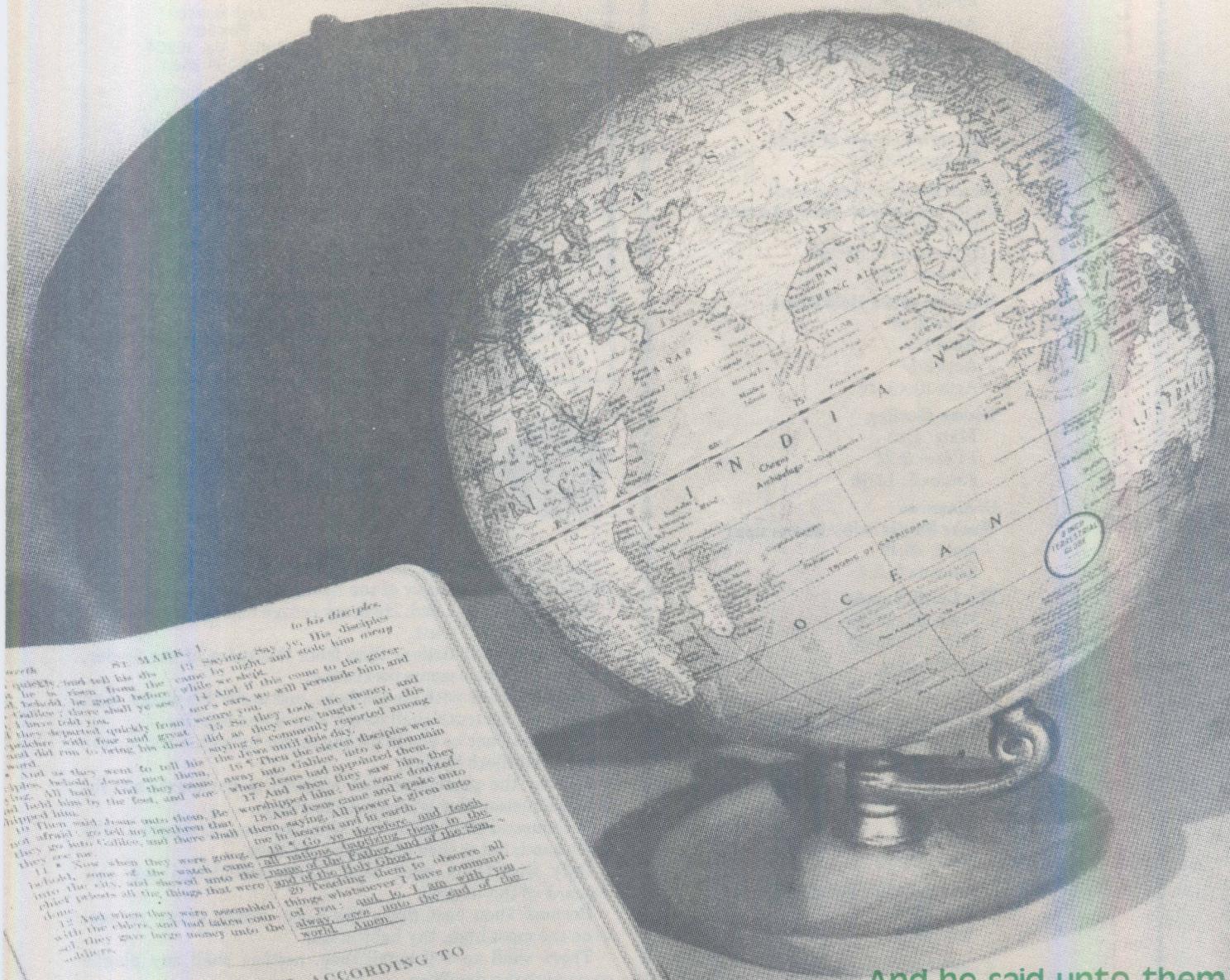


The Apostolic Faith Report



And he said unto them,
Go ye into all the world,
and preach the gospel
to every creature.

Luke 16:15

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO St. MARK.

CHAPTER I.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; as it is written in the prophets, I have sent my messengers before thy face, which shall prepare thy way: before thee, O Lord, make his path straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preached the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there came out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and they of the coast of Tyre, and Sidon, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat about him locusts, and wild honey. And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens



JESUS

The Pattern Son

by
Myrtle Carney



Searching for some sound scriptural key by which every revelation could be measured and tested, I discovered that the life of Jesus in His humanity here on earth was a divine pattern for the perfect endtime Body of Christ.

In quoting God's command to Moses in Ex. 25:40, it says in Heb. 8:5: "See, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount". Moses, while on the mount and in the presence of God, was introduced to the pattern of the tabernacle planned and designed by God Himself. Moses was instructed to return to the people and reproduce in physical, visible form a replica of that which he had seen.

So in these last days, men need to be caught up in the Spirit to the "mount of God", and in His divine presence view the glorious pattern of God's Son. This company of Overcomers will reproduce, by the power of the Spirit, this glorious life of the Son on this earth, in mortal bodies, in physical, visible form for all the world to see. With these "Sons of God" being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, He then will truly be the firstborn of many brethren. (Rom. 8:29).

Everything about His life, in His humanity, applies to His Body. What He was to the Father, we are to Him. His image, His glory, His witness, and much more. I challenge you to go into the gospels and discover the many glorious truths pertaining to the Body of Christ in its perfection. The tabernacle was the "type", Jesus was the "prototype" (meaning the original hand made model of the intended construction, having everything in it that the finished product would have), the early church was the "first-fruits" while the perfected glorious church of the end-time is the finished product.

Any revelation which does not fit into the pattern of the life of Jesus, can be safely discarded. Side issues, tangents, strange doctrines, heresies, and traditional fairy tales cannot measure up or fit into the purpose of God for His Son and His many-membered Body.



Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

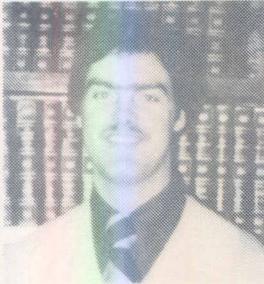
I Timothy 1:16

There is danger in walking behind the light of the gospel.

Remember—God is a just God.

He will give you the reward you deserve.

News from A. F. B. C.



Mike Brening



Jody Dorris

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalms 118:24

I thank the Lord for that day at Calvary. I thank Him for dying that we might have life and we are able to truly rejoice in each day, realizing that the Lord has given it to us.

The Lord has been so good to us this past year, blessing us in so many ways. As I think about this past year, I think about what I did and what I didn't do. As I think about the year to come, and what I might be doing, most of all I pray I'll always be in the Lord's will and that I will realize the importance of each day.

I wonder if we realize how important this day is to God.

I wonder if we realize how important this day should be to us.

I wonder if we realize what we did yesterday.

I wonder if we realize what tomorrow might bring for us.

I wonder if we realize that tomorrow may never come.

I wonder if we realize that today is here.

I wonder if we realize that God is near.

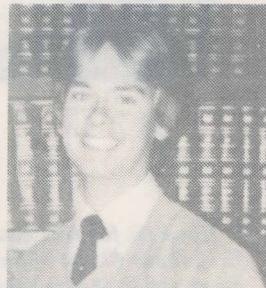
I wonder if we realize.

I praise the Lord for the Holy Spirit. I received Him the night of the 14th of Jan. I've started this year out not by asking God for things, but thanking Him for everyday. The Lord has been good to me by giving me a Christian family He has given me a chance to go to Bible College. I learned a lot last semester and I hope to learn and try harder this semester. I've found that if you put God first, He will bless you and supply all your needs. I was sick at first, but God healed me and has helped me in every way. I like the verse Phil. 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." That's a promise that I know is true. No matter what it is, I can do it.



Terri Seaver

Kevin Cornell



TESTIMONY

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of GOD! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out! . . . For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen." Romans 11:33, 36

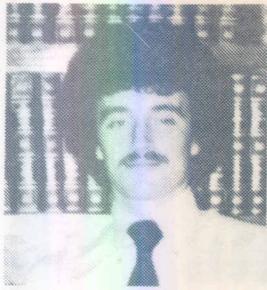
The past six months have truly been a time of great spiritual prosperity in my Christian walk. I have seen souls saved, bodies healed, lives changed, and the wonderful Holy Ghost outpoured. With Abraham of old, I am fully persuaded that what GOD hath promised He is able also to perform. Oh, how often, we take the promises of GOD so lightly and fail to stand fast upon them and claim "those things which be not as though they were." (Romans 4:17b) I thank the Lord for the wonderful privilege we have in Him that, "If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it." John 14:14

When the Lord forgave me of my sins four years ago I did not understand what a closer walk with Jesus would be. I moved from place to place after I left school last year, then I went to live with my grandparents. My grandmother prayed that I could come to the Apostolic Faith Bible College so I could learn more of the teachings of Christ. After I came and began to learn more about the word of God, He sanctified me. There was one lesson that really held my attention. It was our lesson about the Holy Spirit.

Then school was out and I was on my way to spend Christmas with my grandparents. I also spent part of my vacation with my dad and stepmother. My stepmother talked with me for many hours about the Holy Spirit. This is when I started to look at what I needed in my life, but I really wasn't serious until about two weeks later and back in school when six of the boys received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Then I started asking questions, knowing something was missing in my life.

One morning in Chapel, the Lord let me know that it was time for me to have the gift that he was willing to give. While we were praying, I felt the Lord just lifting me up and a great joy, that is beyond any words to describe, came into my heart and I began to let the Spirit speak.

I praise the Lord for His patience with me and for letting me know His Comforter who Jesus said would come after His death. I just want to say, thank you Lord.



Danny M. Robinson

Hebrews 13:15, "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." I just want to thank the Lord for all that He has done for me. I just praise the Lord that He is with me at all times and is directing my life in the way that I should go. The Lord led me to Bible School in the fall of 1979 and has given me the privilege of attending again this year. I thank the Lord for this Bible School that He has provided, that we might learn more about His word, but most of all for being able to apply it to our lives. The Lord has really been working in our midst since the beginning of second semester. The first day of school, I was one of six young men that received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We stood upon the promise the Bible gives us that if we seek the Lord and ask in prayer believing, we shall receive the need in our life. The Lord always keeps His end of the deal. He has never failed me, and I know He never will.



Rhonda Reese

The Bible tells us that we should, "Study to show (ourselves) thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Tim. 2:15)

It is very important for us, as children of God, to study the word of God so that we will never be ashamed. In relation to Bible College, our teachers require us to study the Word of God so that when testing days arrive at school, we will not be ashamed of the results.

Often times, though, we find ourselves so caught away in the intellectual knowledge of the Bible, that we forget it is also our spiritual guide. I learned a very important lesson last semester. I knew that I was acquiring knowledge of the word, but what had I gained? I found many test papers, with good grades, but still there was an emptiness; a void. It was then, the Lord showed me that knowledge without application availeth nothing. I had studied the Word of God, but I had not let it be that "Lamp unto my feet." I had deprived my spiritual life of the daily growth it needed.

Always remember, when you study the word of God to apply it to your life. Let your spiritual life grow by watering it.

The Lord taught me this lesson before second semester began. It was then that He gave me a burden for my brothers and sisters in the Lord, and a personal determination to attain spiritual growth, as well as the intellectual growth, that He has planned for me!



Tena Keith

As I look back into my past a few years, I have much for which to thank the Lord. The Lord saved me 3 years ago this June. I was a preacher's daughter but never really paid any attention to the study of God's word. I was concerned more with self. After being saved and filled with the spirit I had one big battle on my hands; Satan was determined to destroy me. Just about the time I'd feel strong enough to witness, Satan would throw something in my path to scare me or make me feel as though I had been defeated.

I had to change schools my seventh grade year, so that my dad could pastor where the Lord led him. After we moved I built a reputation of selfishness and desire for popularity and satan made it difficult for me to live it down. Praise God though, He was there all the time to help me. I often thought of the scriptures;

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phillipians 4:13

"Nay in all these things we are made more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:37

In Phillipians, it says I can do all things; even live down an old reputation from high school, through Christ, making me more than a conqueror through Him that loved me.

To me living for Christ has been a blessing, a "Bed of Roses" with a few thorns, so that I might strive to grow in the Lord. Through these thorns I have learned to have patience with different things: people; problems; etc. God has always met my every need and at times even my desires. After high school I prayed that God would open up a way for me to attend Bible College. And He did just that. I ask the Lord to place a call upon my life and Praise the Lord He did: Through Christ which strengtheneth me I will fulfill the calling.

I just praise God for His deep concern and love, to give His only Son on the cross for me, that I might have everlasting life through Jesus Christ my Lord.

The April-May issues will be combined into one paper. They will be sent to you in May.

K.O.

NOTICE

A quarter a time is what the Post Office charges us whenever a copy of the Report is returned with a reader's new address. If you are moving, won't you tell us at once, allowing at least 4 weeks for the change? Send the mailing label from the back page so we will know your old address.

I was residing at the Wichita City Jail, where I had a sentence of 90 days to fulfill, when I felt the urge to call on the name of the Lord. I had never really called on the name of the Lord before, except in vain repetition in my every day language. Anyway, there I was making a deal with God as if He was the one who needed the break. So I said, "God, if you get me out of here I will get saved in two weeks." I figured that it would take about two weeks for me to get some things straightened out and get out of the town where I was living. If I was going to get saved I didn't want anyone to know, especially my friends.

A few days later I was released, and on my way back to Chanute. Once there, it didn't take long for me to completely forget that I had even made the slightest commitment to the Lord.

However, one night, I was sitting at the supper table with some friends when I heard a strange knock at the front door. It wasn't the kind of knock I recognized and for some reason it sent cold chills up my spine. John, my friend, answered the door. There was a large fellow standing there with his wife and said he was a member of a Christian Organization and could he please come in.

John didn't know what to do and neither did any of us, for our hearts were gripped by the fear of conviction; especially me, because I had just then remembered what deal I had made with God two weeks before.

So, mustering all my courage I stepped forward and began to ask questions about Jesus, which he answered very graciously. This led me to another commitment which in turn led me to a small Pentecostal Church in Humboldt, Kansas later that night.

I was sitting in the very back row of this church which was filled with strange, cold looking people. I really felt out of place, but I didn't want to let this preacher down by getting up and walking out, especially after he worked so hard to get me there.

As he was finishing his sermon, which made me very nervous, he asked if there was anyone there that would stand up for Jesus. I looked around and to my dismay I noticed no one was standing. This made me very angry. I thought all good Christians should stand up for Jesus.

I guess it was because of my anger that I stood up, without realizing what I had done.

Suddenly, fear gripped my heart and I realized, I alone, was standing up in the midst of a group of people who were staring at me.

I wanted to sit back down, but I couldn't. It seemed as though any place on earth was better than where I was. I felt so embarrassed.

Just when I thought maybe everything was going to be alright the preacher called me to come down front, so everyone could see, in his words, "A real man." Little did he know I was a terrified little boy.

As I moved into the isle the fear I felt grew with each step, until I reached him, where he knelt with me at the altar and all the pressure and sin departed, leaving me nothing more than a weeping, sobbing, heart-broken little boy, or much less.

I must have been there about an hour because when I got up everyone was gone except the minister and a few others that stayed and read the word to me to assure me that I was saved, but I knew beyond a shadow of doubt that I was Truly SAVED!

March 1981

Bruce Perry



Pamela Allen

Psalms 19:14

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

This is my favorite scripture. I quote this scripture at least once each day in prayer. Each one of us know of things that need to be done but we feel inadequate in ourselves to take charge and see goals accomplished. Many times we justify our behavior by saying, someone else will, or I can't help now but later, when things are going better I'll come to help and really we are limiting the Lord's work in our life. Isn't he supposed to supply our needs? We sincerely want Him to fulfill our desires but are we willing to take our responsibilities seriously in order to attain privileges?

As a child I was taught privileges came with responsibilities. There were certain things I had to do in our home. One thing I had to do was feed our dog. Before I could do anything else, the feeding of the dog came first. Many times I found other things to do, and I would forget to feed the dog. When Daddy came home from work he always asked if the dog had been fed. If the answer was no, I had to stop whatever I was doing and go feed the dog. Several times this interfered with my plans. I knew this job had to be done.

As Christians, God has set down rules for us to follow. They are not difficult. He says in the last part of I Cor. 10:13, that whatever temptations arise in our lives He will make a way of escape, that we may be able to bear it. And we know God won't put anything on us that we can't bear. Along with each responsibility, God has also set for us rewards. Our work is not in vain. We can have the assurance that God is with us always.

Before we can see goals accomplished and lives changed, we must start with our own hearts. One of the phrases in a song we sing says, "send a revival, start the WORK in Me.

If the words of our mouths and the intents of our hearts are acceptable unto God, which is our redeemer then we can go out and see our goals accomplished and rejoice in the benefits of the Lord.



Rae Mona Arnall

God truly is a God of love. Have you ever committed something to someone, trusting them to keep it safe for you? Whether it was some special possession or something you told them in confidence, you expected them to hold it in the same fragile consideration you would. How disheartening it is when our friends fail us. We're disappointed and feel betrayed. We "trusted" them.

But God never fails us. We can say with Paul that . . . we know . . . "whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12)

Things have risen in the past couple of months with which I didn't know how to deal. Satan tried and was succeeding in getting me down over them. But one evening while reading my Bible I came across the scripture in Psalms 37:5 "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

What a beautiful promise was mine if I only committed it to the Lord. He would take care of it.

I gave it to the Lord but many times after that Satan would try to burden me down with it again.

One evening I was really troubled. I went in to talk to a friend about the problem but she didn't have any answers. Or at least not the ones I wanted to hear.

I was so discouraged. The next morning I picked up a promise card from a promise box.

It had II Tim. 1:12 written on it.

I remembered committing this problem to the Lord. Now was I doubting His ability to take care of it? How foolish for I know the God I believe in is more than able to take care of anything. He's not a statue which can not respond to us. He is the Creator, the Master, the Ultimate Being. Of course He could take care of this. If he can change a life. He can take care of my problems.

Anniversary

The Evangelism class of the Apostolic Faith Bible College honoured their Superintendent and Wife, Brother Lyndel and Sister Katherine Arnall, on their twelfth wedding anniversary in a ceremony in which they renewed their wedding vows.

The idea of this ceremony began as an assignment given to the evangelism class. A "Mock" wedding was the intention of the assignment to give the class practical experience in the duties involved in a wedding directly and behind the scenes.

Brother Lyndel and Sister Kathy agreed to take the part of the bride and groom. The class, realizing their anniversary was close to the time the wedding was set, began plans to make the ceremony in honour of their anniversary.

We succeeded in surprising them and making our "mock" wedding a success!

March 1981

From the Superintendent's Desk



Dear Friends;

The Lord has been so good to us, blessing in the classes and our church services. We are truly a blessed people and we praise God for supplying our need. Recently, we were fortunate to have Rev. Otto Busch bring a special seminar on Dating, Marriage, and Family Living. We feel this was beneficial to all. At a later date, Sister Mergie Doll from Ringwood, Okla. will be here for a week also, for the Child and Youth Class. We appreciate these who take time to come and minister to the students. May God bless them for their efforts.

We are busily making preparations for the spring choir tour to the South Texas and Mississippi/Alabama areas. Please check with the pastors of your area concerning the schedule of our concerts. The student body is anticipating meeting you and ministering in song and testimony. We invite you to come and meet these young christians and become acquainted with them. They will be available to work in the churches following graduation.

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation for your support of the school. Please continue to remember the work at Baxter in your prayers. We will continue to pray for our churches, that God's will may be accomplished.

Sincerely,
Lyndel Arnall, superintendent

News from the Girl's Dorm

Saturday, February 14, Valentine's Day. Each room in the girls dorm was brightened with flowers, or cards, or candy, but most of all, they were filled with love. Never before have I felt Christ's love so warmly reflected upon my life as I have here at Bible School. One would have to come and experience it for themselves to know what I mean.

How greatly we strive each day to be true "Mirrors" of Christ. We learn to help one another grow into perfect reflections of Him. Believe me, it's a project that needs God's leadership and direction. Without that, our mirrors become streaked and spotted with our own ways of doing things, and often times, they'll shatter into a million pieces. It is at these times that we ask God to put the pieces back together in His perfect way. How unorganized the pattern of my mirror would be if God didn't mold and shape me His way.

Last semester, I learned how to let the Lord's shining light be reflected through my life. This semester, especially this last week, I've learned how to reflect the Lord's love more, and to appreciate the love of others.

Our prayers are continually with you. May God bless you all, and cause you to know.

DEADLINE!
Copy must be in by the 15th of the month to be in the next month's issue.

You are Loved!
—Sandy Danley

God's promises follow our obedience.

Giving

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again". Luke 6:38. Then in Proverbs 3:9,10 we read, "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase; So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, . . .". God has a fantastic financial plan and the best thing about it . . . it is based upon each individual's ability to give. God does not assess a certain amount from each individual but He does ask that we give according to our income.

Many people do not give systematically but give to the minister or to special funds occasionally, or according to the amount currently in their purses. Thus they ease their conscience and feel they have done their part. This, though, is not according to God's plan. He says one tenth of our income should be returned to Him. This one tenth should be counted from the income before we spend any for ourselves and should be given directly to the ministry for the spreading of the gospel.

Too many people are careless in keeping their tithes paid regularly and up to date. Then there are some who are willing to pay smaller amounts but find it difficult to pay the whole tenth if it is a larger sum. The whole tithe belongs to God.

We read in Leviticus 27:30, "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord". This tells us one tenth of the seed and the fruit of the land belongs to the Lord and II Chronicles 31:5 adds one more phrase, ". . . and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly"; which, today, would include our pay checks. This one tenth also is the Lord's and is to be given back to Him in appreciation for the abundance He has supplied to us. Exodus 23:25 reads, "And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and He shall bless thy bread, and thy water; . . .". This is a promise of bread and water but anything more than that is from the abundance God has given.

Nehemiah 13:10-12 says, "And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, 'Why is the house of God forsaken?' And I gathered them together, and set them in their place. Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries."

If all Christians would follow God's plan for the support and spreading of the gospel, there would be plenty of money to support our ministers at home and to send missionaries to the foreign fields also. Missionaries are often forgotten and sometimes have to support themselves because people at home failed to follow God's financial plan. If a congregation is not large enough to support a pastor, it does not hurt him to help to support himself but the time he uses away from his pastoral duties may, and often does, hamper the growth of his church. If we are aware that a certain church is not able to support their pastor we need to send some of our tithes or offerings to help in his support, but always remember to not short your own pastor just to give to another cause. Some churches, though, have an abundance in support while other churches do not have enough. If the people of God will only ask the Lord and follow His leading in their giving, there will be no lack of money to support His work.

We have an example of this in Act 18:1-4, ". . . Paul . . . came to Corinth; and found a certain Jew named Aquilla, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; . . . and came unto them. And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought, for by their occupation they were tentmakers. And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks". Then again in II Corinthians 11:8, 9 Paul wrote, "I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service. And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so I will keep myself."

Now, let us read Malachi 3:8-10, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." God likens with-holding our tithes in robbing Him but He says He will bless all who are faithful to pay their tithes.

Our scriptures have also mentioned offerings. These offerings are what we give above our tithes. We owe our tithes to God (Lev. 27:30) and have given nothing of our own until we have given more than the tithe.

Offerings may be used for the building fund, for the up-keep of present church properties, or the building of new churches. They can also be given to the ministry if you wish to give something of your own. The tithe you paid was not yours, it already belonged to God. It is good to keep a record of your tithes and offerings then you can know how much you have given and into which fund it was given.

Then Matthew, 6:1-4 speaks of alms giving. "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogue and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But when thou doest thine alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly."

Alms is that which is given to the poor. We should never give just to be seen or to receive praise from men but if we see the need of the poor and can help them, just quietly give what we can and let our reward come from God and not expect any praise from men.

In all this plan which God has given, we can give according to our desires except in tithing and that amount is governed by one tenth of our bring home pay. Though some prefer to pay tithe on the gross income the scriptures state that we owe tithes on the increase. This would allow us to deduct the amount with-held from our gross income but you must always remember if there is any returned when you file your tax return, you will owe tithe on that amount received.

The scriptures we have used on tithing are from the Old Testament but I would like to point you to some in the New Testament: We read in Matthew 23:23; "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these

ought ye to have done, and not leave the other undone." Jesus says they should practice "judgment, mercy, and faith," and also not forget paying their tithes. Luke 11:41 gives the same as in Matthew. Both of these writers give the words of Jesus when He sanctioned the paying of tithes as something we should not leave undone.

Now, let us return to the first scripture used in the first of this article, Luke 6:38. Giving is very much in the plan of God but there are many ways to give. One of our greatest faults in giving today is that it seems easier to give of our finances than it is to give ourselves. We often say we are serving God but to serve means to be a servant.

The definition of servant says, "A servant is one who exerts himself for the benefit of another; an official of a government; a person employed by another; a slave." Now, a servant is not a "Nobody" but one who exerts himself for the benefit of others without any thought of anything in return. The story is told of a doctor who was visiting an insurance executive during a snow storm. When it was over, there was a foot of snow everywhere and more where it was drifted. The next door neighbor had suffered a heart attack so the insurance man suggested he and the doctor shovel the sick man's 2 car driveway. Taking the form of a servant was not determined by their taking the shovels and working because they could have done it reluctantly or because of duty. That would not have been a servant.

If we want a blessing from serving others we must be willing. The two men enjoyed the snow shoveling so much that when they were finished they also shoveled the driveway for a widow lady who lived across the street.

Jesus said in Mark 10:43, "Whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister." Minister means to serve or be a servant. Jesus Himself, came in the form of a servant, Philippians 2:5-8, and the word 'servant' here is translated from the word bondman which means slave. He took a towel and washed the disciples feet which was the job of a slave, John 13:4-5. We cannot be leaders without first learning to serve others. We must give of our talents, our time, our strength . . . our very life to others and in doing it for others it is one form of serving God. We read in March 9:41, "For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say until you, he shall not lose his reward."

Now, in conclusion let us read Paul's words in II Corinthians 9:6-7; "But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

—Dora Beydler,
A.F.B.C. Faculty

Pearls Of Promise

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. (Psalms 126:5-6).

Prayer

After long years in the Christian life and in the Christian ministry I am more convinced than ever that prayer is the greatest weapon we possess. No matter how important the daily calls may be which demand our attention, no work is of such importance as that of prayer—and it is work—work that we will neglect if we are not careful, very careful, under one pretext or another. I am not now talking about saying prayers—reciting prayers, or reading prayers, helpful as that is to some—I am thinking about wrestling with God, coming into vital contact, personal, living touch with God as a daily habit.

—Selected

SOMEBODY CARES

Somebody cares and always will,
The world forgets but God loves you still,
You cannot go beyond His Love
No matter what you're guilty of—
For God forgives until the end,
He is your faithful, loyal friend,
And though you try to hide your face
There is no shelter any place
That can escape His watchful eye,
For on the earth and in the sky
He's ever present and always there
To take you in His tender care
And bind the wounds and mend the breaks
When all the world around forsakes . . .
Somebody cares and loves you still
And God is the Someone who always will.

by Helen Steiner Rice

WHEN DOES A CHURCH NEED A REVIVAL

When does a church need to confess its sins and to seek the pardon and empowering of God?

1. When its minister feels he is preaching in a vacuum, and that his own spiritual life is becoming parched.
2. When its official board counts its task drudgery and works feebly.
3. When its concern is to have money rather than to save people.
4. When its regular activities do not readily win converts to Christ.
5. When vitality and joy are not throbbing in all its branches.
6. When its members care more for amusement than for worship and will meet to eat but not to pray.
7. When its people are fluent in fault-finding, but reticent in recommending Christ and His Church.
8. When it is more afraid of innovation than of stagnation.
9. When its Missionary vision has grown wane.
10. When its members are unwilling to study to "show themselves approved unto God" and when many of them "Can't afford to pay a few cents per month for a church paper" while cheerfully paying twelve to twenty cents per week for a secular newspaper.

—Southern Baptist Advocate

AF Report

March Notes

Follett Chapel of the Apostolic Faith Church in Follett, Texas has recently formed a new Sunday school class called the Home Builder's Class. Six couples attended the first meeting of the class in January. David McCance is the teacher. The class accommodates the middle adults.

The Sunday school has grown from a three class Sunday school to its present seven classes in the church's twenty-five year history.

Attendance through the winter months has averaged 70 each Sunday.

New Sunday school teachers for the spring term have volunteered their talents. This is a new venture. In the past, teachers were elected. The church feels volunteers will carry a great burden for this important job. Substitutes will teach every fourth Sunday.

Several new converts have been added to the church in the past year.

Directed by Juanita Methvin, the Easter Cantata practice is underway. Edna Neff Freeman is the pianist for the cantata that will be presented Easter Sunday morning.

The men of the church honored the ladies with a Valentine's supper February 16.

The youth of the church are planning a skiing trip during the spring break in late February.

A new quarterly publication within the Follett Chapel has been initiated. The Follett Chapel News informs the church of related activities.

We always look forward to the Apostolic Faith Report.

M.D. Methvin, pastor
Joyce Watson, reporter

Ashland, Alabama

God has been so very good to us and we Praise His name for all of His blessings. We are looking forward to many good things in 1981 as we serve the Lord together.

We had a baby dedication service on February the 8th when Stephanie Arnall, TaLona Anderson and ReGina Price were dedicated to the Lord.

Our church family lost a faithful friend, Mrs. Paula Dick on Dec. 30, 1980. She is greatly missed by her church and family. She is survived by her husband, Mr. Lon Dick, and two sons; Charles Dick of Dothaw, Alabama and Robert Dick, Ashland, Alabama. Paula was a great booster of our Youth Group and was loved by all.

Remember us in your prayers. — **Jim Arnall, pastor**

Pine Hill, Alabama

It is good once again to write unto the Report with the testimony on the victor's side. I have yet to see God's people defeated or forsaken.

Pine Hill has welcomed us with open arms and we have been seeing the church grow little by little. God will always prove himself if we will just let Him.

We have had much sickness as I suppose many have had. Now is a time that prayer is needed and God's name to be called upon. Just like those that prayed for Peter, we need to pray night and day for those in need.

We enjoyed services at Hinton, Ala. and the hospitality that was expressed. It is wonderful to be with God's people.

Frank Arnall

News from Nettlesboro

We are happy to announce we are having services once a week in our community. So many times we take church services for granted but it has been a privilege to serve the Lord these past years. Though we are few in number God has rickly blessed. Brother Frank Arnall has been conducting services every Thursday night for us. We covet the prayers of believers that others would join us in worshipping God.

Once a year our community has a birthday celebration for Sister Rosie Walker, this being her 93rd. It will be held on March 15 and everyone is invited.

Brother Leon Smith started services here in Nettlesboro about 20 years ago. God has grown sweeter everyday. May God bless the movement as He has blessed us.

In Christ's Name

Lena Walker

Taneyville, Missouri

The Lord has been blessing in each service; through our song services in testimonies and in the preaching of His word. Our Sunday School attendance average has stayed well above 100 inspite of much sickness in our congregation and community.

We have enjoyed the ministry of two different musical groups in our night services. Carol Oakes and group were here on a Sunday night and we all enjoyed their songs and testimonies. On a special Tuesday night service we had the Ballard family from Dallas, Texas. Though they had had many trials and testings since their tour began the first of January, they were still praising the Lord and claiming the victory over Satan. They were a blessing to each one.

Sister Janice has two different Bible Study groups going. Each group is enjoying the study of God's word. We are studying Christ in the Psalms and it is such a blessing to find bits of gold nuggets in the least likely places as we study the scriptures. The other Bible Study is studying doctrine of the Bible. There has been much discussion about our Doctrine and why we believe it. This has been a very interesting study as we study the doctrine of God, Christ and the Apostles.

God is such a big God we see Him working every day in many different ways. Testimony is given in just about every service of answers to prayer in miraculous ways. One of the many promises we have to stand on is found in Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto me and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not!"

We at Taneyville Apostolic Faith Church thank God for his goodness, for His presence, and His divine watch-care over His children. We praise and exalt the mighty name of God; Elohim, Jehovah, for He is all in all! Jehovah-Rapha—The Lord that healeth. Ex. 15:26 Jehovah-Jireh—The Lord who provides. Gen. 22:14, Jehovah-Tsidkenu—The Lord our righteousness Jer. 23:6!

In His Love,

Pat Crouch

Kingman, Kansas

Dear Friends in Christ:

The Lord has been so good to us. We thank Him for His many blessings this last year.

In Wednesday night Bible Study we have been on the subject of the Holy Spirit. Unless you really study it out, you can't know how important He is, or just how much work He

does in our lives. Praise the Lord for leaving the precious gift of His Holy Spirit for us when He went to His Father. We praise God for the privilege of free study and worship in our country.

Remember us in your prayers that we may always be in the perfect center of God's will. May the Lord bless you.

—Jane Wimer, reporter

Spearman, Texas

Greetings in the name of the Lord! We come to you today to report that the Lord is still blessing His people in Spearman. We have fond memories of convocation, but realize we cannot live in the past. We must live in the present and look to the future.

At the present we are moving along as usual, but are looking forward to spring with its activity such as; revival and youth camp. We enjoy pastor and laity meetings each month as well as our congregation. In fact, our people have won the attendance banner two of three months that it has been available so we are proud of the interest shown.

We would like to invite the ministers of the movement to come by for service and visit anytime.

—Lealand and Edna Grimmer

Joplin, Missouri

We are rejoicing in the Lord for everything He has done for us the past months. Although our church family has been plagued with a lot of sickness and we've been blessed in many ways especially with the young man that accepted Christ in the Sunday morning service recently.

January the 25th we were privileged to have Brother Roland Busch with us for the Sunday morning service. Also Kevin Cornell and Danny Mack Robinson taught the young people and adult Sunday school classes.

On the evening of Feb. 1st, Kevin came back to speak to the youth group and finally agreed to preach for the regular service. God bless these dear men for their labour for the Lord!

Our pastor has been speaking on "Promises" in the Wednesday evening services. We pray that God will speak to all of us through these messages.

We're still praying for a revival in our church. May it begin kindling in our hearts!

—Neil Ragan, pastor

Midway Country Church

Brother Calvin Springer conducted a very inspiring revival which was the beginning of a spiritual renewal in our church and lead to the salvation of two young fathers of which I am one. I was born in the Logan community in 1947 and attended Sunday School as a boy. As a teenager I suffered a tragic injury but God spared my life. For several years I forgot about serving our wonderful God and the rewarding life of being a Christian. I thank my God that the Holy Spirit drew me back to the home community where now my experiences, with the Lord, can be shared with neighbors and friends.

In November Brother and Sister Olen Bachelor came for a series of services which were a blessing. We enjoyed the holiday season with the exciting Christmas program under the direction of Sister Pauline Messener, assisted by Sister

Dottie Daily and Sister Ilene Sanger.

The first Sunday in January was a great day in the Lord, as six of our church followed the Lord in water baptism. How wonderful it is the trust and obey!

We want to express our gratitude to God for His mercy and many blessings bestowed upon us. We are looking forward to even greater things in the work of the Lord in the months to come. Psa. 103:1-5 . . . "Bless the Lord, oh my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: who healeth all thy diseases: who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who healeth all the diseases: who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executeth righteousness and judgments for all that are oppressed." Praise the Lord!

—Rev. Bob G. Taylor, pastor

—Keith Daily, reporter

Galena, Kansas

We find we can report again of the goodness of the Lord. He is so good to us and we don't want to fail to thank Him for it. We have had some that were on our prayer list that are now back in service with us, we are happy for this. Sis. Bernice McCumber has been able to attend some services lately and also Sis. Sarah Jeffries. Praise the Lord for answering prayer!

We enjoyed revival services that started Feb. 23rd with Bro. Barry Methvin as Evangelist.

Bro. Paul Clanton was in service with us recently, on a Sunday night. He brought us an inspiring message and the Lord blessed us through his ministry. Bro. Howard Whiteley also filled in for Bro. Christenson and we felt the presence of the Lord so real in this service also.

We would like to say that we appreciate Bro. Elmer and Sis. Ava and the work that they do. They are so faithful to visit those in the rest homes that can't attend church. May God bless them for their labours.

Again remember those on our prayer list: Sister Mae Tackett Sister Ruth Archer, Sister Goldie Myers, Sister Grace Myers, Sister Bernice McCumber.

Elmer Christenson, pastor

Donna Kinser, reporter

Taneyville, Missouri Youth Group

We have had many encouraging blessings in the past few services. Our pastor and his family have been a real blessing to each of us. We can all feel the love he has shown each one.

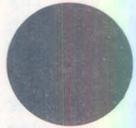
On Feb. 4 Brother Andy was lead of the Lord to write down nine of our most serious and needy prayer requests. These needs were laid out for the congregation to take the burden and pray for them. As one was lead of the Lord, he or she took a card and devoted their time to seeking the Lord for an answer to that request. The requests varied from the church services, Sunday school, missions, building needs, choir, specials, youth group, board members, ladies prayer meeting and our pastor. Nine people took the cards, but we all have a burden for our church and we believe in God for results.

On Feb. 15 we had a Valentine banquet. The young people put a lot of time and prayer into preparing the banquet. There were candidates chosen from each Sunday school class and on Feb. 15 a Sweetheart was chosen. There was a dinner served by the young people (with help from church members).

We appreciate our youth director, Judy Clemans, for her time and prayers. She is a real inspiration to each of us and we love her very much.

Praise the Lord for His love and guidance in everything we do!

—Carla Freund
Taneyville, Mo.



India

Dear friends in Christ:

Greetings in the Precious Name of Jesus!

As we come to the close of 1980 we praise God for His protection upon our lives and for the privileges of serving Him.

Our dear mother's homecall on May 31st this year added to our responsibilities. Though sorrow and affliction caused physical weakness and strain, the prayers of God's children encouraged us to look to the Lord at all times.

Hebron Bible College is now in the second semester with 28 students, five teachers and other helpers. Students go to the unevangelized areas during the weekends and this has created new enthusiasm for them. During the past 3-4 months water baptism has been conducted in seven places where the students of this year preached during the weekends. The graduates who are now in the new outstations sent reports of their ministry and how souls are saved from other religions. Supervising the churches takes much of our time and each Sunday we visit the different churches under our supervision.

The women's work in Kerala was able to conduct a couple of camps after Sister Abraham was elected as the president in July. Full time Gospel workers (women) are staying in ten places and doing Gospel work. There are several others who stay in their own homes and carry on the work. Travelling from Kerala to Secunderabad and other places have become more frequent now for Sister Abraham also.

The work around Secunderabad is progressing well. In the villages several souls have been saved and baptised in 1980. The Annual Convention at Secunderabad during the last week of November brought many blessings. We were able to build a new church at Pamukunta and it was dedicated on December 1st. All the members of this church are new converts from Hinduism. The evangelist who is staying here is able to contact several of the neighbouring villages also. This is the first Christian church in this area and we praise God for that.

The financial help that we receive from the friends and churches is distributed to our evangelists and used for the spreading of the Gospel. We are thankful to all the dear ones who have prayed for us and the work here and have helped us financially. May the good Lord bless and reward you all. Any help small or great you could do for the work here will be greatly appreciated.

Our family is just fine. Our son, Valson is with his family in Pasadena, California. Our daughter Annie and family are in Kuwait. Our next daughter Starla is in College and our baby daughter is in High School.

With Christian love and prayers,
Yours in His Service,
Brother and Sister T.S. Abraham

From Our Readers

Dear Friends:

God is so good! We have not been around all the good friends of the movement for a few years and just wanted to let everyone know that God is still in the miracle working business. We began a new church, Rockdale Trinity Church, the first week of July, 1979, with a handful of spirit-filled believers and we have out-grown two buildings since then. And the Lord has moved in many ways to provide rent-free places to worship and we now have access to a huge bank building for the least amount of rent imaginable for such space.

God does work wonders! He has now had land donated to the church to build and we are believing that soon we will be meeting in our own, debt free church. Praise God for His many blessings to us! Anyone that is down this way is invited to come visit us!

God worked a miracle in our personal life recently. He gave to us for safe keeping a little angel. We adopted her January 16, 1981, and she became officially Jeri Danyce Satcher. She was born July 11, 1977, and has dark brown eyes and curly brown hair. She has been told that she looks just like her "mommy". God even takes care of the small details. She was welcomed by her big brothers Christopher Donn, age 8, and Chad LeShonn, age 6. Her proud grandparents are Rev. Van E. "Hap" and Rose Blythe of Rockdale, Texas, and Vernon and Rether Satcher of Quitman, Mississippi.

I hope you will share this letter to all those that receive the Report. It has been such a long time since we were in that area that we wanted to share these testimonies of God's goodness with all those we have been acquainted with in the many years of fellowship.

May God bless you.

Yours in Christ,
Dona and C. H. Satcher

Double Blessing

There was a double blessing in being grandparents for the first time for Rev. and Mrs. Jim Arnall on Jan. 29 when they had two grand-daughters born at the Clay County Hospital in Ashland, Alabama.

TaLona LaKaye Anderson was born to Thomas and Kayla Anderson at 1:50 a.m. and weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson of Millerville, Alabama.

Stephanie Lou Arnall was born to Steve and Cathy Arnall at 5:00 p.m. and she weighed 8 pounds. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Winton Jett of Logan, Oklahoma.

TaLona and Stephanie are at home at Rt. 2 Ashland, Alabama.

Healed . . .

About one and a half years ago, God graciously healed me. At the time, I felt impressed to write my testimony to the Report. Like so many others, I kept putting off what I knew I was supposed to do. This has been hindering my spiritual growth, and I just pray that God will forgive me for taking so long to do His will.

I had been suffering from headaches for two years. They became more severe and more frequent (sometimes two or three times a week) as time went on. The pain was so severe I would get sick and have to go to bed. The next day I would have sore spots by my temples and the back of my head. I never went to a doctor or took medication for the pain. I had been prayed for many times and was trying to trust God for my healing. To this day, I don't know why my healing had to come the way it did. Maybe I had to get scared to really "get down to business with God."

After one especially bad headache, which really scared me and my family, I called the doctor. He sent me to the Hospital for a series of tests. The doctor called a few days later with the test results. He said the tests were inconclusive, and he had made an appointment for me with a neurosurgeon for more tests. After questioning him further, he admitted to me it looked like I had a tumor on my pituitary gland. I was so stunned when I hung up the phone, all I could do was cry. Satan kept telling me I was going to die. I went to the neurosurgeon, and he scheduled more intensive tests. At the time, Brother Doc Methvin was holding revival at our church (Joplin Apostolic Church, Bro. Neil Ragan, Pastor). I was prayed for at church and felt God touch my body. Then another trial began. By the time I got home, Satan had again convinced me I was going to die. Since I knew of God's healing power and Satan couldn't tell me God couldn't heal me, he had put these thoughts in my mind "God can heal you if it's His will, but you won't be healed because it's your time to die." I was prayed for again at church, but couldn't seem to get the victory. Then the next night at church, I asked to talk to Brother Neil and Brother Doc. They talked to me a long time about my fears and doubts, and then had prayer with me and my husband. I KNEW this time I had won the victory!

I know I had a tumor and God gave me the total victory. We serve such a great and wonderful God. I praise His name every day for what He did for me. God has such good things for us, if we'll just accept them and take Him at His word. I love Him and Praise His Name.

—Ruth Whitlock
—Joplin, Mo.

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WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?

"While the pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The son of David."

God holds men responsible for their thoughts. The question is not how they did act or how they treated Christ but what they thought of Him. The seed is responsible for the plant, the child for the man, and the thought for the act and character. Christ said that he who lusted after a woman in his heart was an adulterer and he that hated his brother was a murderer. The first requirement in education is that man regulate his thoughts. Anything that ever moved the heart of man first swayed the soul as an unexpressed thought. Christianity challenges human thought. In all systems of error there is a tendency to prevent men from thinking. Tyrants do not wish their people to think. Man is not only to think of things of earth but of things in heaven. Human thought can be so elevating when touched by Christ that it can soar into the spiritual and invisible. Where Christ is received as divine humanity He becomes dignified and enobled. When Christ is connected with human nature He sanctifies it. Christ's manhood on earth shows what manhood is capable of and what human nature can become by the power of Christ. The question right now is what do you think of Christ, but when eternity looms up the question will be then, what does Christ think of you? As a way man thinks of Christ, so will he be in the hour of death. What do you think of Christ? Are you willing to part with your pet sins, pride, the world and self-righteousness? What is it that you keep from Him? What will you do when you stand before Christ to give account of your life? What think ye of Christ—not tomorrow but right now?

Some people do not think about Christ in any way because their minds are so occupied with everything else, but everyone's destiny of heaven or hell depends on what they think of Christ.

What think ye of Him?

J. C. Clanton (Corbett)



J.C. (Corbett) Clanton, 85 was born May 10, 1895 and passed away October 12, 1980. He married Parlie Lee Heath, Oct. 1, 1916 in Pala, Texas. She survives.

He worked in the oil field water transport business with a son prior to his retirement. He was chairman of the Gayhill School Board for several years and served as the chairman of the board of elders of the Apostolic Faith Church for 20 years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters; Dorothy Stall of Los Angeles, California; Dorcas Bishop of Kerrville, Texas and Pearl Mae Stringfellow of Nashville, Tennessee. Two sons; Morris Clanton of Big Springs and Billy Clanton of Midland, Texas; twenty-four grandchildren and thirty three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Charles F. Clanton.

Services were held on October 14, 1980 with Rev. Elvis O. Bishop officiating. Burial was in the Trinity Memorial Park.

People are just the same today as they have been throughout preceding generations. We may believe that each generation becomes "smarter" than the preceding one; the present generation may look upon the preceding generation with disdain, but we can learn from the wise men of the past.

Let us take the Bible and see what the wise men of the past have said. When we do this, we actually wonder if we are as "smart" as they were back in their day. We seem to be losing some of our grip of truth that God is a God of Judgment.

We enjoy speaking of God's love, God's peace, God's benevolence and His willingness to help us, and it is a joy to think of God's willingness to take us to a home in Heaven. However, when we examine the scriptures we re-discover that there is the WRATH of God. We discover that a time is coming when God's wrath will be poured out upon the unbelieving, the vile, and those who have done despite to His holy name. God's wrath will be poured out before Jesus comes back to earth during the great tribulation period spoken of in the book of the Revelation.

Turn to Luke, chapter 12 and begin reading with verse 16, "And he spake a parable unto them saying, the ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully; And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, this will do, I will pull down my barns and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." The last 14 words of this quotation explains the entire parable.

There was nothing wrong with the man's prosperity . . . we love to think of prosperity . . . in fact New Testament scriptures tell us such words as, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy should prospereth." III John 1:2. John in this case was as interested in the welfare of Gaius' temporal needs as he was in the spiritual . . . but we notice . . . "as your soul prospers." Let us notice the fool's attitude; he felt that if he had the temporal things then everything was fine. But everything was not fine. Notice the words of verse 20, "God said unto him, Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee." In every case of humanity . . . some day each soul will be required to answer the call. It is a wonderful thing to be ready to meet the Lord. If and when that time comes to the soul there is no worry. There is peace and calmness.

Now turn to Galatians, chapter 6, verses 7 to 9, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." This is God's word. Some people are deceived; they are fooled into believing something that is not true. But the truth is whatsoever we sow that shall we definitely reap. "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Let the Christian take heart for in this scripture we are assured that we shall reap for good deeds if we will not become weary. Often it seems that we serve and serve with never a reward. It may seem we work and work and work without recognition. We may give, and work, and serve . . . seemingly without reward. But take heart . . . we shall reap in due season.

March 1981

The Wages of Sin

by Jacob Regeir

It is true that in most cases God's work on earth is borne on the shoulders of a faithful few. It should not be so. But if it is, take heart . . . the reward will come if we are faithful.

On the other extreme of this quotation we see: The person that does NOT work; the person that does NOT labour; the person that gives his own share of the load to another . . . do not be deceived, judgment is coming upon them also. We must face it.

Every true child of God loves the Great Commission. We read it in the last chapter of the book of Mark, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. He that believeth shall be saved . . . WONDERFUL!!! But on the other extreme of the pendulum he that believeth not shall be damned. Notice the extremes: On one side: Saved! On the other side: Condemned!

No doubt many remember their first time to witness the tense scene in a courtroom when a sentence was passed upon the accused. Guilty or not guilty?! Condemned or free! Life or Death!

In modern thought men come up with ideas such as these: "We live in a free country. We can worship the way we wish. We do not have to serve God if we do not want to." We seem to get the idea that we have an alternative about serving God. If we want to serve Him, fine and good; but if we do not want to serve Him, that is fine and good, too. But we have to do with God! We are facing the Judgment! We must some day face a just and a severe God, the true Judge of the hearts of all men.

Turn to Hosea 10:12, 13, "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy: break us your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he comes and rain righteousness upon you. Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way . . ." Some of our reaping is done in this life, before we cross over the other side. But that is not all. Turn to Malachi 4:1-3. Also read the preceding two verses: chapter 3:17-18 to introduce the 4th chapter, "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of Lords, in that day what I make up my jewels. I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." (That is wonderful) "Then shall ye return and discern between the righteous and the wicked between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: that day cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." That is God's word of condemnation!

In Revelation 20:10 we read, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Jesus in speaking of the judgment compared the occasion as a shepherd dividing the goats from the sheep. Those on the right went into eternal life, but those on the left went into everlasting punishment. The wicked were condemned to death in the lake of fire that was prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matt. 25:41). Bible scholars believe that God never intended for the human family to be destroyed. Hell is prepared for the devil and his angels. But when man listened to Satan's temptation and followed the devil's way he put himself into the devil's doom. Verses 14 and 15 of the same chapter, "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

In Psalms 1:4-6, "The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

The Lord does not desire one soul to perish: God wants all to be saved. His desire for man is expressed in Isaiah 55:6, "Seek ye the Lord where he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." Between now and the Judgment . . . between now and the perdition of ungodly men . . . God is calling, God is saying, "Let the wicked forsake his ways, (which is real repentance) and the unrighteous man his thoughts: (conversion changes a man's thoughts and plans) and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him and to our God for he will abundantly pardon."

I dreamed I went to heaven
And walked that golden shore
I walked all over glory
With the one that I adore.
I heard him say, "Thou faithful,
To the joys, enter in."
Then I awoke more determined
To live and reign with him.

Don Mullins
Joplin, Missouri

Why An Empire Fell

"The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" was completed by Edward Gibbon in 1788. In it, he listed the following five reasons for the fall:

1. The rapid increase of divorce. The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis of human society.
2. Higher and higher taxes and the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the populace.
3. The mad craze for pleasure, sports becoming every year more exciting and more brutal.
4. The building of gigantic armaments when the real enemy was within the decadence of the people.

The decay of religion—faith fading into mere form—losing touch with life and becoming impotent to guide the people.

That was in 1788. IT was the Roman Empire he was writing about.

March 1981

Tis not for a man to trifle!
Life is brief, and sin is here.
Our age is but the falling of a leaf,
a dropping tear.
We have no time to sport away the hours,
All must be earnest in a world like ours.
Sel.



All Things Are Possible

Recently, in preparing for a devotion for chapel service. The following scripture was brought to mind, found in Genesis 18:14a "Is anything too hard for the Lord?"

I'm sure that if we were to ask ourselves this question, "We would be very quick to answer with a very emphatic NO, nothing is too hard for the Lord. But are we really accepting the fact that "NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR THE LORD"? Too many times we look at a situation, or problem and in our minds we say, there is just no way possible for this to work out. My heart swelled with excitement as I read this verse and begin to think about all that the Lord has done for me and how much more He can do for me, if I'll always remember that "NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR THE LORD"! Praise His name.

In Jeremiah 32:26-27 after Jeremiah had been complaining to God, we read these words. "Then came the word of the Lord unto Jeremiah, saying, Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh, if there anything to hard for me"? Does the Lord have to come to us and remind us as He did to Jeremiah, "Nothing is too hard for Me?" Why do we have to be reminded?

In Matt. 19:26 Jesus said "With men this is impossible; but **with God all things are possible.**"

If we can but look beyond man, and look to Christ for all our help, we can be victorious, but all too often we look at a situation through our own eyes and mind and it does look impossible, but Praise the Lord, with God, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.

One more scripture I'd like to share with you. One of my favorites. Mark 9:23-24 If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth, and straight way the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

No matter what the trial, the situation, or the burden may be, if we can only believe, all things are possible unto us! Praise His name for His blessings to us.

Scripture references: Genesis 18:1-15 Jeremiah 32:17-27
Matt. 19:16-26 Mark 9:14-29

May the Lord bless all who read these scripture and realize all the possibilities that we have in the Lord.

—Shirley Sutton
AFBC Faculty

Scripture references: Genesis 18:1-15
Matt. 19:16-26

Jeremiah 32:17-27
Mark & 9:14-29

Apostolic Faith Bible College

ANNOUNCES

Convocation — Commencement

May 12 — 13 — 14

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Tues. May 12 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Lesson

2:00 p.m. Afternoon Service

8:00 p.m. Evening Service

Wed. May 13 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Lesson

2:00 p.m. Afternoon Service

8:00 p.m. Choir & Homecoming

Thurs. May 14 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Dedication & Ordination

1:00 p.m. General Business Meeting

8:00 p.m. — Commencement

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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We are deceived when we think God does not require as much from us as He one time did.

Summer Camps

Panhandle Youth Camp

Laverne, Okla.

M.D. Methvin, committee chairman

June Age — June 8-13

Teens — June 1-6

4-State Youth Camp

Baxter Springs, Kans.

Committee — Edwin Waterbury,

Neil Ragan

June 14-19

Camp Meeting 1981

Baxter Springs, Kans.

Camp Chairman: Neil Ragan

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