

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

JUNE 22, 1969

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SELF-HUMILIATION, THE KEY TO REVIVAL

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves . . ." (2 Chronicles 7:14).

HUMBLING IS A PREREQUISITE FOR REVIVAL. This text in Chronicles which has become a guideline for us in this Year of Revival clearly reveals the need for humbling. Other passages of Scripture equally emphasize this truth.

In the great Pentecostal chapter of the Old Testament, Joel 2, God's people are called upon to "rend your hearts, and not your garments" (v. 13). This is followed by a call to intercession (v. 17), and culminates in the promise of the outpouring of the Spirit (v. 28).

James admonishes Christians to "humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord," with the promise that "he shall lift you up" (James 4:10).

Probably there is nothing more distasteful to a man than the thought of humbling himself. It runs contrary to the popular philosophy of humanism; it deflates the ego. Yet this is the very reason it is so necessary.

Ego has crowded the Supreme One off the throne of the human personality. Pride is the ruler, self-centeredness the order of the day.

But God abhors pride. He knows it is man's greatest enemy. Pride is the vehicle Satan used to introduce sin into the human race. Pride is the assertion of man's will against God's supremacy. Pride is rebellion. Pride separates men from God. "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble" (James 4:6).

One of the greatest hindrances to revival is pride in the hearts of professing Christians. Sin can only be forgiven and fellowship with God restored as the sinner humbles himself and asks for forgiveness. Wrongs between Christians will be made right and unity restored if pride is conquered and we go to our brother in humility.

In most cases it is not the grosser sins that keep God's blessings from falling on His Church, but *pride*—the very essence of sin—masquerading in different disguises. It kills spiritual power and robs the Church of God's holy presence.



The following are manifestations of pride that must be dealt with by humbling ourselves before God if we are to have revival.

Self-centeredness. Paul tells us that in the last days "men shall be lovers of their own selves" (2 Timothy 3:2). Self-esteem that allows one to see himself in a proper relationship to God and to his neighbor is necessary and right, but Paul was talking of something else.

He knew men would be lovers of their own selves without relating themselves to God and to their fellowmen. They would have no object of love or loyalty beyond themselves. Such self-love is sinful.

It would be well for Christians to examine themselves as a congregation and see if this self-centeredness is not also manifest in the Church.

Have we been satisfied with enjoying our own spiritual blessings without concern for the salvation of those around us? Have we been more zealous for our own reputation and the success of our organization than for the glory of God? Have we turned spiritual privilege to our own ends and sought to be great in the sight of men? Have we become soft, self-indulgent, looking for our pleasure and comfort rather than sharing the sufferings of Christ for a lost world? If so, we need to humble ourselves before God.

Self-righteousness. "Surely," we say, "this is not for me! 'Amazing Grace' is my favorite hymn! I know that I am saved by grace and not by my own works."

Granted! Yet we need to do some soul-searching here. Like the Pharisee, most of us tend to parade our own virtues and accomplishments.

Even Job, that man whom God had declared perfect and upright, had something to learn on this score. Undoubtedly this was one of the reasons for his prolonged trial. He had to see himself as he really was before God. When God revealed Himself to Job, then Job humbled himself and said, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth thee: wherefore I *abhor myself*, and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:5, 6). This humbling opened the door to the restoration of his material and spiritual prosperity.

Isaiah saw the Lord and cried, "Woe is me! for I am undone" (Isaiah 6:5). He was given a vision of the altar and the cleansing fire (Isaiah 6:1-8).

Oh, for that triple vision of God's holiness, our sinful need, and the grace for cleansing to be found at Calvary!

Self-sufficiency. "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing"—this was the charge against the Christians at Laodicea. How often we sin by trusting in ourselves, in our own wisdom, in our history. Of the boasting Laodiceans Jesus said, "Thou . . . knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Revelation 3:17).

The Jews were guilty of this. "We are Abraham's

seed," they boasted. "We are God's favorites. Nothing can happen to us!"

The history of Israel warns us against self-sufficiency. Over and over they failed when they trusted in their own power. They were only delivered and restored when they turned to God, and trusted Him as their strength and their refuge.

"Without me ye can do nothing," Jesus said. Yet we are slow to believe it. When our cisterns are broken and dry, when the springs of gladness no longer flow, we must turn in humility and repentance to the Fountain of living water. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

We must realize once again that *our only help is in God*. In repentance we must confess to Him that unless He helps us, we are doomed to failure.

Self-complacency. This is self-sufficiency's twin sister. "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1). The prophet Amos had only bitter reproach for those in Israel who looked upon the day of coming judgment and destruction as being far in the future. They ate heartily of the best meats, drank wine, stretched themselves out on their beds of ivory, and chanted soothing songs to the sound of the viol, but were not "grieved for the affliction of Joseph" (Amos 6:6).

For a generation we have preached the fulfilling of prophecy and have proclaimed the time of coming judgment. Yet as we see prophecies being fulfilled and events foretold in Scriptures coming to pass, we also note a general tendency to relax in ease and indifference.

Self-complacency is not new. Jerusalem, the city of the coming King, had long awaited the promised Messiah. The learned men spoke of the prophecies and proclaimed the coming glory of their city. But outside of a few, the city was not ready when Jesus came.

Jesus healed in the streets of the city and taught in the temple. But life in Jerusalem went on as though He were not there. There was no general cry of deep repentance. There was no spiritual revolution. Finally Christ pronounced woe upon the city and declared that her house was left unto her desolate. She had missed her supreme hour of opportunity.

This is not the time to congratulate ourselves on past achievements or glory in our spiritual attainments. All the gifts, graces, and glories of our past were received only through the grace of God because we trusted in Him as our all-sufficient Source.

The time has come to confess once again our absolute dependence upon Him. As we humble ourselves before Him, He is ready to manifest Himself to us and meet our needs.

Great opportunities are ours! Great responsibilities also are ours. Let us renounce our indifference, and forsake our pride. Let us humble ourselves, and pray, and stir ourselves to seek God's face until He comes and revives us again. 

To the Moon and Beyond

THE MOON MISSION has raised a great amount of excitement. It also has raised a great many questions in the minds of Christians.

What is meant by the prophecy that the sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great day of God's judgment comes? (Joel 2:31). Will human blood actually stain the barren lunar surface, or does the prophecy signify an unusual eclipse of some kind?

When men land on the moon, will they find some sort of living creatures hiding in its caves, and will it be possible to communicate with them? Or is the moon entirely void of life, as men think?

Even if the moon is uninhabited, some learned persons believe there are people living on Venus, Mars, and other planets. Should the Church start thinking about sending missionaries into outer space to evangelize the planets?

No one knows whether there are men on other planets or not. The Bible does not even mention such a possibility. It speaks as though the earth is the only place where God put man. Here He created human life and here He unfolded His great plan of redemption.

The Bible says that Jesus offered Himself up "once for all" (Hebrews 7:27). He did not go to other planets to offer Himself a second time as the Sacrifice for man's sin. He died once; and since God had no other Son to die on other planets, Jesus being His only begotten Son, it seems likely that the human race is confined to the earth up to now.

But men expect to land on the moon, and they are already making plans to land on other planets as well. Will God allow this? Will He permit sinful men and women to populate the planets and spread their wickedness throughout the universe, or will He reserve this activity for a cleansed and renewed race that will spread righteousness?

It is possible that somewhere along the line of men's ventures farther and farther into space, the Lord will call a halt to their proud plans, just as He did in ancient Babel when godless men undertook to build "a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven" (Genesis 11:4-9).

Instead of thinking so much about outer space, we ought to be thinking of what Jesus said about "outer darkness." He said that some people shall enter into the kingdom of heaven while others "shall be cast out into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 8:12; 22:13; 25:30). Next time we hear or read an astronaut's description of the total blackness he has viewed in outer space, let us remember these solemn words of Christ. To be cast into outer darkness is a horrible prospect.

We do not have to go to outer space to find people who need to be warned of this "outer darkness." There are millions living right here on earth—and not all of them are in foreign lands, either. In our own communities and neighborhoods there are people now "walking in darkness" and they need Jesus, the Light of the world—otherwise they will die in their sins and plunge into that deeper darkness that is inevitable and eternal.

It is not God's will that any should perish, yet people are perishing every hour because we who have the Light are not letting the Light shine. Christ told us to "preach the gospel to every creature" but we are not doing it. God "will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth," but we are not permitting that love to flow through us.

May God have mercy and give us a new burden for the souls of men.

—r.c.c.

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THE CONTRADICTION OF SINNERS

By ARTHUR H. TOWNSEND

THE HEBREW CHRISTIANS had become weary in the Christian race. The writer of the Book of Hebrews says to them, "Consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not resisted unto blood, striving against sin" (Hebrews 12:3, 4).

What is the contradiction of sinners? Where does it come from? What was its result in the life of Christ?

The contradiction or opposition of sinners does not come from the man in the street. The man in the street is eventually involved, even as the mob was involved when Jesus was unjustly condemned to death, but the contradiction of sinners is often that opposition fermented by the religious leaders of the day.

AGAINST CHRIST

During His ministry the opposition of leaders troubled Christ and finally resulted in His death. He "resisted unto blood, striving against sin." It came against Him in three direct ways:

His teachings were rejected. The chief priests said fiercely, "He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place" (Luke 23:5).

His works were attributed to the power of Satan. The Pharisees said, "This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils" (Matthew 12:24).

His person was slandered and dishonored. The unbelieving Jews said, "Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?" (John 8:48).

The writer of Hebrews is saying, "Consider him"—think about these facts before you become weary and faint. "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood." He did not say they *would* not resist unto blood; he said, ". . . not yet." Church history records that many thousands were martyred for their faith.

HISTORY REPEATS

Men today reject the *teachings* of Christ. Instead they are teaching the doctrines and traditions of men. Paul said, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Timothy 4:3, 4).

Men today also reject the *works* of Christ. The finished work of Calvary, the new birth, and the holy and separated life are discounted. Such teaching is put down as emotionalism, religious fanaticism, or a figment of the imagination.

Paul said, "This know also, that in the last days

perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, . . . lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

Man has now taken the third apostate step. He has attacked the *person* of God. He has declared that God is dead. He also repudiates the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

One well-known preacher has stated: "The birth of Jesus Christ was not a miracle birth. When Jesus was born, there were prostitutes of the temple. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a prostitute. For three months Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, lived with her in a state of illicit relationship and out of that union Jesus of Nazareth was born!" What blasphemy!

A full-orbed apostasy is upon us. The teachings, works, and now the person of God and His Son, Jesus Christ, are under attack. But woe to the men who attribute the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. Jesus said, "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men" (Matthew 12:31).

COURAGE NEEDED

The Church today is experiencing this attack. One evangelist has stated: "Never before in all my years of international ministry have I felt the opposition that I am feeling in this hour."

Jesus said, "The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be *as* his master, and the servant *as* his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?" (Matthew 10:24, 25).

Take courage! "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood." The contradiction of sinners must come before the Lord Jesus can return. There is to be a "falling away first." It is upon us now! The gulf will become wider and wider between an apostate church and the true Church, the blood-washed believers.

"Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; and make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:12-14).

Let us encourage one another and walk circumspectly lest *we* fail. The contradiction of sinners is a direct herald of the soon return of our Lord!

WHAT PRAYER CAN DO

By ADA NICHOLSON BROWNELL

A STRONG WIND propelled a raging brush fire up the side of Grand Mesa near Cedaredge, Colorado, leaving only blackness and ashes where it had passed.

Suddenly the billowing smoke and hungry flames came into view of a mother and three children who were alone in a white two-story house.

The roaring mass of flames was racing directly toward the house. The father had gone to help fight the fire, which began near Cedaredge. He had no idea the wind would take the fire to his family—now stranded without a car or any other means of escape.

Inside the house the mother and children ran to the bedroom, took the Bible, and read the 91st Psalm. Then they knelt and prayed fervently, but only briefly. They went back to the living room and watched the fire, now almost upon them.

Suddenly they saw the flames turn away from them as the direction of the wind changed. Their prayer had reached God, and He had answered!

This true experience is one of several miraculous answers to prayer experienced by persons who attend the First Assembly in Lakewood, Colorado.

Recently I was asked to speak to the young people of our church, so I decided to talk about "What Prayer Can Do." While meditating and praying for the service, I felt I should let people in our church tell *from their own experience* what prayer can do.

So I began asking individuals to help me. My only problem was choosing which miraculous answers to prayer to use! I found so many examples of the power of prayer that I couldn't use half of them.

One woman said she uttered a simple prayer as their family's truck, loaded with apples, rolled over the side of a mountain. Her three children were riding on top of the apple boxes under a tarp. After she scrambled out of the truck which was crushed by the huge boulders, she began calling her children's names.

"Tim?" she shouted, "are you all right?"

"Yes," a voice answered from beneath the boxes. "Steve?"

"Here!" he answered.

"Connie?"

"Here, Mom!"

The entire family escaped uninjured.

"Sometime let me tell how the Lord made an empty fuel barrel keep the house warm for a week," she added.

A deacon told how God stopped the rain so he could work on a construction project. The deacon had five small children to feed and needed all the work he could get. If it rained, he couldn't work.

One day he noticed big black clouds rolling toward the road construction area. He prayed the Lord would let him keep working.

It was the deacon's job to send supplies to the men on a paving machine. For three days the rain followed close behind the paving machine, but it never rained where the men were working. Occasionally the showers came right up to where they were, then would go back again.

Another woman told how her sister prayed that the Lord would give her a musical talent to use in the ministry with her husband, a preacher. One night her sister became desperate before the Lord and prayed diligently.

After she prayed, she got up from the altar, went to an accordion, and tried to play it. It sounded horrible! She went back to her knees and prayed some more. Then she took the accordion and tried again. It sounded a little better. She prayed again. The next time the music was better yet. Soon she was performing as if she had played a musical instrument all her life.

She had never had the opportunity to study music, but God granted her desire. In one night He gave her the ability to play the accordion. Today she can play several different musical instruments.

Many persons told of being instantly delivered from alcohol or cigarettes.

Outstanding physical healings were numerous. A blood clot in a woman's leg disappeared in an instant when she went before the church for prayer. Torn ligaments in a deacon's ankle were healed instantly as the pastor prayed. The swelling disappeared right before their eyes, and the bandage (previously very tight because of the swelling) fell off.

Then there is Ab Brannon's story.

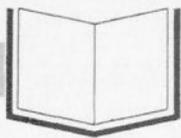
"I thought you were almost dead!" a white-faced deer hunter said when he met Ab in the mountains.

Mr. Brannon had hovered near death for three days and nights. He was critically injured when the Jeep in which he was riding went out of control and rolled over. His relatives were told there was no hope for his recovery.

Ab Brannon's Christian wife and sister went to God in prayer. Their pastor came, and although Ab was only semiconscious, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. His broken body mended quickly.

Within a few short months, Ab Brannon was deer hunting and testifying about the miraculous way God answered prayer.

Another couple in our church can tell how God miraculously healed their baby of water on the brain. They lived in Grand Junction, Colorado, when the child was born. The baby's head began to grow faster than its body. After X rays, the doctors told the parents the



THE LORD OPENED MY UNDERSTANDING

By M. L. GRABLE

'Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures' (Luke 24:45).

LUKE 24:13-53 RELATES the story of the walk to Emmaus of two of Jesus' followers after His crucifixion. We would suppose that the men who followed Jesus through His months of ministry would have gained an understanding of the purpose of the Cross and the Resurrection. But they still didn't understand all He had told them. They were looking for the Messiah to set up an earthly kingdom, and it was on the road to Emmaus that one of these men stated, "We trusted [supposed] that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel" (v. 21).



How quickly these men became baffled by all that had happened.

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baby would never be normal and should be admitted to an institution.

The distraught parents called their pastor, Kenneth Schmidt, to come and pray for the baby.

Within two weeks the doctors informed the parents that the baby had become perfectly normal! When comparing X rays of the child's brain before and after the baby was prayed for, the doctor said it was hard to believe they were taken of the same baby. He wrote "Absolute Miracle" across her records.

The child now is 11 years old and a testimony to God's healing power.

A teen-ager who attends our church suffered a head injury when she was about 9 years old. Soon afterward, she began to be paralyzed on one side. The diagnosis was a blood clot on the brain. The doctors said she would not live a year.

Her mother went through agony, watching her beautiful little girl deteriorate until she could no longer feed herself. When the mother would try to feed her, often the food would just fall out of the child's mouth.

"Oh, God!" she cried many times, "I just can't bear it!"

The child's grandmother, however, kept reassuring the young mother that God would not give her more than she could bear. They prayed and believed God for the answer.

Later when Jesus appeared to the disciples, "they were terrified and affrighted, and *supposed* that they had seen a spirit" (v. 37). Their understanding concerning the Resurrection was not clear.

But Luke 24:45 tells us, "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures." Oh, that we as Christians could experience this. How rewarding would be our experiences as we move out in Him and allow Him to open our understanding.

How easy it is for men to defeat their own progress in the Lord because of closed minds and their *supposing* they could do nothing.

Our Sunday schools and churches are filled with men who have *supposed* they could never teach a class, do personal witnessing, or even become a member of the Gideons International. Never having allowed themselves to become involved, they have cheated themselves and God's work in general.

Once I *supposed* I was a Christian, for I was a member of a socially-prominent church, but in 1933 the Lord opened my understanding through a citywide union revival held in the Shrine Mosque at Springfield, Missouri. Pastors of local churches were invited to "give the invocation" at the sessions. One night the Assemblies of God pastor, Ralph M. Riggs, offered the prayer.

I said to my wife afterward, "That man knows God." His prayer opened the way to "pay dirt" in my lay ministry. As a man with a hungry soul I entered the fellowship of the Assemblies of God, and for 35 years the Lord has been opening the windows of heaven upon me every day. Now at the age of 77 I enjoy divine health (which is even better than divine healing) and I find the opportunities to serve my Lord as a layman are nearly as numerous as ever. 

When vacation time came, they asked the doctor whether the little girl would be able to make a trip.

"You'd better take her," the doctor said. "It will be the last vacation she can take with you." So the parents bundled her up in a blanket and put her in the back of their station wagon.

Instead of getting worse, however, the girl began to improve. She completely recovered and today is an outstanding student and worker for the Lord.

There are many such testimonies of God's deliverance and healing power among our congregation. Our pastor, Hubert Surratt, could talk for hours about miracles he has seen.

God answers prayer. If you'd like to know for yourself what prayer can do, read the Bible. See what God did for Elijah, Gideon, and Moses in the Old Testament. Find out what He did for the apostles in the New Testament. Then ask Pentecostal believers what God has done for them. Our church is not unique. You'll find testimonies of miracles everywhere.

Then try prayer yourself and see what God can do. You will find the Lord does hear and answer: "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him" (1 John 5:14, 15). 

FOOTPRINTS OF GOD

By G. H. WOLFENBERGER

THE SCRIPTURES, ESPECIALLY THE GOSPELS, must be seen as missionaries in their own right. Their range and energy go far beyond the visible limits of the churches, and it is a great comfort to see the Spirit working through the sacred writings in the hearts and communities of people who have never before heard of the kingdom of God.

Scriptures can be obtained and studied in secret. They leap high language barriers if printed in the reader's mother tongue. They are removed from racial tensions, for they have no color except that of Israel. They can go where the missionary cannot go, and they remain when he is forced to move on. They receive attention when the quiet hour has come and can be shared with others. Their distribution is comparatively cheap and can take place in hundreds of everyday dialects.

What are we to think when Gospels are requested in India for troops at the Chinese border; when the Ghanaian government orders 500,000 Bibles for schools; when authorities in Venezuela ask for specially printed Scriptures for new literates in that country; and when Prince Mikasa, the brother of the Japanese emperor, recommended the Bible as the "Book of the Year" in 1964? What does it tell us about the popularity of the Scriptures when propaganda material from North Korea is sent to the South in Gospel covers? In 1964 and 1965 no less than 70 percent of the Scriptures distributed in the Near East and 95 percent in Thailand went to non-Christians.

The foregoing paragraphs are subject to criticism since a purely verbal concept of mission, in the sterile form of the printed word, seems to bypass all deeper insights of Biblical and missionary thinking. This is, however, only a first impression. A plea is made for an open and realistic look at the circulation of the sacred writings among the children of men on the basis of collected information. Nothing is wanted here except attention for the footprints of God.

The apostle Paul once compared the Christian congregation to a living letter of Christ. Of course, this is true only to the degree in which it is faithful to and inspired by the Biblical message. Only through obedience will a congregation refer to the Lord in the manifold

entanglements of life. Scriptures in their turn become missionaries through groups and churches who illustrate them by their living example. Behind their worldwide circulation should stand a body of believers ready to testify to the truth. God can, and indeed does, communicate with people through printed Gospels—this is an encouragement and comfort. But He has chosen the Church as the ambassador of Christ.

In the end, care for a congenial and effective distribution of the Scriptures rests with the congregations. In the name of all members of the United Bible Societies a letter was sent to the All-Africa Conference of Churches at Kampala which underlined this plea: "The Bible Societies consider themselves the handmaid of the Church, entrusted with the special responsibility of seeing that the Church's charter, the Bible, is translated into the many tongues of men, printed in attractive and economic editions, and given the widest possible circulation. This service can only be discharged as part of the *whole* service of the *whole* Church to the *whole* world, through the sacrificial commitment and cooperation of individual Christians as well as the local churches."

This letter should be read in the light of the rapidly increasing gap between the number of potential readers and the figures of Bible distribution. At present there are many statistics available to illustrate this fact. Two examples may suffice.

At the present rate of circulation it would take more than a century to give everyone in Africa a Gospel, and more than 175 years to give them either a Bible or a New Testament, on the impossible conditions that not one single copy would wear out or get lost and that the population would remain the same. In Asia (without Australasia) more than five times as many people were received into non-Roman Catholic Churches as Bibles were sold in the period between 1959 and 1964.

If the world population more than doubles between the 1960's and the year 2000, and if we may assume that by then the great majority of people will be literate, then it is apparent that vast programs are called for to meet the need. In these programs the real bottleneck will lie in the distribution. Indiscriminate mass circulation will not do. The Scriptures will be received and interpreted in the light of the quality of the people who distribute them, and this puts a heavy responsibility on Christian people.

In fact, it amounts to this: Churches should be challenged and educated to break out of their complacency

This article is an excerpt from chapter 3 of a new book, *Multiplying the Loaves*, by G. H. Wolfensberger. Copyright 1968 by the United Bible Societies. Reprinted from *Bible Society Record*, by permission.

and confinement and to go out with the gospel in heart and hands in order to witness again through personal contacts.

At the moment this is far from being realized. There are areas where it is left to certain sectarian groups as their specialty, and consequently the popular imagination goes no further than the most meager forms of colportage. In these modern times countless Christians remain asham-

THE ONE WHO DID HER BEST

By ANSLEY ORFILA

IT WAS A RASH THING TO DO. Mary almost broke up the supper in Simon's home when she suddenly produced an alabaster cruse of ointment, broke it, and poured the precious perfume on Jesus' head and feet. To top it all, she began to wipe His feet with her hair.

Immediately, the indignant onlookers' criticism filled the room like the buzz of angry bees. It was a shameful waste, they said. Why, it could have been sold for the poor. After all, it was worth three hundred pence.

Imagine, therefore, their dismay when Jesus' rebuke sounded above the angry roar. "Let her alone," He said. "Why trouble ye her? She hath done what she could." That was all, but it was enough. It was His defense against the sharp, cutting criticisms.

Their rebuke is ours also. We too are quick to criticize and find fault. We too are adept at the art of "getting by." Perhaps we need to look more closely at one who did her best.

What does it mean to offer one's best?

Notice first the *costliness* of her best. Since a pence was the usual wage for a day's labor, three hundred pence was nearly equivalent to a year's wages.

Our best is always costly. When we give our beloved Saviour the best, we withhold nothing in time, money, or effort.

When King David desired the threshingfloor of Araunah the Jebusite as a site for an altar, Araunah gladly offered it free to the king. Indeed, he was so flattered that he offered to include the oxen for burnt of-

ed, uninspired, and ill-equipped to talk about the Lord of all life. They hide the Light.

The Bible means business, and it is a frontier book. The Scriptures will enrich us to the extent to which we allow them to become missionaries in ourselves and in our environment. As has already been said, each group and each individual has a fragmentary and finite task, and yet a little lantern can dispel darkness till the dawn breaks.

ferings, the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meat offering. "I give it all," he said.

What a bargain! Here was David's chance to please God at no cost to himself. But David refused. He said, "Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings without cost."

Away with our cheap sacrifices and bargain-counter altars! Do we think Almighty God is so poverty-stricken He is flattered by our leftovers?

This brings us to a second characteristic of her best: its *completeness*. "She brake the box, and poured it on his head." The box (or cruse) was alabaster, a beautiful, fine-grained, translucent stone. Why break the box? With ointment so precious, only a few drops would suffice. The significance of the broken box was that it meant she gave her all.

John's Gospel adds that she "anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair." Shameless exhibitionism? Yes, a shameless exhibition of honor to Jesus Christ. In that day, the lowliest household servant washed the guests' feet. Here was One so worthy of honor that His feet were washed, not with water but with precious ointment; and they were dried, not with a towel, but with her hair. By this act, therefore, she silently spoke a message of complete surrender.

But there is usually another accompaniment of the offering of one's best. Even when we do our best, we often face *criticism*. Thus it was with this woman: "And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her." John again adds a detail. He tells us it was Judas Iscariot who led in the criticism, "not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag."

There are always the carnally minded who do nothing for God themselves, yet pick flaws in those who do. They see no sense in "emotionalism" or "fancy church buildings" or "wasting money on the heathen." Usually those who constantly find fault do nothing for God themselves and resent anyone who does. If we would do our best, we must ignore the critics and work for God's commendation.

To all Christians of all time, this woman's best is a challenge. Jesus said, "Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

"The house was filled with the odor of the ointment," and the sweet savor of that act of love lingers over the centuries.

"She hath done what she could." Will we do as much?



Aaron A. Wilson
Pastor, Park Crest Village
Assembly of God



COURTESY SPRINGFIELD (MO.) NEWSPAPERS, INC.

SOME *Never* QUIT!

By CURTIS W. RINGNESS / *National Home Missions Secretary*

THE DEDICATION OF THE newly completed Park Crest Village Assembly of God in Springfield, Mo., on Sunday, April 27, marked a great day for Pastor A. A. Wilson and his enthusiastic congregation. With God's help and the backing of faithful people, Brother Wilson has proved again it is possible to pioneer a new church when a person is well up in his 70's.

Thomas F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, led the new congregation in the dedication ceremonies. Also officiating in the service were N. Cleo Tapp, superintendent of the Southern Missouri District; T. T. Ward, sectional presbyter; Curtis W. Ringness, national Home Missions secretary; members of the official board, and visiting ministers.

Although it was raining, cars began converging early on the 10-acre property on South Kansas Avenue. Groups of eager people rushed toward the open church doors, some under umbrellas and some in raincoats. Rain was not going to keep them home—not this time. Soon the building, which seats 175, was packed.

In addition to their excitement over the dedication of their new building, the congregation wished to pay tribute to their exceptional pastor. To undertake the pioneering

of this work and the construction of the new church was no small task, even for a younger man. It was an accomplishment which gave both Pastor Wilson and his congregation great pleasure—and for which they gave glory to God. Brother Zimmerman referred to the many wires, letters, and telephone calls of congratulation, some even from Canada, to Brother Wilson and the church. One of the letters stated, "We are amazed at your work . . . old soldiers do not *fade* away; they just keep on building churches!"

In his sermon, Brother Zimmerman paid special tribute to this pioneer of Pentecost. Of course, Brother Wilson gave the credit to the congregation and officers of the church, the district, the section, and all others who participated in the building project.

God has blessed this work at every turn. Some \$800 had been donated for pews leaving the amount still owed at \$1,600. During the service, the people gave \$1,700 in cash and pledges to pay off the balance on the pews, in addition to a generous cash offering. This ready response on the part of the people of the Springfield section was an indication of their interest in and appreciation for the new church.

Shortly after Brother Wilson moved to Springfield several years ago, he expressed an interest in the Park Crest area. Alan Phillips, registrar of Evangel College, had held a few services in the area community building, and the response was encouraging. Brother Wilson accepted the challenge to pioneer in November of 1968. He began services in a storefront building in a new shopping center.

A news story in the *Springfield News and Leader* describes the new church as follows: "The building is distinguished by the tall, wooden pillars and the classical cornice. The exterior is of brick, colonial-style, blended red with touches of black. Long narrow windows in the side walls provide light on two levels. Warm wood tones of oak and red carpeting contrast with off-white walls in the interior. Three oak crosses of different sizes on the wall behind the pulpit are back-lighted and take on a three-dimensional effect."

The new church is the first unit of a proposed building complex. The main floor of the two-story structure contains a sanctuary, a nursery, and an office.

The lower level contains six Sunday school rooms, rest rooms, and a kitchen. Folding partitions permit the use of three rooms as a fellowship hall.

The "split" foyer of the church has a polished marble floor; and stairways, which have wrought iron railings, are carpeted in red to match the carpeting in the auditorium.

Chandeliers of colonial design are suspended from the cathedral-type ceilings of the narthex and the sanctuary. Jerry Corbett, a builder, who is superintendent of the Sunday school, was in charge of construction. Design work for the new building was done by Milton McCorcle.

Microphones are not needed in the auditorium because of the excellent acoustics.

* * *

Our society encourages retirement at 60-65 years of age. But in gospel ministry it is difficult to consider retirement at a certain age when a person is in good health and mentally alert. Ministers and laymen alike can do excellent work after retirement age. Many have accomplished their best work for God during these later years.

When are people too old to pioneer? Let us consider a few examples from the Bible. The apostle Paul was well beyond retirement age, possibly in his 80's when he wrote the Epistles from prison, made converts in Rome, and died as a witnessing martyr. Moses was in his 80's when he led the children of Israel out of Egypt. Caleb, another Old Testament character, was also in his 80's when he declared, "Give me this mountain. . . ." God gave him strength, in spite of his years, to drive out the enemy and possess the rugged mountain area.

God continued to use Samuel, Elijah, and other men even though they were aging. Some of them *never quit*. Age can be relative—some people are 40 years *old*, while others are 70 years *young*! A minister once remarked, "When you feel like retiring, put on a new set of tires and keep going for God."

Aaron A. Wilson has done just that. He retired eight years ago as pastor of Evangel Temple, the church he had founded in Kansas City some 40 years ago, which had grown to be one of the largest churches in our Movement, but his so-called retirement years have become some of

the most active in his entire ministry. He has participated in conventions, camp meetings, and other gospel activities from coast to coast.

The burden to pioneer another church was so great he accepted the challenge of this new suburban area of Springfield. Brother Wilson says, "This has been a greater source of satisfaction to me than any other project with which I have been associated. I am so thankful I could still accept the challenge."

There have been others like Brother Wilson. Consider Norman T. Spong who, after successfully pastoring four established churches, pioneering a new church in Somerville, N. J., erecting a lovely new edifice, went to Florida and is now pioneering another church in Boca Raton.

Another example is Dr. John L. Sutton who successfully pioneered a new church in Los Angeles when he was 86!

There is a place for every age in pioneering. The plus qualities of youth, such as enthusiasm, a venturesome spirit, and daring faith, are not to be considered lightly. On the other hand, it is possible that veteran ministers may also have enthusiasm and faith, along with confidence, good judgment, mature ministry, and patience. They have a rich background of experience on which to base their ministry.

Across the nation today thousands of communities present challenging opportunities for full-gospel evangelism.

The strength of the Assemblies of God has been and always will remain in the number of pioneers, young or old, who are willing to sacrifice to bring new churches into being. It takes faith, dedication, hard work, and much prayer to pioneer. But how great is the reward when the pioneer pastor finally sees his faith and work rewarded in the founding of another full-gospel lighthouse. 

REVIVAL BREEZES BLOW FROM THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

FOLLOWING THE VISIT of Curtis W. Ringness, national secretary of Home Missions, and Woodrow Yasuhara, Hawaii district superintendent, a new desire for God seems to have awakened among the people of the island of Kauai in Hawaii.

Concerning this, Bill and Bonnie Ashpole report: "The meetings with Brother Ringness and Yasuhara were a blessing both here and at the Kekaha Assembly. . . ."

Later the Ashpoles conducted a revival at the Waimanalo Assembly on the island of Oahu where many Hawaiians came forward to be saved. Several were led back to Christ, and a number filled or refilled with the Holy Spirit.

Concerning the annual Christ's Ambassadors convention, they write: "The Men's Fellowship of Kauai spent three days preparing the campgrounds and buildings for the young people; 185 young men and women attended the camp. Many were saved or filled with the Holy Spirit under the inspiring ministry of Kenneth Schmidt from California. Some meetings extended to 3:30 in the morning similar to the old-time revivals."

God is blessing Hawaii with His presence. The influence of the CA camp and other revival services is still being felt throughout the islands. 



AN ASSEMBLIES PASTOR
PROVES FROM EXPERIENCE THAT GOD IS
NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS

GOD'S GRACE BEHIND PRISON WALLS

By WINTON S. DYKES
Pastor, Calvary Assembly, Paducah, Kentucky

VISITING A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON is an experience in itself; but when you take a team of men to minister the gospel for the first time, there are definite, if not visible, apprehensions. Could we expect an outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Would souls come to Christ the same as on the *outside* in our home assembly?

Our team did not know it, but the evidence of God's love was to be seen before our very eyes—and on the *inside* of the Kentucky State Prison at Eddyville.

Some of the team had never seen the other side of prison walls. Sure, we had stood on the outside and imagined what it was like. But we really didn't know what to expect. Our preconceived ideas about prisons and prisoners had taken the edge off of our faith. Frankly we were a little fearful too, but we prayed and were believing God to bless our first gospel service.

It was 6 a.m. The sun had scarcely risen as we stood before those towering graystone walls. They reminded me of the Berlin Wall, or the Great Wall of China—walls of resistance separating one section of society from another. We prayed and waited outside the gates.

Chaplain H. E. Inman admitted us through one iron gate, then a second. We waited at this point for signing in, and then proceeding through a third gate that opened into what is called the inner-defense perimeter of the prison compound. At last we were *really* inside. I cast a brief glance backward at the gates and the shadowy walls. Ahead of us about 50 yards stood the prison chapel. Some inmates were entering in small groups and some singly.

As we approached the building complex, I took in the details. Along the paved walkway men in gray stood in scattered groups, some working, others just passing time. A few prisoners strolled across the expansive yard. "Their day begins early," I commented. Chaplain Inman added, "Yes, about six." I inquired about these men and their length of confinement and learned that some would be out in a week or so, some maybe in a month or a year—and *others would never get out.*

My gospel team looked thoughtful as we entered the

chaplain's office. We noticed some of the prisoners were not much more than boys. I knew that many of them would go out into eternity from this very place—behind these walls of doom. Naturally prison did not mean doom to all. Prisoners have many opportunities to reform, to learn or unlearn, and fit back into society. But the greater percentage never make it.

When you find yourself actually inside a maximum security prison, a strange feeling sweeps over you. You are apprehensive, insecure—you need reassurance. I wondered at first if prison might be classified as "Satan's seat," there was so much evil around us. I thought I could feel it.

After brief instructions, we had prayer and left the office, heading for the chapel. Soft organ and saxophone music filtered across the prison yard, growing louder as we neared the sanctuary door. The last few prisoners were straggling in.

What a sight greeted us! Here were 200 men in gray seated in neat rows. To the right a choir had formed. There was no talking above a whisper. I sensed a genuine atmosphere of reverence and faith began to spring up in my heart. Could this really be *prison*?

Finally everyone was seated. A hush fell on the gathering as we took our places on the platform. All we could hear was the worshipful music played by two of the inmates. At first I feared everything would be cold and formal, but as I scanned the faces I thought, *There must be many Christians here.* I would soon find out I was correct.

The service commenced. Gradually one and then

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another inmate lifted his hand and heart in worship. The music mounted and blended in harmony with the men's voices. Could I believe my eyes? Here were prisoners worshipping God in the Spirit just as we do in our assembly. This was unbelievable—but true!

I could feel the Holy Spirit's presence in a remarkable way. And the service had only started. We waited prayerfully, my team and I, our eyes glued upon the audience, our voices blending with the men's in praise. I soon realized our God is truly no respecter of persons. Here, inside a prison, were men who loved Jesus. He had set them free from their sins.

One by one my team gave testimony to the saving grace of Jesus. When it came time to minister, I felt a strong anointing—just as in my own church pulpit. The sermon told simply how God loved humanity in spite of their sin and wickedness. My appeal was to these men seated before me.

The altar call was a surprise, to say the least: hands were lifted all over the chapel. There was weeping too. God's Spirit was indeed at work! Inmates of all ages were being stirred: Catholic and Protestant; white and black; educated and illiterate. Doubtless some had never attended any kind of church service in their lives. These men were in dead earnest. They wanted Christ to meet their needs—now!

What a thrill to see strong men standing up and moving out into the aisles, some sobbing, reverently heading

for the altar to meet God. Truly God was answering prayer! *This was a touch of Pentecost!*

We let the blessed Holy Spirit control the meeting. At least 22 inmates found immediate deliverance from their sins. I saw that familiar, open-faced expression of pure joy on their faces—just as radiated by sinners on the outside when they find salvation. My apprehensions had completely vanished. Indeed these men were loved of God just as any other men in our society.

I found that, in a sense, *these men had changed me too.* As I looked into their transformed faces, I realized the prisoners were not only human, but were just like you and me—sinners saved by grace. The only difference was they were saved by grace behind prison walls.

The service closed. Many of the men came up and shook our hands showing gratitude for our visit. I shall never forget those faces—the look in their eyes. Three inmates requested Bible study courses from the Prison Division of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Mo.

As we departed, I looked back at the iron gates and formidable walls. We were outside again. Somehow it seemed there was so little difference between outside and inside, as far as men's souls were concerned. As for my prison evangelism team, well, not one of us will ever be the same again after seeing firsthand the evidence of God's love and redeeming grace manifested *behind those walls.*



Leo



Kathleen

MARVELOUS HEALINGS AT INDIAN MISSION

THE ORVILLE ALEXANDERS, missionaries to American Indians at McNary, Ariz., report some remarkable healings. "Victory like a warm breeze blows across the reservation," they declare. The story of the healing of two Indian babies is especially thrilling.

When little baby Leo was seven months old he was afflicted with chronic diarrhea and pneumonia. The doctor said the child could not live. A request for prayer was sent to the Assemblies of God ministers institute which was convening in Phoenix at the time. Almost immediately little Leo began to improve. In a few days the parents got permission to take him home from the hospital.

But the parents noticed later on their baby could not bend his knees. And when they attempted to bend them, the baby would scream with pain. Examinations proved Leo had polio!

Again God stepped into the picture. The Passmores of South Beach, Oreg., were in revival meetings at the McNary Indian Mission. One night all the believers gathered around the boy and his parents to pray. Nothing happened at the church—nothing they could see—but that night, at home, little Leo began kicking and bending both his legs! It was indeed a miracle of God. Now Leo is walking and running around like any other child. The little Indian boy shows no sign of ever having had polio.

Another child, Kathleen, was two and one-half years old and was still unable to walk or talk. She was crippled—and never smiled. The parents carried her to her class where she would sit hunched and listless. "It was a pitiful sight," says Brother Alexander. There was never any response from the little girl. The doctor had long since pronounced her retarded.

Then it happened! Her foster mother brought her for prayer. Someone touched God. The healing did not happen all at once, but one day the little face broke into a smile. The church people began to notice a gradual change in Kathy. She continued to smile. Soon she showed a desire to try walking. After many efforts she was able to toddle, then really stride across the floor!

"At this writing, Kathy is normal," say the Alexanders. "She is one of the happiest little girls in the Indian mission—and talks constantly in both Apache and English."

Kathy may have a very slight limp, but no longer does she have to be carried into church. No longer does she sit and stare in a corner. She knows why—she knows Jesus set her free!

YOUR QUESTIONS

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS



Where does the Bible say God casts our sins into the sea?

It is said in Micah 7:19 He casts our sins into the depths of the sea. Isaiah 38:17 says that God casts our sins behind His back. These expressions indicate how fully God puts sin away when He saves us.

What does it mean when the Scripture says Abraham's faith was imputed unto him for righteousness? (Romans 4:22).

It means Abraham was justified, not by any righteous acts of his, but through his faith in the promises of God. It means to us that the righteousness of our Lord Jesus is credited to our account if we believe in Him as the Saviour of our souls. The Scripture says it is "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

What is antinomianism?

It is a perversion of the doctrine of salvation by faith. The word means "opposed to law." It teaches that since Christ is our righteousness, believers are not required to adhere to moral law or to live righteously. It thus gives license to sin, since believers are not under the law but under grace.

It is true that he who believes in Jesus is saved by grace, not by any human merit. But the proof of his salvation is a godly life. By means of the indwelling Holy Spirit the righteousness of the law is fulfilled in the believer. "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:4). "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).

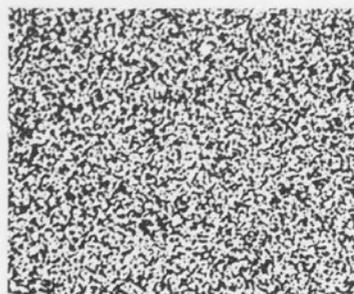
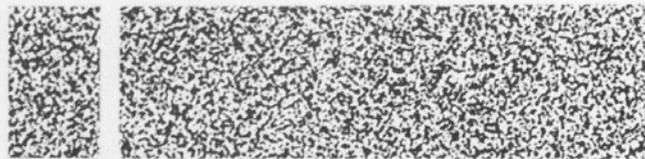
What is the soul? My husband recently died, and I would love to know what becomes of the soul at death.

There are places in the Bible where the entire being, whether it be man or beast, is spoken of as soul. For example: "And Abram took . . . the souls that they had gotten in Haran" (Genesis 12:5). But this is not the general use of the term *soul*.

Soul and *life* generally have the same meaning. Jesus "poured out his soul unto death," meaning He gave His life. The Bible teaches that man consists of "spirit, soul, and body" (1 Thessalonians 5:23). The human spirit or soul is spoken of as "the inner man," the real man that survives death: "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36).

The apostle Paul clearly teaches that when the Christian's soul is absent from the body, he is present with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:6-10).

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.



By C. M. WARD



BROUGHT TO THE EDGE



ABOVE THE CONSOLE at radio station KETX, Livingstone, Texas, is this challenging motto: "What we *are* is God's gift to us; what we *become* is our gift to God."

Becoming someone is the name of the game.

It is accomplished by an act of *trust*. There is no other source for development.

Testing to discover resilience to stress and strain is the continual pursuit of laboratory research. Here is the big question: How *reliable* is this product? How much pressure can it absorb without crumbling?

This is the inherent glory of mankind. This must be the satisfaction of the Creator. "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:7).

How strongly do you believe? That is the supreme test. That is the target.

*What lies ahead for thee, my soul;
What dost thou face in future days?
I do not know what lies ahead;
I only know God plans my ways.
Ah, soul of mine, thy future days
Are planned for thee by God above;
And He who notes the sparrow's fall
Is watching thee in tender love.
Then soul of mine, be still and know
What lies ahead is in His hands—
Whate'er it be that comes to thee,
He knows, He cares, He understands.*

—ELOISE MAY RICHEY

God brought Abraham to the *edge!* God asked for Isaac; would Abraham trust Him? The glorious answer is this: "Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb . . . so they went both of them together" (Genesis 22:8).

Paul, recapturing this glorious moment later for Israel, said, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded, that what he had promised, he was able also to perform" (Romans 4:20, 21).

And God also brought Joseph to the *edge!* How far could he resist temptation—seduction by Potiphar's wife? Here is Joseph's answer! "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9).

The Psalmist reflected on this moment in history. "He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant: whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron: until the time that his word came: the word of the Lord tried him" (Psalm 105:17-19).

So He brought Esther to the *edge!* A villain of villains was threatening her and her race. Would she withdraw? No. She said, "I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to law: and if I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16).

So He brought Job to the *edge!* Job declared, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him" (Job 13:15).

So He brought Peter to the *edge!* The last moments ticked away on death row. "The same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised

This article is the first chapter of C. M. Ward's new book, *The Edge*. The author is radio speaker for *Revivaltime*, international broadcast service of the Assemblies of God.

him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands" (Acts 12:6, 7).

The *crisis* in your life is designed to be a moment of glory. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17).

At last the reflection can say to you, "I have *become* someone—someone pleasing to Him. The Lord has found me trustworthy."

That is the compliment of the ages.

The Christian's goal is to become like Jesus. "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Thank God for those experiences which produce this change! 

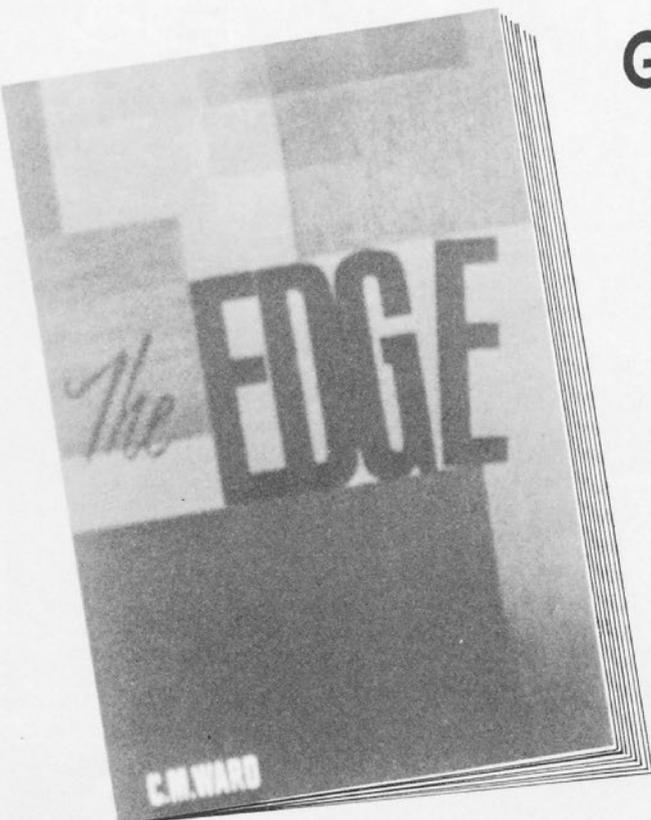
SAVED AND DELIVERED FROM TOBACCO HABIT

TODAY MY WIFE AND I are enjoying a Christian home. She served the Lord alone until about four years ago, for I wasn't a Christian.

But my wife became very ill, and I feared for her life. It was then I accepted the Lord as my personal Saviour. Soon afterward He filled me with the Holy Spirit and delivered me from a 40-year-old tobacco habit. I had started using tobacco when only five years old. When God delivered me I was spending \$1.25 a day for this habit.

I now serve as trustee in my church and am a member of the Sunday school faculty. I hope my testimony will help others who wish to be delivered from smoking.—Cecil Stroud, Tonkawa, Okla.

(Endorsed by Pastor Glenn D. Davis, Assembly of God, Tonkawa, Okla.)



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FRENCH GUIANA

FRENCH GUIANA, smallest and least populated of the three Guianas, lies in a remote, jungle-covered patch on the northeast shoulder of South America. Burdened by its location, climate, and the devastating reputation as the site of one of history's most infamous prisons—Devil's Island—French Guiana has lain stagnant and forgotten for decades.

Initial steps were taken last year to open this *Last Field in the Americas* (title of article in *The Pentecostal Evangel*, January 29, 1969) to the Pentecostal message. Missionaries Harold and Myrna Carpenter, who have served in Bolivia for the past four years and who are now home on furlough, will be entering French Guiana later this year as the first Assemblies of God missionaries appointed to this newest Assemblies of God mission field.

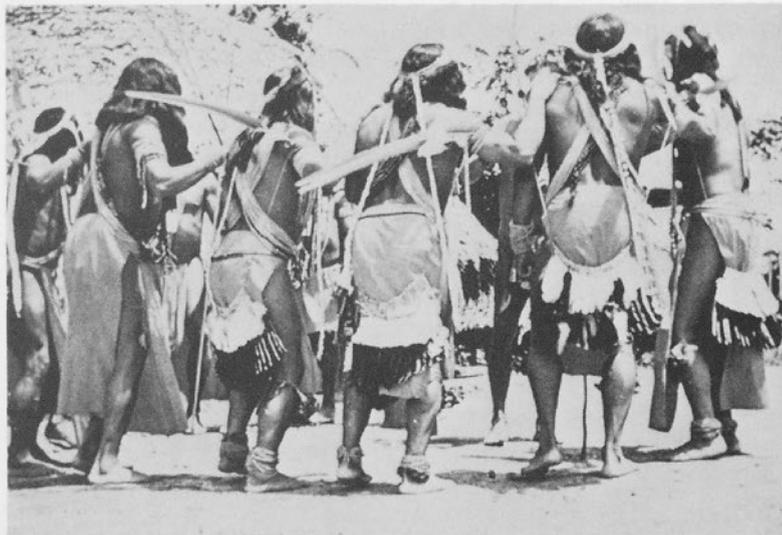
Political events taking place halfway around the globe have awakened French Guiana from her past and thrust her into the rush of the Space Age and a share of the grandeur of her mother country, France.

Under the terms of the Evian Agreement establishing the independence of Algeria, France agreed to abandon its missile launch site at Hammaguir in the Algerian Sahara by July 1, 1967, and French Guiana was selected instead. Its once undesirable location (just two degrees north of the equator) became its chief asset. The sleepy coastal village of Kourou was chosen as the site of the new space center.

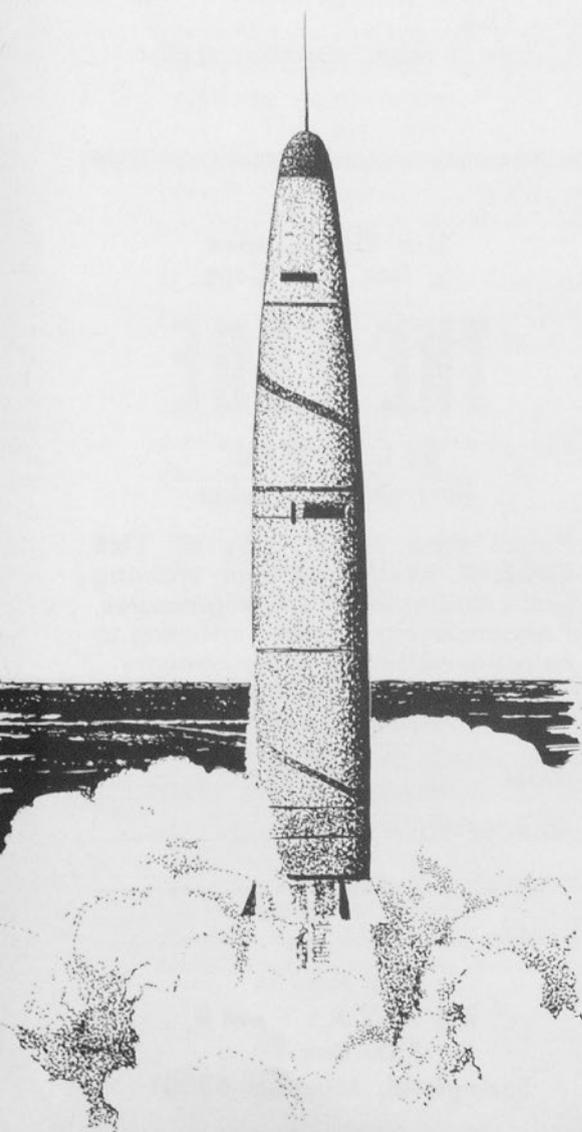
Work was begun on the site in 1965 with an initial funding of \$60 million. Since that time France has spent many more millions on this space center.

This construction has produced an influx of builders, technicians, and engineers. Already launching pads, control centers, office buildings, hotels, homes, and shopping centers have been completed, and the first launching from the French Guiana site is scheduled to take place later this year.

The construction of this center has given a great thrust to the development of French Guiana; but the greatest significance of all this lies perhaps in another area. Deep seaports have been dug for shipping missiles



The country of French Guiana is a contrast between the primitive and the modern. With the establishment of a French missile site in the coastal village of Kourou, French Guiana has been thrust into the future before they were hardly aware of the present. Along with the space site, other industries are being established in French Guiana.



and materials from France, and these new harbors now make possible the exploitation of the 30 million tons of bauxite available in the Kaw Mountains. In fact, a large aluminum company has already signed an option to do so.

The electric power generating plants built for supplying power to the space center now make it possible for industries to locate in French Guiana. The country has become a modern frontier, a land where the future has suddenly been thrust upon it, although the past has not yet caught up with the present.

All this activity in Kourou has also caused a surge of activity and construction in the capital city of Cayenne, the city that loaned its name to the famous variety of pepper. Huge construction cranes dot the landscape around the city. American shrimp companies are also causing a surge of growth in St. Laurant, French Guiana's second-largest city.

Most of French Guiana's inhabitants are "metis," or mixed bloods, formed by a mixture of European, African,

and Indian peoples. There are Indian tribes in the Amazon jungles, which cover about 90 percent of the country. Also, there are bush Negro tribes along the northern border of French Guiana. These bush Negroes are the descendants of escaped slaves brought to Surinam by early Dutch planters. The Orientals form another important segment of French Guiana's population. Most of French Guiana's retail businesses are owned by Orientals.

Missionary Carpenter visited French Guiana in August 1968 to make a preliminary survey prior to the opening of the country by the Assemblies of God. He reports that he is thrilled by the opportunities for establishing the full gospel in that country. 

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Never underestimate the power of a Revolving Loan investment. It will be working long after your check arrives at the Foreign Missions Department. In fact, your dollar may be on its way right now to another foreign missions project. 

WORK

**YOUR MISSIONS
DOLLAR OVERTIME!**

By **PAUL D. SHERMAN**
Foreign Missions Promotions Coordinator



AMOS FORETELLS ISRAEL'S FALL

Sunday School Lesson for June 29, 1969

By J. BASHFORD BISHOP

AMOS 8:1-14

AMOS PREACHED DURING THE REIGNS of Jeroboam II and Uzziah, both of whom had greatly strengthened Israel's economic and political situation. Under Jeroboam II Israel reached its greatest height since the time of Solomon. It had grown materially rich—but morally rotten!

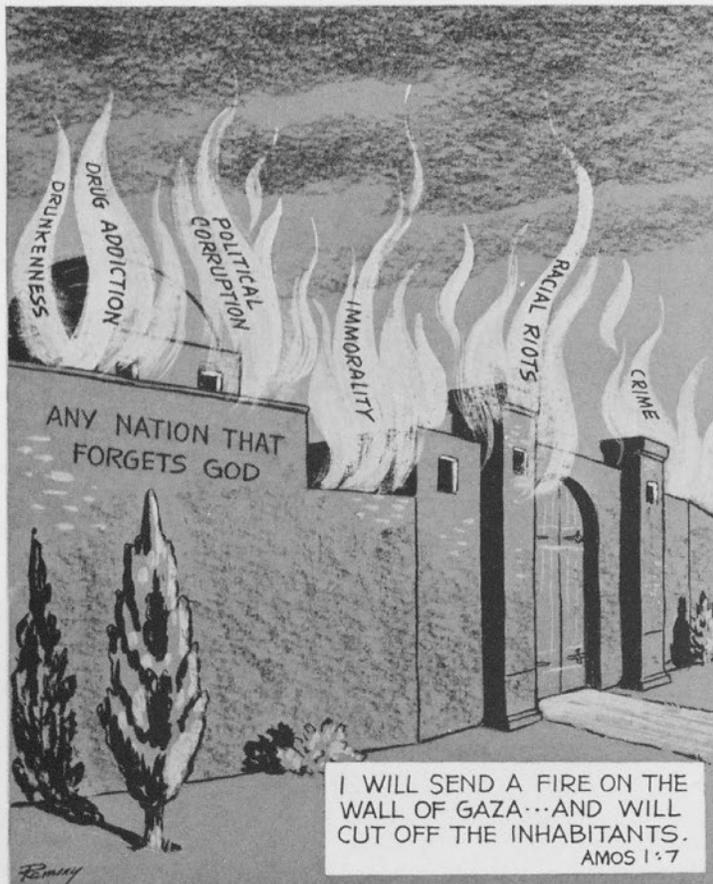
God chooses one man to emphasize one aspect of truth, and another to stress some other equally important aspect. Hosea had preached God's mercy and loving-kindness until it was heartbreaking. But some hearts won't be broken that way. Thus Amos became the rugged proclaimer of God's righteousness, justice, and judgment.

Amos was not a preacher—neither by birth nor by schooling. He was a farmer. His language throughout the book speaks of the open field, the farm, the cattle, the crops. Yet he was as surely called of God and anointed from heaven as any man who ever lived. Courageously he delivered an unpopular message in absolute indifference to what it would cost him. God's approval meant more to him than prosperity, position, or even life itself.

SINS DENOUNCED

What Amos said to Israel can be said to America today, for conditions are amazingly similar!

FIRE OF JUDGMENT



1. *There was love of ease and luxury.* "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion . . . that lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock . . . that chant to the sound of the viol . . . that drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph" (Amos 6:1-6). What a picture of ease-loving, pleasure-seeking, drinking, dining, dancing America! What widespread extravagance, sensuality, and utter indifference there are to the needs (both spiritual and material) of others less fortunate! Let us take heed, as Christians, lest we ourselves become self-indulgent and worldly.

2. *There was the oppression of the poor.* The luxuries enjoyed by this class of idle rich in Israel had been obtained by means which Amos denounced. The poor and needy were being sold as slaves by heartless creditors. There was dishonest trading, cheating, bribery—all at the expense of the poor. "They sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes" (Amos 2:6). "They . . . store up violence and robbery in their palaces" (3:10). "When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?" (8:5, 6).

3. *There was unrestrained immorality.* "A man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name" (2:7). A mad obsession with sex has gripped this so-called "Christian" nation too!

4. *There was religious formality and hypocrisy.* "I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. . . . Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs" (5:21-25). With arrogant presumption the nation carried on its ordinances of worship, observed its feast days, and brought various offerings in abundance. The people deluded themselves into thinking that God would overlook their sins.

SALVATION OFFERED

Israel's people had strayed far from God, yet not so far that they could not return. Amos not only pointed out their sins but also pointed out the way of salvation. "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel" (4:12). "Seek the Lord, and ye shall live. . . . Seek good, and not evil . . . and establish judgment . . . : it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious" (5:6, 14, 15). How reasonable are God's demands! How simple is the way to His heart and His blessings!

JUDGMENT PRONOUNCED

"Then Amaziah the priest . . . sent to Jeroboam . . . saying, Amos hath conspired against thee . . . : the land is not able to bear all his words" (7:10). Here was a false prophet, a court preacher who objected to Amos' "negative preaching." He sought to discredit God's messenger and to rid the land of him. Israel must choose between Amos' and Amaziah's message—and so must we! Israel chose Amaziah and brought upon itself the judgment predicted by Amos. The land was destroyed and the people were taken captive.

How will it be with us? The time has come when men will not endure sound doctrine but, having ears which itch for self-pleasing sermons, have turned away from the truth. But God still waits to be gracious to those who fully turn to Him!

TESTIMONIES OF HEALING

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



INFANT HEALED OF PNEUMONIA AND STAPH INFECTION

EVERY DAY we praise God for healing our son Richard Jr. He is now an active 10-year-old and weighs about 85 pounds.

Richard was an 8 lb. 4 oz. baby at birth. But from the day we brought him home from the hospital, his health started to fail. We took him to several doctors who told us he had a cold. They suggested different formulas and vitamins to build him up.



When he was four weeks old, he became so sick we took him to a specialist. He told us our baby had pneumonia in both lungs and staph infection. He was immediately placed in the hospital under

oxygen and was fed intravenously.

He had a special nurse night and day, and we stayed with him constantly for six days. The doctor said he could do no more for him.

When his grandparents came to see him, they immediately contacted Pastor and Mrs. A. R. Hontz. They drove nearly 100 miles to the hospital in Monticello, New York to pray for Richard. His hands were over his head, very tense. As they prayed, his hands relaxed. Soon he was taken out of the oxygen tent and fed by his mother. He was able to bring up mucus from his lungs. He continued to improve.

We have spoken many times to our doctor, and he says only God could have pulled Richard through his illness.—Richard and Beverly Swingle.

(Endorsed by Pastor A. R. Hontz, Drums, Pennsylvania, prior to his death on March 22, 1969. His widow, P. H. Hontz, is pastor of the Assembly of God at Shickshinny, Pennsylvania.)

STROKE VICTIM HEALED

GOD ANSWERED PRAYER for Mrs. Florence Sanborn following the stroke she suffered last September. She is now in better health than at any time during the two and a half years I have known her.

I am pastor of The Gospel Tabernacle (Assemblies of God) at Sturgeon Bay, Wis., and the church had given my wife and me a delightful wedding anniversary party after the service that Sunday evening. It was during this time of fellowship Sister Sanborn suffered her stroke. She was unconscious as we carried her from the fellow-

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

ship hall. We took her to the church sanctuary where about 20 Christians began to pray. While to us she seemed totally unconscious, Sister Sanborn had a remarkable spiritual experience. Later she described it as follows:

"Prayer is power! I was in a dark place. I felt a deep stillness and seemed all alone. I was not frightened, but I had a sense of waiting; there was a holy quietness, as though I were in 'the valley of the shadow of death.' Then I saw a light at my side and I recognized Jesus. He put a thin veil-like cloud around and under me and held His hand beneath me as though holding me up.

"I could *feel* more than hear the prayers of the saints, and this seemed to be the source of power that was coming up and around me with such force. Words cannot be found to explain the glory of this experience; it was so wonderful. God's presence was so great and real. I felt I had left this world and gone to be with Jesus."

After several minutes of prayer, Sister Sanborn became conscious but was unable to articulate, although she repeatedly tried to speak. As we prayed again, the Holy Spirit came upon her. She began to speak first in tongues and then in English—words of praise and adoration to the Lord. This period of praise was loud and forceful. Above the shouting of the saints, Sister Sanborn's voice could be heard saying, "God has heard us!"

Following this period of praise, she again became inarticulate, but remained conscious. She was taken to the hospital where her doctor diagnosed the ailment as a stroke. But he said she was already improving. My wife stayed at the hospital until about 1:30 a.m., when Sister Sanborn again spoke normally and rationally.

The next day all pain had left her body. And, without any medication, she was released from the hospital two days later. She was somewhat weak for a few days but rapidly gained in strength.

We are thankful for this answer to prayer. Sister Sanborn says, "I thank God for healing me. I'm so glad for all that Jesus means to me. I want to be ready when He calls."—Pastor Allen Lehmann.

HEALED OF RUPTURE

AFTER 26 YEARS of wearing a truss, I have been able to discard it.

Although I used the best quality truss, my rupture more or less bothered me. But I did well at my work.

During the fall of 1968, however, the rupture appeared to be getting worse. It dropped down at times and caused increasing distress.

My wife and others prayed for me and I am now healed. I discarded the truss on Christmas Day—a wonderful gift of deliverance. Praise the Lord!—Garner N. Clark, Adin, Calif.

(Endorsed by Pastor Donald Star, Assembly of God, Alturas, Calif.)

I'LL NEVER WALK ALONE AGAIN

By HAZEL W. TIBBIT

THE LORD WAS THERE all the time, ready to carry the load, but in my blindness I didn't see Him. In my self-centeredness, I didn't ask Him. But He had His own way of opening my eyes.

I sat in the doctor's office pleading, "Doctor, you *have* to help me. I don't see how I can feel so bad and not have anything physically wrong with me."

It was a regular visit such as I had been making for many months, going over the same symptoms (with minor variations) which were my constant unpleasant companions. Each time the doctor listened sympathetically, told me it was tension, and advised me to learn to relax. He would check the tranquilizer I was taking and give the shot which kept me going until my next appointment.

This time he looked at me steadily and answered, "I

can't help you. I can only give you medication to ease the symptoms."

After so many visits without noticeable improvement, I felt defeated, helpless, and suddenly resentful. Was the doctor tired of hearing the same complaints? *Well*, I thought angrily, *he can't be any more tired of seeing me than I am tired of being told he can find nothing wrong. Maybe I had better find another doctor who can find something. It just can't all be my nerves.*

As I started to leave, he asked, "Are you going to church tomorrow?" It was Saturday, the usual day of my appointment. But this was the first time he had ever mentioned church to me.

"Yes," I answered.

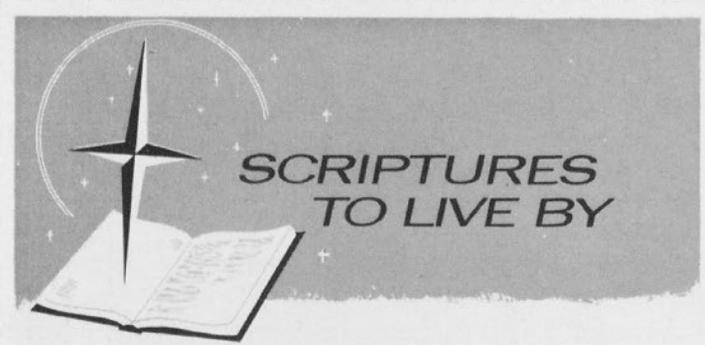
"I think you should go all the time," he added.

The doctor's question troubled me as I drove home. Why would he think I didn't go to church regularly? I had attended church for as long as I could remember. Was he just making conversation, or was there something about me that made him think I needed to go to church?

Over the years I had acquired Bible helps—even modern translations—and I had subscribed to religious magazines, and read books on living a victorious Christian life. I taught a class of teen-agers and these things helped me. Invariably I felt uplifted when I read from them. I read a chapter from the Bible each night.

Now these things seemed to mock me. I was not well; I was spending a lot of money trying to get well; and the doctor indicated I should go to church. I was shocked at this implication that I had no religious faith and was too ashamed to tell him about my church background. Yet I was becoming aware that something was wrong with me and with my relationship to God.

Although I knew quite a bit about the Bible and professed to be a Christian, the victorious life just wasn't there. The lack must have been obvious or the doctor would not have noticed my apparent need for faith.



**SCRIPTURES
TO LIVE BY**

DAILY READINGS FOR JUNE 23-29
Theme of the Week: **GAINING REWARDS**

Mon. Genesis 15:1-20	Thurs. Luke 6:20-36
Tues. Psalm 19:1-14	Fri. .. 1 Corinthians 3:1-15
Wed. .. Matthew 25:31-46	Sat. 2 Timothy 4:1-8
Sun. Revelation 22:6-21	

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life" (Revelation 22:14).

Suddenly I became apprehensive—frightened that I might not really be a Christian at all.

It was with this attitude of real concern that I went to bed that night. I awoke later after a vivid dream. I had felt the presence of the Lord and had heard Him say, "To find your life, you must lose it." These were the words He had said to His disciples. The dream was so real that I couldn't go back to sleep.

But how did one go about losing his life so he could find it? The only way I could think of was to keep so busy with my home and family that I would have no time even to think. My own life would be submerged.

The morning sermon took on new meaning, for I listened as if my life depended on it. The subject was faith and the Resurrection. The Scripture told us how to get faith: "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). I had heard it before, but this time it seemed fresh and revealing. My mind repeated it as, "Faith cometh by hearing the Word of God."

"But you have heard the Word all your life," I reasoned. "So where is your faith? Why are you ill, depressed, and unhappy?"

The next day during my devotions I prayed for wisdom and began reading my Bible with only one question in mind: *What is God trying to say to me?*

As I read with this new attitude, the Lord spoke to me through His Word. Slowly, a miracle began to take place. Tired of struggling in my own feeble strength, I simply gave my whole life over to God and each day sincerely asked Him to be with me in every circumstance.

Before long I found myself relaxing in the belief that God was with me—helping me. Every care and every problem was shared with Him. I was less tense, and began to experience a strange sense of peace and joy I had never known before.

As I continued to "practice" God's presence, He gave me the wisdom I sought. I realized that reading the Bible and other books hadn't helped me because reading was as far as it went. I could quote Scripture to emphasize a point, but it was only head knowledge. It had never touched my heart and soul where it could change my life and bring healing. It was like reading the label on a bottle of medicine over and over, but never taking it.

In desperation I was driven to apply the medicine of God's Word to my starved spirit—first by surrender and then by obedience. It was then that I began to recover.

I took to heart Paul's advice to the Philippians to think on things which are good, and found a healing balm for a critical spirit. But *I* had to do the thinking. I had to crowd out the negative and fill my mind with wholesome thoughts.

After several months of living each day with Jesus and experiencing healing of body and spirit, I also learned the meaning of my dream. When the Lord told me I would have to lose my life to find it, He didn't mean in family, home, or church projects. He meant to lose myself in Him. Outside of Him, I was nothing—bound by sin and selfishness. But in Him I became free to be whatever He wants me to be, and to live abundantly!

"For *in him* we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). "His way is perfect, the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him" (Psalm 18:30). I have found it so! 

ACUTE THYROIDITIS HEALED

IT IS GOOD TO BE ABLE to do a full week's work again. For this I praise our lovely Christ who answered prayer for my healing.

My trouble began on May 15, 1968. I wakened with a tightness in my throat, and discovered a large lump on the right side of my neck.

The doctor said I had a rare sickness. I developed a high fever, and my head became so tender I couldn't even touch my hair.

Pastor J. Haskell Wooldridge visited me daily and prayed for me. I am grateful for all who stood by me in faith.

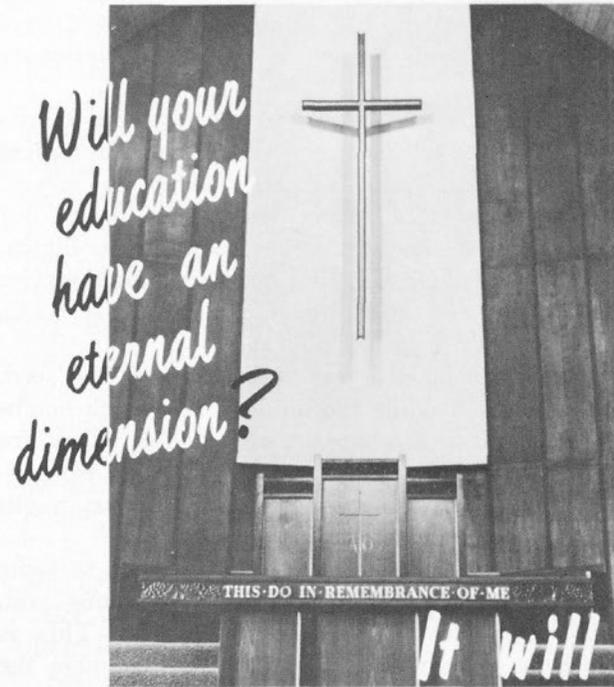
After a few days I was admitted to the hospital. Tests and a biopsy proved to be negative. The doctor dismissed me from the hospital, but scheduled me for surgery on July 1 for thyroiditis.

On June 26, during the second night of camp meeting at Hartford City, Ind., Evangelist Jimmie Swaggart together with Pastor Wooldridge and others prayed for me.

Later, when the surgeon examined me he cancelled the operation. The lump was completely gone.

Oh, I praise the Lord! He is just the same today. His blood has never lost its power. Truly, by His stripes I am healed.—James E. Sluder, Marion, Ind.

(Endorsed by Pastor J. Haskell Wooldridge, First Assembly, Marion, Ind.)



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GOD APPRECIATES YOUR SERVICE

By GORDON CHILVERS

A BRILLIANT YOUNG BUSINESSMAN IN BOSTON had set his mind on becoming a millionaire. On his way home one day a Christian woman handed him a tract. Out of courtesy, he put it in his coat pocket, but never intended to read it.

Later he looked to see what the tract was about. He found it so absorbing that he read it through. He went to bed, but could not sleep. The message of that tract was burning in his mind.

The next morning he went to consult a minister, who told him about Christ and *His* way of life. The man bowed his head and yielded his heart to Jesus. Five months later God called him for missionary work. He gave up his business and entered a Bible college.

This resulted from a simple act by a woman whose name was never revealed. But thousands of people have thanked God for Charles Johnstone's years of missionary service in Africa.

Could not such splendid results accrue from *our* Christian activity? Service for the Lord should be a prominent part of our spiritual life. We are "saved to serve," though many of us labor where few people notice our work. We know the shadows rather than the footlights. Only a handful of people see the Lord using their service to bless thousands. For most of us, our service is so small, and we may wonder if it has any value.

Little actions *can* be of great value. Sowing the seed, teaching a little child, doing the kind act for a sick neighbor, or giving a glass of water are all valuable. They are done many times each day, and life would be far worse—if not impossible—without them. And such an act might be the hinge on which a whole life turns.

Our service takes on a new value as we listen to some words of Christ: "Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant" (Matthew 20:27). This is startling. Christ is telling us that the more humble the deed, the greater is its value in His eyes. We might have thought the conspicuous service of world-famous men was greatest in the Lord's eyes, but He values highly even the smallest action.

As the Lord values the little acts of service, He also honors those who do them. Six days before Jesus was to die, Mary came to Him "having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head" (Mark 14:3.) She saw an opportunity and seized it. Other people had not thought of this act of kindness. Jesus valued it though others did not. He said, "She hath done what she could. . . . Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached through-

out the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her" (Mark 14:8, 9).

A church in a large American city put up a tablet to honor the custodian who had served it for 51 years. His conscientious devotion in keeping the church in the best possible condition every week impressed those who saw it. The sweeping, dusting, and other tasks were only little things, but he did them with all his might.

Few such men are honored in this way, but God honors small acts of service because they prove a man's greatness. As one has said: "Great service reveals our possibilities. Small service reveals our consecration." To

IN EVERY AGE THERE ARE MEN AND WOMEN WHO TOWER OVER THEIR FELLOWS BECAUSE THEY MAKE IT THE RULE OF THEIR LIVES TO DO THE RIGHT AS THEY SEE IT, IN SPITE OF CUSTOM.



***ALONE* IN A CROWD**

By BLANCHE T. RICHARDSON

WE ARE ALL THE SLAVES OF CUSTOM to some degree. We often do things, not because we want to do them or because it is right, but because it is customary. Folk would look at us askance or think we were peculiar if we didn't. So to keep up appearances, we travel the well-marked path of tradition.

This procedure is all right to a point. One is as foolish to go out of his way to be eccentric as he is to make his every word and deed squarely in line with custom.

Custom is partly natural because it is usually the way

keep on doing noble deeds when half the world is applauding is not difficult. But to do the little things which nobody sees or is interested in, and do them year in and year out, is as valuable as it is demanding.

In the words of George Morrison, "If we omit them, none on earth will blame. And if we do them, none on earth will cheer. To work on, serve on, love on, unnoticed and unpraised, is perhaps the best heroism earth can show." Courage and determination are needed that we do not get weary in well-doing.

But is our work really as insignificant as it might appear? It may have neither glamor nor glory and yet be most significant. Rome, we are told, was once saved because some geese cackled at the right time. Rivers change their course because a stone is in their way. God can give effectiveness to a simple act of service so that its significance is beyond our imagination.

A young minister went to a parish where his predecessor had labored 30 years with only few results. Before long a great revival came. One day he asked one of the young converts which of his sermons or prayer had led to his conversion. The young man said it was not a sermon or a prayer but rather the seed sown in his heart by the former minister. Had the old man thought only of visible results, he may have despaired and neglected to reach this young man. We are laborers together with God. So who can tell what we may yet accomplish!

of least resistance. It is very human to reject the difficult and take the easiest way. Only the strong souls follow the path of duty. Only those who are willing to pay the price ever come to the knowledge of the truth that makes one free.

Furthermore, conformity to custom is partly a relic of the ages. Often something is done not necessarily because it is right, but because it has always been done that way. This gouging out of the road in which humanity must travel is one of the burdens of our heritage.

The situation is similar to that of the little boy who was trying to lead a large dog. "Where are you taking that dog?" asked a man in passing.

"I-I'm waiting to see where he w-wants to go. Then I-I'll take him there," the boy replied.

However, in every age there are men and women who tower over their fellows and stand out because they make it the rule of their lives to do the right as they see it, in spite of custom.

As a wise man once said: "Undramatic courage is what counts the most. It is easier to be a martyr than to live every day according to one's professed principles. Similarly, it is easier to concentrate courage in one heroic act than to draw on just enough of it every day to do the right thing consistently."

It takes courage—moral courage—to be consistent in this way; especially since all of us are sensitive to what people think and say about us.

Candles are not made to look pretty in the light, so much as to contrast with the darkness. They shine because they are different. This fact was expressed eloquently during a fascinating interchange between three men who were asked, "If the world were suddenly plunged into utter darkness, what would you do?"

God sees our devoted actions, which we may count unworthy, in their true light. Alexander Maclaren gives this good advice: "Never mind where your work is. Never mind whether your name is associated with it. You may never see the issues of your toil. You are working for eternity. If you cannot see results here, remember that God does see; and if you are faithful now, your work will follow you. So do your duty and trust in God."

Little deeds can be powerful deeds. Yet they are not powerful just because they are small. What makes the difference is whether we serve where God directs us. As we have fellowship with God day by day, we shall learn from Him what He wants us to do.

God has given the Holy Spirit to dwell with us and bring power into our work. He alone can keep our words from falling flat or missing their target.

We long to do shining exploits, but the opportunity does not come our way. Our work may seem so small as to be futile. But it is not. It has a vital place in God's kingdom. The world may not honor us for humble acts of service, but God will. He will take whatever is done for His honor, give it power, and use it.

The size of our abilities or the conspicuousness of our lifework will not be what counts most in the final reckoning. Rather, the humble faithfulness to our calling day by day, in the place where we are, will one day be seen to be as great as it really is. 

The first man replied, "I would pray to the Lord and ask Him to open wide the gates of heaven."

The second man replied, "I would pray, but my prayer would be: 'As it is destined to be, so shall it be.'"

The last man thought and then he said, "I would learn how to live and work and serve in the darkness."

About 450 years before Christ there lived such a man. His name was Nehemiah. He was a man strong in the faith of ancient Israel and a man who worshiped God. The Book of Nehemiah tells his story, but I want to quote just one sentence from it here. I suggest it as a good motto for those who wish to serve God rather than custom.

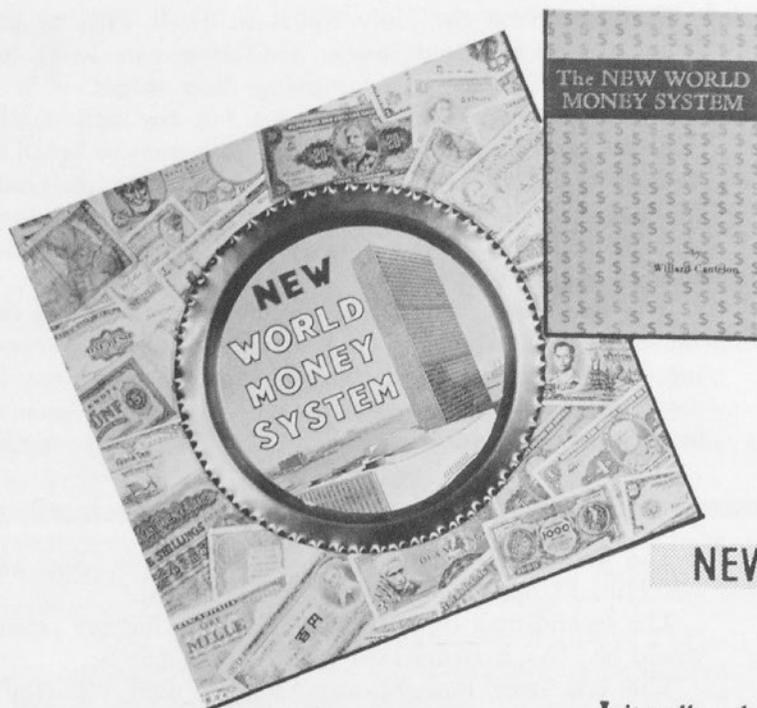
Nehemiah, describing certain things that had been done by the governors of Judah before him, ends with: "But so did not I, because of the fear of God" (Nehemiah 5:15). These words, to which every follower of the Master must thrill, are the challenge to stand alone.

As we think about the life of Jesus, we realize that often He too had to stand alone.

Standing alone, however, does not mean retiring from the crowd. It is not an attempt to escape the world by turning our backs upon it. If necessary, we must stand alone *in the midst* of the crowd. When our companions suggest that which is improper and things appear that we know are wrong, then as worthy soldiers of the Cross and earnest followers of the Master we must stand. We must state boldly our position and dare to risk the jeers of the mob.

This then is the challenge. It is a call to fearlessness, to decisiveness, to clean living. It may well mean temporary unpleasantness—even hardship. But at the same time it means molding and shaping other lives by the power of our own. 

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evangeletters

READERS WRITE THE EDITORS

A Letter from Switzerland

Please renew my subscription. I want the regular weekly editions as well as the monthly International editions.

I wish there were more poems in the *Evangel*. Mystical poems can be a wonderful praise to God and open our hearts to Him in a lovely way.

HEINIE PETTER-DE-SCHEGLOFF
Geneva, Switzerland

Eagerly Awaited

I think the *Evangel* is one of the greatest religious publications in print. I have not missed many articles in it in 36 years. In our home, one sits and waits until another reads it and starts to lay it down.

OTTO L. GOINS
Okemah, Okla.

Holding Sound Doctrine

We appreciate the sound doctrinal content of the *Evangel* and find the articles very inspiring and informative. So many of today's Christian periodicals have allowed a subtle liberalism to creep in, and so we are ever grateful for the *Evangel* which remains true to the gospel. Please continue to screen out materials that present a pseudo-Christianity. May God bless you in your work in this day of cunning Satanic attack against truth.

MRS. R. D. WISCARSON
Salem, Oregon

A Pentecostal Lutheran Writes

I am sending a check to renew our subscription to the *Evangel* for another year.

Thank you for giving us such a fine paper. I could not get along without it. I am a Lutheran pastor's wife who has been filled with the Holy Spirit. The opposition is often terrific and I need the sup-

port and encouragement I receive from the *Evangel*.

READER IN MONTANA

Missionary in His Own Backyard

I know a man named Shorty Aables who writes tracts and distributes them. I call him "a missionary in his own backyard." I'd like to dedicate a poem to him:

I'm a stranger to churches,
But salvation I see
In the life of a Christian
Who sends tracts to me.
He says when I stumble,
"Life's pathway is hard,
But you will find comfort
By trusting the Lord."

If someday I'm saved
By trusting God's grace,
It will be through the sunshine
I've seen in his face.

SYLVIA MARTIN
Tulsa, Okla.

How I Read the "Evangel"

This is how I read the *Evangel*: first I read the news section to look for former Southwesterners, next I read the editorial. I like the editor's ideas. My mind "clicks" with his writing.

I would like to read more about missionaries' kids, especially those who must live away from their

parents while going to school.

I know this must be hard on these kids, and yet they seem to turn out to be courteous and considerate people. How?

C. L. FOSTER
Eden, Idaho

A Personal Relationship

As a regular reader of the *Evangel*, I appreciated the recent article entitled "Rediscovering Christianity as a Personal Relationship" (Jan. 19) by Ronald E. Cottle.

I believe others will be influenced to accept Christ and His teachings if we as Christians will make the living Christ the indispensable center of our faith.

MRS. BARBARA HAINES
Great Falls, Mont.

Sharing the Articles

I have read the *Evangel* for years, but lately it seems to be better and better. I clip many of the articles and send them to friends and relatives in my letters.

I was moved deeply by the article in the November 10 issue—"God's Man on Death Row." What a ministry.

I also appreciated the article by Louise Jeter Walker—"Write, Habakkuk!"—which was in the same issue. I write an article each month for my church magazine, so it meant much to me.

HAZEL VAN EATON
San Diego, Calif.

Grateful for a Tract

The Tuxedo Assemblies of God Church here in Bartlesville carries on an extensive ministry in the distribution of tracts. Our Royal Rangers, Missionettes, WMC

groups distribute hundreds of tracts each year.

In addition, we have a tract rack in the foyer of our church, and many of our members take tracts from it to distribute.

A considerable amount of time and money is invested in this work, but we find it pays off. For example, a young man in the Army Reserve who lives in California received a tract with the name of our church on it, and the other day he wrote to us, saying:

"I was very troubled about not being able to pay tithes. I have a lot of debts that seem to take all of my money. I know I should pay tithes but I've kept saying I'll catch up on them when I get enough money. However, I never seem to get enough.

"Today at work a woman gave me a tract she had received in the mail. This tract opened my eyes. It showed me why I haven't been receiving blessings from the Lord. From now on I'm going to be faithful in paying my tithes, no matter what happens, and I'm going to trust in God's help in paying my bills.

"That tract came from your church, and I thank you for it."

We never know what good a tract may do. We only know our labor is not in vain in the Lord.

JOE CALABRESE, pastor
Bartlesville, Okla.

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NEWS OF OUR TIMES

ONLY PEOPLE CAN TURN THE TIDE

President Declares War on Smut Mail, Calls for Crusade Against the Obscene

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Richard M. Nixon has declared war on smut mail and called for a "citizens crusade against the obscene."

"American homes are being bombarded with the largest volume of sex-oriented mail in history," the President declared. "Most of it is unsolicited, unwanted, and deeply offensive to those who receive it."

In a message to Congress asking for legislative action, the President reported that 140,000 letters of protest against this type of mail have been received during the last nine months.

"The problem has no simple solution," the President explained, because "many publications of this

nature are protected under the broad umbrella of the First Amendment which prohibits any law 'abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.'"

He then declared that "the courts have not left society defenseless against the smut peddler; they have not ruled out reasonable government action."

President Nixon said that his administration has studied the problem carefully and "we believe we have discovered some untried and hopeful approaches that will enable the federal government to become a full partner with states and individual citizens in drying up a primary source of this social evil."

These approaches include three new legislative proposals to Congress.

These would:

—Prohibit the sending of offensive sex materials to any child or teen-ager under 18;

—Prohibit the sending of advertising designed to appeal to a prurient interest in sex regardless of the age of the recipient;

—Provide added protection against the kind of smut advertising now being mailed, unsolicited, into so many homes.

In calling for a citizens' crusade, the President made it clear that governmental actions are not the whole answer for solving these problems.

"The ultimate answer lies not with the government but with the people," he said. "When indecent books no longer find a market, when pornographic films can no longer draw an audience, when obscene plays open to empty houses, then the tide will turn."

"Government can maintain the dikes against obscenity," he continued, "but only the people can turn back the tide."

Newfoundland Church School Systems Will Merge

ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.—The denominationally fragmented educational system in Newfoundland will be improved July 1 when the Anglican, Salvation Army, and United Church of Canada schools integrate into a single administration.

Their schools, properties, and staffs will come under "The Denominational Committee." This merger is the result of a two-year period of negotiation.

Two other systems of education still exist—the Roman Catholic schools and the Pentecostal schools, (under the direction of the Pente-

costal Assemblies of Newfoundland).

There are no public schools operated by the Newfoundland government, but the government turns tax money over to the churches to operate their schools.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland operates over 50 elementary schools and two high schools.

Lutherans Say

CONFERENCE NEEDED TO DEFINE LIFE AND DEATH

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Formation of a worldwide conference of scientists, sociologists, philosophers, and churchmen has been urged to formulate a definition of life and death.

The suggestion, generated by the problems currently raised by heart transplants and efforts to liberalize abortion laws, was made in an editorial in *The Lutheran*, Lutheran Church in American magazine.

The editorial proposed that the international conference be conducted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

"We might say," the editorial noted, "that life begins when an infant draws its first breath and ends with the last heartbeat. But we'd be wrong. In this complicated world these definitions no longer fit."

"If life begins when a child is born, there would be no question about the right of abortion. And if it ends only when the heart beats its last, then the whole business of heart transplants is a ghoulis mess."

The article cautioned that this question should not be left in the

hands of scientists. "The scientists themselves are eager for guidance," it concluded.

... at a glance

• • • The Chapel of the Snows, the only house of worship on the continent of Antarctica, has specially marked Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish editions of the Bible—a gift of the Laymen's National Bible Committee. The Bibles were inscribed to the U.S. Navy Officers and men of "Operation Deep Freeze."

• • • The Evangel College student newspaper, "The Lance," has been awarded top place nationally for colleges under 1,500 enrollment by Pi Delta Epsilon, journalism fraternity.

• • • The Bible Society's contract with the Hong Kong press which has printed Scriptures for three generations has been terminated. The press's entire capacity is now used to produce the "little red book" of the thoughts of Chairman Mao, so Scripture production is being spread over several printing firms.

• • • It is reported that eight U.S. Catholic priests a day (approximately 3,000 for the year) resigned from the active ministry during 1968.

• • • Major prisons in the U.S. have been emptying at a slow but steady rate for seven years while the country's crime rate has been shooting upward. The population of prisons has gone from 220,149 in 1961 to 195,679 in 1967.

Religious Courses Prove Popular in Public Schools

HARRISBURG, PA.—In 1965, two years after the U.S. Supreme Court banned devotional Bible reading in the public schools, the Pennsylvania legislature authorized a course in religious literature for their schools.

Last year the experimental course was started in 31 public high schools in the state (with 751 pupils enrolled). Included are studies of the Old Testament, the New Testament, rabbinic writings, and the Koran.

Acceptance was so enthusiastic that in the 1968-69 school year it was expanded to 44 high schools and 1,300 pupils. The state Department of Public Instruction says the course will be available to public schools throughout the state when the necessary volume of teaching materials can be printed.

The course is optional, and parental consent is required for enrollment. Attendance at services of various religious bodies is included in field trips. No judgments are pressed on the pupils; they come to their own conclusions about differing religions.

PRESIDENT HOPES YOUTH WILL TURN TO RELIGION

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Following the fourth in a series of interdenominational religious services in the East Room of the White House, President Nixon spoke informally to a few friends about the value of the services.

Religious faith, he told Felix Belair Jr. of the *New York Times*, is something he acquired from his mother so it has always been a necessary part of his life.

But Mr. Nixon said he learned from experience that he could not, as President, attend a regular church service without becoming a source of distraction to the congregation and the cause of all manner of special preparations, including security.

Another reason given by Mr. Nixon for the White House services was the opportunity provided to bring together a cross section of his official family as well as members of Congress. Six members of the Cabinet were there on that fourth Sunday, as were employees of the White House social office and the correspondence section.

President Nixon said he was brought up to believe that more good was accomplished by example than by a thousand words. He expressed the hope that since the White House was a focal point of the nation, the young people in the universities and elsewhere might come to think there was something to be gained through religion after all.

IN LETTER TO TEACHERS

'DISCIPLINE US,' STUDENTS PLEAD

SEATTLE, WASH.—“You must discipline us... Please help us.” That was the plea from the Queen Anne High School Student Council here to the school's 70 teachers.

“For some of us, this discipline is long overdue,” the letter stated. It continued: “Do not turn your backs when you see offensive behavior... Speak to us and justly punish us for what we deserve.”

The student letter urged the teachers to expect of students quality work, mature behavior, and mature language.

They wrote the letter, students said, because of problems of littering, obscene language, smoking in rest rooms, stealing, setting off of firecrackers, bizarre clothing, cutting classes, and “sick behavior” by a minority of students.

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WITH CHRIST

B. L. Hickman, 82, of Castor, La., went to be with Christ on February 24, 1969. His wife Lula passed away the day before, and a double funeral was held. Brother Hickman, licensed in 1926 by the Louisiana District, served as a pastor and evangelist in Arkansas and Louisiana. He built the Red Oak and Castor Assembly of God churches in Louisiana. He is survived by four sons and six daughters.

Anna Bogdanovich, 87, of Lubbock, Tex., went to be forever with Jesus on February 22, 1969. An ordained minister of the Illinois District since 1922, Sister Bogdanovich had served as an evangelist and as a pastor in Chicago. She retired in 1956. She is survived by one daughter.

Roy A. Hayes, 75, of White Swan, Wash., went to be with the Lord on March 26, 1969. He was ordained in 1946 by the Northwest District and served as a pastor in White Swan. He was active in various areas of gospel work even after superannuation. He is survived by his wife Harriet, a son, and two daughters.

Robert G. Caddell, 59, of Seadrift, Tex., went to be with Christ on February 16, 1969. Ordained in 1943 by the Texas District, Brother Caddell served as pastor in Seadrift for 31 years. During this time he was mayor for two years and a district presbyter for three years. He is survived by his

wife Myrtle; a son Robert Jr., a licensed minister; and a daughter.

David M. Nissley, 80, of Roaring Spring, Pa., went to be with the Lord on March 19, 1969. He was ordained by the Eastern District in 1936. He served as a pioneer pastor in Roaring Spring and also as an evangelist. He is survived by three sons and three daughters.

Delores A. Stewart, 48, of Houston, Tex., was called into the presence of the Lord on March 28, 1969. A licensed minister since 1948, Sister Stewart served as co-pastor with her husband, Reuben I., at First Assembly in Houston. She is survived by her husband; two daughters; and a son, J. Randall, who is also an ordained minister.

Ben Wainwright, 78, of Birmingham, Ala., went to his eternal home on February 28, 1969. Ordained in 1940 by the Alabama District, he pastored in Huntsville, Sayreton, Warrior, Jasper, and Graysville, Ala. Brother Wainwright is survived by his wife Ola, two sons, and three daughters.

Patricia (Kelly) Bennett, 20, of Bastrop, La., went to be forever with Jesus on March 23, 1969. Sister Bennett received ministerial license in 1967 and served with her

husband Hersel E. as an evangelist. She is survived by her husband, a licensed minister, and her father, Willie W. Kelly, pastor in Monroe, La.

John A. Curtis, 73, of Maywood, Calif., went to be with Christ on April 20, 1969. An ordained member of the Southern California District since 1946, Brother Curtis served as pastor and later as assistant pastor in Maywood. He is survived by his wife Vernell, and one daughter.

Edgar A. Lee Sr., 65, of Lansing, Mich., went to his eternal reward on December 26, 1968. A licensed minister, Brother Lee pastored the assembly in Gila Bend, Ariz., for three years. He also served the Lord as an evangelist. He is survived by his wife Rosetta and four children. His oldest daughter Rosemary is the wife of Charles W. Ford, pastor of Calvary Assembly in Lansing.

Milton C. Thurlow, 65, of Somers Point, N. J., went to his eternal reward on March 6, 1969. Ordained in 1961, he served as a pastor in Somers Point. He was responsible for opening two churches in the New Jersey District which continue to be strong and growing. He is survived by his wife Isabel, a son, and a daughter.

Gerald P. Smeltzer, 43, of Mt. Wolf, Pa., went to his eternal reward on February 19, 1969. Ordained by the New York District in 1956, Brother Smeltzer held pastorates in Edwards, N.Y., and Manchester, Pa. He is survived by his wife Ilene and one daughter.

A. K. Prince, 87, of Pine Bluff, Ark., went to be with Christ on April 8, 1969. Forty years ago, while serving as an evangelist, Brother Prince was ordained by the Arkansas District. He pastored in Milry, Gilbertown, and Yellow Pine, Ala., and Montrose, Miss. He is survived by one son and two daughters.

Melvin G. Hixon, 72, of Chester, Calif., went to be with Christ on March 23, 1969. Brother Hixon was ordained in 1927 by the Northwest District. He held pastorates in Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and California. He is survived by his wife Anna and five children. One is the wife of Pastor Jesse Aldridge of Brownsville, Ore.

Hattie Matheus, 77, of Van Nuys, Calif., went to be with her Lord on March 16, 1969. An ordained minister of the Southern California District since 1932, Sister Matheus was active as an evangelist and pastor. She served churches in Northridge and Huntington Park, Calif.; El Paso, Tex.; and Weiser, Glens Ferry, and Gooding, Idaho; retiring in 1954. She is survived by a son.

NEWS OF OUR CONGREGATIONS

Church 'Write-In' Protests TV Fare

BECKLEY, W. VA.—The local First Assembly recently staged a week's "write-in" to the three major television networks in protest against the large amount of programs depicting violence, sex, and profanity.

Pastor Paul S. Brendiar, in encouraging his congregation to participate in this protest, told them that a "ground swell of public sentiment could not be ignored if expressed to the proper sources."

President Nixon has appointed the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to begin a program to clean up television. Senator John Pastore, Chairman of the Communications Commis-

sion, is also staging an attack against programming which is weakening the moral fiber of America.



Attendance Increases Following Dedication of Educational Unit

WESTON, W. VA.—Sunday school attendance has increased at the local Assembly of God since the congregation dedicated its new educational unit to the Lord.

Stanley A. Lyon, superintendent of the Appalachian District, was the guest speaker at the dedication. A local radio station broadcast the service from the church.

Pastor Frank DePolo designed the new structure which contains 11 classrooms, a youth chapel with seating for 75, offices, and rest rooms.

The building has been valued at \$85,000 but actual construction costs (including furnishings) were less than \$20,000.

Stanley A. Lyon, Appalachian District superintendent (left) watches as Pastor Frank DePolo and Mrs. Lura Pritt, the oldest member of the church, cut the ribbon during the ceremonies dedicating the new educational unit.



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GENERAL COUNCIL

AUGUST 21-26

DALLAS, TEXAS



California Congregation Erects Unit on Pay-As-You-Go-Basis

ANAHEIM, CALIF.—Finding it difficult to secure a loan to build an educational unit on their church, the congregation of Central Assembly here decided to venture in faith and build the new facility on a pay-as-you-go basis. This was quite a step of faith, for the congregation had only \$5,000 in its building fund.

In April 1969, 10 months after construction began, the new building—valued at \$50,000—was dedicated, debt free!

The donated labor, materials, and finances of the congregation made possible this new 25-by-125-foot structure.

Dedication services were held in conjunction with the sectional fellowship meeting in April.

William H. Robertson, Southern California district superintendent, brought the dedicatory message; and Lloyd Cagle, Orange Section presbyter, offered the prayer of dedication.

The new unit contains four large classrooms, a fellowship hall, kitchen, maintenance rooms, and rest rooms. It was constructed to support a future second story.

Pastor Ernest L. Friend reports that the average Sunday school attendance has increased from 80 to 107 since the new facilities were occupied.

Central Assembly is planning to build a new sanctuary in the near future. The church is located on two acres in the southeast part of the city.

Pastor Friend (inset) and his congregation recently dedicated this educational unit to the Lord.



ANDERSON, CALIF.—First Assembly here was edified by the ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. George Holmes of Redwood City, Calif. Four persons accepted Christ as Saviour.

In addition to Brother Holmes' challenging sermons, Sister Holmes' series of "Parables from Nature" was a blessing in each service.

—Jim Logan, pastor

* * *

SYCAMORE, ILL.—Bethel Assembly recently concluded special services with Evangelist and Mrs. Ray A. Rose. (Brother Rose is pastor of First Assembly in Pauls Valley, Okla.)

Two persons were saved, and a number were reclaimed. Several others were healed.

Sunday school attendance during the meeting almost tied the record attendance of 122.

—Douglas R. Rose, pastor

* * *

GEORGETOWN, S. C.—First Assembly was revived and refreshed during a week of special services conducted by Evangelist Jesse Ray of La Grange, Ga.

Before these services, men of the church had been meeting in

the early morning for prayer.

Hardly a week had passed for some time without someone getting saved in the regular services of the church.

Three persons were reclaimed, and four were baptized in water during the meeting. Entire families made new consecrations to the Lord.

A large number of teen-agers attended each night and were moved by Brother Ray's ministry.

The Sunday school and mid-week attendances have grown as the congregation has begun to do more personal work.

—Clifford Coursey, pastor

* * *

EL CENTRO, CALIF.—Special meetings held by Evangelist and Mrs. E. T. Quanabush at First Assembly were "a revival that spanned the generation gap." They ministered to all age groups.

On Decision Sunday, 28 were saved in Sunday school. Many others also were saved or reclaimed during the meeting.

Several received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The young people were moved as they observed and experienced God's power.



The congregation of Faith Tabernacle gathered to honor Pastor and Mrs. S. J. Scott on their 18th anniversary as pastors.

Scotts Honored for 18 Years' Ministry at Faith Tabernacle

Well-known Oklahoma Pastor Resigns

To Engage in Conventions, Revivals, Camp Meetings

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.—Pastor and Mrs. S. J. Scott resigned as pastors of Faith Tabernacle here after completing 18 years of ministry at the church.

In appreciation for their years of service, the church held a home-coming service and fellowship dinner and presented them with a new Chevrolet station wagon.

Many changes have taken place in this downtown church under the Scotts' leadership. Not the least

was the remodeling of the church building inside and out.

As part of its outreach ministry, the church sponsored gigantic Christmas pageants for eight years. Written and directed by Mrs. Scott, these pageants blessed many thousands. At the farewell service, held on Easter Sunday, the highlight was a musical presentation "He Lives" which combined the church's three choirs and orchestra under the direction of Sister Scott.

After a short rest, the Scotts plan to engage in revivals, camp meetings, and conventions.

Many had never seen such manifestations of the Spirit.

—Cecil Barham, pastor

* * *

SEQUIM, WASH.—The Assembly here reports "showers of blessing" during meetings with Evangelist and Mrs. Eugene Kraft of Canada.

Many were convinced of their need of the Lord. Three accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. Seven others returned to Him from a backslidden condition. The church was revitalized as 22 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and many others were re-filled.

The church celebrated its 30th anniversary as a full-gospel witness in Sequim on February 5.

—Kenneth Lindgren, pastor

* * *

TUCSON, ARIZ.—Glad Tidings Assembly is thanking the Lord for His rich blessing in three weeks of meetings with Evangelist and Mrs. John Bishop of Mt. Pleasant, Mich. Many visitors were present.

One person was filled with the Holy Spirit, and three were marvelously healed. A spirit of love and unity swept this pioneer church.

Brother Bishop helped to raise the building fund from \$630 to \$2,000.

—Ralph E. Hilton, pastor

Pastor and Mrs. Hilton (right) note the building fund progress with Evangelist and Mrs. Bishop.

ERIE, PA.—Evangelist and Mrs. Arthur Berg of Springfield, Mo., conducted a meeting in First Assembly that was greatly blessed by the Lord.

In the two-week period, 10 persons were saved and 18 received the mighty infilling of the Holy Ghost. The young people in particular were stirred to a renewed dedication to the Lord.

A total of 190 visitors from a number of denominations attended the services.

The church has been enriched and challenged as a result of this concerted revival effort.

—Herbert Hull, pastor



VOTAW, TEX.—Fifty people were baptized in the Holy Spirit and many were added to the local Assembly of God during six weeks of revival services. The evangelist was Gladys Vaught of Silsbee, Tex.

There were several notable healings. A boy had his crooked foot straightened in answer to prayer.
—*P. O. Eason, pastor*

SOUTH BEND, IND.—Evangelist Tommy Barnett of Kansas City recently concluded a very fine soul-winning crusade at Calvary Temple.

During the 10 nights of services over 100 persons came forward to receive Christ as Saviour. Several families saved are now attending regularly.

A missionary film shown by Brother Barnett had a tremendous spiritual impact. Over 50 decision cards were filled out in that service alone.

—*Jack West, pastor*

LIBERTY, TEX.—Mike Cave and David Hunter, young evangelist from Waxahachie, Tex., held special services at First Assembly here.

One person was saved, and four were filled with the Holy Spirit. The young people were stirred, and the entire church has caught the vision of reaching the community for God.

SPECIAL "EVANGEL" TO BE SENT

TO U.S. SERVICEMEN

OVER 15,000 U. S. servicemen, serving their country throughout the world, will receive a free copy of the Servicemen's edition of the *Evangel* (to be released next week).

This *Evangel* will be sent as another ministry of the Assemblies of God Servicemen's Division. This special edition will be a touch of home to men sacrificing to make our freedom possible. The message of hope and eternal life through Christ must reach those facing death.

The Servicemen's Division has an ever-increasing challenge to minister to men and women in the Armed Forces. Added names mean added opportunities for ministry, but they also mean added expenses. If you would like to help send the *Evangel* to 15,000 servicemen, mail a gift now to the Servicemen's Division, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Mo. 65802.

God has been moving in saving and baptizing power since the beginning of this year. The average attendance climbed from 68 in January to 98 in April.

—*Allen Poldson, pastor*

BRIDGETON, N. J.—The Full Gospel Assembly was blessed by the ministry of Evangelist Eddie Wilson of Mesquite, Tex., in a recent meeting.

Two people were saved, and one was baptized in the Holy Spirit. The youth of the church were led into a time of earnestly seeking God. On several nights God moved in such a way that an altar service took place without opportunity for preaching.

The attendance was good with an average of over 100 on week-nights. A new Sunday school record was set with 231 present.

—*Donald Veater, pastor*

RIDGECREST, CALIF.—Three weeks of special meetings with Evangelist Marc Conley of Costa Mesa, Calif., were enjoyed by Calvary Assembly here. The church rejoiced to see 13 respond to the invitation for salvation. Others were delivered from habits, and one was filled with the Holy Spirit.

The entire congregatoin was inspired with a desire to walk closer to God.

—*Norman Erickson, pastor*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—Oceanway Assembly here experienced a Pentecostal revival as a result of much prayer and fasting, followed by a week of special services with Evangelist and Mrs. Billy Cotton of Phenix City, Ala.

Many visitors from the community and nearby churches came to the meetings.

Several people came forward for salvation. The Holy Spirit lifted the hearts of God's people.

—*A. G. McCall, pastor*

WICHITA, KANS.—New Hope Assembly appreciated the ministry of Evangelist and Mrs. Troy Guinn of Sunnyside, Wash., in a recent one-week meeting.

Sixteen people made decisions for Christ. Others were reclaimed and refilled with the Spirit. Several outstanding healings also took place.

The attendance has more than tripled in one month.

—*A. V. Schneider, pastor*

WINKELMAN, ARIZ.—Evangelist Ernie Rogers of Covina, Calif., recently conducted nearly three weeks of revival services in the local assembly.

This time of refreshing, ingathering of souls, and baptisms in the Holy Spirit was a blessing



This lovely new building was recently dedicated by Pastor James Griep (inset) and his congregation in Wyncote, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia.

Attendance Increase Necessitates Third Move

Pennsylvania Congregation Dedicates New Church

WYNCOTE, PA.—Easter was a day of added rejoicing for the congregation of Calvary Assembly. Led by Pastor James Griep, the congregation dedicated its new building to the Lord.

Richard Dortch, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois District, brought the dedicatory message and conducted meetings the week after Easter. W. Howard Roberson, assistant superintendent of the Eastern District, performed the act of dedication.

Calvary Assembly was started in 1920 in Philadelphia. As the congregation increased, it was necessary to move twice to larger facilities.

When the congregation of Faith Tabernacle in Oreland merged with Calvary Assembly in 1966,

not only to the church, but to many sections of the community.

As a result of the meeting the church is sponsoring a youth camp on the Apache Reservation at Cedar Creek. Six mission stations will participate, and Brother Rogers will minister.

—*D. M. Graf, pastor*

ORRVILLE, OHIO—Calvary Assembly enjoyed revival in a recent meeting with Evangelist Daena Cargnel.

Men and women were baptized in the Holy Spirit in nearly every service. Others were reclaimed and healed.

The Sunday school record was broken with 198 present.

—*James M. Bryan, pastor*

MALVERN, ARK.—The Jack Martz Team had a successful meeting at First Assembly here.

Several persons came back to the Lord, and several were refilled with the Spirit.

The attendance was very good. Many of the visitors were from other denominations.

One night was set aside to pray for requests that members of the congregation had placed in a large box. Everyone knelt and prayed

the facilities once again became inadequate. Property was purchased in this northern suburb and the new church constructed.

The new building contains 16,000 square feet of space. Large classrooms for each age group facilitate team teaching.

Nurseries for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers are conveniently located close to the main entrance and the sanctuary. Church offices are located in the front part of the church.

The basement contains the kitchen, fellowship halls, and classrooms.

The sanctuary can seat 500 by using the balcony and overflow rooms. Overnight quarters for visiting ministers are also located in the new building.

As the requests were read aloud. Several outstanding answers to prayer were reported during the meeting.

—*Gene Thompson, pastor*

MENA, ARK.—God's power was felt in the Assembly of God here during a recent meeting held by Evangelist and Mrs. Larry Maddux of Dallas, Tex.

At least 19 were saved and reclaimed during the five-week meeting. About five received the Holy Spirit.

One girl who was saved and filled with the Spirit was formerly a Jehovah's Witness.

Many people received healing, including a woman with asthma. A navy recruiter was healed of a hernia so that further X rays showed only scar tissue.

—*H. L. Klepper, pastor*

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Evangelist Al Hewison conducted an outstanding revival at Berea Temple.

In the 10-day meeting there were 20 conversions, 35 received the Holy Spirit, and many healings.

There were 29 baptized in water and 16 added to the church.

—*William N. Sachs, pastor*



With Four Days of Activities

TEXAS CHURCH CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

BAYTOWN, TEX.—Trinity Tabernacle Assembly here celebrated its 50th anniversary May 1-4. Former pastors F. D. Davis, J. O. Savell, U. S. Grant, Troy B. Helms, W. S. Graham, and



COOPERATIVE EFFORT BUILDS KANSAS CHURCH

DODGE CITY, KANS.—Kansas District Superintendent Paul Lowenberg brought the message at the dedication of the new church and parsonage of First Assembly. "Building together" was the spirit of this project as Pastor Lloyd R. Bilhimer and the men of the church did most of the work.

Pastor Bilhimer reports the average Sunday school attendance has increased about 20 each year

for the past three years. The new building is Y-shape, with the sanctuary forming the southern wing. One wing contains 15 classrooms and the Sunday school office. The other wing contains the fellowship hall, kitchen (which was completely furnished by the WMC's), rest rooms, two classrooms, and the pastor's study. The church and parsonage are constructed of white brick.

Wiley T. Davis were guest speakers during the four days of activities. Mrs. J. W. McClellan, wife of the founder of the church, and Mrs. Herbert Hagan also spoke.

The church was organized in 1919 by J. W. McClellan and since its beginning has relocated four times. The present structure was erected in 1958 while W. S. Graham was pastor.

Thirty of Trinity Tabernacle's family have entered the ministry. In addition, three of the church members have become Assemblies of God missionaries.

A missionary program initiated about 25 years ago by Pastor J. O. Savell has continued to grow, and through the years the church has given over one-third of a million dollars to Assemblies of God missions.

J. J. Krimmer has served as pastor of Trinity Tabernacle since 1966.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMEcomings AND 25TH ANNIVERSARY—July 4-6; First Assembly, Columbia, Mo. Guest speakers: Earl Myers, Aubrey Grindstaff Jr., and Bob Hicks. —Charles A. Parker, founder and pastor.

CHRISTIAN WRITERS' CONFERENCE—Aug. 21, Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, Texas.—Tom Sanders, publicity chairman.

UKRAINIAN BRANCH COUNCIL—July 4, 5; First Ukrainian Assembly of God, Riverhead, N.Y. (Flanders). Guest speaker: Evangelist Peter Dmytrasz.—Joseph J. Matolina, superintendent, 9 East 7th St., New York, N.Y. 10003.

CORRECTION—The May 18 *Evangel* announced Marvin Schmidt as speaker for the Oklahoma District Camp. The speaker will be Kenneth Schmidt.



IT
STARTED
ON A
DIME

The Hillcrest Story is an almost unbelievable account of how Hillcrest Children's Home began on a dime and a woman's faith in God. It started with three homeless boys haunted by unhappy memories and has grown until it has served over 500 homeless children in 25 years.

This year marks Hillcrest's silver anniversary. And the highlights of this ministry to children have been recorded in a new book, *The Hillcrest Story*. Its 104 pages are filled with the joys, sorrows, effort, humor, pathos of a most unusual family —Hillcresters.



This book cannot be purchased. But a free copy will be sent to anyone sending an anniversary gift of \$25 or more for Hillcrest. Use the coupon to get your copy now!

Hillcrest Children's Home
Dept. of Benevolences
1445 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, Mo. 65802

Enclosed is my silver anniversary gift of \$..... for Hillcrest.*

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY
STATE ZIP

*"The Hillcrest Story" will be sent free to anyone sending \$25 or more for this ministry to homeless children.

PE 62269

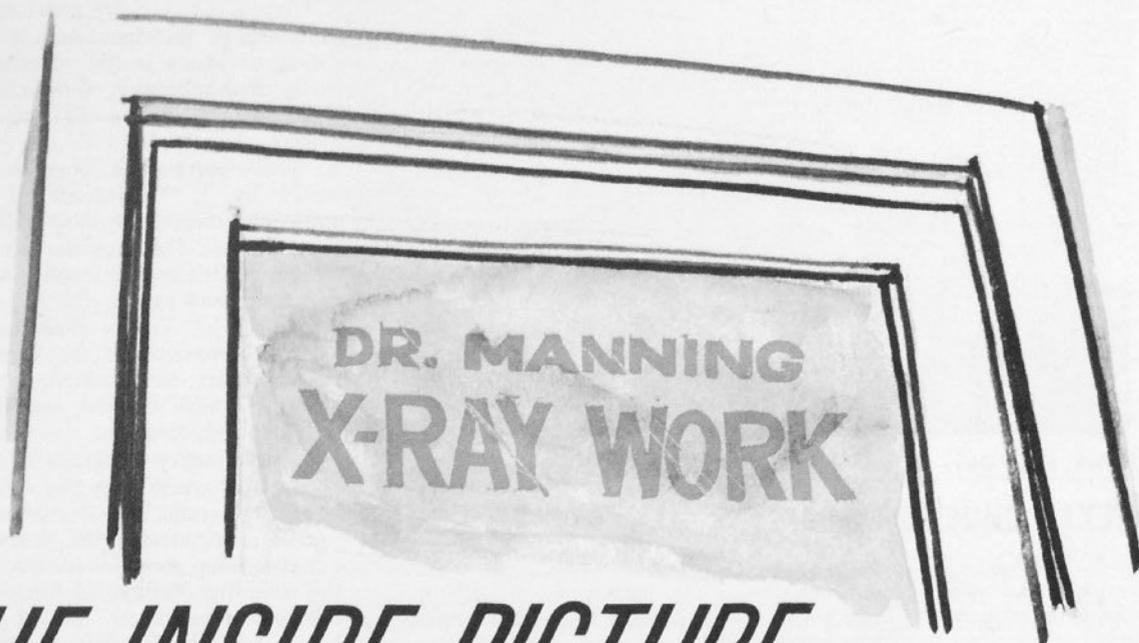
EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ariz.	Globe	First	June 23-July 6	Charles O. Hudspeth	Robert P. Fox
Calif.	Fresno	Full Gospel Tab.	June 24-July 6	L. B. "Bill" Lewis	Gerald L. Fry
	Lancaster	First	June 25-29	W. Glenn West	Elton G. Hill
Conn.	Groton	Calvary Temple	June 24-29	Roy & Mildred Johnson	Joseph Stanley
Ga.	Blakely	First	June 23-29	Randall A. Walker	W. M. Young
Iowa	Sioux City	Morningside	June 24-29	Wesley & Gladys Morton	Robert Claycomb
Md.	Baltimore	Bethel	June 18-29	Irving & Mary Lou Howard	Daniel Hare
	Rockville	¹ Chevy Chase	June 23-29	Paul & Donna Wright	Oliver Collier
Minn.	Cokato	¹ A/G	June 23-29	Mildred Baughman	R. E. Corlew
	Crosby	¹ A/G Tabernacle	June 23-27	Thom & Carolyn Loven	Clarke Gage
Mont.	Shelby	A/G	June 22-27	Roy & Arlene Brewer	Kenneth Ross
N. Mex.	Grants	Milan	June 17-29	E. L. Surratt	Weldon Burchett
N. C.	Belmont	A/G	June 18-29	Paul Stephen O'Shields	Paul Williams
	Fayetteville	Indian	June 25-29	Woodrow Oxner	Hubert D. Boese
Ohio	Pleasant Grove	A/G	June 25-29	Wayne & Vi Marshall	James Davis
Pa.	Midland	A/G	June 24-29	David Lewis & Family	Charles McClure
	Reading	¹ Glad Tidings	June 23-29	Mrs. Robert S. Beisel	Anthony R. Mayeski
Tenn.	Whitehaven	¹ A/G	June 16-27	Esther Palmer	T. E. Scruggs
Tex.	Belton	First	June 25-July 6	Norman Jones Party	Bob Brumbelow
	Bridgeport	A/G	June 25-29	Bill Albritton	M. L. Milton
	Cisco	First	June 28-July 13	H. A. & Mrs. Strange	Bob Miller
Wash.	Lyle	Full Gospel	June 23-29	Knouse-Stovall Team	Clare Brown
W. Va.	Dry Fork	Zion	June 24-July 6	John Mastro	William E. Davis

¹Children's Revival

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

I SENT AN EMERGENCY PRAYER
UPWARD FOR HELP.
IT WAS THEN THAT I SAW
THE SIGN.



THE INSIDE PICTURE

By EDWIN RAYMOND ANDERSON

WHenever I come to that street corner, I look at the second floor of a building across the way to see the lettering on the sign in the third window, "Dr. Manning, X-Ray Work." It always reminds me of the afternoon when quite a different kind of X-ray machine was put into operation.

It was the afternoon when I met young Bert Palm while I was standing, waiting for the traffic light to change. Bert was a good fellow—and his goodness blinded him to the need of the grace of God. He simply felt that he was "good enough" without the Christ of whom I witnessed.

After the usual exchange of greetings I felt his light touch on my arm. "Don't look just now," he murmured in a confidential tone, "but in a minute spot that fellow in the blue suit—the important-looking man carrying the big briefcase. I'll tell you about him when we cross the street."

At that moment the traffic light changed, and our way was clear. I shot the glance. Yes, the man was important-looking; probably a busy executive of a large company.

"Did you spot him?"

I nodded.

"You can never tell by what you see these days, and that fellow just reminded me of it again," my friend explained. We watched "Mr. Big" as he disappeared into the crowd on the street. "He's big all right, Ed—general manager of the works over on Bishop Street, in fact. But I know him a lot better than most people. In fact . . ." and he dropped his voice to a whisper, "if I should tell what I know about him, he'd be in prison for a long time!"

Somewhere a clock struck the hour of three. Bert looked straight at me for my reaction to his announcement. For a moment I really didn't know what to reply, and I sent a quick, emergency prayer upward for help. It was then I noticed that building, and the sign in the third window. The words "X-Ray Work" stood out like a signal.

"Well, Bert," I replied, "you must be some kind of X-ray machine to see that deeply. Have you ever thought of this? The Almighty is able to see and to penetrate the more deeply into the very insides of us. He knows all about the hidden things. And I wonder, I just wonder, what He must find in some of us. We must be pretty bad off in His sight."

He followed my eyes to the sign, but when his eyes returned to meet mine, the thrill of his disclosure about the business executive seemed to have died away. He was silent for a while, then turned away rather abruptly. I was left alone, wondering whether I had said the right thing.

But that sign up there! It seemed to have fitted in so well, just in the nick of time!

* * *

I am back at that corner again—this time in my car as I return home from a wonderful service at the church. A young man tonight gave a ringing testimony that nothing is hidden from the eyes of the Lord, that everything is open to His sight. He said he had become deeply convicted by that stabbing truth; but added that, in spite of what He sees, the Lord still loves us and follows after us with the offer of great salvation.

That young man was Bert Palm, and he was now with me in the car. He nudged me as we stopped for the traffic light. In the stillness, broken only by the throbbing of the motor, we found our eyes traveling to that third window and to the words "Dr. Manning, X-Ray Work" illuminated from the street lamp below.

There was a tear in his eye as we looked at each other. "I'll never forget that afternoon, Ed, when you called my attention to that sign. It never got away from me. It set me to serious thinking for the first time in my life."

He went on: "You know, we seem so good on the outside, but we ought to be troubled by what the Lord really knows about us. It sure troubled me until I finally turned and let Him take over from the inside and all the way through! I'll never regret that!"

