

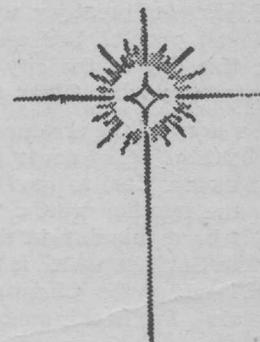
THE  
**Apostolic Faith**  
REPORT

Volume I

DECEMBER, 1954

Number 2

*A Christmas Message*



While Shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
A radiance filled the sky;  
An Angel spoke in wondrous tones,  
This message from on High.

Fear not: for lo, I bring good news;  
"A Saviour has been born!"  
You'll find Him not in palace fair  
Nor with soft clothes adorned.

But this shall be a sign to you,  
And ye shall know the babe,  
For He is wrapped in swaddling clothes  
And in a manger laid.



A host of Angels then appeared,  
And loud their praises rang.  
Peace on earth, good will to men,  
The heavenly chorus sang.

The Angels left, the Shepherds ran  
To see this wondrous thing;  
The long expected promise  
Of a Saviour, Lord and King.

They looked upon the Holy Child,  
They spread the news abroad.  
Some wondered, but so few believed  
It was the Son of God.

Though Jesus came the manger way,  
He was of royal birth;  
And left with man this heritage,  
**GOOD WILL AND PEACE ON EARTH.**

—Edna Schultz

## SERMON OF THE MONTH

# A Saviour Is Born

by *Jacob C. Regier*

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

The story of the announcement of the birth of Jesus never grows old or tiresome. Just to read or tell or hear the familiar words, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord," causes the Christian's heart to rejoice. For in this announcement by the angels of heaven to the lowly shepherds was the fulfillment of the promise God had made to man in the beginning.

God said to the serpent, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." This statement, "it shall bruise thy head" is a promise to the human family that in the offspring of Eve a saviour should be born. This saviour's work and purpose becomes clearer in other prophecies and promises given afterward by Moses and the prophets. Until the time that Adam and Eve ate of the forbidden fruit, they were innocent and needed no redemption, but immediately upon disobeying God they were condemned. From that time, man in his fallen state has been in need of a saviour and redeemer from sin. God's promise was that that redeemer and saviour should come. This promise was renewed as the prophets spoke of the Prince of Peace, the Messiah, Shiloh, or Christ. In Genesis 49:10 we read, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

It is necessary and expedient for us to refresh our minds with the truths that revolve around the story of the birth of Christ. This be-

comes more needful as time passes since it seems evident that we have permitted Christmas to become a season of festivity and frivolity. Little thought is given to the meaning of Christmas, the celebrated anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. The day itself is not holy, nor are we commanded in scripture to render it sacred or holy, but let us give it the rightful place in appreciation for a saviour of the souls of mankind. It has been suggested that since the wise men from the east brought treasures to the newborn King of the Jews as gifts, that the practice of giving one to another at Christmastime has followed. The greatest gift, however, is the gift that God the father gave, in the form of His Son, the Saviour of mankind and redeemer from sins. We owe our reverence and respect to Him hater than owe gifts to one another.

From the time of Adam to the time of the prophet Malachi, God frequently renewed his promise of the coming of the Saviour. The voice of Moses, the psalmists and the prophets would declare He was coming. As we examine their writings in the Bible we can now understand God's renewed promise. But the hearts of the people were heavy with unbelief even as in our day the hearts of the people are waxed gross because of iniquity. This unbelief was shown in the prophecy of Isaiah in chapter 53: "Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed: For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him."

Peter speaking of the attitude of men in regard to the second coming of Christ said that in the last days scoffers should come saying, "Where is the promise of His com-

ing?" But the unbelief of men will not hinder the purpose of God and the coming of the Saviour.

The enmity between the serpent and the seed of the woman is manifest in that Satan endeavored to hinder the coming of the Saviour. Every activity and manifestation of unbelief is promoted by Satan. We will see in the scriptural account of the birth of Christ, that Satan resisted; but thanks be to God, the powers of evil cannot defeat the purpose and plan of God.

The Saviour's coming and His work and purpose was a mystery. Never did the people quite understand the true meaning of the coming of the Messiah. Paul the apostle speaks thus in Romans 16:25-27, "—according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret since the world began. But now is made manifest,—" and to the Ephesians he wrote, "—my knowledge in the mystery of Christ which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the spirit." Again he wrote to the Corinthian church thus, "But we speak the wisdom of God in mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: For had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."

The people of Israel were looking for the coming of the Messiah. The Christ was coming some day! They were looking forward to that time. The scribes would read Isaiah's prophecy to the people, (Isa. 11:1-4) "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes,

(Continued on page 10)

# WEST TEXAS APOSTOLIC FAITH CONVOCATION

College Auditorium  
BIG SPRING, TEXAS

December 26, 1954 to January 1, 1955

**DAILY SERVICES:**

- 9:00 a. m. Prayer Meeting
- 10:00 a. m. Bible Lesson
- 1:30 p. m. Children Service
- 2:30 p. m. Worship Service
- 6:30 p. m. Youth Rally
- 7:30 p. m. Evangelistic Service

(Services conducted in College Auditorium)

**MEALS:**

- 7:30 a. m. Breakfast
- 12:30 p. m. Lunch
- 5:00 p. m. Supper

Meals served at community table as the Lord provides in Convocation Cafeteria.

—ROOMS AVAILABLE AT TOURIST COURTS, HOTELS AND PRIVATE HOMES—

For further information contact the following committeemen:

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405 N. W. 10th  
BIG SPRING, TEXAS  
(Dial 4-4144)

**Alford Whiteley**  
Box 309  
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(Dial 3957)

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## The Apostolic Faith Report

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P. O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, Kansas

Please send all changes of address, giving both old and new address.

### FROM MY VIEW POINT

(Editorial)

Thank you, O thank you, every one, so very, very much for doing so much to make this paper, THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT, just what it is! We are only your servants, tools to be used of the Master to further the cause of Christ. The articles and items sent in have far surpassed my expectations. The number who wanted this publication too has been more than I ever thought. Well, praise the Lord, His truth is marching on! You can't stop God's Word or work, you just can't. I know some who may purposely or accidentally hinder His cause but the right is going to win. The Devil and his gang are going to come to naught — The Saints will reign in the sight of the Lord God Most High!

Speaking of the Lord and His wonderful works to the children of men, brings us face to face with this season of the year. It is Christmas, and time to proclaim again at this season, "Christ took upon Himself the form of man. He came to be one of us. He was very man — Yet He was God. The Word became flesh. Indeed He came to seek and to save the lost. All of us are only sinners saved by grace and turned from sin to righteousness."

The world forgets, and in their hours of glee, often do things that

do not glorify the Christ. Let us put Christ back in Christmas! Now and then, somebody (often because of time or lack of space) will write the word "Xmas" for Christmas. I never see it but what I think of the illustration given to me years ago by a teacher. She said, "Xmas, was the way for heathen or infidel to express their feelings, or to write without acknowledging Him" — since that time I have always used the word, "Christmas." Let us put Him in His rightful place. There will be much display this season, it is thought by the business experts that this year will break all records of spending. Let us spend some of our money for the Christ cause.

How much will go for useful toys (that is unnecessary ones)? How much will be spent for over spread and over abundant eats? How much will go to relatives who must be remembered? How much to the friends that we remember because they remember us? I am not trying to tell you how to spend your money, just think on these things. How many dollars will go out, in His name, to bless the poor and homeless or to speed the missionary cause?

Thank God for the light that broke into this darkened world when Jesus came to earth! He set the captives free, brought salvation to the lost, and drove out sickness. New hope to countless thousands sprang forth. Christmas means a lot to me. I think of it as the Day of Deliverance. — I know it took a Cross, but it took the coming into the world first. I appreciate churches that have Christmas programs, that sing carols, and give gifts in His Name. I like to shop best in the stores that portray and proclaim Christ. I like best the Christmas cards that mention, name and exalt Christ. It is His birth-time: It is our place to give homage to Him. I cannot be one of shepherds of old, I would not rank with the wise men of His day, but I can, in my time, signify that I am His and give Him rightful mention and worship at all times.

Every candle, with its light, every decoration of the right sort and all symbols of Christmas, cheer me. They help me say, "Thank you God, for sending your Son to me. Thank you for this, another Christmas."

Again it is my right to Glorify His Holy and Mighty and Wonderful Name!

### SINNER! WHAT IS YOUR FATE?

PSALM 37; 1-10: Evil doers — workers of iniquity — shall soon be cut down — shall be cut off — shall not be! We have a wonderful mixture of today from the hand of God. Mostly mercy, but some day that mixture will only be wrath. It is a dreadful and terrible thing to fall into the hands of an angry God. God does not wish that the sinner should be lost. Will you go down under, or beneath the frown of a sin-avenging God? Trouble can come, will come. The calls of death and judgment will be answered — without God this will be bitter. Do you plan to be lost? Do you refuse His call — to you — now and always? Do you set aside His council? Will you wait too long and find some day, your day gone? Prov. 1:23-30.

People, sometimes, seek to hide from God — Remember, there is no place to hide — only in Jesus — under His atoning Blood. Come! let us reason together. You can rise or fall, heed or reject the call. Sinner! think of your fate! Right now — with this article before you, ask God to save you, forgive you and direct you to a useful life — in the service of the Lord!

### DICKINSON, TEXAS

The Apostolic Faith folk meet for worship at the present time in the Dickinson elementary school. They have services at 9:45 and 11:00 a. m. Sunday and an evangelistic service at 7:00 p. m. Sunday. Brother Herman Hoke is the pastor. They plan to build a new church soon. Visit this work, pray for it and ask God to speed the day of their building project. I know that God is able and their efforts will not go unrewarded.

### ST. JAMES, MO.

Sister P. J. Flanagan wrote, asking about the Apostolic Faith Report. She is delighted to have this link of contact with many of the friends and ministers that she knows. Also for the soul food that she derives from such reading.

# The Apostolic Faith Bible School

## of BAXTER SPRINGS, KANSAS

### Begins January 11, 1955

Under the Supervision of



Supt.  
ROY D. WOOSTER

There will be a capable faculty to assist you.

Students must take at least three subjects, two being Bible subjects. Must be of good character, have a willingness to work, and submit to discipline.

**THE FOLLOWING  
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- Evangelism**
- Doctrine**
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- Piano**
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Tuition: This is a faith school. No tuition will be charged. This school is supported by the Free Will offering plan.

Accept this Bible Training and you'll be stronger for God tomorrow.

For further information write:

Superintendent Roy D. Wooster  
Box 110

Baxter Springs, Kansas

# Why Die Before Your Time?

In Ecc. 7:17 we have this question asked, "Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldst thou die before thy time?" God set for man a duty. He also gave him a limit to his sins and his foolishness. It seems to us that we can see such a recklessness and such a wave of, "I don't care spirit." It sweeps in waves. Have you ever noticed that waves of sin will come and go? There will be a certain kind of murder, like children killing parents, then maybe parents killing children. Next may follow the crime of stealing or kidnaping and so sin takes its toll.

It is appointed to man to die, and after death comes the judgment, but why will a man be wicked, overly wicked, and reap the terrible harvest of a shortened, rewardless life? Why will man see the result of strong drink, know the curse of it, and hear the warning of it, yet foolishly drink himself to an early grave? The clock of life is wound but once, and yet some of its days are determined by the manner of life. Those that have gone on in the Lord at an early age have no need of fear because all things are working for the good of the loved of the Lord; but the sinner, in sin, still sinning, adding sin to sin, is in a most miserable and wretched condition, living in a dangerous position always, for we are strictly commanded to seek the Lord while He may be found and to call upon Him while He is near, and to remember our Creator in the days of our youth and to know that today is the day of salvation.

Turn away from sin — from wrath — from folly — from neglect. Why will you heedlessly walk into death? Turn while you may and seek the Christ — the living way. I know that many have gone to an early grave, they sought not the Lord, but rather courted the perils of sin and reaped a harvest of iniquity. Take warning while you may. Why die before your time?

The bonds of Christ and Calvary do lots for Christians.

## A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

It isn't easy to apologize; to begin again; to admit error; to be unselfish; to face a sneer; to be considerate; to endure success; to keep on trying; to profit by mistakes; to forgive and forget; to think and then act; to keep out of the rut; to make the best of little; to shoulder deserved blame; to subdue an ugly temper; to maintain a high standard; to recognize the silver lining, but it always pays in the end.

### Christian's Looking Glass, Which Are You?

Like wheelbarrows — Not good unless pushed.

Like canoes — They need to be paddled.

Like kites — You can't tell which way they will bounce next.

Like balloons — Full of wind, and ready to blow up.

Like a trailer — They have to be pulled.

#### But some

Are like a good watch — Open face — pure gold — quietly busy — and full of good works.

Lots of things are opened by mistake, but not as often as one's mouth.

Gal. 4:4. — But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son.

Reminded again, that this is Christmas. 1954 years ago God prepared the way and sent into this world His Son. It was all in His will and the plan of salvation. The tidings of His birth could be spread more easily because of the rise of the Roman Empire. They had built good roads, and they encouraged the use of one language. By the poor, and the rich, by the wise and the simple, the story rolled forth, a Son is born, the Son of God is here and all the world is now set free.

A Psalm a day keeps worry away.

## GOOD MANNERS IN CHURCH

Come to church a little early. Be in your pew ready for worship when the service begins. The first hymn is as important as the last.

Go forward. Leave the rear pews for strangers, parents with small children, and any who come late.

Move over. Even if you don't mind having people crawl over you, don't force them to this discomfort. Move in from the aisle to leave room for others.

If God can send a Niagara thundering on a mighty and majestic minstrelsy from century to century;

If He can fuel and refuel the red-throated furnace of a million suns to blaze His universe with light;

If on the lovely looms of heavens He can weave the delicate tapestry of a rainbow and at eventide fashion a fleece of crimson to curtain the couch of the dying sun and across the black bosom of the night which follows, bind a glittering girdle spangled with ten thousand stellar jewels;

Then I do not doubt his power to make us holy and keep us holy and ultimately give us an order of life in which righteousness shall cover the sea.

Consecration means all, the giving of all, yet to many it does not mean all at all times. However, unless we meet and serve each task with sincere depth we cannot be acceptable to God in all things.

Some have said, that giving just now and then, with no special amount in mind is like tipping the Lord. The paying, (not giving) for it is like rent and is due, of our one tenth of our income is a blessing. Some feel that our keep here on this old earth is free, and tithing is most difficult for them to see, but the assurance and blessings we receive for giving the tithe is full proof enough that God wants us to give to His cause — therefore give, so it can be given to you.

# Reports From Here and There

## DUMAS, TEXAS

Brother and Sister Waple Ferguson are now the pastors of this fine work. They need your prayers that the Lord of Glory will meet with them from time to time and pour out His blessings. Brother and Sister J. W. Clanton have just concluded a good revival there. Sister Edna Neff assisted in this meeting. Brother Rex Russell wrote me. Brother Ferguson is conducting a music class each Friday night.

## TANEYVILLE, MO.

The work is progressing nicely here. We had 77 for Sunday school, November 7. That was a big day for us, with a Singing Convention of Christian and Taney counties. Brother Earl Blansitt is the Master of Ceremonies and his Christian experience radiates in all he says and does. They will meet again with us the first Sunday in December. Come and join us in this singing rally.

Brother and Sister Harry Evins of Perryton, Tex., have been our guests this week — we all had such a great fellowship and visit.

## LEAKEY, TEXAS

Sister Lula Parham assisted by Sister Jessie Dibbens recently held a revival at Leakey, Texas. It was a time of great success and seven souls were saved. One of these was a man saved in jail.

The services closed out with a glorious victory with communion and a baptismal service. The work is progressing nicely with good interest in the regular services.

Brother and Sister James Hosler, pastor.

## GOLDTHWAITE, TEXAS

The Bethel Chapel Church now have as their pastor, Brother and Sister Sol Getz. This work is large, but each member is faithful and loves the Lord. Pray for this work and that God will give favor. All ministers of the Faith be sure to stop by.



# Christmas Greetings

## ALIEF, TEXAS

The Alief church is moving forward under the direction of Brother and Sister Bennie Stanberry as pastors. They have a mid-week service each Wednesday night at 7:30. Sunday School at 10:00 a. m. and the morning worship at 11:00. The evangelistic service is conducted at 7:00 p. m.

THE HAVEN OF REST is the title of the program of the Apostolic Faith church of Alief, Tex., as directed by Brother and Sister Bennie Stansberry, from 8:45 to 9:00 every Sunday morning from station KFRD, Rosenberg, Tex. (Dial 980).

## BUFFALO, OKLAHOMA

We were pleased to hear from Sister Grace Strickland. We have known her from our childhood, and she still loves the Lord and the Apostolic Faith and expresses her gladness for the paper.

## LEXINGTON, KY.

Sister J. C. Carl writes us from Lexington, Ky. She still loves the Lord, is looking forward to each issue of the Apostolic Faith Report. She gives us this admonition. May the Lord keep you in the center of His will until He comes again!

## HEMPSTEAD, TEXAS

The Apostolic Faith church is in a building program (this always shows progress to me). They have changed the platform, and will install oak floors. Also sandblast plywood on the wainscoting. They plan to put panel board on the walls, lower the ceiling and finish it with one foot square acoustic tile. They have new front doors. This may be quite costly, but isn't it great to know that God supplies our every need. Brother and Sister D. D. Dibbens are the pastors.

## ARNETT, OKLA.

Brother and Sister Copeland conducted a meeting lately in Arnett. We have not been informed of the results, only that it was of great encouragement to the folk there. The Apostolic Faith Report is proving a blessing there. Brother and Sister Jim Weese are the pastors.

\* \* \*

The Apostolic Faith South Texas youth rally elected officers in October. They are: Donald D. Dibbens, president; Carl Cook, vice president; and Kaye Ditto, secretary-treasurer. In October the rally was at Katy, where Brother and Sister Olen Bachler are pastors. In November the meeting was at Alief, where Brother and Sister Bennie Stanberry are pastors. The first Monday night of each month is their time of meeting. Come on Youth, build firm your faith for to-morrow.

\* \* \*

Brother and Sister Marvin Boyd write that the paper is a blessing to them, their only wish is that it was larger. Shall we increase its size?

## WICHITA, KANS.

We have word that the work in the New York Tabernacle is progressing with special victory and in the last few weeks there have been several saved and sanctified and 16 have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Praise the Lord for such blessings. Brother and Sister Paul Bailey are the pastors of this work.

Brother and Sister Harold D. Wills are now in Houston, Texas. Their address is 121 Winkler Drive, Zone 17. They are faithful to the Lord. Write them.

### PERSONAL TESTIMONY LEAKEY, TEXAS

I am glad for this opportunity to tell of the wonderful God we have. One day I was sitting here in jail so low I had just about made up my mind to give it all up. Then a kind old man came up to my window and talked to me about God. I asked him to send a preacher to see me and bring me a Bible. That afternoon Brother and Sister Hosler and Sister Lula Parham came to see me, talked and prayed with me and gave me a Bible. After they left I was so miserable I couldn't stand it. The next day Brother Hosler came back and prayed and talked to me.

After he left I was so full I didn't know what to do so I thought I would read the Bible. I opened to the 15th chapter of Luke. I read it over and over. Then I knew what I wanted, I just got on my knees by my bed in this old jail and talked to God and I knew God was here in this jail with me.

There wasn't anyone but just me and God. I said, "God, I have been lost, so lost, but now, Lord, I have been found. Oh God, make me what you want me to be Lord, this thing is too big for me, I am giving it to you. I'm willing Dear God to let you be my judge. God, please take my life and do whatever you will, just make me the man you want me to be."

Oh, for the wonderful peace. I now have no trouble, no more worry, I know I'm going to prison but it doesn't worry me in the least for I know I have found a just judge, one that will see that I'm taken care of. Oh, if tonight as I sit here, if I only knew that by telling what has happened it would help some lost sinner, that by my experience in sin and now what God has done for me. If only the lost sinner could just get one taste of the love and the joy our God can give. Please lost sinner, won't you give this wonderful God I'm telling you about, a chance with your life. You have tried the old devil, now try my God, the one that died on the cross for my sins and yours. If He can come to this old jail and save a man that was as deep in sin as I was, He surely can save you. Don't put it off, tomorrow may be too late. Do it now, now is the time.

Pray for me that I may go on and

live for Him and learn more about Jesus.

Pray for my family.

May God bless you all.

C. F. Malicoat

### MODESTO, CALIF.

Brother and Sister Charles Mahan plan to be in a revival during the latter part of November in Modesto. This is a new work and needs your prayers for its success and growth. This will be helpful to Stockton. Brother and Sister Glynn Weant are the pastors.

### SPENARD, ALASKA

Brother and Sister Bob Palmer write us that the work there is coming along as well as could be expected. They have a Sunday school contest in progress. They are running close to the 125 mark in attendance, with 128 one Sunday. About the middle of October they had 8 inches of snow which soon melted. They are on the radio each Sunday. The station has a power of 10,00 watts. (Wish we could tune in, Bob).

He desires an interest in our prayers that they may have grace and victory to meet the needs of their call as they face that city of sin and wickedness. Brother and Sister J. D. Ray are assisting in the work there.

Pray, pray lots, there is so much to pray about — the Convocation, the Bible School and The Apostolic Faith Report. Don't forget to pray for your local church and pastor and for revivals and the missionaries. Without prayer we are all weak and helpless.

It is not faith but unbelief and discouragement that thinks God does not know about us and is not interested in us.



### LOVINGTON, NEW MEXICO —

According to reports received from Lovington, New Mexico the work is going forward with new zeal and determination. Brother and Sister Alexander Wisnoski are pastoring there. They have indeed been faithful and their labor in the Lord will not be in vain. Brother and Sister Bob Russell are now helping them.

For a long time the people there have seen their need of a new, larger and better church building. They have a nice location one block east of Main Street. The folk have a little over one thousand dollars to start their building project. Would you like to send an offering to add to the above amount? When I think how the church was started in Taneyville, Mo., on a ten dollar bill, I am sure God does supply. He won't let you down, out there in Lovington — just keep your faith in Him — and keep building. We are expecting a nice new church there real soon. Everybody please remember this effort in prayer. Ministers of the faith, run by when possible and give them an encouraging sermon. It helps.

Tommy was a very poor, ragged little Christian boy. His companions were making fun of, and teasing him. "So you're a Christian? Why doesn't God give you shoes and clothes? Why doesn't He tell some one to help you?" asked one of the boys.

Great tears came into Tommy's eyes as he answered, "I know that God does tell people, but they are not listening." Do we hear what God tells us, as Christians? Maybe our light is burning too low. Let us check.

Betty and Joan were studying their Sunday school lesson. Betty was finding it difficult to understand. "Let's use Mother's Bible Joan," begged little Betty. "But Betty," protested Joan, "Mother's Bible reads just like ours — it has the very same words." Betty shook her curly head, "Oh, no, Joan, Mother's Bible is more interesting, I know, because she reads it so much more than we do ours." Are we setting a good Bible reading example?

Start the right job and finish it.

**DES ARC, ARKANSAS—**

Des Arc, Arkansas is located about sixty miles northeast of Little Rock, Arkansas on the White River. It is a nice little town in the cotton and rice country. To this place, several years ago, the Lord sent Brother and Sister S. B. Echols, Jr. We know that the Lord was with them for He has honored His word and given them a broad field of labor with many victories and souls have indeed been blessed.

Last August 25 was the starting date of a revival that we conducted there. Sister T. B. Tucker and Sister Dona Barker of Katy, Texas came to assist in the meeting. Brother T. S. Abraham was also in the revival; he was our guest when the time came for us to go to the revival. Brother and Sister Clyde Clanton and boys from Big Spring, Texas came in for the greater part of the revival. Brother and Sister Hervy Oliver and family, whose home used to be at Des Arc, also came.

The meeting began first in the small building that is rented for the present church services. In about a week the meeting out-grew the building and we had to move to a tent put up near the church. There the crowds, too, were large and all the folk enjoyed so much every service. They came in large numbers to hear Brother T. S. Abraham speak in native dress. They also enjoyed the pictures of India. Best of all, there were about five saved in the revival, several sanctified, and ten received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We had some outstanding healings, too, so that we can indeed report the Lord was with us in a gracious way. We hope we can all return again sometime for just a good old visit and more blessings such as we enjoyed there. The people in Des Arc were so friendly and kind and expressed themselves both in private and public, giving thanks to the Lord for sending us to them.

Just before our arrival a move had been made to start a building fund. From nothing, within a few weeks, the Lord impressed people to give and help so that much has been accomplished. They have been able to secure such a beautiful building site on the highway and main street of

town about five blocks west of the center of town and close to the public school system.

Those that could not give money were willing to help in other ways. Some gave trees, and Brother Echols and Brother Harold Crane soon were busy cutting trees, hauling logs and converting the raw material into lumber for the new church. It will be about 32 or 36 by 60 or 70. Living quarters will be built in the rear and part of the upstairs will be Sunday School rooms, as the plans were when we left. Word received from Brother Echols lately states that everything is progressing nicely and we are looking forward to seeing another nice new Apostolic Faith church added to the fast growing ranks of our work. Praise the Lord for all His goodness. We are indeed thankful and praise God for the wonderful people of Des Arc. We hope you can all learn to know them as we do and I know that you too will appreciate them and Brother and Sister Echols who are doing such a good work among them. Pray for the continued success there.

Mr. and Mrs. Gail Schultz

Work for the night is coming, when no man can work. You will find a place of joy and service at the Hardesty, Okla., Mission. All ministers are urged to pay the church there a visit. Brother and Sister Mitchell Modrick are the pastors.

Brother and Sister Tommy Van Meter of Laverne, Okla., started a meeting at Guymon, Okla., in the first part of October. Surely the Lord is calling and may you who hear the words of this man of God take heed. Sister LaVonna Webb is assisting in the meeting. Brother and Sister Eugene Cornell are pastors.

Katy, Texas

September 28, 1954

Dear Friends:

We were so happy to hear about the publishing of a paper. Brother Olen asked us to send you a notice of our services. We have prayer meeting on Wednesday nights at 8:00 o'clock, Sunday we have Sunday School at 10:00 o'clock, church services at 11:00 o'clock and Sunday nights at 7:30.

Our radio program is each Sunday

morning from 8:45 to 9:00 from KFRD—Rosenberg. Our program is called the "Haven of Rest" (of the Alief Apostolic Faith Church).

We are also sending a list of names. We were in Washington visiting Buddie when Harrol sent us a card so we are sorry we didn't get them to you sooner.

Come to see us when you come to South Texas and every one is welcome.

Let us hear from you sometime and be sure and come see us when you can.

Love and prayers,

Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Stanberry

Hempstead, Texas

P. O. Box 222

September 13, 1954

Dear Brother Gail and Sister Edna:

Your good letter of today and will answer right back for once. We are happy to hear the good news of the meeting at Des Arc. The Lord will still bless people that meet the conditions.

Our services have been consistently good and we thank the Lord for his continued blessings. We have plans in the making to hard-wood the floors and then as funds permit do some remodeling inside the church building; perhaps lower the ceiling and refinish the walls. This would make less cubic feet to heat and less cubic feet to cool with the fan. Also it will make for a nicer look. Pray for us and the work here that the Lord will be able to lead us the best way on every problem and decision.

May the Lord continue to bless your efforts for Him is our prayer and remember we are praying for the paper and doing our best to hold you up.

In Christian Love,

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dibbens

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

Sister B. H. Patrick writes that the paper arrived, and brought great joy to the family. They are busy enjoying some near by revivals. She also writes that Mother Ferguson (so many of us know this wonderful Christian lady) from Modesto, Calif., relates that they are starting a work there. Brother and Sister Glynn Weant are pastoring there. Pray for this new work.

## A SAVIOUR IS BORN

(Continued from page 2)

neither reprove after the hearing of His ears: But with righteousness shall He judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: And He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips shall He slay the wicked." Doubtless their hearts would yearn for this righteous judge to come to them. This judge which would judge righteously, not after the sight of His eyes, No! but righteously; not after the hearing of His ears, No! but righteously! Israel might have cried, "Oh Lord God, send us our Messiah, send him now! Fulfill your promise to us! Send the Christ to relieve us of inequality and injustice!"

Isaiah the prophet renewed God's promise (Isa. 9:6-7) "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it."

Space and time will not permit the full explanation of the foregoing prophecies from Isaiah! The limitations of the finite mind and the frailty of human expression fail to explain it. It is too wonderful! It is God's own promise!

A child should be born to sit upon the throne of David. He should be of the house of Jesse and of the tribe of Judah. Micah the prophet spoke (Micah 5:2), "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler of Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Here we have the secret unveiled as to the place of His birth. But alas, they were only expecting an earthly king, and earthly judge; when God was preparing something better than anything earthly. He was preparing his own son, the son of God, to become the son of Man. By so doing He would first become the Saviour

and Redeemer, then at His second coming He would be the judge and ruler.

Now let us examine another prophecy concerning the Messiah. Let us see by what miracle he shall be born. Let us learn how He could be the Son of God. In chapter seven of Isaiah the prophet had asked king Ahaz to ask a sign of the Lord. The king was afraid to ask for a sign lest he would tempt the Lord. The prophet spoke thus, (Isa. 7:14) "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

The virgin Mary was engaged to be married to a Jew named Joseph. During the time of her waiting for the child Jesus to be born, news of her conception had come to Joseph. Was she not separated from him now to prove virginity? Here she was found to be with child! We must turn to Matthew 1:18-21 for this account, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother, Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS; for he shall save his people from their sins." What wonderful things God has wrought. How great is our God. His promises never fail. Here, to this just man Joseph, God sends the angel with a message of promise to mankind. He commands Joseph to take unto him Mary his wife, not to fear or be ashamed. He commands him to name this child, this first-born son, JESUS, God-With-Us!! Here is the fulfillment of the promised saviour and redeemer, "—for He shall save His people from their sins."

(Matt. 1:22-25) "Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth

a son and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son; and he called his name JESUS."

Mary, no doubt, was one among many virgins of her time. There might have been many others who would have worshiped God for the privilege to be the mother of the Son of God. But in the great wisdom of God, He chose Mary to be the mother of His only begotten son. We read of the angel of God appearing to Mary and when she saw the angel, she was afraid. (Luke 1:30-31) "And the angel said unto her, fear not, Mary; for thou has found favour with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." Here I pause to think, was this an answer to Mary's prayer? No! This was the fulfillment of God's promise to mankind. For three hundred years now no prophet had spoken of the Christ's coming! The promise must be getting dim in the minds of the people, but God does not fail when He promises. It was now to be fulfilled.

The angel continued speaking to Mary (Luke 1:32-33) "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father, David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." How this angelic message must have stirred the soul of Mary! It was coming to pass, God's promise was coming to pass! Hallelujah! The Son of the Highest! The throne of His Father, David! Reign over the house of Jacob forever! ! ! Were not all these things the fulfillment to the prophecies and of God's promises? Amen. But how could this be? Mary was a virgin, how could she bear a son? Read Luke 1:18-21, thus, "Then the angel answered and said unto her. The Holy Ghost shall come unto thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." The Son of God? Amen! The Son of God! Here was to be the fulfillment of the prophecy

to the fearful king of Ahaz, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

The Christ came not only to save the people of Israel but all people. The night the saviour was born, the angels took the good news to the lowly shepherds, "Fear not: For, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." This promised saviour and redeemer was to all. No one was to be excluded. So important was the mystery of salvation through Christ, that God had permitted people afar to know of the event. We read of it in Matthew 2:1-6, "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel."

We think of these eastern Wise Men as studious God-fearing men. We think of them as looking forward to the time of God's great day. They had studied of this event. They had seen the star and followed it to this place. Now where is he that is born king of the Jews? They were to find him. They did find him. They brought him their treasures, gold, frankincense and myrrh, and presented these treasures to the new-born king. Gifts for the Gift of God! Gifts for the Son of God! Gifts for the saviour and redeemer of mankind!

Again we think of God's original promise of a saviour through the seed of Eve, and we do remember also God's word to the serpent in the garden, "— thou shalt bruise his heel." The coming of this Saviour, the Son of God through the seed of the woman, did not occur without

## The Follett Chapel



It was in the fall of 1953, that Brother Marcus Adair and the Gospel party came to Follett, Texas for a revival. The revival continued for five weeks and souls were saved. Though at first Brother Marcus did not intend starting a new work there, at the insistence of those that were saved and many others interested in the work, plans were made for the establishment of a new work at Follett. As the Lord opened the ways and means, and supplied the needs, a lot was purchased in the town and the construction of the church building commenced. Due to the hard labour of Bro. Marcus and several others the building began growing into a beautiful structure, which is really an asset to the

town of Follett and also to the Movement.

Though not fully completed, services began at the Chapel on May 16, 1954, with the Sunday School. The attendance for the first Sunday was 98, which we are proud of. That afternoon the auditorium was packed to its capacity for the Good Neighbours Service. Preachers and pastors from various churches were present and Rev. Olen Bachelor brought a very inspiring message, fit for the occasion.

We are really glad to say that the Lord is blessing the work and that souls are being added on into the kingdom of God through the work here. This is a new field and we certainly need your prayers.

the resistance of God and man. Satan pictures in the scene also. When Herod told the Wise men to find the new-born king and bring the news back to him so he also might go to worship Him, he had satanic desires. He wanted to destroy the plan of God. He wanted to kill the child. God's angel warned the wise men to depart another way and not let Herod know. The angel also warned Joseph to depart to Egypt with Mary and Jesus and abide there till after the death of Herod. God's purpose was not to be defeated. God's plan will not be destroyed or defeated.

Satan might have defeated God's purpose in Christ's death on the cross and his burial in the borrowed tomb, but no, God was not defeated. He raised the Christ from the dead after three days and nights. He is

alive forever more. He is on the right hand of the throne of God. Hallelujah! He is coming again!

Satan also pictures in our decisions. He is our enemy and the enemy of God. When we would decide to make Jesus Christ our Lord, Our Christ, Our Saviour and Redeemer; Satan resists us. But God has also given his promise that when the enemy comes in like a flood, He would raise a standard against him.

The Christmas season can be a season for Christ. It can be spent in labour and appreciation of the glorious message to mankind, A SAVIOUR IS BORN. The Christmas story, instead of revolving around gifts, Santa Claus, frivolity and festivity, must be the Story of our Saviour's birth. God has never been defeated. He will never be de-

feated.

"Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Which is Christ the Lord."

# Christmas Day!

Everything has its beginning and so it is with Christmas. Many of the events that play so big a part in our lives today had their beginning so far back in history that there is now a mist over their first usage. So it is with Christmas, but we are told that about two thousand years before Christ there was a people in East Asia and later in Northern Europe that worshipped the sun and set a day apart to worship his birth and the Christians adapted this day from the pagans and turned its foolishness into the right way of Christian worship by setting it aside as a day in honor of the birth of Jesus — the Son of God, Who came to set man free.

Almost every civilized country has a Christmas day, although there are many different ways in observing it. Christmas, as we have it today is of Catholic origin, and the name derived from Christ - mass. It was first celebrated in April or in May, in about the second century of our era. In the fourth century Pope Julius I sent out a search for the right day of the birth of Jesus and set the day on December 25th and this has now become a universal date, although the exact date is not so certain. Speaking of the sun worshippers, and Christmas Jol or Yule means sun in the early northern Europe — so we have our Yuletide.

Almost every nation has a different custom. In Germany there were men to go forth to give to the poor and the oppressed, so it was that the idea of Santa Claus was advanced. The first record of Christ-

mas trees is also found in Germany and the northern countries where the cold winters are more cheerful if there are some green trees. The first Christmas trees were decorated with good things to eat, with apples, ginger bread animals and toys. The children had a gay time climbing up in the trees to get the eats. World-wide adoption of the Christmas tree came about in 1800 A. D.

Russia, before her fall into the hands of the present government, celebrated Christmas with house parties and with bonfires that were beautiful in the cold snow of the north. France has lots of display and decorating but outside of the churches and the private homes, there is not much celebrating. In Italy, Christmas is a day of worship and many flowers are used. The streets are filled with pipers and singers. In Spain, there are no Christmas trees and no toys or presents are given away but there is lots of music, merry making and so forth. England has long kept the Christmas season — in the early days so rowdy that the king had to put a stop to it altogether. A few years later Christmas was again celebrated but in a more Christian way and is carried on so at this time.

In America there was no Christmas at first on account of hard times,

and also to get away from the laws of the English government. However, in 1619 Christmas was kept in America and in 1783 Washington laid aside his military attire and took up life once more as a private citizen.

Snow in the North, with the cold, and warmth in the South with the green trees, makes a difference in Christmas celebration—but in every land of civilization Christmas is celebrated in some way — and why not? For this is indeed the day of commemoration of the birth of Jesus for we are today set free from the power of the evil one. Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift.

Christmas will be kept this year — not as a new thing but as a custom that is old — very old — and yet as dear to us as ever.

He who knows not and knows not that he knows not, is a fool, shun him.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU, ONE AND ALL! May the richest of blessings be your lot. We'll be with you again next month, the Lord willing. Due to the holidays we will not mail your APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT until the second week of January. I know you will understand this delay.

## The Apostolic Faith Report

Baxter Springs, Kansas

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