

PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

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

MAY 30, 1976 / FIFTEEN CENTS

FILE COPY

Link with eternity

Detente's dangerous slumber

Redemption, phase two

**Three challenges
to Christian living**

Italy—yesterday and today

**I thought I was
doing my own thing**

Those pioneers*

*They're almost gone, those pioneers
Who blazed the hard-fought trail,
Who labored faithfully and long
With weeping and travail
To bear the Pentecostal torch
To every race and creed.
They knew what persecution meant,
Endured the pangs of need,
Yet how unselfishly they toiled
That we today might feel
The touch of God, the power of God,
And know that God is real!
They're almost gone—so few remain
Of those first pioneers;
But oh! the message they proclaimed
Stands strong these many years.
When I sought God, He met my need
The Pentecostal way.
I spoke in tongues like those of old—
It's just the same today.
But if those precious praying saints
Had made no sacrifice,
I would not know this gloried glow—
For me they paid the price.
O precious Lord, my gratitude
Goes out to them today.
A special crown those saints should wear
On Coronation Day!*

—MARY MASON

*Dedicated to Oscar H. Bolen, Keota, Oklahoma

To a retired minister

*As you sit nodding in your chair
With snowy head and wrinkled brow,
Think not you are forgotten there,
Though former friends are absent now.*

*A thousand memories through the years
Remind us of the truths you taught
In fervent utterance, oft with tears,
To feed the flock that Christ had bought.*

*The Word of God was your delight.
Through you we drank its streams of grace;
And as our shadows turned to light,
The Spirit glowed upon your face.*

*When sickness brought its fiery brands,
You came at once to ease our pain—
With prayer of faith and holy hands
To claim sound health for us again.*

*Or quietly by open grave
In tenderness you wiped the tear,
And words of comfort gently gave,
Assuring us that Christ was there.*

*O saintly soul, those whom you blessed
Thank God for you in many a prayer;
And angels smile upon your rest
As you sit nodding in your chair.*

—ALBERT L. HOY

A thank you from the third generation

*You prayed for us when we were
young and immature,
discouraged,
disappointed,
ready to give up,
sick in spirit and body.
Your intercession was heard;
your prayers were answered!
Thank you for praying!*

*Your words of encouragement offered strength—
the pat on the back,
the kindly word,
the friendly smile and handshake.
Yes, you thought it was such a small thing;
even that it went unnoticed.
Not so; for in the midnight moment
you were in our hearts.
Thank you for caring!*

*Your faithfulness to attend God's house,
to exalt His name,
to testify of His grace
in any kind of weather,
at great personal sacrifice,
as the single most important
part of your week—
Your example has provided a high standard
of excellence in devotion.
Thank you for leading!*

*Your steadfastness showed us a holy life
through changing times and
cultural upheavals,
in severe trials of faith and
personal crisis circumstances.
You humbly recognized it as "reasonable service,"
something that only the grace of God affords.
Your holiness before man and God strongly challenges us
in this morally corrupt time.
Thank you for consistency!*

*Your zealous service for the Master
has pointed the way to spiritual conquests.
Calebs of the 20th century,
you are still our spiritual heroes.
Loises of this generation,
it is your unfeigned faith that we possess.
We love you
for giving us the rich heritage
we sincerely enjoy.
You are not forgotten;
you are daily in our prayers,
as we have been in yours.
Thank you for showing us Jesus!*

—H. MAURICE LEDNICKY

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REDEMPTION, PHASE TWO

A double tragedy occurred when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. Sin entered the human family, of course. But it also entered Planet Earth. That which God had called "very good" fell under the anathema of its Creator. The Lord God said, "Cursed be the ground. . . . Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth." And it was so.

That curse remains until this very day. No part of it has been abrogated. This terra firma is still in the clutches of the wicked one. His hoof-prints are to be found everywhere. Every child of God is keenly aware of the fact that the arena of our daily activities is alien territory.

Phase one of redemption from the Fall was completed at Calvary. Through His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus provided complete victory over the recorded sins of all who will believe. We are justified by faith in the blood of the Lamb who came to take away the sin of the world.

And we rejoice every day in this wonderful redemption which we now enjoy. We have been set free from the power and the penalty of sin. We are no longer children of the devil; we have been born again and are now children of God.

However, we must confess that the transgression in Eden continues to affect our lives hour by hour—in spite of the transcendent provisions of Calvary. Our bodies are still subject to death. Pain is a frequent visitor in these tabernacles made of clay. We know what it is to be buffeted, to suffer hunger, to be cast down, to be troubled, and to be persecuted. Experience has confirmed what Scripture admits: "We have this treasure in earthen vessels."

Redemption, phase two, lies in the future and is gloriously connected with the Blessed Hope of the church.

Jesus said, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up,

and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Our Saviour taught us to anticipate a day when our bodies will enjoy the same redemption which our souls have already experienced.

The apostle Paul taught the same truths. To the Ephesian Christians he wrote, "You were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession."

There is a possession for the child of God which has been purchased, but has not yet been fully redeemed. What is it?

The answer is spelled out by the Apostle in his letter to the Romans. After explaining that all created things are waiting to be redeemed, Paul wrote, "Even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body."

There you have it from inspired

Writ: our bodies have not yet been redeemed! We did not need a Scripture to inform us that we are made of dust. We have been painfully aware of our human frailties—even after a born-again experience.

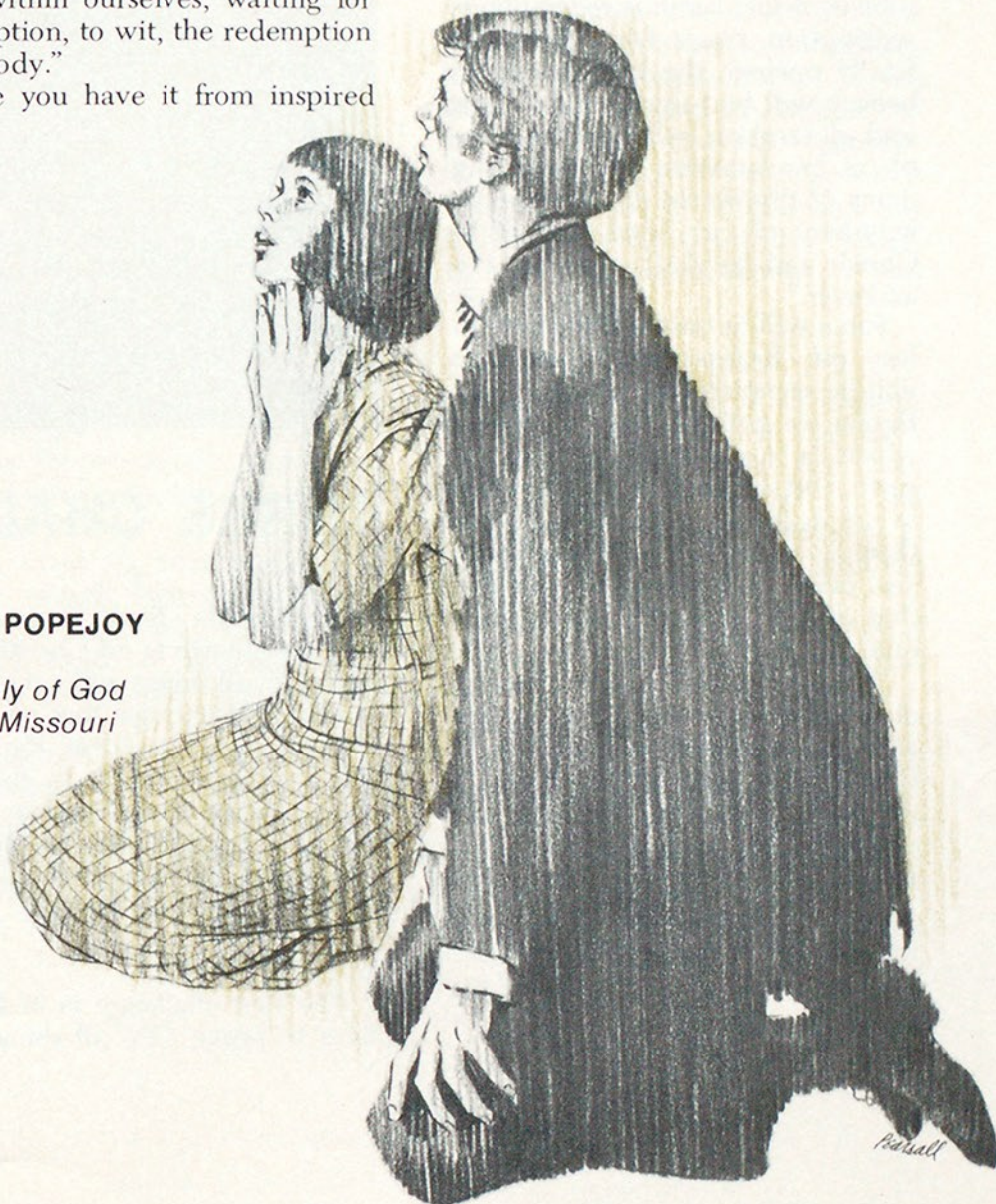
The wicked one has tormented many a redeemed child of God by telling half-truths and by implying things that are not true at all. He says, "If you belong to the Lord, why are you subjected to pain?" His subtle arguments actually cause some saints to doubt the genuineness of their conversion—for the enemy of our souls does not want us to understand that redemption has two phases, one past and one future.

Learn it well: the glorious fact that you have been born into the

continued on next page

By **BILL POPEJOY**

Pastor
Assembly of God
Belton, Missouri



Redemption continued

family of God does not elevate you above the need for soap! It is still necessary to brush your teeth and clean your fingernails. And we will certainly not need lessons in personal hygiene when these bodies are finally redeemed!

Someday in the future God will wipe all tears from the eyes of His followers. Then there will be no more sickness, or sighing, or death. But until we put off these earthly tabernacles, we had better realize that they have not yet been redeemed. Recognizing this truth will eradicate a great deal of frustration concerning the life of faith. The flesh and the spirit are constantly at war in the Christian.

In Revelation 5 a seven-sealed scroll is seen in the hand of the Occupant of the heavenly throne. The subject of that scroll is redemption—redemption, phase two. When it is finally opened, the loudspeakers of heaven will be turned up full blast, and all creation will hear the triumphant proclamation that “the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit. Redemption, phase two, will be complete. And before God's throne we will join “every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them . . . saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.”

What a day that will be! Because of it we serve notice on Satan here and now that we will not be intimidated by what he is allowed to do to our bodies. The One who redeemed our souls at Calvary will redeem our bodies in glory soon.



THREE CHALLENGES TO CHRISTIAN

The apostle Paul threw out a triple challenge to all Christians. He said, “Do all things without murmurings and disputings: that ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life” (Philippians 2:14-16).

LIVE IN PEACE

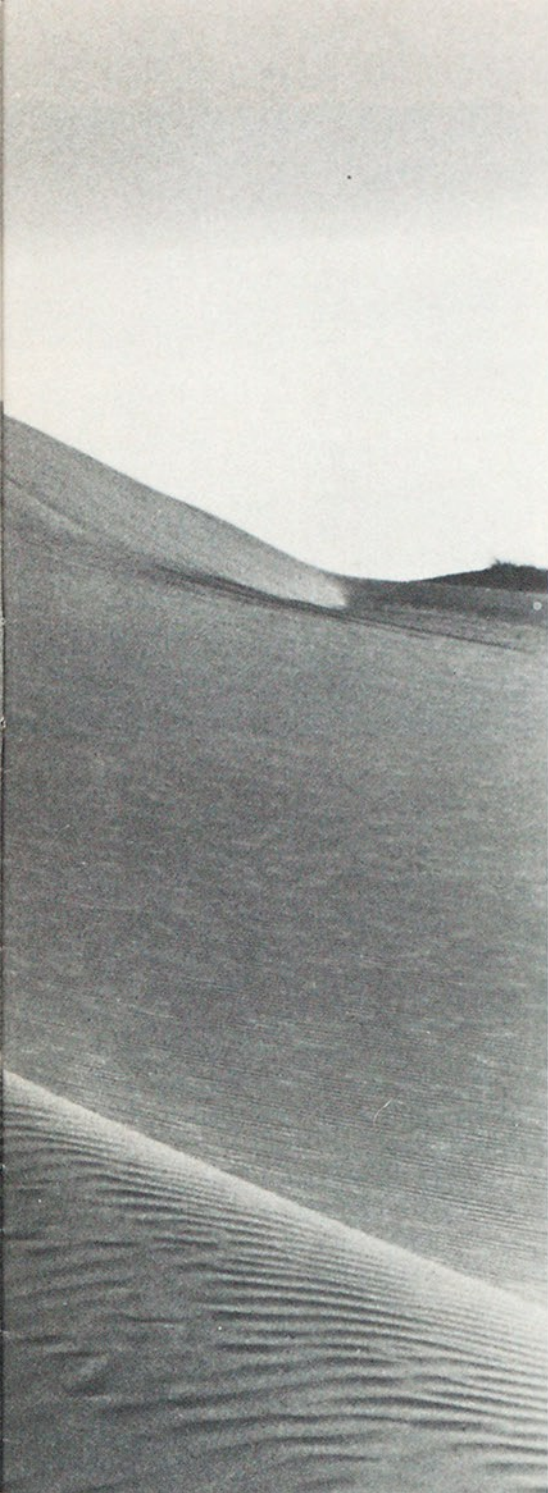
The first challenge is to live our lives in peace. “Do all things with-

out murmurings and disputings.” This is a total departure from the usual mode of living. Human nature is to grumble and complain about anything that doesn't please us.

We are prone to argue with people. The standard reason given is

By ROGER L. CULBERTSON

*Pastor, First Assembly
Defiance, Ohio*



Religious News Service photo

LIVING

that we have to stand up for our rights. "If I don't stand up for my rights, nobody will."

Such thoughts displease God. The Scripture teaches that when people murmur, they actually tempt God.

As an example, consider the children of Israel. Scarcely 3 days after God miraculously delivered them out of Egypt, they began to murmur and complain about food and water. This provoked God and eventually brought His wrath upon their heads.

Besides, murmuring is self-defeating. You can grumble and complain all day, but it won't do a bit of good. Words can't change people, improve the weather, or fix anything. People who persist in murmuring only hurt themselves with their negative attitude. This is the cause of many psychosomatic diseases.

BE BLAMELESS

The second challenge, "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation," seems an almost impossible attainment! How can anyone be blameless and harmless these days?

You'll not come up with the right answer until you understand who is judging you. You are to be blameless and harmless before God. He alone is your judge!

There is an old trap Satan likes to spring on new or unsuspecting Christians. Shortly after they take a stand for the Lord, one or more of their unsaved associates will begin to provoke them deliberately. They'll harass them by putting sand in their lunchbox, or give them defective parts to work with, or lie about them to the boss. At first the Christian will be patient and keep sweet, but sooner or later something's bound to give. In a moment of weakness the temper will flare, and harsh speech or violent action will replace the serenity.

That's when the trap snaps shut! Ever so smugly someone will deliver the mortal blow. They'll say, "I didn't think a Christian was supposed to act like that," or, "I thought you were different now." (Years ago when I worked in a factory, I developed a response for antagonists like these. It went something like this: "It's true a Christian isn't supposed to act like that, but

when you're dealing with the devil, God allows you to take violent action!" It wasn't a Scriptural answer, but it usually ended the conversation.)

As I said before, the key to successfully meeting the challenge to be blameless is to realize God is our judge, not man. Proverbs 16:7 says, "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

The idea is to live our lives as free from sin as possible—to surrender our will to God and pray, even as Christ taught us, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

All people make mistakes and lose their tempers sometimes—even Christians—but don't worry. God does not judge by the surface appearance; He looks upon the heart. He sees your inner motivation and understands your human frailty. If you make a mistake and sin, be quick to let God know you are repentant. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

PASS THE WORD ON

The final challenge is not difficult to master, especially if you have been successful in the first two. Rather than live defensively, the victorious Christian is instructed to be always on the offensive. "Holding forth the word of life."

Share the wonderful blessings of God with others. Here is a great secret of successful Christian living. Pass the Word on!

And use it whenever the prince of darkness troubles you. It is a most effective weapon. Christ used it when He was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, and you can use it too. Use it kindly; use it wisely; and you will "shine as lights in the world!"



ITALY—YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Shaped like a boot extending into the Mediterranean Sea, Italy has a coastline of several thousand miles. Once it ruled most of the known world; until its greatness declined, and it fragmented into many small countries. In 1861 three great statesmen—Garibaldi, Mazzini, and diCavour—united the fragments into the country that is Italy today.

The capital, Rome, dates back many centuries before Christ. Rome rose to fame as the center of the great Roman Empire. It is also the heart of Roman Catholicism, and Catholics around the world look to Rome for spiritual guidance and leadership.

Italy became a republic in 1946. Its population of 55,586,000 is 48 percent urban and has a density of 471 people per square mile.

Roman Catholicism is the state religion and represents about 99 percent of the population. There are small Protestant, Jewish, and Greek Orthodox communities.

The Assemblies of God in Italy is the largest evangelical body with

over 780 churches and preaching points throughout the country.

In the early days of the Pentecostal movement, the testimony spread predominantly in the south and on the island of Sicily. During the past 10 years God has been moving in the north. Strong churches are springing up in Milan, Verona, Brescia, Padova, and many other cities.

HISTORY OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD IN ITALY

The Pentecostal testimony came to Italy in 1908 through a great man of God, Giacomo Lombardi. Many others have since come to Italy to work for the Lord, but Brother Lombardi is still well remembered for his pioneer labors among the people of Italy.

In 1935, due to political situations, the recognition that the Pentecostals had obtained under the previous government was with-

By ALFRED PERNA, SR.
Missionary to Italy



drawn. They were outlawed and persecuted until 1945. During this period believers were compelled to go through difficult times of privation and arrest. Some were even sent to concentration camps, but the Italian Pentecostals never lost their zeal and fervor for the cause of the gospel.

In 1945 when the Allies occupied Italy and Pentecostals were able to contact each other again, they discovered they had grown in number.

In August 1947 the Pentecostals in Italy accepted the offer of the Assemblies of God of the USA to enter into a spiritual affiliation, although they remained fully autonomous and self-governing. The development of the work in Italy since that historic date can be attributed only to the moving of the Holy Spirit.

The work has been a united effort of many Christians. Some Italians who had migrated to North America felt a burden either to return and share the gospel with their people or to help financially in evangelizing the country of their origin. Missionaries who came from sister Italian Pentecostal churches in the USA and Canada all contributed to spreading the gospel in Italy.

In 1952 a Sunday school literature program was started by Missionary Anthony Piraino and financed by Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGM) funds for several years. Today the Sunday school

PRAY FOR ITALY

Pray for the new outreach in Venice. This populous tourist center now has no full gospel church where Italians or foreigners can worship. Plans are to start a church, youth ministries, and an evangelistic program.

During May and June 1976 Missionary-Evangelist Hal Herman will conduct Good News Crusades in several Italian cities. In the fall Missionary-Evangelist Robert Ashcroft will be ministering. Pray for a great harvest of souls from these meetings.

Pray that God will use the International Correspondence Institute to bring light and knowledge to those in Italy who are anxious to learn more from the Word of God.

Pray that funds will be provided to erect church buildings for congregations in northeast Italy. Present rented facilities are overcrowded.

The island of Sardinia presents a great challenge to the Assemblies of God in Italy. Help us pray that God will raise up national workers to go to this needy area with the message of salvation.



Left: An Italian village spreads along a ridge. Below: Students in the Assemblies of God Bible school in Rome prepare for ministry.



program is fully self-supporting and is reaching many thousands of children and adults throughout Italy. The literature is also being used by Italian-speaking churches in the USA, Canada, Australia, Northern Europe, and South America.

As field representative for Italy I am now overseeing the literature program. Pastor Francis Toppi and Gianfranco Arcangeli, director of Bethany Orphanage, serve with me as an editorial committee. We are assisted by such competent co-workers as Josephine Furnari and Loretta Castaldi, fellow missionaries, and Rocco Cirillo, an Italian Christian and language professor.

In 1954 two pastors, Brother Toppi and Brother Bracco, saw the need for a Bible school in Italy. A school was started in the Sunday school rooms of the church on via dei Bruzi in Rome. By 1958 the need for space was urgent, so Brother Toppi itinerated in the USA and raised funds to build the present Bible school.

Today the Rome Bible school is progressing under the leadership of Director Rito Crobo, a graduate of the school. Present enrollment is 35. Plans are being made to add a second year of training for ministerial students.

The International Correspondence Institute was introduced in Italy in 1970 with its evangelistic course. It is now expanding to offer training courses for those who want to study the word but cannot come to the

Bible school. Pastors seminars are also being conducted both on a national level and in small area groups.

One of the greatest challenges before the Assemblies of God in Italy is to harness its greatest resource—young people! The potential of this group has gripped the hearts of my son and his wife, Missionaries A. L. and Emanuela Perna, Jr. They have returned to Italy to minister among the youth. If the young people in the churches are properly taught and directed, we believe that Italy will see one of the greatest revivals in modern times.

CROSSROADS

Never has Italy had greater opportunities to hear the gospel in its fullness than today. Yet never has Italy faced more serious problems as a nation.

The country that was once acclaimed as having achieved an economic miracle is now on the verge of economic disaster. Inflation is affecting every phase of its national life. Labor, monetary, and political problems find no easy solutions. Yet in the midst of all this the full gospel is rapidly spreading to every corner of this great country.

Recently a Committee on Evangelism was formed to encourage and to guide the many evangelistic efforts being made throughout Italy. Pastor Toppi, a member of the committee, researched the growth of the Pentecostal movement in Italy. He


found there is at least one Assemblies of God church in 70 of the 96 provinces of Italy.

Twenty-six provinces are still without a Pentecostal witness. Working diligently to reach the people are many national evangelists. In addition, Missionaries Sam and Fannie Totaro are involved in evangelism crusades.

In 1910 we had only four churches in Italy; in 1914 there were 14; in 1930—148; in 1940—173; in 1950—214; in 1960—447; in 1970—681; and 1975 statistics show 782.

God is giving us many great opportunities in these last days. In the past radio and television have been state-controlled and operated, but many clandestine stations were operating. These transmitters have now been legally authorized.

Brother Toppi's church in Rome seized this opportunity and bought time on a Rome station. They are now on the air 10 minutes a day, every day of the year. Such an opportunity would never have been possible several months ago.

Yes, Italy is at the crossroads. The political situation may be bad and the financial situation may border on disaster, but God has everything in hand and is giving the people of Italy a chance to hear the gospel before it is too late. The Assemblies of God in Italy is fully aware of this, and believers are doing their utmost to bring the gospel to their people. Please pray for them as they pursue this great task. 

MINISTERING IN 'THE SANCTUARY OF THE VATICAN'

Several years ago we settled in Vicenza in northern Italy. Situated about 45 miles from Venice at the foot of the lower Alps, it is a beautiful city with a population of 125,000. The works of Andrea Palladio, the famous architect, have made the city renowned around the world.

Religiously Vicenza is known as "The Sanctuary of the Vatican." The people give the impression they are more Catholic than those at the Vatican. They are dogmatic in keeping the rituals and customs of the church.

Although in the beginning we found life in this atmosphere very difficult, we soon felt a strong compassion for the people, a compelling love that has not been discouraged by any adversity thrown our way. Many times since then our goals have been temporarily shat-

tered because of indifference and open refusal. But slowly the hearts of the people have been opening wider and wider.

The Lord has helped us start two beautiful missions. One is in the nearby city of Padova which has twice the population of Vicenza. The Lord prepared a whole group of people for the entrance of the full gospel to Padova. They were a little

community of Catholic believers that had been isolated from the local mother church because of several healing miracles.

Step by step the Lord led this group deeper in their understanding of the gospel. They came in contact with evangelicals, and some were led into Pentecost. It was our privilege to introduce these friends into a full gospel ministry.



By **ANGELO NESTA**
Missionary to Italy

FLOATING TREASURE IN A BOTTLE

The Lord, who is merciful and knew the miserable condition of my heart, was pleased to send me the message of salvation by a most unconventional method.

One day several years ago I went to visit my aunt and uncle who live in a little village on the banks of the Po River. My uncle invited me to take his small boat and go for a ride. He didn't need to ask me twice. I wanted very much to see the places where I had spent most of my time as a boy.

A quiet calm reigned on the river except for the soft sound of water rippling against the banks. Suddenly my attention was drawn to a sealed bottle floating on the river. What a surprise when I saw a piece of paper with a message on it inside the bottle.

Maybe it's a treasure! I said to myself jokingly.

With a blow of the oar I broke the bottle and began to read avidly:

It is not by chance, dear friend, that this printed page has come to you and not to others. It is the will of God. I have found a treasure with which nothing in all the world can compare. I read the Holy Bible, and in the New Testament I found the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

I would like to explain all this to you, but I will not for now. However, if you seek to know this truth with all your heart, you will not be disappointed.

The message was signed, "A

servant of God, saved by grace." On the back was written, "Can I help you?" and an address followed.

I felt strange—as though a mysterious gust of wind had blown over my body. The message intrigued me; I thought about it constantly.

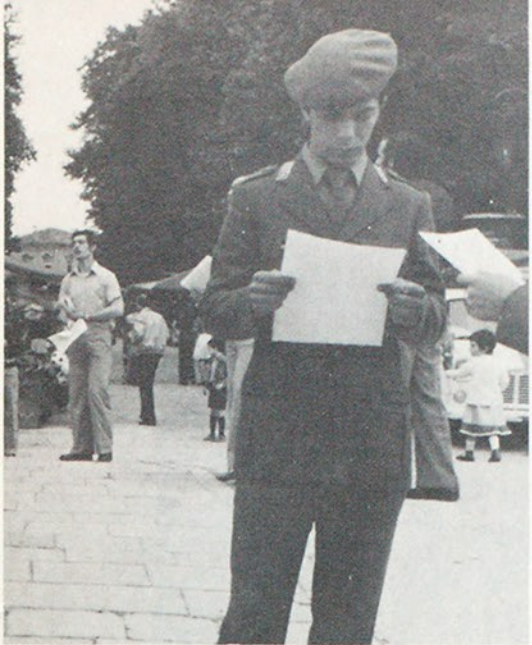
Finally I wrote to the man and asked him to tell me more.

Letters followed each other rapidly in a correspondence that ever became more pressing and strong. I marveled at the wisdom with which the man wrote. He cited verses of sacred Scripture which I had never read, and they began to touch my heart.

I said to myself, *I must meet this person who writes to me. Can it be that there are people in the world today who still have faith in God and have a purpose for living?*

I went to Torino and met this man. I said very timidly, "I am Lino of the bottle."

By **LINO MAZZI**
Pastor, Rimini, Italy



Left: A young military man reads literature received from Italian Christians witnessing on the streets of Padova. Below left: National workers Enzo Specchi and Sergio Scoizzato use a portable baptistry to baptize converts in Padova.

Since then the group has grown into a lovely congregation. Nearly 75 percent are teenagers and young adults. Many have been saved, filled with the Spirit, and healed in body and soul. The church has become totally indigenous. Present facilities have been outgrown, and a new place of worship is being sought.

More recently Vicenza has begun to experience a move of the Spirit, primarily through a ministry to youth. Many young people have found Christ as their personal Saviour. They are not afraid to share their newfound faith in the streets

or in the churches. Their lives are filled with joy and hope. They have been set free from fear, hate, sinful habits, and social problems of all kinds.

Giuliano, who once contemplated suicide, has now become one of our strongest witnesses. Another young man, who continually caused great problems for his family and often mistreated his mother, is now bringing a new spirit of life and peace into his home. A lawyer accepted the Lord after hearing the testimonies of our young people. He decided Christ was the answer to the needs of his own family.

Today our Assembly is the largest and most active evangelical group in the city. We are increasingly becoming involved in a charismatic ministry. As a result, a spiritual awakening is beginning to manifest itself in many of the Catholic parishes. Barriers are crumbling, and we believe this area that was unfruitful for years is destined to become a center of evangelism for

all of the northeast section of Italy (called the Veneto) and its population of 6 million.

Already signs of revival are evident in other communities. The church in Verona, under the capable leadership of Pastor Carlo Supertino, is experiencing marvelous growth. Much of its growth results from a coffeehouse ministry among young people.

One of the greatest challenges before us now is Venice, one of the world's most beautiful cities. With its teeming millions of tourists and thousands of Italians, it has no full-gospel ministry and only a very limited evangelical witness. Efforts are being made to begin an outreach to these masses.

Several years before we went to the field, the Lord burdened our hearts with a vision for all the northeast area of Italy. It looked like a colossal task, but we have learned again that God can work mightily, even in "The Sanctuary of the Vatican."

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PRAY FOR ITALY

THANK YOU, LIGHT-FOR-THE-LOST

Our International Correspondence Institute (ICI) ministry in Italy owes a debt of appreciation to Light-for-the-Lost, sponsored by the men of the Assemblies of God in the USA. Because of their giving ICI became operational, people were saved, others were helped spiritually, and churches were blessed. ICI in Italy started with very little funds; but when money was needed to print evangelism literature, thousands of dollars were made available from Light-for-the-Lost.

Our lessons reach every level of culture from the unschooled to professors and doctors. These lessons enter various institutions, such as prisons, schools, and religious organizations. One Catholic lady wrote us that she was using our lessons in her catechism class at church.

There is every indication that ICI will continue to grow. Of the several thousand Italians enrolled in our courses, more than 75 percent are young people—students in local schools and colleges. We thank the men of the Assemblies of God for their encouragement, gifts, and prayers.

—ANGELO NESTA, *Missionary to Italy*

"Glory to God! Enter!" was his reply. I never was received with such love, not even by my own family. In a most cordial way he shared with me the message of the gospel.

Later we met with others for prayer. I was deeply touched by the sincerity and fervency of their prayers. As I listened, a warmth began rising up in my heart. I realized it was the presence of God, and said, "Really, God must exist. I feel Him in my heart."

A new life opened before me—eternal life! Enthusiastically I began to seek Him. I read and reread the Gospels. I felt the Lord come into my life. It was a beautiful day I will never forget.

When I committed my life to Jesus, He delivered me from my fears and doubts. I returned home a new man. I had found a treasure indeed—the treasure of treasures, Jesus Christ.

AS



Above: More than 600 attend outdoor service during a 9-day crusade in Lago. Above right: Missionary Anthony Piraino preaches to a crusade crowd of 500 in Ginosa.



GOODNEWS CRUSADES: A TEAM EFFORT IN ITALY

Anthony and Josie Piraino have been Good News Crusades evangelists in Italy since 1967. During that time they have preached to more than 100,000 people, given out nearly 50,000 gospel portions, and distributed over 800,000 fliers. Fliers do a double work: they inform of coming crusades and also contain a short gospel message.

In favorable weather crusades are often held outdoors. If this is impossible, a public auditorium or theater building is rented. This makes it easier to attract a large crowd. Many Italians, because of former prejudices, are reluctant to go inside a Protestant church, but they are willing to come to crusade services in other places.

Before a crusade begins, the Pirainos meet the host pastor, church board, and congregation. They explain the Good News Crusades program and emphasize that a successful crusade must have the participation of the local church. A daily prayer program is organized, and church people begin the distribution of fliers and other literature.

A 24-hour prayer chain leads to

the opening service. Most crusades begin on Saturday and go 9 days—through the next Sunday. Prayer and Bible studies are held during the day and evangelism services at night.

The Pirainos work with the pastor and local church as a team. The church choir provides music. Other believers serve as personal workers.

Brother Piraino says:

"It's work, work, work; sweat, sweat, sweat; and pray, pray, pray! But we are so grateful to the Lord for the rich reward of souls that He gives.

"We are also grateful for the collaboration of each pastor and local church. Often churches in nearby towns and communities collaborate as well. People from these churches bring their unsaved friends, and God saves them; then they become members of the local church in their respective towns.

"God saves souls in every crusade and the hand of the Lord is always present to heal," Brother Piraino continues. "Many hundreds have been touched by the gospel during the years we have dedicated ourselves to evangelism. We give Him all the glory because it rightfully belongs to Him!"



Mrs. La Manna's 4-year-old son Martino had suffered for 2 years with a large hernia. Brother Piraino prayed for him at the Policoro crusade and the hernia was completely gone the next morning. Mrs. La Manna's testimony of her son's healing inspired faith in the hearts of the people at the next crusade in Castrignano.

WITH SIGNS FOLLOWING

Sunday School Lesson for June 6, 1976
ACTS 2:14-24; 37-40

By J. BASHFORD BISHOP / South-Eastern Bible College
Assistant Professor of Bible and Religion

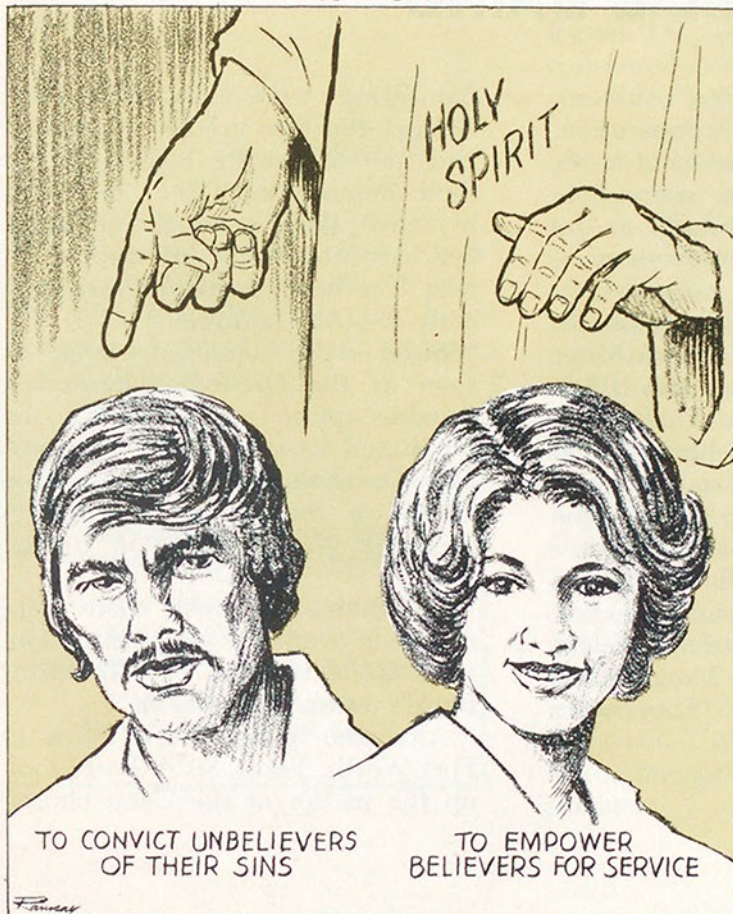
Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost was not only a powerful evangelistic appeal resulting in the conversion of 3,000 souls; it was also a masterpiece of logic and argumentation. In it Peter explained the supernatural manifestations and proved both their scripturalness and the fact that the Jesus whom the Jews had crucified was the Lord and Messiah! His sermon contained:

AN EXPLANATION OF THE SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS (Acts 2:14-21)

Times have not changed. People still react with amazement, bewilderment, and even scorn to the manifestations of the Holy Spirit and to speaking with tongues.

In answer to the question, "What meaneth this?" and

HIS WORK



to the accusation, "These men are full of new wine," Peter told the onlookers they were actually witnessing the fulfillment of the familiar prophecy of Joel 2:28-32.

When we are questioned, it is good to be able to reply, "This is that." Let us know the Word as Peter did!

Afterward this same Peter left us the admonition: "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Are we diligently acquainting ourselves with the Word so we can give an intelligent and Biblical testimony?

A PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION AND MESSIAHSHIP OF JESUS (Acts 2:22-36)

In the minds of Peter's hearers the two words "Jesus" and "Messiah" were not at all related. To demonstrate that Jesus was the Messiah, Peter connected these two words by a series of unanswerable proofs. The Jews did not believe in the resurrection of Jesus and, although many of them did believe that He was "a man approved of God" (v. 22), they denied His Messiahship.

Peter declared the resurrection to be a *fact* (v. 24) by affirming: (1) It was *predicted* by David in Psalm 16:8-10. He quoted these verses and from them drew the inevitable conclusion that since David's body *did* see corruption, the words could only refer to Christ. (2) It was *attested* by all the disciples present. "We are all witnesses." (3) It was *proved* by the outpouring of the Spirit. The disciples knew Jesus was in heaven because He spoke to them and through them by the Holy Spirit whom He had sent (v. 33). Having proved his point, Peter then drove home the inescapable conclusion (v. 36).

DIRECTIONS FOR RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST (Acts 2:37-40)

Pointed preaching accompanied by the Spirit's anointing brings conviction! When the conscience-stricken multitude cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter pointed out that if they truly repented and received water baptism as a symbol of that repentance and conversion which followed, they too might receive the Spirit's fullness!

Nothing in Scripture teaches that people today must go through a more or less prolonged season of "tarrying" in order to receive the baptism in the Spirit. Prior to Pentecost the disciples waited only because the Spirit had not yet been given (John 7:39). But at Pentecost He *was* given, and since that time His fullness may be experienced immediately after conversion. This happened in the case of those of the house of Cornelius (Acts 10:46), as well as in the case of certain converts at Ephesus (Acts 19:1-6).

For the first three centuries in the history of the church it was normally expected that new converts would receive the fullness of the Spirit as soon as they were saved. All delay, therefore, must be on the human side.

Thousands of believers in all denominations today are receiving the Spirit's fullness in simple faith as soon as they hear of their privilege.

God is no respecter of persons. We cannot merit the Baptism. We cannot earn it. We need not beg for it. The stream of the Spirit has been flowing for 1900 years. Jesus said: "If any man thirst, let him come to me, and drink" (John 7:37).



IN MEMORY OF MOLLIE BAIRD

The memorial is not a granite monument or a sculptured work of art. It's an Assemblies of God church on the outer edge of Cebu City, Philippines, a fitting memorial to Mollie Baird who devoted her life to foreign missions.

The first missionary appointed from the former Texco (Texas—New Mexico) District, Sister Baird went to the field in 1926.

She served her first 27 years in India where she ministered to the village people and helped establish an Indian orphanage.

In 1954 she moved to Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and taught in the Bible school.

Later Sister Baird transferred to the Philippines to serve as dean of instruction and evangelism at Immanuel Bible Institute in Cebu City. There she reorganized the school library and, together with Mission-

aries Arthur and Edna Ahlberg, standardized the school's curriculum.

After her official retirement at 65, Sister Baird was not content to stay at home. She returned to the Philippines for another 5 years of service.

Following Brother Ahlberg's death in 1962, Sister Ahlberg and Sister Baird conducted short-term Bible schools throughout the Philippines. These were especially beneficial to pastors in remote areas who were not financially able to leave home and attend established schools.

Shortly before Sister Baird returned to the United States in 1968, one of her Bible school students, Edgar Orenbain, and his wife Mergie came to her for assistance. They were

pioneering a work outside Cebu City. At first the tiny group of believers had met in private homes, but as their number increased, they had to move their meetings outdoors. Services often were interrupted by rain. The new congregation desperately needed a building.

Sister Baird agreed to help. As soon as the Orenbains located a suitable piece of property, she purchased it with her own money. The Orenbains moved to a little house on the property's edge to supervise the construction of the church.

But difficulties arose; there were no funds available for construction, and failing health forced Sister Baird's return to the States.

After she had returned home to Fort Worth, Texas, Sister Baird took up the matter of the Cebu church



Above: Missionary Mollie Baird. Left: A final wish of Sister Baird was fulfilled with the dedication of this church near Cebu City, Philippines. Missionary Edna Ahlberg (left) was the dedication speaker. District officials (back row) and Pastor and Mrs. Edgar Orenbain with their children (center front) participated in the ceremonies.

with Pastor Jerry King of First Assembly in Fort Worth, her home church. Pastor King invited her to share her burden with the local congregation. In her last service at First Assembly, Sister Baird was presented \$2,000 from the church. She sent the money to the field and asked Sister Ahlberg to oversee the building's construction.

Special Offerings for FOREIGN MISSIONS

should be sent to:

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Division of Foreign Missions

1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Sister Ahlberg had many years of experience in building construction. Her husband, a construction engineer, had supervised the construction of a number of buildings for the Assemblies of God in Philippines, and Sister Ahlberg had assisted him.

But a number of problems arose to delay construction, including a discrepancy in the property lines. In the meantime, Sister Baird passed away on September 15, 1973. Her final wish was that the church at Cebu City be built. To fulfill that wish her friends and family continued working together.

The church in Fort Worth gave an additional offering, and Sister Baird's sisters in Texas and Colorado assisted in the project. Other family members raised money to purchase a new piano for the church. Enough contributions were received to finish the church inside and out. It has fluorescent lights, a new pulpit, and a Communion table.

On September 15, 1975, exactly two years after Sister Baird's death, the new church was officially dedicated. The congregation, which had continued to grow while the church was being built, filled the sanctuary.

The service started at 3 p.m. and lasted until after dark. Part of the celebration included a fellowship feast. Whole pigs, roasted over coconut-shell fires, provided the main course.

Ministers from other islands, District Superintendent A. K. Caguage, and the district secretary-treasurer came for the dedication. Sister Ahlberg officiated at the ceremony and gave the dedicatory address.

Mollie Baird's desire to help build a church in Cebu has been fulfilled. Though she is with Christ, the effect of her ministry lives on. Fifteen students whom she sponsored in Bible school are now in full-time ministry in the Philippines. They and the Cebu City church constitute a fitting memorial to a dedicated missionary.

FOUNDATIONS FOR FREEDOM



BICENTENNIAL
GUIDE FOR
DAILY BIBLE
READING

JUNE

Foundations for the Church

In keeping with the Bicentennial, this year's Bible readings follow the main theme, "Foundations for Freedom." This month's theme, "Foundations for the Church," is divided into several subtopics for convenient devotional reading. Save this guide. Check off the portion you have read each day.

Christ-Head of the Church

- ☐ 1. Matthew 16:13-20
- ☐ 2. Ephesians 1:15-23
- ☐ 3. Colossians 1:14-20
- ☐ 4. Colossians 2:16 through 3:4
- ☐ 5. Matthew 25:1-13
- ☐ 6. Revelation 19:1-7

Growth of the Church

- ☐ 7. Acts 2:37-47
- ☐ 8. Acts 4:1-12
- ☐ 9. Acts 4:23-37
- ☐ 10. Acts 5:1-16
- ☐ 11. Acts 6:1-7
- ☐ 12. Acts 11:19-26
- ☐ 13. Acts 14:1-7
- ☐ 14. Acts 16:1-5
- ☐ 15. Acts 18:1-8

Gifts in the Church

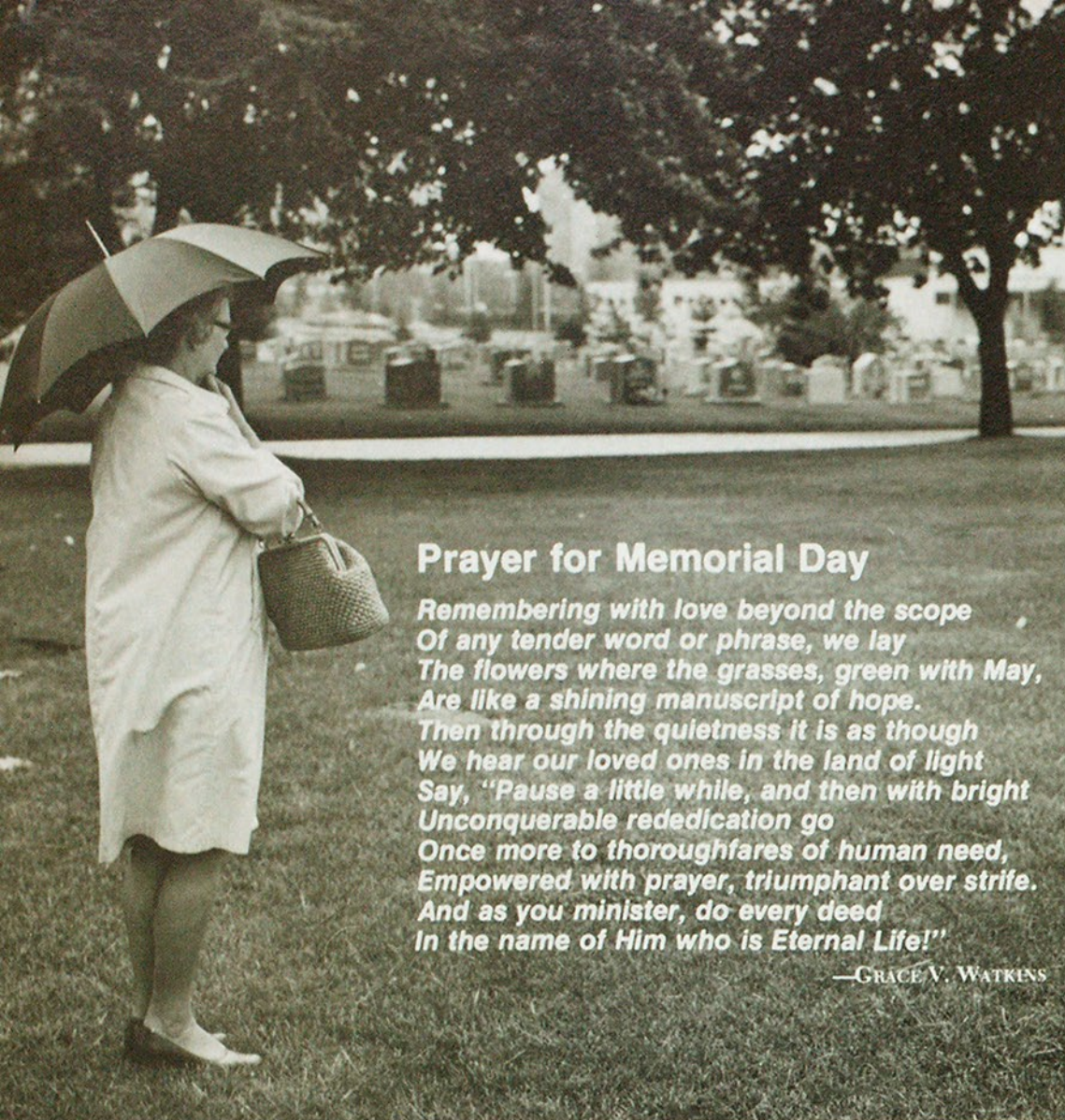
- ☐ 16. 1 Corinthians 12:1-13
- ☐ 17. 1 Corinthians 12:14-31
- ☐ 18. Romans 12:1-8
- ☐ 19. Ephesians 4:1-16
- ☐ 20. 1 Timothy 3:1-16

Unity in the Church

- ☐ 21. John 10:7-16
- ☐ 22. John 17:20-26
- ☐ 23. Galatians 3:19-29

Christ Speaks to the Churches

- ☐ 24. Revelation 2:1-7
- ☐ 25. Revelation 2:8-11
- ☐ 26. Revelation 2:12-17
- ☐ 27. Revelation 2:18-29
- ☐ 28. Revelation 3:1-6
- ☐ 29. Revelation 3:7-13
- ☐ 30. Revelation 3:14-22



Prayer for Memorial Day

*Remembering with love beyond the scope
Of any tender word or phrase, we lay
The flowers where the grasses, green with May,
Are like a shining manuscript of hope.
Then through the quietness it is as though
We hear our loved ones in the land of light
Say, "Pause a little while, and then with bright
Unconquerable rededication go
Once more to thoroughfares of human need,
Empowered with prayer, triumphant over strife.
And as you minister, do every deed
In the name of Him who is Eternal Life!"*

—GRACE V. WATKINS

Harold M. Lambert photo

The younger generation just doesn't care about the older generation. They have no respect and won't look after the older folks as it was done when I was young."

What a dramatic contrast between the experience of this 73-year-old retired laborer and the pattern God commanded: "You shall give due honor and respect to the elderly, in the fear of God. I am Jehovah" (Leviticus 19:32, *The Living Bible* paraphrase).

All too often the aged among us are forgotten and neglected. One gerontologist has observed, "One American in 10 is over age 65 today, but these 21 million people are largely invisible in our homes, offices, stores, streets. . . . When they do appear, a curious thing happens: we don't see them." (*Aging in American Society*, James D. Manney, Jr.; 1975.)

No wonder the elderly have been called the "forgotten Americans." One retired farmer stated the situation simply: "Nobody fools with you much."

In a nationwide study commissioned by the National Council on the Aging, loneliness ranked as the second worst thing about being over 65 years of age. Not far behind was the problem of being neglected and rejected, not wanted or needed by the young.

Other drawbacks of old age mentioned most often were poor health, financial problems, lack of independence, and boredom.

What a difference God's love can make in our attitudes and actions toward the elderly! At the end of his life, David still could say: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread" (Psalm 37:25).

God must be grieved deeply when any of His children are neglected or destitute in old age. It is sad indeed to see elderly ministers of our Fellowship reach the point when their health is broken, hope for an active ministry is gone, income is

LINK WITH ETERNITY

It was Memorial Day. Driving rain and bad roads had kept us from making the 100-mile trip to visit my father's grave, but Dad had been on my mind all day. The dark door that slammed when he died seemed to be locked tighter than ever, and I felt completely cut off from him.


As the day drizzled on, the grayness outside became a grayness within me that I couldn't shake.

Then, about 5 in the afternoon, as I was starting to fix dinner, a single word shot a beam of light across my mind. It seemed to come from just behind my right shoulder; but when I turned, there was only empty space.

It wasn't really a voice—just a word that filled me somehow. It was a word that my father used to put at the end of his letter to us when he was on a ship in the South Pacific

during World War II. The word was *Mizpah*; and though I hadn't thought of it in years, I still remembered what it meant: "The Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another" (Genesis 31:49).

As I stood there in my kitchen, those words washed over me again and again like a soothing lotion. Slowly a shaft of light began to shine through that dark door that separated me from my father; and I knew, in that brief flash, that God's promise to "watch between us while we are absent one from another" was a forever thing.

I put down the potato I was peeling and looked out the window. It was still raining—still gloomy and gray outside—but now, deep inside of me, a rainbow shimmered. 

By MARILYN MORGAN HELLEBERG

The elderly often are forsaken

DOES ANYONE CARE?

inadequate—and no one seems to care.

But someone does care! Last year alone 236 individuals—aged ministers and their wives or widows—received help from Aged Ministers Assistance of the Department of Benevolences because someone cared enough to give.

A teenager sent a contribution for AMA with this message attached: "I never really thought about AMA

Photo by Ed Carlin



before, but God just seemed to open my eyes to let me know that they had dedicated most or all of their lives to God's wonderful work. And here I am 16 years old, and God is just beginning to open doors for me. I just praise God for the facts."

Someone does care about our aged ministers who have sacrificed so much for the gospel.

Not long ago an 87-year-old AMAer wrote, "I would so very much like to convey my appreciation for the offering. You surely must realize we old people are more or less forgotten, which is the fate of the elderly. But God remembers when others forget.

"Thank you from our heart for remembering. And may we say, thoughtfulness, kindness, and love are never bought or sold; they are the priceless things in life for which no one can pay."

Because someone cared, this elderly saint knew she had not been forgotten.

A retired minister from Mississippi wrote, "I received the first check from AMA. You will never know what this help has meant to us. It will make life a little easier for us both. It's so wonderful to pray and see God move."

Because someone cared enough to give, more than 200 individuals receive answers to prayer for necessary financial help each month. Although generous giving in recent years has made it possible to increase the amount of assistance, still the AMAers must survive on a meager income. We would like to do more.

Today is AMA Sunday. Memorial Sunday is an especially appropriate time to show the aged ministers and widows of our Fellowship that we do remember, and we do care.

Thanks for sharing because you care.

God healed our son

AFTER 3 WEEKS of what we thought was the flu, our family doctor said he thought our son Ronnie had leukemia. His blood count was 7.6, low enough that if he had been an adult he would have been given an immediate blood transfusion. The doctor sent us to Children's Memorial Hospital in Oklahoma City, about 130 miles away.

Before leaving I called my pastor and my mother. She then called her pastor for prayer. By the time we got to the hospital for tests, Ronnie's blood count was just a few tenths low. There was no sign of leukemia.

But we were told he had cystic fibrosis and pneumonia. Again, we had him prayed for.

After 4 months of going back to the hospital for tests, on April 30, 1975, we received the following letter from doctors there:

"This is a follow-up to the clinic visit of your son Ronald this past Wednesday. His whole case is rather puzzling to us, as there has been X-Ray evidence of pneumonia since January of this year, but there has been no physical manifestations of this. In addition, the sweat chloride tests for cystic fibrosis have always been elevated, but here again there is really no clinical data to substantiate this diagnosis.

"The blood count this past Wednesday was completely normal. There was no sign of any infection at this time."

Almost a year has passed and Ronnie is in fine health.

What else can we say except, "Praise the Lord."—Gearldine Pyatt, Sentinel, Okla.

(Endorsed by Pastor Carol W. Elkins, First Assembly, Sentinel, Okla.)

By JOE D. WILMOTH

Promotions Coordinator—Editor, Department of Benevolences

11th Deaf Convention inspires . . .

NEW EMPHASIS IN DEAF MINISTRY

People from California to Maine and from Washington State to Florida attended the 11th Biennial Deaf Convention of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Mo., April 7-11. The more than 470 ministers to the deaf and lay workers registered set an all-time attendance record.

The convention theme, "Set at Liberty," provided a dual emphasis: the Bicentennial and the liberty found in Christ.

A theme chorus with the same title was composed especially for the event by Allen Francis of the Music Department. Chapel speakers seemed especially anointed as they presented messages built around the central theme.

Carol Vetter, a nationally appointed minister to the deaf and representative for the Minnesota District ministry to the deaf, opened the convention Thursday morning with a message on "The Liberator." T. E. Gannon, national Home Missions director, spoke at the Thursday evening service on the subject, "Who Needs To Be Liberated?"

Mike Weldon, pastor of the deaf congregation in First Assembly, New

Orleans, La., was the Friday morning chapel speaker. His subject was "Growing in Liberty." Eldon Post, a nationally appointed minister to the deaf and pastor of Highland Park Church for the Deaf in St. Paul, Minn., spoke Friday evening on "Liberating Others."

The Saturday chapel speaker was Leslie Lawer, pastor of the deaf congregation in Central Assembly, Springfield, Mo. He presented a challenging message, "The Deaf—Liberated to Minister."

James Banks, national representative of Ministries to the Deaf and Blind and director of the convention program, brought the closing message Sunday morning on "The Price of Maintaining Liberty."

In addition to these services, there were workshops each day and classes aimed to help workers and laymen achieve a greater ability to win the deaf to Christ.

Among the workshop speakers were Dr. Ray Brock of Evangel College; Dr. Stanley Horton and Edgar Lawrence of Central Bible College; Edward Nelson of the American Bible Society; and Bea Berry, a na-



tionally appointed minister to the deaf from Riverside, Calif.

Dr. Brock lectured the workers on "Ministers and Their Wives" and spoke to laymen on "Trademarks of a Deaf Christian."

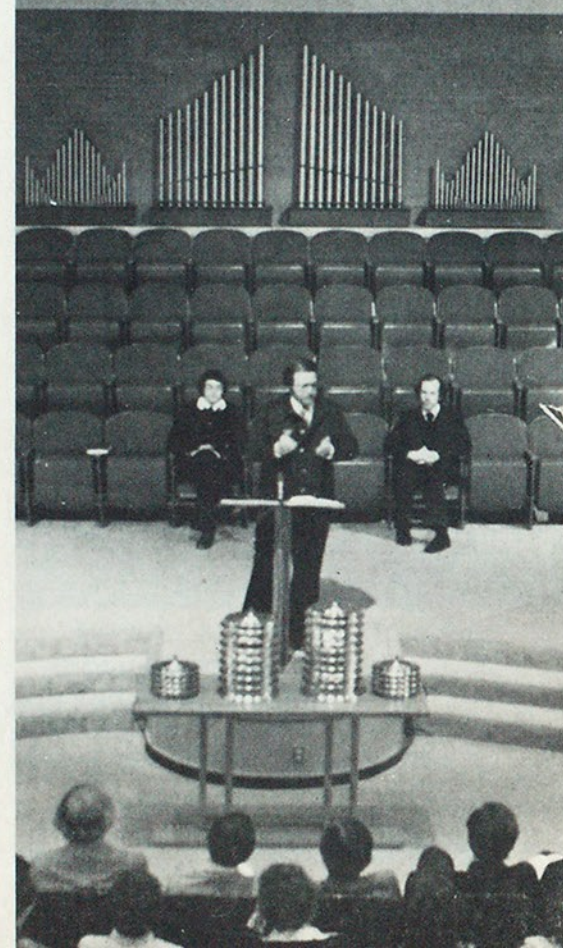
Dr. Horton presented the subject, "The Holy Spirit and the Deaf," in two workshops.

Mr. Nelson spoke on the work



The Signs for the Harvest Singers of Waxahachie, Tex., ministered during the deaf convention.

Right: James Banks, representative of Ministries to the Deaf and Blind, concluded the convention. Far right: Deaf ministries workers, deaf laymen, and other delegates attended a combination registration and reception.





T. E. Gannon, national Home Missions director, spoke at the 11th Deaf Convention in Springfield, Mo.

of the American Bible Society in translating selected Scriptures into Signed English, a new concept for reaching the deaf. The first of these translations, *Jesus Stops a Storm*, is already in print. This is a joint effort of the American Bible Society and the Assemblies of God.

Edgar Lawrence presented his new sign language book, *Sign Lan-*

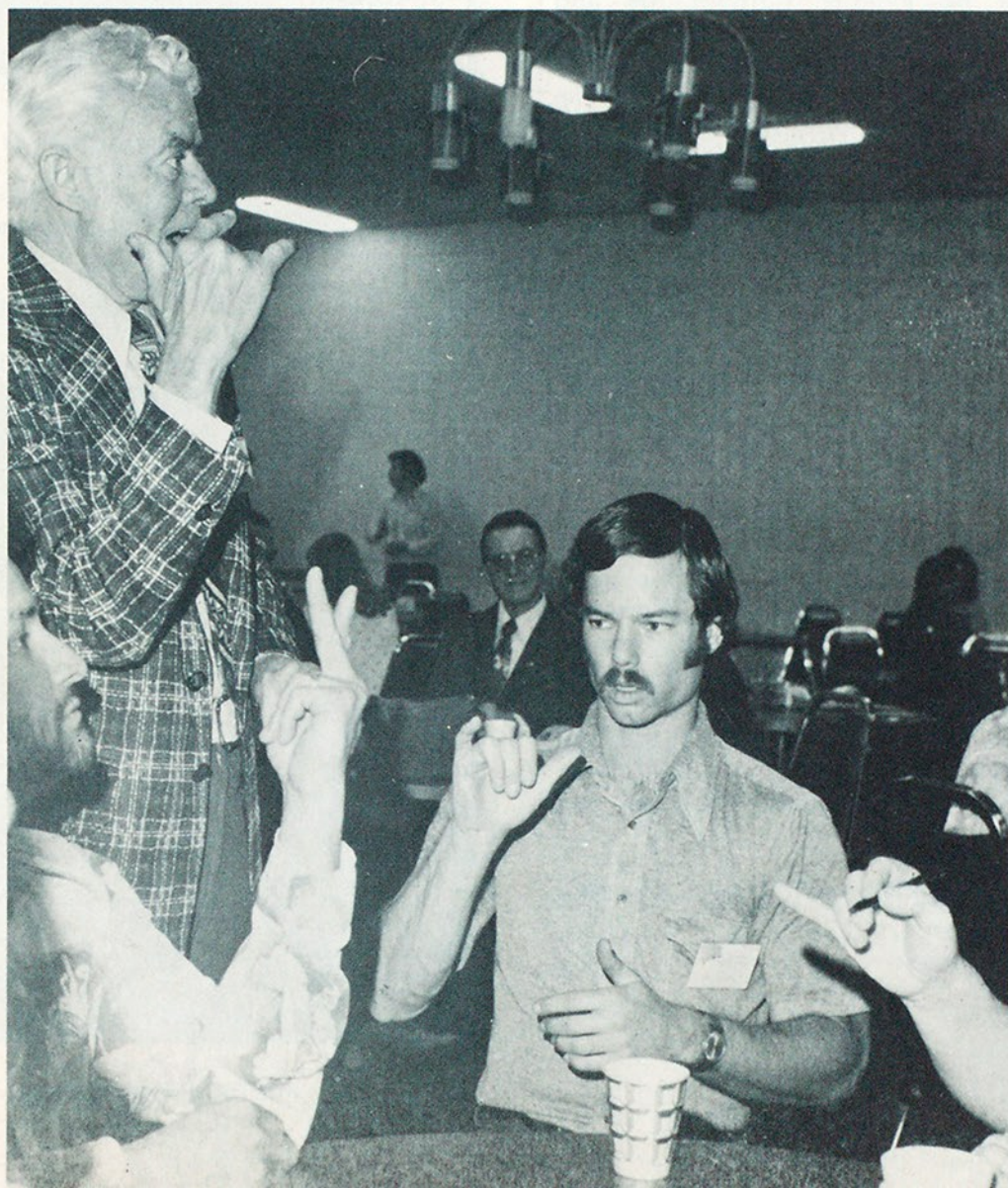
guage Made Simple, in two workshops.

Bea Berry spoke on "Deaf Worship/Hearing Worship" in a joint worker-laymen session.

The Saturday evening program included a banquet and a unique presentation by the Signs and Wonders Drama Club and The Living Signs Choir, both of Central Bible College.

A Communion service Sunday morning climaxed the convention's crowded program.

The Lord's blessing was evident in all sessions of the 5-day gathering. Those who attended received fresh spiritual inspiration, and many dedicated themselves to greater efforts to reach more of the 13,300,000 hearing impaired persons in America for the Lord.



A HEART-AND-MOUTH EXPERIENCE

The Bible says, "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10).

First you trust Him; then you tell it! Confession, or testimony, completes the act of faith and brings you the assurance.

When you have repented and believed on the Lord Jesus, you have met the condition, and you are saved. God's Word declares it. You can declare it too.

Nowhere in the Bible is the way of salvation spelled out more simply or more clearly than in this 10th chapter of the Book of Romans.

Salvation is near, it says. It is as near as the Word of the gospel. Wherever the message reaches your heart, there you can be saved. "The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth." Any place where the Word is believed and Christ is confessed with the mouth, that is how near salvation is.

Salvation is now. "Now is the accepted time," it says. "Behold, now is the day of salvation." No one waits for God to save him. God waits for men to act. God is always ready, and His time is now. He desires that today be your day of salvation.

Salvation is free. It is offered to men and women as a gift. We simply call on the Lord. "For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved," it says.

Salvation is not for sale. It is not a reward for service. It is a gift.

How do you receive it? The Bible answers: You believe with the heart, and you confess with the mouth. That's all! And that's enough! For nothing less will do.

Your faith may not be perfect, but God's promises are. There is nothing more reliable than the Word of God. You can never trust yourself, but you can always trust Christ.

Trust Him today—forsake your sins—then testify that He is your Saviour. Salvation is just that simple.

By MICHAEL P. HORBAN

Another sequel to *The Cross and the Switchblade*

I THOUGHT I WAS DOING MY OWN THING

I was a born loser trying to do my own thing. But I was actually doing the devil's thing.

In 1958 David Wilkerson came to the ghettos of Brooklyn, New York, to bring a message of love. Nicky Cruz and some other gang members were saved. I was 13 and continued to lead the Mau Maus into vicious and senseless street gang fights. I couldn't accept that message of love.

Some of the guys such as Dracula and the Umbrella Man were arrested for crimes ranging from assault with a deadly weapon to murder in the first degree.

I was continually being sent to a state training school to be rehabilitated. But it was there I first learned of drugs.

In 1961 heroin became an epidemic, and I was introduced to my first mainliner. I became a junkie and was in and out of prisons. No matter how many months or years I spent behind bars, upon release I would always find myself with a hypodermic needle in my hand.

In 1964 I was finally confronted with the electric chair. While I awaited trial, my mother would visit me. She would tell me to go to church and to ask God for forgiveness. I refused to listen and told her to go away.

Nineteen months later I pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the first degree and was sentenced to 10 years at Auburn State Prison. I was paroled after serving 48 months only to find myself 'doing my thing' once more. I had tried desperately to break away from the type of life I led, but it seemed hopeless.

In 1970 Nicky Cruz came to New York to speak at a Billy Graham Crusade. He invited another gang member and me to attend the service that night. I went forward at Mr. Graham's invitation and was prayed for by Nicky, but I did not really give myself to the Lord.

Nicky witnessed to me all that night, but I was too blind to see the light. I told him it was no use, that I was a loser, that I would know nothing but the ghettos and prisons.

I remember saying to Nicky, as I held a needle in my hand, "Having someone who cares makes life worth living. Without someone to love, and someone who loves you, there's no reason for being here."

One night in October 1974 I invited my oldest brother to walk with me to the liquor store. On our way there we stopped and talked with a girl I knew. My intentions were not of friendly interest but rather of lust. Then I noticed another girl. She looked entirely different from anyone I had ever met. Her name was Priscilla. As I tried to strike up a conversation, she seemed to be looking through me and ignoring my every deceitful word.

That night I was told that Priscilla wanted to see me and talk to me. I was shocked. *Perhaps she fell for all of that garbage*, I thought. *Maybe she is easy to get after all.*

A week of planning and scheming went by before I saw Priscilla again. On a Saturday afternoon as I got out of bed to prepare my fix, I heard someone whistling and calling my name. I opened the window and rubbed my eyes. It was Priscilla. I waved and said I would be right down.

I almost cut my throat from shaving so fast. I splashed some after-shave all over my body so I would smell good. Then I flattened my long hair and sprayed it down. I straightened the living room and put an LP on the record player.

I rushed down three flights of stairs to the biggest shocker of my life. She had no intention of coming

By WILFREDO "CHINA" TORRES



Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

PRAY FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE

up to my apartment. She just wanted to witness to me.

"It's not what you're thinking," she said. "I just wanted to tell you that God loves you. From the very first time I laid eyes on you, I knew who you were. You are the China who was in Nicky's gang. I read about you in *The Cross and the Switchblade*. You can have the very same love that Nicky and so many others now talk about."

I interrupted to suggest that we finish the conversation upstairs, but she was very persistent.

I asked for a date, and she accepted—but on her terms. She said, "China, if you read this book by Nicky, we can have a date for Friday, and it will be to a prayer meeting."

I just stared at her in amazement and finally said, "Girl, you must be crazy. I don't want your stupid religion. As a matter of fact, I already know all about that jive-turkey. You've been brainwashed just like everyone else in that crazy religion."

As I continued with my insults, I could see tears forming in her eyes, so I shut my mouth.

Two days went by. The book *Run, Baby, Run* just laid on the dresser, but it seemed as though something kept drawing me closer and closer to reading it. Once I picked it up, it became difficult for me to put down.

Then it finally happened—the greatest experience of my life.

On October 10, 1974, as I reached the end of Nicky's life story, I said something like this: "If there is such a One as God who can make me a new person and fill me with the love I've been so hungry for, then, God I want it right now."

As I finished, I felt strange all over. My hands began to shake so much that I had to get out of bed. I thought at first that it might be another overdose of drugs.

As I stood up, my eyes started to

Continued on next page

We have been asked to publish a further request for prayer on behalf of the 11th Pentecostal World Conference which will convene in London, England, September 28 to October 2.

The prayer secretary, Gwilym I. Francis of Britain, writes:

"With heartfelt thanks to all who have already responded to our former appeal to organize prayer groups and special prayer meetings, we would like to invite thousands more to take up this challenge to pray definitely for the conference, with a confident expectation and a steadfast assurance that our God is a God of wonders."

1. Pray that the organizing of the conference may continue under the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit. All substantial Pentecostal groups in the British Isles are working together through the host committee in making the necessary arrangements.

2. Pray for spiritual results and that the financial needs of the conference be fully met.

3. Pray that the ministry in Word, song, and other forms be especially anointed by the Holy Spirit.

4. Pray that through the conference thousands of Christians may be stirred to a new understanding of the world's desperate needs and of their personal responsibilities.

5. Pray for such a mighty outpouring of the Spirit at the conference that the impact shall be felt throughout the whole world.

In the quarter century since the World Conference first met in London, the Pentecostal presence in that city has multiplied many times over and the Pentecostal Movement has attained world significance. A record attendance is expected.

The conference theme will be, "The Spirit of Truth." Speakers will include P.S. Brewster (Great Britain), Cho Yonggi (Korea), K. E. Heineborg (Sweden), Ray Hughes (USA), Bernhard Johnson (Brazil), P. List (Rhodesia), E. Minos (Norway),

George Smith (Canada), Reinhold Ulonska (Germany), Tom W. Walker (Great Britain), Alfred Webb (Great Britain), D. White (Trinidad), and T. F. Zimmerman (USA).

The first public meeting will be on Tuesday evening, September 28, in the Royal Albert Hall.

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday there will be morning sessions in the Westminster Central Hall (near the Houses of Parliament) from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a half-hour intermission at 11 a.m. There will be no afternoon services.

All the evening services will be in the historic Royal Albert Hall beginning at 7 p.m. preceded by a program of sacred music at 6:30 p.m. Special music to be heard during the conference will include a Scottish choir in kilts, a Swedish band, Britain's own *Revivaltime* Choir, the sanctuary choir from Evangelistic Temple in Houston, Texas, "Big John" Hall of USA, and the London Crusader Choir. There will be other choirs from Switzerland, Wales, and Sweden.

Reserved seats may be purchased at a low cost for the evening services. Balcony and gallery seats will be free and unreserved.

On Saturday there will be a great open-air rally in Trafalgar Square from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. This will be followed by a Communion service in the Royal Albert Hall in the afternoon and a concluding rally in the evening.

The host committee expects it to be "a week of great spiritual refreshment, learning, and excitement." P. S. Brewster, secretary-general of the Elim Pentecostal Church, is chairman, and Alfred F. Missen, general secretary of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland, is secretary.

Presiding at the various sessions will be T. F. Zimmerman, R. W. Taitinger, Floyd Williams, Ray Hughes, and P. S. Brewster.

American ambivalence
is aggressor's advantage—

DETENTE'S DANGEROUS SLUMBER

Watch! Jesus underlined this. "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:36).

Jesus intimated that a slumber would attack mankind before His coming. "While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept" (Matthew 25:5).

There is a thief.

"But know this, that if the good-man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up" (Matthew 24:43).

Earth's security is going to break down.

This article is from *Revivaltime's* 1976 prophecy newspaper, *Strong Delusion*.

Prowlers and predators will make their bid.

This present category is growing older—the masters of the Kremlin, the engineers of world power in Peking, Castro, Assad, Sadat, the politburo in Vietnam and North Korea. *Time is of the essence*. If these power-centers are going to move, they must move soon.

The will to restrain and withstand aggression has weakened. NATO is on guard in Europe but has not been tested. It is under strength and riddled with partisan politics. The Congress in the United States does not have the mood or the will of the taxpayers for further foreign entanglements.

Circumstances exist for the "house to be broken up."

What deterrent can hold the Bear?

It gets down to energy—human and material.

There will be a date when the United States will be self-sufficient. New fields are being explored. New refineries are being built. New sources of power are being developed in the nation's research centers. So *now* is the critical time!

The Bear is threatening. *The Bear is making tactical moves.*

The Russian boot has come down on Angola. The next step is pointed toward Rhodesia and Mozambique. Until the United States does not need giant imports of oil from the Middle East, this nation's jugular is the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean, and the Cape of Good Hope.

Stealthily, the Bear is moving toward bases from which a naval blockade could sever our import of fuel. This justifies the huge invest-

By C. M. WARD

Doing my own thing continued

burn. I shut them, and tears began to distill. It felt as though they were coming straight from my heart.

As I cried out for forgiveness, I remembered the words, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son."

Again I cried out, "God, please forgive me."

As I opened my eyes, I felt as though death left me and life entered. I felt like a whole new person.

For the first time I could really see, smell, and feel the filth around me. I wanted to get out of the house as quickly as possible. I knew that in the living room someone was drinking beer and smoking pot. I knew that in the other rooms my younger brother and sister were getting off on drugs. I concluded it was either heaven or hell, and so I quickly dressed and gathered up the instruments of an addict.

My first impulse was to rush to

the nearest church to find someone who could explain what was happening to me.

As I opened the door to leave, one of my sisters asked me what was wrong. I told her I was through with the senseless life I had led, that from now on it was going to be different.

She laughed and said, "That's the same old story, brother. You'll never change."

I handed her my works with tears in my eyes and told her to burn them, but it was still hard for her to believe.


As I walked toward the church, I suddenly realized it was almost midnight and someone would think I was trying to break into the building. So I decided to pay my sister Ana a late visit.

I always thought that Ana and

her husband were crazy because of the way they and the other Pentecostals would act. But now it seemed to be easier to accept. We sat up all that night praying, and they explained to me that the Holy Spirit had touched me, that from now on I would be a different person. I had been born again!

And it is true. God has changed my life completely, and now I live only to serve Him.

Three weeks after I was saved I went to join Nicky Cruz in North Carolina. I stayed several months at his boys center in Fayetteville, getting into the Word of God.

While there I met my wife who worked as a secretary in Nicky's office. We were married in June and have since felt led of the Lord to return to her hometown in Tennessee. I feel the call of the Lord upon me to be an evangelist. My only desire is to do His will. 

ment of Russian rubles in Africa.

The nuclear power of the United States is frightening, even to Moscow. *But could a conflict of attrition be sustained without sufficient energy?* The race, very evidently, is against time—and a small portion of time.

The Western nations have slowed in defense. Weaponry has not been replaced. The southern flank has been jeopardized by mistakes in Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus. The move is to push the United States fleet in the Mediterranean as far away as possible from Israel. The "instant umbrella" that the fleet furnishes is a *must* for Israel's existence.

Conditions are ripening for attack "out of the north parts" (Ezekiel 38:15).

All this is happening under the decoy of "detente." Detente is a slumber. It is wishful thinking. It

gives the advantage to the aggressor.

The direction of the attack is foretold: "Against the mountains of Israel" (Ezekiel 38:8).

Lebanon is in ferment, torn by civil war.

The Palestinians will be the winners.

The strongest possible base will be prepared in the mountain range facing Israel. Moscow has turned from Egypt to Syria. Syria is masterminding the moves of the Palestinians. The intrigue is visible.

A deadly pattern is before us, but we seem almost immobile to counteract it. "And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land" (Ezekiel 38:16).

Massive violations of credibility

have left the United States taxpayer numb. The attitude of "what difference does it make?" is the adversary's greatest ally.

Yes, conditions are ripe!

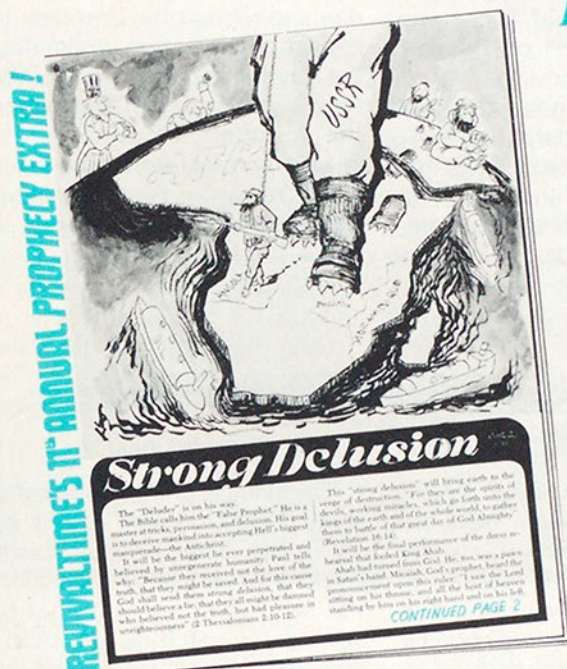
This is the calm before the storm.

"Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong" (Joel 3:9, 10).

Israel does not have much more that she can negotiate. She is quickly reaching the point of no return. Kissinger's services as international broker will terminate. Israel is facing a stand-or-die situation.

"For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled" (Luke 21:22).

Ed



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AS I SEE IT

C. M. Ward predicts future developments

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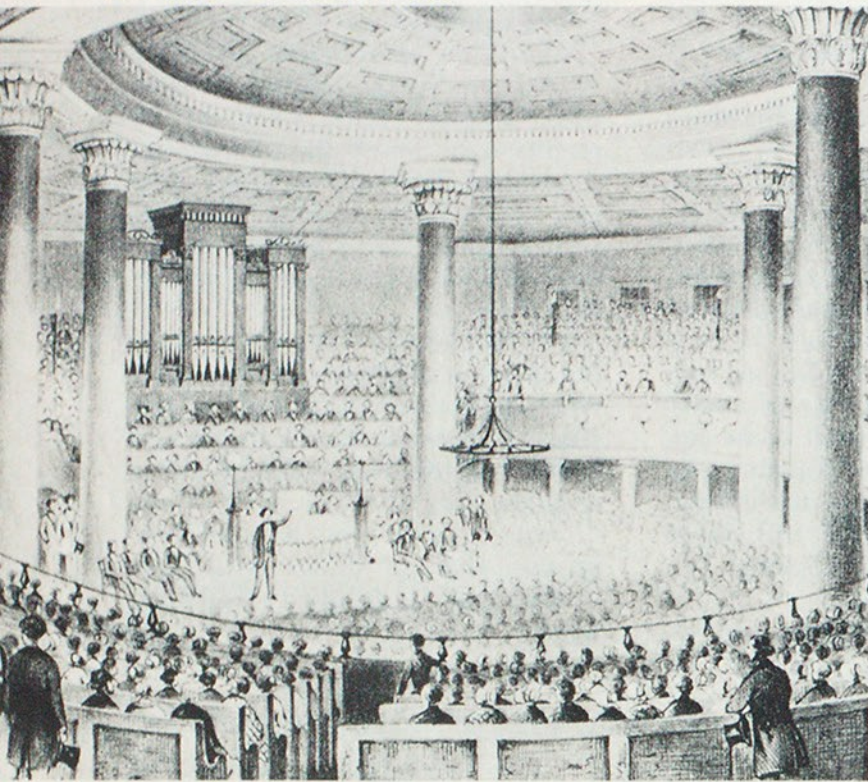
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NEWS OF OUR TIMES



Bicentennial Feature

Forceful preacher and social reformer

In New York City in the 1830s a huge new church called the Broadway Tabernacle was built for a tough, direct, forceful and immensely popular preacher named Charles Grandison Finney. But before the church was completely finished, he resigned as pastor and went to Ohio to teach theology at the new Oberlin College, of which he later became president.

Connecticut born, Finney grew up in Central New York State where he became a lawyer. One night in 1821, while praying in his darkened law office, he experienced what he later described as a "mighty baptism of the Holy Spirit." Refusing formal theological training, Finney nevertheless was licensed to preach by the St. Lawrence Presbytery and before long gained national attention by a series of spectacular evangelistic meetings in New York cities.

Central to Finney's message was the belief that social action must follow personal conversion. Sin, he also said, was a voluntary act and theoretically avoidable. Both these teachings were considered departures from the American Reformed tradition and brought about opposition from church leaders. Finney went right on preaching, however, becoming essentially a free-lance revivalist. He was an active proponent of abolitionism and a firm believer in giving women the right to pray and speak in mixed assemblies, both controversial positions in his day.

He went to Oberlin in 1835 as an independent Congregationalist, serving first as a professor of theology and then as president. He made the college a center of influence for revival theology and the growing emphasis on perfectionism and Christian activism. He died in 1874 at the age of 84. (RNS photo)

Over half the world unreached by gospel, British Agency says

LONDON—There are 2.7 billion people in the world without Christ, and thus more Christian missionaries are needed, according to a report just published here by the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, one of the largest and oldest Anglican missionary societies.

The report was written by Canon John Kingsnorth, who was a missionary in Africa until joining the society's headquarters staff here. He says the figure of 2.7 billion is the answer to those

who say there is less need for missions today than in the past.

He agrees that some of the 2.7 billion are Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists. He says Christians today no longer meet these adherents of other faiths with "sword and anathema."

"We engage in dialogue, we listen and learn," he says. "But at the end of the day we still have to proclaim that 'there is salvation in no one else.' To engage in this dialogue and to bear this witness is part of our task."

BICENTENNIAL DAY OF PRAYER URGED IN SENATE RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Twelve Senators have introduced a joint resolution designating Friday, July 2, a "National Bicentennial Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving and Guidance."

The resolution notes that the signers of the Declaration of Independence "appealed to the 'supreme judge of the world for the rectitude' of their intentions and signed their names 'with a

firm reliance on the protection of divine providence.'"

The resolution would authorize and request the President to issue a proclamation designating the day "in remembrance of the time 200 years beforehand when the founders of our country sought similar assistance from their Creator for the momentous decisions they were about to make."

Communications expert says

SOCIAL VALUES DISTORTED BY TV'S 'FALSE IMPRESSIONS'

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C.—Television network dramas and commercials are creating false impressions of American social values, a conference of religious and civic organizations was told here.

Dr. Erik Barnouw, a dramatic arts and communications expert, said TV commercials and dramas offer simplistic answers to complex social questions. He also criticized TV journalism for "emphasizing show business rather than news."

The average child, subjected to some 11,000 violent deaths on TV by his 14th birthday, easily could conclude "that our society has no problems that cannot be solved by catching or killing someone," Dr. Barnouw told the meeting which was called to stimulate improvements in TV programming.

Dr. Barnouw said "the normal procedures of justice are seen as inadequate and not to be relied on. A hero appears to be needing to use violent heroism."

NEW ADDITION DEDICATED AT MARANATHA MANOR

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—A new \$700,000 addition to Maranatha Manor, the Assemblies of God health care center here, was dedicated on April 2.

Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God and chairman of the Maranatha board of directors, outlined the purpose of Maranatha at the dedication ceremony when he said, "We dedicate these new facilities to the physical comfort and spiritual enrichment of our aged ministers

and missionaries. They have toiled faithfully through the heat of the day, and the church acknowledges its debt to them in many ways."

In addition to Brother Zimmerman, other church leaders and civic and government officials participated in the dedication service. The Central Bible College Band, under the direction of Mrs. Beth McLellan, presented a Bicentennial salute.

A highlight was the presentation of a check for \$1,600 from

A/G appoints four new military chaplains

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—The appointment of four new Army chaplains has brought to 39 the total number of active-duty Assemblies of God chaplains serving the military.

The new appointees are Captains Rodney B. Blank, Billy M. Goodwin, John A. Hansen, and Leslie G. Simonson.

Chaplain Blank resigned a pastorate in Surry, Va., to enter the military chaplaincy. He is a graduate of South-Eastern Bible College, Lakeland, Fla., and earned his master of divinity degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He is presently stationed in Fort Stewart, Ga.

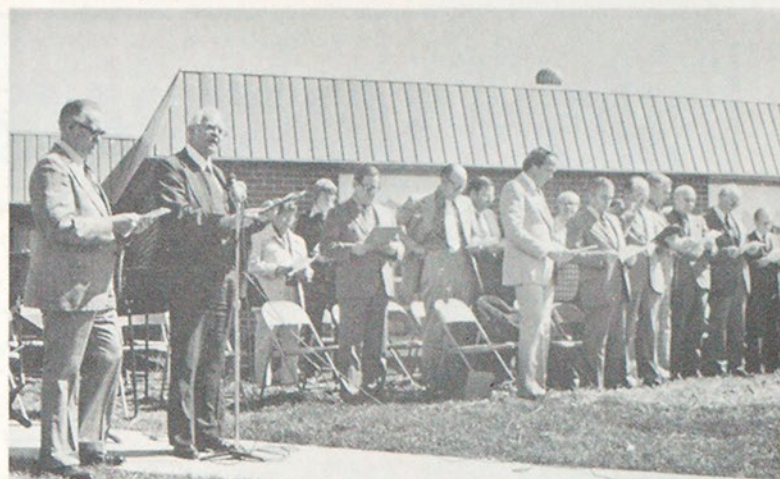
Chaplain Billy M. Goodwin was on the staff at Southwestern Assemblies of God College, Waxahachie, Tex., at the time of his assignment to the chaplaincy. He is a graduate of Panhandle State College, Goodwell, Okla.,

and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Captain Goodwin has been assigned to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Chaplain John A. Hansen pastored in Pleasant Hill, Mo. A graduate of Central Bible College, he did his advanced work at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City. He is stationed at Fort Sill, Okla.

The fourth new appointee is Chaplain Leslie G. Simonson who is stationed at Fort Polk, La. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and earned his M.A.R. degree from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Chaplain Simonson held several pastorates in Iowa.

T. E. Gannon, chairman of the Assemblies of God Commission on Chaplains, says the annual Chaplains Retreat will be held at the church headquarters here June 1-4.



General Superintendent T. F. Zimmerman leads in the act of dedicating the new addition to Maranatha Manor. (Photo by John Morar)

the residents of Maranatha Village to assist with furnishing the new chapel. The Friday morning missionary prayer group at Maranatha spearheaded the drive for the funds.

The new facilities include a chapel, a solarium, and a whirlpool. The new addition also doubles the cafeteria space and increases the capacity of the center from 120 beds to 180.

The Manor is a part of the

40-acre retirement complex known as Maranatha Village, which has apartments for retirement living in addition to the licensed, professional nursing care facility. Maranatha Village was opened in 1973.

Following the dedication, tours of the facilities were given by members of the Maranatha Auxiliary.

Ralph A. Durham is administrator of Maranatha Village.

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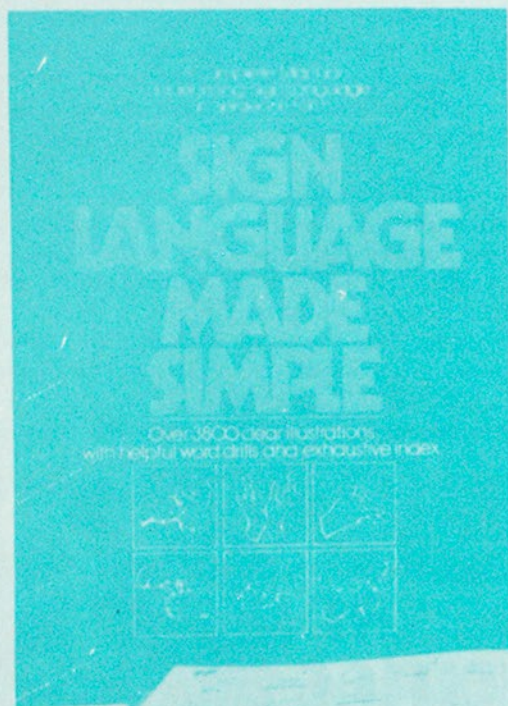
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Author, Edgar Lawrence, reviews his new book *Sign Language Made Simple* with KY3-TV newsmen Patrick Van Horn.

Edgar D. Lawrence is an assistant professor of psychology and special education at Central Bible College, Springfield, Missouri, where he has been on the faculty since 1963 and where he received a bachelor of arts degree. He has a master's degree from California State University, where he also graduated from the National Leadership Training Program (N.L.T.P.) in the area of the deaf. He is a member of National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (R.I.D.) and Professional Rehabilitation Workers with Adult Deaf (P.R.W.A.D.). He was honored in Outstanding Educators of America (1975).

"The unique feature of this publication is the fact that the learner is given things to say as opposed to simply developing a sign vocabulary. I believe that this will have a great deal of appeal to community groups and parents and will provide a good beginning for those who wish to pursue further sign language skills." Philip E. Cronlund, Superintendent, State of New Jersey, Department of Education, Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, New Jersey.

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W. O. Stephens (inset) pastors First Assembly, Eagle Lake, Fla.

Florida church enjoys new facilities

EAGLE LAKE, FLA.—The congregation at First Assembly is worshipping in a new building of fan-shape design. The auditorium seats 500 and will accommodate

a balcony at a later date to boost the seating capacity to 712.

Pastor W. O. Stephens writes: "God met us in a wonderful way at the dedication service. His

presence was sweet and we felt His smile was upon us."

J. Foy Johnson, superintendent of the Peninsular Florida District, was the dedication speaker. Ray Schultz, district Sunday school leader, also was present together with many other distinguished guests and friends.

Brother Stephens became pastor in October 1973 and a building fund was begun the following year. Construction was started in March 1975 and completed by December.

The building has 15,000 square feet of space. The Sunday school plant consists of 20 rooms. There are 4 spacious offices.

The carpet and padded pews are of burnt orange offsetting the modern walnut furniture. Stained-glass windows of green and amber highlight the decor.

"We praise God for the continuous moving of the Holy Spirit in our services," the pastor says. "We are seeing souls saved, believers filled with the Spirit, sick bodies healed, and members added to the church.

"Our average Sunday school attendance increased 85 percent for the year 1975, due largely to an active visitation and follow-up program.

"God has blessed our outreach ministry. Dedicated workers visit the convalescent home and minister faithfully each week to the special needs of those often neglected people. The results of this work are most encouraging.

"Eagle Lake First Assembly has a ministry around the world. A large number of missionaries and pastors have gone out from the congregation. Currently the church supports 12 missionaries in 7 countries.

"We appreciate the great work that was done by the former pastors of this church, and we are grateful to Him for the new building He has given us. We feel that a beautiful miracle has unfolded before our eyes."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homecoming—Midway Assembly, Fairview, Okla., June 4, 5, 6.—John P. Marshall, pastor.

Homecoming—First Assembly, Malvern, Ark., June 20. Guest speaker will be John Paproski, former pastor.—Larry Moore, pastor.

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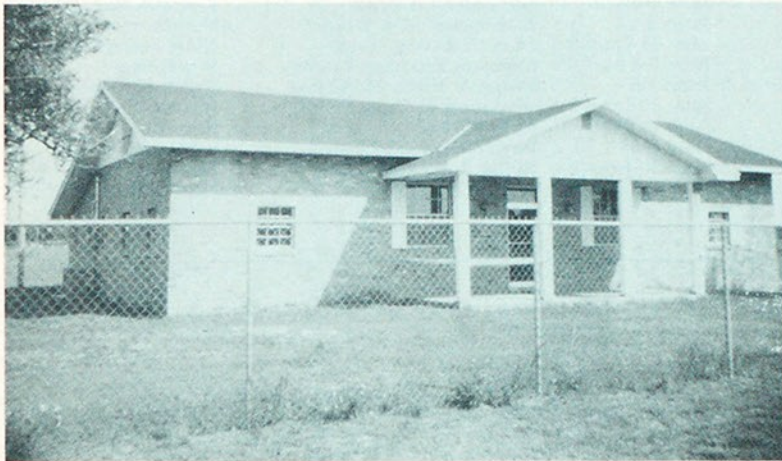
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Eagle Lake First Assembly's brick activity building features a 100-seat auditorium with fireplace, 8 classrooms, fully equipped kitchen, and storeroom.



Christian Life Crusade led by Glen Shinn

COVINGTON, TENN.—First Assembly had a Christian Life Crusade with Evangelist Glen Shinn. "We had a good crowd each night, and were greatly blessed," says Pastor E. L. Sherrick.

SOUTH GATE, CALIF.—Bible Assembly of God was recently blessed by the ministry of the Russell Coyne family of Tulsa, Okla.

Pastor Jack C. Nelson states: "The Coyne family's singing and Brother Coyne's ministry touched the hearts of those who attended, and many received encouragement to believe God to deliver them from their troubles as Brother Coyne related his conversion while in prison."

Pastor Nelson says that the congregation is still reaping a spiritual harvest from these meetings.

SEATTLE, WASH.—The ministry of Evangelist Lloyd Portin of Rochester, Wash., made a special impact on youth and children at Westminster Assembly.

"It was a profitable meeting both for the congregation and a large number of visitors," Pastor R. A. Wilson Jr. states. "A total of 21 were baptized in the Holy Spirit."

Pastor Wilson says the church is growing. Sunday school attendance is running 14 percent above last year.

EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Mobile	Bates Field	May 30-June 4	Tony & Pam Garland	Ralph Welch
	Montgomery	First	June 6-9	Tony & Pam Garland	Cortez Frazier
Alaska	Anchorage	Fairview	May 26-June 6	Charley Hudspeth	Terry Watkins
Ark.	Camden	First	June 6-11	A. G. & Mrs. Calaway	Carl Tillery
	Green Forest	First ¹	June 6-11	Betty J. May & M. Williams	Bill Burris
	Hot Springs	First	June 6-13	Harlon & Maureen Keel	Harold Thompson
	Kensett	A/G	May 31-June 13	Andrew & Freda Teuber	C. L. Haston
	West Fork	A/G ¹	May 30-June 4	Betty J. May & M. Williams	Hugh Still
Calif.	Exeter	A/G	June 6—	Gordon & Alice Speed	W. E. Hubbard
	Fresno	Ashlan Park	June 9-13	Gene Forrest	Charles Shipley
	Napa	First	June 2-6	David & Paula George	Thomas Beard
	Portola	A/G ¹	June 6-11	Charles J. Senechal	James Driggers
	Shafter	A/G	June 10-13	DeVore Waltherman	John Davis
	W. Los Angeles	Faith Tab.	June 2-13	Melvin & Dorothy Sasse	E. L. Surratt
	Willows	First	May 30-June 4	Charles J. Senechal	Eugene Huffman
Colo.	Aurora	First ¹	June 6-11	Gene & Esther Fiddler	Howard Cummings
Fla.	Bascom	A/G	June 6-13	C. W. Mullis	Shelton Kindig
	Monticello	First	June 2-13	Bert Hardy Family	Hector Arce
	MacClenny	First	May 30-June 2	Philip McCutchen	Melvin Murphy
Ga.	Columbus	Evangel Tem. ¹	June 6-10	Charles J. Aaron	Bob Brock
	Thomaston	First	May 26-30	Calvin & Judy Smith	Wayne Forbes
Hawaii	Honolulu	Christian	May 27-30	Charles Ogdon	Harold Headrick
	Honolulu	First	May 23-26	Charles Ogdon Family	Sam Sasser
Ill.	Clinton	A/G	May 30-June 6	The King's Daughters	S. LeRoy Thompson
	Collinsville	A/G ¹	May 30-June 4	Don McGarvey	Phil Waisanen
	Cuba	A/G	June 6-11	Ben Benton	M. G. Livengood
	Danville	First ¹	June 6-11	Don McGarvey	Gordon Nelson
	Havana	A/G	June 8-13	The King's Daughters	A. S. McKinley
	Marion	A/G	June 2-13	Ken Krivohlavek	Roy Baker
	Taylorville	A/G	June 1-6	James & Ruth Hyllberg	W. R. Barrett
Ind.	Indianapolis	Trinity	June 9-13	Jeremiah Hanley	John Smith
	Terre Haute	East Glenn ¹	May 30-June 3	Charles J. Aaron	Norton Richardson
Iowa	Ames	First	June 2-6	Joe Peterson Team	Eugene Vacek
	New Sharon	A/G ¹	June 6-10	Phil Appenzeller	Fred McDaniel
	Ottumwa	First	June 9-13	Joe Peterson Team	Kenneth Barney
	Storm Lake	A/G	June 6-13	Kenneth & Mrs. Baker	Vernon Huffey
Kans.	Dodge City	First ¹	May 31-June 6	Street's Evang. Team	Elvis Satterfield
	Emporia	First	June 7-11	Dwayne Breeden Team	Reg Larson
	Kansas City	Gospel Tem.	June 1-6	Lorne & Ellen McAlister	Ralph Houghton
	Liberal	First	May 30-June 6	The John K. Pratt Family	Russell Rexroat
	Lyndon	A/G	June 6-13	Milo Harmon	Ron Rice
Ky.	Radcliffe	A/G ¹	June 6-11	Ray & Jan Hodges	Eddie Ogletree
La.	Gonzales	A/G	May 30-June 6	Richard David Hooper	Dwayne Stott
	Monroe	College Town	June 2-13	Robert Rogers	Charles Reed



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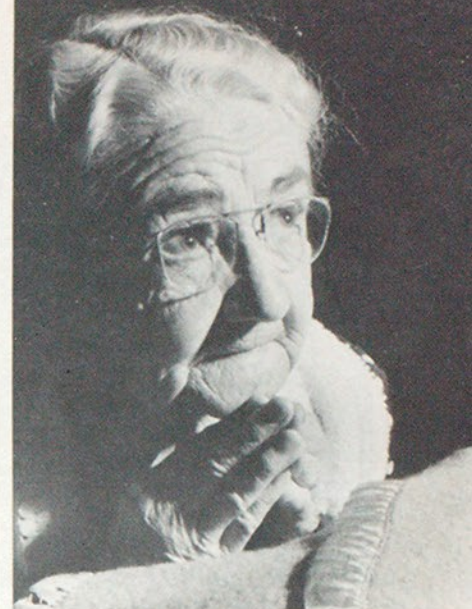
STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
	New Iberia	A/G	June 9-13	E. Judson Cornwall	Don Neel
	Plaquemine	First	June 7-11	Richard David Hooper	Robert Floyd
Md.	Rockville	First ¹	June 6-11	Gordon & Esther Preiser	J. L. Pittman
Mich.	Cheboygan	First	June 1-13	R. O. Denton Family	John Barrow
	St. Clair Shores	A/G	June 6-13	John & Diane Jacob	Norman Muhling
Minn.	Fairbault	A/G	June 1-13	David & Mrs. Dean	Rocco Farina
	Little Falls	A/G	June 6-17	Bob & Elizabeth Abbott	E. E. Eliason
	Saint Paul	Summit Ave. ²	May 30-June 4	Victor Etienne	Kenneth Swenson
Miss.	Laurel	Evangel Tm. ¹	June 6-11	Floyd & Mrs. Renfro	Selby McManus
Mo.	Arnold	Meramac Hgts.	June 6-11	Son-Shine Crusade	J. David Stone
	Cameron	First ¹	June 7-11	Norma Judd	George Mosby
	Campbell	First	May 23-30	Lenny Meyers	Larry Barger
	Cassville	A/G	May 9-20	Tom Waggoner	Walter Whitlock
	Doe Run	A/G	May 30-June 6	Ronnie Dean McRaven	Homer Smith
	Ellsinore	First ¹	May 30-June 4	Don Merritt Family	David Saffle
	Excelsior Spgs.	A/G ¹	May 31-June 4	Norma Judd	F. O. Coats
	Flat River	A/G	May 23-26	Harlon & Maureen Keel	Lloyd Welch
	Herculaneum	First	June 6-11	Tim & Barbara Meyers	Herman Richardson
	Malden	First	June 6—	Ken & Diane Alder	Bernard Shaw
	Moberly	Glad Tidings ¹	May 30-June 4	Phil Appenzellar	Stanley Kostencki
	Ozark	A/G	May 30-June 4	Son-Shine Crusade	A. A. Watkins
	Puxico	A/G	May 30-June 4	Tim & Barbara Meyers	Dearl Daugherty
	Springfield	East Side ¹	June 1-6	Paul & Myrtle Hild	Robert Smith
	Union	A/G	May 30-June 6	Dan & Marty Womack	Philip Sallee
Mont.	Libby	A/G	June 6-11	Rae (Berry) Gillespie	J. E. Jacobson
	Miles City	A/G	June 6-11	Larson-Stiver Team	Grady Chaney
	Missoula	First ¹	May 30-June 4	Gene & Esther Fiddler	Harry L. Ayers
Nebr.	Cozad	A/G	June 2-6	Mark White Evang. Team	Harvey Herman
N. J.	Metuchen	Central	June 6-20	Andrews Brothers Team	Paul Respass
N. Mex.	Artesia	First ¹	May 31-June 4	Travis & Mrs. Corder	John Hutson
	Lovington	First ¹	June 7-11	Travis & Mrs. Corder	Sanford Williams
N. Y.	Calharge	Calvary	May 30-June 6	Robert Lundstrom	Charles Scrimale
	Oswego	A/G	June 2-6	D. J. & Anna Mary Paglia	Gordon Hinman
N. C.	Asheville	W. Asheville	June 3-13	Warren D. Combs	George Patterson
	New Bern	A/G ¹	May 30-June 4	Gordon & Esther Preiser	Bert West
	Rocky Mount	Westside	May 31-June 11	Calvin & Judy Smith	Phil Privette
	Salisbury	First	May 26-June 6	Ervin & Myrna Asiatico	Lawrence Lee
N. Dak.	Minot	A/G ¹	May 31-June 4	Paul & Ilene Anderson	Richard Orchard
Ohio	Columbiana	Columbiana Tab.	June 1-6	Joe & Kaye Hartley	Bill Baria
	Coshocton	A/G	June 8-13	Joe & Kaye Hartley	John Cox
	Medina	First	May 30-June 6	Ossie & Ophelia Jones	Ronald Dress
	Sandusky	A/G	June 1-6	David Asel	Harry Vaughn
Okla.	Bluejacket	First	June 6—	Hazel Burns	Gifford Clothier
	Cache	First	May 31-June 6	W. A. & Emma Stanley	Ted Stephens
	El Reno	First ¹	June 9-13	Mel Woods Team	C. W. Van Horn
	Fittstown	A/G	May 30-June 11	Lawrence & Patty Posey	Bennie Boeck
	Sand Springs	Skyview ¹	May 30-June 4	George & Karen Clymer	Warren Harkins
	Savanna	A/G ¹	May 30-June 4	James Walter Family	Moody Hicks
	Seiling	A/G	June 2-13	H. A. & Ruth Strange	Forrest Murray
	Stillwell	A/G	May 30-June 4	Jennie L. Powell	W. O. Hatton
	Stratford	A/G	May 30-June 4	Paul & Nancy Williams	V. G. Harmon
	Tulsa	Faith	June 6-11	Jennie L. Powell	Grady Adcock
Oreg.	Aloha	A/G ¹	June 6-10	Marlin "Doc" Bowman	Leroy Hunt
	Bend	First	May 30-June 6	Gary & Jeanie Schaeffer	L. S. Hootman
	Scio	Skyline ¹	May 30-June 3	Bob & Mary Swope	Bob Adams
Pa.	Irwin	First	June 8-13	D. J. & Anna Mary Paglia	Charles Elliott
	McConnellsburg	Pentecostal	June 2-6	Mike & Bernadine Garland	Lewis Leeper
S. C.	Charleston	Northwood	May 30-June 11	F. R. McAdams Evang. Tm.	Freddy Richard
	Greer	First	June 5-9	Randy & Vicki Hopkins	Henry Wright
	Spartanburg	Bethel ¹	June 6-11	Donnie & Brenda Rogers	Steve Brown
S. Dak.	Mitchell	A/G	May 30-June 4	The Nelson Family	Jerry Roberson
Tenn.	Covington	Midway ¹	June 7-11	James Walter Family	William Myracle
	Munford	First ¹	June 8-13	Paul & Myrtle Hild	Charles Hurst
	Nashville	Kids Camp	June 7-25	Kathleen Jennings	R. Stanbro, Dir.
Tex.	Arlington	Bethel	May 30—	L. L. Ammons	Charles Savage
	Aransas Pass	First	June 6-11	Al Owen Family Crusade	John Gall
	Bogata	First	June 9-20	Don Martin	Billy Pirtle
	Brownfield	First	June 8-13	The John K. Pratt Family	Hal Swartzendruber
	Bullard	First	June 2-13	Corbett & Miriam Berthelot	Leslie Bartley
	Burnet	First	June 1-6	Gordon & Barbara Bass	James McHam
	Cedar Park	White Stone	May 19-30	Gordon & Barbara Bass	T. F. Jenke
	Dallas	Blue Bonnett	June 6-13	Jess & Becky White	Carl McDaniel
	Dallas	Little Bethel ¹	June 6-13	Helen Steele	Clarence Hurley
	Dumas	First	June 6-11	Ricky & Diana Pfeil	H. L. Stevens
	Ft. Worth	Victory ¹	June 6-11	George & Karen Clymer	C. H. Jones
	Gladewater	First	June 1-6	Tom & Joy Calk	Don Puckett
	Houston	North Shore	May 30-June 1	Mike Murdock	Ron Smith
	Kingsville	First	May 31-June 4	Al Owen Family Crusade	James Fields
	Lewisville	First	May 30-June 6	James & Vickie Alexander	Carl Lambert Jr.
	Lewisville	West Side	May 30-June 13	B. P. Carroll	J. L. Uselton
	McLean	A/G ¹	May 30-June 4	Ricky & Diana Pfeil	Z. A. Myers
	Marlin	Tomlinson Hill ³	May 31-June 13	Carl Stewart	E. C. Allen
	Plainview	First	June 6-11	Dave E. Laughlin Family	Mack Cantwell
	Rhame	First	June 7-13	W. A. & Emma Stanley	E. E. Johnston
	Saint Jo	First	May 23-30	W. A. & Emma Stanley	C. E. Russell
	Snyder	First ¹	May 23-28	Ricky & Diana Pfeil	John Grappe
	Uvalde	First	June 11-13	James & Vickie Alexander	Don White
Va.	Front Royal	First ²	June 1-13	Irving & Mary Lou Howard	A. A. Yates
	Hopewell	Faith Tab. ¹	May 30-June 4	Lew Hall Crusades	W. M. Hoard
Wash.	Lake Stevens	A/G	June 2-6	Lloyd Portin	Ray Hull
W. Va.	Paw Paw	Lighthouse	June 1-6	Wm. & Irene Van Winkle	Edward Allen
Wis.	Merrill	A/G	June 8-13	James & Ruth Hyllberg	Arnie Jacobsen
Canada	Windsor, Ont.	Bethel	June 6-11	L. Evelyn Glosser	V. G. Brown

¹ Children's Revival

² Youth Crusade

³ Community Revival

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



H. Armstrong Roberts photo

'I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.'

Last year 236 individuals—aged ministers or their wives or widows—received help from Aged Ministers Assistance. Because someone cared enough to share, they were not turned away when they needed help.

Your gift today will help guarantee that these who have dedicated their lives to God will not be forsaken, or have to beg for bread, in old age.

May 30, Memorial Sunday, is Aged Ministers Assistance Day. What an excellent opportunity to show these faithful pioneers they are not forgotten.

AGED MINISTERS ASSISTANCE
1445 Boonville Ave.
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Enclosed is \$_____, my May AMA offering to show our aged ministers they are loved and appreciated in their old age.

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Church _____

5-30



Exterior of the new Cathedral of Life Evangelistic Center, Panama City, Panama. Dick and Janice Larson are pastors.

CATHEDRAL OF LIFE DEDICATED

PANAMA CITY, PANAMA—On January 18, the new Cathedral of Life Evangelistic Center here was dedicated with J. Philip Hogan, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions, officiating.

In Spanish the term *cathedral* indicates a place of learning as well as worship, and these are the fundamental elements of the church's program. The new sanctuary seats 1,200 and also serves as a production center for radio and television programs. A 3-story educational unit adjoining the sanctuary houses the Assemblies of God Bible Institute, operating under the direction of

Missionary Larry Cederblom.

Approximately 85 percent of the cost of the new facilities has been assumed by the congregation. Missionary-builder Gordon Weden served as overseer of the project, and Mobilization and Placement Service (MAPS) teams from the United States helped extensively in the building's construction.

A special highlight of the dedication was the presentation of a \$1,000 check to Brother Hogan to be used in foreign missions. The congregation gave the offering to represent their desire to be a missions-minded church. The

money has been designated to help in the evangelistic thrust in Egypt.

Commenting on the gift, Brother Hogan said, "Now I know for sure that this is a New Testament church!"

The Evangelistic Center had its start in 1967 when Missionaries David and Doris Godwin and Evangelist and Mrs. Richard Jeffery started a tent crusade in the city. The crusade continued every night for several months until a strong group of believers had been established.

With the help of churches in the United States, the congregation purchased an old theater and remodeled it into a church.

Five years later Missionaries Dick and Janice Larson became pastors of the church. That year the need for larger facilities became evident. The Division of Foreign Missions assisted the church in purchasing a lot, strategically located at a main intersection of the city. The converted theater was sold, and the congregation moved back into

the tent while the new facilities were constructed.

Time in the tent was productive. The congregation continued to grow, and a new television ministry was launched. The program was called the *Cathedral of Life*, and the name was later applied to the church itself.

The Evangelistic Center has 17 branch churches and Sunday schools scattered throughout the Panama City area and nearly 1,500 adherents. Its color telecast is carried on a network of five repeater stations and has an estimated viewing audience of between 50,000 and 75,000 people.

Last year church members distributed more than 500,000 pieces of gospel literature, much of which was provided by Light-for-the-Lost.

Speed-the-Light has provided equipment for the production of radio broadcasts, and recently approved a project to install videotaping equipment for the church's use in producing television programs.



MINUTES OF MISSIONS

ARGENTINA—Missionary Victor Hedman reports that 33 people from two branch churches have been baptized in water. Another new church has been started as a result of two recent children's campaigns. Over 400 children were reached with the gospel during the campaign, and two Happy Hour Bible Clubs have been started to instruct these boys and girls in the Christian faith.

COLOMBIA—From 35 to 40 inmates are attending weekly meetings at the Bogota Women's Prison. Missionary Arthur Lindvall reports that there are new converts every week and many inmates are being filled with the Holy Spirit.

TAIWAN—Puppets provide an effective means of bringing the gospel to the Chinese. So Missionaries David and Wardella Plymire have developed a small, collapsible stage complete with lights, props, and a sound system which they set up in marketplaces or along village streets. Crowds gather instantly. Local craftsmen worked with great care to create authentic-looking puppets. Two national workers are assisting the Plymires in this evangelism project.



Above: Platform guests and choir participating in dedication ceremonies, at Panama City. Below: Center section of the new fan-shaped auditorium on dedication day.



Bible Society produces Scriptures for Pentecostal evangelism in Thailand

NEW YORK—Until 30 years ago, there was a common saying among Thailand's Christians that there were more Buddhist temples in their country than Protestant Christians.

The scene began to change, however, when Pentecostal missionaries arrived and started to work with four major groups in Thailand. Pentecostal mission work has made a remarkable impact in the last 30 years. There are now 200 Pentecostal churches and 6,000 members.

In November some 150 ministers and lay preachers from Pentecostal groups gathered to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance for evangelization of the nation of Thailand. The time seemed especially favorable, for there is clear evidence of spiritual hunger. In addition, people are anxious and tense over the political instability of the country and are seeking solutions to the problem in themselves and in the nation.

Mr. Chan Choi, a Scripture distribution consultant for the United Bible Societies, and former executive secretary of the Bible Society in Thailand, was invited

to address the meeting on what the Bible Society stands for and how it can best serve the churches in their evangelistic ministry. At the close of the conference, it was decided that 2 million Scripture selections should be printed by the Bible Society for use by Pentecostals in evangelizing Thailand this year.

These selections in the format of leaflets will contain a Biblical text proclaiming the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ. All of the 200 churches, many located in the poorer sections of the country, have pledged to raise funds to pay for half the cost of printing.

The other half of the cost will be absorbed by the United Bible Societies. Funds for projects like this come from the UBS World Service Budget. American Pentecostals may help support this kind of Scripture publication through their contributions to the American Bible Society, which provided 48 percent of the UBS World Service Budget last year.

World distribution by the UBS numbered over 303,000,000 Bibles, New Testaments, and smaller portions of Scripture in 1975.

MISSIONARY PREPARES NEW FRENCH TRANSLATION

PARIS, FRANCE—The French Bible Society has asked Missionary Kenneth Ware to prepare a new translation of the French New Testament.

A citizen of the United States, Brother Ware has spent 34 years in France as a missionary. He learned Greek through private study and has compiled a Greek concordance.

Resource materials for Brother Ware's translation work include the Greek manuscripts and three earlier French translations of the

New Testament—editions 25, 50, and 100 years old.

On each page of the new translation, references will be given for tracing renditions of certain Greek words from one Scripture passage to another.

Deadline for this new edition is 1978, the "Year of the Bible" in France. During that year churches throughout the country will publicize the Bible and emphasize the importance of reading and studying it.

Seminar trains Singapore church leaders

SINGAPORE—The Asian School of Evangelism and Missions (ASEM) recently concluded its Christian Leadership Seminar in Singapore. Church leaders from 16 Singapore churches participated. The enrollment reached 133.

The ASEM courses for this session were taught by the resident missionaries of Singapore. One of the courses which met a great

need in training Sunday school teachers was "The Techniques of Teaching."

The director of ASEM, Missionary Wes Weekley, gave 113 certificates to the pastors for the students attending ASEM from the various churches. Afterward students received their certificates in special recognition services held in their local churches.

MISSIONARIES RETURNING TO THE FIELD



Adeline Wichman
Ghana



Charles Pearce family
South Africa



Pauline Smith
Ghana



Glen Davenport family
El Salvador



The Anthony Sorbos
Indonesia



The Raymond Zentses, Sr.
Upper Volta



Arline Crompton
India



The Foster Woodses
Indonesia



MISSIONARY PERSONALIA

The following missionaries are returning to the United States for deputational work: the Harry Bartels (Mexico); the J. Warren Flatleys (Belgium); the Alver C. Rances (Guatemala); the Lee Roy Wards (Nigeria); the Robert Creels (Senegal); the Melton Hills (Togo-Benin); Iris Brown (Micronesia); Margaret Carlow (Japan); and the Dale Jacksons

(Japan).

The Max Yearys have transferred from Haiti to Guadeloupe.

The Norman Campbells (Argentina) have transferred to the ministerial list.

Mrs. Margaret Jones (South Africa) has transferred to the superannuated list.

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EVANGELLETTERS

READERS WRITE THE EDITORS

Healing power of praise

The article, "The Healing Power of Praise" (February 22 Issue) was quite a shock. I know we should continually praise God for what He has done for us, but how can we accept everything that happens, good or bad, as the will of God, and praise Him for it?

We are told to "resist the devil." Then how can we praise God for experiences or circumstances which are the work of the devil?

Christians should not resign themselves passively to sickness, disease, or other problems but exercise faith so that God can change the situation. Our loving Heavenly Father delights in bestowing "good gifts" upon His children, not evil.

BILL HYDE
Indiana

The article, "The Healing Power of Praise," troubled me. I have multiple sclerosis, for which I do not praise my Lord. But I do praise Him for bearing stripes for my healing, and I thank Him for the time to read the Bible and listen to some good teaching.

The author said some good things in the article. For example: "Sometimes I see my own past foolishness—such as complaining when my husband leaves dirty clothes on the floor—and instead I thank God that I have a husband to pick up after."

Oh, if people were only taught to look for the working of God in all things and to praise Him that He is working in all circumstances.

I think this is the meaning of 1 Thessalonians 5:18—"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." It does not say the circumstances are the will of God. It says giving thanks in everything is the will of God.

Why praise God that Adam and Eve fell into sin, or that the world became so wicked He had to send the Flood?

Why praise God that men are so greedy they fight and send men to death and judgment before their time?

Why praise God that some drunk runs into a group of school

children and kills three or four potential witnesses for Christ?

No, that's not my Father's will. I'll praise Him that He thought enough of me to save a line through Noah from whom He could send a Redeemer.

I'll praise Him that He spoke to men on the battlefield and gave them a chance to accept Him.

Yes, I'll praise Him that He uses the very work of the devil to speak to souls who otherwise may not be reached.

We have plenty to thank Him for, without praising Him for things that are the works of the devil.

DAVID L. MCCLURE
Kansas

A spiritual home

How I do enjoy the *Evangel*. It is a great help in my Christian life and service.

I have known the Lord for 20 years but only recently did I find a spiritual home in the Assemblies of God. I'm so grateful to two dear friends for this. I teach a class of Primary girls, and I'm so thankful for this Spirit-filled life.

READER IN CALIFORNIA

Why not perfect?

I beg to differ with the editorial that said the church is not perfect. The Bible has a lot to say about being perfect.

If you do not have a perfect church, you only have a congregation. It's no more difficult to be perfect than to be holy, righteous, or pure.

I'm now almost 85. I was studying the Scriptures when E. N. Bell was editor of the *Evangel* about 1914. I'm amazed that you have not found perfection in the Scriptures.

E. N. DICKENS
Texas

Inspiration and help

Please renew my subscription. I would not like to be without my *Pentecostal Evangel*.

The magazine is a great inspiration and help to me during these days of chaos in the world where men's hearts are being turned to greed and selfishness, rather than love and prayer.

AUDREY KERSHNER
Ohio

Brutal handshakes

Some ideas generally accepted as facts turn out, upon closer examination, as pure supposition. Among these is the fallacy that if you don't come near breaking the bones in a hand you are shaking, you may be considered insincere.

Nonsense. Some people shake hands gently because they are by nature gentle folk. Others do it because of shyness, and still others because they bruise easily.

Personally I have had some rather traumatic experiences with handshakes.

There was Sister W. She was an ex-cowgirl and shook hands as though she were practicing to return to her former occupation. She would seize your hand and give a quick downward jerk just as she would in tightening a rope around the neck of a steer.

Then there was Brother B. He used a surprise tactic. He would take your hand gently, then just as you relaxed in grateful belief that here indeed was a considerate handshaker, he would apply pressure, squeezing your helpless paw like a mechanic screwing up a vise.

I have walked out of church with my right hand swollen and already turning black and blue just because some well-meaning bruiser felt it necessary to prove his sincerity!

No Christian really wants to hurt anyone, yet no Christian wishes to appear less than friendly by refusing a proffered hand.

But wouldn't it be nice if we would all give more thought to the person behind the hand?

Does she have small bones? Is she known to have suffered from arthritis? Has she been ill? Is she able to return your grip with one of equal strength?

Why not let the force of the handshake be determined by these considerations rather than by the purely egotistical desire to prove something.

To all handshakers, male and female, who don't seem to know their own strength, and especially to those with the deep-rooted conviction that a powerful wrench of the hand indicates character, I would like to say, "I'll be glad to take your sincerity for granted and settle for a little compassion."

There is no merit in those brutal handshakes.

THELMA FIELD MACDOUGALL
California

A WORD OF PEACE FOR A WORLD IN PERIL

Confirmation that Israel possesses atomic weapons is a jolting reminder of the present world peril. Less is said than formerly about the threat of nuclear warfare—the world is getting used to living under the shadow of the Bomb—but the danger is ever present.

Formerly only six nations were known to have the Bomb: the U.S., the Soviet Union, France, Britain, India, and China. Now it is disclosed that Israel has 13 atomic bombs assembled and ready for use if her enemies push her too far.

Israel came frighteningly near to using those bombs in 1973. An article in *Time* (April 12, 1976) states that when Israeli forces were falling back on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts in the Yom Kippur War, and it seemed they could not hold the Arab forces off much longer, the Domsday weapons were activated.

On October 9, 1973, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan solemnly warned Premier Golda Meier, "This is the end of the third temple" (that is, the modern State of Israel, the first two temples having been destroyed by the Babylonians around 586 B.C. and by the Romans

in A.D. 70). Mrs. Meier thereupon gave Dayan permission to get the nuclear bombs ready.

According to *Time*, the 13 bombs were hastily assembled at a secret underground tunnel within 78 hours. As each bomb was readied, it was rushed off to waiting Air Force units.

The weapons reportedly have a 20-kiloton yield, roughly as powerful as those that obliterated Hiroshima and Nagasaki. One shudders to think what might have happened to Cairo, Damascus, and other cities had they been dropped!

But if the Israelis had unleashed their bombs, their enemies would certainly have retaliated and a worldwide nuclear war could have resulted. *Time* says that on October 13, 1973, the Russians dispatched nuclear warheads to Alexandria to be fitted on Russian Scud missiles already based in Egypt. The U.S. learned of the situation and that is why the global military alert was issued on October 25, 1973, according to the magazine.

Fortunately the tide of war turned in Israel's favor on both fronts before any bombs were dropped. The bombs reportedly

were put in storage and the nuclear holocaust was postponed for a few years.

What can Christians do to help a world in peril? Thank God, He has given us a word of peace (Romans 10:15). The Bible says God sent that word "unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ" (Acts 10:36). We must preach that "gospel of peace" to all men as the only power that can take hatred and selfishness out of human hearts and "guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:79).

Meanwhile, we can pray for the nations. God reigns, and He is able to intervene and keep men from destroying one another.

And we can have peace in our hearts, even in troubled times. "Peace I leave with you," Jesus said, "my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). Our Lord told us perilous times would come—but God will keep us in perfect peace if we trust in Him and keep our minds stayed on Him.

—T.C.C.

PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

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WE BELIEVE . . .

. . . the Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God.

. . . there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

. . . 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, in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years.

. . . in the Blessed Hope—the rapture of the Church at Christ's coming.

. . . the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

. . . regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

. . . the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer.

. . . the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

. . . in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life.

. . . in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

DOCTORS AMAZED BY INFANT'S RECOVERY FROM HYDROCEPHALUS

On Monday, November 25, 1974, my wife and I had the most traumatic experience of our lives. Doctors at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago told us our 4½-month-old son Kenny had hydrocephalus.

The initial shock and the despair that followed were almost unbearable. Hydrocephalus is an excessive accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain. Persons so affected are commonly called waterheads. If left untreated the condition is terminal.

The doctor explained that Kenny's case wasn't entirely hopeless. He explained a surgical procedure in which a drain tube called a shunt could be inserted into the brain cavity, the other end going under the skin to the abdominal cavity and draining off the excess fluid, thus relieving the pressure.

He said that if we didn't consent to surgery, Kenny would suffer brain damage and mental and physical retardation which would get progressively worse and end in a horrible death.

We consented to having the shunt installed. Kenny was admitted to the hospital that same afternoon and scheduled for tests and X rays, with surgery set for Friday.

We called our pastor and requested prayer from the congregation. Our church's prayer chain was activated immediately.

We left our baby at the hospital and returned to New Lenox, Ill., where we then lived. Our pastor was there waiting for us. We very much needed and appreciated his prayer and counsel at that time. Family and friends all over the

United States were called and asked to pray for Kenny and us.

The tests and X rays confirmed what the doctor had told us. However, Kenny's surgery was postponed because of a more urgent case. When it was rescheduled, the doctors decided that instead of inserting the shunt, they would do an exploratory procedure and drain the excess fluid from the brain. They had decided that his condition, though not entirely unique, seemed unusual enough to warrant this procedure.

After 6 hours of surgery the doctors told us that although Kenny had an accumulation of fluid, he had none of the other symptoms or problems that go along with hydrocephalus. Evidently God was answering prayer.

But several days after surgery complications set in. An excessive amount of fluid was escaping from inside the skull and collecting under the scalp. The top of Kenny's head was twice its normal size. The incision ruptured and approximately 1½ quarts of fluid escaped. He was then scheduled for immediate surgery to repair a leak in the membrane covering the brain.

At this time our pastor called for a weeklong, 24-hour prayer chain to pray for little Kenny's healing.

He recovered well from surgery, but there was a continuing fluid loss. At this point some doctors wanted a third operation to install the shunt, while some wanted another exploratory, and others wanted to install a temporary drain under the scalp. They did the latter, and it seemed to work except that Kenny pulled out the tubes four times even while he was strapped down in his crib.

As an alternative he was given two spinal taps a day for a week,

after which he had improved to the point where they were discontinued.

At this time the doctors told us just to wait and watch. We did so and continued to pray. Kenny improved rapidly and was discharged from the hospital the day he was 6 months old. He had spent 7 weeks in the hospital.

He was discharged without a shunt. He did not suffer any physical or mental setbacks from the time spent in the hospital.

He crawled before he was 7 months old and began walking at 10 months. By the time he was 11 months old the 10-inch S-shaped scar on his head was barely visible!

We were told he would have to take medication for a year, but he was taken off it at 6 months.

Today Kenny is well and the doctors say he is advanced for his age. They have told us in amazement that he had hydrocephalus when they first examined him, but he doesn't have it now.

They don't know what caused it or why he doesn't have it now. They said the surgery was akin to pricking a blister; it was not corrective. If they didn't know for a fact what he had been through, they would never believe it by looking at him now.

We know what happened. God answered the many prayers that went up for Kenny and we praise and thank Him. In our church, Kenny is affectionately called "our miracle boy." Praise the Lord.—Mr. and Mrs. John Rush, Manchester, Mo.

(Endorsed by Pastor B. P. Bell, Calvary Temple, Flossmoor, Ill.)