

The Apostolic Faith Report

July-August 1982

Vol. 29 No. 7 & 8



One Nation Under God

A REPORT CONCERNING THE BIBLE COLLEGE

At the annual meeting it was decided to continue with the 1982-1983 term but to change it to one semester instead of two. As of this date we do not have a Bible School Superintendent. Unless we find someone it will be too late for a fall semester but we will concentrate on a January-83 semester.

Please pray for this need.

Trustees



I Thessalonians 5

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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LIFT US

When the shadows of life surround
And the fears and doubts abound
Lord, o'er shadow us with your love
Lift us to those heights above.

When the desert heat and pain
O'erwhelms our soul, time and again
Let us know that you still love
Lift us to those heights above.

When the world grows angry, mad
it seems we'll be forever sad
Tell us again that you still love
Lift us to those heights above.

by Jeanie Mullins

1. But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5. Ye are all children of light, and the children of the day we are not of the night nor of the darkness.

6. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.

10. Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

12. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13. And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

14. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble-minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

15. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

16. Rejoice evermore.

17. Pray without ceasing.

18. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19. Quench not the Spirit.

20. Despise not prophecyings.

21. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22. Abstain from all appearance of evil.

23. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24. Faithful is he that calleth you, who will also do it.

25. Brethren pray for us.

26. Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss.

27. I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.

28. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

The Bride Class

by the late Gail Schultz

There are several classes of Christians spoken of in the Bible. Three classes can be found in many cases. In one sermon Jesus spoke of the 30, 60 and 100-fold groups. Matt. 13:23. We know that some Christians are only saved, Rom. 5:1: some are sanctified, Rom. 5:2: some have received the Holy Ghost, Rom. 5:5. Again some are a ruling class, Rev. 12:5; others are the bride class, Rev. 12:6; still others are the remnant of her seed, Rev. 12:17. Even in the resurrection, Paul speaks of different classes, I Cor. 15:40.

One class of Christian is the bride class. Jesus gave the parable of the wedding feast Matt. 22:1-14. Many were not willing to go to this feast because of worldly ambition and advantages; so, many will not pay the price to go the marriage supper of the Lamb. In order to be ready we must put on the garment of holiness. We must go at the invited hour, Matt. 25:10-11. We read of the marriage of the Bride to the Lamb in Rev. 19:7-9. This marriage is here on earth at the coming of the Lord, for I Cor. 15:51-53 refers to the changing of the ones in the wilderness (the Bride). The last trump brings about the first resurrection. The ruling class of 144,000 have before this time been caught away to God and the throne, Rev. 5: 12:5, 14:1-5. But we who remain, the bride in the wilderness, are caught to meet the Lord as he returns with the redemptive class, Jude 14-15. So that the ruling class, the dead in Christ (Rev. 20:6) and the bride are gathered in the valley created in the Mount of Olives when Jesus returns, Zech. 14:4.

The bride will be gathered in Jerusalem with the returning Jews. Here they have religious freedom from the first three and a half years, Jer. 3 :11. This is the flight from all nations to Jerusalem where "They are fed." Rev. 12:6. As persecution arises, as a result of the Anti-Christ reign, Rev. Chapter 13, the bride flees to the wilderness, Rev. 12:14. This is the second flight. An earthquake causes the Anti-Christ to lose the part of his army that he sends after her, Rev. 12:15-16, just as Pharaoh lost his army in the Red Sea.

The wilderness is no doubt the city of Bashan with sixty walls in a district on the east of Jordan. This country was captured years ago by the Israelites, Num. 21:33-35. It is a hidden place and Bashan is referred to as a place of protection in the Scriptures. The woman or bride of Rev. 12:14 takes her flight out of Jerusalem on account of the Anti-Christ mark, Rev. 13:16. They go to Bashan and there are nourished or fed for three and one half years, just as God fed the Children of Israel in their wilderness journeys. This second flight is spoken of by Jesus in Matt. 24:16. They are to flee, not return to the houses or from the field. We are told that God shall bring his people from Bashan, Psa. 28:22. This is speaking of the bride coming out of the wilderness to meet the Lord. The reserved of the Lord shall feed on Carmel, where God meets and blesses man, and in Bashan, where God has hidden His own, Jer. 50:19-20. Let the people (bride) feed in Bashan, Mic. 7:14. Here is proof that God will care for a literal people while they wait for Christ's coming as they arise to meet the Lord, they shall be changed in a twinkling of an eye, I Cor. 15:52, I Thess. 4:15-17. The dead first, then the "alive and remain" class (bride) shall meet the Lord on His return in the clouds. Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness? (Song of Sol. 8:4-5). It is the bride of Christ.

The Bride is dressed in praise before the Lord, Isa. 61:10. This class is a saved and righteous class. Song of Sol. 4:8-15 tells of the woman from the mountains or hidden places whose garments are sweet smelling. The Bride is beautiful. Her garments are needlework in gold. The name of the bride will be remembered and praised forever, Psalms 45:13-17.

Types of the Bride are found in different Old Testament scriptures. In Gen. 24, a type, Abraham (God) sent the servant Eliezer (Holy Spirit) to his kindred (the true church) for a bride for his son Isaac (Christ, the Son of God). Rebekah is a type of the bride of Christ. If the woman would not come, the servant was free of his oath so the Holy Spirit is free of oath to God if people will not come at his call, Gen. 24:28. "I will go" is the answer we must give. Don't tarry. Eliezer brought the Bride in the evening time, Gen. 24:63. So in the evening or close of this age, the Bride will be sought and brought. In verse 65 we find that Rebekah veiled herself as she approached Isaac, so the Bride veils to meet the Christ.

In Gen. 2:21-23 we have an account of Adam sleeping while a rib was taken to make him a wife, so while the church in general is asleep today, the Holy Spirit is taking out a Bride for the Christ.

I Kings 19:1-8 Elijah was kept hidden and protected while Jezebel sought his life. So while the Anti-Christ seeks the Bride she will be protected. The Anti-Christ will try to kill the Bride, Rev. 12:13-15. When he finds that he cannot he will turn and kill the Christians who are left behind, Rev. 12:17. This will result in many martyrs.

Another type may be found in the children of Israel as they, under their leader Moses, sought permission to go into the wilderness to worship, Ex. 7:16. So the bride flees from the wrath of the Anti-Christ. Moses sang with the children of Israel a song of victory over Pharaoh, Ex. 15:1-19. The Bride in like manner will be able to shout victory over the Anti-Christ.

In a time of trouble, when the plagues are falling from God and the man of sin is reigning, the bride is invited to hide in chambers until the indignation be overpast, Isa. 26:20.

The wilderness or the Sixty walls of Bashan will be glad for the hidden people. Strength will be given to the weak and fearful as they flee. All sickness and body ailments will be taken away so that happiness will reign. Their home will have a highway of holiness, and all wild beasts will be kept away. From this home the bride will meet the Lord in the clouds and return to Zion in great gladness. Read Isa. 35th chapter. The 91st Psalm will be realized in its fulness by the bride dwelling in the secret place (wilderness).

"What class will I be in?" is often asked. No man can tell. As the Children of Israel are sifted as corn (Amos 9:9), so that one tribe cannot be told from another and are known only to God, so the Christians are sifted as corn and their class is known only to God. We should strive to enter in, Matt. 7:13-14. Covet the best gifts, I Cor. 12:31. Be willing to do the will of God and follow the Lamb all the way, then will He direct your path; and your calling will be sure and perfect in God.

God writes with a pen that never blots. He speaks with a tongue that never slips. He acts with a hand that never fails



WITHOUT MONEY AND WITHOUT PRICE

by Dora Boydler

Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money, come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Isaiah 55:1.

This scripture is generally used to mean a person cannot buy salvation with money or good works, and rightly so. Salvation comes only through the blood of Christ, but there is another side to which I wish to apply Isaiah's words this time. Isaiah penned these words many years before Jesus came to this earth to be our Messiah and now many more years have passed but the words of Isaiah have only become more important now than ever before.

God gave, through Isaiah, an invitation extended to all who are hungry and thirsty for the word of God. He has prepared a feast for them and all they need to do is to accept His gracious invitation. The prophet says, "Ho everyone that thirsteth." Water is essential to life and without it life is impossible. Jesus told the woman at the well, ". . . Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:13,14.

It is this spiritual water of which the prophet speaks. Then he says to buy wine and milk. In Bible times wine was frequently used to nourish and strengthen the sick. "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." 1 Timothy 5:23. At the last supper Jesus had with His disciples before His crucifixion, He instituted the ordinance of the communion service and since that time the wine (or fruit of the vine) in the Bible, has represented the blood of Christ. Matthew 26:27, 28 says, "And He took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink ye all of it; for this is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.'" Isaiah used the word buy which means to break, bring to the birth, crush, affliction, bruise or hurt. Truly, Jesus bought our salvation by this means. Isaiah 52:14 reads, ". . . His visage was so marred, more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men." Then in Isaiah 53:5 we read, "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." David wrote in Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite heart." Contrite means to beat to pieces, crumble, bruise, crush or humble. This is the only way we can buy our salvation through the blood of Christ. Milk is a word meaning fat or

the richest or choice part. Thus that salvation which we buy with a broken and a contrite heart is the richest and choice part of life.

The throne of God is described as a most beautiful place and as John looked upon that heavenly scene, he used the colors of the most beautiful gems to tell us of its beauty. Jesus left His place at that throne to become the son of Mary. There was no earthly palace as the kings even of earth were accustomed to living in but He was born into the lowly family of a carpenter. His birth was in a stable and His first cradle was in a manger where the cattle had been fed. The family into which He came no doubt knew the feeling of poverty. This is told to us by the offering when they took Him to the temple for His dedication. Joseph and Mary offered the poor man's offering according to the law, Leviticus 12:8. There the law says to offer a young lamb but if the mother is not able she must bring two doves or two pigeons. Jesus came to be a part of a family who had no earthly wealth but were of the common people.

Jesus knew the sacrifice. He was making "But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phillipians 2:7,8. Though Jesus knew that He must give His life for unworthy human beings, He did it willingly and with no thought of gain or even praise for Himself.

In sending the twelve disciples to the lost sheep of Israel Jesus commanded, "And as ye go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat." Matthew 10:7-10. Provide in verse 9 means to procure for oneself or acquire. Jesus is saying not to be concerned about material gain for ourselves. Also forbidden was scrip which simply means the beggars collecting bag. Christ's two-fold admonition means: "There is to be no earning, and also no begging of money." Notice also they were to travel lightly. Now let us notice two phrases in verses 7 and 8 which say, "And as ye go, preach—freely ye have received, freely give." Jesus came without hesitation and with no promise of good results, to bring us the Word of God so let us just as readily share that same salvation message with others.

You often hear people say salvation is free and they use the phrase to mean we cannot purchase it with money, pointing to Isaiah's words "without money and without price"; but it cost heaven 33½ years of the presence of Jesus at the throne. It cost Jesus 33½ years of living here on earth in the poverty of the poorest of men. He paid 3½ years of being misunderstood, scoffed at, rejected and despised while He preached the message of salvation. Then He suffered the beating, the thorns of the crown, the nails in His hands and His feet and a slow death by torture to buy our salvation. No, salvation is not free, but Jesus came and preached the gospel without money and without price that we might buy it with a broken and a contrite heart. Salvation is not free but the gospel is. Today we must preach it the same as Jesus did. God calls us to obey the words of Jesus when He said, "And as ye go, preach—freely ye have received, freely give" and we too, must do it without money and without price.



IN MY GARDEN, THERE

by Francis Speicher

As I knelt in my garden, there
 At my secret shrine of prayer,
 Dawn's early dew drenched the leaves
 While the sunbeams played among the trees.
 A whispered breeze perfumed the air
 As I saw Him standing there
 His robe spotlessly fair.
 As I arose my Lord to greet
 From kneeling at His mercy seat,
 Around my shoulder His arm He placed
 A strand of hair brushed His face,
 While I wept at His embrace.
 His voice so soft and low, —
 As He gently whispered so, —
 "Why, do you weep?"
 As I then worshipped at His feet, —
 For my heart was painfully sore
 From a sickness that I bore.
 'Twas, on Calvary's tree,
 I paid the double atonement for thee, —
 You are my child, can't you see?"
 I heard a step and He was gone.
 Back o'er the path that I had come.
 There I was healed from that day on.
 There, In the morning breeze
 As the sunbeams played among the trees.
 And the dew was kissed from off the leaves
 By a gentle breeze.
 As my saviour met me there,
 At my secret shrine of prayer.

RUNNING WATER

—Sylvia Doolin

Someone has said, "When I'm thirsty, I don't care what kind of cup I drink out of—paper, china, or gold. What I'm interested in is the water, not the cup."

But I would prefer a clean cup to a dirty one, wouldn't you? And I want the water to be pure too.

Water from a fountain usually is safer than from a lake. Disease is not found as often in running water.

I was reading about a soldier who in civilian life was a refrigeration repairman. When his unit left for summer training, he got permission to take a generator and other materials with him with which he set up a water fountain in the field, to the delight of all the men. The unit's evaluator said it was the first time he had seen a water fountain in the field during his 21 years of military service. The soldier received recognition in the *Army Reserve Magazine* for his project.

Oh, for dedicated lives which are as water fountains, offering the water of life to the parched souls all around. May we offer our lives to God to be channels through which His Spirit may flow, so that from our innermost beings there may flow rivers of living water as the Saviour promised (John 7:38).

THE INACTIVE CHURCH MEMBER'S CALENDAR

January—I hereby resolve to start attending church this year. But first I have to get over the holidays. They really take a lot out of you.

February—Weather's terrible. I'll start when it gets warmer. My blood is just too thin this time of year.

March—Lots of sickness going around now. I'll stay away from the bugs!

April—Easter . . . big crowds . . . they won't miss me!

May—I've been inside all winter. Now that it's over, it's time to go to the park.

June—I'll wait until the baby is older. Besides, how some people run on the weekends is beside me.

July—The heat is terrific! The air-conditioning in the church probably isn't working right. Besides we've got a cabin and boat for Sundays.

August—The pastor's on vacation. He'll never know I missed. Never like some of those guest speakers anyway . . .

September—School's started. My vacation threw me behind in my work. I'll take a little while to get back in swing.

October—The leaves are beautiful this time of year. I can worship God outdoors just as well.

November—Getting colder . . . can't stand warm stuffy buildings. I'll start back when it's warmer!

December—Christmas! I just don't have time for church this month I'll just resolve now to start going to church next year.

"BE NOT DECEIVED: GOD IS NOT MOCKED: FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP."

Galatians 6:7

VALUE BY ASSOCIATION

An American tourist in Paris, who purchased an inexpensive amber necklace in a trinket shop, was shocked when he had to pay quite a high duty on it to clear customs in New York. This aroused his curiosity, so he had it appraised. After looking at the object under a powerful magnifying glass, the jeweler said, "I'll give you \$25,000 for it." Greatly surprised, the owner decided to have another expert examine it. He was offered \$35,000!

"What do you see that's so valuable about this old necklace?" asked the astonished owner.

"Look through this glass," replied the jeweler. There before his eyes was an inscription: "From Napoleon Bonapart to Josephine." Identification with a famous person was what made the necklace enormously valuable.

As Christians, we are in union with one who is far more important than any human being. *It is from this union that the Christian finds his true identity and worth.* In an age when man is searching for his past and discovering his potentials, the Christian can rejoice that his true worth comes from God and identity found in Jesus Christ.

20th Century Christian, June 1981

July



August

Pampa, Texas.

Austin and Shirley Sutton and children have been with us for almost a year and we are so happy with them. They have been wonderful to all of the church and have made a place in all of our hearts. They are really working, visiting and inviting people and are really doing a Pastor's work. The entire church appreciated them and the efforts they put forth.

We cannot say that we are seeing a very rapid growth, but know that we will see it in due season if we keep faithful and faint not. We are standing on the Promises of God who is FAITHFUL. There are many souls to be reached if only we can win them for Him.

We are not discouraged but rather encouraged for we see signs all about us that point to the Soon Coming of Jesus. So we lift up our heads and rejoice in His love and guidance.

We had a wonderful Kids' Crusade with Tom and Carla Braden, Donna Kinser and Tony Bartel. We learned to love and appreciate these young people as they labored untiringly in the work here.

We invite all ministers to come by and visit us and know that God will send someone for a revival soon.

*Austin Sutton, pastor
Anabel Simmons, reporter*



Wedding Bells

Christenson, Hoskins

Miss Sandy V. Christenson and Mr. Ronnie Lee Hoskins were united in marriage on Saturday, May 8, 1982 at 2:00 p.m. in the Apostolic Faith Church, Galena, Kansas.

Sandy is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Christenson, Galena, Kansas and Ronnie is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hoskins, Arnett, Oklahoma.

The ceremony was performed by the bride's father. Her brother Rick Christenson officiated as she was given in marriage by her father.

Sandy and Ronnie attended the Apostolic Faith Bible College in the 1981-82 term. They will be making their home in Arnett, Oklahoma.

Deadline!

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



Ray

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ray announce the birth of a daughter Kyndra Brooke Ray on April 30, 1982. She weighed 8 pounds 7 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Danny E. Robinson of Balko, Okla. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Ray of Liberal, Kansas.

Littau

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Littau of Perryton, Texas announce the birth of their son, Michael Paul, born April 8, 1982, at 2:18 p.m. He weighed 10 pounds 7 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Michael has two brothers, Stephen Wayne 5 and Marlin Ray 3.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Reeves of Perryton and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Littau of Logan, Oklahoma.

Terry and Elaine are 1974 graduates of A.F.B.C.

Obituary

Earl Johnson

Earl was born near Maryville, Tennessee to Isaac and Alice Johnson in 1900. He married Ethel Thompson on June 28, 1923. He passed away at St. John's Hospital in Joplin, Mo. on April 19, 1982 at the age of 81. He made his decision for the Lord at the age of 22 and was a farmer most of his life.

Survivors include his wife Ethel, two sons Earl Jr. and Don of Joplin, Mo., one daughter Roberta Grant of Amarillo, Texas and four grandchildren, Gary Johnson, Melodie Doss, Donna Johnson, and Rakenda Grant.

Evangelistic Services

I am available for fill-in work in the South Texas area and Evangelistic services as the Lord leads after July 4, 1982. Contact me at:

Rev. Dean Harper
519 South Masonic Street
Bellville, Texas 77418
Telephone: 713-865-9360

Attention . . .

Ministers, Gospel Workers

It is time again to gather information for our minister's directory. Will you please help me in this matter? I need your addresses, phone numbers and what type of ministry you are currently engaged in. This information needs to be in by the 10th of September. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter.

Karen Oakes,
Editor

Thank You Lord

Dear Lord,

I know I don't say this near enough but now I feel it's so important to say "Thank You" once again. I often times wonder if you ever get tired of hearing all of our wants and complaints. Probably because I know I'd get tired of it very easily. And I know that I probably don't thank you as much as I should and when I do say it, it's not very meaningful or it seems like it's just something I feel like I have to say. But it's different this time for I have just realized the importance of praise and gratitude. For if I never took time to thank you I'd probably never understand just how much I really need you. And I really do need you. In fact, I just know I couldn't live without you.

People who say they do just fine living without you don't even know what living means. They aren't living; they simply just exist. Sure, they move and breathe and talk and laugh but they aren't living. They might as well forget it all for they are existing only to die in the long run. They have no promise of eternal life as I have. They aren't sure what will happen in the future or how they are going to handle their problems.

Now I don't know what will happen to me either but one thing is sure, I have you to help me through and that means everything to me.

I've often thought about my life and what I would have done without you and I can honestly say there's no way I could have come this far without you. I remember the very night when I, at 8 years old, first experienced the closeness I could feel with you. I remember how many times I'd forget the wonderful love you'd shown to me, but still you never quit caring for me.

That isn't all you have done for me. I remember the day I realized that serving you had to be an everyday thing and that if you weren't Lord of everything then you couldn't be Lord at all.

Then there was the time when my very best friends, or so I thought, suddenly turned on me because I believed in you, yes, you pulled me through that one so wonderfully that I can never forget it. I had to learn what the word "friendship" meant all over again because I had been blinded by what I thought it meant. I thought I understood what caring meant. It took a long time, but with your patience and your advice I finally learned how to trust again and then you gave me the best friends anyone could ever have. Sure we have our share of disagreements, but never have they turned against me because I believe in you.

But, in all this process of growing I knew there was still more, the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I couldn't understand how such a great power could be given to man until it was given to me. I wanted the power to be a better witness, but I think more than that I wanted to know what "waiting on the Lord" really meant. I wanted the assurance that I could stay on my knees until I prayed through and knew what I had. And ever since then I understand why it is that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the seal until the day of redemption for I have never been so close to you as I have been since you gave that most holy gift.

And now I can still feel like I'm growing in you because no matter how much I learn, no matter how much I receive from you, I still find the desire greater than it's ever been before.

With everyday I can see more and more what you're doing for me and I feel more and more a part of your great family, which is more important even than a natural family. Of course, it's even greater to know that your natural family is also a part of your Christian family, that makes you closer to one another.

We have recently experienced seeing a part of our family come to you wanting to be a part of your spiritual family and that just makes me all the more sure that you are still dealing and working in lives. I've seen you answer many a prayer and somehow there were no words I could say or write to tell you how much it meant or how grateful I was. Even now, I find no words to tell you how much I really love and appreciate you. I'll never be able to repay you for all you've done for me so I guess a simple "Thank You" is all I know to say. You mean so much to me.

Thank you because I believe in you and I always will.

Vanessa Oakes

HOME WITHOUT A BIBLE

"What is home without a Bible?

"Tis a place where daily bread

For the body is provided but the soul is never fed.

What is home without a Bible?

"Tis a vessel on the sea, Compass lost and rudder

Broken, drifting, drifting, aimlessly.

What is home without a Bible?

Listen! Ponder while I speak:

"Tis a home with Bible in it but not opened once a week

Monday comes and goes and Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, too.

Saturday, and even Sabbath, Book untouched the whole

Week through.

Lost! The Bible lost! Its teachings

Lost! Its help each day in seven

Lost! To live by, Lost! to die by

Lost! What lost? The way to heaven."

—Selected

THE RESULTS OF FAITHFUL WITNESSING

A boy gave his lunch to Jesus—and five thousand people were fed.

A slave girl spoke to her mistress about God—and her master, healed of his leprosy, became a devout believer.

Andrew told Peter about Jesus—and three years later Peter preached a sermon that was instrumental in bringing three thousand people into the church.

A Sunday school teacher visited Dwight Moody in the shop where he worked—and Moody became a famous evangelist who led thousands to the cross of Jesus Christ.

A little group of students met to pray for the lands where the gospel had never been heard—and the great movement of American foreign missions was launched.

Faithful witnessing can produce tremendous results. Tell someone about Jesus—and leave the results up to God.

What is a Sunday School? What is a Sunday School Teacher?

There are more than 163,000 Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 21,000,000 Protestant members. The American Sunday School Union and other agencies are trying to organize schools for the 15,000,000 children still outside the church influence. There is also Vacation Church Schools which number around 15,000 with about 1,200,000 pupils.

The originating of the modern Sunday school is due to Robert Raikes, an Englishman. He started Sunday school about 1780. Before Mr. Raikes died in 1811 there were around 400,000 children in the Sunday school of Great Britain alone. This system ran into some opposition though, some people felt it was interfering with the duties of the home and the keeping of the sabbath, yet in spite of it all, it spread over the world. And in 1824 the American Sunday School Union was formed. Through the influence of the Union within one-hundred years, 150,000 Sunday schools had been organized and over \$30,000,000 had been spent in distributing Bibles and other religious materials.

The first national convention of the Sunday School Union was in New York, City in 1832. In its meeting in 1872 there was a uniform lesson system inaugurated. A number of Sunday School organizations in 1922 resulted in the formation of the International Council of Religious Education.

Sunday School according to Schaff is "an assembly of persons on the Lord's day for the study of the Bible, and moral and religious instruction, and the worship of the true GOD. It is a method of training the young and ignorant in the duties we owe to GOD and to our neighbor."

It could be said that the Sunday Schools have passed through three distinct phases:

1) Early Christian Catechetical Schools; for the preparation of converts for church membership. This was where the scholars committed passages of scripture to memory, and the books used comprised part of the Bible in verse, Jewish antiquities, sacred poems, and dialogues.

2) Schools of the Reformation Period: Luther founded schools for catechetical instruction in 1529, and this custom spread to wherever the reformation had a foothold.

3) Modern Sunday Schools: These date from 1780-1781. This was when Mr. Robert Raikes of Gloucester, England, began taking children from off the streets of the city on Sundays and paid a teacher to teach them religious knowledge. The improvement in conduct and morals of the children was so remarkable that after Mr. Raikes published an account of this success, many people followed the example for instance in Philadelphia in 1791. The American Sunday School Union was formed in 1817 and became international in 1875. In 1935 the Union reported a number of 3,705 Sunday school with 148,883 pupils. And 901 daily Vacation Bible Schools with 25,526 in attendance.

Sunday however is sharply distinguished from the Sabbath. One was a day on which one worshipped in a specific Christian form. The other was a day of rest to be

observed by all that were under the law of Moses through the circumcision. Gal. 5:3, Acts 21:20. The uncircumcised gentiles were free from this obligation of the Sabbath observance. And, as we are well aware, there was no renewal of the Sabbath rules in the Apostolic times, nor was there a transfer of them to Sunday for gentile converts. There is no observance of a given day of rest for necessary things Acts 15:28 and 29.

The observance of a given as a matter of divine obligation is denounced by St. Paul as a forsaking of Christ, Gal. 4:10. And we find in Col. 2:16 that Sabbath keeping is condemned. As a matter of individual devotion, to be sure a man might do as he pleased (Rom. 14:5 and 6), but no general rule as necessary for salvation could be compatible with the liberty wherewith *Christ has made us free*.

The fact that a Christian worships on Sunday does not sanctify Sunday anymore than our Wednesday worship service sanctifies Wednesday. For Christian enthusiasm should raise every day to the highest religious plane.

Let's look further. *What is a SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER? One may say one who teaches God's word on Sunday morning and evening. Well, I've found a definition I like better. A Sunday School teacher is . . . "GOD'S man, in GOD'S place, doing GOD'S work, in GOD'S way, for GOD'S glory."*

Are we as teachers really doing this or are we just standing before a class talking because we have to say it.

Don't we understand how important Sunday Schools and Sunday School teachers are? Look at your Bible, READ. You see there has been teaching as far back as the captivity. The Jews while deprived of the privilege and the inspiration of the temple, established the synagogue as an institutional center of worship and instruction or teaching. There was also the learning of the law, a Jewish boy or girl by age of thirteen had to know by heart the entire Old Testament. We are told of by old testament historians that the Jewish home was the place for the teaching of the law and it was the parents' responsibility. The teaching was to be diligent, the conversation religious and the atmosphere wholesome. There was also some instruction of the law of God made public.

As time progresses we find that in the new testament Jesus was the teacher, although he did preach too. The emphasis laid upon the teaching in the Apostolic age is a natural consequence of the need of the people and commands of Jesus. The practice and teaching of the apostles is quite uniform, they preached, taught, and proclaimed *but they also expounded*.

In general consideration one can see the importance of religious or Sunday School teaching. And how it is necessary to the development of the Christian character and the highest efficiency in service. The qualifications of Parent, Pastor, Teacher, etc. is vitally connected with the teaching function of the church.

by Tena Cornell

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My Vision

by the late
Edna Schultz

I walked up to the window
Raised the blind, and then I saw,
Not the beauties on the outside,
But the glass that had a flaw.

I stood there quite disgusted,
That flaw was plain to see.
Just then, from across the street
Came shouts of children's glee.

Immediately I looked beyond
Right through that window pane,
And found, to my amazement,
I could see the children plain.

They jumped and ran and shouted too,
Their little hearts gone wild,
Yes, through that faulty window pane
I saw the perfect child.

I gazed awhile enraptured,
Then suddenly in their place,
I saw a multitude of folk,
I saw the human race.

I saw faces filled with hatred
And those that showed deceit.
The man was there who conquered,
And the one who knew defeat.

Some whose hearts were hardened,
And wills that would not bend.
Others too unstable
To be trusted as a friend.

So the Lord would have His children
Look through the faults of man
And not let them dim the vision
of Christ and His great plan.

Some I found were careless
Not meaning to be bad
But through thoughtless words and deeds
Made friends and loved ones sad.

Oh, there were many people
But none I could exalt,
For there was not a person
Who did not have a fault.

I wondered at the vision
Why it appeared to me,
Just why the faults of others
Were there for me to see.

Then lo: as through the window
I gazed through that motley crowd
And saw the face of Jesus,
And my heart grew justly proud.

I heard His still small voice,
Not as the children's shout;
But none the less as firm and clear
Dispelling every doubt.

He said I am the way of life,
I died on Calvary's tree.
I paid the debt for all mankind,
Can you find fault in Me?"

Then I understood the vision,
The lesson was so plain.
As I saw the children playing
Through that faulty window pane.

Love

Lord saturate my very being with love. You can literally love a soul into God's kingdom, but you can't hate one there. Love will take a lot of beating, of misunderstanding and mistreatment. Love will sacrifice its own desire and grow under adverse conditions and circumstances. Love will melt a heart of stone. Love will make a way and will make a petition for another. Love does not behave unseemingly, does not seek its own, but reaches out to the unloved.

God so loved the sinful, rebellious, unthankful and unholy world that He gave His son. The son gave Himself to purify and sanctify His church. In my love I'll give willingly and gladly myself to Him and His cause.

Love is a constricting element. Love does not go on a rampage. Lord, teach me to love you and your church more every day. Love is the key that opens my heart to others.

by the late Gail Schultz

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THE SHOES OF HAPPINESS

In Edwin Markham's lovely poem, "The Shoes of Happiness," Conrad, the old cobbler, dreamed one night that the Master would sometime come to be his guest. When the dawn was yet young, he arose and decorated his little shop with bright and gay flowers in anticipation of the great event. "When the Master comes," he said to himself, "I will wash His feet where the spokes have been and I will kiss the hands that have been punctured by the nails."

But the Master did not come. A beggar came, and Conrad gave him a pair of shoes. An old woman came bent with the weight of a heavy burden. He lifted the load from her back and gave her food. Finally, just before the day was about to fade away into darkness, a little child came—her eyes wet with tears. In pity, Conrad led her back to her mother. But the divine Guest never came.

Then soft in the silence a voice he heard:
"Lift up your heart, for I kept my word.
Three times I came to your friendly door;
Three times my shadow was on your floor.
I was the beggar with bruised feet,
I was the woman you gave to eat,
I was the child in the homeless street."

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." (Matthew 25:40).

Selected



BECAUSE YOU PRAYED

God touched our weary bodies with His power,
And gave us strength for many a trying hour
In which we might have faltered
Had not you, our intercessors,
Faithful been and true.

Because you prayed God touched our eager
Fingers with His skill.
Enabling us to do His blessed will
With scalpel, suture, bandage—better still
He healed the sick, the wounded, cured the ill.

Because you prayed God touched our lips with coals
From altar fire,
Gave Spirit fulness, and did so inspire
That when we spoke, sin-binded souls did see
Sin's chains were broken—captives were made free.

Because you prayed
The "dwellers in the dark" have found the Light.
The glad, good news has banished heathen night,
The message of the Cross so long delayed
Has brought them life at last **BECAUSE YOU PRAYED!**

Selected

AND AFTER THE STORM

Jesus walks upon the waters
Of the murky troubled deep,
Though the storm may be tempestuous,
He His steady watch doth keep.
While the boisterous winds are blowing
And the waves are dashing high,
He is there with calm assurance,
Saying, "Fear not, It is I."
Matters not if lightning flashes
And the mighty thunders roll,
We are not o'erwhelmed or hopeless...
Still the Master has control!
Though our ships seem surely sinking
And debris be littered far,
Though it seems we are forsaken...
Jesus knows right where we are!
He Who sits upon the circle
Of the earth in majesty
Also walks upon the waters
Of each angry, stormy sea!
Soon His voice will calm the tempest,
Soon He'll whisper "Peace, be still."
We will rest on tranquil waters...
Safely anchored in His will.

Mark 4: 35-41

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Matthew 14: 22-23

Barbara Waterbury

MY ETERNAL PREFERENCE

When we are given our rewards I would prefer to be found to have erred on the side of grace rather than judgment; to have loved too much rather than too little; to have forgiven the undeserving rather than refused forgiveness to that one who deserved it; to have fed a parasite rather than to have neglected one who was truly hungry; to have been taken advantage of rather than to have taken undue advantage; to have believed too much in my brothers rather than too little; having been wrong on the side of too much trust than too much cynicism; to have believed the best and been wrong, than to have believed the worst and been right.

Signs of the Times

Three of four Americans believe that the Biblical theory of creation should be taught as well as the theory of evolution, according to an Associated Press-NBC News poll. Of the 1,598 adults questioned in regard to teaching both theories in the public schools:

76% favored both theories
10% favored only the Biblical account
8% favored only the evolution account
6% were unsure

God's News Behind the News

Religion

Without Christ

SEVERAL YEARS AGO in the hills of Southwestern Pennsylvania a well-trained minister was found doing simple gospel work in a scattered farming community, with apparent results. In the course of conversation he said, "For many years I was the rector of a fashionable church in New Jersey. I was quite a successful preacher, as they go, but I myself, was unsaved. Many young people came into the church, but they were the children of those who were members, and they simply followed along in the footsteps of their fathers and mothers. They were not saved. They joined the church because it was the proper thing to do. Then I suddenly woke up to the fact that I myself, was unsaved. Now I am preaching the gospel as simply as I know how."

Today the world is full of religion, professed by those who really do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Someone has said that "religion is the Devil's instrument to blind men's eyes." We fear that the remark is true. Whenever you go, you meet men and women belonging to this or that system of religion who knows nothing either of the sinfulness of their own hearts or of God's way of salvation for the lost.

Perhaps one who reads these lines is a "church member," or even the minister of a fashionable congregation, and yet he himself is unsaved.

There must be a personal experience of the soul with God if one is to be a Christian. Nicodemus came to the Lord Jesus and said, "We know that thou art a teacher come from God." Jesus answered him, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee . . . Ye must be born again."

Reader, are you born again? Have you ever seen yourself as lost sinner on your way to destruction, and turned to the shelter of the precious blood of Christ for salvation?

Nicodemus was a Pharisee—orthodox, and a teacher of religion—but he needed to be born again. Saul of Tarsus likewise was a Pharisee, very zealous for his religion; but he was brought to see the emptiness of religion and turned to Christ for salvation.

You may be a nominal Christian, but have you ever seen yourself as a sinner in the presence of God? Have you seen yourself as lost unless a holy Substitute can be found who will die for you? Or is yours a religion without Christ?

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If "sinner" is your title, there is a Saviour for you—a Saviour whose precious blood is sufficient for the chiefest of sinners. If you are only religious, you may be very respectable in the eyes of your fellowmen but you are on your way to hell; and unless your eyes are opened before you die, you will experience eternal condemnation. May God save you from a "religion without Christ," that you may find your only refuge and hope in Him who came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

**PRAYER IS THE MORTAR THAT HOLDS
OUR HOUSE TOGETHER.**

THE PRIORITY OF DEEDS OVER WORDS

Scripture: Matthew 21:28-32

They called themselves Christians, but I heard them use harsh, unkind words to their elderly mother.

They called themselves Christians, but they refused to sit by the people whose skin was a different color.

They called themselves Christians, but they made fun of the girl who had a problem with obesity.

They called themselves Christians, but they refused to give their time to help the needy.

They called themselves Christians, but did not want to take the risks to help those who had been on drugs.

They called themselves Christians, but rarely could they find time to communicate with their teenagers who were experiencing some traumatic peer pressures.

They called themselves Christians, but they passed the broken-hearted without a word of encouragement.

They called themselves Christians, but they quit attending church because they didn't like the minister.

In listing what others don't do in Your name, I wonder about my own priorities.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the years,
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put thine hand
into THE HAND OF GOD: that shall be TO THEE better
than LIGHT and SAFER than a known way."

—M.L. Gaskins

Hard to be a Preacher

If he is young, he lacks experience, if his hair is gray, he is too old, if he has five or six children, he has too many, if he has none, he is setting a bad example, if his wife sings in the choir, she is being forward, if she does not, she is not interested in her husband's work, if he speaks from notes, he has canned sermons, and is dry, if he is extemporaneous, he is not deep, if he spends too much time in his study, he neglects his people, if he visits, he is a gad about, if he is attentive to the poor, he is playing to the grand stand, if to the wealthy, he is trying to be an aristocrat, if he suggests improvements to the church, he is a dictator, if he makes no suggestions, he is a figure head, if he uses too many illustrations, he neglects the Bible, if not enough, he is not clear, if he condemns wrong, he is cranky, if he does not, he is a compromiser, if he preaches an hour, he is windy, if less, he is lazy, if he preaches the truth, he is offensive, if not, he is a hypocrite, if he fails to please everybody, he has no convictions, if he preaches tithing, he is a money grabber, if he does not, he is failing to develop his people, if he receives a large salary, he is mercenary, if too small, it proves he is not worth very much, if he preaches all the time, the people get tired of hearing one man all the time, if he invited guest preachers, he is shirking responsibility, SO WHAT: THEY SAY THE PREACHER HAS AN EASY TIME.

Author Unknown

Bylaws of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc.

ARTICLE VII

Doctrine

It is recognized that the true church of Jesus Christ consists of all believers in the saving grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who have accepted him as their personal Saviour. It is recognized and agreed that no organization or man has been granted authority by the Lord to exclude from or accept anyone into the Kingdom of Heaven, as this is done by Jesus Christ only. It is further recognized and agreed that we as Christians are to love all members of the Body of Christ (Christians), and this love and fellowship derives from the unity instilled by the Holy Spirit. Although differences in doctrinal beliefs and interpretations should not influence our love for one another, adherence to similar doctrinal beliefs and modes of worship have bonded together those of the Apostolic Faith Movement as founded by Charles F. Parham in the early 1900's. The scripture teaches us to adhere to the truth and proper doctrine. These common doctrinal beliefs are essentially as follows:

Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Creation and Formation

Man is basically sinful and in need of Salvation

Salvation by Grace upon repentance toward God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as one's personal Saviour, which is the conception of Spiritual Life.

Sanctification of the Spirit, Soul and Body. A second definite work of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit; evidenced by speaking in other languages.

Water Baptism (of all believers) by immersion in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Washing of Feet.

Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers.

Do not condone divorce and remarriage. Matthew 19:8-9

Destruction of the Wicked.

Conditional Immortality.

Rapture of the Man Child Class.

Return of Jesus Christ to earth again; bodily and visibly.

A Ministry supported by tithes and offerings.

These basic doctrines shall be adhered to in the teaching of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, which in addition to other doctrinal teachings approved by the Board from time to time if they are not inconsistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

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