

THE
Apostolic Faith
REPORT

Volume 5

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Number 2 - 3

What Do You Think?

“What would you think of a bird, my friend,
Which had no use for the air?
What would you say of a maiden sweet
Who had no wish to be fair?



“Or what of a pale and rain-washed flower
Which had no use for the sun?
Of the bounding heart of a healthy child
That had no use for fun?

“What of the wanderer, lonely, faint,
Weary and sad and sore:
Who gets no throb from his homesick heart
At the sight of his father’s door?

“Ah, what would you say of a germ-filled seed
Which had no use for the sod?
And what can be said of a human soul,
Who has no use for — God?”



SERMON OF THE MONTH

RECALLING FORMER DAYS

By JERRY McCLENAGIN

Eccl. 7:10. "Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days are better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this."

Since the days when Elijah the Tishbite "sat down under a juniper tree" in despondency and discouragement, there is a tendency among those of the Christian faith to sit down under the juniper tree of discouragement. In Elijah's depression of spirit the glory of past victories was hidden from view, and this day could be just as good if there was a correct attitude.

But we must not fail to recognize the cause of Elijah's negative outlook. A time of high religious tension is usually followed by a time of reaction. Such reaction is fraught with great danger, and calls for patient and skillful treatment on the part of the Church; we must overcome such great distress by encouraging ourselves in the Lord (I Sam. 30:6). In time of religious reactions and tension there is always much to disappoint and grieve the hearts of God's people; but we must, nonetheless, meet the future positively, not in a spirit of pessimism.

Could it be that God has sent His angel, as He did to Elijah, to set before us "cake" and "water" and we have refused to eat — or neglected the help and encouragement He offers?

Our privileges and opportunities are often spoiled because of public opinion; but we read that Amaziah "did that which was right in the sight of the Lord" (II Kings 4:1,3). Are we governed by the opinions of others, or are we doing what is right in the Lord's sight?

If we have not seen "results" in this day as in the past, is it because we are content to recall past blessings and experiences in "comfortable remembrance" without accepting the challenge of today? Elijah's depression was not altogether a reflection upon the past victories in contrast to his seeming defeat, but his attention was focused upon him-

self! Our hearts must be focused upon the Lord, a single eye to His service. "No longer I, but Christ" was the attitude of Paul the Apostle who said of himself to be "pressed out of measure, above strength, inasmuch that we despaired even of life." But Paul discovered the secret of dissolving the despair in his life. He continues in these words: "But we had the sentence of death within ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us" (II Cor. 1:8-10).

Three tenses are suggested in the above Scripture: past, present, and future. There was a positive assertion of past deliverance, a positive declaration of present deliverance, and a positive faith for future deliverance.

A word about today. In the third chapter of Hebrews the appeal to us is to realize our opportunities are "today" — not in the future or the past. **Today** was the stirring challenge to procrastinating hearts, and to those who were living in the past with no vision for the future. **Today** sends its silent whispers into our hearts and urges us to do within its uncertain borders what God presents as opportunities for His glory. **Today** we can be "partakers" with Christ. **Today** we can "enter in" to His blessings and privileges.

In Phil. 3:13-16, we are again reminded of Paul's profitable attitude in the midst of religious tension and the corruption of the truth by evil men. "Reaching forth to those things which are before" will bring the favor of God who delights in our progress. "Forgetting those things which are behind" is to place former things out of the way — especially when they become hinderances in our today. "Don't magnify the past at the expense of the present." I can recall my childhood and teenage days, and there are fond memories of many good and favorable experiences. But to recall them in pessimism of today and ask within myself if they were "better than these" is not to "inquire wisely." For in so doing I rob myself of what life

should mean to me now. Regardless of your age, or the changing days of your life and the world about you, a pleasantness and happiness of life will be forbidden you if you seek to live in the past with no vision for the future! After Paul mentioned "forgetting" the past and to be "reaching forth" to things before us, he said to "walk by the same rule." If certain things in the past brought certain results then walk by the same rule. If prayer brought God's favor and blessing we must be "instant in prayer" if we would have the same results. If a yielding of body and soul brought or restored fellowship with Christ in a blessed sanctified life, then the same consecration must be made today. If hungry hearts were filled and asking, believing hearts received the Spirit of promise, then we must walk by the same rule. If Jesus touched the sick and made them whole and well because of their importunate, believing cry, the same Jesus will do the same work if we practice the same motives and actions.

"Press toward" is still the positive action to take. Press toward new goals: more effective methods in soul winning, church increase, and Christian edification; deeper spiritual lives, more adaptability to the plan and will of God, and increased fervor in His kingdom. It is certain that if we are pursuing such aspirations that mercy and goodness will be on our trail. In the Twenty-third Psalm it is written: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." But we must be "moving" for them to "follow" us. Before us: new enterprises and adventures. Behind us: the guardians of the Lord, goodness and mercy, follow us to guard against depression and despair, the lurking enemies of the promulgation of the Gospel and the winning of mankind to Jesus Christ.

Fear of new methods has prevented the heart of compassion to gather many a person under the wing of salvation. By "new methods" I am not trying to say we must exchange the old Bible, the Church, the altar, and such like for something new. Jesus did not bring in so many new things to the public of His day, but His ministry consisted largely in "converting" the old and bringing it to its proper place; thus, the tradi-

tions and trends of religious groups were broken to reveal the truth, which to know would set them free. There must be a discerning, guarding fear, not a "hiding" fear. Jesus did not continually hide from those against Him (although at last He was crucified), but openly revealed what was best for His day! We must employ such methods that will appeal to the modern mind without destroying or deviating from the purpose for which we have dealt with them. Paul speaks again: "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (I Cor. 9:22). Generally, the principle foundation exists beneath our buildings, but from the ground up the interior and exterior designs and construction are varied, proven methods used today. We do not change the basic principles and fundamentals of seeking the lost, "for other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (I Cor. 3:11). Whatever will more completely manifest Christ hearts and increase His kingdom will be highly favored of God. Required are these: the Spirit of God to convince man of his need of a saviour; the Gospel, as seed to plant; the prayers of the saints to grant "open doors" and "open hearts" for God's Word. Yet different methods may be used to present the Old Story to modern minds.

Elijah is brought into the picture once more. God commanded him to "go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord." God wanted to remind him of the true essence of spiritual success. One has written: "What is ministerial success? Crowded churches, full aisles, attractive congregations, the approval of the religious world — much impression producted? Elijah thought so: and when he found out his mistake, and discovered that the applause on Mount Carmel subsided in hideous stillness, his heart broke with disappointment. Ministerial success lies in altered lives and obedient, humble hearts: unseen work recognized in the Judgment Day. Get below appearances, below glitter and show. Plant your feet upon reality; not in the jubilee of the myriads on Carmel, but in the humble silence of the hearts of the seven thousand, lay the proof that Elijah had not lived in vain." But for Elijah to recall

OBITUARY

Mrs. Mary E. (Molly Evens

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Evens, age 72, Camp Wood, died December 25, 1958, at Uvalde, Texas. She had lived in Camp Wood for the past five years, where she attended the Apostolic Faith Church.

Mrs. Evens was born August 24, 1886, in Llano County, Texas.

She is survived by three sons, J. Virgel Fletcher of Camp Wood, H. W. and J. J. Fletcher of San Antonio; three sisters, Mrs. Maggie Williams and Mrs. Emma McKinney of Camp Wood, and Mrs. Rose Jobes of Uvalde; six brothers, fifteen grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held December 27th from the Apostolic Faith Church, Camp Wood, Texas, with Rev. Lloyd A. Schrimpf officiating. Rev. and Mrs. Jake Pletcher and Rev. and Mrs. Paul Allen Pletcher sang three of her favorite hymns.

Burial was in the Camp Wood cemetery under direction of the Conner-Frazier Funeral Home.

those former days and say they were better than these would only keep him in a state of discouragement; he certainly could do nothing in such a negative atmosphere of mind. "The admiration of the past is often the refuge of weak minds." Elijah could see comparable spiritual victories to those in the past if his heart would take positive faith and action for the future.

Wardlaw wrote: "Some Christians mourn over the lack of spirituality and earnest purpose in the Church of the present. They sigh for the ideal perfection which marked primitive times. But a closer examination would soon dispel their illusion. Even in the times of the Apostles, the passions of human nature, and the infirmities of the human mind, both disfigured the life of the Church and corrupted the truth."

Remember the text: "Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days are better than these? for thou does not enquire wisely concerning this."

Convocation Report

Sis Tucker has written to us about the Katy convocation and in part we quote, "Our convocation was extra good, it just kept building up to the last and the last two services after 11:00 o'clock were just wonderful. Bro. Bennie (Stanberry) preached, then at 20 til 12 the foot washing service began. I had charge of the Ladies and we had 60, (10 of whom was in this type of service for the first time, 9 teen age girls were in the group, after it was over we had choruses and testimonies, with tears streaming down their cheeks. It was glorious. Across the street 42 men had the same kind of service."

All of this speaks very highly of the work of the Lord and those that made possible such a meeting. I know that we can be thankful for places and times of worship. I cannot walk in doubts and fears, but in faith and trust, look to Him who is the True Foundation Stone.

Dear Brother Gail:

Received your most welcome letter some time back and was glad to hear from you. We hope and pray that all is well with you folks and that the Lord is blessing you.

A month ago our work in Lovington was finished and we moved here and plan to stay here until School is out. I will do Evangelistic work out of here as the Lord leads. My wife will stay here and send the boy to school. We are parked in a large trailer court not too far from a good school. At Camp meeting I had several requests for meetings but time has passed and I have lost contact, and if you would put a notice in your next paper that I am open for calls for meetings I would appreciate it.

I was in Big Spring with Brother Girouard last Sunday and the service was good. I will be in Snyder this coming Sunday.

MURPHY BARNES

CONGRATULATIONS TO Bro. and Sis. Raymond Barker on the birth of a daughter. She was born Jan. 4th, 1959, a New Year's gift. Her name is Cheryl Gae.

The Apostolic Faith Report

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APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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From My Viewpoint

By Gail Schultz

(EDITORIAL)

Greetings to all of you again in the Name of the Precious Lamb of God. Surely the Lord is good to all of us and we have so much to be thankful for. First please accept my apology for being late with the paper, it is not because of funds, but there were so many interfering factors and delays. To come out with all our church programs we are going to make this a January-February paper, and in about a month come out with a number for March that will be a School issue. Then we plan to have a paper ready for you just before the close of School. We are thankful for the wonderful convocations and the good news items received from each one—we are sorry that we could not attend, but with our duties here we could not get away.

School is really grand this year, there is such a sweet spirit and a home like feeling prevailing all the time. The Movement wide Revival is being carried out this week, and is proving a blessing to the School. I am sure many of our other churches are also being blessed. Some churches could not have a re-

WEDDING BELLS

Miss Deanna Mae Sargent, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Sargent of Purcell, Mo., became the bride of Mr. Buddy Miller, son of Rev. and Mrs. H. V. Miller of Joplin, Mo. The ceremony was performed on Dec. 7, 1958, at the Purcell church, with the Rev. E. H. Miller, grandfather of the groom, officiating. Buddy, now serving in the U. S. Army, left shortly afterwards for duty in Iceland.

BIG SPRING, TEXAS—

Bro. and Sis. Joe B. Dewees of Hempstead, Texas, are the "Fill in" pastors for the Big Spring church while Bro. and Sis. Robert Girouard are working in the Bible School. Bro. and Sis. Dewees have another appointment for April. However by May 1, they will be open for "Fill-in" calls. Any desiring their services please write them at 405 N.W. 10th Street, Big Spring, Texas.

vival at this time, so they had special services, and prayer meetings. What could be better?

The mail has been extra heavy this season, and so many of you were so thoughtful to remember us with Christmas cards. We tried to answer all of you, but if we missed you or as the case is (some are just now being answered) we still want you to know that every line was appreciated. All offerings gratefully received, and in return we are doing our best to see the Report filled with good things about the Lord that will be a blessing to you.

Continue to place high on your prayer list the paper and the Bible School. Some of the students are in need of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, so pray that we may have an out-pouring of the same. Pray for us too, the paper, our class in Doctrine, (which we enjoy so much), and the church here in Baxter Springs. All of this often crowds in and presses down a bit, but we are in good general health with a heart full of praise for all the grand things that have come our way.

To one and all may we say, It pays to serve the Lord, and hold on in Faith, for greater things are in store and in the Lord better days are ahead.

Lines From The Co-Editor

Certainly in our age of atomic power and rocket flights into space, man's minds are filled with many questions. But in all the race with time and the rapid pace of the world, there remains only one alternative for the true believers in Christ. That is to "press toward your goal in Christ". It takes more effort on our part in this day and age to really gain and abound in our Christian service. Not just merely the thought, some day I'll be a better Christian, but we have to press our way into the things of God.

We can get a good lesson from the world of industry we are living in. When a company has a new product, they try every way possible to get this product into the homes. When they succeed in getting people to use their product, they don't stop their advertising, but keep pressing it forward so more people will use it. So shall it be with our Christian experience. When we attain a height of spirituality, we shouldn't be satisfied with that, and stop seeking after God's wonderful blessings. But rather, we should continue to press for God's wonderful blessings.

Remember, Christian friends, "press toward your goal in Christ, for his word says, "Let us therefore as many as be perfect, be thus minded."

May God richly bless you and keep you all close to Him and may your Christian lives reflect Christ to the world, that all may see it pays to serve the Lord.

Yours In Christ,
M. D. METHVIN

PINE CREST FAITH CHAPEL, QUITMAN, MISSISSIPPI—

We are praising God for His many blessings to us. Our parsonage and church are in the completion stages. Interest among the people is real good. We are looking forward to our revival the last of January to be conducted by Brother Lowell Long. Pray that God will save souls and bless in the church.

L. J. Ehrlich, Pastor

KINGMAN CONVOCATION

The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and Holy in all his works.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. Psalms 145:17-18.

Great and lasting benefits were obtained by God's people through the anointing of the Holy Spirit in the preaching of God's word, prayers, testimonies and Bible lessons.

Many reported the Convocation to be one of the most sacred they had ever attended. Thanks be unto God.—A banquet was served each day.

Thirteen States were represented. A goodly number of Apostolic Faith Ministers attended, also some visiting ministers.

The Convocation Committee, Rev. Whitely, Rev. Paul Clanton and Sister Pearl Menke are certainly to be commended for their efforts in making the Convocation an Holy and sacred place where the sweet presence of the Spirit of Christ was not only felt in every service, but among the people through out the six days.

Other ministers attending were: Rev. Lowell Long, Rev. Homer Allen, Rev. Wapel Ferguson, Rev. Jack Barker, Rev. Edwin Wayne Modrick, Rev. Jimmie Wallace, Rev. J. D. Ray, Rev. Gene Cornell, Rev. C. O. Baird, Rev. Ted Barker, Rev. Jack Cornell, Rev. John Peacock, Rev. Jerry McClenegan, Rev. Harold Bollinger, Rev. Jack Hopson, Rev. Alfred Moses, Rev. Bob Cooper, Rev. Marcus Adair, Rev. Bob Townsend, Rev. Cloyce Spradling, Rev. Elvis Bishop, Rev. C. R. Wilson; Sister Viola Hudson, Sister Lula Parham, Sister Beulah Clay, Sister Edd Greever, Sister Odessa Summerford, Sister Wanda Townsend.

Gospel workers attending were: Vonda Van Benthussen, Mavis Van Benthussen, Edna Neff, Lois Allen, Truman Summerford, Gene Currey.

Dedication Services for the Apostolic Faith Church at Kingman were December 28, 1958, at 2:30 p.m. Master of Ceremonies, Rev. John Peacock; Church History, Sister Lula Parham; Commentaries, Sister Pearl Menke; Dedication Sermon, Rev. Ben Barker; Dedication Prayer and an-

GOLDEN WEDDING RECEPTION



A Golden Wedding Anniversary Reception-Tea was given honoring Rev. and Mrs. J. K. Seber at the home of Mrs. T. B. Tucker on Sunday, Dec. 7th. They were married on Dec. 8, 1908. The Willing Workers Missionary Group of the Katy Apostolic Faith Church and relatives of Bro. and Sis. Seber were the hostesses.

The reception was opened with prayer by Rev. Joe B. Dewees of Hempstead. Mrs. A. B. Stanberry sang "God Will Take Care of You" and Mr. and Mrs. Stanberry sang "Silver Threads Among the Gold."

Mr. Stanberry rendered soft music on the Organ during the reception.

The honorees were presented with an orchid corsage and a boutonniere. The honored guests were seated in front of the fireplace. A gold arrangement graced the mantel piece.

About 200 visitors and relatives called throughout the afternoon.

The Sebers appreciated the cards and gifts from their many friends.

Rev. Seber was called to the ministry in 1918. He has been an evangelist since that time. Their ministry has been appreciated during the years.

nointing of the building, Rev. Gene Cornell and Rev. Cloyce Spradling.

The interior of the church had recently been decorated. A special

feature of the front of the sanctuary was the large glass window of Christ in the Garden, beautifully painted by Sister Hank Jansen.

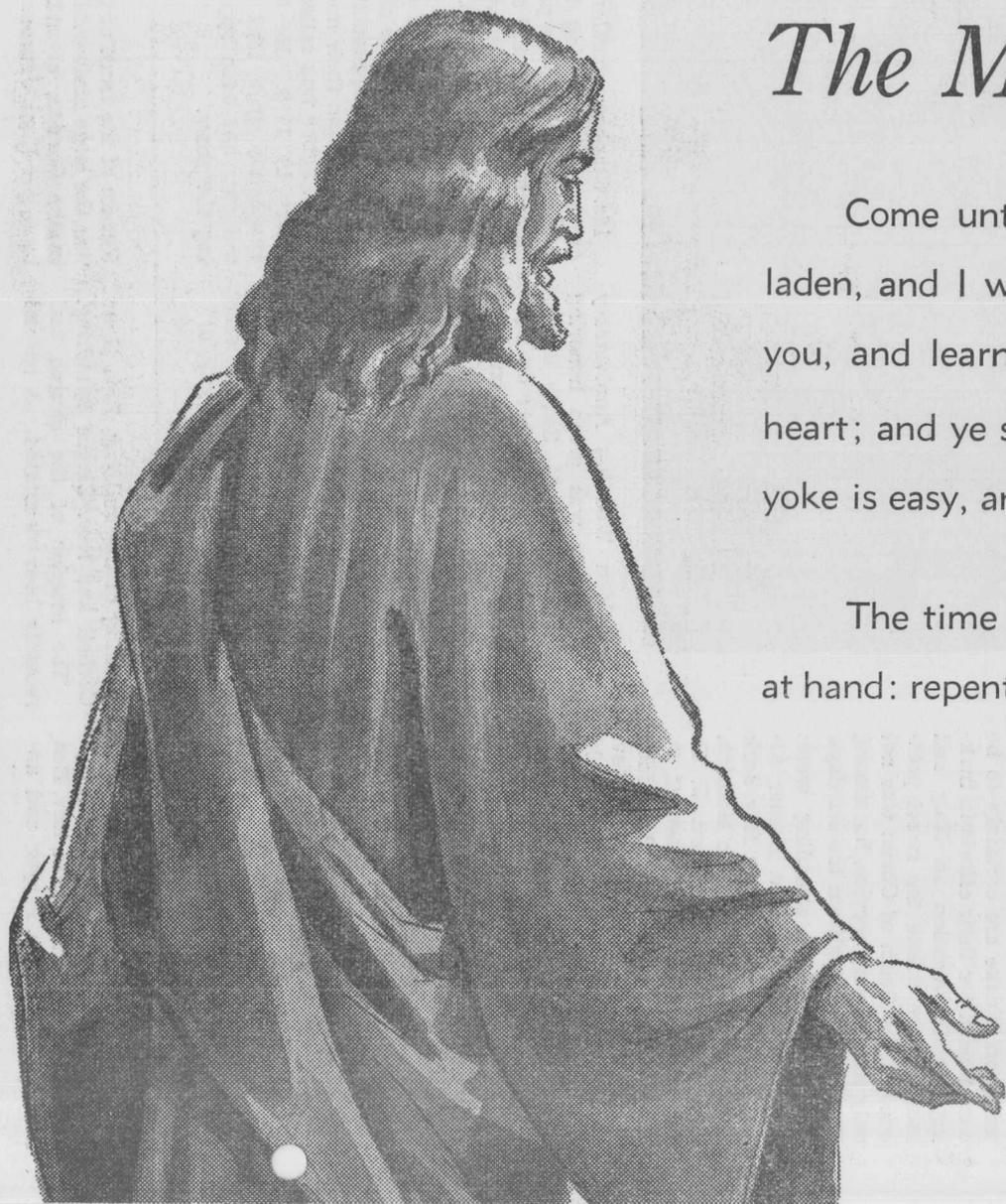
Hear What The Master Says

Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matt. 11:28-30.

The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Mark 1:15.

— I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Mark 2:17.

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. Luke 9:23.





thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. Matt. 5:6.

— I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:1-2.

These things I have spoken unto you, that ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. John 16:33.

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

— He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Matt. 24:13.

— Occupy till I come. Luke 19:13.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

GOOD AND EVIL

Jehoiachim was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. II Chron. 36:9

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years, and he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. . . II Chron. 34:1-2

The story this month is about these two boys, both eight years old, and both kings of Israel. One boy did evil, or bad things, and one did good things. Some of you boys and girls are eight years old, some of you are a little younger or a little older. It really doesn't matter your age, but what I want you to see is that the Devil can and does make small children do evil things the same as he does to the grown people. Long, long ago the Devil made Jehoiachim do bad things, the Bible tells us he did the same evil things that his father had done when his father was king of Israel. Jehoiachim got into trouble with the Lord when he followed the evil things of his father. You that have Christian parents should be glad, because if they were sinners and you did what they did, you would be doing evil in the sight of the Lord also. Just like Jehoiachim when he followed his sinful father.

Now let's talk about Josiah, he did good things in the sight of God. From the Bible we find that the father of Josiah was also an evil king, but Josiah did not follow after his father.

The Bible says he walked in the ways of David, remember David was a good king. Josiah had a choice, he could follow his father and be an evil king, or he could follow David and be a good king, we know he made the right choice. The Lord was pleased with this eight year old boy. Do you think the Lord was pleased with the life of the other boy king.

Boys and girls you have two choices to make also, will you fol-

low after the devil and do evil, bad, sinful things, as Jehoiachim did, or will you follow Jesus Christ and do good things. Josiah lived years and years before Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so he never had a chance to be saved. But it is different with you boys and girls, you can be saved, have your sins washed away, live a Christian life for the Lord, all you have to do is make the right choice. Eight years old or younger isn't too young to be saved, Jesus will forgive you of your sins, and save your soul if you ask Him. The Lord will be pleased and you will be doing good in the sight of God.

TWO CHOICES

A little boy went out to play
Griped, grouched and fussed all day,

Talked back to his Mother
Cussed at his dad.
God was displeased with this little lad.

Another boy went out to play.
Smiling, happy, laughed all day.
Ran errands for Mother,
Did chores for his dad.
God was pleased with this little lad.

MATCH THE WORDS

Adam	Naomi
David	Joseph
Abraham	Eve
Mary	Goliath
Ruth	Sarah



MY FAVORITE STORY

Philip Barns says his favorite story is "Daniel Says, No", found in the first chapter of the book of Daniel.

Carla and Paula Dennis of the Crossed, Arkansas church say Jesus at the temple when he was twelve years old, is their favorite story, found in Luke 2:41-52.

Mike and Craig Waterbury of the Roswell, New Mexico church say their favorite bible story is Noah's Ark. Found in Genesis in the 6th, 7th and 8th chapters.

Have you read these stories?

Why Worry

Worry? Why Worry? What can worrying do?

It never stops a trouble from overtaking you!

It gives you indigestion and sleepless hours at night,

And fills with gloom the days, however fair and bright.

It puts a frown upon your face, a grumble in your tone;

It makes you unfit to live with others, and unfit to live alone.

Worry? Why worry? What can worrying do?

It never stops a trouble from overtaking you.

Pray? Why Pray? What can praying do?

Prayer can really alter things; it makes life anew!

It's good for the indigestion, gives perfect sleep at night,

And on the very gloomiest days sheds rays of golden light.

It puts a smile upon your face, a love note in your tone,

Makes you fit to live with others, and fit to live alone.

Pray? Why Pray? What can praying do?

It can bring God down from Heaven above to love and work through you!

SCHOOL REPORT

By Robert Girouard, Supt.

The 1959 term of the Apostolic Faith Bible School commenced January 5 as scheduled. All members of the faculty were present and a fine group of students came from ten different states to study God's word and to prepare for Christian service. At least one or more students are here from the states of Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. At present 45 students are enrolled and others are expected soon. Sixteen of the students are new students who had not previously attended Bible School. We are glad to report that all of these students represent the cream of the crop of our young people with no misfits or outlaws among them.

It is almost impossible for one who has not been connected with the Bible School to realize how much work is involved in getting ready for the beginning of a new term. The people of our Movement through the medium of the Apostolic Faith Report were informed of some of the things accomplished during work week. In addition to the work done then, Brother and Sister Schultz and some others from the Tri-State area did a considerable job of cleaning in the Home building and the Chapel building. In addition to the cleaning referred to, Brother and Sister Schultz, with the help of a lady from the Baxter Springs church, processed canned fruit, fruit juices and fruit pulp that were on the shelves of the basement storeroom. The result of this work is at least 175 quarts of delicious and nutritious jams, jellies, butter, and marmalade to eat with those wonderful biscuits and rolls for which Sister Coles is justly famous here.

The arrival of some of us was delayed by a storm in the Panhandle of Texas and Oklahoma. Again our ever alert and faithful Brother Schultz was on the job. He had the utilities turned on and the buildings well heated for the convenience and comfort of the first arrivals.

Monday, January 5, was enrollment day, and a day for getting settled and ready for serious work and study. Tuesday every depart-

OBITUARY

Sis. Sallie Dewees

Funeral services for Sis. Sallie Dewees, 89, of Hempstead were held from the Hempstead Funeral Home, Sunday, December 28 at 3:00 p.m. with Rev. Geo. H. Polvado officiating. Burial was in the Salem Cemetery.

Sis. Dewees died at the home of her son, Rev. Joe B. Dewees, Saturday morning at 4 a.m.

Sis. Dewees was a firm believer of the Apostolic Faith since 1925, and lived a real Christian life. She was known for her testimony, prayers and good works of many years.

Survivors are four sons, A. L., A. H., and Joe B. Dewees, all of Hempstead, and J. C. Dewees of Austin; one daughter, Mrs. Troy Loggins, Hempstead; twenty-two grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Johnnie Scruggs, Jeff Shelburne, Gus Merten, Roy Mathews, Ed Mathis and Donald Mathis.

ment of the School began to function smoothly. The teachers are doing a wonderful job of teaching. By a visit to the different classes it is easy to discern evidence of thorough preparation on their part. The students have a mind to work and have a desire to deepen their lives in the Lord.

One of the most important and popular departments of our School is the culinary department. There Sister Edna Coles presides. She, with the able assistance of Sister Velma Barker and Sister Joe Girouard and others prepares tasty, nourishing and well-balanced meals. Brother Jack Barker, in addition to other responsibilities, dispenses coffee and hot water at meal time and in charge of buying provisions for the kitchen and other departments of the School, with the money the Lord sends through you good people of the Apostolic Faith Movement.

We feel that the Lord has been good to us here. A wonderful spirit of love and harmony prevails. The scripture that aptly describes our impression of the atmosphere here is "Behold, how good and how

LETTER IN PART

Brother Gail, we are praying for your healing. I don't believe in kicking our people and saying we don't have any faith because I can look over our church and see a number that wouldn't be here if it wasn't for answered prayer and hardly a one that hasn't been healed by the power of God. Just because we don't beat a drum and sound a trumpet doesn't mean nothing has been done. On the other hand we badly need some healings, your hearing, Floyd LaMunyon's eyes, Jack Barker's condition, and others. Seems like the hard trials are doubling up on us. Jesus told his disciples the reason they couldn't cast the demon out of the boy was because they hadn't prayed enough. Do you suppose in the rush and hurry of this modern world we live in, we are, as Christians, neglecting our prayer life? Seems like so many of us have our values so mixed that, we allow the more unimportant things to crowd out the Lord. Wouldn't it be better if we left a few things off and had some time for meditation and prayer? One can't have a half dozen things on their mind and hurry up and pray and get any place with the Lord. I believe in making a habit to pray at certain times, such as family prayer and asking the blessing at meals, but if we don't watch it they will become as meaningless as the prayers of the Pharisees of old. We need to **take time** to pray.

You know there is some good about most things. One of the blessings of growing older is having **more** time for meditation and prayer. As we are not in the thick of the battle we can pray for those that are. I wonder if our older people, that many times feel so useless, realize what a mission there is in intercessory prayer. Gertrude Evins

pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

We covet your prayers continually for the guidance of the Lord in every decision made, and for His protecting presence to abide. A cordial invitation is extended to all who can to visit Bible School at your convenience.

GOOD ADMONITION

How different things might be if the saints all took the work of God to heart and earnestly upheld their pastor with loving sympathy and prayer. If only people knew the load it lifts off a pastor's heart to see an appreciative smile, or hear earnest petitions of the saints in behalf of his humble ministry, surely they would pray more. But in many of our churches there is no prayer before the service begins. Instead of there being the quiet hush or the earnest prayer the people listlessly look about or idly talk until the opening song is announced. **There is no burden**, no apparent concern. These people have likely come from prayerless homes for a service, and expect the man behind the sacred desk to bring the power to flood the room with glory; they suppose that at the impulse of his word a revival will ensue. Then, if the results are not forthcoming, instead of taking things to the Lord in prayer they start whispering.

The pastor has his duties to perform, and is responsible to the Lord for doing them faithfully and diligently. But there are some things he cannot do. The preacher cannot do the praying of his people for them. Many expect to have God's blessing upon the services and to see souls saved, believers filled with the spirit, but **THEY FAIL TO PRAY**. Or they do not continue in earnest intercession until God answers. Much unjust criticism is heaped upon the pastor because things do not move as they ought, but if the time spent in fault-finding were devoted to earnest intercession in his behalf and in behalf of the work, all would be different. People sometimes forget that the pastor is human, just a fellow-christian. He feels pressure as well as others; he knows heartaches and discouragement. And when the spiritual tide is low he likely feels it more keenly than any of his flock.

Then, too, after the pastor has toiled in preaching and he seeks to bring souls to the altar and get them through to God, the church sometimes becomes a babel of voices. There is no burden for souls; folks just greet one another and have a little social time while a few faith-

fully try amid the confusion to help some wandered into the fold or to hold onto God in prayer.

God honors faith; without faith it is impossible to please Him. This is true in regard to the success of our services as with anything else but the pastor cannot do it all. The success of Peter and the other apostles was as much the results of the united faith and faithful prayers of the believing church as it was of their own consecrated labors. What preacher could not succeed with such backing as these men had when the church lifted its voice with one accord to God and said, "Lord, thou art God. . . . grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word." The place was shaken where they were assembled, not by the praying of Peter and the other apostles, but by the united believing prayer of a consecrated and sympathetic church. What the church needs is live, wide-awake, believing, praying men and women who will become personal workers, going out into the highways and hedges giving forth the gospel and inviting the people in to the fold. The Bible has not said, "Sinner, come to the church and be evangelized." It says to the church "Go ye . . . and preach the gospel to every creature." We cannot get every creature into the church to hear but we can go outside the church to every creature. People will pay an evangelist and spend hours in meetings, seeking a blessing for themselves, while they do not give one hour to personal evangelism. Then they wonder why there is no revival. They are too selfish, too engrossed in seeking their own pleasure and too unconcerned about their fellow men. People saved are fruit, and most of them (often the best of them) are hand-picked. Paul preached publicly and from house to house, and if the church neglects the house to house and heart to heart aspect of evangelism it need not look for great revival.

Much of this personal evangelism cannot be done by the pastor. If he is a faithful shepherd, by the time he has ministered to the sick, called on the bereaved, and other members of his flock, and performed a multitude of other duties of which his congregation is unaware, he is pressed for sufficient time to prepare his

Special Services

A special invitation is extended to every body to come to the Dedication Service of the Oklahoma City Church to be conducted on Easter Sunday, March 29. Our special request is for you to be here with us, we will appreciate your presence so much. Pray and make your plans now to come.

Thank you and God bless you.

**Yours in Christ,
FRANK STIMSON.**

The Church is located on East Reno and Blake Drive, two blocks off Douglas Blvd.

OLATHA, COLORADO—

Dear Brother Schultz:

Greetings in the Name of Jesus. We are rejoicing in the blessings of the Lord which we felt in our recent meeting with Brother Amos Harris and family. There were five saved, and the wonderful part about this is that they were all adults. There was one man and his wife saved that were in their fifties. Our Sunday school realized a good increase also. The month of November was 300 percent above what it was for the month of March. Also I would like to say that Brother and Sister Jerry Mumm have been a real blessing to our church during their time with us. Their ministry with the youth group has been greatly anointed and a blessing to the church. I would also like to report that prejudice which has existed in lives in the past has been overcome and a real appreciation of the brethren prevails instead. An open door and a hearty welcome is extended to all the brethren of the faith to come by for services.

With Christian regards,

Ray Christenson, Pastor

sermons. The principle part of personal evangelism must therefore be carried on by the faithful church members. Then after getting the people into the house of worship, while the united church prays in faith, God makes His word quick and powerful. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers, and go ye to every creature."

—An Anonymous Laymember.

KATY CONVOCATION

By DONALD D. DIBBENS

Jan. 13, 1959

Dear Brother Gail:

I talked to the wife this morning and Brother Methvin said that you wanted a report on the Katy Convocation. I'll give you first a report on the services at Katy and Wayside Chapel and then the report on the Katy Convocation.

The services here have been good. Our crowds have been small but they have been consistent. There is a real good spirit in the services and we feel that the Lord is blessing his word as it goes forth. We hope to see some moves before the week is over. This is a good group of people to work with and Brother Jacob Regier is doing a fine work here.

The services at Katy are good with the crowds above average. I'm sure that Brother Methvin will be a blessing there and the Spirit of the Lord will move in their midst to make his week of services very worth while.

The Katy Convocation was real good. The sweet spirit throughout the services was outstanding and the Lord confirmed his word with bountiful blessings poured out upon the people. Three young ministers gave the Bible lessons and they were a blessing to the people. Brother Raymond Barker; Brother Harrol Waterbury; and Brother Austin Morgan. It was a pleasure to see these young ministers take the responsibility of the Bible Lessons and fill that responsibility so capably by the Spirit using them as a channel of blessing. The Arnold Sisters conducted the Children's Services and these rich services are the back ground for the leaders of tomorrow. Sister Lenora Peck and Sister Mildred Ditto directed the Young People's services and gave the Youth some very spiritual services. These services were conducted differently than has been the custom of the past Convocations and again here was laid some wonderful back ground for our leaders of tomorrow. Brother Gene Waterbury directed the evening choir and did an outstanding job. The cooperation of the Committee; Preachers;

Laymen; and Churches of South Texas was the basis for a successful Convocation. One of the highlights of the Convocation was the Feet Washing Service at the Watch Night Hour. Tears flowed down the cheeks of many; old fashioned praises rang forth; and testimonies rang with a true meaning. Surely God did bless the people and we feel that these will enter the new year of 1959 with a greater zeal and carry a deeper burden for the lost. The theme of the Young People's Service was "Let Your Light So Shine Through 1959". This theme seemed to be for the entire Convocation as we parted to work in our respective fields of labor entering into another year. The Common table, under the direction of Brother Winston Barker, was real good. The Churches of South Texas donated food stuff in abundance. They started to lay in for the common table soon after Thanksgiving and we were able to send to the Bible School several cases of canned foods that was more than we needed for the Convocation. Our Thanks to the Churches of South Texas for a job well done. This is proof that much can be accomplished for God with good cooperation.

We, the Committee, wish to express our thanks for every cooperation of the people for supplying the need for the Katy Convocation this also includes the many who prayed for us.

Your Fellow-servants of Christ,

Winston J. Barker
Jacob C. Regier
Donald D. Dibbens.



Dear Bro. and Sis. Schultz:

I was reading in the Report (Dec. issue) your request for your hearing.

I feel like we fail to carry a burden and help one another like we should.

I have a little booklet on "Seven Steps to receive healing from Christ". It was such a blessing to me. Several months ago I had a very bad case of Arthritis, was nearly helpless for about four weeks. The last of July and August of last year.

Several ministers came and prayed for me and several Christian friends, but some how I couldn't act my faith, and as James says "Faith without works is dead". (James 2:17).

I turned my face toward the wall and asked God for help. "Lord, send me help, show me what to do and how to act my faith". I always knew God could do anything that He might choose to do, even when I was unsaved.

One of my Christian friends brought me a copy of the little booklet saying, Read it Sis. Mildred very carefully. Yes, I did read it carefully, also prayerfully and often stopped to cry and ask God to help me take each step to receive healing.

My trouble, I could see by reading the book was, I wanted the pain all to leave and then declare my healing. But as I took a definite stand, I am healed, I have obeyed the written Word, I have called the elders, they have anointed with oil, I have confessed every mistake and short coming. Put it all down at the Saviour's feet.

People looked at me as if to say, you wouldn't tell a lie would you? But I stood on my confession. Many times a day I would battle it out with the devil, trying to get me to think of my pain and try to reason me out of it all.

But I held on, like a person fighting for any desired Victory. And thank God it came. I surely thank God for Christian friends who will stand by when one is fighting a battle. Mildred Stockton.

Pray for the "Paper", for the Bible School, pray for the churches every where, and when you hear a distress call from any christian making the fight for victory join in that strong line of prayer. Prayer changes things, prayer is good for every body.

Camp Wood, Texas
Box 146
January 5, 1959

Dear Brother Schultz:

Greetings to you editors and the paper with prayers for a good year ahead.

We here at Camp Wood enjoy the Report very much. We are sending in a revised list of names for the paper as we've had some changes. Our dear sister in Christ, Mary Elizabeth Evens, passed away on December 25, 1958. We shall miss her very much. She was a faithful worker for the Lord.

We have been here a year now and feel we have seen progress in the spiritual welfare of the church through pastoral ministry and revival work. Brother Jake Pletcher, assisted by Brother and Sister Ray Michener, held a good revival for us in the summer and now we look forward to another revival as God leads.

Since we came, a new roof has been put on the church and a paint job for the outside has been bought, so the church property is in good shape. The Lord has surely blessed in supplying these improvements.

We were privileged to have a number of visiting ministers come our way and give us some good services. We invite the Apostolic Faith ministers to come by for services.

Our church is praying for all other Apostolic Faith churches, the ministry, the Bible School, and all Apostolic Faith inter-church work. Surely the close of the age is at hand as we see this new European confederation of nations start to be builded together as of January 1st., which will possibly become the 10 toed Kingdom of Daniel and Revelations. It is time for every Christian to do their best as a builder in God's Kingdom. Pray one for another. Pray for our church here.

Yours in the Master's Service,
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Schrimpf,
Pastors

Brother and Sister Schultz and Son:

Greetings in the name of Jesus from the Apostolic Faith Sunday School of Roswell, New Mexico.

Praise the Lord for his many blessings in 1958, and we thank Him for the blessings we are expecting in

1959.

We of the church here hope you have enjoyed Gods goodness there as we have here. Brother Bob Coopers coming was an answer to our prayers, for a revival of revivals, in this day. God was so gracious to us and to those who accepted Him. All so far are still rejoicing in Him and serving Him. Pray that they will always have the zeal as their knowledge increases and if they do our church will be a church of churches. Our number has increased from a varied 35 and 40 to 60 and 70. Our record was broken during the revival and has held good, although we have a lot of sickness among our children, such as measels and chicken pox. Pray God will take care of all that and soon we will be seeing 75 to 100 in Sunday school, and we well can when all can get in regular and bring all the extra ones that have come once in awhile.

Our daughter-in-law was saved and that makes us very happy as we now have a **grand** daughter, and that gets her in Sunday school at 8 months. She is 10 months now. We still need to see so many make their decision for Christ, but if we as a church Pray as we did before the last revival, as a band of people, we can see God do wonderful things "Far and exceeding that which we can even think or ask". Praise His name.

And too, we would like to say we love our pastor and wife. Also Sister JoAnn Blackmon. She is still with us from Brother Cooper's revival, and her singing and assistance in the young people's services has been very much appreciated.

Enclosed you will find a check. It was agreed that ten percent of our Sunday school offering would be placed somewhere to help in God's work, and this month we felt the paper could use it.

We still enjoy the Report very much. We love our God and enjoy serving Him.

Yours in Gods service,
Mrs. Claudie Esslinger
Assistant Secretary & Treasurer
Apostolic Faith Church
Roswell, New Mexico

ROCKDALE, TEXAS—

The church is progressing satisfactorily at this place. Several from the church got to attend some of the Convocation at Katy, and felt they were strengthened spiritually.

Brother Roland Busch had special services here on the "New Year Week-end" (Thurs.-Sun.) which were enjoyed very much.

Pray that the Lord will send a mighty visitation of His spirit on these people that the church might move forward in Christ.

STELLA, MO.—

Union Chapel Church

God is blessing in our services here at Union Chapel. We had our Christmas program Dec. 22nd and two nights in December we had special services. One night Bro. Gail Schultz was with us and Bro. and Sis. Roland Busch were with us one night. We all enjoyed having these good people with us for service. We plan on a revival starting Jan. 11th. Pray for us and our work here.—W. O. Nunn, Pastor.

The Apostolic Faith Report

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