

THE
Apostolic Faith
REPORT

Volume 5

DECEMBER, 1958

Number 1

Christmas - -

THE DAY — that great special day that is set aside, world wide by all Christian nations in honor of the birth of our Lord and Saviour — Jesus Christ — Son of God, Son of man now approaches. All honor belongs to Him as Lord and Master of wind and wave, as Prince of Peace and Coming King.

THAT DAY — set aside to such a degree, that in general the wheels of commerce stop — and closed store and shop — give witness to the magnitude of the importance of His birth. The Holy Child Jesus has arrived in this old world to set it free for all its shackles of sin. Our approach He takes away and banishes all guilt.

THIS DAY — has brought a new age, a new light and a new experience. It has fulfilled the Old Testament law, and every prophetic promise of His birth, in hamlet or courts of kings, is now reality. No more will the offerings of the first of the herds or flocks suffice — for He is the One Supreme Eternal offering — the gateway between God and man — The Lamb without blemish.

IN OUR DAY — stand in awe, as the shepherds of Old, and let your heart delight its self in worship. Like the wise men of His day — travel afar — some gift to bestow in His

Name. The star of hope still shines, over the highest mountain, across the greatest expanse, and through the darkest night. Day Star of all generations. (II Pet. 1:19.)

IN DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS — so many witnesses testify. The lighted streets, the decorated store windows, the display of gifts — and parades and bands — and the songs of Children. From home and lawn a new display rightfully appears — All speak well, the message of the old old story — “Jesus is born!” How could it be? And yet I am glad that it is so.

THE DAY OF DAYS HAS COME — To God we give praise for His remembrance of us and for His only Son — REDEEMER of the souls of all men. Wonderful is His Name (Isa. 9:6). Because I am a Christian, Christmas means much to me. It speaks of the source of my religion — of my faith and my hope. Each year I want to cry in a more perfect tone, “Christ has come, and wish you all in His Name A Very Very Merry Christmas.”



SERMON OF THE MONTH

"I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK"

This story of the painting is told: The young man who painted the picture took it to an older artist who said, "It is too sacred to criticize but I can see one thing you forgot. There is no latch on the door." The young man replied, "There is not supposed to be a latch, there is not a latch on the door of our hearts, it can only be opened from the inside."

This story brings to mind the scripture, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. Rev. 3:20.

The picture of Christ knocking at the door brings the thought of the Love and Mercy Jesus has for us, as our Lord and Saviour.

Some may ask why do we need a Lord and Saviour? they think they are getting along alright as they are.

The Bible tells us that we were all shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin. Psalms 51:5. This is because of our sin nature or carnal mind we inherited from Adam and Eve, after the first sin. This sin nature is not a sin to be repented of, it is not subject to God, nor can it be. Romans 7:15, 8:7.

We know that all unrighteousness is sin in the sight of God and that God cannot look upon sin. The Scriptures tell us that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23. Also that the wages of sin is death. Romans 6:23.

Therefore, in order to have eternal life, as the Bible tells us we can have, we must have a way to be made righteous in God's sight, and to have a way to live above sin and receive the gift of eternal life. Romans 6:23.

To this end came Jesus Christ, to save us from sin, and that through Him we might have eternal life.

The life He lived here on earth is a pattern for us to live, BUT He did more than this. He lived on a Spiritual plain far above us mortals, because He was the Son of God. He showed us how to humble ourselves in God's sight, how to pray, and be a servant of mankind for God.

He came to give His life that we might have life and have it more abundantly. The Blood of Jesus had to be shed for the sins of the world, for our salvation, and our sanctification.

He was born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11). He later told Zacharus that, that day had salvation come to his house for the Son of man came to seek and save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10.)

When Jesus seeks the lost, He knocks on their hearts door. He must need knock and call for there is no latch on the outside of our heart. We can open it and let some one in but they cannot enter by themselves. You must open the door to Jesus, for He will not enter in without an invitation, although He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (II Peter 3:9.) If He came in by force it wouldn't mean as much as it does now, and also, it is not His way. We must realize our own condition and want to do something about it first.

Jesus knocks on a person's heart in many ways: He sends someone to see you, to talk about your soul; He puts it in your heart to go to church; or to read and study your Bible. The workings of God are mysterious to we who are mortals. We cannot understand the ways or clearly see all of God's workings or undertakings; for as Paul has said, "Now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; but then shall I know as I am known." (I Cor. 13:12.) Altho we don't sometimes understand things, we always know the call of God and we always know when the Lord Jesus Christ knocks on our heart's door. When He sends the Holy Spirit to convict us of our sins, He speaks with a small, still voice (I Kings 19:12) to show us where we have erred and that we can cast our burdens on Him and find rest. (Ps. 55:22).

The voice of God is a still small voice calling to us in our heart. So we needn't expect a loud, deafening voice, like the thundering of a summer storm. Just the small still voice that speaks to our heart and reveals our need for Jesus.

You have heard His voice and now

you ask how you can open the door of your heart to Him. This is done by being sorry for the sins you have committed and by coming to Him to confess your sins and ask His forgiveness. Only by Godly sorrow and with a contrit spirit can any repent to God for the sins he has committed against Him and fellowmen. This repentance of sins and the believing on His name brings us to open the door of our heart, for as many as believed He gave the power to become the Sons of God (John 1:12). Also as He talked with Martha, He said that he that believed on Him shall never die. This we know, means spiritually; as we learn here and in other accounts in the Scriptures that through belief in Him we have eternal life.

We must have faith in Jesus, knowing that a man is justified by faith in Jesus Christ. (Gal. 2:16). This faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. (Romans 10:17.) We walk after the things of God by faith and not by sight. (II Cor. 5:7).

We must remember that without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6).

When we have opened our hearts to Jesus, He will come in and sup with us, and we with Him. This is a proof of the fellowship we have with Jesus, our Saviour, and being made perfect, by this indwelling of Him (John 17:23), This also gives us a spiritual life, or the living of Christ in our hearts by faith, and we know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that we might be filled with all the fullness of God (Ephesians 5:17-19). The living of Christ in our heart makes us want to keep His commandments, and show by our life, the Spirit which He gives us. (I John 3:24.)

We know that we have Christ within us, and we know that there is a fellowship with Him, when we gather in His name. This is limited to no number, because He said that where two or three are gathered together in His name, there He would be in their midst. (Matt. 18:20). We know Jesus draws very near, by the burning in our hearts as it happened to the Emmaus disciples after Christ talked with them. (Luke 24:32.)

All of the disciples tell of the

CHRISTMAS FOR ALL OF US

Let me take the trail of the past and in yesteryear glean a part of my life to-day. I have always liked the study of history, for the subject is clearly one of "his story" in relation to the factors and facts of the travels of men. From valiant men to the baser sort the story is told, interesting and changing, we view the high points, that lead to our day. No mind is as well informed as it should be without a knowledge of history. And no history is complete until the Story of Christ has been given proper place. When the Christ of the Cross is forgotten, and the hope of men grows deep in themselves, then

wonderful walking with Christ and being lead of Him. The Apostle James tells us how we can have the fellowship of God, and the Lord Jesus in James 4:8. We are to draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to us. Humble ourselves in His sight that He may lift us up.

I also think of Jeremiah, who said, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." (10:23). We know that the man who does not honor God, and let Him have His way in his life, is doomed. Maybe not in this life or in the eyes of the world, but in the eyes of God, he is a disobedient child and will be banished from Him to his sentence of death. Everytime a person tries to lean on his own might or will, the arm of flesh fails him. Only the leadership of God will bring a man through the snares and pitfalls of the life on earth.

These wonderful things I think how a mere man, by just hearing and answering the call of Jesus Christ and letting Him into our hearts, can be led by the One who was in the beginning, who made the world and everything in it. We can see sights that are not of earthly origin and live above the ways and petty strife of this world.

We can know and do the things He would have us do and then go on to live in the great, wonderful land He is preparing for those who willingly obey His voice.

—By Eugene Webster.

Christmas loses its beauty, for without the manger experience there would have been no Cross of the Christ, and the plan of salvation would not have been.

It was almost 2,000 years ago that Christ came as a gift to all the world. II Cor. 9:15., John 3:16. He was born for a purpose. Isaiah states His position in Isa. 9:6-7. In our every day language we would say, "Christ is born, the Son has now been given." (A future event in Isaiah's time.) All ruling power some day will be His, for this Babe of Bethlehem is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. His name is wonderful, and to all that know Him, He is Wonderful, no other can take His place for He is Jesus, Son of God, Saviour of Men. The Highest of wisdom and knowledge, He is our counsellor. Foolish indeed is the man that leaves Jesus to seek advice of worldly materialism alone.

Jesus and the Father are one. He is of the Father and we are of Jesus. John 17:21-23. Jesus was in the Beginning and will be in the Ending, that is He was and is and ever shall be. Jesus came as a token of peace between God and man. The cry of peace — lost peace — is because men have lost the Price of Peace. All clear thinking people wonder what a few days or weeks will bring forth, for angry nations forget the Meek and Lowly Jesus who will have all men to live in peace. Turn backward, turn backward, to the day of His birth and there learn the lesson of faith and peace and hope and trust, so that your perfect light springs forth — which is the real peace of God, a peace that is within, that insures the real meaning of living, and builds each heart stronger for the morrow. The Lord of hosts, the God of Heaven, made possible this gift, Jesus Christ, the Son of God that takes away the sins of the world. He was clothed in human flesh as we are clothed. He died, as we too will die, and was made alive, that

we some day may live with Him.

History gives me these facts. In the days of Rome, that great nation, to whom most of the civilized world swore allegiance, and fought for citizenship, there came One, even Jesus, born in due season, fulfilling every word of the Holy prophets, that all those which would believe on Him might have the light and life of eternity.

The circumstances of His Birth were of such lowly nature that the kings of this old world overlooked Him (that is except the wise men, whose information came from above by the guiding star of light). Even the priest of His day as a whole did not know Him, only with blinded eyes did they read the prophecies, Let us take warning of what hardened hearts can do. If any pass Christ by, it is to their sorrow and regret. Angels proclaimed the glad things, but what does an angel figure in a world satisfied with its pomp and pride and blinding sin chains?

Evil forces then and now seek to detract from the sacred holy miraculous birth of Our Saviour. They call His conception impossible, and the narration of His Birth unsound, yet by the Holy Scriptures and Divine interpretation, it is as it is written and it is for us to accept with a heart of faith, if the full value and meaning of Christmas we receive. Yet there would be no pattern of giving had it not been for this great righteous gift.

Often the True meaning of Christmas is lost. Commercialism gives more place to the dollar, than to Christ, for this real forgiveness should be asked. Jesus brought to us something that no amount of money or any other wealth can buy. However we are to come to Him without money and without praise and then receive the satisfying portion — salvation which will give us the full meaning of Christmas. The Bible and history has given us a volume of priceless information when the story of Jesus is related. This Christmas do all that you can to speak of Him in whose honor the day is kept. Look beyond the decorated tree and lighted candle, the treats and eats and gifts and see Jesus and say within your heart, most of all I thank you Lord Jesus for coming into the world. Christmas means a lot to me.



The Apostolic Faith Report

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APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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From My Viewpoint

By Gail Schultz
(EDITORIAL)

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOU AND YOU! I am writing this on the first day of Dec. and that of course is the Christmas month and the week end, even the day will be here before we can hardly realize it. We do hope that you can have not only lots of gifts and Christmas pleasure, but we wish for you an inward peace that is better than riches or the price of gold.

Since I returned from Center Point we have been so busy that every hour just had to be filled right and accounted for or something was left undone. The first week that I was home we were busy with the November "Report," and in getting my mother settled in a very nice apartment. Then we were busy in the work week, and it was indeed fine to see so much accomplished. There still remains work that I hope to see done before the beginning of school.

We had two or three days away from here in going to other points for various reasons. One of them was a trip to a reunion of the Ransom family (my Mother's people) at Buffalo, Okla. That was a real joy to us. Then we went to Oklahoma City for a definite complete exam-

DO YOU HAVE

. . . . some good books that would be helpful in the School. Maybe you have read them and their use is less important now, if you feel they could be a blessing to the school, send them please.

Also toys that would be of value to the nursery. I know that many have things set aside and forgotten, but they have a useful role here—so little children can have something during school hours.

I noticed that we lack mirrors of all sorts. Some for the boys' rooms of smaller size. Some of longer length for the girls' rooms. You know what is nice for your rooms, so help us make the Bible School rooms home like.

ination about my hearing. It may seem strange, but so many would leave the impression with me that it was only a small trick for the medical world, and I would be alright. However to all the knowledge that I can gain, for some reason even unknown to them I have nerves damaged and the advice that I have is, "Like job of old, sack cloth and ashes. So from here on, it is completely turn to the Lord, please help me in my battle for better hearing.

We hope to see you at the convocations, but so far all we can do is plan and work to that end. Of course we want to see you here at the Bible School about Jan. 5th. We are doing all we can to work for the Lord, with the paper, and the school and the general services here.

Thank you ever one for your help, with out it we just could not "carry on". Thank you for your help with the paper and with the school and for us too in a personal way. All of it is necessary for us to continue our labors here. Write us all the news, we will do our best to answer you, some times we may be late, but just the same every letter is received with thanksgiving and for the year of 1958 we do thank you again and again for your contributions. Send in new names to the paper, we need them. Send in news items.

In closing may we repeat the thought of the start of this editorial and say to one and all, May God bless you and give you a VERY VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Lines From The Co-Editor

Greetings and a very merry Christmas to each one of you readers. This time of the year brings a quietness and peace of heart to every Christian, like no other season of the year. To the merchant it brings more business. To those in the world it is a time to buy and give and receive something in return. But to those who really love our Christ, we remember it as the most blessed event which ever happened on this earth. Our Lord's birth means more to this world than anything else. Surely peace was brought. We remember this proclamation, "Peace on earth, good will toward men". The greatest peace anyone can enjoy is when Christ comes into one's heart. This year, let Christmas be real to your family by serving Christ. Remember Christmas for reality instead of false value like the world thinks of it.

Yours in Christ,
M. D. METHVIN.

**REMEMBER THE CONVOCA-
TIONS: WE HAVE TWO OF THEM
THIS YEAR, BOTH OF THEM, I'M
SURE ORDERED OF THE LORD,
AND SO LOCATED THAT THEY
CAN SERVICE TWO COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE
MOVEMENT. PLAN TO ATTEND
ONE OF THEM, OR GIVE EACH A
FEW DAYS IF YOU CAN. EACH
HAS A FULL SCHEDULE OF
SERVICES AND ABLE PERSONS
IN CHARGE. PRAY FOR SOUL
SAVING AND BODY HEALING RE-
SULTS AT EACH, WITH DEEPER
EXPERIENCES AND GIFTS GIV-
EN, WITH FREE ALTARS AND
LONG HOURS OF HUMBLE, PRAY-
ERS OF VICTORY.**

**CONVOCAATIONS ARE AT:
KINGMAN, KANSAS, AND KATY,
TEXAS. THE DATES ARE THE
SAME, DEC. 26 TO DEC. 31, CLOS-
ING WITH A WATCH NIGHT
SERVICE.**

Let us meet together in high and holy places in prayer for the blessings that we need, in spirit and soul and body.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

A WEE LITTLE MAN

Luke 19:1-10. And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was chief among the publicans, and he was rich. And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him; for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down: for today I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Have you boys and girls ever wondered how Zacchaeus felt when he couldn't see Jesus, because so many tall people were in the way? I think he must have been very disappointed at first, until he thought of running far ahead of the crowd and climbing into a sycamore tree.

I wonder if Zacchaeus knew a few days ahead of time that Jesus was coming to Jericho. He might have been so busy he couldn't be among the first people in the street, or maybe he did get there but some wicked people pushed him out of the way because he was small and little. The Bible doesn't tell us just why he didn't get up front so he could see Jesus as he passed by, but we know Zacchaeus sought to see Jesus, but he couldn't because he was a small little man. He may not have been much taller than you boys and girls.

Zacchaeus may have been disappointed but he didn't go home, he had a desire to see Jesus, so he ran

and climbed the tree, then he could see. I can just imagine his surprise when Jesus passed under the tree and looked up at Zacchaeus and said, come down for I am going to your house today. Something wonderful happened to Zacchaeus the day Jesus came to visit his house, for Jesus also visited Zacchaeus's heart house and washed the black sins away. Yes Jesus saved Zacchaeus and made him whole. Jesus told him that the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost.

Boys and girls do you know who the lost are? It could be you, or your brothers or sisters, your friends at school, and also your mother and dad, the lost is everyone who has not asked Jesus to come into their heart and take away the sin that is there.

If Jesus was here on the earth today you boys and girls might have to climb a tree like Zacchaeus did, because the grown people might get in your way. But we all know Jesus is in heaven sitting at the right hand of God, therefore there is no need to climb a tree to get to Jesus, all we have to do is go to the church altar, or kneel beside our beds, or just sitting in a chair, any where we want to pray, Jesus will be there. Jesus knew where Zacchaeus was, and Jesus knows where we are, Jesus came into Zacchaeus's heart and He wants to come into the hearts of each one of you boys and girls.

Zacchaeus heard the voice of Jesus saying come down, I am going to your house today, you boys and girls can also hear the voice of Jesus saying you are a sinner and I want to come into your heart today. The grown up people call this voice conviction. Conviction comes to people when Jesus wants to save them. When you boys and girls feel conviction come to you, you should go to the altar and ask Jesus to forgive you for your sins, don't hold back when conviction comes, because that is your personal invitation to become God's child. How many of you boys and girls have ever received an invitation to a birthday party? Were you glad? If you went you took a present didn't you? Well when conviction comes to you, that is your invitation, but there is no present

you can bring to God. He wants your heart. So the next time you feel God inviting you to the altar, go and take yourself and Jesus will come into your heart the same as he did Zacchaeus, so many years ago.

ZACCHAEUS AND ME

Jesus called on Zacchaeus,
To save his soul one day.
Jesus found him in a tree,
He had climbed along the way.

Zacchaeus come down from there,
And please do make it fast.
For I must go to your house,
Your soul to save at last.

I want Jesus to call on me
To save my soul some day.
I am not hiding in a tree,
But I stand along the way.

I cannot come down from there,
I cannot make it fast,
But please Jesus come to my house,
My soul to save at last.

—by Lois Allen

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Zacchaeus was a very tall man? true or false.....
2. Zacchaeus was a very poor man? true or false.....
3. Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore tree? true or false.....
4. Jesus didn't know Zacchaeus was in the tree? true or false.....
5. Zacchaeus was a sinner before Jesus went to his house? true or false.....
6. Jesus saved Zacchaeus from sin? true or false.....
7. Jesus told Zacchaeus, He came to save that which was lost? true or false.....
8. The people were glad Jesus was going to the house of Zacchaeus? true or false.....
9. Zacchaeus was too small to see over the heads of the people? true or false.....
10. When Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down, he said no? true or false.....

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

False, false, true, false, true, true, true, false, true false.

Circumstances Cannot Break God's Promises

(Reprinted by request from the May-June, 1951, issue of *The Apostolic Faith*.)

Alexander H. Kerr was converted under the ministry of Dwight L. Moody at the age of fourteen, and joined the Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia. In 1902 Mr. Kerr read a book entitled "Judah's Sceptre and Joseph's Birthright," by Bishop Allen: In his book, Bishop Allen referred to the vow Jacob made in Genesis xxviii., where we find the following words, "Of all that Thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto Thee." Twenty years later this same Jacob returned to his home with servants and cattle in great abundance; he thus became one of the rich men of the East as a result of keeping his covenant of tithing with the Lord God.

With some doubts, but with a sincere desire to test if the Bible is true, to prove without a shadow of doubt that here is a personal God and that His promises are from everlasting to everlasting, and that they are intended for the people of this day, Mr. Kerr, on June 1st, 1902, made a special covenant to set aside a certain percentage of his income for the work of the Lord. At that time he had a mortgage on his little home, owed many obligations, and was burdened with cares and worries especially of a financial nature. However, he determined to prove God as did Jacob (Proverbs III, 9,10; Leviticus xxvii. 30-32; Genesis xiv. 20 and xiii. 2; especially Malachi iii. 7-18).

Mr. Kerr often remarked that if modern-day sceptics wanted proof that there is a God, and that the Bible is His Holy Word and all its promises are true, all that is necessary is to tithe for one year, and God will prove to them without doubt that He is "the same yesterday, and today and forever." Within three months after Mr. Kerr began to tithe, unexpected and unforeseen blessings came to him—so much as that it seemed to him that God had thus opened his eyes to behold His love and His faithfulness to His promises, especially made in regard to tithing or giving one-tenth.

That same year Mr. Kerr, with a

very small capital, but with strong faith in God's tithing promises contained in Malachi iii. 10-12, organized the firm known as the Kerr Glass Manufacturing Company which became one of the largest firms selling fruit jars in the United States. The jars were manufactured for him in San Francisco. At the time of the San Francisco earthquake this firm was manufacturing his fruit jars. Mr. Kerr had put practically every cent he had in the world into his fruit jar enterprise, and then came the earthquake! His friends came to him and said: "Kerr, you are a ruined man." He replied, "I don't believe it; or if I am, then the Bible is not true; I know God will not go back on His promises." He wired to San Francisco, and received the following reply:

"Your factory is in the heart of the fire, and undoubtedly is destroyed. The heat is so intense we will be unable to find out anything for several days."

What a time of testing this was! But his faith in the Lord never wavered. He believed Malachi iii. 11, and stood on this promise, unmoved. About a week after the earthquake and fire, a second telegram arrived saying:

"Everything for a mile and half on all sides of the factory burned; but your factory miraculously saved."

Mr. Kerr immediately boarded a train for San Francisco. This factory was a two-story wooden building containing the huge tanks where the glass was melted, which tanks were kept at 2,500 degrees; oil was used for fuel, and therefore this building was the most inflammable in San Francisco. The fire had raged on all sides of this glass factory, creeping up to the wooden fence surrounding the building and even scorching it; then the flames and fire leaped around and over and beyond the building, burning everything in its path. However, not a single glass jar was cracked by earthquake or fire! This was nothing short of a miracle of God's divine power in protecting this man who held his faith that God's promises made to those who tithe would never be broken by any circumstances!

In 1912, Mr. Kerr wrote his first leaflet on the subject of Tithing, entitled, "God's Cure for Poverty." This was followed by another tract

ARTESIA, NEW MEX.—

From letters from Sis. Odessa Summerford, and Sis. Lois Allen we learn that the Lord is blessing in the work that they are doing. Just a few days ago in a regular Wednesday night service there were six saved. They want to expand the work. Their address is 307 S. 5th St. Write them, and visit their church when at all possible.

entitled, "God's Loving Money Rule for Your Financial Prosperity." Every case of fruit jars that left that factory contained one of these leaflets. He advertised to give them away to people who would judiciously scatter them—bearing the entire cost himself. From 1912 to the time of his death, February 9, 1924, he had freely distributed more than five million of these leaflets!

Three weeks before his death he addressed the members of the First Baptist Church of Riverside, California, on the blessings and riches of tithing possessions, income and increase. Every business in which he was interested tithed. His returns were so great he created a Tithing Fund and had it incorporated. His tithing gifts went around the world, for he was deeply interested in missions at home and abroad. He gave liberally.

He was greatly interested in the distribution of Testaments, Gospels and religious literature. He rose from poverty to millions because he BELIEVED that God would honour His promise to pour out His blessings today upon any man or woman who would accurately and carefully tithe or set aside one-tenth of his or her possessions, salary or income for spiritual purposes.

Thus we have a concrete example that verifies God's promises which He has made to any person, anywhere, anytime, whether religious or otherwise, to bless that person on financial lines if he will accurately, systematically, and continually lay aside the tenth for the work of the Lord. Any man or woman can prove God's promises in regard to the blessings of tithing. If you are a Christian, the blessings of tithing will not only be financial but also they will be physical, mental, and most of all, deeply spiritual.

ANNOUNCING

The Apostolic Faith Bible School

Baxter Springs, Kansas

A NEW TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 5th, 1959

We are often reminded, that it is later than you think. This is true. It is time to be dedicated to God, it is a challenge of our day to be fully trained for service in church work. Here is an open door for you, for a well balanced course, in many of the essential factors of soul instructing and winning.

Learn more about the subjects of salvation, sanctification, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, divine healing. Learn of Prophecy--the second coming of Christ, the dark anti-Christ period, the beautiful millennium reign, the judgment time and of ages to come.

Take extra training in music, voice, piano. Learn to direct a choir with confidence. Meet the young people's groups, the children's hour and the Sunday school study prepared.

A place to eat, a place to sleep, all this and more is offered to you, for those coming to Bible School. For further information and particulars address, Robt. Girouard, Supt.; Jack Barker, Assistant Supt. or Apostolic Bible School, Box 110, Baxter Springs, Kansas.

Married couples will, of course, secure their sleeping room.

"IS THERE ROOM"

By Rev. Donald D. Dibbens

Luke 2:1-20 "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was Governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: (Because he was of the house and lineage of David). To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: Because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of Lord shone round about them: And they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, 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. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host, praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And

the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

I wish to focus our attention on a part of verse 7, and also to the shepherds watching over their flocks. This includes verses 8 through 20. The last part of verse 7 reads, "Because there was no room for them in the inn." This was spoken about Joseph and Mary as they came to be taxed. There were so many people that accommodations could not be found. Everything was full. There was no way to make reservations in advance, because walking or muleback was the common mode of transportation. Telephone and telegraph were unknown, so it was not possible to send notice in advance.

Everywhere they turned it was the same answer, "No room". The crowd jostled one another in the street, and there were people, people, people — a most uncomfortable situation when a person is tired and desires rest. A milling, jostling throng is most wearisome to the tired traveler. This was the atmosphere of Bethlehem and Jerusalem, just prior to the birth of Jesus. We see a comparable situation in the daily living of humans today. I am not speaking of any certain place upon this earth's surface, but I am speaking of the busy, filled life. The majority of people are so busy with various activities of daily living that there is no room for Jesus. From heart to heart he seeks to find entrance, and always it is the same answer, "no room". People are either too busy making money or trying to assure security for their loved ones, and there is no room for Jesus; no time to worship three times a week. Some feel that they are to be graciously commended for attending a worship service once a week. I knew a man who attended church once a year. He could be found at Easter Sunrise Service. Today he has a broken home — he and his wife are separated. This is a sad story of no room for Jesus. You might say, "there are broken homes among those who attend church more regularly". I'll agree that these are two facts, and both on the extreme. I do feel, however, that the smaller percentage of broken homes would be among the homes that have room

for Jesus. Not only room for Jesus to come into their lives, but also room to let Jesus and Christianity glow forth from their lives with deeds of thoughtfulness towards others.

The extreme opposite of the busy throng in the city is the quiet, peaceful hillside just a short distance outside the cities. Here the lowly shepherds abide with their flocks, and only the night sounds disturb the peaceful scene. Perhaps a wolf or coyote howling near by would cause the flocks to stir, and the shepherds to watch more closely. Otherwise, a calm, pleasant atmosphere prevails, made radiant by the shining of the moon and twinkling of the stars. It could not be said that there is "no room" here. Everywhere there is room, and yet nature engulfs everything. God is noted in everything that you see, hear, touch, or smell. One of the more important places of room in this surrounding is room for thought. When the flocks are sleeping and the wolves are not bothering, there is nothing to disturb; so the shepherds can meditate. One of the God given privileges that I thoroughly enjoy is the chance to be alone on the hillside — just sitting, thinking, and meditating. Many a person could have avoided a pitfall in life by taking time to think and meditate. Room to receive the counsel of the Lord.

The baby Jesus arrived amongst the milling busy throngs, but the news arrived first to the lowly shepherds on the hillside with plenty of room. Jesus always is made known to that individual with room in their heart for the good, the truth, and the light.

There is a portion of the scripture that always thrills my heart, and that is Luke 2:8-14 "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night, and, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold 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. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in

WORK DAY

Last month it was announced that we would set a work day, some thought that because of the convocations and school starting Jan. 5th, we had better have it early, so the time was set for today (Dec. 5th). The turn out was not large, but as much as could be done by a few was done, and thanks to all that did help. If you feel that you could spend some time cleaning in the School home choose your day and come, some time after Christmas, as it will be that late before all fires are turned on.

swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angels a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

These common people were accorded one of the rare privileges of all time. They were told that the greatest leader of all had arrived on the earth. This was proclaimed to them by the angels in the splendor of the beautiful hill country, amidst the roomy vastness of the grazing country. The angels did not say "A King is born", they said, "Unto you a Saviour is born". One of the great things that made the Gospel so effective was "that the poor have the gospel preached to them." Matt. 11:5. These were the words that Jesus sent as assurance to John the Baptist, just prior to the death of John at the chopping block.

Let us be careful to always have room in our heart for the Gospel. It will mean the difference between life and death at the judgment. If we do not have room for Jesus now, we will be among that number who are turned away from the door of heaven with these words, "I know you not whence ye are". Luke 13:25. There will be no room for the roomless in heaven.

"Is there room?" Our way of living will determine the answer to that question at the judgment. We can have the assurance of an abundant entrance into heaven if there is room for Jesus in our daily living now. You, and you alone, will determine how this question will be answered, "Is there room?"

DIVINE HEALING—

The following letter was forwarded to me, and I am printing it just as received. We are so glad that the Lord has again proven Himself precious in Healing power.

12-2-58

Donald D. Dibbens

Box 583

Katy, Texas

Dear Brother Dibbens,

As you know, I have been sick for a little better than four years. The Lord has touched my body and I feel much better. . . . My mind is clearer.

Back in Nineteen and twenty-five the truth was brought to me. It is still precious to me.

A few weeks ago, Brother and Sister Dickson and I went to Arkansas and central Texas. It was there that the Lord brought deliverance to me.

Will you kindly have them put my name on the Apostolic Faith Ministry Directory. Thank you!

Sincerely,

C. R. Swanson

712 Aurora

Houston 9, Texas.

ROSWELL, NEW MEX.—

A last minute report from Bro. and Sis. Waterbury states that the revival as conducted by Bro. Bob Cooper was a real success, and resulted in fifteen conversions, and five sanctified and eighteen were baptized in water. Since then there has been three saved and two sanctified in the regular services. Now they are asking the Lord for an outpouring of His Spirit that many of these might receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Sis. Joann Blackman assisted in the revival and has since been helping in the Youth services. A new Sunday School record has been set.

TANEYVILLE, MO.—

After spending a few days at "work week" Bro. and Sis. Edwin Waterbury went to Taneyville for a Thursday night service. This was enjoyed by every body and they found that they had lots of friends in this section of the country. The pastors, Bro. and Sis. Long hope that they can soon return again, also other visitors are welcome to any of the services.

Plans For A Week's Revival For The Movement Churches

I am wondering how all of this is going to work out. All I can do now is act upon the response that I have received and every body do the very best you can. Most of them want it in January however some realize that it could be a time of unfavorable weather. If I had time to contact different ones at the convocations and then report, it would be helpful, but shall we all try to be in services the second week of Jan., that is start either on Jan. 11th or 12th and continue until Jan. 18th. The general fast day would be Thursday, Jan. 15th. If you find it impossible to carry out the full week, then try to have services from Wednesday or Thursday (depending on your mid-week service night) over Sunday the 18th. I'm sure that some will see and feel the results of this at the very time set, others may reap a harvest later.

Those who do not have home churches can still make this a special time to wait on the Lord, for the salvation of souls and for the healing of the many that are sick and in distress. Be sure and write the results for the "Report."

BAYARD, NEBR.—

Bro. and Sis. Mahan write that the Lord has been good to them and that they have much to be thankful for. Bro. Mahan is gaining in strength, and your prayers in his behalf are still appreciated.

They had a good revival with Bro. Neal Ragan and as reported to me there was heavy conviction and a good spirit in general in the services. The ladies are working on things for the Bible School. This church has been faithful to our school and may God bless them for it.

CHICAGO, ILL.—

We hear from Bro. and Sis. Ferry. They have carried a real burden for the paper and for the School and write that the Lord is blessing them with strength and needed care and that of late two souls have been saved and one sanctified in their work. You can contact them by the Directory address if you care to do so.

IT IS TIME TO REPENT

By A. L. Moses

"My Spirit shall not always strive with man", Gen. 6:3, are the words of God. It is true no one knows the hour or day of Jesus' return to earth. But He didn't leave us without warning. Christ gave us signs that we might know the last days. Jesus said "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: . . . All these are the beginning of sorrows". Matt. 24:7-8. Selfish men with a desire for world power, honor, and fame has been the ground floor of war and turmoil. Not caring for the loss of millions of lives, billions of dollars, many heartaches and sorrow to others.

1914 was the beginning of what is considered by most prophecy students as the beginning of the war period. Active war lasted from 1914 until 1917. These three years cost America many lives and dollars. There was peace, but only for a season. In 1939 Hitler began to spread over Europe like a fire in a pine forest. First taking the small countries, using their power to reinforce his own, and then taking the larger nations. Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, Japan like a red tail hawk, swooped down upon our navy in Pearl Harbor. Within a matter of minutes, the American fleet was greatly crippled. This brought World War II to its head. With nations rising against nations all over the world.

After the fall of Japan and Germany, there was no peace. The bloody Korean War was yet to come. After the Korean conflict was settled there was still no peace. How could one have peace when all we hear is the greater powers of destruction we have now developed. The H bomb many more times powerful than the A bomb. Guided missiles carrying atomic warheads. Jet fighters that fly faster than sound. Super bombers that could carry enough H bombs to ruin the whole earth. Can anyone have peace with all this going on every day? There is only one way out of this world alive and that is to be counted among this number found in Rev. 14:3-4, ". . . and no man could learn this song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with

the woman: for they are virgins, these are they which follow the Lamb withersoever He goeth, These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb." Jesus spoke these comforting words, "And when these things began to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh". Luke 21:28. Surely the end is nearer than many may think, even at the door.

Matt. 24:32-33, Jesus spoke these words, "now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh, so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near even at the door". We all know that the fig tree is a symbol of the Jewish Nation, though most people give it little thought. Many people of the present age think very little about the Jews and their return to Palestine. However, this plays a very important part in the field of Prophecy. Israel for many centuries has been a nation of many sorrows. In the last 34 centuries this nation has been destroyed forty times. God pronounced woe upon them and the nations of the world have looked down upon the Jew and punished them severely.

Spain was the "mistress of the seas" with the worlds strongest navy. After persecuting the Jews their matchless navy met a raging sea of wrath, losing almost all their sea power. Henceforth Spain is counted among the least of world powers. France was once in power and after the Jews were persecuted and cast out, this country, too fell in power. Germany attempted to conquer the world and 6,000,000 Jews lost their lives at the hands of the Germans. I feel that this has a hand in their fall and the present condition their country is in. God has spoken ". . . For he that toucheth You, toucheth the apple of My eye", Zec. 2:8. With all this trouble and many others that could be mentioned the Jews are still a determined people.

In Dec. 1917, a British general, Gen. Allenby, marched into the Holy City taking it from the Turkish government. Allenby marched into the city without the firing of a gun. Rather, he had a Bible under his arm. The word Allenby in the Turk-

ish language means "God against us". Since this time the Jews have been returning to their home land. It isn't just a few scattered Jews that are returning, but they are coming from every corner of the earth thus fulfilling the prophecy of Isa. 43:5-6, "I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth".

The present day state of Israel consists of about 7,800 square miles, and already the population exceeds 1,500,000. The land which was once barren desert is now filled with beautiful homes, large cities, and many factories. 6,000,000 trees were planted in remembrance of the six million Jews that lost their lives at the hands of the Germans. Again scripture is fulfilled, "the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose", Isa. 35:1.

Israel is not in poverty. In its Dead Sea alone there is mineral wealth of approximately 1,388 billion dollars, not to mention the factories, the oil, and many other means of prosperity. The branch is yet tender but putting forth leaves. Surely this is a sign to all that the end is near, even at the door.

With all this taking place in the world, let us take a look at the U. S. A. A nation founded on religious principles. We even stamp our money "In God We Trust" and all the church bodies would number about 600. Not all of these church bodies are registered and recognized. Only 254 of these were registered in 1954. Why so many different beliefs, all supposedly based on God's Holy Word? Paul tells us the reason, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lust shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;" II Tim. 4:3. In the 254 church bodies mentioned above there are about 97 million members, this being near 60 per cent of the population in the U. S. This figure does not include the small undenominational movements which would bring the figure to an unbelievable high.

It would be a wonderful thing if all that were professing actually were covered by the Blood of Christ.

But you and I know there are multiplied thousands who have their names on the church roll and are seldom found in the Lord's house. They are too busy trying to take care of the world to worry about their soul's need.

The American highways are cluttered with beer and liquor signs. Everywhere you look there's another roadhouse, another liquor store going strong. Our people are surely sinking deeper and deeper into darkness of sin.

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark", Matt. 24:38. People were much the same then, as they are today. They had forgotten their God and turned to the pleasures of the world. They were so engrossed in the world that Noah's preaching could not reach their hearts. Noah preached to the people for about 120 years and warned them there would be a flood upon the earth but they did not heed. Noah believed God and knew He would destroy the earth by water though there had never yet been a cloud in the sky. The people didn't even know what rain was until it was too late. They perished in their unbelief. The door of the ark had been closed. Indeed the scripture was fulfilled "My Spirit shall not always strive with man".

Today you and I have loved ones outside the ark of safety. They have often heard the message that Jesus is coming soon and have hardened their hearts. Many times convinced and convicted, but they heed not this glorious light, neither call upon Jesus Christ the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. They never stop to think that one day they will have heard this message for the last time. They're not taking time to listen to the still small voice of the Lord that bids them "come, and I will give thee rest". Jesus stands at the hearts door and knocks, yet Jesus and all His love and splendor is turned away. They don't realize that the end is even at the door.

"And earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights, and great signs shall there be from heaven". Luke 21:11. People in these last days think very little about

world conditions. L. Don Leet, Harvard seismologist, revealed that 1950 was the worst quake year since 1906, the year of San Francisco's catastrophe. Last year the U. S. had no major quakes, but over the rest of the earth there was a total of 796 quakes reported.

In the last five centuries the increase has been mostly since World War I. This is not just by chance that God's Word is coming to pass. Note that in the last five centuries quakes have increased from 137 to over 2,000 per century.

Famine has been great. While the U. S. has had plenty, other nations of the world have not been so lucky. Japan and China have not had enough to eat for years. The people of war stricken nations could tell a very ugly story along these lines.

America has experienced some of the worlds pestilences. The great war against polio has been a long hard fight. The dreaded disease still has no cure. Heart disease is another, with all the programs, drives and other things that have come to fight, still takes the lives of more people than all other diseases combined. Luke 21:26, "Men's hearts failing them for fear, . . .".

Weather conditions are so uncertain, it is almost impossible for the weather forecaster to say what will happen next. People have suffered terrible drouth's in West Texas, Western Oklahoma, and all through the middle West, while the people in California have suffered floods. There is such an unrest over the

LUBBOCK, TEXAS—

Bro. Homer Coberly writes us that he has been in some services of late, first in a grand and good short meeting at Oak Hill church, near Eureka Springs, Ark. From there he went to Taneyville, Mo., for a week's meeting, where two were saved and again they had a grand time in the things of the Lord. The next week-end he spent in Joplin, Mo., and gives a good report from these services also. Write him for meetings or special services and as he can get to you, and the Lord leads, he will be glad to come.

OLATHE, COLO.—

Greetings from the snowy mountains in Colorado. The Lord is blessing here in a good revival. The first Sunday we broke the Sunday school record with 46 in attendance. There has been three saved and new folk coming nightly. We praise the Lord for His blessings. Bro. and Sis. Ray Christenson are the pastors. We plan to go from here for a visit with home folk and kin folk at Bayard. Bro. and Sis. Amos Harris and Family.

entire world in almost any field you might mention. Yet the people will not do as the city of Ninevah did. They are too proud and mighty to humble themselves before God and call on Him as the people of Ninevah did.

While there is a great number lost and unconcerned, there is also a great many who love the Lord and follow at His call. Real God sent salvation still works. God is still on the giving hand. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life". Heb. 13:8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever". God gave His Son that we might have life, He is the only source of life. Without Christ and the Cross of Calvary there is no everlasting life. Christ gave Himself that He might have a church without spot or blemish. Let us not grow weary in will doing, God's promise is unto those that overcome the world. Rev. 20:7, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things, I will be his God and he shall be my son".



The Valley of Sorrow

I came to the Valley of Sorrow,
And dreary it looked to my view,
But Jesus was walking beside me,
And sweetly we journeyed through.
And now I look back to that valley
As the fairest that ever I trod,
For I learned there the love of my
Father,
I leaned on the arm of my God.

Yes, as I look back to the valley
From the crest of its glory-crowned
hill;
I call it my Valley of Blessing,
So peaceful it lieth — so still;
And sweeter its calm to my spirit,
Than the chorus of jubilant song;
'Tis there that the mourners find
comfort;
'Tis there that the weak are made
strong.

O fair is the Valley of Sorrow!
God's tenderest angels are there;
Its shadows are lighted by Patience,
And sweet with the fragrance of
Prayer;
Tired hearts gather strength in the
valley;
And burdens once heavy grow light;
Ah, sweet are the "songs of the
sunshine,"
But sweeter the "songs of the night."

O beautiful Valley of Sorrow!
So holy, so calm, and so blest!
Thy ways are the fairest I travel
This side of the Land of my Rest.
And is some day the Father should
ask me
Which was best of the paths that I
trod,
How quickly my heart shall make
answer:
"The Valley of Sorrow, O God!"
—Selected

MOST OF THE CHURCHES, are busy at this season of the year with Christmas programs, and the story will be told again of the Love and Mercy of God that sent His Son to the world to redeem fallen men. Men that were so vile, souls that were almost beyond repair, were given a gift that was from Heaven. Salvation proclaimed to who-so-ever will. Let us in our giving gifts, forget not the greatest gift of all, **Jesus Christ**, the prince of peace.

MODESTO, CALIF.—

Greetings in Jesus Wonderful Name: Hope this finds everyone in good shape enjoying the blessings of the Lord. We are all doing fine. Thought we would send in a report for the paper. The Lord is blessing abundantly. We have purchased a parsonage just across the street from the church. Our address is now 522 Broadway. Our Tel. No. unchanged, which is LAmber 4-2241. We have a revival planned, to start soon after the first of January with Bro. Jack Hoover, of Manteca, Calif., as the evangelist. We would appreciate it very much if everyone in the Movement would hold us up in prayer for the revival and church. We want Him to move mightily in our midst. We welcome ministers of the Movement to stop by for services or just for a visit any time. We are busy on the parsonage and do not have time to write as we would like, but a card or letter from any of the Faith would be appreciated. Satan does every thing he can to discourage and make the situation look hopeless, so we can use your encouragement. I had better close. Yours in Christ. John Billings and Family.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT—Bro. Bob Cooper had a real good revival in Roswell, New Mexico, where several were saved and the spirit of the Lord blessed. The same is true of the revival that was conducted by Bro. Raymond Barker at El Centro, Calif. For every soul saved we give thanks to the Lord, and for all the truth that was preached, so that souls may see and feel of the glory of the Lord.

The Hand of God

The hand of God is very strong. When we are in trouble, need help, and seem to be falling, He will reach down and lift us up with His mighty strength. His hand is merciful to every one. In the days of old when men turned away from Him to serve other gods—such as the sun, moon, stars, or gods of stone, He would let them have their way for many years; finally however, He would punish them. If they asked for the forgiveness of God and came back to serving Him, He forgave them. He is merciful in that He gives us the very air we breathe.

God's hand is very powerful. The sun, moon, stars and planets obey Him. His powerful hand is in every thing we have around us. We shall see a demonstration of the strong, merciful, powerful hand of God when His Son, Jesus, returns to this earth again.

The above, written by Charles Gregory of Snyder, Texas, was chosen by his teacher to be printed in a book called "Young America Speaks."

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Rev. and Mrs. Stephen Welsh, a daughter born Nov. 18th, to whom the name of Janna LaKay has been given.

Mr. and Mrs. David Neff, of Wichita, Kansas, a daughter born Nov. 21. She was given the name of Dava Lynn.

The Apostolic Faith Report

Baxter Springs, Kansas
Form No. 3547 Requested

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