

THE
Apostolic Faith
REPORT

Volume 3

DECEMBER, 1956

Number 1



THE STORY EVER NEW

Only an old, old story
Of infinite love and grace;
Only a beam of glory
Lightening a baby face.
But through the rolling ages,
No story half so dear;
Of all earth's sunshine glory,
No beams so bright and clear.

Only a manger lowly,
Where in the sweet child lay;
Only a Mother holy,
Watching the hours away.
Only a sweet song stealing
Down through the quiet skies;
Only a Star's soft beam
Points where the baby lies.

Only some shepherds kneeling,
Paying their homage sweet,
Pouring their richest treasures
Down at those baby-feet.
Strains of that far-off anthem
Float through the world since then,
Breathing of "Joy in heaven,
On earth good will toward men."

Hark! to the joyous chorus —
"To you a King is born!"
Star of the East, now lead us,
Lead us this Christmas morn,
Till, like the faithful shepherds,
We kneel in homage sweet,
And pour our heart's best treasures
Down at those sacred feet.

Thus reads the sweet old story,
Old, but still ever new;
Know we the wealth of glory
It brings to me and you?
Know we those tiny fingers
Opened heaven's portals wide?
But for that helpless Baby
All the whole world had died.

SERMON OF THE MONTH

What Does Christmas Mean?

By Edna Schultz

**Christmas! What an exciting word.
Christmas! A wonderful season
of the year.**

A special time for practically everyone, rich or poor, religious or non-religious. It means something to everybody. To all civilized countries and to many in heathen lands, it means the birth of a baby Jesus. Yes, Christmas is really the anniversary of that great day when Jesus came into the world but, what does that really mean; what does it mean to you?

To the shepherds who were watching their flock on that memorable night, it meant glad tidings of great joy as the angels proclaimed the wondrous story of peace on earth good will toward men.

To the wise men it meant the Messiah had been born. They were glad and anxious to see He that was born King of the Jews.

They followed the star to the place where the Christ Child lay, and brought their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. To them also, it meant good news.

To Herod it meant fear. Fear that one would rule on his throne. It was not "good news", to his wicked heart but, the beginning of an evil plan to rid the world of this babe; who was born to be a ruler. The course which he took was not in ignorance, for hadn't he called the scribes to read to him where the Christ child should be born? While his commandment brought heartaches to many as baby boys were slain, he failed in his plan to destroy Jesus. God gave Him for a purpose and no one could take His life until that purpose had been accomplished.

There were others watching for the consolation of Israel. Anna and Simeon recognized Jesus as He was brought to the Temple when He was eight days old. Simeon took Him in his arms and Blessed Him. He said to Mary, "Behold this child is

set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;" Yes, to him it meant the fullness of His life, and the promise of God fulfilled in his life. God had promised that he should not depart this life until he had seen the Hope of Israel.

The day that is taken so lightly by many was precious to those who were watching for the Lord. It meant life and new hope for a darkened world.

Almost two thousand years have passed since the angels proclaimed the birth of Christ, but in one way or another that day is celebrated today.

What does Christmas mean to people in this 20th Century and these United States especially? A nation that has been blessed abundantly by the hand of an Almighty God.

To the rich, it means an endless round of shopping and feasting. To their children it means more toys in an already over-crowded play room. To the poor it is a time of sadness and longing to some. Parents who cannot give to their children, nor yet explain why they cannot have the beautiful things "Santa", is supposed to bring. Yes, in this prosperous nation there is much sadness. Oh! that they all could know the story of Jesus, the greatest gift of all.

To the merchants it means store decorations and selling of more merchandise. In some windows we see the nativity scene; while in the windows of Jewish owned stores we see Santa Claus and his reindeer. The Jew doesn't believe in Jesus, but he will capitalize on His Birthday.

It is a shame, but in a nation so blessed of the Lord as ours, there are countless people who think only in terms of Santa Claus, and family gatherings, without once giving thanks to God for the precious gift He gave to the world; His Son.

Too many will be spending that sacred time on the dance floor or in other places of amusement and bright lights, without once thinking of the lowly babe of Bethlehem.

Yes, Christmas means a great

many things to many people, but what does it mean to you personally? Are you one of the careless throng going through life enjoying the wonderful blessings bestowed by the hand of the Lord, without thinking at what price those blessings have been purchased?

All should be thankful for God's gift of His Son, but women should be especially grateful, for it is only where the story of Jesus is told, has womanhood been lifted. We who are women should thank God for our freedom and not use it as an offense or stumbling block.

If you are a child of God, then Christmas means to you the real story of Jesus and His lowly birth. If Jesus had not been born, then there would have been no Christmas.

Our minds go back to that night so long ago, when weary, wayworn travelers sought room in the inn, only to be turned away. No room, no room in the inn. Strange that one who was declined to change the course of the world, should be born in a manger; yet that was the birth place of our Saviour.

As the story of love is ever new, so the story of baby Jesus is always new. How Mary brought forth her first born, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger. Little folks beg to hear it over and over again. The hearts of older folks are touched, or they think of the loneliness of Joseph and Mary on that night of nights, so long ago.

You who are parents; have you ever tried to place yourself in their place? When your first born came into the world, in the midst of your happiness, did you pause for a moment and think how Mary must have felt when she laid her babe in a manger on a bed of straw? The manger is a hallowed spot to us today, but what was it to the tired and lonely hearts on the night our Saviour was born?

Christmas not only means the babe in the manger, but it should inspire giving. Wasn't the very inspiration for it a gift? God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. The first Christmas gift. The first desire of the wise men was to bring gifts.

Giving should be a part of our lives not only to those who give to us in return but first give ourselves

Signs, Signs Signs

By Homer Coberly

In attending the Full Gospel International Business Mens Fellowship in Los Angeles, I was privileged to go with a grand and good friend of mine, Brother Shackarian, who is President and founder of the fellowship meeting. Everything was going good, a wonderful spirit. Brother Shackarian was making a wonderful talk about signs. In a most wonderful spirit of love and humbleness said, "I'm not criticizing or finding fault but many are looking for mysterious signs, and seeking signs instead of seeking Jesus. Now some have the sign of Blood on the Forehead in the sign of the Cross, others the Oil on the hands, and before long someone will come saying, I'm the Christ the Son of God. To prove it they will say look at the Nail Prints in My Hands, See the scars on my brow from the crown of thorns, and look, my side is pierced." Just then a woman came walking up to the microphone, saying, "I'm the Son of God, I'm the incarnate Son of God." He asked her to sit down, but she kept talking. He said, "perhaps it would be best to let these talk and prove what I'm saying. See what I'm telling you, false Christs arising." After the service was dismissed I went to her and asked, "What are you trying to say?" She repeated the words again to me. I was telling a young man about it, he said, "Who will be the first to accept the anti-christ, the sign seeking professors or the world? The readers may judge for

unto the Lord and then to others as unto the Lord.

Christmas means freedom from the old law; for it was the birth of Christ that brought us from the shadow of the law to the reality of life in Christ. Because He was born into the world, we can be born into the kingdom of God. Christmas, or the birth of Christ, means hope to the world in general. God is not willing that any should perish; but to the Christian it means manifold more in this present life and eternal life in the ages to come.

It is glad tidings of Great Joy. Does it mean this to you?

O B I T U A R Y

Funeral services for Lorenza Thomas Crawford, 75, of Cave Springs, who died November 6, 1956 in his home, were conducted this afternoon at the Cave Springs Mission church by the Rev. Neal Sawrey, evangelist of Fayetteville, and the Rev. Homer Coberly of Lubbock, Texas. Burial was in the Cave Springs cemetery, directed by Burns funeral home of Rogers.

Survivors include Mr. Crawford's wife, a daughter, three brothers and five sisters.

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA—

The church is progressing nicely. We had 64 in Sunday school the last two Sundays (Oct. 30th). New families come, but it is difficult to keep the number climbing because of a moving and changing congregation.

The work is continuing on the parsonage, there is quite a bit to be done, that is inside finish work, but the plans are to be moved in by Christmas if possible. Indeed the way of the Lord is right and this work is going on for Him.

Brother and Sister
Bill Patterson, pastors

themselves. One man was making a talk just fresh from Washington, D. C. He said the nation is afraid of what's going to happen. Only some months ago a magazine on its front cover had the face of a clock dial, the minute hand was set at exactly 3 minutes until 12:00. These men that drew and made these statements were scientists, astrologers, historians that knew nothing of the prophecies of the Bible. If those men can see the end so near how much plainer should the believing child of God see the end of the age and soon coming of the Lord.

I was in a great revival with Brother Louis L. Hunter, formerly of Carterville, Mo., his address is 6966 Arlington avenue, Arlington, Calif. He is the pastor of a fine church and all ministers are invited to stop by for services. Brother and Sister Peters have been working here for some time.

TO MY FRIEND

I spoke to you about your soul today.
Perhaps you wished that I would go away
And say no more and let you be.
But, oh,
My cherished friend, if you could only know
The longing in my heart for you,
The dread
Of looking forward, after you are dead,
Unto that certain day when you must stand
Before the throne of Christ! Works of your hand,
Fruits of your heart, will not avail,
for He
Will ask you, "What did you do with Me?"
Dear friend of mine, there is no other way.
How could I bear it, if in your despair
And bitter grief, you cried, "Did she not care
Enough for me to speak? To point the way?
To save me from this anguish and dismay?"
My heart is bleeding, thinking of your woe,
Your terror, and your helplessness and so
I spoke to you about your soul today.
I could not leave you, could not go away.

—Martha Snell Nicholson

HEMPSTEAD, TEXAS—

The work of the Lohrd continues to roll along and the Gospel of the kingdom is going forth from service to service. Thank the Lord for freedom of worship and the privilege to lift high the blood stained banner of King Immanuel. November 2, 1956, Brother and Sister Roy Wooster and Brother Homer Allen visited in the church with a special Bible School service. This helped to inspire our people to greater interest in the Bible School. We are still looking and praying for a harvest of souls.

Donald D. Dibbens, Pastor

It is in the chambers of self surrender that the soul comes face to face with truth.—Well Spring.

The Apostolic Faith Report

GAIL W. SCHULTZ, Editor
M. D. METHVIN, Co-Editor

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Published as the Lord Provides; sent to you upon request on the free-will offering basis.

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Baxter Springs, Kansas

Please send all changes of address, giving both old and new address.

From My Viewpoint

By Gail Schultz

(EDITORIAL)

Merry Christmas to every one of you — may it bring to you new memories of Christ and all that He means to each of us. Life is empty, void and lonely without Him, but filled with true worship when we know Him.

May we add a Happy New Year too. Again we look into a desperate world, but the love light of Christ will be kept burning by deeply consecrated souls. Let us pay true homage to the Lord of Glory and let all our powers awaken to His summons, being ready for service at home or abroad.

Another year the Lord has made possible the publishing of the Apostolic Faith Report. We hope to keep the message of these pages coming to you, with an up-to-date report and news each issue. Thank you for all you have done to make this possible.

May the Lord make it possible for you to come to the Convocation, and attend or visit Bible School.

Pray for us — it is His grace that keeps us moving forward. Will close this months editorial with a **MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL.**

APOSTOLIC FAITH YOUNG PEOPLES RALLY

By J. D. Fields

The Young Peoples Rally was held at the Apostolic Faith church at Woodward, Okla., October 22.

There were groups from Arnett, Laverne, Midway and Woodward, Okla., and Follet, Texas.

The program consisted of special songs or readings from each church.

Election of officers was held. Officers elected were: Kay Kerr, president from Midway, Okla.; Harrol Waterbury, vice president from Laverne, Okla.; Mrs. Harold J. Bollinger, secretary - treasurer from Arnett, Okla., and J. D. Fields, reporter from Woodward, Okla.

The sermon was brought by Winston Barker from Alvin, Texas. The subject of the sermon was "The Great Creator".

The next Young Peoples Rally will be held at Arnett, Okla., on November 26.

YOUTH

Youth is a bud or seed
Transplanted here below.
Sent from the "Heavenly Garden"
Its beauty to bestow.
It bursts forth in our gardens
In the early spring
When everything is budded out
When birds in chorus sing.
Just a little flower, carressed
With mother love.
Sprinkled with the tears
Of her prayers,
As she thanks her God above.
Youth is an untrained actor
Tutored by dexterous hands
To take the place of ones before
In lifes drama over the land.
The success of lifes drama
Depends on how we rise or fall
How we act upon the stage
Before the final curtain falls.
When the last act of the drama ends
You cannot change the scene
We count the cost of our mistakes
Of what it might have been.

Charles Bedinger, Author

Riches take wings, comforts vanish, hopes wither away, but love stays with us. God is love.—Lew Wallace.

Lines From The Co-Editor

By M. D. Methvin

Greetings in the name of the Lord to the readers of the Report:

I'm sure you have ended the month of November with victory in your heart. With Thanksgiving past and many fond memories of the goodness of the Lord in your heart, let us look forth to the coming Christmas. Not as a commercialized event, but rather as a time to worship a wonderful Saviour who paid such a great price for us. As Simon of old was looking for the consolation of Israel, we of today are anxiously awaiting the coming of the Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

Mark 13:32,33 reads "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." We can see the necessity in this closing age to watch and pray that we may be ready at His coming.

With these closing words, we ask you to remember to pray for us for our hearts are burdened that the Report may be the blessing of God in your homes.

PLETCHER—URICK

Ermarita Marie Pletcher and Fred C. Urick were united in marriage in a double ring, formal wedding ceremony at the Apostolic Faith church at Snyder, Texas. Rev. J. H. Pletcher officiated at the services.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pletcher of Snyder, Texas, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Urick of Alvin, Texas.

A reception was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Sellars in Snyder.

The couple will live at Alvin, Tex.

Satan

Satan doesn't care what we worship, so long as we don't worship God.—(Moody).

CUT ME OUT AND HANG ME UP AS A DAILY REMINDER TO
PRAY FOR AND COME TO

THE
APOSTOLIC FAITH CONVOCATION

at the

APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE SCHOOL CHAPEL

1009 Lincoln —:- Baxter Springs, Kansas

Beginning December 26 and Concluding December 31

with a

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

Under the Direction of

Roy D. Wooster
Baxter Springs, Kansas

Robert Cooper
Granby, Missouri

M. D. Methvin
Galena, Kansas

Paul Clanton
Joplin, Missouri

DAILY SERVICES:—

9:00 a. m.—Prayer Meeting
10:00 a. m.—Bible Lesson
1:30 p. m.—Children Service

2:30 p. m.—Worship Service
6:30 p. m.—Youth Rally
7:30 p. m.—Evangelistic Service

Meals Served in Bible School Home Dining Hall

7:30 a. m.—Breakfast

12:30 p. m.—Lunch

5:00 p. m.—Supper

Dormitory Rooms Available for Single Persons

Rooms Available Near By, Reasonable Rates

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For Further Information Contact Roy D. Wooster

Box 110

Baxter Springs, Kansas

Phone 283

PLEASE PRAY FOR Faculty for 1957 Term

Students must take at least three subjects, two being Bible subjects.
Must be of good character, have a willingness to work hard,
and submit to discipline.



Superintendent
ROY D. WOOSTER



English
DELILAH WOOSTER



Evangelism
EDNA SCHULTZ



Secretary
MISS LAVONNA WEBB



Nursery
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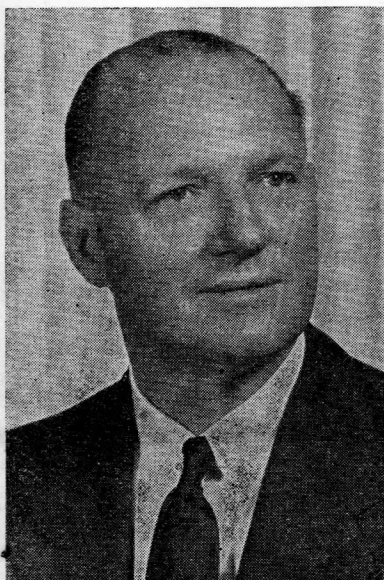


Dean of Boys
JIM MORRIS

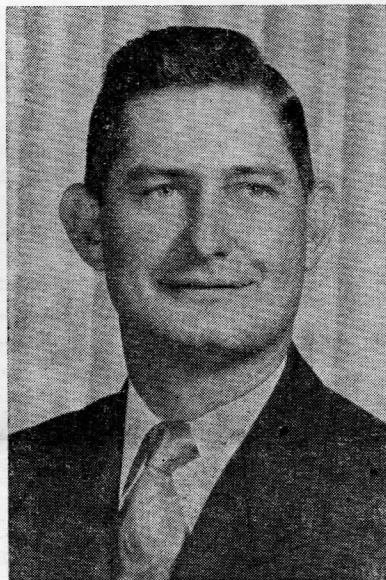
R BIBLE SCHOOL

n Beginning January 3

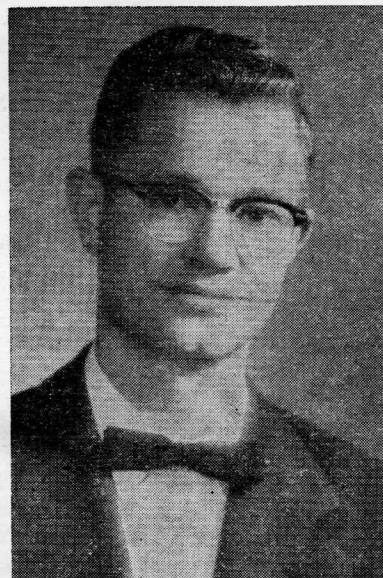
TUITION — This is a faith school. No tuition will be charged.
The school is supported by a free-will offering plan.
(Additional School Personnel and information on next page.)



Prophecy
GAIL SCHULTZ



Doctrine
M. D. METHVIN



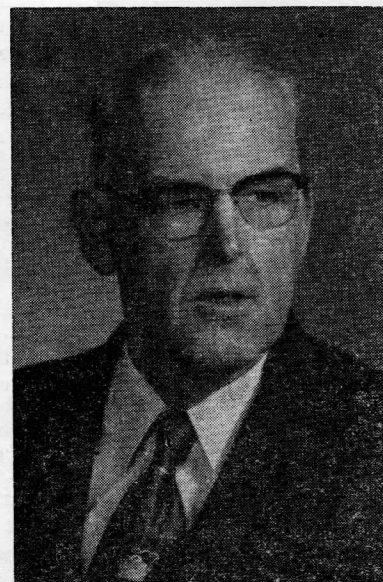
Music
HAROLD J. BOLLINGER



Child and Youth Evangelism
EULA MAE RAY



Piano
MISS EDNA NEFF



Maintenance
JASPER ARNOLD

REDEMPTION

1. Redemption means to save or redeem or reclaim. However we are in this case going to use the word to mean a special redemption, that is the saving of the natural body from death. Another word often used here is, "The Rapture", which means to seize suddenly, to move from, to remove, i.e., in this case from earth to heaven.

Study carefully the following scriptures:

2. Luke 21:28.

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

3. Rom. 8:11.

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

4. Rom. 8:22-23.

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

5. Eph. 1:13-14.

In whom ye also trusted, that after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed. Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.

6. Eph. 4:30.

And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

7. Rom. 2:7.

To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life.

8. II Tim. 1:10.

But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

9. I Tim. 6:14-16.

That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the

appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto: whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen

10. Matt. 24:40-41.

Then shall two be in the field: the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

11. I Cor. 15:51-54.

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, death is swallowed up in victory.

12. Rev. 12:5.

And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

Rev. 14:1. And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

13. Rev. 14:3-4.

And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders; and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.

14. Let us note type and shadows set the time and victory of Redemption.

a. Gen. 7:4. Seven days before the flood Noah went into the Ark. Seven years before Jesus comes, Redemption will take place.

b. Gen. 7:16. God, not Noah shut



Cook
MRS. JASPER ARNOLD



Assistant Cook
MRS. HAROLD BOLLINGER

SUBJECTS:

Prophecy
Evangelism
Doctrine
English
Music
Piano
Child Evangelism
Youth Evangelism
Sunday School
Training

the door of the ark. God, not man will close the door of mercy and this age.

15. II Sam. 2:4.

Men of Judah anointed David King.

II Chron. 12:38-39.

David made king over Israel. Seven years had elapsed during this time, so seven years will elapse between redemption and the actual Coming of the Lord.

16. Gen. 5:24.

And Enock walked with God: and he was not: for God took him.

So the Redemptive class will not be, for as they walk with God, God will take them.

17. II Kings 2:9.

And the following verses relates the story of Elijah and his translation—and the double portion left behind to Elisha.

So the Redemptive class will be caught away and in my opinion a double portion of the Spirit of God will rest on the Bride Class.

★ ★ ★

QUESTIONS:

1. Define Redemption — Rapture and Translation.
2. What are Christians to do in the "end time"?
3. What does it mean to quicken a mortal body?
4. What are the first-fruits?
 - a. How is the term "Adoption" used here?
5. How are we sealed?
 - a. Explain "earnest or our inheritance".
 - b. Explain "redemption of the purchased possession".
6. How can we grieve the Spirit?
 - a. How can we quench the Spirit— I Thess. 5:10.
7. For what do we seek?
8. What did Christ bring to light?
9. What is a Potentate?
 - a. Who only has immortality?
10. Explain the "Taking away".
11. Compare immortality and incorruption.
12. Who is the man-child?
 - a. How many are in this number?
13. What are the 144,000 doing?
 - a. How do they rank here?
14. Are types and shadows helpful in Bible interpretations?
 - a. Give the Noah and flood type?
 - b. Who did and will close the door?
15. How can David be used as a type?
16. Of what is Elijah a type?
 - a. Of what is Elisha a type?

O B I T U A R Y

William Noah Moser, a member of an early Benton County, Ark., family, died at his home in Cave Springs, at 10:30 a. m. Tuesday after a 5 weeks illness. Mr. Moser was born in Heborn Community near Cave Springs, Dec. 7th, 1867, the son of Daniel and Betty Grimsley Moser. On Sept. 22nd, 1895, he was united in marriage to Addie Lea Rozar, near Cave Springs. To this union was born three children, Pearl, Edgar and Veda. Veda preceeded her father in death in childhood. Mr. Moser was converted and baptised in November of 1916 and has been a member of the Mission Church of Cave Springs ever since. The last services he attended were at the Lake View Baptist Church which was located just across the street from his home. He departed this life Nov. 13, 1956, at the age of 88 years, 11 months, and 6 days. Survivors include his wife, Addie Lea Moser; a daughter, Pearl Coberly of Lubbock, Texas, the wife of Evangelist Homer Coberly; a son, William Edgar Moser, of Santa Paula, Calif., who was unable to attend because of ill health; also four grand children, R. L. and Euetva Coberly of Lubbock, Texas, Barbara Moser Harrington and Eugene Moser both of Santa Paula, Calif; seven great grandchildren, many other relatives and a great host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Alford Whiteley, pastor of the Mission (Apostolic Faith) church. He was assisted by the Rev. J. H. Farrish and the Rev. J. L. Bass.

My theology is now four little words—Christ died for me. — Spurgeon.

The glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time you fall.

17. Give Enock's experience as a type.
18. Name some qualifications to make redemption.
19. Is the message of "Redemption" a neglected one?
 - a. Why?
20. Compare "Redemption" and "Glorification".

T H E B I B L E

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of Believers, its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the travelers map, the pilgrims staff, the pilots compass, the soldiers sword, and the Christians charter.

Here paradise is restored, Heaven is opened and the gates of hell disclosed, Christ is its Grand Subject. Our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

The Bible—as the book speaks: I am the recorder of the Gate. I speak every language under the sun and enter every corner of the earth. I bring information, inspiration and re-creation to all mankind. I am the enemy of ignorance and slavery and the ally of enlightenment and liberty. I am always ready to commune with man. To quicken his being, to spur him on and to show him the way. I treat all persons alike, regardless of race, color, creed or condition.

I have power to stretch man's vision, to deepen his feelings, to better his business and to enrich his life. I am a true friend, a wise consular, and a faithful guide. I am silent as gravitation, pliant and powerful as the electric current and as enduring as the everlasting hills, I am the book.

Keep your taste, your love, your hope of heaven; it is not good that your love and your Lord should be in two separate countries.—Rutherford.

Let there be fewer ideas of our own and more of the eternal truth.—L. O. W.

Somewhat Against Thee

Christendom began amidst the overthrow of the Romans by the barbarians. The barbarians strangled civilization; the Christians preserved it. The Christians started from nothing (comparing their numbers with the multitudes of barbarians); but they also began with "everything" when we consider their Source and Head, Jesus Christ. Hearts have swelled with joy and love has sprung from the depths of lonely souls since the day that the angel announced to Mary: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name **Jesus**;" and unto the shepherds: "... I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 1:31; 2:10-11.)

But the tides of lawlessness and the swelling floods of iniquity have left many in their wake without love — the mark of Christianity. As the Scripture hath said: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax (grow) cold." (Matt. 24:12.) And if your heart is warmed no longer by burning compassion for Jesus; if you are cold and indifferent to the needs of others; if you cannot love your fellow-Christian with a pure heart, fervently; and if you love not (have not deep desire for) the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, I am persuaded that Jesus has **Somewhat Against Thee!** These words were spoken to the church at Ephesus, of which we read from the second chapter of Revelation, verses one to seven:

1. Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2. I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil; and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3. And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

4. Nevertheless I have **Somewhat Against Thee**, because thou hast left thy first love.

5. Remember therefore from

whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

6. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

7. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

This behooves us to pray:

"As Thou hast died for me,

Oh, may my love to Thee,

Pure, warm, and changeless be,

A living fire!"

And we receive instruction from the Holy Writ as Jude's Spirit-guided pen brings us these words: "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." (Jude 20-21.) The heart that left its "first love" may find it again by drawing nigh to God: "... For God is Love." (I John 4:8.)

Look again to the first verse of the second chapter of Revelation. The "angel" of a church (a body of worshippers, or Christians) would suggest a "messenger;" thus, a pastor, etc., of a church is herein implied. "The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches (of which Ephesus is a part); and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." (Rev. 1:20.) He that holdeth the "messenger" in His hand and walketh in the midst of the "church" is none other than the Eternal Christ, the First and the Last! Christ is exercising His power in the churches as He is given release by our faith. In His own country during His ministry "He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief." (Matt. 13:58.) Let us not tie the hands of the Holy Spirit by our unbelief.

The second and third verses of this same chapter in Revelation give us a picture of the beautiful stones and artistry in the church of Ephesus and in many of our churches today. Jesus Christ "knows thy works;" they are not hidden from His eye. He has seen that your faith has not been dead because it was accom-

panied by works . . . and by this is the friendship of God retained. The Carpenter's Son knows "thy labour." He oft commends you for your "labour of love" by which your heart is poured out in service that the weak might be made strong and the dead revived. "Thy patience" is not forgotten in it all; you, who have "let patience have her perfect work" that you and those you pray for might not lack anything, but might be "perfect and entire, wanting nothing," have much to joy in. "Thou canst not bear them which are evil." Your righteous indignation cannot let evil loose on rampant excursions of vice and crime: be faithful to God that evil may not overflow your church or community; for Jesus Himself was filled with zeal to keep His Father's house rid of thieves. "Thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: and hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted." Yes, the trying of the spirits and the proving of men in knowing them which labour among you is an unending process. You have been faithful to the Scripture that we find in Romans 16:17-18: "... mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple." You have found them to be "... false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." (II Cor. 11:13-15.) This is well and good that we "should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints;" but I am wondering if we can hear the words of Christ deep, revealingly deep, in our hearts: "Nevertheless I have **Somewhat Against Thee**, because thou hast left thy first love!"

Oh, for another drink at the great Fountain-Head, the Source of all true Love in all of its crystal purity and cleansing flow! I can hear the words

of the angel again, as he speaks to shepherds on the hills outside Bethlehem; the words are an answer to prayer, and Love's most beautiful flower breaks forth in full bloom as shepherd's hearts beat with new hope, new joy, new love: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Those words put a thrill in my heart, and a song comes to my ear from the hills of Zion:

Unto **You** is born a Saviour;
Unto **You** is loving favor.
Every sigh He'll hide with laughter;

Every tear He'll dry hereafter.
Unto **You** is born this day,
Christ and Lord . . . upon the hay.
Living Christ you came for me;
And, my Lord, you died for me:
For this, O Master, I am thine;
And my Beloved, too, is mine!

Have we left the "first love"? That Love engendered by the Holy Ghost (Rom. 5:5.) will never leave us; but we may leave that Love! Christ can praise our works, patience, zeal, good motives, but He may have something against us . . . we may have left our "first love." The Ephesians were strong against heresy, false teachers, and such like. But in this consistency of contending for the faith they were inconsistent in keeping themselves in the Love of God. Their hatred against evil was not wrong, for in the sixth verse of the second chapter of Revelation we read: "But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate." (The Nicolaitanes were a branch of Gnostics who held it to be lawful to eat meats offered to idols, and who practiced fornication.) But in their revolt against the "spiritual wickedness in high places" they neglected their own spiritual status.

It was Love that brought us into the world; even as God's creation was fashioned in Love. Love accompanies mercy; longsuffering leads men to repentance; repentance, in faith, leads to a personal friendship with a Personal Saviour — that Divine Friendship is Love. Now abideth faith, hope, and charity; the greatest of these is Charity: forsake her not!

We have but one hope if we have left our "first love." Revelation 2:5: "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do

OBITUARY

J. E. "Gene" Wadsworth

J. E. Wadsworth of Caney, Kansas was born at Mound Valley, Kansas, January 26, 1881 and into rest on October 14, 1956. The funeral was conducted from the Graves Memorial Chapel of Caney, Kansas with the Rev. W. B. McKinney officiating.

On October 8, 1909 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Miller of Wann, Okla. He is survived by her; and three daughters, Mrs. Harold Scott and Mrs. Jim Tibbets of Caney, and Mrs. Harry Schnedler of Tulsa; also a son, Leroy, of Caney, and many other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were his grandsons: Robert, Charles and Richard Artherton, Jerry and Larry Schnedler, and Kent Tibbets.

Gene Wadsworth was of the Apostolic Faith in religious belief, having come into the light of this Gospel many years ago. Eternity is made brighter and nearer by those that have gone on before. Let us not lose faith but press on toward that heavenly goal.

the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." We surely do not want the Lord to be displeased with our lives. But may we remember from when we are fallen, and climb again to that place by repentance. If we do not repent and do the first works the Christ that walks among the candlesticks (churches) will come quickly and remove our church from its place. Let us overcome this deficiency by rebalancing the books and putting our share in the Fund of the Restored . . . each one must do their repenting; each one must do the first works to make a correct settlement; then the restoration will come without delay.

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

Yours for His glory,
Jerry McClenagan

HINTON, ALABAMA—

Dear Friends:

The Lord is blessing in the work here as we labor for Him. The 28th of October finished a revival here conducted by Brother and Sister Lowell Long. The interest in the meeting was very good with four finding salvation, and two sanctified. We feel that Christians have been strengthened and general interest has improved.

We are also holding Sunday school and church services at Cedar Creek on Sunday afternoon. Please pray for these services at both of these points. All ministers are welcome and invited to come by for services.

Yours in Christ,

Brother and Sister

L. J. Ehrlich, pastors

If everyone attended Church and Sunday School just like me,

How many would be present?

If each one studied their lesson just like me,

How many would know their lesson?

If everyone read the Bible just like me,

How many would read their Bible?

If each one gave just like me,
How much would the contribution be?

If each one prayed just like me,
How much praying would there be?

If each one was a soul winner just like me,

How many saved would there be?

If each one stayed at home just like me,

How many at church would there be?

If each one in the church were just like me,

What kind of Church would our church be?

To reach a port, we must sail, sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.—
Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Purpose

More men fail through lack of purpose than through lack of talent.—
(Billy Sunday).

A JUDGES CHARGE TO THE JURY

Musical Recitation

(Song — "Too Many Parties and Too Many Pals")

Gentlemen of the jury—the judges speech began,
 The scene takes place in a crowded courtroom,
 And the judge was a stern old man,
 The prisoner before you today is a social enemy,
 A girl of the coening, who knew the penalty.
 Don't let her beauty sway you,
 And don't mind her ready tears,
 Don't let her youth mislead you,
 For she is wise beyond her years,
 Her eyes reflect the red lights,
 And her cheeks are thick with paint,
 But I knew her mother gentlemen,
 And her mother was a Saint.
 Now she isn't like her mother,
 And yet she might have been,
 If it hadn't been for petting parties,
 cigarettes and gin,
 We took the night life off our streets,
 And we placed it in our homes,
 And our girls beat time with the lipstick,
 To the shriek of saxophones,
 And we opened up the underworld to those we loved so well,
 And we made her what she is today,
 Shall we send her soul to Hell?
 Now, when you are inside that jury room,
 Remember, there, and then,
 That for every fallen woman,
 There is a hundred fallen men.
 And before you render verdict,
 On what she might have done,
 Just remember, there is a man to blame,
 And that man might be your son.
 I beg of you for mercy,
 But the testimony stands—
 That girl is my own daughter—
 Now the case is in your hands.
 Close with chorus—
 ("Too Many Parties and Too Many Pals.)

—Author, Charles Bedinger

Hope reveals to man, the things he has never seen, but will possess.
—Sent by Albert E. Spaller.

Will you volunteer to do the things your fellow man wouldn't do?

CENTER POINT, TEXAS—

The Apostolic Faith Mission of Center Point, Texas enjoyed the blessings of the Lord in a two weeks revival with Brother M. D. Methvin, a home town boy as the evangelist. Every message was good and was a blessing to the church. The revival closed with a homecoming services, held all day Saturday and Sunday, October 20 and 21. Dinners were served by the church ladies.

The closing day's meetings were filled with preaching and singing by ministers and gospel workers who helped with the first tent revival of the Apostolic Faith in Center Point twenty - six - and - a - half years ago. Four of the seven original workers were present. They were Chester Jackson of Utopia, Texas, Ben Barker of Enid, Oklahoma, Allen Broyles of Fort Worth, Texas, and Grace LaMunyon of Perryton, Texas.

Other out-of-town guests were: A. C. Clark and family, Mrs. Vester Clanton, J. W. Clanton and family, Mrs. J. C. Clanton, Mrs. Laura Clanton, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Clanton, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Park, Mrs. Ruth Hollimon and daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Peck and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Regier and daughters, Mrs. Fred Peck, Mrs. Raymond Cooper and daughter, Mrs. Clara Smith and son,

Mrs. Clara Methvin, Mrs. Junior Methvin and sons, Paul Harbin, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Crowhurst and sons, Mrs. Feagan, and Mrs. Darrell Methvin.

The revival and homecoming was a blessing to many. Several have testified of healings and all were blessed in the last services as the spirit rested in our midst. The congregation at Center Point has expressed themselves as very encouraged in the work of the Lord and His presence in these two weeks of meeting.

We regret that we were unable to get the announcement in the October issue of the Report and hope the Great Homecoming will find no one left out.

Ministers who have gone out from this church are Paul Harbin, Sidney and Glayron Rees, Barfield Park, M. D. Methvin and Lloyd Ballard.

Other members of the first evangelistic party not present were Joe Lily, Mrs. Ben Barker, and Clara Jackson.

There is some consolation in the fact that even though your dreams don't come true, neither do nightmares.—Mutual Moments.

Speak little, do much.—Benjamin Franklin.

The Apostolic Faith Report

Baxter Springs, Kansas

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