

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

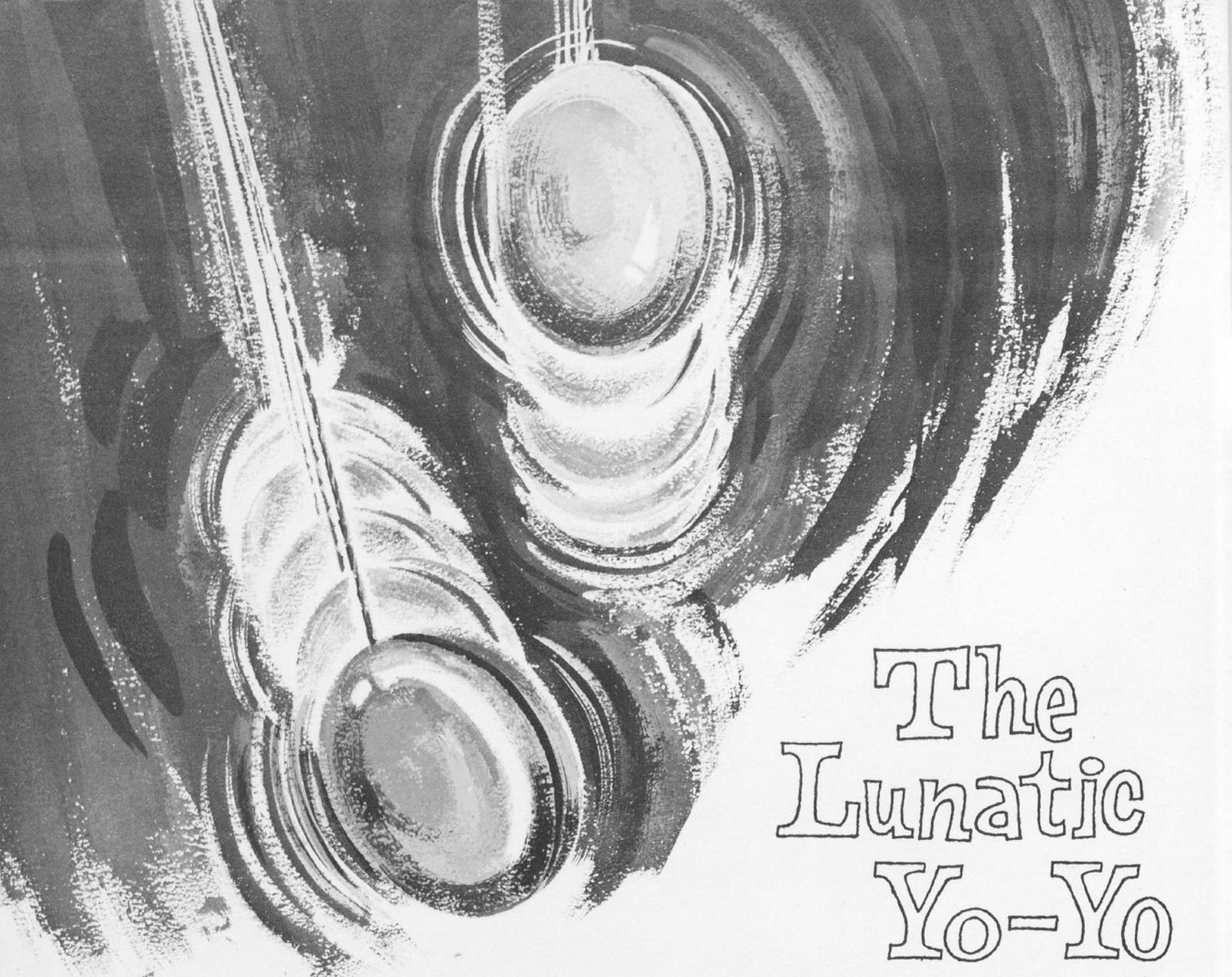
NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD

NOVEMBER 1969      TEN CENTS

INTERNATIONAL EDITION



*Pearson*



# The Lunatic Yo-Yo

or, The Story of the Moon and the Maggot!

By H. W. GREENWAY

**W**HENEVER MAN FINDS HIMSELF in a boastful mood, inflating himself with a sense of his own prestige, it is time to look into the old Book to see what we can learn from the word of the Almighty.

From one of the oldest books in the divine collection, the Book of Job, we have a comment that cuts us down to our true size in the realm of conscious beings.

We can project ourselves to the moon by our scientific and engineering skills, but we are unable to get down to earth where our morals are concerned. All of which points to the fact that life is very much a matter of ups and downs: we exalt ourselves in the realm of conquest, as for instance the enormous press and television coverage of our recent exploits on the moon, and then realize our own insignificance in the realm of created beings.

Quoting the philosophy of Bildad the Shuhite, this book reminds us that the object of worship in the ancient land of Uz could be sullied, and that mortal man himself is

but a mere maggot: "To him the very moon is not unsullied, the very stars are stained! How much more that mere maggot, man?" (Job 25:5, 6, Moffatt).

#### AN APPALLING COMMENTARY

It is an appalling commentary on our pitiful condition that in an age of democratic freedom, when the electorate has increasing command of the policies of government, we legislate for the protection of atheists, anarchists, criminals, and purveyors of moral filth.

The maggot has its home in rotting flesh. The deterioration of man's present moral domicile has about it the stink of death. We are nauseated with the kingdom man has built for himself on earth; we yearn for something cleaner and higher.

Can it be that the astronauts who are so careful to avoid contaminating the shining mistress of the night sky with microbes from earth will in fact spoil its beauty with man's tainted moral character?

## LANDING ON THE MOON

Landing on the moon has become our latest obsession. It is a scientific and technical wonder, an achievement of phenomenal prowess no doubt, but one that provides no answer to the complex needs of the human soul. Indeed, we are reminded that we are consuming enough tranquilizer pills annually to make a chain to the moon. Thus, when we get down to the matter of real life as we live it, we find ourselves in a sorry state of nervous disorientation. Even while groping for the moon we are in antagonism over priority of achievement, fearing that somebody's flag with a different emblem may be found in the Sea of Tranquillity, so that it will become a crimson sea, and fulfill the strange prophetic allusion from the Book of Joel which was quoted by Peter on the Day of Pentecost: "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come."

The glorious aura of success in the space race becomes a blurred halo when we return to mother earth, where the population explosion seems the only justification for our adventures into outer worlds; for here we are, unable to find solutions to the simple problem of living as neighbors. From pressing our imperialistic claims on underdeveloped lands in obscure corners of the world we are desperate to project our authority among the planets, forgetful of the fact that we are producing an electronic nightmare of automation beyond our ability to control, where our genius threatens to be written off by our own powers of self-immolation.

The suicide of our civilization cannot be far away as we create greater and more lethal weapons to make our onetime beautiful domicile and appalling desolation, with nobody left to preserve the memory of our insane behavior.

Paul's indictment of the Roman scene becomes the condemnation of our modern advanced age: "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1:22). Man's "urge to self-destruction," which becomes more evident with his widening horizon of discoveries, is ironically the concomitant of his struggle for self-preservation. Our medical profession kills the germs while we kill each other. Our predicament is complete. Hegel wrote: "What experience and history teach us is this—that people and governments have never learned anything from history, or acted on principles deducted from it." As gods in our achievements, we are yet maggots in the final analysis of time.

## THE CYNICS AND HUMANISTS

The warnings of the prophets are unheeded by the cynics and humanists who seem to have pinned their faith to the luck symbols of our charm-ridden generation. If, as we are told, we are at "the hinge of history," then the very achievements of man may be his final undoing. The greater our accomplishments the nearer we approach the climax of the ages. All of which was foretold by the despised men of God, men who could perceive the signs of the times, whose cries of terror were not the expletives of a dying creed but messages born out of a divine revelation.

The cry, "Flee from the wrath to come," may not be so much the scribbled epithet of a fundamentalist fanatic

as the merciful appeal that precedes the crack of doom.

But how do we flee? Certainly not along the pathway of human endeavor. Our frailty is exposed by our very efforts to escape. Neither the moon nor the earth is the God-ordained habitat of the soul. We belong to a realm of light and life—the kingdom of God. That kingdom is open to those who are "born again." Jesus Christ came into the world to seek and to save that which was lost; He came to bring life to dying men and women; He alone can bring us back into right relationship with God. Arthur Koestler reminds us that "the ancient doctrine of original sin, variants of which occur independently in the mythologies of diverse cultures, could be a reflection of man's awareness of his own inadequacy, of the intuitive hunch that somewhere along the line of his ascent something has gone wrong." Looking at the stars, whether they be of the heavenly or the Hollywood variety, provides little consolation to those of us who struggle to get away from the gravitational pull of our own debased nature. Our do-it-yourself soul therapy leaves us with an agonized sense of utter hopelessness.

We can conquer the moon, but we cannot conquer our own drift to destruction and eternal death: only Christ can do that. There is hope by trusting in Him: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). Salvation is not in the orbit of human achievement but in the compass of a divine redemption.

—*The Elim Evangel, London*

## Double Healing Received When Prayer Is Offered



GOD HEALED ME of heart trouble and also of a tumor which I did not know I had.

I had been receiving medical help for heart disease and shortness of breath. My physician had taken chest X rays to assist him in treating my condition.

When Evangelist William Caldwell came to Calvary Temple in Indianapolis for special meetings, God healed many people and I was one of them. On July 11, 1969, I went forward and requested prayer for my heart. God healed me instantly.

I went back to the doctor for a checkup, and he took additional X rays. Then he told me something strange had taken place. He said the previous X rays had disclosed a tumor on my lung but he had kept the information from me, because he felt I had enough trouble without worrying about this. But now there was no trace of a tumor, he said. The X rays had given proof of a miracle even more wonderful than I had thought. Thank God for His healing power.—Mrs. Susie Cazares, Indianapolis, Ind.

(Endorsed by Pastor William Moorman, Calvary Temple, Indianapolis, Ind.)

## Alive and Growing

BE SURE TO READ the story of AIM in this *Evangel*. AIM stands for Ambassadors in Mission; it is a program in which the Christ's Ambassadors engage in home or foreign missionary work during their summer vacations.

The spreading involvement of our young people in this and other programs of evangelism is one of the most significant developments in the life of our assemblies today. In more ways than one, youth are the growing edge of our Movement. Youth have always been prominent in the Pentecostal revival, for youth want to be where the action is. They demand a spiritual experience that is vibrant and real—they hate anything that is phoney—and they take Christ's "Go ye" seriously. Why don't all of us?

When revival comes to a church, everyone gets involved in evangelism. A church that is alive will grow. A church that is not growing is dying. Its only hope is revival.

Revival means a return to life. It is a spiritual resurrection among God's people. It is a burst of spiritual springtime after a dreary, barren winter.

It is the breath of God falling upon a dormant church, as on a valley full of dry bones, causing the church to awaken to righteousness, marshal its forces, and advance as a mighty army to capture souls for Christ. *O God, send revival everywhere!*

If there is a dearth of soul winning there probably is a dearth of daily prayer, daily Bible study, Spirit-filled worship, and other elements of spiritual life. Where there is no spiritual life there are no spiritual births, for without the presence and power of the Holy Spirit a church cannot grow. When will we realize that every genuine conversion is a work of the Holy Ghost?

We love to read how "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47) but we need to stop and notice what kind of a church this was. It was not formal, cold, or worldly. It was a church of born-again people, separated people, Spirit-filled people. Surely there was none of the careless gossip in that church that keeps people from joining some churches today. There were no petty jealousies, no unkind backbiting in that first Pentecostal Assembly in Jerusalem. Christian love flowed freely from heart to heart, and all were united in a common desire to see souls saved.

Those early Christians had more than a verbal testimony; they had a vibrant life. They did not need to testify, "I was in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost, and was filled with the Holy Ghost." Folk could tell it just by watching the way they lived and listening to the way they talked.

The Bible says, first of all, that these people had gladly received Peter's message on repentance. They had repented from the heart and had been baptized in water. Thus they had made a clear break with their old way of life. No more lying, stealing, or self-centered living for them. They had dedicated their lives to serve the Saviour.

Having been soundly converted and filled with the Holy Ghost, they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship. They chose Christian people for their friends. They assembled for prayer and worship at every opportunity. One meeting a week was not enough for them. They went to God's house *daily*—and in between the meetings their lives reflected a gladness and a singleness of purpose that won the admiration of outsiders. They were alive to God. No wonder that church grew!

—T.C.C.

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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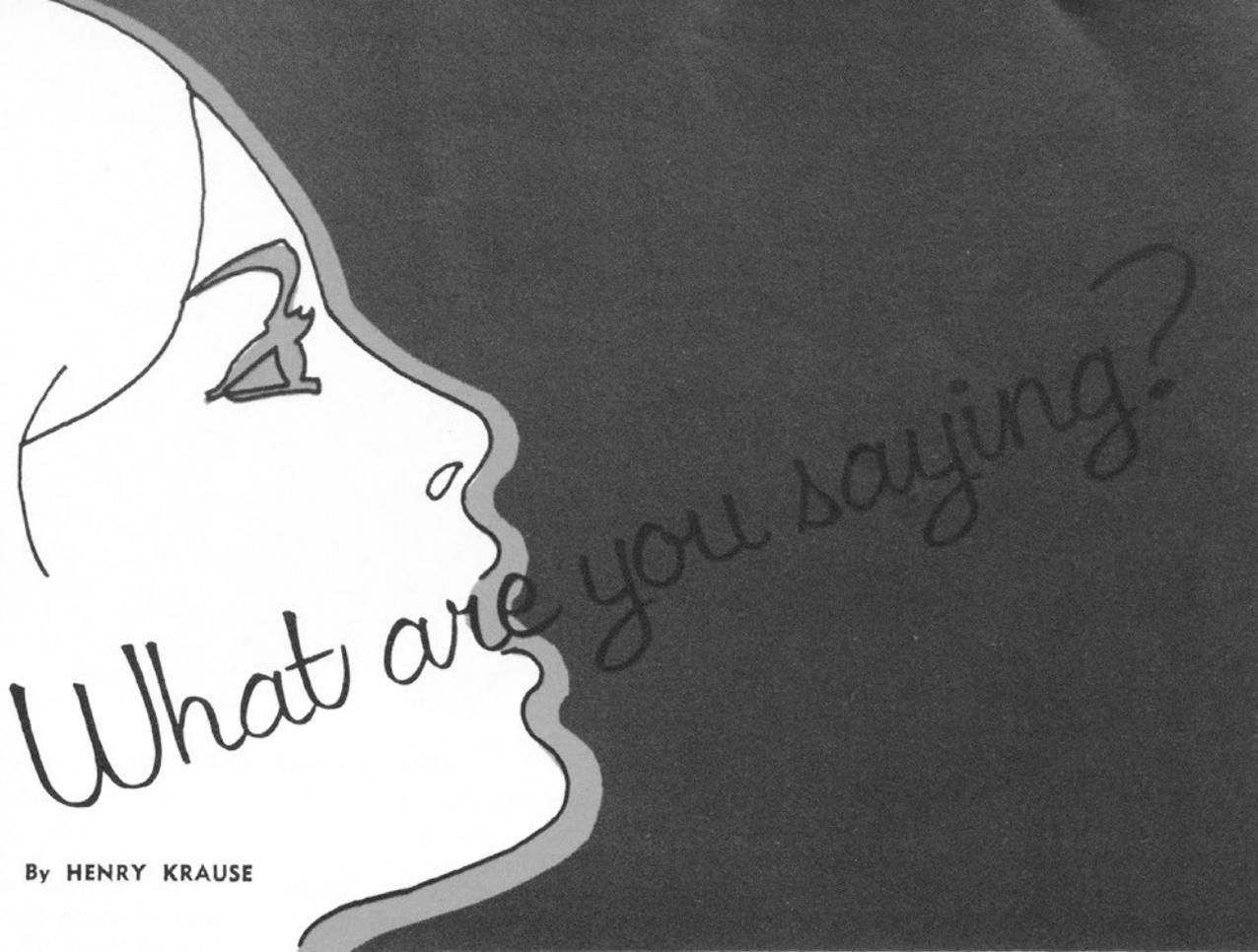
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By HENRY KRAUSE



SOMEONE HAS SAID THAT "what you are speaks so loud that I can't hear what you say." But your words *are* heard, and they tell a great deal about your thoughts, your affections, your character, and your attitude.

In Genesis 1 we read repeatedly that God said, "Let there be...and it was so." His words had creative power, to produce after their kind. Our words are productive too. We cannot call nonexistent matter into being, but what we say can be a force for good or evil, blessing or deception, healing or hurt.

We live on the level of our words and we influence others by what we say. All our understanding, knowledge, and wisdom (or lack of it) are expressed in words. Our words locate us because we speak the product of our minds. It does not take long for our words to reveal what our priorities are, for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil," Jesus said. He whose heart is set only on material gain betrays his affections in his speech as surely as the one whose heart is a cesspool of iniquity.

Likewise, the child of God whose life is lived in His presence finds it harder to keep still about the Lord than he does to tell of His goodness to others. Jeremiah tried to keep still one time, only to find that the Word was like a fire in his bones and he was compelled to speak. What you say about Jesus out of the abundance of a burning heart speaks eloquently to others who need Him too.

That which we speak not only expresses our basic attitude but, if repeated often enough, may even influence that attitude. What our constant associates say can reinforce that attitude as well. If we choose associates who think and talk only of the things of time, then our own

conversation will be in the same vein. But if we seek closest association with those whose hearts are aflame with the eternal fire, their words will produce after their kind in our hearts. Our words and actions are affected by that which is uppermost in our minds. This principle is as sure as the law of gravity.

What kind of words do you say in time of trouble? This is an important key to the depth of the work of God in your life. In his time of trouble Job said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

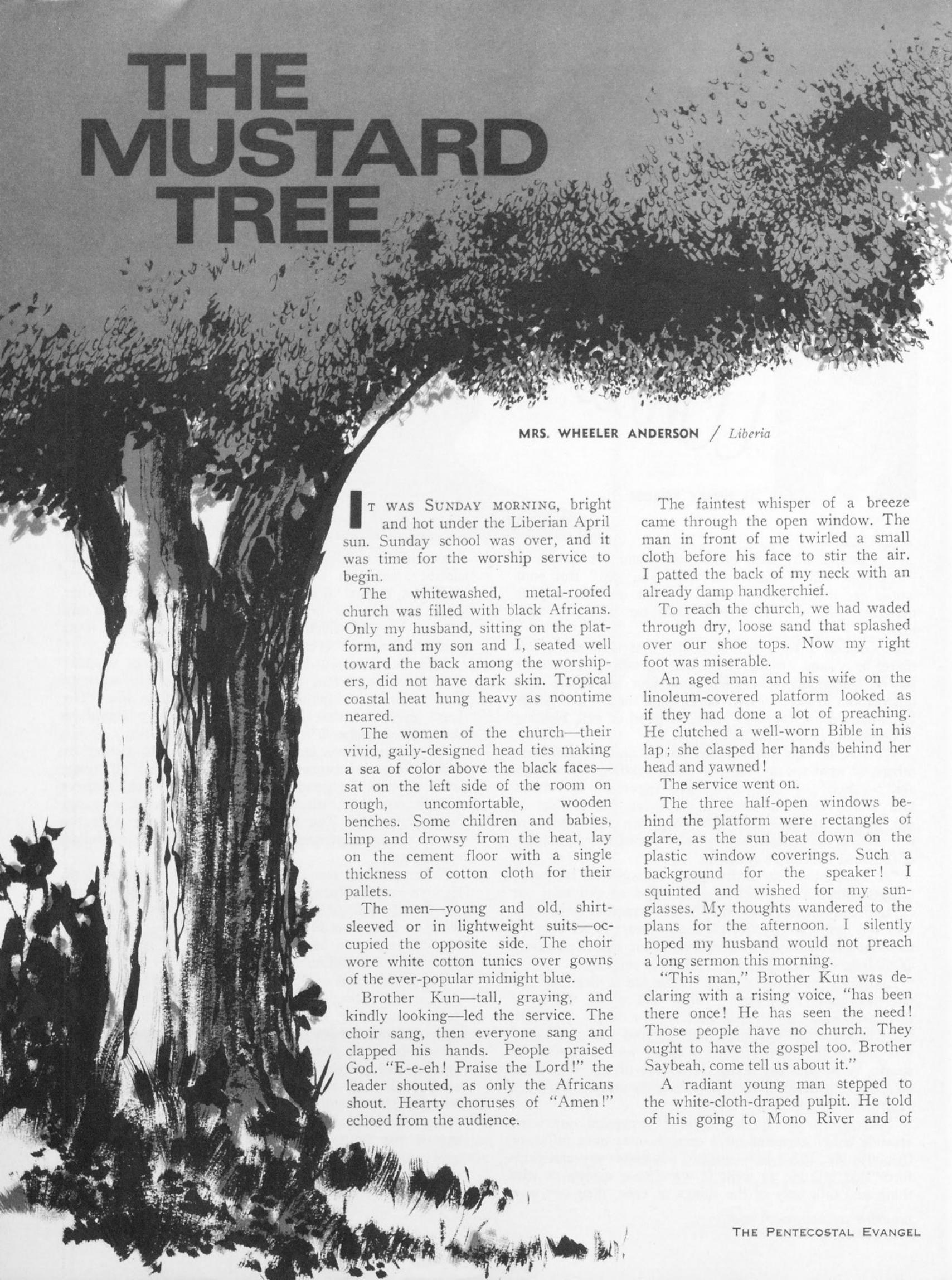
In your trial you can carve out a road to victory by maintaining and expressing the attitude that "all things work together for good to them that love God." Believe and express the truth that "if God be for us, who can be against us?" The truth does not change with the winds of circumstances. You can declare it in fullest confidence.

When you are faced with a seemingly impossible task, let your words affirm, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," even if at first you must whisper those words while on your knees before God in what seems to be abject weakness. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

Keep the words of Scripture on your lips as a bulwark against the enemy. "The words that I speak unto you," Jesus said, "they are spirit and they are life." Repeat them and make them your strength. What you constantly confess becomes your possession. The anointed Word is "quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword." It will outlast all that is mortal, all that is temporal; it will outlast even heaven and earth.

Let the eternal Word dwell in your heart by faith that it may influence all your own words for good and give strength and authority to what you say. Your actions do speak for you, but so do your words. Make your words count for God.

# THE MUSTARD TREE



MRS. WHEELER ANDERSON / Liberia

**I**T WAS SUNDAY MORNING, bright and hot under the Liberian April sun. Sunday school was over, and it was time for the worship service to begin.

The whitewashed, metal-roofed church was filled with black Africans. Only my husband, sitting on the platform, and my son and I, seated well toward the back among the worshippers, did not have dark skin. Tropical coastal heat hung heavy as noontime neared.

The women of the church—their vivid, gaily-designed head ties making a sea of color above the black faces—sat on the left side of the room on rough, uncomfortable, wooden benches. Some children and babies, limp and drowsy from the heat, lay on the cement floor with a single thickness of cotton cloth for their pallets.

The men—young and old, shirt-sleeved or in lightweight suits—occupied the opposite side. The choir wore white cotton tunics over gowns of the ever-popular midnight blue.

Brother Kun—tall, graying, and kindly looking—led the service. The choir sang, then everyone sang and clapped his hands. People praised God. “E-e-eh! Praise the Lord!” the leader shouted, as only the Africans shout. Hearty choruses of “Amen!” echoed from the audience.

The faintest whisper of a breeze came through the open window. The man in front of me twirled a small cloth before his face to stir the air. I patted the back of my neck with an already damp handkerchief.

To reach the church, we had waded through dry, loose sand that splashed over our shoe tops. Now my right foot was miserable.

An aged man and his wife on the linoleum-covered platform looked as if they had done a lot of preaching. He clutched a well-worn Bible in his lap; she clasped her hands behind her head and yawned!

The service went on.

The three half-open windows behind the platform were rectangles of glare, as the sun beat down on the plastic window coverings. Such a background for the speaker! I squinted and wished for my sunglasses. My thoughts wandered to the plans for the afternoon. I silently hoped my husband would not preach a long sermon this morning.

“This man,” Brother Kun was declaring with a rising voice, “has been there once! He has seen the need! Those people have no church. They ought to have the gospel too. Brother Saybeah, come tell us about it.”

A radiant young man stepped to the white-cloth-draped pulpit. He told of his going to Mono River and of

his work among schoolteachers, townspeople, and the many other Muslims. Now he must return to help the people know Christ. Brother Saybeah spoke briefly, yet his eagerness to go where God was calling him came through to his listeners. Brother Kun urged the people to give to send Brother Saybeah back to Mono River.

The pastor's wife rose to her feet and told that Gibson Saybeah was saved in this very church. She told of his graduation from Bible school, his knowing hard places, and his suffering and enduring persecution. When he had answered the call to preach in Mono River, he had stepped out in faith to go.

"Now we must help!" she cried; "we must stand with him. If you don't have money, give a blanket, clothing, food—anything that will help get the gospel to Mono River. We must give so he can go! I shall give Brother

Saybeah's wife a new dress." She returned to her seat.

Old Sister Mary, a deaconess, jumped up and with many gestures zealously called for people to give. She went out the door, returning in a few minutes with a folded African smock which she laid carefully on the altar rail. Others over the congregation stood to promise, to pledge, and to give.

Brother Saybeah watched eagerly, joyously, as the offerings came. A half bag of rice. Two dollars next payday. Five yards of cloth. Clothing for their child.

Suddenly, I sensed something similar to another time and place. Where was I? In a missionary service in California, listening to an appeal for funds so a missionary could go back to Africa.

The "something similar" crystallized, sharp and clear. This was a missionary service all right, like so

many in which my husband and I had been the missionaries. It had the same appeal, the same urgency, and the same call for sacrifice, the same willingness to give, to send, to pray. But this one was not in California; it was here in New Krutown, Liberia.

Then I saw it, as though in a vision—the *mustard tree*. Greatest among herbs, its seed—with a hot, fiery taste—gives of its best when bruised. Birds, attracted to it for both food and shelter, nest in its full branches. Under its shade on one side stands a whitewashed church in Africa; the other side of the tree spreads over a missionary service in America.

Oh, Hallelujah! What a fellowship! What a worldwide fellowship!

The sermon was *not* long. The heat, the glare, the odors were almost forgotten. I did not even mind walking back through the sand. The mustard tree was still growing. What more could a missionary ask? 

**T**HE RED AND WHITE express bus from Seoul was making its usual six-hour run to the city of Choongju in another province. Pak Chongwon, pastor of a Methodist church in Seoul, relaxed for the long ride.

Sometime later his daydreaming was interrupted by a woman praying. She sat across the aisle from him—a baby secure on her back. Then the woman burst forth in an unknown tongue. Young Pastor Pak, believing such manifestations ceased with the days of the apostles, told himself that this must not be of God.

When the minister noticed a big Bible in the lady's basket, the Holy Spirit spoke to his heart. He was an educated minister, but he didn't even carry a small New Testament; this little country woman was not ashamed of her large Bible. She relied on God for protection; he never gave it a thought. She was in contact with her Father; he wasn't.

Suddenly, the country woman walked up to the bus girl and requested to be let off immediately.

"We just had a rest stop a little while ago," was the reply. "Besides, this is an express bus, and we can't stop here."

The woman sat down, but only for a minute. Again she persisted, but again she was refused. The third time that the woman pled with the bus girl, she said, "My God told me that I must get off right now!" This time,

## God Told Her to Get Off the Bus

By JOHN STETZ / Korea

not getting a favorable response, she appealed to the driver, who immediately brought the bus to a stop.

About three minutes later something gave way, and the speeding bus careened and rolled over three times. Screams and moans mingled with weeping. Some passengers were strewn along the way; others were trapped in the wrecked bus.

The Methodist minister was knocked unconscious by the accident. When he regained consciousness, he found himself beside the road unable to move. Feebly he waved at a passing car for help. The driver stopped and took him to a hospital in a nearby city.

During the next three months spent in the hospital, Pastor Pak pondered over the strange events leading to the bus accident. The incident troubled him. Why hadn't God spoken to him, an ordained minister, as He had clearly warned the little uneducated country woman?

Actually he knew why. It was for the same reasons the Spirit had shown him on the bus. He had not relied on God and the Bible. Before he left the hospital, Pastor Pak knew that the accident was providential. He could see the hand of God in it.

The young minister determined to fast and pray until he heard from God. He found a cave in one of the mountains north of Seoul, and four days of every week he went there to earnestly seek God.

A year later God baptized him in the Holy Spirit, and Pastor Pak couldn't stop speaking in tongues. That same day he came down from the mountain to minister in his church that evening. He hailed a taxi and got inside. The power of God was upon him so mightily that he praised God in unknown tongues. The cab driver, thinking him to be crazy or drunk, refused to take him to his destination.

This happened about five years ago. Since then Pastor Pak Chongwon has been used mightily of the Lord. He pastors a Methodist church in Inchon, but has also established a retreat center for ministers and laymen. This center includes living quarters and a lovely tabernacle seating 2,000. Ministers from all over Korea come for the special camp meetings, and the tabernacle is usually filled. Some of our Assemblies of God pastors have invited Pastor Pak for special meetings. This is just one example of how God is moving in Korea in these last days. 

**T**HIS HAS BEEN YOUR MONTH FOR GOD and God's month for you." With these words from Norman Correll, national secretary of the Christ's Ambassadors Department, the debriefing session for 1969 Ambassadors in Mission (AIM) participants began.

Among the dozens of young Americans present there was an electrifying atmosphere that seemed to say, "We have been with God." Their spirit was contagious as stories unfolded and comments came in answer to the questions of a panel.

With eloquence and fervor they spoke of the things that had happened to them. They expressed a common joy at seeing people won to Christ and their lives changed. For many, the first soul they had ever won was outside of the United States.

This head-on confrontation with satanic power had a dramatic effect upon these AIMers. In the midst of spiritual conflict they began to pray earnestly for one another, to read their Bibles more intensely, and to share burdens and testimonies. This produced a teamwork and closeness that not only empowered them for the battle but reduced interpersonal tensions and welded them together. As a team they conquered their fears and won incredible victories.

A new appreciation for our missionaries grew in the hearts of the AIMers as they worked with them. Neva Branstetter declared: "Our missionaries were really great. Our team was not complete without them." Leroy Eichman, counselor and supervisor for one of the teams, stated: "I think this is probably one of the most tremendous programs we have ever come up with. As a pastor, I have a new burden for missionaries." And from Diana Hill: "I can't explain the love I have for our missionaries. My heart goes out to them. They are doing a great work."

The spirit of these young people was equally contagious in their overseas work. Dave Grant reported that the Kingston, Jamaica, church had its own AIM program in operation. Reporting on Nicaragua, Jim McCorkle stated that as the nationals trained in the month prior to the coming of the team, a converted murderer and former convict had become enthused and had won 20 souls before the AIMers arrived!

In addition to the fellowship and love developed for each other and for missionaries during this shared spiritual battle, AIMers evidenced an increased concern for other people. Holly Johnson and Tom Veline expressed their new concern well. "I'm going to go back and urge my CA's to stay on fire for the Lord," Holly declared. "I've also grown closer to my parents through this experience."

Part of the 300 AIMers who participated in this year's witnessing.



Port city of Kingston, Jamaica, one of the cities where an AIM team worked.

# AIM - THE COMM

300 CA'S REPORT OVER 5,500 CONVERSIONS

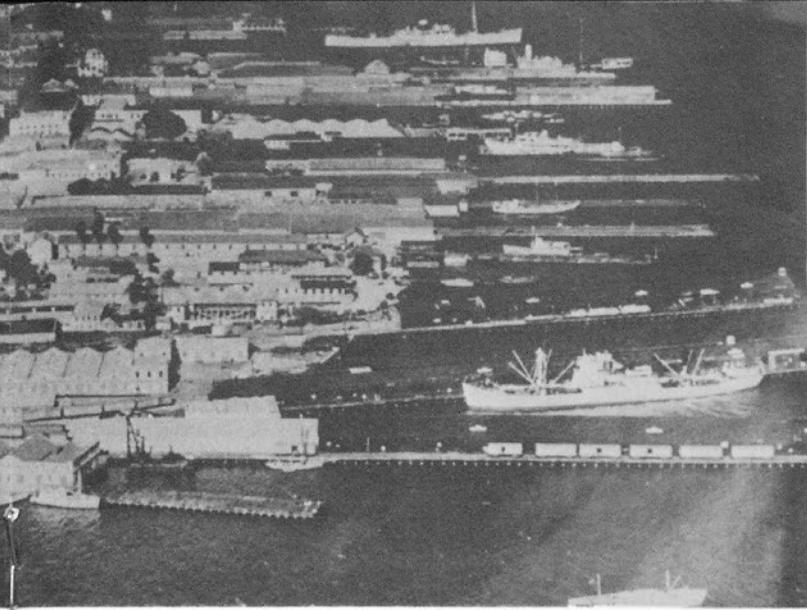
"When I go back to my CA's, I'm going to encourage my group to get involved in a local witnessing program because this has certainly changed my life," Tom said.

These were now members of a committed generation—committed to help the youth of their hometowns to do the will of God.

These young people came back as veterans of the spiritual warfare. This was a time of discovery about themselves and God as He honored His Word and confirmed it through their efforts. Counselor Jim McCorkle, in relating the miracles that accompanied their efforts, stated, "We sensed a keen presence of the enemy . . . but God was very real."

One participant reported a decision by a lady contemplating suicide. Christ so changed her life that she later went out with a team to win others. Numerous other incidents of new converts joining in the witnessing effort were related. The personal enrichment experienced was expressed by Tom Veline when he said, "This was just what I needed." Carol Tucker admitted, "Before I went to Jamaica I didn't really know what faith was." A direct local benefit was expressed by Clifford Post who stated that as a result of AIM "we made the dedication that we would carry the gospel to our own hometowns."

AIM was involved in follow-up work as well as witnessing. Handout literature was provided, plus Bible study courses for new converts. According to Brenton Osgood, national AIM representative, "In Wismar, Guyana, they had to do all the follow-up visits themselves. They were making between 15 and 20 follow-up visits per day. In the three areas of witness in Guyana, people were at home and receptive when the time came for the follow-up visits. If they were not at home, they sent or left word as to when they would be back. They had all their questions filled out on the home study course, read their material, and had their Bibles underlined. The team members came back from the follow-up visits twice as excited as



worked.

# COMMITTED GENERATION

By GAYLE D. ERWIN / Editor, "CA Herald"

they did from the decision, because they could see the change that had taken place in people's lives."

Why did they go? For many it was the fulfillment of a whetted appetite. Here is Karen Norton's response to the question of what prompted her to become involved in AIM: "The Holy Spirit had been dealing with me, and I had to participate in AIM. I had a hunger to learn about Christ and His ways, and the Holy Spirit has really taught me this summer."

Marta Hagberg has a unique connection with AIM which she relates: "I'm a member of a home missions church which AIM has helped. Almost the whole congregation is the result of an AIM effort. It will really be nice to go home and tell them that the same thing works overseas."

How do they feel now about the land they visited?

*Rosemary Boggs:* "I want to go back—I would if I could. That's where my heart is now. We cried for two days—I'm still crying inside."

*Charlotte Sylvester:* "I feel like Jamaica is my home."

*Elaine Goings:* "We didn't want to come back."

LEFT: Writers and editors listen attentively during an AIM debriefing session at headquarters in Springfield, Mo. RIGHT: One of the AIM team tells of his experiences in witnessing.



*Stan Owen:* "Going on an outreach like this really gets hold of your heart—you realize that God is *really something.*"

*Bill Garrison:* "God has burdened my heart to go back as a missionary."

*Vicki Walters:* "I have never before felt God so close to me."

*Teri Myers:* "The harvest was so great and souls were so plentiful—they just wanted you to tell them about Jesus. I treasure this experience. We can be dynamite in our churches if we go home with this experience and become a blessing."

*Joe Contreras:* "We are going to have to get the team spirit in operation on the home front because that is what kept us going in Nicaragua."

Statistically, the AIM activities of the summer of 1969 resulted in more than 5,500 decisions for Christ out of approximately 14,000 homes visited. Home study courses received exceeded 4,000. Over 300 CA's were involved.

Sponsored by the National Christ's Ambassadors De-



Main thoroughfare of Panama City, Panama.

partment AIM is assisted by the Foreign Missions Department in missionary contacts, by the Men's Fellowship in supplying Light-for-the-Lost literature, by the WMC's in providing food for team members, and by Mobilization and Placement Service in providing interdepartmental coordination.

District-sponsored AIM programs are occurring with increasing frequency within the United States. Applications for the 1970 overseas AIM program are now being accepted by the National Christ's Ambassadors Department.



# 'They Call It A Miracle'



**W**ITH FLASHING LIGHTS AND WAILING siren the ambulance roared from the crumpled aircraft. Every second counted in its race to save the mangled pilot's life.

Fortunately they reached the hospital in time. And after several hours of emergency treatment, the seriously injured pilot slept under the watchful care of competent nurses.

One of those shaken by the newscast of Larry Fix's crash was a friend who had known him for years, Mrs. Agnes Ringrose, of Claresholm, Alberta, Canada. She called the nearby hospital: "Are visitors allowed?... No? Well, how soon?... Thank you, I'll call again in a few days."

The newscast on the kitchen radio ended, and the familiar *Revivaltime* broadcast came on the air. Mrs. Ringrose had tuned in to hear radio preacher C. M. Ward, but the shock of hearing about her friend's accident almost caused her to forget her favorite radio program.

Returning to the kitchen from the hall telephone, she heard Brother Ward say:

"Folk, I must remind you that there is so little time left in which to get your prayer requests here, if your needs are going to be included in this year's World Prayermeeting. *This is such an important matter to you that you shouldn't delay one more day.* There are answers for you that God will be pleased to send your way this year. Every week *answers* are reported to us. You can have answers as well!

"We print your prayer requests into many, many hundreds of copies. They are mailed to the *Revivaltime* network of prayer meetings, organized for this occasion once a year, wherever this service reaches—and that means from Okinawa in the far Pacific to Nigeria in West Africa. It's a big, big task, but God is pleased to give us big, big results.

"So your prayer list must be in our hands well before

the actual prayer meeting hour. This is what to do: Write out your requests. Make them brief and easy-to-read. Place this address on your envelope—*Revivaltime*, Springfield, Missouri."

Without waiting another moment, Mrs. Ringrose took paper and pen from a drawer and wrote a prayer request on behalf of Larry Fix, the injured pilot.

Two months later when she again wrote *Revivaltime*, this was her message:

"I sent in a request to the large prayer meeting for Larry Fix, who was injured very badly in a plane crash. I am glad to tell you that Larry was able to leave the hospital before Christmas. The doctors and nurses said it is a miracle. I praise God for hearing



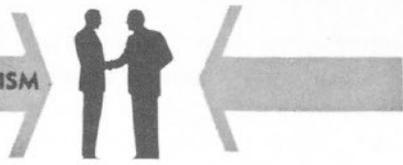
**SCRIPTURES  
TO LIVE BY**

**DAILY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER 3-9**

Theme of the Week: **FORGIVE AND FORGET**

Mon. .... Genesis 50:15-21	Thurs. .... Mark 3:20-30
Tues. .... Psalm 32:1-11	Fri. .... Mark 11:20-26
Wed. .. Matthew 18:21-35	Sat. .... Luke 17:1-4
Sun. .... Ephesians 4:25-32	

"And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).



**G**OD USES MORE THAN ONE INSTRUMENT in the important matter of bringing a person to salvation. Who can say just which person is responsible for leading someone ultimately to Christ?

The important thing is for each of us to be in the place where God can use us—to do the part He wants us to do in winning a soul.

Mary Flynn is that kind of a person. One couldn't say that she actually led Pam to the Lord, although she witnessed to her and took an interest in her. But Mary did invite Pam to a home Bible study, and it was there that Pam accepted Christ.

Pam had dropped out of high school during her senior year. She had been a good student but became confused and discouraged by problems caused by her father's drinking. She began to hang around with the wrong crowd and went astray.

At this point she was referred to Mary who was a sponsor of an organization for children of alcoholics. She started taking Pam to those meetings, and the young girl seemed to respond. Then she invited her to the home Bible study. After attending for seven months Pam made a definite commitment to Christ. Her life was changed.

Not long after that Mary took her to a full gospel service. There Pam was baptized in the Holy Spirit.

She went back to high school and graduated. Later she married a young man she had met in the Bible study group. They are a dedicated couple, using every opportunity to win others to the Lord. Her husband recently led to the Lord a university student who had attempted suicide. Now this young man is also Spirit-filled.

# Mary Did Her Part

By ANNE SANDBERG

Mary's influence has touched others too. There was Louise, her longtime friend. Mary witnessed to her and brought her to a home Bible study where she accepted Christ. That didn't immediately solve all of Louise's problems, however. For Mary there were many discouraging moments. She spent a great deal of time trying to help Louise, both in her home and over the phone. Then Louise brought her husband to the Bible study group; and after a time he also was saved. Now both Louise and her husband are Spirit-filled and so zealous that they have started a Bible study in their own neighborhood and are leading others to Christ.

And there is Anna. Her daughter was a schoolmate of Mary's. The daughter came to the Bible study once and never returned. But Anna came too. At first she was confused by it. After attending a few services and listening to many explanations, she was saved. Later she was also healed and received the Baptism.

There were others too. Mary wouldn't claim the credit for leading them to the Lord. But Mary was always there when the Lord had a specific work for her to do—and she did her part. She was one of several instruments the Lord chose to use. One plants; another waters—and someone must do the harvesting. But it is God who gives the increase. 

and answering prayer for him. Thank you all for praying."

From another section of the Western Hemisphere—Guyana, South America—Dorcas Spencer wrote on behalf of a friend facing death from childbirth complications. Two months later she also could report victory:

"I requested prayer for a friend. They operated on her on November 14 and delivered the baby. The doctors said no man on this earth could have saved the mother or the baby's life. Thanks to all of God's people who were praying for them, on January 9 the baby was eight weeks old and is a normal child, weighing 10 pounds. They call it a miracle. I do thank the Lord for answering prayer."

God's answers also came to Brendamac Burrows who lives at Little Creek Andros, Bahamas, West Indies. She testifies:

"Let me again thank you for *Revivaltime*. During the 1968 intercessory prayer meetings, you placed my unsaved family before the Lord at the *Revivaltime* altar. A few months ago two cousins and friends were won to the Lord. About two days ago one of my sisters was saved."

Once again the world fellowship of *Revivaltime* listeners is being called to prayer. This year's anchor prayer service will be conducted in Evangelistic Temple

in Houston, Texas, on Sunday, November 23.

In addition to the anchor service, hundreds of prayer groups will be meeting all over the globe to intercede for the thousands of needs received by *Revivaltime*. The results will be amazing. We can say this with a confidence that comes through a decade blessed with an unending flow of testimonies to answered prayer.

This year's theme is from 1 John 5:15—"We know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." These words are attractively inscribed on permanent plastic Bible markers. Designed in full-color, these Bible markers are available without cost to all who participate in the World Prayermeeting.

Since intercessory prayer is in complete harmony with the aims of the Women's Missionary Council and the Men's Fellowship, these two departments give their full cooperation in promoting maximum participation in this annual prayer effort.

The testimonies arriving at *Revivaltime* give ample evidence that the day of miracles is still with us. God still answers the petitions of His people, but He chooses to do so in concert with their prayers of intercession.

Great results await those intercessors who will carry the petitions of others into the throne room of the Highest during this year's World Prayermeeting. Will you be counted in their number? 



# Hezekiah, a Praying King

Sunday School Lesson for November 9, 1969

By J. BASHFORD BISHOP

2 KINGS 19:21, 35, 36

"CALL UNTO ME, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not"—such is God's invitation to His people. Hezekiah, in a time of great national crisis, accepted this challenge and saw the Lord deliver his nation in a manner which must have far exceeded his fondest imaginings.

## HEZEKIAH'S TRIALS

1. *A ruthless oppressor* (2 Kings 18:13-16). Sennacherib, king of Assyria, invaded Judah and forced Hezekiah to pay tribute.
2. *A crafty diplomat* (2 Kings 18:17-37). Not content with tribute, Sennacherib sent an army against Judah, under the leadership of Rabshakeh, to demand the surrender of Jerusalem. Standing near the walls of the city, well within the hearing of the people, Rabshakeh made a clever and blasphemous speech in which he sought to undermine the people's faith in their king and their God.
3. *A source of confidence*. "What confidence is this

wherein thou trustest?" (v. 19). This question, put to Israel by Rabshakeh, is a good one for our nation to consider. In what are we trusting? Stong army, navy, air force? powerful allies? treaties? great statesmen and generals? These are frail supports! God determines the destiny of nations. Only the nation that trusts God can stand.

But Rabshakeh's question must be faced by the individual as well as by the nation. When trial, danger, and death are imminent, where is our confidence? Is it in our strength? reputation? income? friends? Personal trust in God alone is what makes character strong and lifts one above the changes and chances of the world!

4. *The devil's devices* (2 Kings 18:22-37). Rabshakeh's speech is typical of the manner in which Satan seeks to lead men into compromise and sin: (1) he pretends to be doing God's work (vv. 22, 25); (2) he makes light of trust in God (vv. 33-35); (3) he makes false promises and offers rewards (vv. 31, 32). "But the people held their peace and answered him not"—and that is one way to defeat the devil! ((See Ephesians 4:27.)

## HEZEKIAH'S TRIUMPH

1. *A praying king* (2 Kings 19:1 19). When Hezekiah was informed of Rabshakeh's speech, he went immediately to the house of the Lord and sent a message to the prophet Isaiah, asking his prayers on behalf of the nation. Following this he received another letter from the king of Assyria in which Sennacherib daringly declared himself greater than God!

"And when Hezekiah received the letter . . . and read it . . . he went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord. And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord."

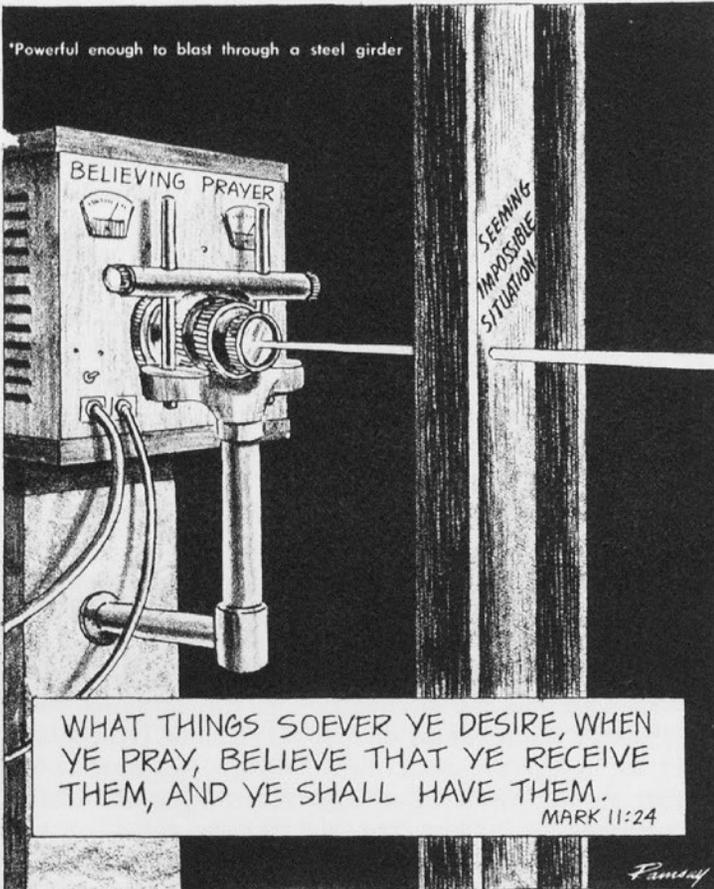
2. *The need for soul travail*. Hezekiah's appeal to Isaiah began with significant words: "The children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth." Hezekiah likened the condition of the nation to that of a woman in labor who has not strength to bring forth her child. One successful blow at the enemy, and the nation would be brought forth into freedom. But there was not strength for that deliverance. What did Hezekiah do? He not only enlisted the intercession of others, but gave himself to intense, agonizing prayer.

Hezekiah's statement explains situations today. Why is it that sinners can sit unmoved in the house of God; that so many people bound by sickness, demons, evil habits are not delivered; that there is so little of the real manifestation of the Spirit? Is it not because there is a lack of that intercessory soul-travail which is absolutely necessary to bring about such spiritual deliverances?

3. *An encouraging prophet* (2 Kings 19:20-34). "Then Isaiah . . . sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord . . . , That which thou has prayed to me against Sennacherib . . . I have heard." Hezekiah's intercession was effective! Isaiah predicted: (1) the recovery and renewed cultivation of the long-neglected land (v. 29); (2) the deliverance of the people from Assyria without bloodshed (v. 32); (3) the death of Sennacherib (v. 7).

4. *An avenging God* (2 Kings 19:35). Isaiah's predictions were fulfilled to the letter. God sent an angel into the camp of Assyria and slew 185,000 men! Sennacherib fled to his own land without lifting a finger against Jerusalem. The man who defied God was murdered by his own sons.

## LASER BEAM\*



THE CHRISTIAN MUST NEITHER INSULT GOD BY DESPISING HIS GIFTS NOR OFFEND HIM BY WASTING THEM.



## THE BALANCE WHEEL OF TEMPERANCE

By JOHN EVERETT / Pastor, Assembly of God, Worthington, Minnesota

**O**NE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WORDS in the Christian's vocabulary should be *balance*. *Extremism never complements the cause of Christ.*

Balance, however, is one of the most difficult attainments in Christian discipleship.

God has provided a balance wheel for our lives through a fruit of the Spirit. The apostle Paul concluded the list of the fruit with "temperance: against such there is no law" (Ephesians 5:23). J. B. Phillips translates it "tolerance and self-control."

Without order and control the universe would be in chaos. Without temperance in a person's life all other virtues can dissipate and become useless.

Man must treat himself as a force that needs to be controlled. His energies, emotions, and appetites may be very natural, but they need restraint and direction. Embedded within the structure of every man and woman are physical appetites that need restraint: eating, drinking, and other activities of the body.

There are mental appetites that must be controlled. History records the excesses to which mental appetites have carried men. The Bonapartes, Caesars, Hitlers, Khrushchevs, and others possessed with an appetite for fame, glory, and power never learned self-control.

The question is often raised why man was created with such powerful potentials for self-destruction. Paradoxically, many of the things which make men extremely wicked could, if controlled, make them truly great. True stature is achieved through great struggles, great resistances, great victories over the flesh and Satan.

We cannot, and do not, live life alone. Society interweaves one with another as threads in a cloth. We cannot help influencing others and being influenced by them. We have the capacity to impart pleasure and make others happy, or to impart pain and make them wretched. What an obligation the Christian has to keep these powerful influences under control!

Temperance, or self-control, is the only thing which can govern the whole man. Civil law may control the actions but it is helpless to control the emotions. A thief may be locked up, but the desire to steal still remains.

What is temperance? Basically, it is self-mastery, which is the very foundation of character. The ability to resist

every force or pressure without being swept away by it is highly desirable.

Temperance includes self-reverence, a proper appreciation of our body as the creation of God.

It includes self-knowledge, highly essential to balanced living. Every man must know what he can do and what he must avoid.

Self-control has two areas. There is *self-denial*: that ability to pass through the world and not be contaminated by it. There is *self-restraint*: the ability to use those things of the world that are lawful without coming into bondage to them. Self-control keeps the Christian from being too lifted up by success or too cast down by failure.

Temperance is not moderation in sin! It is total abstinence from sin. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world" (Titus 2:11, 12).

Temperance in food is moderation; in drink, soberness; in actions, modesty; in success, humility; in defeat, hopefulness; in desire, self-restraint; in pleasure, self-denial. The Christian must neither insult God by despising His gifts nor offend Him by wasting them.

Temperance is called a fruit of the Spirit because it must come from the heart—and the only thing that can change the heart is divine grace. The Holy Spirit, applying the truth of God's Word to the human heart, produces a strong counteracting influence to evil. Paul wrote, "They that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh: but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit" (Romans 8:5).

The balance wheel of temperance delivers the Christian believer from the curse of sin and from its reigning power. The inferior powers of human nature are brought under the higher faculties of the Holy Spirit. Paul described it as "the glorious liberty of the children of God." Those who worship the goddess of sensual pleasure shall be destroyed by her; but those who allow the fruit of temperance to grow and abound in their lives shall know life in its fullness here and endless glories in the ages to come.

Such a Christ-centered, scripturally balanced life is a marvel and a testimony to the unconverted—and a sweet-smelling fragrance to our Heavenly Father. 

# YOUR QUESTIONS

## ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS



*Why were the children of Israel commanded to put blood on the doorposts to distinguish them from the Egyptians? (Exodus 12). Did not God already know the difference?*

The Bible says, "Without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22). The blood of the paschal lamb became a sin offering. The application of the blood upon the doorposts was a symbol of appropriation for the household. This "covering" brought protection and deliverance to the Israelites who had faith in the atoning value of the lamb, while the Egyptians who did not sprinkle their doorposts suffered judgment.

*Among those who testified against Jesus at His trial were those who quoted Him as saying, "Destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands" (Mark 14:58). They were called false witnesses. But did not Jesus say this according to John 2:19?*

Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Verse 21 makes His meaning clear, "He spake of the temple of his body." They were false witnesses because they added to and misstated what Jesus had said. Thus they turned what was true into a lie.

We need to be careful lest we misstate truth, or falsify it to any degree, for emphasis.

*Is there any hope of salvation for persons who have given themselves over to depraved lusts such as are mentioned in Romans 1:26, 27?*

We may well believe that such depravity was practiced in the time of Jesus, but He said to all, "Come unto me." And 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10 indicates that some in the church at Corinth may have been saved from such sins: "and such were some of you" (v. 11).

But the record in Romans 1:18-32 revealed this difference: they *loved* the way of corruption. Where there is true repentance and turning from sin, salvation is possible, since the Bible says that "whosoever will" may come to the Lord.

*I am 80 years old, married to a fine Christian woman. From my boyhood I have lived a wicked life. Now I want to be saved, but I can only think of what a wretched failure I have been. Can you help me?*

There may be plenty of reasons for regret, but regret never saves a soul. Your hope is to be found in Christ who gave Himself a ransom and paid the awful penalty for all your sins.

Your desire to be saved is the work of the Holy Spirit. You have God's promise, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17). Jesus gives the assurance, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). Your hope lies in Christ. You may enjoy full redemption through the loving kindness of God. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

*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.*

IN JULY 1, 1968, A PARTY OF FIVE including my 13-year-old son Robbie and I, climbed Fisher Peak on the eastern edge of the Canadian Rockies.

The ascent took us up a steep creek bed, over boulders, and across a snowfield. We inched our way up a steep slope of clay and shale to the top of the 9,336-foot peak.

Roped together we cautiously made our way up the last ridge toward the summit, choosing each handhold with care. Finally we reached the narrow pinnacle of rock that was our objective.

As I stood viewing the series of peaks stretching to

## Healing Proved By Climbing A Mountain

A Personal Testimony by S. J. SMITH

the horizon, I felt praise for God spring from the depths of my being. I had very special reasons for feeling that way.

I remembered the words of a bone specialist who had advised me several years before to have my right kneecap removed. He said a delay of a few months would result in an arthritic condition.

One Sunday morning shortly after this, a few believers lingered in church after the service and prayed for their pastor. In that instant I felt as though my kneecap had been massaged by a warm hand. All pain left and strength returned. The long, hard climb up the mountain proved the healing was genuine.

While standing on that mountain peak I also recalled that only two years before I had been suffering from another serious health problem.

The church we were pastoring was engaged in a building program, and as I was employed secularly, I overtaxed my strength. I became ill, and waves of vertigo and nausea would sweep over me until I was unable to stand. For several weeks I lay in bed, wondering if I would ever be able to preach again.

Then one evening, as our faithful little congregation was praying in the church next door to the parsonage, I felt the power of God touch my body. From that hour I began to mend.

As I viewed the surrounding mountains and the steep slopes we had just climbed, I thanked God for His healing power. Here was positive proof not only that He had healed my knee but also that He had restored my sense of balance.

Today I can say with the Psalmist, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits . . . who healeth all my diseases" (Psalm 103:3).

S. J. Smith has served as pastor of several British Columbia churches affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. He is presently engaged in probation work in the provincial corrective system.

# Evangelical NEWS Digest

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

## Scientific Knowledge, Christian Faith Compatible

### RECONCILIATION OF SCIENCE, SCRIPTURE PRESENTS NO PROBLEM AT ASA CONVENTION

WENHAM, MASS.—“Christians need not fear that science will find anything in space that will disagree with the Bible,” Dr. Rodney Johnson, NASA program director of space flights, told scientists gathered here for the 24th annual convention of the American Scientific Affiliation.

Dr. Johnson declared that the Word of truth will be challenged but will measure up to anything science may find.

“The important question is whether we, the Christian man of science, will measure up to the challenge,” he concluded.

Dr. Johnson's remarks prefaced the showing of the NASA films

of the *Apollo 8* and *11* flights.

The American Scientific Affiliation is composed of men and women who have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour as well as a commitment to a scientific understanding of the world.

It is their belief that the frameworks of scientific knowledge and evangelical Christian faith are compatible.

Many of the current major social problems such as poverty, civil disobedience, mental illness, and war were discussed during the convention.

A workshop on science and religion conducted for high school

teachers dealt with such topics as: Is there life on other planets? Religious questions in the science classroom: Can a Christian accept a mechanistic origin of life? and, How should scientists handle Biblical data?

Each topic was expounded from soundly evangelical and scientific positions.

A unique aspect of this meeting included testimonies of men of God whose similar dedication to science has often brought them to the forefront of scientific achievement.

Some 1,600 scientists in the U.S. and abroad hold membership in the ASA.

### Christian pavilion at Expo '70 Draws criticism from churchmen

OSAKA, JAPAN—A joint effort of Protestant and Roman Catholic churches of Japan to sponsor a Christian pavilion at the world exposition scheduled to open here next spring has drawn stiff opposition from progressive elements in the United Church of Christ in Japan, the largest Protestant body in the nation.

The first major Protestant-Catholic project to be attempted here is viewed by supporters as a milestone in the history of Christianity in this predominantly Buddhist and Shintoist country.

Critics, however, maintain the

Osaka exposition is intended to divert public attention from the renewal or extension of the United States-Japan Mutual Security Treaty which comes up for review in June 1970.

They also assert that a display of prosperity in the exposition runs contrary to the spirit of evangelism, and that funds used for constructing the pavilion ought to be used for other causes instead.

Planners of the pavilion say it will fill a “holy vacuum” in the

midst of festive gaiety at Expo '70, and stressed that it is the special mission of the Christians in Japan to bear witness to values otherwise overlooked in the exposition.

### Congo's five-year plan to double church membership

KINSHASA, CONGO—Leaders of the Congo's one million Protestants have pledged themselves to double their numbers through a five-year plan of evangelism.

The decision was made by representatives of 34 Congo denominations as they met here at the call of the Congo Protestant

## New Swedish Temperance Policy

### Company exuberant Over successful Cutback in sales

STOCKHOLM—A company here is making an active attempt to cut down its sales, and happily brags that it is succeeding.

This unusual effort is part of an official temperance policy to change the drinking habits of the Swedes and stem the use of alcohol among youth.

*Nya Systembolaget*, the state-owned monopoly that runs all retail outlets for spirits, wines, and strong beers is happy because its liquor sales dropped sharply in 1968.

“Even we, whose cash registers suffered, think that's wonderful,” one of their ads stated.

Drunkenness and alcoholism are among the greatest social problems in the country. Heavy drinking is commonly referred to as a national disease.

Council's General Assembly.

The new evangelism plan approved by the delegates emphasizes revival in the churches with lay witnessess. It also proposes the establishment of provincial offices of evangelism to translate and print essential literature and encourage the local congregations.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—F. C. Aldridge, president of the Gideons International, recently presented the 20-millionth Service Testament to Vice-President Spiro Agnew.

The Gideons have presented copies of the New Testament to members of the U.S. armed forces since the beginning of World War II.

The Vice-President is Deputy Commander-in-Chief of all U.S. Armed Forces, second to the President. (RNS photo)



# THE BIGGEST SWINDLE HE EVER PULLED

By **JAMES McCLAIN**

*Assistant Pastor, Calvary Temple,  
West Palm Beach, Florida*

**T**O A PERSON WHO HAS NEVER KNOWN GOD or witnessed His miracle-working power, Pentecostals are idealists, always expecting something to happen that never will.

This was Vincent's belief until a few months ago when God led him to our church.

Vincent had swindled wealthy people all over the world. Although he had been reared in a strict Italian-Catholic home, he had lost faith in his church and in man, thinking that every man had his price. He had gotten involved with criminals, with judges, with the police, with the wealthy. Each man presented a new challenge. As Vincent later explained, "The wealthier and more cunning the man, the more I was determined to beat him at his own game."

God began to deal with him, and through a series of events he was led to Florida. One Sunday morning he came to Calvary Temple, expecting to talk to the pastor after the services were over. He felt he had to find peace with God.

When the altar call was given, he came forward with one of the men of our church. I will never forget the dignity with which he came. It was like the signing of an important contract. There were tears in his eyes as he prayed, "God, be merciful to me a sinner."

As the weeks passed, we spent many hours together praying and discussing the Scriptures. Problems had to

be solved, mistakes corrected. One day Vinny came to me. "Pastor," he said, "I have paid back \$11,000 this week to people I have swindled."

Then there was a court appearance. He had been arrested for grand larceny. Fourteen counts could have been charged against him. The day before he was to appear in court, we prayed God's will might be done. He said he didn't want Pastor Glenn Horst or me to appear in court with him. He felt this would be using the church dishonestly. He wanted to stand alone.

Only one count was charged against him, and it has weakened. We are praying for it to be dropped too.

The heart that was once hardened against man softened. Then he began to find the peace he had searched for. As we discussed the problems of others, I would see his eyes fill with tears of compassion. "I don't know what you people are doing to me," he said, "but I can't keep from crying when I see others suffer now."

He lost his desire for wealth. The worldly lust was gone.

God healed him of a severe back ailment, and healed his son's eyes too. His children, his wife, and his mother have been won to Christ and are to be baptized soon. Things he believed impossible are happening to Vincent.

One thing was bothering him. How was he going to explain to his friends what had happened? He wanted to tell all of them.

A few weeks ago he had an opportunity. A former compatriot in dishonest practices visited him. As they discussed their previous plans to carry through a foreign gift exchange swindle, he prayed that God would give him the opportunity to witness. Suddenly the friend said, "Vinny, I don't know what you're going to say about it, but we must stop taking money like this. I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour." Then Vinny gave his own testimony. Now they have a fellowship with each other they had never known before.

We began praying for God to help Vinny open an Italian restaurant. When he heard of one that had closed (the owner had relocated his business several miles away), he drove out to the place with Bill, another new convert, during a tropical storm. He dropped to his knees and claimed it in the name of Christ.

Later that day as they discussed business with the owner, also an Italian, they found this man was hungry for God. He wanted to visit the church and find the God who could perform such miracles. Soon the business transaction was made with "Jesus as their partner."

The church and pastors are witnessing a chain of events ordered by the Saviour. We don't know where this will end—and we're praying it won't! Revival has come to the Italian-Catholic community. We give God the glory.

A few days ago Vincent came to me and jokingly said, "Pastor, this is the biggest swindle I ever pulled. I gave God a broken-down thief. He gave me peace and eternal life. I tell you, I got the best deal!"

I say, "This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes." 