

REAL COPY



# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

JULY 1969

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INTERNATIONAL EDITION

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"BE YE TRANSFORMED  
BY THE RENEWING OF  
YOUR MIND" (ROMANS 12:2).

# THE BATTLE

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

**T**O MOVE A MAN TO ACTION you have to influence his thinking. Sometimes you must change it. Every deed has its origin in the mind, which explains the fierce struggle raging today for the control of men's thoughts.

A new cigarette on the market proclaims itself as the women's own special brand, and its advertising campaign recalls the days when a woman would not think of smoking in front of a man. Then it declares how things have changed and how fortunate women can feel that they can not only smoke in public, but even have their own cigarette.

Many of us remember when public opinion was strongly opposed to the use of tobacco by women. In those days tobacco companies would not risk disfavor by showing an advertisement with a woman smoking. But they sensed the rich market they were missing, and set out to change people's thinking. And they succeeded.

Some of us are still old-fashioned enough to feel that a woman's position is degraded by a cigarette hanging out of her mouth, but we are in the minority. A major reversal in public thinking was achieved by clever and persistent advertising.

When I was a prisoner of war in Romania, we used to laugh at some of the foolish things the people told us about the war. We knew they were wrong, but they had only the Nazi version of events in their news media and they were quite convinced it was true.

Thought control! Antichrist will be a master at manipulating the thinking of men, for without this he could never achieve his great power.

Make no mistake about it, Christian; the devil is forever trying to change your way of thinking. In a multitude of ways he seeks to bombard your thought processes and make an opening for his message. He uses everything: literature, music, people, anything or anybody that might serve as a suitable instrument.

Even as a little leaven changes the whole character of the dough into which it is placed, so a little thought or attitude can start changes in motion that will affect one's entire destiny. I would like to mention a few of the kinds of "mind" against which God's children must constantly be on guard.

## THE AGITATED MIND

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon *shaken* in mind . . ." (2 Thessalonians 2:1, 2).

With all of our alertness to the signs of the times, we must not allow ourselves to become so upset by world

events that we lose our spiritual composure. It is not wholesome to dwell so much on communism, war, crime, and other disturbances that our minds become paralyzed by fear. We must recognize that what is happening is under God's control and is indeed anticipated in His wise plan. We must hold to the blessed promise of Isaiah 26:3: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

In the sixth chapter of Second Kings we read of the Syrian king sending an army to surround the city where Elisha and his servant were camping. In the morning the servant went out to do his chores, and when he saw the enemy host, he panicked. Elisha's quick reply was, "Fear not, for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." Then he prayed, "Lord, open his eyes." God did, and the servant saw an army from heaven on the mountains about the city. Like us, he first saw the soldiers and not the angels, and his agitated mind crippled his faith.

## THE UNDISCRIMINATING MIND

Call it "the gullible mind" if you wish. It lets in every thought without examining it to see whether they are wholesome or deadly. How powerful are the words of Philippians 4:8: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on *these things*."

When a banquet is given for some visiting dignitary, you may be sure the chef will taste all the food ahead of time to be sure it is up to the standards of the occasion. We should do the same with the thoughts that seek an entrance to our minds. We should be highly discriminating in the music to which we listen, the books and magazines we read, the company we keep, the radio and television programs we observe. For all of these have great bearing on our thinking.

There is so much talk today about having an open mind. It has become almost a fetish to be willing to look at every side of every question and never quite decide which side to accept. Some colleges invite every kind of agitator to speak on their campuses so the students may consider their ideas along with those of the more respectable lecturers.

But this "open mind" thing is a dangerous delusion. Do you live in an open house—with the doors and windows always flung wide to let in everything and everybody, and every odor and every piece of trash and dirt that

# FOR THE MIND

comes in your direction? Of course not. You decide what and who you want in your house and you close the doors and windows to everything else. We must do the same with our mind. No one should feel that he must consider communism, the so-called new morality, and every kind of false religion so that he can be broadminded. If you leave your house open all the time, it will be taken over by undesirable elements—and so will your mind.

## THE LAZY MIND

Paul went from Thessalonica to Berea, and it is said that the Bereans “were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of *mind*.” The word *readiness* means “alacrity or liveliness.” This is the kind of mind Christians must develop. We do not learn the ways of God by coasting along and taking the path of least resistance. We do not hide the Word in our hearts without an effort. Peter urged God’s people to “gird up” the loins of their minds, which means the same as, “Roll up the sleeves of your mind.” We do not progress spiritually by putting our brain in neutral and letting our thoughts coast wherever they will.

The ancient Israelites were commanded by the Lord to put tassels on the corners of their robes at the bottom and to weave into them “a ribband of blue.” The reason for this seemingly strange order was “that ye may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the Lord and do them” (Numbers 15:39). Even for God’s children it is easy to forget His laws—mainly through lack of diligent effort to retain them.

## THE TOLERANT MIND

The tolerant mind considers nothing bad. It does not know the word *evil*. It has no convictions and takes no stand against anything—or *for* anything. There were people like this in Bible times, and Paul says concerning them, “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind” (Romans 1:28).

In 1 Timothy 4:2 Paul speaks of those whose conscience is “seared with a hot iron.” When flesh is seared, it becomes insensitive. It is hard to believe people will go as far beyond the bounds of decency and reason as many are doing today. But we fail to realize just what kind of delusions a “seared” conscience can produce. When spiritual and moral sensitivity are gone, there is no limit to the distance the individual may travel downhill.

The great King Solomon became so tolerant that he could go to Egypt for a wife, could bring Pharaoh’s daughter into the house of David, and could marry hundreds of heathen women and embrace their false religions.

And how great was the fall of that once devout king.


Isaiah 5:20 declares so pointedly how sin twists men’s thinking until their sense of values becomes the very opposite of the truth: “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

## THE SECRET OF VICTORY

We are not to submit meekly to the devil’s overtures and we need not have our minds corrupted by the poisonous moral atmosphere of these days. If there is one passage of Scripture that gives us the antidote in a few words, it is Matthew 22:35-37: “Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy *mind*.”

A mind occupied with God and full of love for Him will offer no shelter to the unseen vultures of hell that carry the enemy’s filth for deposit in human brains. Satan’s thought-missiles will have great difficulty “homing in” on a mind that loves God and strives tenaciously to please Him. As powerful as the enemy’s thought-control machinery is, never forget that *you*, and you alone, make the final decision about your thoughts. *You* are the discriminator, the arbiter, the watchman at the mental gate. The question is, “How anxious are you to please God?” When that question is answered, the main battle is over.

There may be times when thoughts of the wrong kind flash momentarily through our minds in spite of our resistance. But we do not have to hold on to them and entertain them. Remember the old saying, “You can’t keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from making nests in your hair.” Bad thoughts may knock at your door, but you do not have to invite them in. And there won’t be room for them if your mind is already full of God-inspired thoughts.

Above all we must do our best to avoid situations which produce evil thoughts. If certain companions seem to break down our resistance, let us shun those people. If some type of entertainment has a tendency to deluge our minds with unwholesome thoughts, then we must find another kind of entertainment which does not do this. Every Christian is intelligent enough to know what thoughts hinder his relationship with God, and if he loves his Lord supremely, he will shut these out. He will see to it that his mental windows are always open heavenward so that God’s sunlight may destroy the germs of evil. 

## The Spirit-filled Life

THE SAME SCRIPTURE VERSE which says, "Be not drunk with wine," also says, "Be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). There is nothing optional about this statement. It does not merely urge us to be sober—it commands us to be. And it does not merely exhort us to be filled with the Holy Spirit—it requires us to be. If we disobey this Biblical commandment we become guilty of sin.

The reason for this commandment is quite simple: the Lord tells us to be filled with the Spirit because He knows we need to be. We cannot live a victorious Christian life through self-effort any more than we could be saved by self-effort. We need the infilling of God's Spirit to enable us to be what we ought to be. First we need to obtain this infilling; then, having obtained it, we need to retain and maintain it. Let us notice especially four features of this Spirit-filled life to which God calls us.

*It is a life of joy.* The apostle said, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." J. B. Phillips gives a literal translation of these verses, as follows: "Don't get your stimulus from wine (for there is always the danger of excessive drinking), but let the Spirit stimulate your souls. Express your joy in singing among yourselves psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making music in your hearts for the ears of the Lord." We Blood-washed Christians have much reason to rejoice. Our past sins are washed away; our present life is filled with blessing; and our future is bright with the assurance of eternal life. No wonder we rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory!

The Spirit-filled life is *a life of power.* The Saviour said, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you," or, as the New American Standard Bible translates it, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you" (Acts 1:8). We see that promise fulfilled in the lives of the apostles. Before they received the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost they ran like hares; afterward they stood like lions. Before, they cringed before their accusers; afterward they stood undaunted before rulers and preached the gospel in spite of threats of imprisonment and death. The same God-given faith and courage that carried them triumphantly over every obstacle, and gave them patience and grace to do the whole will of God, is seen in Spirit-filled lives today.

The Spirit-filled life is also *a life of purity.* Whereas John baptized with water, Jesus baptizes with Fire. "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" (Matthew 3:11). Water cannot wash away our sin. It takes the blood of Jesus to make us clean, and it takes the Spirit's Fire to keep us clean. No germs of sin can survive the holy Fire. The fiery Presence of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity keeps us purged from impure thoughts, unclean speech, and unholy deeds as we live after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

And finally, it is *a life of love.* The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. Not only God's love for us, but also His love for others. This divine love causes us to be concerned with others' welfare more than our own. This love constrains us to exalt our Lord and not ourselves. This love makes us Christlike. It was this love that won the admiration of a pagan world in days gone by, and if we would see the multitudes drawn to Christ today we too must be filled with the Spirit and let this same divine love dominate our lives. —T.C.C.

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



# *PATTERNS OF PRAYER*

By LOUIE W. STOKES / *Argentina*

**E**VERYBODY PRAYS, but not everyone receives the petitions asked for. All of us teach and preach that men should pray, yet not all of us practice prayer. But some men and some women by their effectual prayers have moved heaven and changed things on earth.

To pray occasionally or spasmodically can help a little, or pull us through an emergency perhaps. But prayer at its best, prayer in its deepest meaning, is a life lived in unbroken union and communion with the Father.

The Word teaches us to pray, how to pray, when and where to pray, why to pray, and the results we should expect after we have prayed. In other words, there are certain patterns of prayer we should know and observe.

There is One who is our example, our pattern, in this business and holy art of prayer, and He knew how to pray! He could freely say, "All that I ask of the Father, he will give me." And yet when hanging suspended on a Roman cross, He exclaimed, "Why hast thou forsaken me?" In the hour of anguish He knew how to accept the will of His Father, even though He might not fully understand it.

Let us note some of the patterns in the prayer life of our Lord, and then endeavor to follow His example.

Christ prayed, although He was the Son of God, had come from heaven, possessed supernatural powers, and was certain always of final victory. He prayed, often *alone*, on a mountain, in the desert, amid the beautiful flowers of a garden, or by a riverside.

It is easy to pray in a crowded temple or on a public platform where men can appreciate our pious and eloquent phrases. But to pray alone for hours, no one listening, can mean only that there is sincerity, desire, and burden. Have we learned to pray long, all alone? Or do we tire, run out of petitions? Do words fail to come forth?

How many matters are settled, like the selection of the Twelve, after a night of prayer! How many victories are won, even before the battle, after times of solitary prayer! And how many things have been changed when someone has prayed through, all alone.

God Himself desires these times when His servant seeks His presence and waits for the revelation of His will. Perhaps modern life does not encourage us to spend

40 days alone on a mount as He did, but most anyone can spend 40 minutes a day in the secret place of prayer. Do you?

Jesus prayed with others, whether in groups of two or three or with the Twelve. He taught others to pray and even left us the model prayer. He invited others to spend time with Him in intercession—an hour or a night.

How could He spend a lonely night in travailing prayer and minister the following day? "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength," said the prophet Isaiah. Prayer is the Christian's vital breath.

Jesus prayed much and often. He made short prayers in public and prayed long in private. Why do we disdain the pattern, doing the opposite? Is it because we pray to be heard of men rather than to be answered by God? Of our Lord's petitions it can be said that His Father always heard Him because He did the things that pleased the Father. Does this explain why we are not heard when we pray? When a man's life pleases the Lord, his prayers also please Him.

Jesus prayed for Himself; He asked divine help; He felt the need of His Father's presence and approval. Jesus prayed for His immediate disciples, for those who surrounded Him, for those who were to carry on His work when He would be absent. He prayed for His Church yet to be born on Pentecost Day. And then, in an ever-widening circle, He prayed for the entire world.

That is the pattern of prayer: to pray for all men everywhere, the peace of Jerusalem, world evangelization, and the salvation of all who can be saved.

At times Jesus cried when He prayed. He was not ashamed of tears. He wept over His city; He wept over His nation; He sweat as it were great drops of blood. He knew how to rejoice in prayer and to teach others to find joy in fellowship with God. He received strength as He prayed, and angels ministered unto Him. His countenance shone as He dwelt in the presence of God, and He cast out malignant spirits after He had fasted and prayed.

Yes, if we wish to obtain the astounding results from prayer, we must pray according to the pattern showed to us in the life of our Lord.



# MY MISSION TO THE RED GUARDS

Kowloon Bay, with Hong Kong in foreground

By Evangelist GENE BURGESS

**H**ONG KONG rose from the water like a jewel before us. In a few minutes we stepped from the crowded *Star Ferry* that shuttles between the Island of Hong Kong and the mainland city of Kowloon. What an island of contrasts: double-decker buses, rickshaws, sidewalk vendors. Even after five weeks the jagged mountains, skyscrapers, and lovely stores still awed us.

Missionary Aaron Rothganger and I were passing a 15-story department store and office building when something caught my attention. There was so much red in the display windows. The missionary explained that the first five floors were owned by the Red Chinese.

That sounded unbelievable in this beautiful metropolis of three million. Even if this little British colony is only a barbed-wire fence away from Red China, it still is strongly democratic.

Out of curiosity I wanted to go into this Communist department store. The lower floors were filled with exquisite works of art from Red China. Youthful Red Guards, proudly wearing Mao buttons, were the clerks and guides.

But what a shock as Missionary Rothganger and I stepped off the escalator on the fifth floor. The walls

were covered with huge pictures and writings of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. Photographs of China's first atomic bomb were splashed in vibrant color.

Motion pictures extolled the benefits of communism while denouncing democracy, capitalism, and America. One wall carried pictures showing the riots, crime, and campus disorders in our country. They wanted to make the young people of Asia think America is crumbling within.

One large part of the propaganda center is reserved for literature—especially the sale of the Red Book which contains quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. It is the bible of the Communist Chinese.

I later discovered these facts about the Red Book: during the last three years China has printed and distributed 740 million copies of the book. It is available not only in Chinese, but also in a multitude of languages, including French, German, Italian, and English. The Communists are dedicated to “evangelizing” the world.

I picked up a copy. My eye fell on a quotation: “Every Communist must grasp the truth, political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.”

I turned to see another wall mural, this one picturing

members of all the races of the world. Each person was dressed in his national costume and had one hand lifted high. In each raised hand was a copy of the Red Book.

I sighed with relief when we were back on the crowded sidewalk. I was shocked and sick. This one store alone was poisoning the bloodstream of the "Pearl of the Orient." That day we saw other Communist stores full of young people. (In our evangelistic work we have traveled in 45 countries around the globe. In every country I have noted the Communists at work.)

Should I try to speak to these Red Guards in Hong Kong about Christ? Our schedule was jammed with morning meetings in rooftop schools, and evening family crusades. There was so little spare time. Besides, how could I approach them? They might curse me or even use physical violence. Every day human bodies from Red China, with hands tied behind their backs, reportedly were being washed up on the beaches of Hong Kong.

Yet on the following day I felt compelled to go back to the fifth floor of that department store and speak to these young Communists about Christ. My conversation began with a young man in his twenties, neatly dressed, who, of course, wore his Mao badge. The moment he found out I was American, the trouble started. He denounced our policy in Vietnam. He angrily denounced us as dogs.

Other young employees gathered around us out of curiosity. "World liberation is our objective. We plan to free the world from American imperialism and influence," he said.

The clerk was so fanatical it seemed useless to argue. So I replied, "I have a greater cause to live for than communism."

"What could be better than to study the Red Book and to dedicate yourself to conquering the world?" he demanded.


Calmly and prayerfully I began, "My reason for coming here is not to argue political or social issues. I have found a better purpose in life. It gives me hope in this life and hope for the life to come." (No Communist has any hope for the life to come.)

More of the Communist clerks joined the group as I began to tell them how the Lord had directed me to leave my practice of pharmacy so I could spread this good news. I told them of the peace and joy Christ could give. Each one gladly took my card which has printed on it the plan of salvation.

Step-by-step I told them how Christ loved them and could change their lives. Then our meeting was stopped by an angry floor manager whose eyes glared with hate. Quickly the young people scattered.

Once again I began to breathe easily as I walked out into the warm sun. Within my heart was a prayer that many of these youth would find the peace and purpose that only Jesus Christ can give.

\* \* \*

Some young person you will meet today is searching for a great cause to which he might give his energies and talents. Many are disillusioned by ritualistic religion erroneously called "Christianity." They want an experience that will touch their hearts, change their lives, and give them a worthwhile purpose in life. Be on the alert so Christ can use you today! 

# YOUR QUESTIONS

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS



*Who were the Waldenses?*

According to *The Dictionary of Religious Knowledge*, they were a mountain people near the Franco-Italian border. As followers of Peter Waldo they were Christian people whose lives and doctrines we would fully approve.

In 1487 Innocent VIII issued a bull (an edict) denouncing them as heretics, with the result that "they were burned, buried alive, impaled, roasted over slow fires" and subjected to other forms of torture and death too awful to recount. In one winter 14,000 prisoners filled the dungeons of Turin, where 11,000 perished by starvation and pestilence.

*If a person has been truly saved and then backslides, will he go to hell if he does not repent? And will God hear the prayer of the backslider?*

Jesus saved us to keep us, and He does not want us to backslide. We do not excuse backsliding, but we would like to show that a person is not lost or bound for hell if he makes a misstep. To rely on nothing more than one's feelings or strength means failure. We must see the provision Christ made for us.

"These things write I unto you, that ye sin not" (1 John 2:1). Believers should make no excuse for doing wrong. We are to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Romans 13:14). But "if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Jesus loves us and, as our great High Priest, intercedes for us. He pleads before the Father, seeking divine mercy for us because of His great sacrifice (1 John 2:1, 2).

Then comes our responsibility. Do we really want to love God? Then, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). See also John 14:21, 23, 24. If you have gotten away from God, believe these Scripture verses, turn from evil, and trust in the Lord's saving grace. God will hear the cry of the backslider.

*What is meant by the reference to Jesus preaching to the spirits in prison? (1 Peter 3:18-20).*

Those who believe in the final restitution of all things like to use this account in favor of their belief that everyone finally will be saved.

The general teaching is that Christ, by the Holy Spirit's inspiration, preached through Noah to the antediluvians that judgment was coming on them because of their sins, and invited them to repent that they might be saved. First Peter 4:6 says, "For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit."

The verses provide too little information to form a doctrine on them.

*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.*

# IS THE TASK REALLY WORTHWHILE?

By CAROL CORPANY / Egypt

IN THE MISSIONARY FILM *The Nile Mother*, the narrator asks, "Is the task really worthwhile?" At that moment the camera focuses upon the face of an intent teen-ager named George Assad.

Here is his story—from a village

George must have looked like a lot of other boys who have come to this big home through the years. He probably experienced the same frustrations and difficulties of adjustment that many others have experienced upon being placed in such a large family



George Assad and his family are now working with Bob Hoskins in Beirut, Lebanon.

boy in Upper Egypt to a resident at the Trasher Memorial Orphanage at Assiout and ultimately to the dean of the Middle East Evangelical Theological School at Beirut, Lebanon.

On October 6, 1941, a small six-year-old was taken from his village in Upper Egypt to the Assemblies of God orphanage in Assiout for whatever care could be given to him. The story must have sounded familiar to the administration of that home—the father had just died and the mother was unable to provide for this little one.

without much personalized care or attention. Some "Georges" never become known as individuals but remain, for one reason or another, in the big family of look-alikes and act-alikes.

It must have been God's design for George's life that made him different. He tells some of his own story:

"After the death of my father, my sister and I were taken to the orphanage. I stayed there for 12 years. To get to know and accept the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour was the greatest thing the orphanage did for me as a boy nine years old. Some

years later I was filled with the precious Holy Spirit.

"When I completed my high school studies, I became a staff member and served in various capacities for six more years. During that time I studied the Bible by correspondence, as well as studying university courses. I received a degree in philosophy from the University of Cairo.

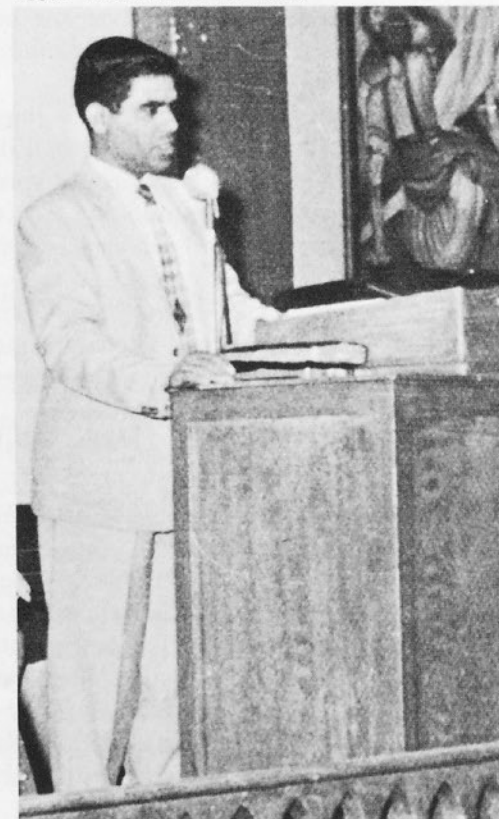
"On October 15, 1959, I was ordained as an Assemblies of God minister and from that time I served as pastor of the orphanage church."

During the years we were associated with George Assad, we saw him grow and develop in the ministry. He directed the orphanage Sunday school, one of the largest and best organized Sunday schools in Egypt.

Using such books as *Build My Church, Ye Shall Be Witnesses*, and others which had been translated into Arabic, George conducted in-depth study courses for the high school boys and girls. Over a recent two-year period he led the orphanage family in a program of reading through the Bible each year. He carefully planned sermons and Bible studies to correspond to the reading of the week. This program meant more to the staff and children than any other single activity known.

George Assad directed the annual vacation Bible school in the orphanage

Brother Assad was ordained in 1959 by the Egypt Assemblies of God.





each summer and also served as national director of all the vacation Bible school programs in the Assemblies of God of Egypt.

He was the key figure in setting up the first national youth conference, which was hosted by the orphanage in 1965 and continues annually. He compiled the first Assemblies of God songbooks in Egypt and wrote some of the songs. He also has talent as an artist, and has written some religious dramas that were produced in the orphanage at Easter and Christmas.

In addition to these accomplishments, he often had to assist with the administration of the orphanage because of his thorough knowledge of the big home and its business dealings. His leadership abilities were recognized by others, and he was elected to the executive committee of the national church in Egypt, serving in that capacity for two years.

Today George Assad is the pastor of our young Assemblies of God church in Beirut, Lebanon, and also serves as dean of the new Middle East Evangelical Theological School in that city. One can imagine the big empty space in the orphanage staff when this move took place, but it was felt by all concerned that this was the time for George to contribute his abilities to the growing work in Lebanon.

His departure from Egypt was difficult, for the orphanage was not only his place of employment and ministry for so many years, but also his home. He said, "Only God knows how much

I appreciate what He has done for me, being raised in the orphanage under the care of such a saint as Mamma Lillian Trasher who really cared for the salvation of souls.

"The orphanage also gave me a Christian wife who is a help to me. I appreciate the Christian training I received from Brother Philip Crouch, who served at the orphanage, and from other missionaries who have been of help and encouragement. Now I am sharing in the ministry in Lebanon.

"It is really wonderful what the Lord is doing here, especially with the *Way to Life* correspondence course. The response is great even in some places where it is not easy for Christian ministry.

"More and more the Lord is leading us to the place of seeing the needs of the millions all around us in the Middle East. We praise the Lord for pouring out His Spirit in Egypt and also in Iraq. We are trusting the Lord for all these countries of the Middle East."

This report should thrill the hearts of those who have prayed for the Trasher Memorial Orphanage through the years. Only a few can make an active contribution to the church such as George has made, yet many other former orphanage boys and girls contribute to the cause of Christ in other ways.

Take Ramsees, for example. This young man was reared in the orphanage. His artistic abilities were discovered, and he became a trained artist. He is employed by an evangelical


group in Cairo. The major part of his work is to draw sketches which are used in making Christian filmstrips.

Ramsees has won several contests. One of his pictures was chosen for a Christmas greeting by a large Christian literature organization in the United States. His talent is a blessing to many.

Another former orphanage boy has an important position with the audio-visual department of an evangelical organization that provides materials for all the Christian churches of Egypt. This is an avenue for full-time service, and his ministry is a blessing to all churches that avail themselves of it.

Some orphanage young men have attended Bible schools and are pastors today not only in Assemblies of God churches but in other evangelical churches in Egypt. The thorough Bible study courses which were taught in the orphanage have helped equip many more young people to be prepared for effective lay ministry in the churches.

And so the challenge of the Trasher Memorial Orphanage continues. We hope there will be many more "Georges." The orphanage staff does everything possible to encourage the development of true Christian character and the full dedication of each life to Christ.

No one can completely evaluate the contribution of the orphanage to the cause of Christ in Egypt. To the Christian believers in Egypt the orphanage remains a lighthouse in a very needy land. It is there that they see Christian love in action. 

**Middle East Evangelical Theological School (MEETS) is located in Beirut, Lebanon.**





The story of the personal faith of Colonel Frank Borman (right), the astronaut who wanted all the world to hear God's Word from space.

# "In the beginning GOD..."

Condensed from Revivaltime's  
1969 "Miniature" by C. M. WARD

**T**HERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR *faith*.  
 You have to have faith when you sit on top of a combined rocket-power thrust of 7.5 million pounds.  
 You have to have faith to leave Earth orbit behind—to issue a command raising the speed of *Apollo 8* from 17,500 mph to more than 24,000 mph.  
 You have to have faith to sit in a capsule when Earth recedes so far that your companion, Jim Lovell, says: "I can see the entire Earth out of the center window, down to Argentina and Chile . . . We see the Earth now almost as a disk. . ."  
 You have to have faith when the slightest error in calculations could cause you to miss your rendezvous with the moon.  
 You have to have faith to bring your 32-foot-long ship within 80 miles of the moon's surface and hold it at that point in constant orbit.  
 You have to have faith in your engines—in the work and dedication of 300,000 engineers, technicians, and workers; in 20,000 contractors, backed by \$33 billion spent on America's space effort in the past decade.  
*You have to have faith that all of this will bring you*

*back*. There was no backup ship that could go to the aid of *Apollo 8* if it had become stranded in lunar orbit.

You have to have faith for *reentry*. The ship must pass through a narrow "reentry corridor" high in Earth's atmosphere in order for the pull of gravity to bend its flight path downward *at just the right angle*.

If the angle is too steep, the heat generated upon entering the atmosphere of Earth will burn the spacecraft to a cinder.

If the angle is too shallow, the ship will skip back into space. That would mean that before *Apollo 8* could have swung back to Earth, the astronauts would have used up all of their breathing oxygen and the spacecraft's power would have been exhausted.

*So without faith you would never venture.*

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Colonel Frank Borman, a Christian and Episcopalian Church member, believes that with all his heart.

Such faith should be planted *early* in a man's life. It takes time and cultivation to produce "so great faith" (Matthew 8:10).

Frank Borman is an only child, born in Gary, Indiana, on March 14, 1928. He was a *sickly child*, plagued with sinus, mastoid, tonsil, and adenoid troubles. His parents took him at an early age to Tucson, Arizona.

At 15 he began taking flying lessons. The "wild blue yonder" fascinated him.

After finishing high school he entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated eighth in a class of 670 in 1950. He immediately transferred to the United States Air Force, earning his wings in 1951.

He never lost faith although an eardrum burst in a jet dive. It wasn't easy to be grounded for seven months and believe for healing. He learned to "possess" his soul "in . . . *patience*" (Luke 21:19)—a necessary quality for a successful astronaut.

Though he was too small for football at West Point, there was nothing "small" about his spirit or soul. Little by little the faith instilled in him as a child developed the right temperament to command. There is a drive in Borman that "plays to win."

From the time the news of the first Sputnik broke, Borman knew that Americans would soon be going into space. He wanted to be one of the pioneers. *He set his faith in that direction*. "What things soever ye *desire*, . . . believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24). It became a rule of life.

It sustained him through test pilot training at the research pilot school at Edwards Air Force Base in California. He kept it in mind when an engine failure, while he was flying an F-104, would have suggested bailing out. He stayed in the plane—which was traveling at twice the speed of sound—and revived the engine sufficiently to bring the aircraft to a safe landing.

Yes, "this is the victory that *overcometh* . . . even our faith" (1 John 5:4).

A man must "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Timothy 6:12). Colonel Borman believes it takes muscle. He equates the perils of the moon shot with combat in Vietnam.

He has known shock and grief. When three astronauts met fiery deaths trapped in the *Apollo 204* test spacecraft

at Cape Kennedy, Florida, in January 1967, Frank Borman was the first man to enter the charred capsule. He then served on the board of review that investigated the accident.

It takes a *disciplined life* to be an astronaut. Colonel Borman knows and follows the advice given by Paul to Timothy: "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, *faith*, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22).

Borman knows that faith sustains a man. His faith took him 240,000 miles to the moon, and back. It did not fail him when together with astronauts William A. Anders and James A. Lovell Jr., he entered a realm where no human had ever been before. "I think the crew's whole philosophical approach changed," he says of that experience. "I know mine did."

Long ago Solomon said, "I communed with my own heart, . . . yea, my heart had great experience of wisdom and knowledge" (Ecclesiastes 1:16). Borman knows about this personally. The view of Earth from the moon fascinated him—a small disk, 240,000 miles away. Raging nationalistic interests, famines, wars, pestilence *didn't show from that distance*. It seemed to him that if a traveler coming from some other part of the heavens in a spacecraft could look at Earth, that wanderer would never know it was inhabited at all. But the same voyager would certainly know instinctively that if Earth were inhabited, then the destinies of all who lived there must be closely interwoven.

Those were some of Frank Borman's thoughts as he circled about the moon.

Colonel Borman is a man of many activities. He is a devoted husband. He might have had the honor of stepping on the moon but he opted *out in order to spend more time with his family*. He has moved to a National Aeronautics and Space Administration desk post, that of deputy to Donald K. Slayton, the director of flight crew operations in Houston.

He is an energetic father. Fredrick and Edwin are well-built sons, now much taller and heavier than their famous father. He is a man who finds time for camping and hiking.

But above all Colonel Borman is a serious-minded patriot, who loves his nation with a passion *and finds time for his church and his God*.

He is a living example of the promise of our Lord, "If any man serve me, him will my Father honor" (John 12:26). So he accepts with appreciation that he is lay reader at St. Christopher Episcopal Church in League City, Texas.

It was this responsibility that sparked a sequence of events that gave to this planet the reading of Genesis 1:1-10 from the vicinity of the moon on Christmas Eve 1968.

The initial question was this: "How could he contribute to his own church something unique for the Christmas service?"

But as Colonel Borman thought about it and conferred with his fellow astronauts—and with responsible officials at NASA—the vista widened. The question was raised: "What *suitable message* can we send to all peoples everywhere?"

Borman recalls, "I began to feel uneasy as time passed. I knew that more than *one billion* people would



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER  
HOUSTON, TEXAS APR 10 1969

IN REPLY REFER TO: CB

Mr. Robert C. Cunningham  
1445 Boonville Avenue  
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

Many thanks for your congratulations extended on the successful completion of the Apollo VIII flight. As a crewman of this historic first voyage around the moon, I am especially appreciative of your prayers which you offered in our behalf; and for your kind and generous comments regarding the Christmas Eve message which we broadcasted to the people of the good, good earth, I am deeply grateful.

May the remainder of 1969 bring to you and yours much happiness and good cheer.

Sincerely,

*Frank Borman*  
Frank Borman  
Colonel, USAF  
NASA Astronaut

be watching us on Christmas Eve." Ideas were exchanged. They were good ideas—but *just didn't seem right*.

Then came the suggestion of the creation story.

Dr. Robert Gilruth, a top executive at NASA, called it "a natural idea."

*So it was typed right into the flight plan itself.*

Into the official record of the first flight of man around the moon went a transcript of the opening 10 verses of Genesis.

The flight plan called for the astronauts' Genesis reading as they were making their last turn into the dark.

It worked out precisely on schedule. The Colonel will never forget it. It is an experience that grips his soul. He says he would like the record to hint at the excitement the men in the spacecraft felt as they rounded the dark side of the moon and saw the Earth as it seemed to rise up out of darkness.

Nine of the 10 verses the world heard from *Apollo 8* start with the words, "*and God.*"

*That is the eternal answer.*

"With men it is impossible, but not *with God*: for with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27).

That *association*, "with God," is available to everyone. It makes life a satisfying adventure.

You will fail if you leave God out of your plans.

You can exercise faith. "By grace are ye saved *through faith*" (Ephesians 2:8). Saving faith is the acceptance by man's intellect, affection, and will of God's favor extended to him through Christ. This faith produces a sincere obedience to God in a man's life.

It has in Colonel Borman, *and he has put it to the test.*



# HOPE

Sunday School Lesson for July 13, 1969

By J. BASHFORD BISHOP

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18; 5:1-10

IN A MOST INSPIRING WAY, Paul the apostle taught us how to grow old gracefully, how to face advancing years and the prospect of death in a spirit of Christian optimism, courage, and joyful expectancy.

### THE EXPERIENCE OF INWARD STRENGTHENING (4:16)

"Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." Both age and continuous physical hardships were taking their toll of Paul's strength. This aging process no one can avoid, so the business of getting old, apart from God, is indeed a pitiful and tragic thing.

But this otherwise tragic fact is brightened by another glorious and compensating fact—the "inward man"—that is, the "inner nature," the real person, the immaterial being—is strengthened daily by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

### THE AWARENESS OF THE VALUE OF TROUBLES (4:17, 18)

Because of this daily renewal of the inner life by communion with God, Paul was able to regard the terrific tests and ordeals through which he passed as "light af-

flictions." The list of things he mentioned in 2 Corinthians 11:23-29 makes one feel ashamed for having become bowed down by trials so insignificant.

Paul recognized that his troubles and trials were in reality working *for* rather than against him. He knew his Christian character was strengthened by them and he was conscious that the reward awaiting him was "an eternal weight of glory." In this connection let us remember that only the suffering one experiences for Christ's sake works for our benefit. Reward or glory is not given because of merit. At best all men are "unprofitable servants." Suffering procures glory but does not merit it.

Finally, Paul's attitude toward suffering and trial is due to the fact that he lived with eternity's values in view. This verb *look*, in Greek, means "to fix one's gaze upon, to concentrate one's attention upon." Paul was neither ensnared by earthly and temporary comforts, pleasures, or luxuries, nor dismayed by earthly troubles because he was taken up with eternal realities.

### THE CERTAINTY OF A GLORIOUS RESURRECTION (5:1-8)

Paul stated another reason why he faced the prospect of aging, future suffering, and even death with such buoyancy and cheerful courage: "*We know.*" What he was about to say was no idle fancy, no speculative theory, but divine revelation.

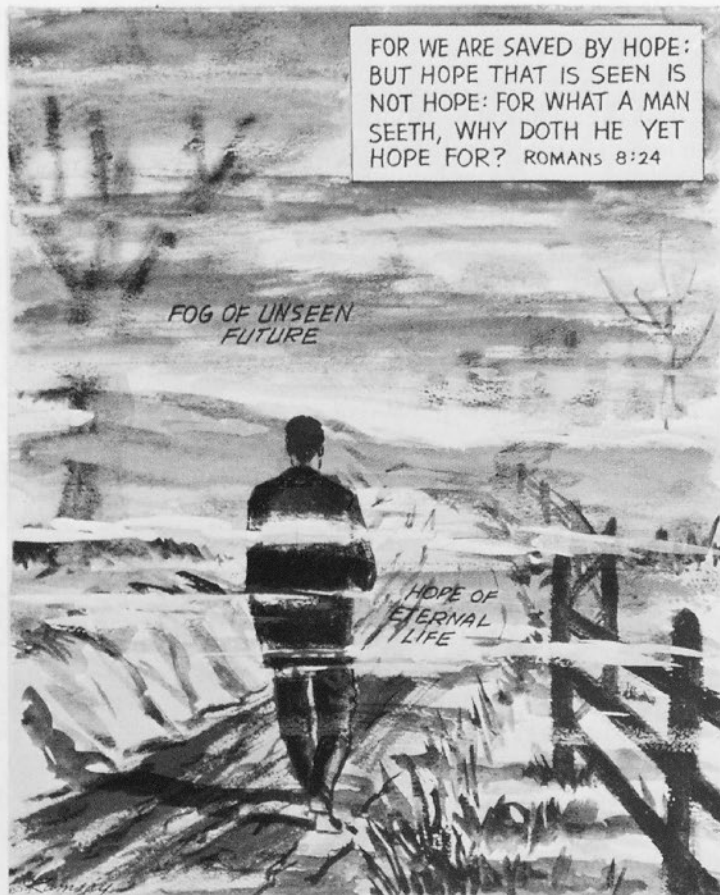
"We know," he said, "that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God." *Tabernacle* is really "tent." Paul likened the human body, which houses the real person within, to a tent—fragile, impermanent, transitory. One day it will be dismantled by death. The "if" Paul used indicates no uncertainty as to future destiny; it simply means Paul was not certain that he would die before Christ's return. He hoped to live until Christ comes; but even if he should not do this, his hope was no less real.

"We have a building of God." Though scholars have differences of opinion, it is my conviction that the building (temple) of God to which Paul referred is the glorified body which will replace the tent-body man now possesses. Paul had been a tentmaker, but the body which will house his immortal spirit is one "not made with hands."

The remaining verses of this section may be thus summarized: (1) God has fashioned us for the very purpose of clothing us at last with a body of glory suitable for eternal fellowship with Him. (2) The presence of the Holy Spirit in one's life is a further assurance of bodily resurrection. The Spirit is actively involved in ministering not only in initial salvation, nor in our living victorious lives, but in the provision of bodily resurrection and glorification. (See Romans 8:11, 15.) (3) Whether we live until Christ comes or die first, we still look forward to the future with bright expectancy; for if we die, we are at once "present with the Lord." This fact is a source of great solace to those who lose Christian loved ones.

### THE INEVITABILITY OF FUTURE JUDGMENT (5:9, 10)

This judgment has nothing to do with salvation. It is a judgment at which time the believer will give an account of his works; that is, of the quality of his Christian life. Some will be ashamed of their lives at this time (1 John 2:28). Paul, however, looked forward to it with glad anticipation (2 Timothy 4:6-8), and so may we all if we do whatever we do for the glory of God.



# TESTIMONIES OF HEALING

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



## FRACTURED PELVIS HEALED

THREE WEEKS after I fractured my pelvis, I was again playing football and basketball. You could not tell I had suffered such an injury. The Lord had healed me.

I had received the fracture while playing football. The doctor had told me I couldn't play again for the rest of the season. He also said that when I started walking without crutches, I would still have to take it easy.

About two weeks after my injury, Evangelist William Caldwell came to Calvary Assembly of God in Toledo, Ohio. I was on crutches and could hardly get around. If I twisted my body, I had a great deal of pain.

Many people were being healed in the meetings, so I joined the line where the evangelist and Pastor McManness were praying for the sick. As I stood there, Brother Caldwell told the congregation to expect God to heal the broken bones instantly.

And I did receive an instantaneous healing. As soon as I was prayed for, I got off my crutches and put my foot down on the floor. Then I received faith to hold up

my crutches and to walk across the platform. After taking several steps, I dropped the crutches and lifted my hands to praise the Lord. While we all praised the Lord together, I walked normally down the steps and back the aisle to my seat.

Since the instant of that miracle of healing, I have had no pain. I've been playing football and basketball and I feel just wonderful. Praise God!—Rick Mehle, Toledo, Ohio.

(Endorsed by Pastor J. Donald McManness, Calvary Assembly, Toledo, Ohio.)

## CHILD HEALED OF DIABETES AND OTHER TROUBLES

TODAY MY SON JEFF is a strong, healthy nine-year-old with no apparent defects from the serious illness he suffered about a year ago.

When Jeff got up on Saturday morning, June 15, 1968, he complained of his neck hurting on the right side; but he didn't have a fever and spent the day playing. Later in the day he grew worse and that evening we took him to the emergency section of the hospital where the doctor gave him drops for inner ear infection.

The next day I took him to our family doctor for treatment. But by midnight his temperature began to rise.

On Monday morning his neck was stiff; he was unable to turn his head. I took him back to the hospital and was soon told he had meningitis.

I called our pastor's wife and requested prayer. Pastor Davis came to the hospital immediately. The muscles in Jeff's legs were already in spasms, but as Brother Davis prayed God's healing power touched him and the spasms stopped.


The doctors also discovered that Jeff had diabetes. For two days and nights his condition was critical. Then the crisis passed.

On Thursday his left eye started bothering him. He could hardly open it and could not stand the light. Our church was having vacation Bible school at this time. After each day's session the teachers met together to pray for Jeff. His eye improved, and tests showed his vision was 20/20.

Before Jeff left the hospital, the diabetes tests were negative. Every test since has been negative.

I praise the Lord for completely healing my son. I also thank God for a faithful pastor and Christian friends who stood with me in prayer.—Mrs. Christine Gardipee, Milwaukee, Wis.

(Endorsed by Pastor Ralph M. Davis, Arlington Assembly, Milwaukee, Wis.)



**SCRIPTURES TO LIVE BY**

**DAILY READINGS FOR JULY 7-13**

Theme of the Week: **COMFORTED IN SORROW**

Mon. ....	John 11:33-44	Thurs. ....	1 Cor. 15:12-22
Tues. ....	John 16:16-24	Fri. ....	1 Thess. 4:13-18
Wed. ....	John 20:11-18	Sat. ....	Revelation 21:1-8
	Sunday .....		2 Corinthians 1:3-10

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Revelation 21:4).

# Evangelical NEWS Digest

FROM EVANGELICAL PRESS NEWS SERVICE, CORRESPONDENCE, PERIODICALS, PRESS REPORTS

AS IMPRESSIVE AS OLD TESTAMENT CITY ITSELF

## Archaeologist Discovers Hazor's Water System

SAFAD, ISRAEL—In this country archaeologists are spanning the gulf of thousands of years, bringing modern man to encounters with the Old Testament world.

A thousand years before Moses, a mighty city rose near this present northern city. Its name was Hazor and the Old Testament called it "head of all those kingdoms" of Canaan, the Israelites' Promised Land (Joshua 11:10).

Since archaeologists located the site of Hazor in 1875, they have uncovered 45-foot-high walls, huge granaries, temples, citadels, and cemeteries. But they still remained puzzled about the source of water capable of supporting such a metropolis.

This puzzle was recently solved by Yigael Yadin, a former chief of staff of the Israeli army and archaeologist. Mr. Yadin has discovered a water system as impressive as the city itself.

It was the practice of ancient engineers to dig deep tunnels under city walls to nearby springs and tap their water supply. These tunnels prevented besieging armies from cutting off the water supplies of that city.

Yadin and his team of 160 diggers, after probing for three months, struck a rectangular masonry shaft that began at the city level of Ahab's time (about 850 B.C.) and dropped past the debris of 13 older cities. He had uncovered a 12-foot-high tunnel that had been sealed since Biblical times.

At its other end, 100 feet away,

was the water. Instead of depending on springs, Ahab's engineers had dug deep to tap the natural ground water reservoirs.

The 10-foot-wide tunnel shaft

may have been used to accommodate two columns of donkeys—one carrying water jars up from the bottom, the other returning with empty jars.

**Could Result in Economic Pinch**

## Advertising, Broadcasting Industries Feel Sting of Antismoking Campaign

**Stars Avoid Tobacco-Sponsored Programs**

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Increasing efforts to retard the sale of cigarettes in the U.S. are having a substantial effect in areas other than the tobacco industry.

Most notable among these are the advertising and broadcasting industries which stand to suffer heavy losses, particularly if the recommendation of the Federal Communications Commission to ban cigarette advertising from the airwaves is allowed to stand.

The three major television networks acknowledge they will feel an economic pinch if revenue from cigarette advertising—which for

one network alone exceeds \$55 million annually—is suddenly withdrawn.

Loss of advertising contracts, however, is not the only effect the antismoking crusade is having on the broadcasting industry. An increasing number of performing artists are now refusing to appear on programs sponsored by cigarette companies. Officials of the television industry agree that this group could represent a new and effective force against cigarette advertising.

This growing opposition to cigarettes has become a popular social cause and helps account for the fact that last year cigarette sales declined for the third straight year.

**Undisciplined, Overindulged**

## Adults Cite Biggest Gripes About Youth

**In Gallup Poll Survey**

PRINCETON, N.J.—The same complaints kept cropping up among U.S. adults in a nationwide Gallup Poll—"Kids today think the world can be changed overnight," and, "Young people want everything given to them on a silver platter."

The criticisms registered most often, said the poll, were: undisciplined behavior, campus protests, lack of respect for authority, overindulgence of young people, and manner of dress and appearance.

The survey was designed to discover the biggest gripes and did not ask adults to evaluate young people as a whole.

One thing the survey failed to show was to what extent the parents and "older generation" have contributed to the undisciplined behavior of today's youth.

It is almost certain these attitudes did not appear overnight during teen years, but rather were developed through the permissiveness and overindulgence they received while children at home.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—President Nixon received a specially bound New Testament symbolizing the one billionth Scripture distributed by the American Bible Society. The presentation was made at the White House by Edmund F. Wagner, president of the Society (center). Senator Claiborne Pell, vice-president of the organization, is at right. The Bible, bound in extra large type.



# Christopher Is Gone!

## Disappearance of "Saints" Brings Protest, Confusion

ROME—Not since Pope Paul's controversial birth control encyclical has a Vatican announcement caused more fuss than one made by Roman Catholic officials that 41 "saints" from earliest centuries of Christianity may never even have existed.

This announcement brought such strong outcries of protest and confusion among Catholics that an

editorial in *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican daily, sought to reassure the faithful that saints removed from a newly issued church calendar may still be venerated at local and private levels.

Included among the scratched-out names were St. Christopher, patron saint of travelers; England's patron St. George; and Ireland's redoubtable St. Patrick.

The disappearance of the saints has been long expected by Catholic scholars.

## MINISTER WANTS MORE CHRISTIAN EMPHASIS, LESS WORLDLINESS IN WEDDING CEREMONIES

### Church a Mere Backdrop For Worldly Trappings?

TACOMA, WASH.—Engaged couples should choose either a Christian marriage or a state marriage, and not bring the pagantry of worldly trappings into the church, says Episcopalian Arnold Fenton, rector of Christ Episcopal Church here.

Pastor Fenton says there is

too much emphasis on dresses, flowers, and photographs, making the church a "mere ritualistic backdrop for a carefully choreographed wedding."

He said he hoped the bride would have an appropriate answer when asked why she wants a church wedding, hoping for a Christ-centered home and grace to conform their marriage to the standard of Christ.

### Starting in 1971

## Biblical Shekel Will Be Unit of Israeli Currency

JERUSALEM—The ancient Biblical term, *shekel*, will replace the present name of *lira* or *pound* as the basic unit of Israeli currency, according to the decision of the Finance Committee of the Knesset

(Parliament). The change will become effective in two years.

The shekel, like the modern pound and many other units of currency, basically was a unit of weight rather than of financial value. Shekels found by archaeologists have varied somewhat in weight but have averaged about 11.5 grams, approximately two-fifths of an ounce.

## ... at a glance

- • • The population of the world is growing by about 2.2 persons per second, 132 per minute, 190,000 per day, and more than 1.3 million a week, according to the World Population Data Sheet. By July 1, it will reach 3.551 billion. It is expected to pass the four billion mark by 1975.
- • • The Lutheran Church in Britain is celebrating its 300th anniversary this year. The church was formed in 1669 by permission of King Charles II.
- • • Rabbi Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, has called for Federal legislation making interruption of religious worship (by militants, for example) a "severely punishable crime."
- • • A five-year, \$65.8 million government attack on alcoholism has the sponsorship of 42 U. S. Senators. Senators Jacob Javits (N.Y.) and Frank Moss (Utah) proposed the bipartisan bill to take action against the nation's fourth most serious health problem. The U. S. Public Health Service and Crime Commission ranks alcoholism behind heart disease, mental illness, and cancer in U. S. health problems.

Mrs. Johansson relates her healing to her husband (left) and Pastor Ake Svensson in the Johansson home in Koppom, Sweden. This miracle brought a revival to this Swedish community in which many were saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit.



### CHURCH TOO SMALL FOR CROWDS

## MIRACLE OF HEALING BRINGS REVIVAL TO SWEDISH TOWN

LAXA, SWEDEN—A miracle of healing during a Sunday morning service at the Koppom Filadelfia Pentecostal Church has resulted in the outbreak of a revival in this town.

American evangelist E. Howard Anderson, from Stamford, Connecticut, was ministering in the Filadelfia church when 66-year-old Signe Johansson, completely blind in her left eye for over seven years, was instantly healed.

Mrs. Johansson lost her sight following an operation to remove a tumor. The nature of the tumor necessitated cutting the optic nerve and removing the tear duct.

Already blind in her left eye, Mrs. Johansson was also losing the sight in her right eye.

Following the Sunday morning message, Brother Anderson and Pastor Svensson felt led to pray for Mrs. Johansson's healing.

Sister Johansson testified that when the brethren laid hands on her, "a burning sensation began in my eye. It was like an explosion and a great light appeared

before me. With great joy I realized I had received complete vision in both eyes!

"God must have created a new optic nerve and even a tear duct, as all was now fully normal."

Sister Johansson's husband was not a Christian prior to her healing. But when Pastor Svensson and Brother Anderson visited the home the following day, Mr. Johansson requested prayer for stomach pains he had been suffering. The Lord touched his body and saved his soul there in the home.

Many unsaved members of the community became so stirred by the healing that they began attending Brother Anderson's meetings in this area.

The church here was far too small to accommodate the large crowds. There were many souls saved, many filled with the Holy Spirit, and others healed during this time of revival.

The healing and ensuing revival drew the attention of the Swedish press and was given wide coverage in several newspapers.

## 'Apollo 10' Commander Sends Bible Readings from Space

HOUSTON, TEX.—While on his way to the moon, *Apollo 10* Commander Thomas P. Stafford suddenly recalled that he had forgotten to submit the suggested Scripture reading for the Sunday services at his church here before leaving the earth.

So from 150,000 miles in space he radioed his selections to mission control commentator Joe Engle, a fellow member of the Seabrook Methodist Church, and asked him to pass them along.

"We're kinda out of town for church today," Stafford said, "but tell the congregation hello for me. I think these scriptures might be appropriate."

His four selections from the Bible included Psalm 8, which starts, "O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who has set thy glory above the heavens."

The others, all referring to peace at some point, were Psalm 122, Psalm 128, and Isaiah 2:4.



# ESCAPE TO FREEDOM

By E. S. WILLIAMS

**T**HE EYE of the great bald eagle—naturally so bright as to be able to peer into the face of the noonday sun—had lost its luster. The mighty wings drooped, the proud head bowed. Why? He was a captive in a zoo.

I watched him. Soon he spread his wings, trying to mount to the sunlit heights above. But the meshed wires overhead doomed the effort to hopeless failure, as they had countless times before. Abjectly he returned to the inadequate and barren limb which was his perch. . . .

Once the eagle had flown in the azure blue, had felt the glory of the limitless sky. But he had been snared by a fowler. Now he had become a prey to the whims of man—a captive in hopeless bondage.

The soul of man is like that. *It was created to freedom*—made to soar aloft into the boundless sunshine of divine love and fellowship with God.

Man too was captured. Satan took sin and placed it before the eye of man, as a supposedly satisfying morsel, luring him to his ruin. No sooner was the sin indulged in than man discovered himself ensnared. He could no longer enjoy the delights of God. He had become the servant of sin, the slave of Satan.

Has his bound soul not longed for purer heights, for its place above the pollutions of this evil world, for freedom in the open heaven of purity? Oh, yes, it has. And many a time it has tried its wings, attempting to fly away from its bondage and remorse. Yet always it has fallen back again, conscious that the cords of sin were stronger than all the attempts produced by self-effort and personal desire to be free.

But David testified: "Our soul *is escaped* as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare *is broken*, and we are escaped" (Psalm 124:7).

By what power is the snare broken? How may a sinful and captive man be set free? Divine forgiveness sets us free. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, *and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*" (1 John 1:9). By trusting in Christ you are free from sin's power, for "greater is he that is *in you*, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

What you could not do for yourself, the Lord Jesus—

infinitely strong—will do for you. Relying entirely on Him, stretch the wings of your soul once again!

Another story tells how a poor eagle had been tied for years with a cord to its foot. Out of pity a man purchased it, determined to release it. He loosed the fetter.

At first the bird made no venture to leave its place of bondage. But after a while, the courage of hope stirred in its aching breast. It stretched its wings, found itself free, and with a shriek of delight mounted up to its place in the sun!

Is your soul in bondage today? Once you were pure as the morning dew, but sinful habits and evil companions have put your soul in fetters. You may yet have that freedom to which your heart aspires.

Here are more words of Scripture to make the way plain. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people *from* their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Meditate on this. Jesus does not save His people *in* their sins. What kind of salvation would that be? No, no. He saves them *from—out of—their sins*. Take hope, my friend!

Again, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (John 3:8). "And *deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage*" (Hebrews 2:15). Even if you have been the slave of habit for a long time, the Son of God can deliver you. Believe it, and escape to freedom.

Find a place of prayer. Kneel in the presence of God and pour out your heart to Him. Ask Him to give you the same hatred for sin that He has. Then trust fully in the blood of Christ which was shed on Calvary for *your* benefit. That blood was shed so that you might be free, not only from the *guilt* of your sin, but also from its *power*.