

THE
Apostolic Faith
REPORT

Volume 1

JUNE 1955

Number 8

*The Great
Artist . . .*

We've heard of our Lord as the Saviour of men,
Who died on the rugged old tree.
Who gave up His glory with God on His Throne
To ransom a sinner like me.

He's the Sweet Rose of Sharon, The Bright
Morning Star,
The Lily that bloomed in the vale.
He's our Great Physician, Redeemer, and Friend,
With a friendship that never shall fail.

In each of these names a great picture I see,
But there's one more I'd like to portray.
It is that of an Artist, with hand true and strong,
Who's painting our lives every day.

He takes for His canvas some life He has found;
Though dirty and stained it may be.
He washes it white in His own precious blood,
From every sin stain made free.

The colors He'll use are not all of bright hue;
For sorrow oft darkens our way.
Then let us not doubt the Saviour's great love
When He turns from the gold to the grey.

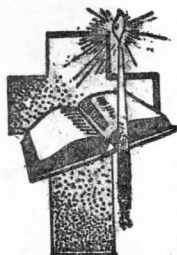
Shrink not away when the Artist shall turn
To the dull hues that shadow our years,
For the fruit of our lives will be sweeter by far
If we've watered our prayers with our tears.

Sunshine alone, just a desert will make,
For clouds bring the showers of rain.
So barren indeed is the life of a man
Who's heart has never felt pain.

As the clouds in the sky catch the last rays
of sun,
Reflecting a beauty untold.
So the light of God's love, 'gainst the trials of
our lives
Will change those dark shades to bright Gold.

So faint not, but stand to your hour of trial
Until Angels shall come to your aid.
And when the Great Artist has said, "Tis
enough."
You'll be glad for the painting He's made.

By Edna M. Schultz



SERMON OF THE MONTH

Challenge and Response

By James W. Brooks

There was a time when man felt secure in his abode of life, as he lived happily back among the hills and valleys on the face of a great earth. He restrained himself from the affairs of others, referenced those above him, and enjoyed life in its fullness. But as his kindred and population expanded, as his knowledge increased, and as he applied that knowledge, there arose a situation that confronted him. This situation has continued from the dawn of early history, and could be called Challenge and Response. He had to meet these requirements, either by challenging or answering the challenge. He could overcome by becoming aggressive, or he could become dormant by being retrogressive. Either he went out and conquered or checked the challenger, or he fell captive and slave of his oppressor.

This very same principle may be applied to a spiritual life. If a Christian does not meet the challenger or oppressor of his soul, who is, Satan, and check his course, he becomes captive and slave of his pleasure. To meet this challenger, he must become as an instrument in the hands of another. One alone is not able, but He that worketh through him is mightier, full of power and glory, able to conquer all enemies.

This same principle may be applied to true Christianity. That is, the true church of our Lord Jesus Christ is facing the modern, formal, false professing church world of today. When I say that this principle may be applied, I mean that true Christianity or the true church is facing severe problems; such as, trials, testings, provings from a generation of unbelievers, fanatics, infidels, sceptics, critics, atheists, and modern day philosophy. We must meet this situation or challenge individually and make it our captive, or we shall fall in its snare and become its captive.

As we know the scriptures, the

true church taken as a whole, will not accomplish or respond to this, but we as individuals must be aware that such a false church will steal our experience in the Lord. On the other hand, we see another condition. We find on one hand the formalistic church, and on the other hand, we see a church of wild-fire and fanaticism.

According to Joel 1:4, there is a vivid portrayal of the early Apostolic church in its condition of being brought to naught by outside forces. Also, according to Joel 2:25, is the picture of the same church being restored and brought back into its original state and exercising the power as is in the very beginning. This church, which I believe to be the true church of the Lord, will be in full power and glory, being manifested in these last days. It will not be outstanding to the world. The world in general will not recognize the true church, but will have its eyes filled with a false, apostate, blasphemous church of which will in the end give its power and authority unto the anti-christ.

I would like to give you a vivid word picture relating to the story of the church from the time of Christ up to the present time. Many people today haven't any idea as from where the church came. They know nothing about its early history or its course through the years. These facts will be brief and intended to help you to know and understand something about the challenge and response of the church as it grew and spread into the world. This sketch was prepared over a period of several weeks of research and study, and is not complete entirely.

Generally, when we think of church history, we divide it into three divisions: the Roman Empire period; the Medieval period; and the modern period. But I would like to look at it in this respect, as though looking at the evening, midnight, cock-crowing, and morning watches, each being about 500 years, and be-

ginning at the time of Christ as the evening watch.

As Christ walked and taught upon the face of the earth, He went about saving the lost souls, healing the sick, helping the weak and poor, and made the pattern of a true life lived in righteousness. When His time was fulfilled, after being crucified, buried, and resurrected, He ascended unto His Father, leaving this promise that the apostles and followers should wait and tarry at Jerusalem until they received "The Comforter," or they were endued with power from on high. They had not one thought that the bounds of the church would reach outside of Judaism. But after the Holy Ghost fell, their ambitions and views soon became widened and they sought the conversion of the whole world. (Mark 16:15-18) With Peter and Paul at the leadership, the church soon spread throughout other countries and areas. Thus, not only Jews knew of salvation through Jesus Christ, but gentiles as well. Many outstanding events took place and the church grew in number during the time of this outpouring.

Up to this point, there had been no real persecutions, but soon different followers and apostles were martyred, the first being Stephen. The first important period of persecution, A. D. 65-68, is that in which Nero was emperor. He turned upon the Christians with death and tortures, and thousands met martyrdom. Among these were Peter, who was crucified in 67 A. D., and Paul, who was beheaded in 68 A. D. (These dates and all dates throughout this sketch are approximate.)

In 70 A. D., Jerusalem was destroyed by the Roman army under Titus, and a great change was made in relation to the Christians and Jews. It is interesting to note here that in the fall of Jerusalem, few if any Christians perished. They, having received earlier warning, fled to a place called Pella, in the Jordan Valley. The Jews were put to death by the thousands and others were enslaved. The result in the fall of Jerusalem is that it brought about the separation of Judaism and Christianity forever. Up to this time, the church had been only regarded by the Roman Government as a branch of the Jewish religion.

The second imperial persecution,

A. D. 90-96, came under the rule of Domitian and thousands were slain about Rome and Italy, but not throughout the empire. John the last of the apostles, was banished to the isle of Patmos about this time, where he wrote the book of Revelation. With his death, ended the period known as "The Period of the Apostolic Church."

The next period of time is called the period of "The Persecuted Church." We will deal and state the causes of the persecutions. The first cause of the persecutions was: heathen worship was allowed in every city and when the Christians didn't place a statue of Christ up as other people placed their gods, they were looked upon with scorn; second, idol worship was in every home, and when the Christian didn't take part, they were regarded as unsociable; third, emperor worship was a test of loyalty, and when the Christians didn't participate, they were considered as disloyal; fourth, the Christians didn't have any laws of protection as they did when connected and under Judaism; fifth, the Christians met secretly and caused suspicion and the government was against "secret societies"; sixth, Christianity places every man equal and the government liked nobles and the ruling classes. These were the main reasons for the persecutions.

"The Persecuted Church," A. D. 98-305, covered about 207 years, under various emperors, all of which persecuted the Christians either moderately or harshly. Persecutions became more or less a sport. The Christians were hunted in caves, forests, they were burned, and received every conceivable manner of torture.

The next period will be that of "The Imperial Church," A. D. 313-476. Up to now, Christianity was absolutely outlawed, and its followers met tortures and death. But now the church entered a period of great supremacy.

Constantine held the imperial crown and he recognized Christianity as the state religion and passed the law in 324 A. D. He ordered churches to be built, Bibles written, and made Sunday the day of the Christians gathering together. He gave Christian soldiers freedom to attend services and a rest day was

proclaimed to the slaves. But the most glaring mistake of all is that he made church membership compulsory. This brought in the spirit of the military might. The church had completely changed in its purpose and had become Constantine's political organization. Thus, a worldly church filled with unregenerated people resulted, idol worship came in, and everybody sought membership. Meanwhile, Constantine changed the capital from Rome to Constantinople, and soon the Roman Empire was divided.

As the result of the Roman Empire being divided, the church was also divided. Barbarian people began to invade the empire and Christianity soon spread throughout the heathen peoples of the north. The division of the church is considered to be of some importance. Consider the Eastern Church first. History records that this church was very strict in its doctrine. Different points were strongly stressed, thereby leaving others unstressed. Soon conflicts arose in this Eastern Church between opinions of the doctrine. Thus, the result was that "the letter" destroyed, and the church became dead, spiritually. There was no spiritual fruits of doctrine.

The Western Church, or the church around Rome, was a bit different to that in the East. It was a church that was filled with traditions, pagan ideas, and forms of the earlier years. Its ordinances were kept and the people lived strictly and accordingly by these. So the contrast between these two churches can easily be seen. The Eastern Church had doctrine and no works, and the Western Roman Empire and church were overwhelmed by the barbarian people of Europe in 476 A. D. I would like to consider this date as the end of the evening watch. Although many of these people became Christians when they invaded the empire, they had not defeated the empire in reality, but the church in its purpose of that day had conquered these heathen people.

The power of the monks and monasteries had great opportunity after the fall of Western Rome. It had freedom to spread out in other heathen lands. Thus, out of the ruins of the Western Empire arose the Papal Empire, and Rome still ruled

the world for a thousand years.

The progress of the papacy grew rapidly because there were not any real forces of resistance and also because the pope claimed to have legal papers to the thrones when in reality they were just forged documents. The church began to worship idols and images and grew to be very corrupt.

About 570 A. D., there was a certain man born in Arabia, and he grew up to be well known. His name was Mohammed. Mohammed saw the corruption of the church or papal empire and sought to bring about some reforming. This did not work, so he decided to do otherwise. Becoming a warrior, he united some Arab tribes and set out to conquer the fallen church he had conceived the wrong plan to bring it about. The doctrine of Mohammed is simple. The articles of the doctrine are: That there is one God, whom they call Allah; that all things were foreordained by God; that the revelation of the Koran were a series of messages to Mohammed sent by the angel Gabriel; that God sent Christ just as an inspired prophet; that there will be a final resurrection, judgment, and heaven or hell for every man.

Mohammedanism spread very rapidly and within a short time the whole of Western Asia and North Africa were overwhelmed. Nearly all of this vast empire was gained within a hundred years after Mohammed's death.

As Mohammedanism began to sweep over Western Europe, Charles Martel rallied against it and won a decisive Battle at Tours, France, in 732 A. D. History records that, if this battle had not been won, Christianity might have been completely wiped out.

Soon the "Holy Roman Empire" under the leadership of Charlemagne became established. He set up again the old Roman empire and worked with the popes to establish the papacy. It was soon filled again with vice, crime, murder and degradation.

About 1095 A. D. began the first crusades of the church to regain the "Holy Land," and to free it from Mohammedan control. The first crusade was successful, but control didn't last long. After six more at-

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The Apostolic Faith Report

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From My Viewpoint

(EDITORIAL)

By Gail Schultz

Greetings to you in the name of our perfect Redeemer. Here we are in our home at Taneyville, Missouri after many weeks of absence and thousands of miles of travel. It all seems good and so quiet, peaceful and restful here.

Perhaps it is because of the season, but at any rate I am thinking of the children; this is their time in that it is Daily Vacation Bible School time. The great Master and Teacher of all of us reserved a place for children when He said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 19:14. Jesus also taught that we should all be humble as a little child. Matt. 18:1-6. Except ye be converted, and become as little children — and whosoever shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. Of the words of the Lord, we are commanded to teach the children. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children." Deut. 6:7. All are aware of the

advice of the wisest of writers, "Train up a child in the way that he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." We must teach them, correct them, and help them for we are informed that, "a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Prov. 29:15.

The wave of sin is strong. Law may curb some, but the heart must be instructed and changed. The home must help for there an example is set and a standard given. Blessed is the child who has been placed with the care of religious teaching. Happy is the church that has a Daily Vacation Bible School. Parents place your children there for guidance and when they want to make a decision to follow Christ, encourage them. Isa. 11:6 states that "a little child shall lead them." How true it is.

Of Timothy it was stated, "From a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." The mind of a child is alive and active and able to grasp quickly. They will learn of sin or goodness. They can be instructed in the holy Bible or given only carnal knowledge. May each church put forth an effort to reach the children, by knowledge, that is of His Word, and then with a real experience of salvation. Salvation brings joy and hope to the heart of a child as well as to the older people and the power of prayer is very impressive at this tender age. Faith is real and grows rapidly in the soul of the young. So let's go — let's plan, pray and push for a bigger and greater Daily Vacation Bible School in every church.

I wish you could all see the Ozarks now; they are streaming with beauty. The hills are rolling in green and color is in every flower. Surely the Lord was good to so clothe the earth. We all need to praise Him for His wonderful works to the children of men. We are glad to be with you again in June and hope to be with you again in July. Pray for us and for the Apostolic Faith Report. It is growing some all the time. Pray for us that our faith fails not, but that we can see more people reached with a better message every month. God bless you mightily to His glory.

Congratulations To The Graduates

Congratulations to the many graduates of all schools as you come forth. You have reached a new goal. You have planted with yourself something of lasting worth. Take time out to thank God for the opportunity that has come your way. May God add many blessings to you all along life's way.

JUST A MINUTE — Be sure to include in your future plans a term of School at the Apostolic Faith Bible School, Baxter Springs, Kans. Next term will begin in January of 56.

PURCELL, MO.—

A revival is now in progress by Brother and Sister Charles Mahan. Surely the word is going forth and that word will not fail. Brother and Sister Mahan had a nice stay with the Ganado, church (Texas) while Brother and Sister Otto Busch were in Stockton, Calif., in a revival. Brother and Sister Elmer Miller are the Purcell pastors.

QUITMAN, MISS.—

The Lord is blessing the labors of Brother and Sister Leon Smith. They are enjoying the blessings of a Daily Vacation Bible School conducted by Sister Roy Townsend and Sister James Benard. The church is also praying for a revival. Such prayers will not go unanswered.

PUERTO RICO—

Brother and Sister Elmo Gregory report that they receive the Apostolic Faith Report and are glad for this connecting link with the home folk. Brother Gregory is stationed in Puerto Rico in the air force.

LeROY, KANSAS—

The church there is enjoying the blessings of the Lord. At the present, they are endeavoring to purchase a parsonage, and desire the prayers and interest of the Movement that the will of the Lord might be accomplished in that place. Rev. and Mrs. V. E. Blythe, pastors.

"A Study In Values"

By Mrs. Wililam J. May

Happy is the man who has developed the true sense of values, an enlightened conscience and the Spirit of God working through the Scriptures to guide him. He is strong in battle between righteousness and wrong, between uprightness and wickedness, and in conflict there is never a moment of truce between virtue and vice. He weighs every action, every decision, every moral problem of life.

Riches — Righteousness. We may say "money talks" but too often it uses a language that should not be used in public. Money is a universal passport to every place except heaven, and is a universal provider of everything except happiness. To teach a child to work to acquire wealth that it is the only thing worth while is a kind of success that has nothing to do either with usefulness or happiness. The person who lives for money never gets enough. He blames this lack for his unhappiness when the real reason is that he had the wrong goal set before him. Money can buy a ticket to any desired destination but it cannot buy the preception to enjoy the place it takes you to. Money can buy houses, furniture and food but it cannot buy true friends to adorn and justify the surroundings. Money will buy good medical advice but it cannot secure health. Many good things may be had without money—even a good college education may be had by working for it. Jesus said "My Father worketh . . . and I work." (John 5:17). The best things in life cannot be bought. They come as a result of wise use of God's gifts to us. Money and time are said to be the heaviest burdens of life, and the unhappiest of all mortals are those who have more of either than they know how to use.

Giving — Withholding. A man may be wealthy and still not rich toward God; he may be poor and have great treasures invested above. An old Jewish proverb says, "What you give for the cause of charity in health is gold; what you give in sickness is silver; what you have after death is lead." To hoard money does not protect it, death always

has a key to the safe. God is a Great Giver. He gave life; He gave the world; He gave His Son to redeem the world. "Every Good Gift and every Perfect Gift is from above." (James 1:17).

Joy — Sorrow. Note the inducements to a right and holy life: treasure in the house; answered prayer; the love of God; a cheerful heart; a contented mind. These are some of the by-products and experiences of a life "hid with Christ in God." (Col. 3:3) The prophet Isaiah described the Messiah as "A man of sorrows," "acquainted with grief" (Isaiah 53:3). This definitely linked Him with humanity, for man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward" (Job 5:7). Man is born in pain, reared in danger, faced with loss and confronted at the end with death. God has seen fit to set over against the sorrows of life a joy which He alone can give. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5).

There are three essential requirements for happiness: something to do; something to love; and something to hope for. There is a divine provision for each, raised to the highest plane. The love of Christ constrains us; He sets us at work about His business; at the end there is the reward of the righteous, eternal life. It is common observation that the happiest people are also the busiest.

Knowing — Doing. What is your aim in life? Is it merely the acquisition of knowledge and wealth, the serving of selfish purpose; or is it doing the will of God and the serving of others? There is a strong relationship between knowing and doing. "Even a child is known by his doings." We must have a hearing ear and a seeing eye. What the ear listens to and what the eye rests upon should be right and pleasing to God. God's eye rests upon the transactions of the bank, the office, the ledger, and the weights in the store. No lapse from perfect honesty escapes His notice and for every act of deception there is an inevitable retribution. Many dwell on the fallacy of words, which do not find their outlet in action. Certainly an acre of performance is worth a whole land of promise. It is said a dog is man's best friend, yet the dog

expresses his devotion by deeds alone. Too many people by dreaming of tomorrow, regretting yesterday have little time left for doing anything today.

It is not enough to see ourselves reflected in the mirror of God's Word. Holy impressions are only made permanent by translating them into Christian living. "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only" James 1:19-27. Many think blessedness results from hearing only, therefore make the round of all religious meetings. This is not the way of true blessedness as this must accrue from doing. The right kind of works must be grounded in true Christian faith and performed through the indwelling Christ by the Holy Spirit.

"A lovely deed was in my heart,
I never set it free,
It died from lack of exercise
And made its tomb in me."

Reputation — Gold. A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches . . . (Prov. 22:1.) A good name means reputation and reputation is related to character. Character is what we are and reputation is what people think we are. At the close of the Civil War, General Robert E. Lee was approached and offered the presidency of an infamous Louisiana Lottery company, Lee was without position, property, or income, but regarded this offer as the gain of oppression. He did not know the business, did not care to learn it so he modestly declined the proposition, even though the salary was \$25,000.00 a year. Lee arose, buttoned his old gray coat over his manly breast and replied: "Gentlemen, my home at Arlington is gone, I am a poor man and my people are in need. My name and influence are all I have left and they are not for sale at any price." "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36) In estimating values it should be remembered that it is more important to make a good life than to make a good living.

This world seems to be a world of toil and ease, of work and idleness, comfort and security. Yet, during the week of His Crucifixion, He talked to His disciples about:

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SERMON OF THE MONTH— CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE

(Continued from page 3)

tempts, the objective was given up, but these crusades increased the power of the church greatly. Monks and monasteries spread out and missions were established. Education became of great importance, and art, literature, agriculture were greatly advanced in this region.

About the beginning of the 12th century, "true religious light" began to spread and that began the shadow of the reformation. The most outstanding person in the move of the reformation, that is, in the early part of the reformation, was John Wycliff. He began a movement in England for freedom from the Roman power and church. In 1380 A. D. he translated the New Testament into the English language. In Bohemia, another fearless preacher known as John Huss, followed Wycliff in proclaiming freedom from papal authority.

The fall of Constantinople in 1453 A. D. marks the end of the "Medieval Church." The Mohammedans had taken province after province until the Greek Empire finally collapsed. The crusades could not recover Constantinople in 1204. But the Turks, under Mohammed the Second, finally took the city in 1453 A. D.

This brings us to the end of the midnight watch.

The next period which is of tremendous importance that arrests our attention is that period of the Reformation, resulting in the establishment of national churches owing no allegiance to Rome. There are some remarkable forces that led to such a Reformation and greatly furthered its progress.

The first force was known as the movement of the Renaissance. This move awakened Europe to a new interest in literature, art and science. Before this time, interest was only in religious truth, mostly by the churchmen. But now it turned to classic literature, Greek and Latin, to art, and brought about the first gleams of Modern science. This was accomplished mostly by the laymen.

In Italy the movement was not so much a religious move but a literary movement. Whereas, in the

North, in Germany, England, and France, the movement was more religious, awakening a new search for the true foundations of faith apart from the Dogmas of Rome. Everywhere, North and South alike, the Renaissance undermined the Roman Catholic Church.

The invention of printing by Gutenberg in 1455 became a very close ally with the Renaissance. The first book printed by Gutenberg was the Bible, and this led to the translation and circulation in all the languages of Europe. While the awakening spirit of reform and independence submerged on Europe, the first flame burst forth from Germany, led by a monk and professor, Martin Luther.

Martin Luther saw the deceitfulness of the pope and priesthood when a Sale of Indulgence started because of money needed for the building of St. Peter's Church at Rome. He rallied or met this challenge by issuing 95 theses in 1517. The church responded backed with his excommunication, but Luther met this with defiance. Soon the Diet of Worms was issued, and as he stood before the council in 1521, he proclaimed that he would retract nothing. Later he was seized and kept in hiding for his safety for about a year. During this hiding, he translated the New Testament into the German tongue. Luther's followers became known as Protestants. In Martin Luther's studies of the scriptures, his attention was arrested upon the first chapter of Romans. In his conclusion, there arose one of the first steps or essentials in establishing true Christianity. "The Just Shall Live By Faith." (Rom. 1:17).

From the Reformation arose the "Puritan Movement" out of the Church of England. In the first half of the 18th century, the churches in England, both established and dissenting, fell to a state of formalism, cold, and lacked moral power over the population. Then a flame of awakening stirred England, led by John and Charles Wesley and George Whitefield. The most prominent leader was John Wesley. He started a movement which became known as Methodist in the U. S., after the American Revolution in 1784. His movement awakened the Christian to life, and he taught "the

witness of the Spirit." His aim was at a clean and holy life. Thus, Wesley gave the next step or essential to Christianity, Sanctification, and Holiness of life.

This ends the cockcrowing watch.

For the next few decades, different bodies and organizations sprang up in America. America became known unto other nations as being Christian. The early church in America sought unity and fellowship among all brethren. It sought to bring Christianity not only to the realms of individualism, but to impart the spirit of the gospel into life in every department. The aim was directed to "Christianize the social order."

About the beginning of the 20th century, there was a certain individual who was educated at Cheney and Winfield, Kansas, that became an outstanding instrument in the hands of God Almighty. He was Charles F. Parham, and he had established a Bible school in Topeka, Kansas, known as the Bethel Bible School. He believed in divine healing and was healed of God, being a cripple. As the students at the Bible School became interested in the New Testament scriptures, they found to be an experience of speaking in tongues, which was the witness of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. They had received the anointing of the Holy Ghost already, but didn't have the witness of speaking in tongues. They began to tarry and wait before God for such an experience, and on Jan. 1, 1901, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost fell upon them as tongues of fire, and they began to speak in cloven tongues. Soon the news began to spread from Kansas, to Texas, Iowa, and different sections of the country and now knowledge of the experience has gone out into all the world.

A large group began to minister and preach the experience of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other languages. Then fanaticism began to creep into the work at some places, especially in Iowa, and that hindered to an extent.

Charles F. Parham began and was the founder of the "Apostolic Faith Movement." It wasn't intended to be an organization at all, but had attained the name from the expres-

sion of faith in action, or moving faith as of the early Apostles.

Different denominations and organizations were established and were called Pentecostal movements or organizations.

From the dawns of the 20th century came another experience essential for the Christian to reach a higher and deeper life of righteousness, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. We are now living in the early hours of the morning watch today.

As one would visualize the church world of today, he would have to drop his head in shame at the conditions that exist. One side of the church is dead in formalism, social clubs, and irreverence to God. Then the other side, the church is filled with fanaticism, slackness of doctrine, unstable ways, full of mockery, and a counterfeiting of true worship and work of God. But I see the hope of a glorious church being restored, as was in the early days of the Apostles, Joel 2:25, a church that is going to be full of power and works of the Spirit, in true harmony with the plan of God. It will be taken from the world or worldly church as proclaimed in Rev. 18:4-8.

The false church that has relentlessly persecuted the saints of the living God from the very beginning will be destroyed by the antichrist and the ten kings when he demands worship of all men. (Rev. 17:16-18; 13:8; II Thess. 2:4.)

Behold the true church is to become the Bride of Christ, ruling and reigning with Him, and the joys of the Lord will be complete. (Rev. 19:7-16)

Blessed are those servants that are watching for the Lord's return. (Luke 12:35-38.)

LAVERNE, OKLAHOMA—

The church at Laverne is enjoying a good revival conducted by Rev. and Mrs. Olen Bachler, Brother and Sister Claud Bishop, Sister T. B. Tucker, Sister Dona Barker, Miss Peggy Bishop, Miss Roberta Johnson, Rev. Neil Ragen, Rev. and Mrs. Jimmie Wallis. The wonderful message in song, testimony, and preaching has been an inspiration to all. Rev. Jack Barker, pastor.

BECAUSE

By Winston Barker

Acts 17:31 reads: "Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men in that He hath raised Him from the dead."

In the world today there seems to be a great question in the minds of people as to why there is so much preaching that people need to repent. It was John the Baptist that started this great message of repentance. In Matthew 3:2 we read — "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Then Jesus said in Luke 13:3, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Also in Acts 3:19 it reads, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

The great question that people are thinking and talking about today is why must we repent, why do preachers spend so much time, money and effort just to get people to repent?

In a message a few nights ago I came to this scripture, Acts 17:31, "Because He hath appointed a day —." I would like for you to think with me about this great appointed day. We believe that all men are going to make this appointment. There may be appointments in this life to which you will be late or you may not keep. Also you will be there on time. The Word tells us in Romans 14:12, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." This appointment with God is made for you, and you will give account of yourself. Because God hath appointed a day in that He will judge the world; that is why we spend our time, money and effort preaching that you might repent. Because God hath appointed a day of judgment when men are going to give account of themselves — friend it is time for the message that John the Baptist preached to be preached again. Matt. 3:2, "Repent ye for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and Jesus preached, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all

likewise perish." Luke 13:3. This great message of repentance needs to be preached over the world today, because God hath appointed a day of judgment. In that great day of Judgment it will be too late for repentance so sinner friend now is the time for you to repent and make sure that that great day finds you ready.

So it is that we spend our time, money and effort preaching this great message of repentance and, to all that will listen and harken, that Great Appointed Day will be a day, in which He will judge the world, that we preach and teach that men must repent.

Sinner you need to repent of your sins and be ready to hear the words of Jesus, "Enter thou into the joy of the Lord," and not these words, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew ye." So prepare your life now!

ELKINS, ARKANSAS—

The Lord has been blessing in our services at Accident, and we are enjoying our work here very much. We were thankful for a record attendance in Sunday School on Mother's Day, and everyone enjoyed the program that evening. Bro. Alford Whitely was our guest speaker on Sunday night, May 22. This service was blessed at the hand of God. We have five services weekly: Tuesday night, prayer meeting; Thursday night, cottage prayer meeting; Saturday night, Young People's meeting; and regular Sunday services. All ministers of like faith are given a cordial invitation to come by and be with us in any of these services. Rev. and Mrs. F. E. Waterbury, pastors.

PALM CITY, CALIF.—

Bro. Aubrey Murray feels that his work is finished at this church and has resigned, effective August 1st. We have been asked to announce that anyone interested and feeling a burden to pastor at this church contact Bob Taylor, 3424 Edgemere Ave., Chula Vista, California.

The world has yet to see what God can do with one man wholly dedicated to Him.

Have We Fulfilled The Obligation To Our God?

By Aubrey Murray

Mark 16:15, "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," This command was given to the disciples directly from the lips of our Master — Jesus Christ, closely following His resurrection from the grave. In verse 14 of this same chapter, Christ upbraided, or as we would say today — reprimanded, them for their unbelief in the behalf of His resurrection.

We can picture the discouragement and bewilderment of these disciples after seeing Jesus crucified and then placed in the tomb. No doubt the disciples had more or less drawn themselves apart and had not continued carrying the Gospel of deliverance as they were supposed to have done.

We are quick to say they let the Lord down, and this is no doubt partly true. However, we, as disciples of Christ, today can, or at least should, receive a lesson from this incident. During the dark ages the gospel was almost smothered out, but God has always been merciful to the human race. All down through the ages there has been men and women who have recognized this fact. Paul said woe unto me if I preach not the Gospel, therefore, showing to you and me that Paul realized his obligation to his Maker. Some have already entered into desperation of bewilderment no doubt similar to the bewilderment that the disciples faced on the day that Christ appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief. However, we will note there was no excuse for the actions or attitudes for which Christ reprimanded the disciples nor can I find an excuse for you and me today if we do not follow the commandments given us in Matt. 28: 19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am

with you always even unto the end of the world, Amen."

The fact that we are living in the last days and are very near to the return of our Lord does not alter this fact that we should not slack up concerning the command that was given to us forcefully by Jesus Himself; rather we should be more zealous.

Too often I fear that we have used the excuse of the falling away in the last days and have failed to realize our failure of seeing the gospel spread as Christ commanded. Is this due to our unbelief?

It is true that we live in a very religious world and you can drive from the east coast to the west coast and see hundreds of beautiful church buildings. I talk with many people that attend some of these churches, some of them all their lives, ranging from twenty years and up. I find, through their conversation, that the Gospel that Christ was speaking of in Mark 16-19 is certainly not being preached in the services conducted in their churches. You may say, at this point, well, what has this to do with me. I believe that Paul, in Romans 10:13-15, makes clear the responsibility and obligation that is placed on the shoulders of every man, woman, boy or girl that has been enlightened concerning the Gospel of our Lord. The above mentioned scripture says that whosoever will call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. The scripture also says that how will they know to call upon the Lord if they don't believe and how shall they believe unless they be taught how to worship the Lord in Spirit and in truth. In Acts 8:29-31 we find a very good example of this. The Eunuch was reading the scripture but could not understand it as he should. Therefore, God sent Phillip his way and the Eunuch was saved and baptized and the Bible tells us the Eunuch went on his way rejoicing. There are hundreds of thousands of people that need instruction on the gospel today and, therefore, our efforts to get the gospel to them should be enlarged instead of subdued as was the case of the disciples when Christ had to so harshly reprimand them.

Christ saw the need of a greater

Special Announcement

As plans are now, Bro. and Sis. Robert G. Palmer and family will return to the States in the month of August with plans to enter into the evangelistic work for the period of a year. (Welcome home, Palmers, and may the Lord give you many good revivals and souls for your hire!) Bro. and Sis. Kay Kerr and Gary plan to take charge of the work at Spenard Chapel during the absence of the Palmers. Sissie Busch will accompany the Kerr's on their northern mission. They plan to leave the middle of July.

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—

We, your editors, were in Las Vegas for services on Sunday, May 1. We had a gracious time and enjoyed the fellowship of the new friends that we met there and a fine visit with old friends and relatives. We are still asking God to give a harvest of souls there.

OLATHE, COLORADO—

We are informed that the Apostolic Faith church gave an invitation to Brother and Sister Jimmy Wallis to pastor the work. They have accepted and will soon take up their duties. We wish them well as they stand firmly for the Faith.

power to keep men and women where they should be before the Lord, so we have the Comforter sent on the day of Pentecost as is recorded in the first and second chapters of Acts. In Acts 1:8 Christ said the Holy Spirit or Comforter will give power so that we can be witnesses unto Him unto the uttermost parts of the earth. Here again we see that we as Christians are to take the gospel to all the world.

In 1900 God sent the latter rain and with it Brother Charles Fox Parham with a burning message of the gospel to every creature. I pray God will give us that have the light of the Gospel a new vision in this last day in which we live to proclaim the Gospel with the vigor of those who have gone on before. The obligation is ours. Let us not be weighed in the balance and found wanting. Daniel 5:27.

Who Shall Abide The Day Of His Coming?

By A. B. Corl

In the third chapter of Malachi, God said, "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me:" We know this messenger was John the Baptist who prepared the way for Christ's first coming. He preached repentance. And the way is being prepared today for the Lord's second coming. Every individual by some means has heard or will hear in services or over the radio about the coming of the Lord back to this earth again. The Lord will come when God says it is enough. The holy spirit is holding back the winds of trouble in order that the message of salvation may go forth, that men and women might prepare to meet the Lord when He shall come. God, by His spirit, through the lives of His people, is warning the world of the coming back of the Lord Jesus Christ to this earth.

"But who may abide the day of His coming? . . . for He is like a refiner's fire," Jesus was holy and pure. No guile was found in His mouth. He came to this world, lived the life of holiness, and gave His life that He might seal once and for all the covenant that God made to man. "Who shall abide the day of His coming?" Those who have received Him are the ones who have a hope of redemption. To stand in His presence, we are going to have to be like Him. We will have to be pure, our lives holy. Those will abide His coming who are sons of God, born again, hearts cleansed from sin, and those who are living for God.

"And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier. . . and purge them as gold and silver." Everyone of us needs to be purified. God permits his children to have trials and battles for a purpose. It takes fire to melt the gold. When the gold is melted, all the dross goes to the top. But with us, when we go through the trial, we can know God is doing it for our good and in every trial, in every temptation, He makes a way of escape that we may be able to

bear it. God is doing it so that our lives might be prepared for the coming of the Lord, so that when He comes, we can abide the day of His coming.

"Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord." How can we come and bring an offering to God with a heart that is full of sin? We can't do it, but when our lives have been purged as gold and silver, the dross is taken out and everything that is unrighteous is removed, then we can offer an offering of praise unto God and we will really have something to praise the Lord for. There is nothing in this world that can compare to the presence of God in our lives.

"Return unto me, and I will return unto you." Now, isn't that easy? You who at one time had an experience in God, felt the very presence of the Lord in your life, but today a great barrier condemns and burdens you, He says to you, "Return unto me, and I will return unto you." If we come, God will forget and He will receive us again.

"But ye said, Wherein shall we return?" Isn't that human nature? They forget the blessing that God bestowed upon their lives in former years.

The way was opened whereby all men everywhere had a right to come to the Lord, repent and be born again, be filled with the spirit of God, purifying their lives even as He is pure. Jesus came, He is our light, He overcame the world for us, and through Him we are overcomers, and we can be made like Him. Who may abide the day of His coming? The overcomers, the pure in heart, the spirit-filled — they will abide the day of His coming. And for them, it will be a day of rejoicing. Let us be prepared for the coming of the Lord, so that when He comes, we can abide the day of His coming.

The above is an extract from the sermon I preached at Deckers Prairie on April 3, 1955 taken from Malachi 3 chapter. We have a lady in our congregation who takes shorthand and she took my complete sermon down and then prepared this from it for the paper.

A. B. Corl

The Wonders Of His Grace

By Edith S. Bergman

His joy — how unspeakable!
His mercies — how sure!
His peace — passing knowledge!
His love — Holy, pure!
His guidance — how perfect!
His will — only sweet!
His assurance — so precious!
His atonement — complete!
His compassion — so tender!
His faithfulness — great!
His comfort — sustaining,
His help — never late;
His power — omnipotent;
His presence — transforming,
His way — ever right!

"A STUDY IN VALUES"

(Continued from page 5)

joy, peace, love and answered prayer. He always chose the better things — the things which were in the will of God for Him. "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour and life." (Proverbs 22:4).

TANEYVILLE, MO.—

The Daily Vacation Bible School has far surpassed all expectations in interest and attendance. Between eighty and ninety are enrolled. The closing services will be held Thursday, June 2. Bro. and Sis. Kay Kerr, Sissie Busch and Chloe Cook have been in charge.

LEAKEY, TEXAS—

Brother Winston Barker and his evangelistic party have just finished a mighty good revival at Leakey. There were quite a number saved and a general reviving experienced by the church. This was a tent meeting. The summer with its tent meeting is always a blessing.

ENID, OKLA.—

The services in the Enid Church are progressing with due victory and energy. Their mid-week service is on Wednesday night. Special invitations are extended to all ministers of the Faith to stop by. Lealand Grimmer, pastor. Address: 2428 North Adams.

BAYARD, NEBRASKA—

The church at Bayard recently enjoyed a good revival conducted by Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Waterbury, Rev. Austin Morgan, Miss Shirley Fish, and Miss Edna Neff. They report that several souls were saved, one sanctified, and two prayed through to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. This gospel party plans their next revival to be a tent meeting at Minatare, Nebraska, and desire the prayers of Christian people that they might see a great harvest of souls. Rev. and Mrs. Amos Harris will also be helping in this tent revival; they are the pastors of the Bayard church.

DECKERS PRAIRIE, TEX.—

The work is growing gradually. Our Sunday School attendance is increasing and God meets with us in every service. We are glad for His presence and blessings. We need the prayers of God's people that we may have a real old time revival that will reach and stir up the unsaved. Our ministers have a cordial invitation to visit us at any time.

A. B. Corl, pastor, 1037 Peddie Avenue, Houston 9, Texas.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.—

Don't forget that the Apostolic Faith work is still on the map at that point and you will find a welcome there. Brother and Sister Frank Stimsons are the pastors. Address them at 3143 S.W. 20th street. They will be glad to hear from you and to have you for their services.

BOKCHITO, OKLA.—

Brother and Sister Ralph Tankersley report that they are in a very gracious revival at this church and that there had been nine saved, and two had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, with the meeting still in progress. Thank God for salvation for who-so-ever will.

BAYARD, NEBR.—

Five were saved, one sanctified and two received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in the revival conducted by Brother Austin Morgan and party. At last report they were ready to begin a revival at Minatare, Nebr. Let us pray for success here also.

ROSWELL, NEW MEX.—

Brother Jerry McClenagan and Brother Harold Bollinger have been in a revival at Roswell. We are sorry that we cannot report the results, because we have not heard, but we do know that this is a grand gospel team and they are doing a great work for God. Brother and Sister Paul Clanton, pastors.

TANEYVILLE, MO.—

D. V. B. S. is the theme around here at present as we are getting ready for the school to start May 23. (this is the 18th) with Sister K. Kerr in charge. We are expecting Sister Ruth Edna Busch and Sister Chloe Cook to help in the school and we want Brother K. Kerr to do some preaching for us.

MOORELAND, OKLA.—

It gives us great pleasure to send the Apostolic Faith Report to the home of Brother and Sister Charles Ludden, parents of Sister Joe Faries. They report that the paper is a blessing to them.

CAMP WOOD, TEXAS—

The Winston Barker evangelistic party conducted a very good meeting in Camp Wood. They were able to conduct a chapel service in the school.

DES ARC, ARKANSAS—

The work is progressing nicely under the leadership of Brother and Sister Echols. Brother and Sister Clyde Clanton are now there helping. The new church will soon be suitable for services. The floor and sheetrock will be put in soon and then regular services started there. They are praying and feel the need of another revival there.

KINGS MILL, TEXAS—

I do not have particulars, but there will be a D. V. B. S. here soon. The church is still a lighthouse for the Gospel and welcomes all to its wide open doors. Brother and Sister Robert Girouard, pastors.

CAVE SPRINGS, ARK.—

Brother and Sister Kay Kerr and evangelistic party have just closed a revival with this church. The Lord was in every service to bless and His word has not returned to Him in vain.

BOISE, IDAHO—

It gave us great pleasure to hear from Brother and Sister Raymond Peters, and to see their son and family while we were at San Diego. Brother and Sister Peters want to attend the camp meeting if possible this summer.

The Apostolic Faith Report

Baxter Springs, Kansas

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