Then I read a comment made by John Wesley concerning guidance by the Spirit: "The Holy Spirit will guide you into all holy tempers and dispositions." What a relief this was to me. The Spirit is daily guiding us into ever-deepening holiness of character, not gossiping into our ears all the time. We live in the will of God as we seek the Lord. "The steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord." Let us believe we are in God's will as we seek to please Him.

We have been listening to a minister who says the Christian's eternal home will be here on earth, not in heaven. Is this your belief?

I am of the opinion the speaker to whom you refer knows very little about Church truth as taught in the Bible. Perhaps you would like to look up some of the scriptures which speak of the Christian calling.

Christians are partakers of the heavenly calling (Hebrews 3:1). Our conversation (citizenship) is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). We are being preserved unto His heavenly kingdom (2 Timothy 4:18).

We are told to prepare for heaven. "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:20). Our names are written in heaven (Luke 10:20). We have "an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Corinthians 5:2). We have treasures in heaven (Luke 6:23). A reward is laid up for you in heaven (1 Peter 1:4). We shall bear the image of the heavenly (1 Corinthians 15:49; see also John 14:1-3).

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.

PRAYER ROUTS SPINAL

FOR 54 YEARS Mrs. Grace Williamson has devoted her life to the work of the Lord—living proof of the power of prayer. Delivered from the ravages of the dread killer, spinal meningitis, she is a "walking miracle."

Now Evangelist C. M. Ward has told the story of her miraculous experience in a new book titled, *After 54 Years My Healing Still Holds*.

Mrs. Williamson is known to thousands of friends as the mother of Mrs. Bert Webb, whose husband serves as an assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

Speaker Ward begins the elderly widow's story back in 1913 at Dayton, Ohio. There were four of the Williamsons then—Grace, her husband F. L. Williamson, and two children, Jimmy and Charlotte. They were professional entertainers to whom traveling was a way of life. At the age of three, Jimmy was booked as the "youngest tenor singer in the nation."

But in 1913 a ravaging flood swept through Dayton, where the Williamsons lived. The grief and shock that followed changed the course of their entire lives.

Mrs. Williamson remembers: "When the flood struck, my husband was downtown and became marooned for three days and nights. I grieved him dead. I knew the building he had visited had collapsed. There seemed no escape, and waves of hysteria racked me. No one could drag me from the water's edge. The wreckage and sorrow were like the day of doom."

Brother Ward writes, "As Mrs. Williamson anxiously waited for flood waters to recede, her hair turned snow-white from shock and grief. At 28, almost overnight an indelible mark was left on a body which God intended to use to house His Spirit."

Downtown, Mr. Williamson had clambered to safety on high ground, but he was unable to contact his family until four days later. His wife's health seemed broken in the wake of the nightmarish ordeal, and the family moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the suggestion of the family physician.

God began to speak to Mrs. Williamson soon after they arrived in Tulsa, but she refused to yield to His invitation.

Then early one morning disaster struck. Here is how Brother Ward records it:

"What appeared at first to be a chill developed quickly into something far more serious—the first stages of paralyzing spinal meningitis. The next eight weeks became a tussle between life and death.

"The pain was torment. Nine knots twisted her back. In fact the records show that as the disease raged, it twisted Mrs. Williamson so completely that her body was corkscrewed in reverse. The damage was terrifying. There was no possibility of walking."

But God continued to work in the life of Mrs. Williamson. An interested personal worker, Mrs. William Kitchen, visited the crippled young mother and invited her to accept Christ.

"I replied with ugly words that left no doubt about my rebellion," Mrs. Williamson says.

Though his wife repulsed the efforts of Mrs. Kitchen, Mr. Williamson was not so resistant to the working of

MENINGITIS



Evangelist C. M. Ward chats with Mrs. Grace Williamson.

C. M. WARD TELLS GRACE WILLIAMSON'S STORY

the Lord. A few weeks later, through the invitation of a fellow worker, Kimball Gray, he visited a local church and found Christ as Saviour.

Even after her husband's conversion Mrs. Williamson steadfastly denied her need of a divine Comforter. She told Mr. Williamson: "You go on with your Lord if you want to; I'm going to do what I want to do. He hasn't said anything to me!"

Then came the day when the doctor told her plainly, "There is no hope. You cannot live."

In desperation Mrs. Williamson yielded to what she had known all along—she needed God.

Mrs. Kitchen was called for, and she prayed in that sickroom until heaven came down and glory filled the soul of the twisted, bedfast woman.

And with salvation came new faith. One thought burned in the mind of Mrs. Williamson: "We will go to church tonight."

The doctor refused to grant permission, but Mr. Williamson decided to stand by his wife.

"Regardless of what the doctor says, and whether she lives or dies, I'm going to take my wife to the house of God tonight."

An ambulance was called, and a little woman so shriveled and curled her body was only three and a half feet long was placed on the stretcher, screaming in agony with every move she made.

The stage was set for a miracle.

Pastor W. T. Gaston of the Tulsa Assembly of God assured the crippled visitor he knew she was going to be healed that evening. Every person in the con-

gregation prayed earnestly as Pastor Gaston laid hands on Mrs. Williamson.

"Lord," he prayed, "this young woman has wasted her life; but if You can do something to this body, do it, in the name of Jesus."

Mrs. Williamson has relived the moment that followed again and again. She told Brother Ward: "Nine times I heard my back pop, and with each pop I straightened a little more. Then I stood up erect as I am today."

When Pastor Gaston extended his hand toward her, she rose from the cot—and she never went back to it.

Mrs. Williamson ran the length of the building praising God. And she has continued to "run the good race" for the kingdom of the Lord ever since that miraculous moment of divine deliverance. A helpless, dying cripple had been healed instantaneously, and she was determined to tell the world about her Healer.

Once again the Williamson family hit the road. But this time they sang a new song; they told a new story. And in the path of their ministry churches were organized throughout the Midwest.

To Mrs. Williamson the book is an answer to prayer. In a letter to C. M. Ward she wrote:

"It is a wonderful feeling to have the story of my healing in print, as it has always been my goal to have it in tract form or any other medium which would benefit others.

"After learning it was impossible for me to undertake the project, I came home and fell on my knees and told the Lord, 'I guess it isn't your will.' I felt quite resigned and put the matter in God's hand.

"In a very few days I received your letter asking to use my testimony. You will never know how I thanked the Lord and rejoiced.

"I trust the Lord will see fit to use your wonderful description of this healing and transformation for the benefit of others who are not quite as fortunate as I am."

Living proof of the power of prayer!

'AFTER 54 YEARS MY HEALING STILL HOLDS'

A Faith-building Testimony Reported by C. M. Ward

Here's a book you'll want to share with friends and loved ones who are seeking deliverance from physical affliction. Spinal meningitis had brought Mrs. Williamson to death's door. Doctors gave no hope. But through prayer she found deliverance, and today she is a "walking miracle."

Complete the coupon below to receive your copy of this faith-building testimony prepared by *Revivaltime* Evangelist C. M. Ward.

I am enclosing \$..... as a special gift to help "Revivaltime" continue to preach the fundamental truth of the full gospel.

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THE MELVIN SCHMIDT STORY



Melvin Schmidt

By FRED GREVE / Instructor at Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, California

THIS IS A STORY of a *good* boy—in times which seem to popularize the bad deeds of bad boys. It is a story which is poignant and tragic and full of pathos. It is the story as old as the first tear and as fresh as tomorrow's headline. It is the Melvin Schmidt story.

Melvin Schmidt is dead; dead at age 22. Yet he was one of the most promising young preachers in the Assemblies of God. In his brief lifetime he had preached 202 times—preached with great anointing and fervor (although he was, by nature, very bashful and retiring.)

Whenever Melvin preached, results followed because he had a commitment to the absolute attraction of the uplifted Christ, to the unrestrained power of the "simple gospel," as he called it.

Melvin came from a family of preachers—both his mother and father are ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and his brother Marvin is being powerfully used all over the world. His pastor Otis Keener has well said, "Melvin had preaching ability beyond his years..."

Melvin was a *believing* preacher. Once while working on the streets of San Jose, California, in Teen Challenge evangelism, Melvin was knocked down by a bully. His explanation of that event is a remarkable crystallization of his Christian faith: "I couldn't run because that would have been cowardly; I couldn't hit him back because that wouldn't be Christian."

In a street meeting in Watsonville, Melvin spoke to a man emerging from a bar. The man started to hit him; but when he saw the compassion in Melvin's face, he put his head on Melvin's shoulder and began to weep. The Holy Spirit sobered the man instantly, and he accepted Christ as Saviour.

An earnest and effective student at Bethany Bible College, Melvin was chosen to represent the graduating class

of 1965 as commencement speaker, using the theme, "In Christ's Stead." Without any awareness of his own approaching death, Melvin seemed—almost prophetically—to call for dedicated workers to take the place of those weary warriors who had spent and had been spent.

Noting that "God did beseech us through Christ" Melvin pointed out that the Master's closing words on earth were a call to finish the work He had begun. He explained that the Book of Acts was a continuation of Christ's unfinished work, and that the 28 chapters of that book were the "greater works" Jesus had promised. "There is no 'Amen' to conclude this book," he said, "for it is still being written." He emphasized that Jesus was "continuing His work on earth through you and me."

Yet this young man, constrained to do that work, died of cancer on October 29, 1966.

In his very last sermon, preached in Full Gospel Tabernacle in Bakersfield, Melvin said, "Serving God is not a game; it is serious work. If serving God is worth anything, it is worth everything. There can be no half-heartedness, no divided devotion."

In the critical times of his last, suffering-filled months, he continued to bless others. One Bakersfield pastor came to see Melvin in the hospital. Later he said, "I came to minister to Melvin, but he ministered to me." When you entered his room, you would see him with his Bible spread over his chest. There was always a prayer on his lips.

Just shortly before his death he had gone to the church where he loved to worship. Weakened (his six-foot body had weight almost 190 pounds but had been diminished by more than 70 pounds) he fell on the sidewalk. He looked up at his mother and said, "But mother, I'm not discouraged."

The night before he died he was visited by a group from Teen Challenge. To them he affirmed, "God never makes a mistake."

Melvin's parents and his brother Marvin have looked at his death with the view that this seed, fallen, will bear much fruit. At the graveside Marvin prayed, "Help me in one year's time to challenge 100 young people... to present themselves as preachers, in the pulpit or out, to take Melvin's place." At that moment God spoke, "From this planting shall come much fruit."

Marvin Schmidt now has a green leather book with words stamped in gold on the cover, "I Offer Myself unto God in Melvin's Memory." Over 700 persons, stirred by the Melvin Schmidt story, have signed this book. Among them are the owner of a multimillion dollar corporation; a young Lutheran couple (now Spirit-

OPEN MY HEART

Theme for Annual Day of Prayer

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary,
Pentecostal Fellowship of North America

"A certain woman named Lydia . . . whose heart
the Lord opened" (Acts 16:14).

filled); the wife of the state president of a Junior Chamber of Commerce; a young derelict fleeing the call of God, now preparing for the ministry.

A high school senior, moved by Melvin's example, is now youth minister of his own home church. A young man, at first embittered by Melvin's untimely death, has since caught Melvin's spirit and has rededicated his life to God. A fashion designer and lecturer from the University of Utah has given up her career to become a missionary to the American Indians.

One person, hearing the Melvin Schmidt story, accepted Christ and was delivered from LSD. Some former hippies found Christ. A man who had won the world championship drag races two times now has decided to try to continue Melvin's work.

The Melvin Schmidt story, like the Book of Acts, has no "Amen." Evangelist Marvin Schmidt, compelled by a new fire, continues to reach for recruits. He not only preaches and recruits, but he has established \$100 scholarships in Bethany Bible College where young men can be trained as was his brother.

The sheer vitality of the Melvin Schmidt story rests not upon the sensationalism of a bad boy somehow rescued. It is a tribute to a Christian home. It is a tribute to the power of our Lord's own promise about a grain of wheat falling into the ground. Above all, it is a tribute to the fact that one doesn't have to be bad to have a powerful ministry.

The Melvin Schmidt story leaves us with no option but to do God's work and do it now. For Melvin in his commencement address had said, "The cloud which received Christ out of their sight was not the final curtain of this remarkable life. . . . He now continues His ministry on earth through you and me!"

WHEN REVIVAL WILL COME

(Continued from page 19)

Everyone to whom Charles G. Finney spoke that first memorable day was later converted, even though he only passed the time of day. Finney had been anointed as he sat in his own office after having been converted a few hours before. In the power of that anointing he had spoken to this one and that one, and conversion had resulted.

D. L. Moody was an anointed man. He asked God to stay His hand, so great was the anointing he received. Then he took sermons he had preached before with but few results and preached them again. This time he saw men and women saved on every side.

Evan Roberts also was an anointed man. He met God, and it was in the power of that anointing that he swept through Wales like a firebrand, kindling revival everywhere he went.

Upon all men mightily used of God there rests a mysterious power. Because of that power they get results that amaze and startle men everywhere. It is this anointing that we need today. So many of us are powerless. So much of our work is done from an intellectual standpoint; so much is superficial. We must turn again to our one and only source of power, the blessed Holy Spirit of God.

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psalm 85:6). Revival days are days of joy. If revival comes, God's people will be glad, and their joy will be in Him. May this be our prayer, and may we never fail to offer it until it has been answered.

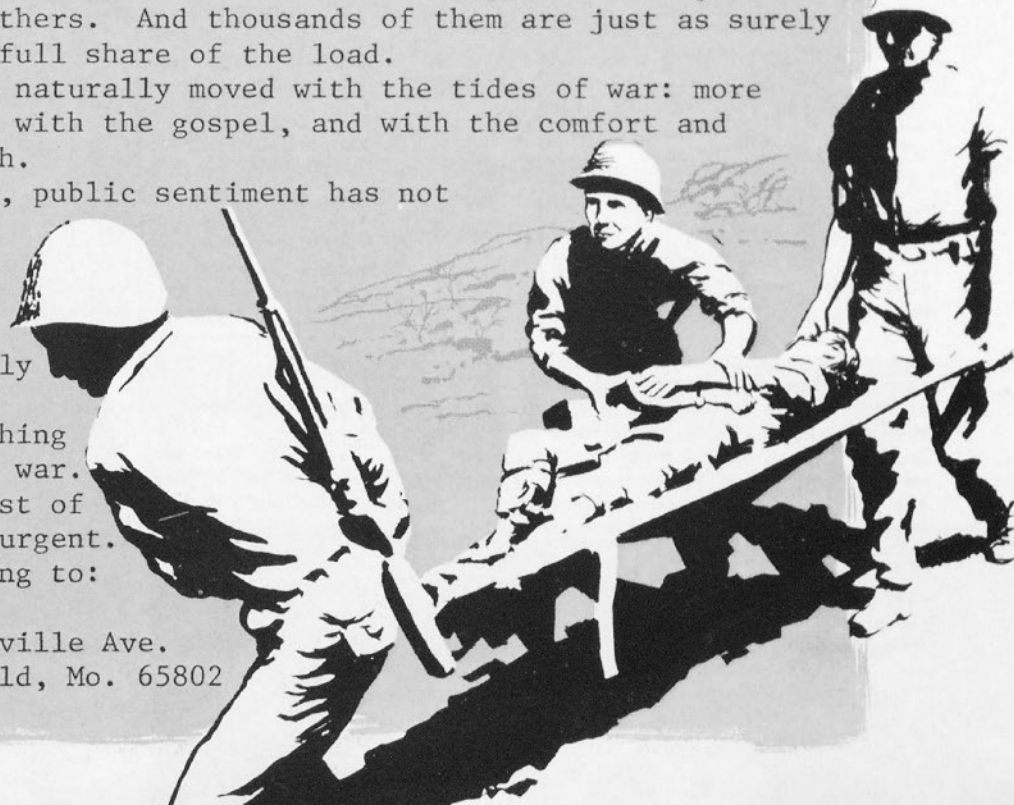
They're carrying their share...

Remember when we sang "God Bless Our Boys, Wherever They May Be" in almost every service during World War II? You don't hear it so much this war. Yet these are just as much our boys; death and loneliness and temptation are just as real for our sons as for their fathers. And thousands of them are just as surely giving their all, carrying their full share of the load.

Our servicemen's ministry has naturally moved with the tides of war: more men in service, more men to reach with the gospel, and with the comfort and spiritual sustenance of our church.

Unfortunately, at this moment, public sentiment has not surged with the demands upon our ministry. We have gone again and again to a small band of faithful supporters to finance the expanded ministry. Now we desperately appeal to you to carry a share of the burden. Your support has nothing to do with how you feel about the war. Just with how you feel about a host of our youth in peril. Our need is urgent. Please send your emergency offering to:

SERVICEMEN'S DIVISION 1445 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, Mo. 65802





GLIMPSES OF SPECIAL MINISTRY FIELDS OF THE HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

HOMEFRONT HIGHLIGHTS

KODIAK ASSEMBLY ASSISTS ISLAND CHURCH

KODIAK, ALASKA—On Sunday evening, February 4, the Assembly of God here held its first home missions rally, according to Pastor Alver E. Lofdahl.

As a result of the rally the congregation pledged 100 hours of labor to the home missions church at Larsen Bay. Also they are helping with monthly payments to repay a \$2,000 loan from the National Home Missions Department.

At Larsen Bay repairs are being made to convert this building into a church and parsonage.



Pastor Lofdahl showed slides of the village located on Kodiak Island. One of the slides depicted the 30- by 50-foot building recently purchased to be remodeled into a church and parsonage. The Assembly of God, Westchester, Calif., (Paul D. Curtis, pastor), had given \$2,000 to purchase the property and some building materials.

Missionary-Pastor Harry Coffman and his wife Roberta went to Larsen Bay two years ago. They have been holding services in their 13- by 24-foot home.

Since the rally the Kodiak Assembly has donated a used door, windows, and miscellaneous materials. Brother Coffman estimates costs at \$2,500 to remodel the building into a 20- by 30-foot auditorium, Sunday school rooms, and a parsonage with two upstairs bedrooms. He hopes the work will be completed so the property can be dedicated in the fall. Offerings designated for this building program will receive world ministries credit.



Herman Murphy ministers to these students at the Tennessee School for the Deaf



DEAF MINISTRY DEVELOPS

KNOXVILLE, TENN.—Herman Murphy is now fulfilling the call God gave him more than seven years ago. He is ministering to the deaf in services at the Woodlawn Assembly where J. L. Schaffer is pastor.

Beginning with one or two deaf people just a few months ago, he now has a nucleus of deaf friends who attend a Sunday school class and a deaf church service. Brother Murphy is deaf himself.

Recently he formed a language of signs class with five hearing

members of the local assembly. They meet each week. Once a month he also ministers at the Tennessee School for the Deaf.

Brother Murphy hopes to travel throughout Tennessee to acquaint other hearing people with the challenge of deaf ministry. He comments: "By showing 'The Unshadowed Cross' (16mm color film in the language of signs with sound) and presenting the challenge, we can encourage hearing people to involve themselves in deaf ministry."

GRAEHL ASSEMBLY SHOWS GAINS

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA—The Graehl Assembly, a home missions church here, reached an average of 56 in Sunday School during February. Missionary-Pastor Robert D. Umphrey reports they recently set a new record of 76. He explains, "Many of these were children, but we had 15 in the adult class besides the adults who were teaching."

Brother Umphrey continues: "We are reaching new children through Missionettes and Royal Rangers. At the last meeting of the groups, we had 30 girls and boys present."

"The church is progressing well spiritually; in a recent service an Indian lady was saved and another reclaimed.

"We have begun a new outreach at the Pioneer Home for the Aged. Every other Sunday afternoon our Christ's Ambassadors conduct a service in the home, taking the gospel to those who cannot come to church. Some have responded well to the message of salvation."

Recent improvements include paneling and extending heating facilities to the back room of the church and a new platform and altar rail for the auditorium.

There is an urgent need now to drill a new well.

Eighty-three people attended this Christ's Ambassadors banquet sponsored by the West Park Assembly, Lumberton, N. C. Other church groups cooperated. Missionary-Pastor Ralph Buchanan of the Lumberton church reported a new attendance record of 111 in Sunday school and a monthly average of 105. Their facilities are now so crowded it is necessary to conduct services in the bus and the church simultaneously. Recently 12 young people were saved.



GOD MANIFESTS HIS POWER

McNARY, ARIZ.—Apache Indians are being saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, according to the Orville Alexanders, missionary pastors at the Indian Assembly here. And God is healing the sick.

"Last November, the Leonard Sampiers of Lemon Grove, Calif., conducted a kids crusade and revival services. Several were saved and two filled with the Holy Spirit.

"During this time, an elderly Apache woman went into insulin shock. When we went to pray for her, she was in convulsions; death seemed imminent. As the Christians prayed, God intervened. The following Sunday she was in church and gave her heart to the Lord.

"In December a twin baby of one of the Christian families died; the other was critically ill. After prayer the sick baby recovered. A week later the mother noticed his legs were stiff and he cried whenever they moved his legs. Upon examination and X ray, the doctor diagnosed that the baby had polio.

"At this time we were in special meetings with Evangelist Ortha

Passmore of Southbeach, Oreg. The parents brought the infant to church for prayer, and the Lord healed him. When the parents took him home that night, he was moving and bending both legs. He is normal and healthy.

"We broke all records recently when 81 people attended Sunday school and 90 were in the morning service.

"God is beginning to answer prayer for a family. The wife has accepted Christ, and she and the children regularly attend church now. Her husband, with tears streaming down his face, has begged for prayer to be delivered from the bondage of alcohol.

"Words can't describe the transformation wrought in these lives when they surrender to the Lord. When the Apaches testify, they tell how glad they are that they have come out of darkness into the light. They have had so much sadness and hardship in life, but now they have a hope in Jesus. How their faces shine when they sing, 'There'll Be No Dark Valley When Jesus Comes.'"

CHAPLAIN ADDED TO STAFF

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.—The board of directors of Christian Jail Workers has announced the appointment of Tom Bozarth to serve on the staff as full-time chaplain.



Chaplain Bozarth, an ordained Assemblies of God minister, left a successful ministry to youth in Illinois to become the first full-time CJW chaplain completely underwritten by Assemblies of God churches.

While doing his chaplaincy internship at the Los Angeles County Central Jail, Chaplain Bozarth commented: "I find prison ministry the greatest challenge in my

experience. Before my wife and I knew about this tremendous mission field right here in our own country, we asked the Lord to send us where the need was greatest and we could be used most effectively. God did just that. In allowing us to be a part of this ministry, we are helping to salvage individuals from the wreckage of sin."

Paul R. Markstrom, national prison chaplain for the Assemblies of God, states: "The Prison Division of the Assemblies of God is happy to have Chaplain Bozarth serving in this specialized ministry. There are 26 full- and part-time Assemblies of God correctional chaplains serving in the nation's penal facilities."

Additional support is needed for Chaplain Bozarth. Churches which assist in this worthwhile ministry receive *World Ministries* credit.

VICTORIES EVIDENT IN AMERICAN INDIAN MISSIONS

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Monthly reports and letters from appointed missionaries to the American Indians reveal the light of God is shining upon darkened hearts. And there are spiritual victories in lives which had been bound by habits of sin.

Jacob Escalante, Winterhaven, Calif., missionary-pastor of the Quechan Assembly, ministers to members of several tribes from the Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation. He writes:

"We are rejoicing in the fresh moving of the Holy Spirit upon the church in recent months.

"We had special prayer meetings for several weeks beginning in December. The revival fires are continuing to burn. At least 20 people were saved, and 12 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit during the past year. Among these was a man who had been dying from an overdose of dope. God restored him and delivered him from his addiction. He and his wife are now Spirit-filled, and their lives are wonderful testimonies for the Lord."

Brother Escalante is moving to Tucson, Ariz., to continue his Indian ministry there.

Rodger Cree, missionary-pastor of the Papago Indian Assembly, Sells, Ariz., reports:

"Recently we had a successful youth crusade with Evangelist and Mrs. R. I. Wynkoop, Hydro, Okla. During the two weeks of meetings, we had as many as 93 in attendance, with an average of 60. There was a good response in the altar services.

"We thank the Lord for several new families who are coming to our church."

The *A. M. Cranstons*, Stanfield,

Ariz., recently concluded two weeks of meetings with Evangelist Robert E. Caudle, Tulare, Calif. The first week was a youth crusade. Attendance was as high as 108. Seven people were saved, and one received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Dorothy Bear, Blanding, Utah, reports five people knelt for salvation during a two-week meeting with Evangelist Phosa Brown, El Dorado, Kans. Also some of the Indian people went to Cortez, Colo., for a baptismal service. Eight people of the Indian Assembly followed the Lord in water baptism. Simon Peter, pastor of the Cortez Assembly, officiated.



INDIAN CHURCH DEDICATED

LOWER BRULE, S. DAK.—South Dakota District Superintendent S. H. Petersen (at pulpit) dedicated the Assembly of God here on December 5, 1967. Speaker was Andrew S. Teuber, assistant superintendent (seated at right). More than 100 people attended.

In addition to regular services, the Albert C. Hollands, missionary-pastors to the Sioux Indians, conduct religious instruction

classes for primaries and juniors. In January they started a story-time for four- and five-year-olds; 20 are on the roll.

WMC's are active in the church, and recently 50 girls attended an introductory meeting for Prims and Missionettes. Brother Holland also directs a Boy Scout troop of approximately 20 members.

The new church needs folding chairs for the sanctuary.

HOME MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES

New Appointees

Everett and Doris Lord, Bylas, Ariz., have been appointed to minister to the American Indians. They are pastoring the Assemblies of God Apache Mission in Bylas.

L. Almeda Pearce, Sells, Ariz., also has received appointment to the American Indian field. She has been assisting the Rodger Cree at the Papago Indian Assembly in Sells.

Anthony Callies, Chino, Calif., recently received appointment for ministry to the deaf. He and his wife Dorothy are both deaf and are active in evangelistic work in deaf churches.

Peter J. Oliver, Bayamon, P. R., an appointed home missionary, is director of the Teen Challenge ministry on the island.

Karl W. Thomson, Lamesa, Tex., has recently received ap-

pointment for ministry in Alaska. **Notes of Victory**

Doris Fellows, Point Hope, Alaska, now has a Bible club for primary-age children. Between 25 and 30 are attending youth meetings and 20 attend Bible study. Recently three new members were added to the church.

* * *

Charles Slater, Devils Lake, N. Dak., pastor of the Indian mission at Tokio on the Ft. Totten Reservation, reports attendance is increasing, people are showing more interest, and they are beginning to respond for prayer.



Mr. and Mrs. Everett Lord



Almeda Pearce Anthony Callies



Peter Oliver Karl Thomson

MF LAYMEN'S COUNCILS MEET



Record giving for Light-for-the-Lost was reported by Phil Sondeno.

been reached in our meeting together of representative leaders of all divisions of the Men's Fellowship Department," stated Howard S. Bush, executive director, in addressing the National Men's Fellowship Committee.

Participation in all the sessions was primarily for laymen. This was the first meeting of the National MF Committee since its structure was changed by action of the General Council in Long Beach, Calif., so two laymen represented each division of the department. Officers in attendance were Phil Sondeno, chairman, and Sam Cochran, president, National Council of Light-for-the-Lost; J.

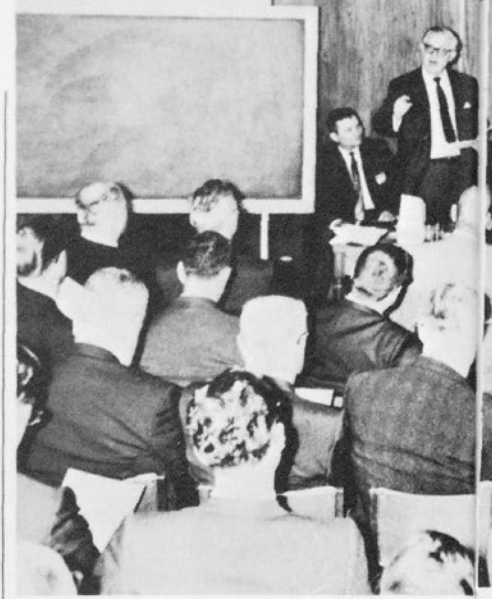
P. Jones, chairman, and D. L. "Sam" Jordan, president, National Action Crusades Council; and John Tyler and Lester Hughes, national Royal Rangers aides-de-camp.

While all phases of the Men's Fellowship program were considered, specific action was taken toward highlighting the Men's Fellowship activities at the sectional level. Here men from all churches can be provided opportunities to become a part of the various ministries of Men's Fellowship. This will make it possible to fulfill more completely the goal of the department "to serve every man with a place for every man to serve."

The first annual session of the



Growth in the Action Crusades ministry was reported by D. L. "Sam" Jordan.



National Action Crusades Council met for advanced training in personal witnessing and spiritual fellowship. Plans were considered to involve laymen more in personal witnessing and to train instructors for local Action Crusades.

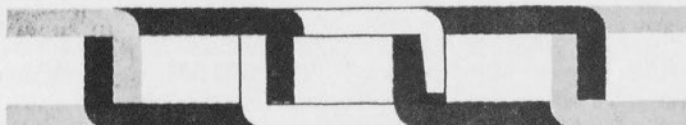
The following officers were elected for two-year terms: J. P. Jones, Concord, Calif., chairman; Charles Capps, England, Ark., vice-chairman; D. L. "Sam" Jordan, Ottumwa, Iowa, president; and Wm. J. Wind, Phoenix, Ariz., vice-president.

Enlargement of membership in the National Action Crusades Council was urged. The need for increased support by churches was emphasized.

The annual business meeting of the National Council of Light-for-

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Growing importance of the work of the Men's Fellowship Department was emphasized at March meetings here of the National Men's Fellowship Committee, the National Action Crusades Council, the National Council of Light-for-the-Lost, and the National Council of Royal Rangers Aides-de-Camp.

"A significant milestone has



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PRAYER LINKS PLANNED FOR COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—A nationwide "prayer chain" of more than 1,000 links has been planned by the Assemblies of God to pray for the Council on Evangelism to convene in St. Louis, Mo., August 26-29.

Based on Jesus' promise, "Where two or three are gathered together, ... there am I in the midst" (Matthew 18:19, 20), groups will be formed among members of the 8506 assemblies in the U.S.

Forming each link will be two, three, or more persons who will agree to meet two or three times a week to call on God to pour out His Spirit on the St. Louis meeting and to save souls everywhere.

The Council will be different from any previous event in the Movement. Delegates will receive the first public report of the intensive self-study the Assemblies of God is making.

"In the past, individuals have

made studies of most denominations," said Thomas F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent. "As far as we know, this is the first time an entire church body has made a study of itself like this."

During the St. Louis event, delegates will review the 54-year history of the Movement, evaluate its strengths and weaknesses, and clearly state its mission in today's world.

The prayer links will begin by Sunday, June 16, and continue through the Council. Sunday, August 11, has been designated as a national day of prayer for the Council.

"Because of the decided impact this meeting will have, it deserves the greatest possible spiritual undergirding which a prayer emphasis like this will give it," Brother Zimmerman observed.



General Superintendent T. F. Zimmerman challenged the men attending the National Action Crusades Council meeting.

the-Lost received the report that \$137,181.58 was given by laymen for gospel literature for foreign distribution in 1967. This made a total of \$229,269.94 for the two-year period—1966-67.

Successful operation of the unit system for promotional activities by the councilmen encouraged planning for further development of the program. It was reported that approximately 225 councilmen are actively working with the Light-for-the-Lost ministry.

For the first time officers were elected for all eight regions of the United States. New officers elected are: Phil Sondeno, San Jose, Calif., chairman; Sam Cochran, Garden Grove, Calif., president; Gene Roe, San Jose, Calif., northwest vice-president; Robert Bruder, Glendora, Calif., southwest vice-president; Herman Meyer Jr., Atkinson, Nebr., north central vice-president; Charles Freeman, Oklahoma City, Okla., south central vice-president; Ralph Severance, Saginaw, Mich., Great Lakes vice-president; William Hosch, Gulfport, Miss., Gulf vice-presi-

Closing address was given by Dr. Jere Melilli of Baton Rouge, La.



dent; Julius Fried, Jamaica, N. Y., northeast vice-president; Dr. Jonas Miller, Sarasota, Fla., southeast vice-president.

National Royal Rangers aides-de-camp held their first national council to consider ways to increase the effectiveness of their work among men and boys. Plans were initiated to improve the training program and to provide

National Royal Rangers aides-de-camp held first Council meeting.



for boys requiring advanced work. Changes were made in the awards system for recognition of successful completion of work for advancement.

The final meeting was a banquet for the combined councils at which time the new officers of the National Action Crusades Council and the National Council of Light-for-the-Lost were installed. Dr.



Installation of officers was made by Howard S. Bush, executive director of Men's Fellowship.

Jere Melilli, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, challenged the men with his message concerning the important place of laymen in the work of the church.

The next national meetings of all the councils will be held in March 1969.

CONGREGATION DEDICATES NEW FACILITIES

HASTINGS, NEBR.—First Assembly here recently dedicated its new sanctuary and educational facilities to the Lord.

Lester Dickinson, Nebraska District superintendent, was dedication speaker. Also participating were S. K. Biffle Jr., assistant district superintendent; Leland Lebsack, pastor of the Assembly of God in Ravenna, Ohio; and the Singing Dewey family.

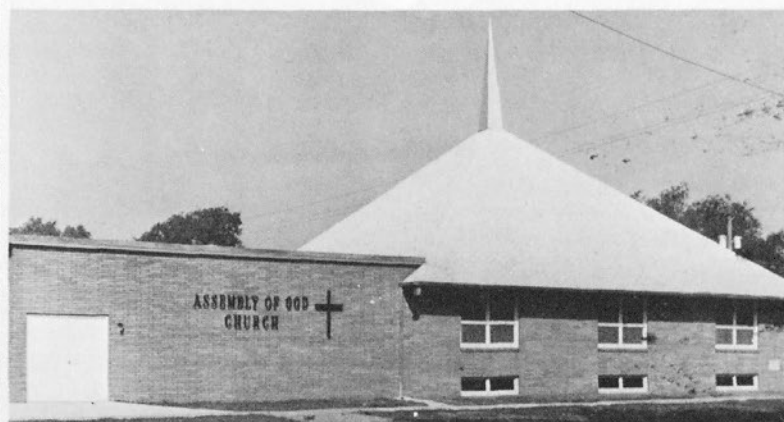
The new sanctuary with overflow will seat over 400 people. It has fruitwood cantilever-style

pews and wall-to-wall carpeting.

The structure has 7,000 square feet of floor space plus a full basement. Other facilities in the air-conditioned building include 18 Sunday school rooms, a large fellowship hall, kitchen, church office, and pastor's study.

The building, furnishings, and property have been appraised at \$135,000. However, with donated labor by the congregation, total cost is only \$75,000.

Herman W. Lebsack has pastored First Assembly since 1952.



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EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR	
Ala.	Dothan	Harper's Joy	May 29-June 9	David & Trigg Scruggs	Dorman Jenkins	
	Enterprise	First	May 14-26	Colen & Carol Lassiter	Howard Trawick	
Ariz.	Luverne	First	June 3-9	Jerry & Ann Johnson	Bobby Powell	
	Tucson	¹ New Haven	June 2-16	R. I. & Pearl Wynkoop	Clifford Orndorff	
Ark.	Fort Smith	Evangel Temple	June 2-5	Knott-Olson Team	Don McKinney	
	Harrison	First	June 2—	Jerry & Judy Whitener	Donald Walker	
	Harrison	Liberty	June 2-9	Dennis Thrasher	Gene Braswell	
	Malvern	First	June 9—	John Polizzi	Gene Thompson	
	West Helena	² First	May 26-31	A. G. & Mrs. Calaway	Bobby Richmond	
	Calif.	Lafayette	A/G	June 4-9	Leonard H. Miller	E. Joseph Perna
		Placerville	A/G	May 29-June 9	Ernie Rogers	Curtis Myers
Salinas		Alisal	May 19—	J. W. Henegar	Joe D. Wright	
Colo.	Turlock	Bethel Temple	May 27-June 9	J. W. & Mrs. Erxleben Sr.	Robert Carrington	
	Aurora	First	June 5-17	Ernie Eskelin	James Boulware	
Fla.	Johnstown	A/G	June 5-14	Jim Mackey	Richard Field	
	Jacksonville	Calvary Temple	June 2-9	E. A. Manley	Paul Goodwin	
Ga.	Tampa	Glad Tidings	June 9-14	Gladys Voight	P. D. Creel	
	Douglasville	First	June 3—	Nettie Parham	E. L. McPherson	
Ill.	Savannah	First	June 4-16	R. S. Peterson	H. T. Chapman	
	Mitchell	² A/G	June 10-16	Carl E. Gammel	Kenneth Marshall	
Ind.	Olney	² First	June 2-9	Carl E. Gammel	R. H. Peterson	
	Rock Island	² Bethel	June 4-9	Sunshine Party (Thum)	David W. Clark	
Iowa	Edinburg	A/G	May 12-26	Charles E. Richards	Richard Sandbach	
	Gary	First	May 28-June 2	Arthur & Anna Berg	R. A. Rieben	
	Creston	² A/G	June 3-9	Knouse-Stovall Team	George T. Mosby	
	Creston	A/G	June 10-16	Knouse-Stovall Team	George T. Mosby	
	Orange City	A/G	June 4-14	Ken Krivohlavek	A. E. Kleppinger	
	Sioux City	First	June 5-16	Tanner Team	Kenneth D. Baker	
	Vinton	A/G	May 26-June 2	Paul & Ilene Anderson	Lloyd Graetz	
Kans.	Woodward	A/G	June 2-16	Matschulat Party	Wanda Bain	
	Elwood	A/G	May 28-June 9	Loyd & Rebecca Middleton	David Kelley	
Ky.	Kansas City	Bethany	June 3—	C. W. & Mrs. Quattlebaum	Otho L. Smith	
	Pleasanton	A/G	May 27-June 2	Kenneth Stottlemeyer	Bill Roberts	
	Tribune	A/G	May 27-June 2	Roland & Judy Dudley	John Booher	
	Louisville	Calvary	June 4-9	Paul Hild	W. Roscoe Russell	
	Lafayette	Bethel	May 5-June 15	Charles & Mrs. McKnight	R. C. Siewert	
	Forestville	Evangel	May 28-June 9	John & Esther Hamercheck	H. Jack Morris	
	Hancock	⁴ Full Gospel	June 4-16	David E. Dean	Alvin Kyle	
La.	Lanham	² Trinity	June 3-9	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	Frank C. Mays	
	Rockville	Chevy Chase A/G	June 6-16	Paul & Donna Wright	Oliver Collier	
	Silver Spring	² First	May 27-June 2	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	J. L. Pittman	
	Marlboro	A/G	June 2-9	George DeTellis	George McClandish	
	Livonia	A/G	June 5-9	Dave & Jan Olshevski	Michael DeKonty	
	Glenwood	A/G	June 4—	Jerry & Mrs. Fischer	Roger Koeshall	
	Hutchinson	A/G	May 28-June 9	James & Beulah Pepper	Ray S. Crouse	
Minn.	Owatonna	A/G	June 2-6	Victor Etienne	Jack Williams	
	Ellisville	First	June 5-16	Colen & Carol Lassiter	Sime Morris	
Miss.	Jackson	First	May 29-June 9	Don & Dixie Cox	Don Rippey	
	Carthage	First	May 29-June 9	Wesley F. Morton	Charles C. Smith	
Mo.	Chaffee	First	June 4-16	J. C. & Mrs. Nichols	William Marshall	
	Elwood	A/G	June 5-16	Tom & Mrs. Waggoner	Harry Freeman	
	Hardin	A/G	June 2-16	Luther & Mrs. Miller	Kenneth E. Hook	
Mont.	Bozeman	² First	June 2-7	Charles Senechal	John Weaver	
	Bozeman	First	June 9-14	Charles Senechal	John Weaver	
Nebr.	Lincoln	First	June 2-7	Kathleen Jennings	S. K. Biffle Jr.	
	Princeton	A/G	May 28-June 2	Roy & Mildred Johnson	Michael Muni	
N. J.	Schenectady	² First	June 2-7	Gene & Esther Fiddler	Darrell Mitchell	
	Elba	First	June 2-9	Woodrow Oxner	J. C. Burks	
	Nicoma Park	A/G	June 5—	J. B. & Mrs. Essary	Gene A. Anoaubby	
	Sallisaw	First	June 2-16	Branham and Steele	Donald L. Brankel	
	Sand Springs	First	June 5—	Glen & Faith Shinn	C. C. Harris	
	Wainwright	A/G	June 4—	Tom F. Ogdon	Alva F. Hill	
	Waurika	A/G	June 3-16	H. A. & Mrs. Strange	Jessie M. Ashley	
Oreg.	Coquille	First	May 29-June 9	Lloyd W. Godwin	Claude A. Malan	
	Clearfield	Glad Tidings	June 6-23	George & Evelyn Butrin	Bob Lafferty	
Pa.	Punxsutawney	Pentecostal Tab.	June 4-16	Arnold & Anita Segesman	Leroy Wiley	
	Shrewsbury	Full Gospel A/G	June 10-16	Irving & Mary Lou Howard	A. D. Boyd	
	Waynesboro	² Calvary	June 10-16	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	Anthony Marinacci	
	West Fairview	¹ Grace Tab.	June 4-16	Ken & Gloria Kashner	Johnnie Crawford	
	N. Charleston	A/G	June 5-16	Billy & Cherie Cotton	A. S. Bishop	
	Burkburnett	A/G	May 27-June 2	J. B. & Mrs. Essary	John W. Hocker	
	Conroe	² Wigginsville	June 9-16	Lloyd Bates	Kenneth Conatser	
S. C.	Groesbeck	First	June 6—	Loyd Henson	Prince H. Loosier	
	Paris	First	May 28-June 9	John & Jerry Stephens	D. R. Decker	
	Seagraves	A/G	June 2-16	Fisher-Cheek Team	Albert R. Owen	
	Bentonville	Community Tab.	May 28-June 9	R. L. Beavers	I. R. Robbins	
Va.	Purcellville	¹ A/G	June 2-9	Irving & Mary Lou Howard	D. E. Slye Sr.	
	Wytheville	First	May 26-June 2	Billy & Cherie Cotton	Gene C. Wilson	
Wash.	Ritzville	² A/G	June 2-7	Christian Hild	Gordon Welk	
	Tacoma	Evangelistic Tab.	May 28-June 2	Franks Party	Don Rogne	
Wis.	Madison	Evangel Temple	May 29-June 9	Singing Lunsfords	Mark Carter	
	Cheyenne	Full Gospel	June 4-16	Donald Rich Family	George Alber	
Canada	Islington, Ont.	Evangel Centre	June 4-16	H. B. Kelchner	L. H. Evans	
	Whitehorse, Y.T.	A/G	June 2-16	L. H. & Mrs. Sheets	John York	

¹ Youth Crusade

² Children's Crusade

³ Union Meeting

⁴ Deeper Life Crusade

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

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WORD OF LIFE BOOK STORE

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HAYSVILLE, KANS.—The members of First Assembly here were prepared spiritually for a recent meeting with Evangelist Ben Brumback of Cheney, Kans., and God blessed in a mighty way. Nineteen persons were saved, one was baptized in the Holy Spirit, and five were baptized in water during the week-long meeting.

Members of the congregation were very active in bringing visitors.

The church is presently in its

second building project in two and a half years. A \$120,000 building will soon be completed.

—Vern L. McNally, pastor

AUGUSTA, KANS.—More than 175 first-time visitors came to the Assembly of God here during a recent meeting with Evangelist Paul E. Morris of Hutchinson, Kans.

The evangelist assigned names in the telephone directory for members of the congregation to

call and invite to the services. Over 75 percent of the city was contacted. Visitors from Catholic, Christian, Lutheran, and other churches attended the meeting.

Because of the move of God's Spirit in Augusta and this increased publicity, results of the meeting were excellent. Some 35 were saved, nine were reclaimed, nine were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and six were refilled with the Spirit. A number were healed.

The Sunday school attendance record was broken with 215 present the final Sunday. Over 40 names have been added to the Assembly's mailing list, and the Sunday school has added many to its enrollment.

—Paul A. Lewis, pastor

BILLINGS, MONT.—Evangelist and Mrs. Arthur Berg of Springfield, Mo., recently concluded a most profitable meeting at First Assembly here.

Many persons were refreshed spiritually, and 16 or 17 young people were filled with the Holy Spirit. In the final meeting a young businessman found the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour.

Attendance was consistently very good, and the inspiring ministry of the Bergs was enjoyed by all.

—R. L. Brandt, pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMECOMING AND 42ND ANNIVERSARY—June 2 and 3 at the Assembly of God Tabernacle, Arlington, Wash. Former pastors will minister.—by Rollin J. Carlson, pastor.

HOMECOMING June 2-9 AND DEDICATION June 7—at the Assembly of God, Salmon, Idaho.—by David J. Eide, pastor.



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THE SUNDAY I DIDN'T TEACH THE LESSON



By VIDA KILLION

PERHAPS YOU ARE THINKING, "Yes, that happens all too often—teachers who don't prepare, or the one who gets sidetracked and never gets back to the lesson."

But before you brand me as that type, let me explain.

It wasn't a lack of preparation. I had studied the lesson until I was familiar with it.

Sunday came, and all of my ladies were in their places.

Among them was a young woman present for the first time.

For some reason teaching was hard. Time seemed to drag. I felt I was beating the air.

A suggestion came to my mind to refer to the rich man and Lazarus. I pushed it aside. Absurd! It wasn't related to the lesson. Determinedly, I tried steering the true course of the lesson. My words fell flat.

Again the suggestion to relate the story of the rich man and Lazarus came—this time with such an inner compulsion that I couldn't resist obeying.

As I ventured to weave the story into the lesson, there was rapt attention—especially by the visitor. Her eyes became moist. The Holy Spirit made me know this was His prompting.

When I mentioned "the great gulf fixed" between the rich man and Lazarus, the young woman wept unashamedly.

When I finished the story, she asked, "Is that in the Bible?" I assured her it was and gave the reference.

"Let me tell you why I asked," she said. "Something has happened to Gary, my husband, that I cannot understand or explain. He told me he had been saved, whatever that means. He's quit smoking; he doesn't drink—not even a social drink. The dance holds no more attraction for him. He has stopped doing so many things that were formerly our pattern of living. He reads the Bible, goes to church, offers grace before meals, and kneels in prayer before going to bed.

"I feel," she continued, "that our little world has fallen apart."

She described the joy and peace Gary possessed and told us how miserable and disturbed she felt.

Having no religious background, she had studied various religions and cults in college. She had come to the conclusion that all were phony. But one thing she could not deny—something had changed Gary.

Then the night before she had a frightening dream.

"In my dream I saw Gary with a multitude of people, and all of them looked so happy. I wanted to be with them and feel the joy and peace that was evident on their faces. But I wasn't able to reach them because a long, *dark hall* separated us."

Again she wept, and through her tears she said, "When you mentioned 'the great gulf fixed' between that rich man and Lazarus, I thought of the *dark hall* separating me from Gary and his happy friends."

Earnestly she asked how she might be delivered from her fears and get past the *dark hall*.

I explained to her that the rich man Jesus referred to had passed the point of no return. But God, in His loving mercy, had directed her to hear of "the great gulf" while she still had time to repent.

At my invitation, she knelt as all of us prayed.

A few moments later, the *dark hall* vanished, the peace of God flooded her soul, a new name was written down in glory. Gary's wife was as happy as he.

That was the Sunday I didn't teach the lesson. 