

The Apostolic Faith

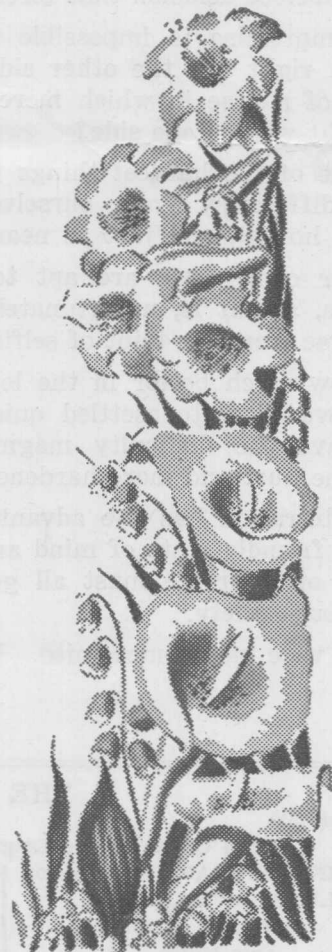
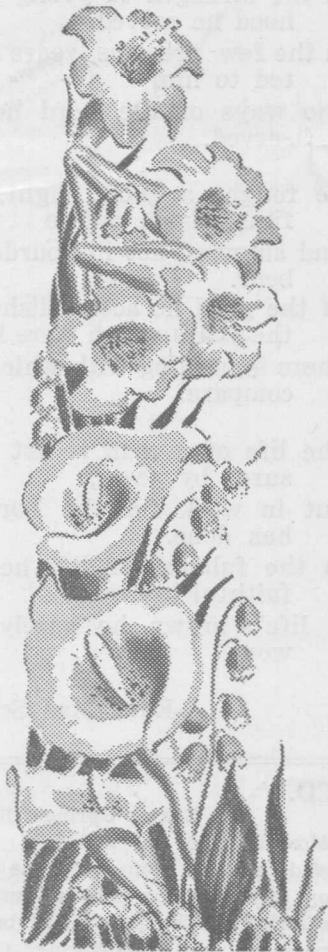
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ORIGINAL APOSTOLIC FAITH

CHARLES F. PARHAM, Founder, Bethel Bible School, Topeka, Kansas, 1900

Volume XXX

FEBRUARY - MARCH, 1953

NO. 2-3



Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:"

St. John 11:25

Compromise

There are two meanings of the word compromise: one commendable, the other derogatory.

When a man compromises his honor he becomes definitely dishonorable. When a person compromises his principles he is a cad, or a coward, as contemptible as he is corrupt. When a woman compromises her integrity she smirches her character and soils her soul.

Such is the unsavory connotation of the word. But originally the word meant something both laudable and beneficial. It implied mutual promise to reach a settlement of a controversy by accepting the decision of an arbiter. Hence to compromise meant to come to agreement by making mutual concessions.

This is the way adult-minded persons invariably settle their difficulties. The immature insist on resorting to violence, or to some sort of coercion — thus revealing that they are victims of the ancient delusion that force is effective.

Compromise is impossible when one side thinks it is absolutely right and the other side is absolutely wrong. But who knows of a case in which mere humans were involved when all the right was on one side?

One of the hardest things to realize is that other men may think differently from ourselves and yet be just as sincere, just as honest, and just as near right.

Our own views are apt to be colored by a thousand influences, and it is, unfortunately, a rare thing to find men utterly free from the taint of selfishness or self-interest.

How much better in the long run for men to yield a little, and have a matter settled quickly, than to give in not at all and have the difficulty magnified, resentment deepened, and everyone hurt and more hardened with vindictiveness.

Arbitration has the advantage of leaving our opponents in a more friendly state of mind and not increasing their animosity. Sooner or later we must all get along together, or completely wreck our society.

So wise men compromise. Fools fight.

—Dr. Henry Hitt Crain.

VON DEARL

In the spring time of life he was
taken away.
We know not why God willed it
so,
But he trusted in God, his faith
failed him not
And his speech pleased the
Lord, this we know.

Tho his years here were few,
the time was well spent
He remembered the Lord in his
youth.
The deeds of his life among
other young folk
Were a tribute to God's won-
drous truth.

In boyhood he walked in the
ways of the Lord.
In the strength of young man-
hood he served.
In the few precious years allot-
ted to him
The ways of the Lord he ob-
served.

He fought a good fight, he
finished his course
And shunned not his burden to
bear.
Of the good he accomplished in
the years which were his,
There is nothing with which to
compare.

The life of a man is not mea-
sured by years,
But in work for the Lord he
has done.
In the fullness of life he was
faithful to death,
A life's crown he surely has
won.

—Edna Mae Schultz

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH PUBLISHING CO.

P. O. Box 300

Baxter Springs, Kansas

Official Organ of the Original Apostolic, Pentecostal, and Full Gospel Movements of the World

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Our Motto

In Essentials, Unity;

In Non-Essentials, Liberty;

In All Things, Charity.

Address all material for publication and send all money for the paper to the Editor. Please state when sending offerings for personal use.

The paper is supported by free-will offerings. The paper will be sent free to all who desire it and who are unable to send an offering. (Isaiah 55:1).

The Editor will not be responsible for the personal doctrine or action of ministers whose articles or names may appear in this paper.

"Think on These Things"

Phil. 4:8

UNEVANGELIZED MILLIONS

The tragedy of the yet unevangelized millions of the world should stir the church to missionary action.

Three hundred millions are still in the befogging maze of superstition-ridden Confucianism and Taoism.

240,000,000 are still steeped in the groveling idolatry of Hinduism.

300,000,000 still in the ugly grip of sensual, loveless, woman-degrading, heart-hardening Mohammedanism.

180,000,000 still bound in the weird mysticism and depressing demon-worship of Buddhism and Lamaism.

158,000,000 still groping in the unrelieved darkness and crass superstition of Animism.

327,000,000 shadowed beneath the sinister cloak of Rome, with its Mariolatry, its saint-worship, its magic ritual of the mass in which God is carried aloft as a piece of bread, its false doctrine of purgatory, its abominable confessionals, and its many other deceiving teachings and ceremonials.

150,000,000 still atheists, agnostics or unconcerned.

Oh, the tragedy of the still unevangelized millions!

Think of it: over 2,000,000,000 human beings on earth today with moral accountability, intellectual activity, and immortal destiny — a mighty host marching to the grave and to the vast beyond. For their present and eternal happiness do we spare merely a passing or passive thought, How amazingly unconcerned many of us are! Over 1,500,000,000 of the world's twentieth century population are non-Christians! Of the approximately 500,000,000 in so-called Christendom, including the millions of Roman Catholics and those of the Greek and Eastern churches, how

many are merely nominal Christians, hypocrites, heretics, reprobates, unregenerate and spiritually unlightened?

Look on the fields waiting to be reaped for Christ!

While the modern churches delay, unrelenting Death — that other reaper with his wide unsparing scythe — lays millions low at a turn.

It is time for Christian action in Christian missions! — Murch.

THE GRANDEST PICTURE

The grandest picture I beheld
Is not the setting sun.

Though he robes himself in
scarlet

When his daily race is run.
'Tis not the lofty mountains,

Nor the tall and stately trees,
Though I love the scenes of
nature;

Yea, my eyes delight in these!

The grandest picture I behold
is not the falling snow,
Though every flake is different,
And a charming gem, I know.

'Tis not the gorgeous flowers,
Nor the birds that cleave the
air,

Though in these I see reflected
Heavenly wisdom, love, and
care!

There's nothing quite so beautiful

As consecrated youth;
Our noble Christian boys and
girls

Established in the truth.
To view their Spirit-quicken-
ed lives

And watch their powers un-
fold—

This is the grandest picture
That my human eyes behold!

—Weldon T. Hammond

"BE NOT AFRAID, ONLY
BELIEVE. Mark 5:36.

TODAY

The past has claimed my yester-
days,

They're gone beyond recall—
And all I have of what they
gave

Is hung in memory's hall.
I can't turn back the clock of
time

To wasted days and years;
I can't redeem a single hour,
Though I may search with tears;
I can't go back to yesterday,
Time moves the onward way,
So all I have is what I gained
When it was called:—Today.

The future holds tomorrow's
gift

A mighty bay between,
And all I have of its vast store
Is built in hopes and dreams.

I cannot fill those future hours
That lay beyond the bay
I cannot know their joy or pain
Till they become:—Today.

I cannot rush the clock of time
It moves at steady gait,
For all that it may give to me
I can but hope and wait.

But I have found a precious
time,

Between these two extremes;
The day I live in memory,
The one in hopes and dreams,
This precious time is called to-
day.

And mine each golden hour
To fill with love and kindly
deeds

And learning of God's power.
Then may I live this day of
mine,

That when it too is done;
I'll place, from it, in memory's
hall

Some victory I have won.

Edna M. Schultz.

The proud man hath no God;
the envious man hath no neigh-
bor; the angry man hath not
himself. —Bishop Hall.

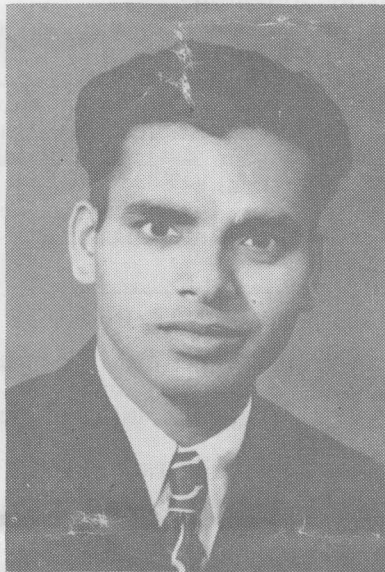
Problems of a Christian Missionary in India

T. S. Abraham

India with its area of 1,138,814 sq. miles, is the abode of a vast collection of peoples, who differ from one another in physical characteristics, in languages and in culture. Hence, India may rightly be called a museum of cults and creeds, faiths and tongues, racial types and social customs. It covers the whole space between barbarism on the one end, and civilization at the other.

Of the total population of about 365 million, more than 90 per cent live in the 700,000 villages scattered throughout the land. It is not in the big cities that a visitor will find true India, but it is in the countryside and villages, where the peasants have their own customs, traditions and superstitions. If India is to be evangelized, first of all these villages must be evangelized. In thousands of these villages even the name of Christ is not heard, and millions perish without the Gospel. It is to such a group of people, to such a nation, that we have to present the living Gospel.

As history states, Christianity was introduced into India in 52 A. D. by St. Thomas the apostle. We know the great commission given by the Master was, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature". The disciples obeyed the master's command, went throughout the world and carried the gospel. St. Thomas the apostle in Malabar, the south-western corner of India, preached the gospel and several hindus were converted to Christianity. Thus, the first Christian Church was started in India by the middle of the first century itself. As it was through St. Thomas that Christianity



T. S. Abraham

was spread in India, the Christians here are called St. Thomas Christians. In 345 A. D. about 400 people from Syria, under Canai Thoma came to Malabar, settled down there and mingled with the local Christians. So the Christians in this part are also called Syrian Christians. Because Malabar had trade relationship with the west, especially with Rome, Roman Catholicism made its way into this part and in 1348 A. D. the first Roman Catholic Bishop arrived here from Rome. Also the coming of the Portuguese in 1498 gave a new impulse to Catholicism in India. As time slipped by the Catholic doctrine and heathen customs crept into the Christian Church and the Church here lost her early spirituality.

The coming of the British in the beginning of the eighteenth century gave a new zeal to the Christian work. Rev. Patrick Copeland was one of the first protestant missionaries who ar-

rived in India, and in 1616 A. D. the first hindu was converted to Christianity by the work of the protestant missionaries. This young man was taken over to England and baptized, in the presence of King James I, the ministers and the London Mayor, on December 2, 1616.

From the history of the Christian Church we know that God chooses individuals and sends them to some particular countries with definite purposes. David Livingston was sent to Africa, Hudson Taylor to China and Judson to Burma. In like manner William Carey was the missionary to India. He arrived in India in 1794 and spent the rest of his life there, serving the people of India. During the forty years of his stay there, he and his companions translated the Bible into 24 Indian languages. The Serampore University, the only Christian Theological University in India, was an important outcome of the work of this great missionary.

By the time the church entered the nineteenth century, it was filled with Roman Catholicism, heathenism and other unscriptural doctrines and filthiness, and its members preferred to walk according to the course of this world. God saw that the Christian Church in India needed purification and the great reformation took place in 1836. The preaching of salvation through the Blood of Jesus Christ commenced at this time. Later in 1873, 1895 and 1905 three revivals spread out and during these revivals there were instances of baptism in the Holy Spirit but the doctrine of the Baptism was not preached.

Teaching about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit began only very lately. I thank God for He used my father, K. E. Abra-

ham, as the pioneer preacher of this Bible truth. He was born and brought up in the Syrian Christian Orthodox Church and led the life of a nominal Christian until he got saved on December 1, 1912. Then he understood about the doctrine of water baptism and on February 27, 1916, he was baptized in water. This caused him to be hated by his friends and the church to which he belonged. Now he began searching the Scriptures and also got access to some tracts published by the American missionaries. These led him to find the truth about the Baptism in Holy Spirit and knew that it was the promise of God to His children even today. Standing on the promise of God he prayed and received the Baptism on April 22, 1923. Thus the power which the apostles received and which God began pouring out in these latter days fell in India too and this gave a really new impetus to the Christian missionary work there. God commenced the work. Missionaries from foreign lands arrived. Native Christians received the vision of the vastness of the work. The Full Gospel is now reaching the souls. Yet of the total population of 365 million, only less than 8 million are Christians, half of which are Roman Catholics, and the majority of the rest are nominal Christians. Hence, real born-again Christians are just a minority. What we have to say is "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest".

In preaching the Gospel, whether in India or elsewhere we have to face many a problem. India has its own problems, in the field of Christian missionary work. If one wants to carry on the missionary work in an effective manner, certainly these problems must be solved.

It has been estimated that in India there are about 45 races as well as 2400 castes and

tribes. This heterogenous collection of races and castes of people in India, has resulted in a wide variety of languages, which is one of the important problems a Christian missionary has to face. There are more than 225 different, distinct languages, besides many other dialects. Strictly speaking there is no common language though English had been the language of the educated. But after India gained her independence, it has been decided that Hindu, one of the major languages, should be the national language. To work among the natives, the missionaries ought to study the local language, even though they may be able to carry on the work with the help of an interpreter. Even a native missionary, if he wants to work in another part of the country, he has to study the language of that locality.

Another problem that a missionary has to meet is the various religions. The main religions of India are, Hinduism, Mohammedanism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism and Christianity. Not only in India but in all eastern countries where non-christian religions exist, it is hard to propagate the Gospel. The question has often been asked, whether the study of other religions is necessary for the preaching of the Word of God. In answer to this I may say that it is not absolutely essential to study about the other religions for the proclamation of the gospel. But one who knows the teachings of another religion, the customs of another group of people, can approach them in a better way than one who is unacquainted with these. For example in Acts 17:22 we see Paul at Athens, preaching in the midst of Mars hill. He studied about their beliefs and superstitions and from that avenue declared unto them, of Him, whom they worshipped ignorantly. The Indian mind is highly developed and in intellectual matters bends to know outside authority, and fearlessly follows wherever the argument

leads. This spirit of following the argument helps the Christian missionary, if he approaches the individual through the right avenue. For instance, Hinduism believes in Trinity and from that as a basis we can speak to them about the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. They also believe in the incarnation of Gods in human form to help humanity. From this we can lead them on to the truth of the incarnation of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world. To take another example, the Mohammedans believe in the Supreme God and so we can speak to them of the Almighty God. What they believe is that Mohammed was the only prophet sent by God. Though they accept Jesus Christ to be a great teacher they do not accept Him as the Son of God. They have a festival called Bakrid, which they celebrate to commemorate Abraham sacrificing Ishmael, as they hold it. They believe that the sacrificial animal stands for the evil in the human nature and that it should be sacrificed at the altar of God for our salvation. Basing on these we can approach them and talk to them about how the only begotten Son come to this world, how He offered Himself as a sacrifice for the atonement of humanity. Thus, if we know at least a few things about other religions, there is an easy access to those religionists. Those non-christians if convinced of the truth of the Christian faith and converted to Christianity, will be the finest that anyone could hope for, for they will be staunch in the new religion and stand firm in the new faith.

Poverty of the people is another problem the missionaries have to face in India. Though there are wealthy people there as in any other country, the majority of the people are poor. In many parts of the land, poverty and famine walk hand in hand. It is usual that the crops fail and leads to famine in several places which causes a

(Continued on page 14)

Items Of Interest

HALAWA UNION CHAPEL

Halawa Union Chapel is the name of the new church the Beydlers have made out of a quonset hut. They have acquired it on a month to month basis and have decorated it themselves.

The past year the Beydlers have been able to make some marked progress in their missionary work in Honolulu.

A Daily Vacation Bible School was held with some fifty children enrolled, ranging in age from three to fourteen years. Three of the older girls are teaching classes now, they are Phoebe Hanaiki, Sybil Fragas and Julie Nitta. They are christians and faithfully take the responsibility of teaching.

A small Youth Camp was held in the month of August. It was very successful. One of the girls, Florence Pirtle, an inmate from the Oahu Prison gives her testimony. "Recently I had been under a severe mental strain. Things looked so bleak and desolate for me; my prayers seemed so futile. One day when I felt that my tribulations would overcome me, it seems that God moved me to pray; not as I had prayed before but for faith to accept whatever might be the outcome and to continue in His strength and in His service. Then there came over me a peace that my sins were forgiven and I fell asleep."

"God is very good to us; He is very real and near to us in our work here in Hawaii. Our little boy is a blessing to us and our work. Now we have a little girl, eight years old, and thank the Lord for our little family, says Brother Beydler.

"As the New Year progresses we feel our need of the Lord greatly and know that His work is accomplished 'not by might nor by power but by my Spirit saith the Lord of hosts.'"

We are thankful for the Lord's care of Twanda the past few months. On Sunday, January 11th our new baby girl arrived. Mark and Ann are quite proud of their baby sister, whom we have named Nancy Ruth.

The work at the Chapel is progressing some as we have prayer meeting in the building on Friday nights now in place of the cottage prayer meeting. Sunday School hasn't grown like we would like it to but is holding an average of about 100. We have been working recently on the basement, trying to get the classrooms finished and the rest rooms completed. Hope to get them painted soon.

I am now accepting some invitations for services in other villages and towns. The first week of February I was in Fairbanks with a good meeting and souls were saved. I expect soon to go down on the Kenai peninsula for some special services with the pictures of Palestine. We need help very desperately here in the way of consecrated workers if our work is to make much progress from the present stage. I mention this for your help in prayer with us on this matter.

May the Lord guide you throughout the year and give you souls as you are faithful to His cause in letting your light shine before men that they may see your good works and give our wonderful Lord all the glory."

In His Service,
Bob Palmer and family.

DAVIS HOME FOR CHILDREN

Madera, California

"I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalm 34:1.

The first of February marked five years since the opening of the Home for unfortunate children. They have been interesting years full of blessings, joys, heartaches, anxieties and labors but always in victory for there

is no defeat in Christ. "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." 11 Kings 6:16.

Three new children have entered the home bringing the total number cared for to fifty-five.

We do want to thank the individuals and churches who have sent to the children to make their Christmas the High Day of each year. If you could see them as they received their gifts and know how much they enjoy them you would feel repaid.

We are so happy for the blessings of the Lord in the past year and have entered the new year with greater determination to be our best for the Master until Jesus Comes.

Brother and Sister J.
Reuben Davis
Route 2, Box 70
Madera, California.

FIRST YOUTH CAMP GREAT SUCCESS

The first Youth Camp to be held in the Panhandle was held in July of 1952 at the camp ground near Laverne, Oklahoma. The enrollment exceeded all expectations with seven states represented and 160 students attending.

Every hour was filled for the participating youths from reveille at 6:45 a. m. every morning to bed check at 10:00 p. m. every night. The camp experience was heightened by the blowing of reveille and taps by bugler Harrol Waterbury.

Regular formal class work, handicraft training, recreation and rest periods were a part of the daily routine.

In addition to the 160 students enrolled last year there were 20 counselors, 12 teachers, 13 cooks and helpers, 12 Bible school students, making a total of 217 actively taking part in the Youth Camp.

The Youth Camp Committee is now planning for an even greater Youth Encampment for the summer of 1953.

Make your plans now to attend Youth Camp July 14-21!

THE BRIDE CLASS

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 thirty, sixty and hundred-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 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 to 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. 5:9, Rev. 12:5, Rev. 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 for the first three and a half years. Jer. 33:11. 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. 13th. Chapter, the bride flees to the wilderness. Rev. 12:14. This is the second flight. An earthquake causes the Anti-Christ to loose 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 with sixty walls of Bashan 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. 68:22. 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 raise 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 or bride shall meet the Lord on his return in the clouds.

Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness? Song of Sol. 7:4-5. 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 needle work in gold. The name of the bride will be remembered and praised forever. Psa. 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.

(Continued on page 13)

Closing Services of Bible School

Baxter Springs, Kansas

Special Services

Tuesday night	March 24	7:30 P. M.
Wednesday	March 25	10:00 A. M.
Wednesday	March 25	2:30 P. M.
Wednesday	March 25	7:30 P. M.

(Communion Service)

Special singers and speakers selected as the Spirit of God leads by the Faculty.

Ordination Services

Thursday	March 26	10:00 A. M.
Master of Ceremonies	Rev. K. Kerr	
Congregational Singing		
Song		
Prayer		
Song		
Song		
Sermon	Rev. Gail Schultz	
Benediction		

Homecoming Services

Thursday	March 26	2:30 P. M.
Master of Ceremonies	Rev. Harrol Waterbury	
Congregational Singing		
Prayer		
Special Singing	Former Students	
Speakers	Former Students	
Benediction		

Commencement Services

Thursday	March 26	7:30 P. M.
Congregational Singing		
Invocation		
Song		
Song		
Presentation of Speaker	Supt. Chas. Mahan	
Speaker	Rev. Ben Barker	
Presentation of Diplomas	Supt. Chas. Mahan	
Benediction		

BIBLE SCHOOL

The attendance of the Bible School has been very good this year. The enrollment has been forty-five making a personnel total of sixty-six people.

The classes and chapel services have been both spiritual and profitable for all concerned. A number of victories have been gained as well as praying through to the deeper blessings of sanctification and the Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus Christ is just the same as He was when He walked the hills of Judea and thus we find Him our healer and keeper. We are thanking God for the truth of the gospel and a privilege and place to study that truth.

Our student body is composed of individuals from as far east as India, to the south west from Costa Rica and a number of the states of our country. We are expecting this gospel to be carried, from this school, to as many places as the Lord shall call these people.

In these closing days of the dispensation of grace we feel it is especially profitable to study and understand the scriptures. For every current national event carries the gravest possibilities. The stage of world events is set, the act is drawing to its close, humanity looks anxiously on wondering what shall be the climax. But those that know their God and His word are well aware for they have believed His report and prophecies.

Again I say, "Praise God for the Apostolic Bible School."

The closing services will begin the evening of March 24th thru the evening of March 26th at the Baxter Springs Chapel. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend.

Long-range goals are necessary if you would keep from being frustrated by short-range failures. —Charles C. Noble.

THE NEED FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS

by James Depasquale
Beirut, Lebanon

I firmly believe that the main cause which led to the rise of Mohammedanism during the seventh century in the Near and Middle East can be traced back to the spiritual condition of the Christian Church in that area and age. The Christian faith was then represented by the Greek and other Eastern Orthodox churches. They had allowed themselves to fall into an awful state of formalism and cold orthodoxy which destroyed the true spirit of the Christian faith as witnessed in the early Apostolic days. Instead of the "spirit" there was the "letter". Instead of the humble apostles to control and guide the church there were the proud, ranking patriarchs and bishops who thought more of their positions than of the need of the Church. By the seventh century the represented Christian church was controlled by a rigid hierarchical system, with all types of binding rules and laws which gave very little place for the spirit. Without the spirit, error soon crept into the church. Idolatry became the order of worship. Jesus Christ and His blessed gospel message was forgotten and forsaken.

Then, in the seventh century a "prophet" arose in the East. He grew up in this atmosphere of spiritual degradation. He saw the idolatry and wickedness of the people. His own people, the Arabs, had fallen into idol worship. Believing himself to be a chosen prophet of God, he began to exhort the people around him to forsake their idols and turn to the one and only God of heaven. But he denied that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and that He was the only Savior and Redeemer of mankind, and because of this perverted belief, he became none other than a false prophet. His

name was Mohammed. Instead of carrying the wonderful gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, he carried the sword, killing and destroying many who rejected his message. In a matter of a few years his strength and influence had grown and had become widespread. It appeared as though he would conquer the then civilized world. Though he failed, yet his influence remained, and today there are spread over the entire Near and Middle East some 350,000,000 Moslems who fervently and fanatically follow the teachings of this false prophet. He is gone, but his work remains, and it is one of the most difficult areas to try to penetrate with the gospel. It is truly the greatest curse of the Near and Middle East — and mainly because the Christian church in that area had failed in its God-given mission. It had left the faith once delivered unto the saints and ignored the great commission of our Lord to preach THE GOSPEL to every creature.

About one hundred and fifty years ago, a wonderful foundation was laid by godly Christian missionaries in this area. Christian schools and churches were established in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Iran, Egypt, and other lands of that area by the Protestant people. It looked as though the true Christian faith of the blessed gospel might once again regain its influence and power in the East. But it was short lived. In the land of Lebanon, where God called me to go to preach the gospel one year ago, I found that practically all of the major institutions of learning, which in the beginning had a Christian foundation, and practically all of the so-called Evangelical churches (except for a few small denominations) have been led astray by the forces of Liberalism and Modernism. In some places it is worse. They are utterly godless and anti-christ.

Once again the Christian church is failing in this area. The majority of the professing Christians throughout the Near and Middle East have left the faith. Liberalism and Modernism have deceived many, and the situation seems tragic and hopeless.

I attended the University of Beirut, which was founded some one hundred or more years ago by a saintly man, Dr. Daniel Bliss, who gave his toil and sweat, yes, even his life, that the true gospel might be proclaimed in this part of the Arab-Moslem world. But sad to say, the university has cut itself from the influence of the church which founded it, and has become completely modern. Some of her professors even speak out against Christ, who is the very foundation of the Christian faith. This modernistic spirit is destroying the Christian faith in many places. Yes, once again, the represented Christian church, in general, is failing. What tragic happening that will grow out of this failure remains to be seen. Already we see the doors being closed to the gospel in many of the Arab-Moslem countries. In Saudi-Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and Iran-Jordan, it is becoming increasingly difficult to carry on missionary work. Saudi-Arabia will not even allow Christians to cross her borders. Syria has refused to allow any new missionaries to come and establish churches. Only those that are now established are to exist. Yes, the doors are fast closing. When the church had its opportunity once again, during the past century, it once again failed in its mission, giving way to the satanic forces of Liberalism and Modernism.

But, though the present picture looks very dark in this area, there is still hope for the true Christian church. Though practically every country in the Arab world is closing her doors to the message of the gospel,

(Continued on page 13)

Brief Mention

KINGS MILL, TEXAS.

Spiritual activity and interest in the Community Church is increasing and God is blessing in all services. The Radio programs are proving to be a blessing. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bingham, Pastors.

GRANBY, MISSOURI.

The Lord is blessing the ministry of Robert Cooper at the Granby Gospel Tabernacle.

CRANDALL, MISS.

Evangelist C. R. Swanson has been in revival work at the Crandall church. God blessed his ministry to the people there.

HOUSTON, TEXAS.

Evangelist and Mrs. Richard Neely have been temporarily pastoring the church at Recreation Acres. The Sunday School has broken its record, attendance is good, souls are being saved and the church blessed.

PALM CITY, CALIFORNIA.

Evangelist Homer Coberly will begin a revival at the Silver Strand Church March 15th. The Church address is 1727 Donax St., Palm City. Aubry Murray, Pastor.

GOLDTHWAITE, TEXAS.

Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Dickson resigned as pastors of the Gospel Hall in Goldthwaite after two years of ministry there. Evangelist and Mrs. Harold Wills are now pastoring the Gospel Hall.

MEADE, KANSAS.

The Lord is blessing in the work at Meade. A change has recently been made in the mid-week services. Services are held each Wednesday and Sunday night. The church with their pastor extends a cordial invitation to All Ministers and Gospel Workers to come by for services. R. V. Wooster, Pastor.

HOUSTON, TEXAS.

The E. E. Dickson Evangelistic Party recently conducted a good revival at the Knox St. church, 909 Knox St. in Houston. Attendance was good and God blessed throughout the meeting. On March 1st, the closing day of the revival, an all day meeting was held with basket dinner at noon. It was a blessed time of fellowship in the things of the Lord. Pauline Parham, Pastor.

PERRIS, CALIFORNIA.

Evangelist Homer Coberly held a good revival in the Woodcrest Church in January. God blessed in every service. Woodcrest is a community northwest of Perris. They have a beautiful church there and God has blessed the ministry of the pastors, Brother and Sister Lewis Hunter.

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA.

Evangelist Homer Coberly conducted a good revival in the church at Stockton in February. God gave a grand meeting. About eleven fine young people came to the altar and gave testimony of the saving power of God. Doyle Wiles, Pastor.

ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO.

Rev. and Mrs. Winston Barker have resigned as pastors of the Apostolic Faith Church in Roswell. Rev. and Mrs. Paul Clanton are the new pastors of the Roswell church.

KATY, TEXAS.

The Lord is blessing in all the services at the Katy church. Prayer meetings are being held most every night in the week to meet the special needs of the people. The Youth Group is growing and taking active interest in the services under the sponsorship of Mrs. Raymond Barker. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd LaMunyon, Pastor.

HEMPSTEAD, TEXAS.

Evangelist and Mrs. George Polvado and party have been in charge of the regular services at the Hempstead Mission while the pastor, Donald Dibbens, taught in Bible School in Baxter Springs, Kansas.

BALKO, OKLAHOMA.

Evangelist Elvis Bishop, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Waterbury held a good revival in the church at Balko. John Whipple, Pastor.

GUYMON, OKLAHOMA.

Rev. and Mrs. Lee Brock have resigned as pastors of the church in Guymon. Evangelist and Mrs. Jimmie Wallis are pastors of the church at present.

AMARILLO, TEXAS.

Rev. and Mrs. Walter Jacobs have been in charge of the regular services at Amarillo for the past seven weeks while the pastor, Johnnie Modrick, is away in revivals.

SAN LEON, TEXAS.

Evangelist and Mrs. Darrel Sutton have been conducting the regular Sunday services at the San Leon church for the past few months. The Suttons also have a special service each week in homes at Pasadena.

PROSPERITY, MO.

Brother and Sister James Arnce continue to pastor the Prosperity Mission. God is blessing in every service.

SNYDER, TEXAS.

Evangelist Lula Parham and Nellie Clopton recently held a good revival in the church at Snyder. Attendance was good each night. Several were saved in the meeting and the church blessed. Doc Methvin, Pastor.

PHELPS, TEXAS.

Evangelist Winston Barker and Neil Ragan recently conducted a good revival at Phelps. Several were saved in the meeting. Jack Shandley, Pastor.

THE STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY

- I. There are such persons as:
1. Trusted servants.
 2. Occupying servants.
 3. Tested servants.
 4. Servants may be advanced.
 5. Servants may be rejected.
 6. Servants may be rewarded.
 7. Servants may be punished.
Matt. 25:14-30.
- II. 1. The importance of giving to God's work. II Cor. 9:6.
2. The extent of giving. II Cor. 9:6; I Cor. 16:2.
 3. The attitude of our giving. II Cor. 9:7.
 4. God's promise to the giver. II Cor. 9:8-15.
 5. Phil. 4:10.
 6. Valuable lesson Paul learned. Phil. 4:11.
 7. Continue to serve in difficult circumstances. Phil. 4:12; I Cor. 4:9-13.
 8. Gain always denotes spirituality. I Tim. 6:6-7.
- III. Possession brings responsibility.
1. Comment:
 - a. Giving is pleasing
 - b. Giving supplies needs of God's servants.
 - c. Giving lets one share in God's work. Giving can be acceptable sacrifice.
 - d. Give and it shall be given unto you. Luke 6:38.
 - e. Freely ye received, freely give. Matt. 10:8.
Edna M. Schultz.

Cling to the whole Bible, not a part of it. A man is not going to do much with a broken sword.
—Moody.

God pity the nation whose factory chimneys rise higher than her church spires.
—John Kelman.

Announcing Youth Camp

Greetings Pastors and Young People, Spring will soon be here, in fact it is just around the corner. The other day I read in the paper that the Ground-hog came out and saw his shadow telling us that there is only six more weeks of winter. There was also another sign attached to the Ground-hog tradition and that was that YOUTH CAMP WILL SOON BE HERE.

We Pastors and Young People of the Panhandle Churches are looking forward to you attending this Youth Camp. We also want You Pastors to know that Counselors are welcome from your church, Older people who have a burden for it, and we need them. Please URGE your Counselors to plan now to attend.

There will be activities in which I know that you will be interested. Besides the Bible instruction which will be every day there will be recreational activities, such as, base ball, volley ball, and Handicraft, Etc.

But there is one thing we all want to do above all, and that is worship the Lord during this encampment. We want to make it a spiritual meeting where we all can be blessed of the Lord together. Therefore there will be evangelistic meetings each evening, with one of our young evangelists in charge.

All that is required for you, when you come, is to bring your own bedding, and your Bible. We are keeping this Camp strictly one on the faith line and trusting God to see us through as He wonderfully did last year. We are asking all the churches, and you, to get behind this Camp and pray and trust God to supply every need. The Lord has never failed yet and surely if we will trust Him, He will not fail us this time. We the Directors are willing to trust God, are You? You can by helping us through your prayers.

The date for this camp is July 14-21, that is eight full days of Youth Camp. Camp will begin the morning of July 14 and last through July 21. This gives us all day Monday, July 13 to gather at the grounds. This will be a week of Camp for all age groups from the age of 10 years and up. So make your plans now to attend this Youth Camp and drop us a card or letter now telling us that you plan to attend. For further information write to any one of the Directors of the Youth Camp.

DIRECTORS

REV. BILL PATTERSON,
GRANBY, MO.
REV. WINSTON BARKER,
BEAVER, OKLA.
REV. JOHN H. WHIPPLE
BALKO, OKLA.

GALILEE FISHERMAN

I can do all things. Phil. 4:4-13

Most of us think of the apostles, as portrayed in Scripture, painting, print and stained glass windows, as stately figures, clad in classic robes. In truth, they more nearly resembled the fishermen of today on the Lake of Galilee, whose few coarse garments were often wet, and who huddled over tiny fires in limestone caves, trying to get warm and dry after a night's toiling. They endured rain and wind-swept waves, and the chill of winter and the torrid heat of summer; and, hardest of all, many a fishless haul.

As day after day I study these unkempt, laborious fishermen, I muse upon the commonplace human material of which Jesus built His church. This is the wonder of His continuing achievements: He takes ordinary lives, with common gifts, and makes them over into saints and heroes.

We confess that there is in ourselves no worthiness, O Father. And we are grateful that Thou dost lift our paltriness up into some semblance of the character of our Saviour and example. Amen.

—Dr. T. W. Ellis.

"LET US"

Gail Schultz
Taneyville, Missouri

These permissive words lead us to many paths of duty and joy. We are not our own but we are bought with a price, even the precious Blood of Jesus, so then, "While it is said, today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation". Heb. 3:15. "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest any of you should seem to come short of it". Heb. 4:1. God has promised — He is faithful but we must be guided by His spirit — prompted by fear so that steadfastly we seek Him until victory is gained. We can have an inward witness and a full assurance and a good conscience in all things pertaining to God and His dealings with us. Our fear is not of dread, but of love, "— having loved His own, He loved them to the end". John 13:1.

"Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief". Heb. 4:11. A christian cannot be idle. They must strive to enter in. They must work for the night is cometh. The harvest is not only ripe but passing so mid raging waves of sin; let us extend the "faith route" and snatch from the "burning" those that we can. Unbelief always has and always will bar any seeker from rewarded results. Sin, sickness, death all lie at the door of unbelief, but faith and praise open wide Heaven's doors. Let us enter in. Let us invite others to join this happy band and be not ashamed but come boldly in prayer for none of us want to come short of His glory.

Thus having gained victory, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16. We are not conformed, but transformed. The

world loses its charm and we see its folly when in tune with Christ. There is too much worldliness in many redeemed hearts today. They need to "come apart," "come out" and completely lean on Jesus. We are to go to Him in time of trouble. He is our rock and our salvation. Let us prove our God and His tender mercy will outweigh every trial and temptation. He has said, "... be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. Again we read, "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession". Heb. 4:14. Jesus the Son of God, tempted in all manner as we are, yet without sin, now is our advocate at the right hand of the Father. He knows — He cares — He hears — He answers, O praise His holy name. Since we by faith have defeated doubt, and learned the benefits of salvation, let us hold this profession as a sacred trust, as just stewards. No, I am not weary in well doing because my reward in Christ is sure. All the gospel is good and none to be refused or rejected. Twenty-five years of service to Him has proven to me that He will never fail. Standing on His promises I can shout "Amen to His will and wish."

Now we take a step further. "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection." Heb. 6:1 (in part). Doctrine is necessary. Without it we have no foundation. Jesus said, "My doctrine is not mine, but His that sent me." John 7:16. However, we cannot stress only this part of the gospel, but let us go on to perfection. Many stay by the shallow waters of lean experiences but there is a place where the healing waters flow and joy and peace gives rest complete. Weary one, try a sanctified life, or better still, a Spirit filled blessing. Acts 2:4 is still real today. Yes, let us go on all the way with Him. It pays to serve Jesus.

Passing a few chapters of the Hebrews to Heb. 10:22 these words are recorded, "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." When our heart is true to our profession, to our christian vows, and to our church, it is easier to draw near. Broken vows and walking behind light will only blind and harm. We then offend others and, in a trap well set by Satan, seek our own hurtful lust. Let us awake — let us be true. Heaven is cheap at any price. Even in death God considers our righteousness. Isa. 57:1. But the wicked have no peace. Isa 57:21. Let us consider God's ways. They are best. Have you tried living a selfish life — then stop and, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering (Heb. 10:23) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Heb. 10-24. Another version reads, Let us vie with one another in a rivalry of love and noble actions. We at times bear our own burdens, Gal. 6:5, but we too must bear one another's burdens. Gal. 6:2. We are the church. Christ is the head. We are many members and together contend for the faith once delivered. Let us love one another — let us walk in the light—and let us stir up a deep-seated christian love one for the other. A nation is a group of people bound together by common heritages of the past and hopes for the future. So we as christians are a nation.

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us . . ." Heb. 12:1. Hebrews 11 is known as the faith chapter and calls to our attention a host that won by faith — so with these witnesses let us set or lay aside every hindering cause so that all bondage is gone and we have a free

cause in Jesus. He knows the way for He is the way. The sin of unbelief or any sin can become a dealing weight and we lose our cause. It is often said, "I would rather see a sermon as hear one any day", so live the life and your victory is won. The rest of Heb. 12:1 relates, "... and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith."

Yes, we are sure to win, by looking to Jesus, and in patience forbearance. The race is set, and we know our goal, so must we continue unto the end. We must not grow weary in our minds but consider Jesus. He endured the shame of the cross and paid the full price for our eternal redemption. We are to wait on the Lord, know His time, His place, and His purpose. Surely the Lord is our helper and we need not fear. We are going on toward God and heaven and home. His peace abides and with confidence we now run this Christian race. "Wherefore we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For God is a consuming fire." Heb. 12: 28-29.

The kingdom is great; let us have grace — great grace — standing grace — abundant grace, all of these and more are mentioned in the Bible. If we fail it is simply because we do not want to take a humble road. We must have reverence for God — His word — His house — His people and His ministers. God consuming fire burns out all the sin and dross and leaves tried gold, pure silver, and precious stones. Let us be submissive to His will so that we may be a part of that coming kingdom wherein Jesus will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus suffered without the gate for our sanctification so, "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the

camp, bearing His reproach." Heb. 13:13. Too many seek an easy way; modern methods of soul winning often stress faith, which is proper, but nothing is said of consecrating or holy living. To say, good-bye, old world, I'm done with you, means that only the few will travel so. Yet Jesus went alone without the gate of Jerusalem. May we, too, go alone that His riches may abide on our lives. There is a reproach for holy living. If you don't feel it, be careful, for too often the world creeps in and her laughter drowns out real spirituality. "... be ye holy: for I am the Lord your God." Lev. 20:7. "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name." Heb. 13: 15.

All these things we have considered diligently, now let us testify in private and public that our God does all things well. Give Him praise, be overcomers by the word of your testimony and the Blood of the Lamb. Many have lost the victory because they are not offering the fruit of their lips unto God. Let us thank God for life and health and every good and perfect gift. O praise Him for this better full gospel way that He has given me to travel. Let us follow on to know the Lord in all His fullness.

THE BRIDE CLASS

(Continued from page 7)

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 held 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 or 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.

THE NEED FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS

(Continued from page 9)

the land of Lebanon, which is a part of the Arab world, is still wide open to the gospel. God, in a providential way, has kept the doors of Lebanon opened. Her government is a Christian government. In fact, her laws state that only a Christian can be elected as president of the Republic. What a challenge for the church of Christ! If the true and faithful ones will rise up and meet the challenge and re-

spond to this wonderful opportunity to proclaim the gospel in this open harvest field, as God may lead and undertake, the dark situation can easily be changed. If we fail, we can only expect tragedy and chaos. But we who name the name of Christ and who are filled with the Holy Spirit need not fail. We can stand in the gap and prevent the powers of darkness from completely overrunning this part of the world. This is the calling of every follower of Christ — to evangelize the world. If we fail in this part of the world, we shall not only be guilty of neglecting the great commission, but we shall find ourselves reaping the results. As the seventh century Christian church failed and reaped the curse of Islam, the twentieth century Christian church will also reap tragic results if it fails in this needy hour.

I would like to mention again, that there is real hope in the land of Lebanon. She has something like one hundred thousand Armenians settled within her borders. These Armenians are spiritually inclined at heart. They are a persecuted people. As a nation they have suffered at the hands of ruthless aggressors, being subject to the wrath and destruction of overrunning armies throughout the entire history of their nation. Today, they have no nation. Their lands are now in the hands of the Turks and Russians. In 1916 over one million Armenians suffered death by the sword of the Turks. Many were forced to flee their homes and lands. Thousands of these persecuted ones are now settled in the land of Lebanon. I personally believe that the hope of evangelism in the Near East is among these persecuted Armenians. I find that they are very receptive to the gospel. Some believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are enjoying the gift of His saving grace. Yes, I see the possibility of a real spiritual awakening among these

people. Oh, how I pray that God will raise up true and faithful, spirit-filled Christians to come into this needy land and be instruments in the hand of God for the evangelization of these people. I myself, as God has called me by His grace, am determined to stand in the gap for this land. My watch words shall be **faithfulness, sacrifice, love**, and by the grace of God, through fervent prayers and waiting upon Him by the power of His Holy Spirit, I know that He will begin a work there. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me". Will you pray for the land of Lebanon? Will you give your life a living sacrifice for the land of Lebanon if God speaks to your heart? "Come over into Lebanon and help us!"

CONVOCATION A BLESSING

Brookshire Times gave the following account of the Convocation in Katy, Texas.

The Apostolic Faith Convocation which was held in Katy from December 26-December 31 was well attended, the following states being represented: Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, and Texas. There was one foreign country represented, Mr. Stephen Abraham of India being present. Young Mr. Abraham came to America last fall and will be with the Apostolic Faith Bible School in Baxter Springs, Kansas.

During the five days of the Convocation 53 ministers were present, and approximately 350 laymembers attended besides the local congregations. It was estimated that approximately 3200 meals were served at the cafeteria.

Mrs. T. B. Tucker donated the use of her new Hammond organ for the choir service, which added greatly to the singing. Miss Euteva Coberly of Lubbock, Texas, played the organ, and Mrs. Wilbur Fullbright of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. Carolina, played

the piano. The 60 voice choir was directed by Rev. Donald Dibbens of Hempstead, Texas.

The committee in charge of the Convocation was Floyd Lamunyon of Katy; O. A. Busch of Katy and Donald Dibbens of Hempstead.

PROBLEMS OF A CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY IN INDIA

(Continued from page 5)

good many people to die. Poverty means not only lack of food but also of clothing and dwelling place. Many will not have one change of clothes or a place of shelter. As a visitor walks by night down the streets of some of the cities, he will be shocked to see large numbers of people sleeping on the pavement. Orphanages, Homes for the poor and the destitute, these are needed in the various parts of the country. Missionaries have done much for the help of the people but it is as a mere drop in the bucket, in that vast land. Many times those converted from other religions will be cast out from their homes and they give up everything for the cause of Christ. It is the duty of the missionaries to take care of them and support them. Along with the Spiritual food India needs material food too.

Another problem the missionaries have to face is the illiterate condition of the people. Poverty and lack of means help this condition to continue. Only less than 15 per cent of the total population can read and write. Women took a prominent part in the adult literacy movement in India. Many of them organized classes and in other ways sought to stimulate a desire for learning among the poor and ignorant. Missionaries too are doing much along this line and due to their untiring enterprise about 30 per cent of the Christians are literate. Spiritual and literal education should be given to the people at the same time.

By starting free schools and Bible schools we can successfully carry on the work along this line.

Though India has her own customs and civilization, they are below par from the western point of view. In the villages you see houses made of sun-dried bricks and also straw-thatched huts constructed of bamboo matting. Very seldom do metalled roads lead to the heart of the countryside and in many places you will see the modern conveniences. Social and welfare work is essential in many places. Though social service societies and other groups work hard for the public health, it is obvious that much remains to be done. The poor and illiterate cling stubbornly to old customs, habits, and ways of life, unless visible results are produced to persuade them that the new methods are better. In the line of sanitation work, modern means and conveniences of life, the missionaries can do much for the uplift of the people.

As in many countries, another important problem the missionaries have to face is communism. In some sections of the country it is spreading fast and wide, especially as the people are poor and are attracted to its fold because of the promise of livelihood made to them. In some of the far eastern countries like China the communistic power has done much harm to the missionary work. If communism comes into power in India — God forbid — the same will be the fate of the Christian missionary work there.

It is true that in the gospel fields we will have to face many problems. Persecutions, trials and difficulties may seem to overwhelm us. But let us not be disheartened for the Master has said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Nationally there is no persecution. But other religionists persecute the Christians. In some places even Catholics and nominal Christians persecute true Christians. The

tracts you give out may be torn to pieces and thrown right into your face; doors may be closed against you; you may be beaten or kicked when preaching in the streets or conducting prayer meetings in some house. Yet those who have the power of God within them face these situations boldly and the Almighty God carries them through. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Timothy 2:3). "But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of the ministry" 11 Timothy 4:5).

Though we have to face such problems in our efforts for the Lord, let me say that there is an open door for you in India for the Lord's work. While in many of the middle east and far east countries the doors are closed against missionaries and missionary work, in India the doors are still open. The constitution of India grants us full freedom of religion and worship. Also let me here quote some statements made by the leading men of our country. Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation, in answer to the question asked him about the position of missionaries in India, said, "If missionaries come to preach Christ they will have no place, but if they come to live Christ they have their place in India". Our Prime Minister, the Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's words are really encouraging to the missionaries. He said, "We will welcome anyone who throws himself into the life of the people and makes India his home". The late Sardar Vallabhai Patel, while he was the Deputy Prime Minister made the following statement. "Let the missionaries go on as they have been doing, alleviating the suffering, educating the poor and ignorant. Let them serve in this selfless way. They can even continue their Christian propaganda in a peaceful manner; but let them not use mass conversions for political ends". Mr. Abdul Kalam Azad, the minister for education, said,

'There is no question at issue with the missionaries except in one place; the use of conversion to bring the masses into the fold without any apparent moral and spiritual change. This creates suspicion as to motives. We have no question about the right of the individual to change where there is involved an inner change. That right is inherent and unassailable. Do not use the word tolerate. There is no question of your being tolerated, missionaries. You will be welcomed and with gratitude for your selfless service".

What India needs today is young missionaries who are ready to serve the multitude. Remember, we are saved to serve. There is a crying need throughout the world for the gospel, and the great commission given to us pertains to a world-wide evangelism. Do not be under the impression that missionary work is optional. It is the commandment of our Saviour and each Christian has a great responsibility in this field. Hence, it is not optional; on the other hand it is compulsory. God has blessed us spiritually and materially and it is our duty to use the talents He has bestowed upon us for His glory. Let us have a vision reaching beyond our borders, and see the vastness of the work before us. May the Almighty God strengthen us to face with courage the many problems that may be in our way, and work and suffer for the cause of our Master and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

What if nobody gave,
And nobody cared,
And to help and to save
There were no one who
shared?

What if nobody heard
Grim necessity's call,
And nobody stirred
To answer at all?
Should nobody care
This of all could be said:
Having so much to share
We, the living, were dead.

—Edgar Guest.



Twentieth Century Home

It was 165 years ago, that a publication first appeared, which for today is often referred to as "the book which everyone intends to read, but never does." This is that monumental epic by Edward Gibbon, *THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE*.

You probably say, "Why call attention to that? What have we in this 20th century to do with old Rome?"

The answer is, "Much in every stabbing, serious way!" For in more ways than we dare realize, we are fast on the downward way of becoming the 20th century Rome!

In his writing, Gibbon sets forth five primary reasons, or causes, for the catastrophic end of this great empire. I shall set forth these reasons, without comment. But I shall set them forth with a prediction. I shall say that, as you read these reasons, you will not see the old Rome as all, but feel them to be an amazing and accurate analysis of our land today. Here are sharp, flaming arrows directed to the very heart of America!

1. The rapid increase of divorce and the undermining of the sanctity of the home.
2. The spiraling rise of higher taxes and the spending of public money for free bread and circuses.
3. The mad craze for pleasure and the brutalizing of sports in every imaginable manner.
4. The building of gigantic armaments and the failure to realize that the real enemy lay within the gates in the moral decay of the people.
5. The decay of religion and the fading of faith into mere form, becoming too impotent to serve as a guide to the people.

If this is applied to our country, then earnest prayer for revival, restoration and recovery is certainly needed.

Who can tell? perhaps even now, in this mad, late hour, we may avoid becoming the "full bloom" of a 20th century Rome, and spare another Gibbon the task of chronicling our decline and fall.

—Edwin Raymond Anderson.