

The

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APOSTOLIC FAITH

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report:



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Story On Page 10

Editorial

"Mission Is Possible"

The last few days I've been reading and rereading the 6th chapter of Luke along with the 5th, 6th and 7th chapters of Matthew. Luke gives a much more condensed form of the "Sermon on the Mount". but he seems to leave nothing out in his version. Talk about "Mission Impossible!" This sermon Jesus taught on the mountain cannot be lived out in humane strength alone. It has to be Jesus living it through us; and he can only do that as we make a total commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ once and for all and then keep renewing it daily in communion with Him through a two way process—reading His Word and Prayer. We choose to call this experience by its Biblical name Sanctification. Others refer to it as the second blessing, total commitment, victorious living, or making Christ Lord of our lives and many other titles and phrases. I think it is much more important to have the experience, live it, and practice it than to quibble about the name we attach to it. The Bible also speaks of it as Holiness. In Hebrews 12:14 Paul puts it this way, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

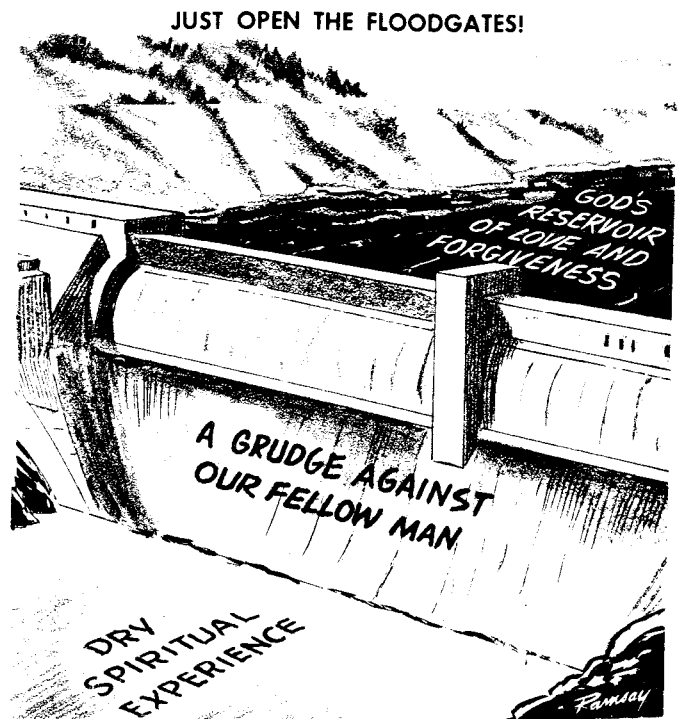
Jesus spoke of "loving your enemies, doing good to them which hate you, blessing them that curse you, turning the other cheek, walking the second mile, giving to him that asketh, lending, hoping for nothing in return, being merciful, judging not, condemning not and forgiving even as Christ has forgiven us. And then there is the phrase in the last of the 35th verse of Luke 6 that says; "for He is kind unto the **unthankful** and to the **evil**." I think that phrase shall always stick in my mind. Jesus is our example and He is kind unto whom? The unthankful and the evil, not just to the good, grateful, deserving ones, but unto those who are not worthy and doesn't that include all of us? Even at my best I don't deserve what He has purchased for me, but at my worst—He still loves me and is kind. My mind can't fathom that kind of love, but I have experienced it, and all too few times I have felt Him love through me in that capacity. It is the greatest feeling in the world.

While I've been meditating on these thoughts an incident that happened in the life of my grandmother, Mrs. Hattie Ostrander, my father's mother and one of the early ministers of the Apostolic Faith believers, came back to me so vividly. Grandmother had a new Model A car given to her by God, through some of His faithful ones, to use in her travels for the Lord. She had dedicated it to the Lord's work and was careful to use it in the right way. One night after she had preached on giving to everyone that asketh and the second mile Christian, some sinner boys decided to try her out and see if she practiced what she preached. The approached her after church and asked to borrow her car. She was almost certain that they intended to take it to the dance that night and there would be drinking and they probably wouldn't bring it back till the wee hours of the morning; but she also knew that she must live up to what she preached, so she turned the keys over to them and went home to spend a sleepless night in prayer. She reminded the Lord that it was His car and that she was sure He didn't furnish her with it to be used in such a manner, also that she understood His Word was true and she must abide by it. And then she asked the Lord what to do about it. The Lord heard and answered her prayer and early the next morning

after retrieving her car she took it to the sign painter and had him paint in bright red letters at the very bottom of the windshield the words, "JESUS SAVES." It worked—the boys never asked for her car again. Who could stand to have before your eyes every moment those words if you're not willing to let Him save you from your sins. Needless to say those word on her car and the story repeated often to us made a deep impression on her three granddaughters and only grandson.

Everytime I'm tempted to be selfish, judge, condemn, criticize, not show mercy and fail to love as I should, I trust my Lord will help me remember Luke's words about my Saviour, "for He is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil."

It is easy to love the loving, kind, thankful ones but Jesus requires more of us who call ourselves Christians—the Christ-like. Let us remember that the first part of Christian is CHRIST and the other three letters stand for I Am Nothing. Without Christ **I am nothing**—but "I can do all things thru Christ which strengtheth me. Phil 4:13. nrb



THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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By Harold Bollinger

Liberal, Kansas

Of all the fascinating Bible examples of great God devoted character, Joseph is unquestionably one of the greatest. His integrity and desire to please God resulted in God's divine favor resting upon him in an exciting, natural and spiritual way. Even by his name meaning "Jehovah is salvation", or "a soldier of the Lord", expresses a dignity of God's supremacy in the promulgation of God's love for bringing man to salvation.

As we study some of the expressed ways in which God used Joseph and some of the exact happenings of his faithfully lived life, may we too be lifted up to become "soldiers of the Lord."

In discovery of seven basic steps to honor which Joseph demonstrated, we list them as: (1) A Godly Influence; (2) Business Fidelity; (3) Resistance of Temptation; (4) Divine Favor with God; (5) Faithfulness in Providential Circumstances; (6) Showing Honor to God; and (7) Divine Revelation.

I. Joseph had a Godly influence.

"And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand" (Gen. 39:2,3).

The Lord was honored by causing Joseph to prosper. Joseph also was blessed by this prosperity and his influence was deemed with esteem by the Pharaoh. Prosperity in the spirit, soul and body of the children of God brings honor to God. The on-watchers and fruit inspectors will see without question that favor is found with God—the supreme being.

When Peter was preaching on the day of Pentecost after that the Holy Spirit had been poured out on those waiting in the upper room, there was a great spiritual hunger manifested in Jerusalem. On that day there were

added to them about 3,000 souls. To express more specifically how their influence was felt we read in Acts 2:46, 47 that the Holy Spirit brought them favor with the people rather than disapproval:

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart. Praising God, and having favour with all the people, and the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

The Spirit of God working in your life will never drive people away:

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (Jo. 12:32).

In the church at Rome there was quite a lot of discussion concerning those who had eaten meat that had been offered to dumb idols. Paul told the stronger Christians who were not offended by this action to abstain from eating this meat for the sake of the weaker brother. The resulting promises were righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. This would bring the acceptance of God and the approval of man. Notice here they were not pressing a doctrine or pushing a philosophy, but simply letting the peace and joy of Jesus, through the Holy Ghost, flow through their lives.

"For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of man" (Rom. 14:18).

Consider your life as a vessel that willingly allows the Holy Spirit to flow from your life as a great pitcher filled with the joy, peace and love of God's goodness. Become less concerned in proving a theory and more concerned in sharing your Christian influence with others. Remember, you are the only Bible some people read. Joseph remained faithful in his Godly influence, while living long before the dispensation of Grace. With the help and intimate directing of the Holy Spirit, which is sent to glorify Jesus, we too can exert a drawing influence. "Ye are the salt of the earth. . ." (Matt. 5:13a).

II. Business Fidelity.

"And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field. And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favoured" (Gen. 39:5,6).

Joseph showed strong business fidelity by being faithful to the trust that was placed in his charge. Due to Joseph's honesty, the Egyptian's entire household was blessed, both in the house and in the field. The Psalmist well describes such temporal blessings:

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation" (Ps. 68:19).

The Apostle Paul had much to say in faithfulness as a steward: "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." (I Cor. 4:1,2).

Regardless of how much the Lord wants to do for us, we ourselves must be willing to stand against temptation to be unfaithful in stewardship. We are free moral agents to choose right or wrong, to be trustworthy or untrustworthy. Moses was faithful in his house and left a good testimony, yet Christ is shown to be more worthy than Moses: "And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a

testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end" (Heb. 3:5,6).

When the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the way he conducted himself and the business entrusted to him, they were unable to find any error or fault; "Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault in him" (Dan. 6:4).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil. Prove things honest in the sight of all men If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men" (Rom. 12:17).

Without a shadow of a doubt, the Bible plainly teaches that Christians are to live honest, trustworthy lives as examples of all that Jesus desires for his children. Whatever measure we give out, we shall receive of that same measure. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Because Joseph was faithful, everyone around him was blessed. This is a gratifying and rewarding example to follow.

III. Resistance of Temptation.

"And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me, But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: How than can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Gen. 39:7-9).

Joseph had a Godly influence and was respected by all for this ability to manage business in a trustworthy manner. But here we see him being tested as to his moral character. Uncleanness, lasciviousness, and fornication has destroyed many Christians. As tragic as it is, many so-called good Christians who would never divulge their body in open shame spend time in meditating or revealing stories about others who partake of such activities. The reason could be that this allows them to live the experience vicariously and gain pleasure through another's experience. We are told without reservation not to think on these things—(Phil. 4:8). Such mind dabbling will lead to a separation from the presence of God and will testify for the Devil rather than for Christ. Jesus put it quite plainly: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery; But I say unto you that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:27,28).

By this we are convinced that if all that is preventing adultery is the inability to obtain a partner, Jesus considered it as wrong as if the act had been committed. Many of the Pharisees were finding fault with the downtrodden and known sinners, when in reality, they in their self-righteousness were guilty of the same. I am in agreement with the statement that "what we are is what we would do if it were never exposed." That is the very reason God looks on the heart. He sees the evil as well as the good.

Job described a cure for lustful looks: "I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?" (Job. 31:1).

The sin is not having a desire, it is having this desire in the wrong way or toward someone other than your marriage partner. It would be foolish to pray that you have no sexual desire. How could you produce children or enjoy the privilege of marriage if God granted such a prayer? Sex is a part of man and wife becoming one and remaining one throughout their lives. Notice how the responsibilities of marriage are discussed when Paul wrote to the church at Corinth. "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud (deny not) ye one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give your selves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency (abstinence)" (I Cor. 7:2-5).

It is God's will for his children to abstain from fornication.

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God; For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness" (I Thess. 4:3-5,7).

Joseph was cast out of his master's house for something he did not do. But God kept his hand upon him, for he had proven himself in another step of honor to God. He was judged guilty by the people, but he was judged innocent by God. God's judgments are fair and certain, for He looks inside the heart. If you are guilty of being overcome by temptation, ask the Lord to forgive you and begin to live a life of honor before God.

IV, Divine Favor.

"But the Lord was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison" (Gen. 39:21).

The earnest desire of all God-fearing Christians is to please the Lord. Procuring divine favor is not a list of do's and don't's, but an earnest desire to magnify and glorify Christ. We, however, are aware that when we seek to magnify and glorify Christ that we will leave off fleshly desires that would ruin or warp our praise. "A good man obtaineth favor of the Lord: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn" (Prov. 12:2). "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him" (Prov. 16:7).

Joseph was not only obtaining favor from God, but God was blessing him with those in charge of him. This in return gave him the opportunity of being placed in charge of others. With his faith grounded in God, no doubt he shared freely his magnificent abounding faith in his true God Jehovah.

The Psalmist's prayer for God's favor, "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us" (Ps. 67:1).

In teaching the disciples to pray, Jesus taught the disciples to ASK. The gospel of Luke, verses 9-13, in the three-fold promise of prayer, the word ask or asketh is used six times. Here the main prerequisite for receiving, is asking. Ask the Lord for favor with God and man. If you are living an honorable life, He is bound by His word to give it to you.

"Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck: write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man" (Prov. 3:3,4).

V. Providential Circumstances.

"And Pharaoh was wroth against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers. And he put them in ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: and they continued a season in ward. And they dreamed a dream both of them each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt which were bound in prison. And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and behold they were sad. And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his Lord's house saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly to day? And they said unto him, we have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me them, I pray you. And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph. . ." (Gen. 40:2-9).

Circumstances are not to determine our attitude toward God. Christian's attitudes are to be molded by His Word. What the Word promises shall come to pass as surely as our faith is in the Christ of the Word.

Every man has a portion of faith. It depends on where the faith is placed. If you place faith in feelings, your faith will be strong as long as the feelings are strong. If faith is placed in circumstances, you will have faith as long as the circumstances are pleasant. When faith is placed in the Word, it will endure all tests and will last through eternity.

Joseph placed his faith in God and what He had spoken. He was not swayed in his faith because he had been placed in prison. Paul and Silas had this same attitude while in prison. At midnight they sang praises to God and the prison doors were opened (Acts 16:26).

Determine in your mind and believe in your heart that regardless of the surrounding circumstances, you will be a conquerer of every situation. "You can have a song in the night."

VI. Honoring God.

"And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, it is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace" (Gen. 41:16).

God is to be esteemed as the supreme power in all things. Men must never take the credit for the things God is doing through them. Joseph was being used of God to interpret the dreams, but he acknowledged that it was God who gave the answer.

"John answered and said, A man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven" (John 3:27).

The union between Christ and His church under the parable of a vine stresses the absolute positive fact that strength comes from the root source which is Christ.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5).

Man is insufficient in himself to perform the acts or works of God, but by the Spirit of God he can be used to be the instrument which God uses to set His works in motion.

"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any

thing as of ourselves: but our sufficiency is of God" (II Cor. 3:5).

When Jehoshaphat was invaded by the Moabites he cried unto the Lord, acknowledging his weakness and that of his people. His reminder to God was that their eyes were upon Him.

"O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee" (II Chron. 20:12).

The Lord's reply to this prayer was that they would not need to fight in this battle. They were to set themselves, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord. God promised to be with them.

The vanity of human endeavors without God's blessing could be summed up by the Psalmist: "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Ps. 127:1).

Even as Joseph was faithful in honoring God as the interpreter, Christians today must acknowledge and honor God as the source of their lives. It will be truly amazing what God can do through your life if you care nothing about getting the credit for it.

VII. Divine Revelation.

"And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, the dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do. The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years; the dream is one. And the seven thin and ill favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: what God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh" (Gen. 41:25-28).

If Joseph had been giving the interpretation out of his own spirit, he would have been jeopardizing his life and destroying the people's confidence in God who knows all things. Here we see Joseph as one who staggered not at the promises of God, but took advantage of the challenging opportunity.

Man cannot comprehend the vastness of God, but the Spirit of God reveals the things which are in store.

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by the Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (I Cor. 2:9,10).

Perfect vision for blessings both temporal and spiritual cannot be seen without perfect revelation by God's Holy Spirit. Sometimes we can see only in part.

"For now we see through a glass, darkly: but then face to face: now I know in part but then shall I know even as also I am known" (I Cor. 13:12).

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13).

The steps to honoring God are reciprocated—where Joseph honored God, He in return showed honor to Joseph and brought him into favor with man.

Show honor, receive honor—show favor, receive favor. Be faithful, and God will show faithfulness to you in all things.



Alvin, Texas

We have started a church library where books of the church family that they would like to share can be checked out. Bro. Alvin Barker is the new teacher for the "Spares and Pairs" class. Bro. Ted Barker held us a revival February 29th. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Don Methvin on the birth of their little girl, Stephanie Dawn. Also to Danny and Linda White who have a baby boy born January 27th, named Bradley Daniel. We are praising the Lord for being with Lavonda Wallis who recently had surgery on her arm. Several from our church attended the ICL Seminar for Sunday School Youth and Children's work held February 26-28. Also we are planning on attending the Bill Gothard Seminar in Houston in May. It is an outstanding seminar on family and youth problems.

James E. Wallis, Pastor

Liberal, Kansas

We welcome Marlin Sparks of Gause, Texas, to our church. He will be attending Seward County Community Jr. College for the Spring semester. His sister and brother-in-law, Wayne and Brenda Bosley are members of our church. Marlin is a young minister and a member of the Son Rise Singers. His father, Bro. Bill Spraks, conducted revival services February 1-5. Recently three small children were dedicated to the Lord in our Sunday morning service. Bro. Ron Siex presented the Youth for Christ ministry to our church recently and Dixie Sweet and David Davis ministered to us in song. Our youth had a pizza party at the Overton home in Kismet in January. They also enjoyed a ski trip the last of February. We're happy to welcome the Jerry Barkers as Music Director of our church and Jerry is also working here. Their address is 711 S. Oklahoma, Liberal, Kansas 67901. Phone 316-624-8358.

Harold Bollinger, Pastor

Ashland, Alabama

The wonderful spring-like weather the Lord has sent our way seems to bring new life to each of us. We have felt His sweet presence in our services and thank Him for the increase He is sending for our labors here. We held our Men's Fellowship Breakfast in the church fellowship hall February 14th. Mr. Richard Blair gave an inspiring devotional on the "Importance of Friendship". After breakfast was served by the pastor—the needs of improvements were discussed for the growth of the church. There were nine men present.

The Youth Group had a Valentine Banquet at the Wynn Hall February 11th in Ashland. There were 49 present and everyone enjoyed this time of fellowship. Bro. Terry Mathis was with us for week-end services recently. He was a blessing to the folk here. Continue to remember us in your prayers.

Jim Arnall, Pastor

Perryton, Texas

In January Bro. Bob Yowell of Liberal, Kansas, and four youth from there conducted our youth service and the Sunday night service. He is director of Perryton Campus Life Ministry. Our Young People had a welcome party for Mrs. Lewis, Barbara Waterbury's mother who recently moved to Perryton and they also had January birthday celebrations for the churches senior members, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Steffen, Bro. Wallace McCrosky, Sis. Minnie Schroeder, Sis. Laura Elmore and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Shepherd. Sis. Frieda Pshigoda also had a January birthday but she was visiting in Las Vegas. The church had three bridal showers one for Noveta Scroggs another for Patty Doiel and the third honoring Mrs. Terry (Linda) Crum and also an Open House for the Elrick Wilsons.

Recently the Royal Heirs ministered in Song for us on a Sunday night. Our ladies had their Valentine party with Betty Slovacek as the guest speaker. The "Loyal Workers Class" had a "pot-luck" supper recently. Bro. Wick Brown is the teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Terry Littau treated the Junior church to pizza after church.

Harrol Waterbury, Pastor

Hinton, Alabama

Greetings from the "Heart of Dixie" in the name of the Lord!!

The New Year has offered us many new and exciting things here at the church. First, we are very happy to welcome our new Youth Director, Miss Kathy Judd from Roswell, New Mexico. She is a second year A.F.B.C. student Minister and is doing a splendid job here for us.

January 11-18 brought us a Revival with evangelists David Lively and David McCance and gospel party Sharon McCance, Debbie Fish, Deanna Russell and Kenton Patzvosky-students of A.F.B.C. The church was encouraged and uplifted by the services by these dedicated Young People.

Now, the Youth are excited about their Valentine Banquet. This is the first time known here to have a banquet of this sort.

An invitation is offered to all who wish to visit the Land of the South.

**Tywanna Morris, Reporter
Myrtle Carney, Pastor**

Joplin Apostolic Faith Church

The past several months have been very good for us, for the Lord has touched and blessed our lives. We want to thank God for touching many who were sick. His healing power has been witnessed by several in our church. The day of miracles is not passed, praise the Lord! We are glad for the way God has been dealing with us. He has blessed with some good times around the altar. Our prayer is that all of us in the family of God will willingly and obediently be about the Father's business.

Ollie L. Kinser, Pastor

Granby, Missouri

God is so good to us and blesses us in so many ways. We appreciate so much the ones who came over for services from the Bible School. They were a blessing to us. Bro. and Sis. Jake Pletcher and Auilee Cummings were here for a revival the first part of December. The appointed messages and singing were an inspiration to the church and Sis. Pletcher and Auilee blessed us with their art work. We welcome all visitors to come by any time. As we see the end of time and the return of the Lord drawing nigh it behooves us to stay close to Him and let nothing separate us from Him.

Max Pennington, Pastor

Canyon, Texas

Faith Bible Center will be conducting a one-day seminar on the tax structure of church finance. A church tax specialist from the Dallas area will be the source speaker for this meeting. It is tentatively set for the first week of May but the definite date will be announced later. All trustees of area churches as well as ministers are invited to attend. Our Minister's Seminar is to be held April 5-8. It will begin Monday, April 5 with registration from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. An evening meal and fellowship will be followed by a guest speaker. A cordial invitation is offered all ministers to attend. The cost for nine meals, Educational materials, and three nights of lodging is only \$45.00.

The fall 1975 business meeting appointed H. J. Price, Gary Peterson, and Wayne Huff to serve as a committee concerning the physical needs of Faith Chapel and Faith Bible Center. These men have not only recorded areas of maintenance and plans but they have literally fulfilled these needs. The holiday season provided Valson Abraham an opportunity to visit with friends from New Mexico to Massachusetts. Remember him and his work here on the campus of WTSU. January 19, 1976, Bro. Marcus Adair started instructing a class on Christian Faith. It is held each Monday night from 7-8:30. The only charge for this course will be the text book. It will be held in the Faith Bible Center.

Marcus Adair, Pastor
Rene Heil, Instructor
Ron Martin, Pastor

West End Mission, Purcell, Missouri

The Lord is continuing to meet with us to bless in each service for which we are very grateful. We appreciated Bro. and Sis. Jerome Crowhurst taking care of the services for us while we had to be in Texas because of the illness of our son-in-law. Bro. Crowhurst had a few nights of Bible Lessons on the "Plan of the Ages" that began February 19. He used a chart which made it plainer and more interesting for all. We had a very good turn out for our youth rally January 16 at Purcell. There were about 80 present. Jim Whitlock of the Joplin church was elected the new president and his wife was elected as Secretary and Treasurer. March's Rally will be on a Friday night at Union Chapel and will be an old fashioned singing service.

George Hintergardt, Pastor

Pattison, Texas

We continue to enjoy the Report each month. The Lord has blessed our church in the past few months. We had a good Watch Night service at Pattison Church with messages from Bro. Olen Bachler, Bro. Dean Harper, Sis. Martha Bell Hellmuth and Bro. Terry Mathis. We had visitors from the Hempstead and Bellville churches. Good singing and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

John Scruggs, Pastor
Doris Scruggs, Reporter

Enid, Oklahoma

We have had excellent services lately with the precious presence of the Holy Spirit. Bro. and Sis. Gene Webster and Bro. and Sis. Mitchell Modrick have been recent visitors. Bro. Christenson has just started Wednesday night lessons on "God's Plan of the Ages" using charts. We're looking forward to these. Bro. Lyndel Arnall was with us for his lessons on the Holy Lands.

Elmer Christenson, Pastor
Sue Phares, Reporter

Address Change

Rev. and Mrs. Frank Arnall
5315 W. 79th Ave., Apt. No. 4
Westminster, Colo. 80030



Mike Pennington and Debbie Harrelson were united in marriage January 10, 1976 in Arlington, Texas. Mike is the son of Max and Dorothy Pennington of Granby, Missouri, and Debbie is the daughter of Mr. J. F. Harrelson of Arlington, Texas. Mike's grandparents are Mrs. L. A. Long of Taneyville, Missouri. Mr. Ennis Pennington of Canon City, Colorado, and Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Daugherty of Leakey, Texas. Mike and Debbie are both active in church work.

Is There No Remedy?

There is a great commissioning ceremony recorded in the Bible, the book of Joshua, chapter one. Moses is dead and the leadership of the nation, Israel, is here transferred to Joshua. Joshua is here given the strong assurance that God's own presence and power shall be with him.

"There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." (Joshua 1:5)

No doubt, when you read this chapter, you will sense that Joshua is sort of overwhelmed by a sense of his own inadequacy. So he needed this promise from God. "I will be with thee: I will not forsake thee." Shipmate, did you know this promise is multiplied a hundred times over to each one of us who commits his life to God, who surrenders to the Lordship of Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer.

As Joshua, in his day, sensed inadequacy, so does any thinking man in this generation. My heart breaks for those who are living in fear and discouragement. I pray for you that you shall take the opportunity to know God in Christ through the forgiveness of sins. God wants to give you personally this promise, this assurance. ". . . I will be with THEE . . . I will not fail THEE nor forsake THEE."

Fear and discouragement are rampant everywhere. All that men have trusted, all we have built upon is proving to be an unsecured scaffold at best. Uncertainty strikes terror to the heart of modern man. The monetary systems quiver and shake, anarchists are organized and their bombs terrorize the cities, our freedoms are in jeopardy and our comfort is becoming uncomfortable. Some prophecy that today's problems are child's play compared to what lies ahead. The words of Jesus have come to pass, "men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."

The person who knows God is not to be overcome by all these things. Jesus said, "I will never leave thee . . . I am with you always . . . I will not leave you comfortless . . . My grace is sufficient for thee." What a triumphant matter to know Jesus personally. What a wonderful thing to build your life on the permanence of Him who was dead and is alive, who holds the keys of Hell and death . . . the Alpha and Omega." He is adequate for you . . . today!

There is a remedy for this fear and discouragement. The person whose confidence is in the Lord possesses this promise, "God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7).

Here's the answer: it is netted out of these five words, "Our sufficiency is of God" (II Cor. 3:5). The Apostle Paul reached that accurate conclusion. Such security is yours, today . . . through Christ Jesus our Lord.

—Paul Evans



No Excuse Sunday

The average pastor of a church has heard the same excuses time after time when he mentions to an absent member of his congregation that he missed him in church Sunday.

An Oklahoma pastor recently declared it to be "No Excuse Sunday" and posted on the bulletin board that he would on the coming Sunday have the answers for the following excuses for not attending church:

1. A cot for those who say Sunday is their only day to sleep in.

2. Murine for those with tired eyes from watching TV too late Saturday night.

3. Steel helmets for those who say "The roof might cave in."

4. Blankets for those who think the building is too cold, and fans for those who think it is too hot.

5. Hearing aids for those who can't hear the pastor, and cotton for those who can.

6. Score cards for listing hypocrites present.

7. A TV for those who don't want to miss their favorite program.

8. A tent for those who enjoy camping and "just have to get away from it all."

9. "Stamp Out Stewardship" buttons for those who say "all the church is interested in is money."

10. Some relatives for those who just must see their family on Sunday.

11. A fishing pole and fish bowl for the fishermen.

12. TV dinners for those who can't go to church and cook, too.

13. A box of used clothing for those who have nothing to wear.

Any pastor with much experience has heard all of these excuses, and a whole lot more, besides.

How nice it would be if nobody had to make excuses for not attending church, but just went ahead and attended.

The pastor would be shocked and the churches would be short of seating space.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY — GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!!!!!!
and
THANKS TO YOU HIS PEOPLE THROUGH WHICH HE HAS SUPPLIED
THE NEED!!!!!!

**Your Board of Trustees,
 Roland Busch
 Bill Hollis
 Jim Fox**

The Board of Trustees with hearts full of praise to God are happy to announce that they were able to pay a total of \$11,398 on the note owed at the bank. The payment due was \$8,398.00; \$1,998 of this amount was interest and \$6,400.00 went on the principle. In addition to this we were able to pay \$3,000.00 more on the principle. The balance now owned on the land and buildings has been reduced to \$40,550.00. May God bless each of you who contributed so generously. As of February 24, 1976:

Balance in the Building Fund \$793.27
 Balance in the General Fund \$340.00

The Board also wishes to announce that Sis. Louise Sutton will be the new permanent Bookkeeper for the Apostolic Faith Bible School Activities.

**MORE GOOD NEWS AND A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL
 FROM THE BOARD AND YOUR EDITOR!!
 THE MOBILE OFFICE IS PAID FOR— PRAISE GOD!!**

February 12, 1976, we were able to pay off the \$343.55 that we still owed on the office. It took only a year and a half—Isn't God good to us? It was purchased the last few days of July, 1974. We are grateful for once again God has supplied abundantly more than we could ask.

Please remember our new Superintendent, Ollie Kinser and his family in your prayers and continue to pray about the selection of the 1976 faculty and the coming term of school. The newly passed on bylaws adopted at the Oklahoma City meeting in January are being printed and will be mailed within the next month—one copy to each church and one copy to each minister of the movement.

A WORD
from the new
Superintendent of AFBC



Mr. and Mrs. Phares

50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. George Phares of Enid, Oklahoma, celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary Saturday, January 17, 1976. At 2 p.m. they reaffirmed their wedding vows at the Apostolic Faith Church and immediately following a reception was held in the Farm Bureau Building in their honor. Hosts for the occasion was their six children and their spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Phares, Mr. and Mrs. George Phares Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Chet Phares, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Phares, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Baker and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alvarez. Viola Farrell and George Phares were married January 12, 1926, in the Garfield County Courthouse. They have lived in Enid all this time. George retired from Pillsbury Mills several years ago.

As we have begun preparation for the 1976 term of Bible School, we appreciate the words of support and willingness to work for the school that have come from so many of you. We realize our need of christian brothers and sisters to be a great one. As has been said so often, there are many ways you can help promote the work at Bible School. However, the most important and necessary way is by praying.

Teachers have been contacted for all classes. Although, at this time we are awaiting responses for many of them. We are confident that all will follow the leading of the Lord in their decisions.

Reports that we have indicate that there will be several new students coming to study the Word of the Lord in this term. We expect the Lord to give us a good school spiritually as well as the learning of His word. Of course, we know that the blessings we may receive are conditional. If we are faithful to God, God will be faithful to us. Many times we have been reminded of the wisdom of Solomon's instruction, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Let us all therefore grasp the vision of God's word and work for us, lest we perish.

**Yours in Christ,
 Ollie L. Kinser, Supt.
 Apostolic Faith Bible College**

"Love"

LOVE is giving with no thought of getting.
It is tenderness enfolding with strength to protect.

It is forgiveness without further thought of the thing forgiven.

It is understanding of human weakness with knowledge of the true man shining through.

It is quiet in the midst of turmoil.

It is trust in God with no thought of self.

It is the One altogether lovely.

The light in a mother's eyes, the glory in the sacrifice.

The quiet assurance of protection.

It is the expectation of our Father's promise coming true.

It is the refusal to see anything but good in our fellow man.

It is the glory that comes with selflessness, and the power that comes with the assurance of the Father's love for his children.

It is the voice that says "no" to our brother, though "yes" might be more easily said.

It is resistance to the world's lust and greed, thus becoming a positive law of annihilation to error.

LOVE . . . the one thing no one can take from us . . .

The one thing we can give constantly and become increasingly rich in the giving.

Love cannot take offense, for it cannot know that which it does not of itself conceive.

It cannot hurt or be hurt, for it is the purest reflection of God.

It is the one eternal, indestructible force for good.

It is the will of God, preparing, planning, proposing always what is best for all the universe.

Author Unknown



Obituary of Viola Pennington

Viola Pennington of Canon City, Colorado, died Wednesday, January 14, 1976, in the hospital at Colorado City, Colorado, after a lengthy illness. She was born June 5, 1906 in Decator, Arkansas. She was the daughter of Robert and Lillian Nobblett. She was married September 3, 1943, to Ennis R. Pennington in Wichita, Kansas. While living in Wichita they were members of the Old New York Tabernacle and were faithful to the Apostolic Faith teachings. They moved to Canon City, Colorado, in 1967 and lived in Colorado since 1953.

Those who survive are her husband, Ennis of the home; a daughter, Lois Marie Earl of Shadron, Nebraska; a step-daughter, Marilyn Mahan of Malibu, California; three stepsons, Max Y. Pennington of Granby, Missouri, William B. Pennington of Taneyville, Missouri, and Ennis Russell Pennington, Jr. of Brighton, Tennessee; two brothers, Arthur Howe, Norfolk, Virginia and Lee Nobblett of Westlake, California; and a sister, Mary Jane Doney of Norfolk, Virginia.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 17, 1976, at the Andrews Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Duane Shipman officiated. They were faithful attenders of the First Foursquare Church. Viola was a giving person and was always busy making something to help someone else.



Front Page Picture

This is a picture of the building at the corner of Fourth and Jackson Streets in Topeka, Kansas, where the "Bethel Healing Home" was established in 1898. Chapter 6 of the book "The Life of Charles F. Parham" tells about it. Here the sick were cared and prayed for and "The Apostolic Faith" paper was first published. It's our understanding that this building is still standing. "Stone's Folly" building which appeared on our cover last month was moved into in 1900 and the first Bible School started there in October of that year, and it was where The Baptism of The Holy Ghost fell in January 1, 1901. It was later bought to be used as a pleasure resort and soon after burned to the ground. This is written about in the 9th and 10th chapters of Bro. Parham's book.

Andy Lee Sutton was born to Rev. and Mrs. Austin Sutton of Dumas, Texas, February 27, 1976 at 3:28 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20 in. long. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Kinser of Laverne, Oklahoma and Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Sutton of Baxter Springs, Kansas. His big sister is Sharlinda, who will be four this summer.

NAME: Abby ReNae Bard. WEIGHT: 7 lbs., 14½ ozs.
BORN: January 22, 1976. LENGTH: 19½ in.
AT: 4:52 P.M. PARENTS: Mark and Iletha.

BROTHERS: Travis and Grant.
GRANDPARENTS: Mr. and Mrs. Clay Bard and
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Oakes.

JESUS — CAPTAIN OF LIFE'S SHIP

by Harold Bollinger

I cannot see the distant shore,
The horizon is all that I can see.
But out there on a restless voyage,
Where sailors work and workers shriek,
There is a Captain at the helm.

With anchors raised and winds agust,
The journey presses on.
The steering often-times seem rough—
And sailors sometimes bleep.
Let me, oh Captain, hold the helm—
I know the course quite well.

But strong and gently He replies,
"I am the Captain of this ship,"
Sent down to you from far.
I know the ropes, I set the sails,
No gust nor strain can wreck this ship,
While I am at the helm.

Now soon this restless voyage shall pass
Unto the harbor safe.
With unharmed kelp and kept well crew,
The King stands waiting on that shore.
With open arms and firm set cheek,
He welcomes His son home.

The distant strains of unslept nights
The fear that tore adrift the heart
Is all forgotten now,
With the King upon the pier.

And so 'tis life with life long test
To steer our way till we embark.
Yet Jesus, Captain of this voyage
Leads men gently, firmly on
Throughout the night, throughout the storm
Into the harbor safe.

So for the helm, reach not,
But do your work upon that ship.
And praise the Captain oft,
That your great voyage when ending near
Will have a King upon the shore
With open arms and firm set cheek
Welcoming you, His child home.

ATTENTION!!!!

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Ed.

A. F. Report

A TEACHER'S Ten Commandments

Written by Henrietta Mears when she was in her early 20's and faced with defeat in teaching a girls' Sunday school class. During a sleepless night, she vowed never to fail the Lord again and penned these lines to record her decision.

1. I will win the personal allegiance of every one of my class to the Lord and Master.

2. I will not think my work is over when my pupil has made his decision for Christ.

3. I will see that he finds a definite place in some specific task.

4. I will bring Christianity out of the unreal into everyday life.

5. I will seek to help each one discover the will of God so the Master can work through him and use every talent.

6. I will instill a divine discontent in the mind of everyone who can do more than he is doing; not by telling him his life is petty and ordinary, but by giving him a vision of great things to be done enthusiastically, passionately.

7. I will make it easy for anyone to come to me with the deepest experiences of his inner life—not by urging, but by sympathy and understanding. I will never let anyone think I am disappointed in him.

8. I will keep the Cross of Christ central in the Christian life.

9. I will pray as I have never prayed before for wisdom and power.

10. I will spend and be spent in this battle.

What is faith?

FAITH IS THE EYE by which we look to Jesus. A dim-sighted eye is still an eye, a weeping eye is still an eye.

Faith is the hand with which we lay hold of Jesus. A trembling hand is still a hand. And he is a believer whose heart within him trembles when he touches the hem of the Saviour's garment that he may be healed.

Faith is the tongue by which we taste how good the Lord is. A feverish tongue is nevertheless a tongue. And even then we may believe, when we are without the smallest portion of comfort; for our faith is founded not upon feelings, but upon the promises of God.

Faith is the foot by which we go to Jesus. A lame foot is still a foot. He who comes slowly, nevertheless comes.
—GEORGE MULLER

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**JULY 23 – AUGUST 1
1976**

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