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GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

The Official Organ of God's Missionary Church, Inc.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings . . . that publisheth salvation." Isaiah 52: 7.

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Number 1

Christ, The Eternal

by Seth C. Rees

The archives of the ages make no mention of a man who commands the attention of the world as Jesus of Nazareth is doing today. He led no conquering army. He never ruled an empire. He was not a money master, a railroad king, an oil king or a steel king. He was not a princely merchant as Marshall Field or John Wanamaker. He was so poor that he owned no place where He could lay His head. His birth was enveloped in and clouded with mystery that its legitimacy was and is questioned by the unbelieving. Born in a cattle pen, of lowly parents, a native of a city despised and of ill repute. From the stable to the grave his life was only thirty-three years, and only three years of that was in public. He lived in poverty, died in shame, and was buried in a borrowed tomb. Yet he is immortal among men. Mystery of mysteries! Is it any wonder that poor blind carnality questions the story of the tragedy? "What think ye of Christ?" Who is He and whence is He come? What is this strange attraction which He possesses? By what immortal magnetism does He rule the hearts of millions?

Multitudes of weary, weeping, heart-broken people turn to Him morning and evening for strength and comfort. More than three hundred million martyrs have sealed their testimonies to His deity with their blood. Who was that who dared to call Him the "botch carpenter of Galilee?" What college president was that who dared to say there was "no more virtue in the blood of Christ than in the blood of a frog's foot?" Three hun-

dred million martyrs must have thought and felt very differently.

Let us call for the testimony of two or three who knew Him well. In the mouth of two or three witnesses everything shall be established. John the Beloved says that "in the beginning (He) was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

"In the beginning," whenever that was; there was nothing before the beginning. So John believed Him to be the oldest person in existence. Then he says, "The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by

The Gospel According To You

You are writing a Gospel,

A chapter each day.

By deeds that you do,

By words that you say.

Men read what you write,

Whether faithless or true

Say! What is the Gospel

According to you?

him; and without him was not anything made that was made."

Then I ask the great Apostle Paul. He answers, "He is before all things, and by him all things consist." Men of renown, what is this that you are telling us? That Christ is older than the pyramids of Egypt. Nobody knows how old they are. Are you telling us that He is older than the snow-capped Alps; than the cedars of Lebanon; than the first lovers who walked alone in Eden? The idea! How can we grasp it? So stupendous! Do

you mean to say that Christ of Nazareth was before the morning stars sang together and the sons of God shouted for joy? Yes, from everlasting He is God.

He created all things. The starry heaven is one of the oldest pages and one of the sublimest records ever graven with the finger of God.

No wonder David said, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, and the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him?" The firmament of heaven is one of the most wonderful volumes of the books of eternity. Its most marvelous, all-surpassing beauty is in the glorious East where David lived and gazed upon it from the plains of Bethlehem when watching his flocks by night. Glorious as are the heavens in this country, they are more glorious when viewed from the Judean hill. It was here the Persian sages studied the firmament and searched for God.

What about Christ as a Saviour? There is still power enough going to waste at Niagara Falls to light and heat every city in America; but the power of a thousand Niagaras would not regenerate one human soul. The power of cohesion, so might as to hold the atoms of the universe together; the power of gravitation which swings and holds millions of worlds in their orbits, could never transform the desert of a human soul into a garden blossoming as the rose. Creative power will not do it; it must be sacrificial power. The swaying, swinging power of all systems of a universe of worlds could never lift a soul from the quagmire of sin and corruption, but the Lion of the tribe of Judah

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EDITORIAL

What Of Tomorrow

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended..." Jeremiah 8:20.

Indeed, the time of harvest is about past and the warm season of summer nearly ended. Time hurries its pace on to the day of its ceasing when the realm of eternity will mark a new beginning. The statement is often repeated "where has time gone"—the thought inferred to the fact that years are slipping by so fast. One does pause and wonder over this great mystery, but a greater question must confront the Christian: What am I doing with time? The question dealing with one's stewardship of time.

The speed in which man lives seems to lessen his accomplishments and success. Christianity is progressing so little with the opportunities presented. History has never presented a greater age in the realm of Christian work, for where sin has multiplied, much more does the gospel need to be proclaimed. Several thoughts are presented to us in view of time and its future.

PLANNING. The reason some lives reach such a low and poor end, is often due to the lack of good planning. Some ministers and Christians seem to think it is neither necessary nor godly to plan the progress of the church. This is very evident by what is often accomplished in the realm of Christian circles.

There are extremes and one must be careful to not reach either extreme. It might be possible to plan to the place in our church work that God's workings are erased from the picture and certainly this is not proper planning. But how important it is that we develop an active program for the work of the Lord. Modern business finds it is necessary to develop a proper method to reach the demands of the public and thus must the church produce a method of winning the lost to the fold of Christ. No, the church need not be worldly, neither must it com-

promise, but it must adapt itself to function within the age in which it now exists.

PREPARATION. A young lady when questioned by the writer as to preparation concerning a certain message she was to deliver, stated to him that all she needed was the text and the Lord would supply the rest. Truly, this seems to be the method often used in running the business of the Lord. Preparation is essential to success. Holiness circles have often been characterized by the lack of proper preparation. To fail to prepare is to fail to please God. Many of the failures in church work and revival meetings can be traced to the lack of preparation.

God has entrusted to His people a great responsibility—a job that must be done well to please Him. One must carefully engage in this work with sufficient prayer and study if the task is to be satisfactorily performed. Let us not attach the liberty of the Lord to a looseness and carelessness in our living, but rather give diligent preparation to the responsibility entrusted to us. Our best is never too good. A life lived well, is a life well prepared.

PROGRESS. Progress has marked America from the years of its foundations till our present day. Progress is a pleasing sign among any group of people. When progress ceases, chaos often sets in. Godly people realize you can not measure spiritual progress by numbers, neither can it always be recognized by physical sight. It is also a known fact that many churches are falling into the modern trend of making a great play upon figures and seeing just how great a report they can produce in comparison to their sister church. Again this presents (as most everything in life) two extremes. The group that aims for the high figures and the group that feels small churches are spiritual churches.

A church that expects to exist and cope with the tomorrows, needs to experience progress. There must be a forward movement. If good *planning* and sufficient *preparation* are developed within our churches, it is evident we will experience a proper degree of *progress*.

Sentence Sermons

*God had only one Son,
and He was a Foreign Missionary.*

We are indebted to the Book of books for our national ideals and institutions. Their preservation rests in adhering to its principles.
—Herbert Hoover

Do right and God's recompense to you will be the power of doing more right. Give, and God's reward to you will be the spirit of giving more, a blessed spirit, for it is the spirit of God Himself, whose life is the blessedness of giving. Love and God will pay you with the capacity of more love; for love is heaven, love is God within you.
—F. W. Robertson

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Conference News

Headlines of the 24th Annual Conference

ZERBY CHURCH HITS NEW HIGH IN FINANCIAL RESPONSE

GENERAL BOARD REMAINS THE SAME WITH THE ADDITION OF REV. EARL DEETZ, SR. TO FILL VACANCY.

REVS. JOHN NOLL AND NELSON WALTERS FIRST CONFERENCE MEMBERS TO BE PROMOTED TO HEAVEN.

WAYS AND MEANS LEVY OF 1% OF ALL CHURCH FUNDS EARMARKED FOR GENERAL RUNNING EXPENSE.

"STANDARD" BOARD RETURNED FOR ANOTHER YEAR'S SERVICE BY VOICE VOTE FROM THE FLOOR!

MESSAGE BY REV. E. C. BOYLES STRESSED PIETY, PURITY AND PREACHING CHRIST IN THE LAODICEAN AGE.

BUSINESS OF CONFERENCE SPEED-ED UP TO BE CARED FOR IN ONLY ONE DAY THIS YEAR.

GENERAL TREASURER ELECTED WAS REV. C. WILLIAM RACHAU OF REBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

HOME MISSIONARY FUNDS SHOULD BE SENT TO REV. EARL DEETZ OF MAHAFFEY, PA.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY TREASURER'S ADDRESS: REV. RAYMOND HOFFMAN, R. D. 1, ALLENWOOD, PA.

Highlights of the 24th Annual Conference

The saints of God gathered at the Penns Creek Grounds for the 24th Annual Conference of God's Missionary Church, August 4 & 5, with a realization that it was a blessed and holy privilege to labor for Christ in the Holy Ghost Dispensation. Business was speedily transacted, resolutions acted upon, and new officers were elected. The second day of Conference concerned the various Boards, their formation, and re-organization. There was a good spirit manifested and such problems as usually are expected to gender strife or hard feelings in some groups did

not "ruffle the feathers" of sanctified delegates, church officers, and the ministers.

Gains were seen in many departments, and some churches have really gained in spirit and momentum since the last Conference.

The Home Missionary Work was a prime target of consideration, and during the afternoon session, an exhortation to sacrifice for this effort was given. The result of this challenge was an offering in cash and pledges of about \$650.00 from the small group gathered for Conference.

A 1% levy was asked from each church on their funds received over the year, to exclude several special offerings, to be forwarded to the General Treasurer each quarter, to be applied on General Fund Expenses. \$1,000.00 is expected from this source of income. It was explained that expenditures for supplement to the printing, mailing, and handling of God's Missionary Standard usually required several hundreds of dollars, and that expense together with usual operating costs of the General Church had put a heavy strain on the small income usually received from preacher's tithe percentage.

Ministers were urged to push the program of the Church on the Foreign Missionary Work schedule, and we saw that greater things could be done if we believed and obeyed.

Regrets were offered over the passing of Revs. John Noll and Nelson Walters, both of Beavertown, Pa. Best wishes from the Conference were offered to Rev. Fred Watson, recovering in the Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, from a near fatal charge of electricity.

A Resolution asking for a pre-conference audit of all local church funds was passed, for we felt it to be only fair to the congregations to know their money was used wisely in Kingdom building.

As we disbanded and left the hallowed grounds for another year of victory and service for the Master, we felt God would help in every problem.

—The General Secretary

I Am An Unusual Missionary

My message is always the same. It is clear and brief. I can speak any language. I am never rushed, nor is any distance too great for me to travel to reach one soul. Unlike many missionaries, I need no regular support, nor must I pay room and board when staying in a foreign country. Even my trip across the ocean costs but a few cents. No special permission is required from the government when I enter or leave a country. In fact, fellow missionaries like myself are living today in lands where all other missionaries have been forced to leave.

I witness to many people who have never heard of Christ, and sometimes to people who are very unfriendly to my message.

I remember one day in France; I began to witness to a man who didn't want to hear about Christ. He was so angry that he finally pushed me into the street and walked on me. There I lay unable to get up. Some missionaries would have been sick there on the cold, wet street; but I am never sick.

Finally a kind-hearted woman came along and helped me up. I traveled with her to her home that night, for she told me her son would be very much interested in my message.

I told him about Christ and His power to save and invited him to a Gospel meeting held by some missionaries. He attended the meetings and before long he was saved.

In spite of the fact that I never sleep, even though I work day and night, I am never tired. One day in China when I almost lost my life, I was still able to carry on my work.

It all happened when I was riding in a car with some Christian friends. We were passing through a small village when suddenly I noticed that the car window had been rolled down and one of my friends was pushing me toward it.

"There must be someone out there to whom I should witness," I thought as I felt myself falling through the air and landing with a thump on the dirt road.

Quickly a man came over and lifted me up. Now some mission-

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The Evangelist Speaks

The Spirit Departed

by H. Robb French

We usually associate these words with the idea of sinning away the day of grace. Without doubt this was the case with King Saul. Hardly will sadder words be found in the Bible than these: "But the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." However, it is in a somewhat different light that we wish to consider this subject.

The Psalmist prays, in Psalm 51:11, "Cast me not away from Thy presence and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me." No doubt this is a timely prayer for the best of saints to pray even in this Holy Ghost dispensation. The writer in Hebrews speaks about being "partakers of the Holy Ghost," and, "falling away." Regardless of the adverse reaction to the position that we are here taking, we are all compelled to agree to the abundant evidence of the absence of the Holy Spirit's presence. This unworthy traveling preacher is often amazed, grieved and all but confounded at the lack of the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit both in the daily life of many who profess full salvation and in our public services. We will limit our discussion here to two unmistakable evidences that the spirit is either absent or inoperative and finally three reasons for such a condition.

EVIDENCES OF THE LACK OF THE SPIRIT

PRAYERLESSNESS. The Spirit of God is the spirit of intercession, and when He comes into our temples, He invariably makes us intercessors. After the Day of Pentecost we read in Acts 2 that the disciples continued steadfastly in prayer. In the third chapter, Peter and John are going up to the temple at the hour of prayer. Chapter four gives an account of a great prayer meeting, and so on through the book these accounts continue. You will look in vain for such statements before they re-

ceived that Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Let us ever remember that the book of Acts sets the standard for New Testament holiness. Anything short of this is less than true holiness. Why, then, is it so often necessary to urge and coax our people to pray? Why is it that in so many of our great camps and gatherings, multitudes of people who claim to have all that the disciples received in the upper room, mill over the grounds, eating, drinking, and visiting while seldom ever is the voice of prayer heard. Notwithstanding our good profession, that prayerless spirit is an accusing finger pointing to a definite lack in the soul. The want of that inward urge to pray proves the absence of the Spirit's operation.

The tragic consequence of a lack of the spirit of prayer can be measured in the barrenness of our lives, the lack of true revivals in the church, and the inrush of mighty ocean currents of iniquity that threaten to inundate our Christian civilization. If only a revival will save the situation and that revival will come in answer to prayer and this spirit of prayer is begotten by the Holy Ghost, then those things that grieve Him should claim our prayerful consideration.

POWERLESSNESS. Jesus Christ was anointed with the Spirit and returned from the wilderness in "The power of the Spirit." "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8). We are thinking about the urge to do things as well as the ability to accomplish them. "They were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began..."! The word began suggests the fervency, the zeal, the passion, and the divine energy that characterized this early band of disciples. We are told that they preached Christ in every house in Jerusalem. They carried the gospel message to the uttermost parts

of the earth. As we read the Acts of the Apostles we cannot but contrast this wholehearted fervency with the listless, indifferent spirit of many who claim to have the same baptism with the Holy Ghost.

If anyone is still inclined to be optimistic, he should talk to many of the pastors of holiness churches who say that it is almost impossible to get their members interested in tract distribution, house to house visitation, street meetings, or any form of evangelism aside from the routine of church service. In fact some of them have a difficult task keeping their members interested enough to be faithful to the regular services. Some have declared that other religious groups about them who actually oppose holiness, evidence more interest in the advancement of Christ's Kingdom than their own people. Here, my friends, is a serious charge. People who make no claim of receiving the fiery baptism exhibiting more wide awake interest than those who profess. Of course, there are highly organized programs and great waves of human inspired enthusiasm which are often mistaken for the work of the Holy Ghost. Many in fact do not discern the difference. What we are referring to here is that inward urge inspired by the indwelling Spirit of God. A lack of that means to be void of His presence. Let us now consider some reasons why the Holy Spirit is inoperative or has entirely withdrawn His presence.

REASONS FOR THIS LACK OF THE SPIRIT

SIN. There is nothing in common between the Holy Spirit of God and sin. The Apostle declares in Galatians, "The flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh and these are contrary the one to the other." In Isaiah 59:1 we read: "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it can not save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

Men who have been greatly used of God in the past to promote mighty revivals have again and again insisted that sin is the only thing that will hinder the Spirit of Christ from operating in the

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This Is Today

—***—

Today is here. I will start with a smile, and revolve to be agreeable. I will not criticize. I refuse to waste my valuable time.

Today has one thing in which I know I am equal with others—time. All of us draw the same salary in seconds, minutes, hours.

Today I will not waste my time, because the minutes I wasted yesterday are as lost as a vanquished thought.

Today I refuse to spend time worrying about what might happen. I am going to spend my time making things happen.

Today I am determined to study to improve myself, for tomorrow I may be wanted, and I must not be found lacking.

Today I am determined to do things I should do. I firmly determine to stop doing the things I should not do.

Today I will not imagine what I would do if things were different. They are not different. I will make success with what material I have.

Today I will stop saying, "If I had time," for I never will "find time" for anything—if I want time I must take it.

Today, I will act toward other people as though this might be my last day on earth. I will not wait for tomorrow. Tomorrow never comes.

—Selected.

Christ, The Eternal

(Continued from page 1)

without army, spear, or sword has wrought redemption for the whole human race. What a Saviour! What a sacrifice!

The honors of life spoil men. Not many are great enough to bear honor with dignity. Most men who have honor are very reluctant to relinquish it. Think of the humility of Christ who was the companion and equal with God; yet He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant and became obedient unto the death of the cross.

The World-maker, King of kings, Lord of lords, Master of arch-angels, Possessor of the gold of Ophir, the silver of Peru, the exhaustless wealth of the mines of the universe, became a slave. He emptied Himself of all the honor,

wealth, and authority of the God-head, that He might bring sunshine and heaven to a poor, prodigal, broken-hearted world.

I read of a church which was to be dedicated on a certain Sunday. The members were to pray about what they were to give. A man and his family had sacrificed and saved \$1,500 to get a little house. It had been the dream of years; they were thinking of selecting the long-coveted little home, but in prayer about the church, the Spirit whispered to the father, "I want that money for My house, will you give it?" The poor man was stunned. He told his wife and family and on their knees in tears they prayed together. After a time, with tear-stained faces they said, "Father, do as you feel."

The hour of the service came. Money came slowly and hard. The minister was almost discouraged when this man arose, told his experience and gave it all. It was such a thrill and tonic to the congregation that the money was all in soon, and the church was dedicated. This man emptied himself of his little all; but Christ emptied Himself of all eternal riches, glory, and honor.

An old saint had saved for years and collected \$300 to admit her into the old ladies' home that she might have a little comfort in her last days. When she heard an address on the needs of the foreign field, with a broken heart she went to the missionary and said, "Here, I had this saved up to give me a home in my old age, but I am going to give this to you and go tomorrow to the poor house to finish my days." She emptied herself of her little all. But there is little comparison between this and Christ who gave His all.

Fellowship with this Jesus is sweetness itself—supernal, transcendent, sumptuous. He has brought me into the sweetest fellowship with the best and greatest of sixty centuries. He has proven Himself to me to be indeed Christ the Eternal God.

—Pilgrim Holiness Advocate

Deep spirituality is a good protection to health.

Make present victory ground to stand on for the next.

Be a success by boosting others.

Time

Time is money. We have no right to waste it.

Time is power. We have no right to dissipate it.

Time is influence. We have no right to throw it away.

Time is life. We must value it.

Time is a sacred trust for God. We must answer for every moment.

Time is preparation for eternity. We must redeem it.

—World Conquest

I Am An Unusual Missionary

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aries would have to introduce themselves to a stranger before they witnessed of Christ, but I started right away to tell this kind man of Jesus' love and death on the cross for him.

He was busy and could not stand and talk, so I traveled along the street with him. The man wanted to hear more.

I can't carry Bibles with me on my travels, but this time I gave the man an address to which he could write and get a New Testament. He has his Testament now and is reading it regularly.

Often my travels take me to beds of the sick and dying, but I fear no disease; I can work myself into convents, monasteries, prisons, and some of my brothers have even gone behind the iron curtain of Russia.

We can preach the gospel everywhere and the police cannot kill us. For, you see, our life is not physical life. We are only made of paper and yet we bring strength to weak bodies, hope to the despairing and faith to the fearful. Our life is the power of God behind the words printed on our pages.

I Am A Gospel Tract

Perhaps you have friends or loved ones who are unsaved. They may live too far away for you to visit them and tell them of Christ. Or they might not listen to your words of witness.

I will be glad to come to your house and you may introduce me to your friends. Some of them may find Christ as Saviour through reading my pages.

Pray that God will bless my missionary work and will lead to seeking souls. —"The Builder"

The Former Glory

by Elbert Dodd

"Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?" Haggai 2:3.

In the Old Testament the house or the temple of Jehovah was a type of the Church of the living God. Because of the sins of Israel, God had permitted the original temple with all its magnificence to be brought to ruins. An effort had been made to restore this glorious place of worship; but it was such a failure that in comparison to the first it was nothing. The Bible and Church history clearly indicate that just as the temple could exist and yet be lacking of its former splendor, a church may function as an organization and yet be void of the power and glory of God that once was her crowning beauty. The prophet Micah depicted the sad plight of this present day when he said, "The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money; yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us." (Micah 3:11)

Let us go back and look at the house in her first glory. Look at the magnificent splendor of that first temple as it stands shimmering in the golden sunlight of that dedication day. See the long lines of sacrificial beasts as they are slain while the priests and Levites stand in their courses and perform their tasks with the dignity and precision of the finest trained army in the world. Hear the trumpets and the singers as they lift their anthems of praise to the One True and Living God! Listen, with bowed head, while Solomon, the wisest and most popular king to reign on mortal throne, prays that dedicatory prayer. Then stand breathless with beating heart and behold that fiery, cloudy pillar, as the glory of God fills the house until the priests were unable to minister! The capstone of it all was the presence of the Triune God!

The Church in the early days of the holiness movement was characterized by this wonderful power and glory of God. It is true that there were many things that they

did not have in the early days of the holiness movement, but the glory was in her midst. They did not have fine buildings and equipment. Many times they worshipped in old store buildings and rented halls. Often an old ragged tent would house a congregation even in cold winter months. But the people came and counted it a privilege to suffer for Him. They had no robed choirs to dignify their services with trained anthems. The singers were plain, modestly dressed old fashion men and women who sang from hearts that overflowed with praise to God. They had very little money in those early days. It was a sacrifice from start to finish. They had no accredited colleges with which to confer degrees that would be recognized by the great universities of the world.

But they did have some things in those early days that made them great. First of all, they had a fire baptized and fearless ministry. The preachers took time to pray and wait on God. They prepared their hearts as well as their heads. They were more anxious to please God than they were their people or all the civic clubs in town. They feared men so little. They were not afraid to preach against the sins of the people. They had faith to believe that God would see them through and fight their battles single handed if they would be true to God and preach His Word. They were not so much interested in the salary or the accommodations as they were in knowing the will of God. The preachers of the early holiness church were like Barnabas, they were full of the Holy Ghost and faith. They lived pure and holy lives and God honored them with His wonderful holy anointing.

Those pioneer days were also characterized by a faithful laity. The laymen feared God and kept His commandments. They kept their vows and lived free from the sins of the world. They had family devotions and were faithful to the prayer meetings as well as the Sunday services. Like little David when he faced the atheistic Goliath in the Name of the Living God, they were not afraid to tackle something bigger than themselves for they depended on the resources of heaven and they won many great victories for God.

Some of us can not forget how God helped us when He called us out back there. There was no home mission money with which to operate but the pioneer preachers went out under the stars to preach the pure Gospel at any cost and God did not fail them! They believed that the world was their parish and went everywhere preaching the gospel.

Let us look at the house as it is now. The services and the hearts of the people are lukewarm. They are ringing the bells but blowing no whistles and moving no loads. They are playing church and fighting sham battles. There are very few anymore in prayer meeting. They can run a big Sunday School and have hardly anyone out to the night services. Evangelism in the regular Sunday night service is almost a thing of the past. In most places the church board is against old time radical preaching and even has the audacity to suggest that the preacher should "prophecy" easy things. The fire and glory has departed. The temple lies in ruins. The altars are barren, the worshippers missing. God hides His face. "And the Lord said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them. Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because God is not among us? And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods. (Deut. 31:16-18).

Such is the tragic condition today. Money comes easy, there is little or no sacrifice. The church actually operates on the surplus money of the people. The modern holiness movement has robed and trained choirs, magnificent buildings, college and seminary trained ministers, and recognition of the world. But no God and no glory!

What brought on their dreadful downfall? What caused them

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Facts of Interest and Signs of the Times

Facts Of Interest

A survey just completed of weekly newspapers throughout the U. S. shows the equivalent of forty-five newspapers per state in forty-five states completely bar alcoholic beverage advertising of all kinds from their columns, whether distilled, wines or beers, or a total of no less than 2,033 such community papers that refuse to accept any advertising of this character in their columns.

Far East News Service reports that Communist Chinese are using poisonous serum to shorten the lives of aged Chinese whom they consider worthless in their people's communes on Lappa Islands. Particularly in those areas of the island where the people staged an anti-Communist revolt Chinese Reds are giving injections which they call "happy shots."

Two missionary women have entered the Auca Indian tribe in the eastern jungle of Ecuador where five missionaries were slain in early 1956. They are Mrs. James Elliott, widow of one of the five martyrs, and Miss Rachel Saint, sister of Nate Saint, missionary pilot of the 1956 expedition. First reports indicate that the two women have been given a friendly reception by the savage Aucas. Mrs. Elliott's young daughter, Valeria, is with her mother.

Rev. Chia Yu Ming, venerable eighty-year-old Chinese pastor, has become the latest addition of the many faithful Chinese Christian preachers victimized by Communist blackmail. Accused of many crimes by over two hundred "witnesses," Mr. Ming was denounced by the Communists from the pulpit and was forbidden to preach anywhere, anytime. The last news heard about him was that he was in a hospital with a "broken heart."

Recent figures released by the

Veterans Administration indicate that over 35,800 veterans of World War II and 13,392 from the Korean conflict have taken training for the ministry under the GI Bill of Rights.

A survey of the new Congress revealed that 99 members are Methodists, 103 Roman Catholics, 64 Baptists, 67 Presbyterians and 63 Episcopalians. Two senators and eleven representatives are of the Jewish faith.

Of the governors of the states in the Union, twelve are Methodists, eight Baptists, eight Roman Catholic, seven Lutheran, five Presbyterian, three Protestant Episcopal, two Congregational, one Mormon, one Jewish. Two have no permanent affiliation.

"Statehood for Hawaii will make idolatry acceptable in America," the Rev. Bert Webb, assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God, told the closing session of a three-day Sunday School Convention in Washington, D.C., recently.

In Honolulu alone there are more than 200 heathen temples.

The father of a young Swedish woman missionary who was murdered by bandits in Ethiopia last September has cabled Emperor Haile Selassie asking mercy for one of the bandits who has been captured and sentenced to death. He begged that the bandit be given a chance to hear the gospel of Christ and to redeem himself.

United States and Canadian boards now support a total of 25,058 missionaries outside the border of the two countries. Foreign missions is a \$150,000,000 per annum enterprise. Sub-Sahara Africa has nearly one-third of all missionaries from United States. There are more North American mission boards (ninety-seven) represented in Japan than in any other country.

Signs Of The Times

Joseph Stalin is in heaven, according to the "Red" Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, controversial figure of the Church of England, made the statement recently, explaining that "Stalin was a rough and stern man... because he had a dirty job to do. But God's eye is a big eye and sees everything, good and bad. To know all is to forgive all. So from Heaven's point of view," said Johnson, "I think Stalin is safe."

Alcoholic drinks are a gift of God if used properly, but a horror if misused, Episcopalians were advised in a report to the church's general convention at Miami Beach. It said that moderate social drinking is in full accord with Old and New Testament teaching.

Authorities at Buffalo State Teachers College have decided that the chapel on the campus needs to be renamed to give it a less religious sound. Counsel for the State University ordered it to be called a "meditation room," and he ruled that no worship services may be held on the campus under the constitutional provisions on the church-state separation.

Dr. Watson Kirkconnell, president of Acadia University, told 200 delegates to the national convention of the Canadian Women's Christian Temperance Union that Canada is rapidly becoming "one of the most alcoholic of nations." He said the number of drinkers has risen to 75 per cent of the population, as compared with 59 per cent in 1943. On the other hand, he said, the drinking population in the United States had declined from 67 per cent in 1945 to only 55 per cent last year.

Pastors of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the St. Louis area have liberalized their stand on dancing. The St. Louis Lutheran Pastoral Conference adopted a statement declaring that social dancing is permissible for young Lutherans "if properly supervised."

*"Religion, you say, is old fashioned
How true!—So is food; so is drink
So are mothers and fathers and neighbors,
And all things of value, I think."*

The Home

The Home Is Ordained Of God

God ordained the family to be His first institution on earth for the benefit of mankind and He has never abrogated it. He made father and mother as priest and priestess to give the first religious teaching and training. Obedience was the first law of the home. God intended that children should obey their parents implicitly. However, in these latter days that has been reversed, and in most American homes parents obey their children.

The most crucial period in a child's life comes much earlier than most parents think. A very young infant soon learns how to become master in the home. It is easy to go into a tantrum of crying and carry his point. Children can be taught to obey quite early in life, but they also can learn very early that they can be boss in the home. If the habit of obedience to parents is learned early in life it will help greatly to solve the problems later in life.

A visitor to America said recently that the most surprising thing he noticed here was the way parents obeyed their children. A magazine writer said in a recent article, "I saw a Japanese boy on a train listening to an American mother say, 'Son, bring me a drink of water.' The son said, 'I won't do it.' The Japanese boy jumped as if a dynamite bomb exploded. He never had seen anything like that before. Some Americans might learn some things to advantage from Japanese." No wonder there is so much juvenile delinquency. A judge of a juvenile court said, "It is not so much juvenile delinquency as parent delinquency that is wrong with young people of America."

The tender, believing period of early childhood is the God-given opportunity for parents to impress young lives for God and the right that no one else ever has. A young woman was asked why she became a Christian soon after she was married. She answered, "I feared

to face the responsibility of raising a family of children without the help of God." Would that every young married couple would think the same thought and make the same decision. It takes a Christian father and mother, with the help of God, to make a Christian home and a Christian family. "Those who pray together stay together." "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). But you say, "Some good people have bad children." Yes, but some good people spoil their children. It takes firmness as well as Christian kindness and Christian influence to "train up a child in the way he should go." Reverence for authority is a fundamental necessity for a happy, successful home. Children do not properly reverence and respect parents or teachers whom they do not have to obey. If they do not obey parents, they will not obey teachers, nor the laws of God or man, if they don't want to.

Dr. Weigle, in his book entitled "The Training of Children in the Christian Family," said "The children of today do not need vocational guides so much as they need a new set of parents; parents who have spunk enough to climb back upon the thrones in their own households which they have abdicated in favor of their children; parents who, when the shades of night begin to fall, look after their boys and girls with the same degree of care that they give their bull pup, which they chain up lest he associate with the strange cur upon the streets. What America needs is more parental authority exercised and more religion taught and practiced in American homes." Remember that children are largely the products of the home. Children are entitled to devout Christian parents who control in their homes with strict but loving discipline and training. They also need the best Christian Sunday School teachers that can be found and parents taking them to Sunday school and church. The children should be taken to church and sit with their parents in

church until they can be trusted to sit with other well-behaved young people.

We need to return to the old-fashioned Christian home with strict discipline and a family altar where the Bible is read and taught, and where God is near when father and mother pray. In 1881 there were only twenty-five homicides in the United States a year for every million people. In 1908 it had increased to 112 to a million inhabitants. It has been increasing ever since, and all crime has increased in the same proportion.

Let us mothers and fathers wake up before it is too late and set our homes in order, have some family government and Christian home training, whether children like it or not. They will thank you when they are older if you control them rigidly but in a kind, Christian way when they are young.

—The Herald

*I have seed to raise and I plough
the field*

*And I plan my crops with care,
And I thank the Lord for the rain
He sends*

*As I watch them growing there,
But I don't sit down with a book
by day,*

*And let my crops run wild,
For crops won't grow by them-
selves, I know;*

Is it different with a child?



Sentence Sermons

Don't be a CLOUD because
you can't be a STAR.

* * * * *

*A heart of stone can be melted
by the fire of love, if the heat can
only get at it.*

* * * * *

*"Go labor on, spend and be spent,
Thy joy to do the Father's will;
It is the way the Master went,
Should not the servant tread it
still?"*

* * * * *

If I had strength to go through
the churches again, instead of
preaching to convert sinners, I
would preach to bring the
churches up to the Gospel standard
of holy living.

—Chas. G. Finney

* * * * *

*A God-forsaken man is a man
who has forsaken God!*

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer" 1 Peter 4:7

The End Of All Things

by E. V. Halt

—♦♦♦—

There are some things in life that we are glad, or would be glad, to see come to an end. We would welcome the end of certain difficulties, problems, troubles, temptations, and such like.

But the end spoken of in my text involves the end of all things, which is indeed a sobering truth. Your life, the life of your friends and enemies, will soon come to an end. Yes, the world itself will not always continue. Eventually all things of time must be swallowed up in endless eternity.

The end is experienced many times in life's affairs which prove to be blind alleys. The businessman who has not mastered the details of technique of his business; the professional man who does not know his calling faces failure and, in a sense, it is the end of the road for him. As serious and discouraging as such ends can be, my text speaks of an end that has to do with the eternal destiny of the soul.

The end of our earthly life is the beginning of an endless journey—an endless existence. At the end of this earthly road, God decides, on the basis of our belief as taught by the Word of God, what shall be thereafter for us. In all ages past no one ever failed to reach the end of this earthly, human road. Our life's journey may be short or long, but it will end. In the West a few years ago while driving down a street in San Francisco, I saw a sign which read, "End of Highway 40." There on the shore of the great Pacific, 40 ended! It struck me very forcefully! In reaching the end of that famous national highway, a great many things were encountered: light and darkness, valleys, hills, mountains, good roads, bad roads, narrow and broad roads, good and bad weather, bridges, danger, and even death. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, it was a long road, but we were at its end!

On this long highway one passes through or near great commercial centers of wealth, rich farmlands with their harvest fields, as

well as through deserts, wastelands and places where little life is in evidence. There too are the beautiful herds of cattle, and the great forests. But now it is all in the background and the western terminal of the road is reached. It was dull and drab in the city where 40 ended.

Though this is the end of a long road, yet it carried us to the shores of the greatest ocean in all the world. There is the Golden Gate Bridge, and the great ocean liners sailing to other lands.

There are varied and many things that happen on life's road, and though the end comes, it can be a good end. Some things the Word says about the end should concern all of us. Notice the question asked by Peter, "What shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" Solomon said, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Then consider the striking words of Paul, "For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction." Then Jesus himself speaks, "As there the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world."

The secret and hope of a worthy ending is in Christ. Jesus said, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end" (Rev. 21:6). He is acquainted with and is present in all beginnings and all endings. At the end of our sins we find Christ; at the end of the carnal self, Christ gives the Comforter. At the end of life's journey, Christ has promised to be there.

It is truly very heartening to hear Jesus say, "I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world," and "He that endureth to the end shall be saved." Yes, when we have Him, we have the end and the beginning that has no end. Isaiah says of him, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." This endlessness in Jesus is what we live for.

Knowing that the end is at hand, we should abide by Peter's admonition in my text to be "sober, and watch unto prayer." We should be solid, serious in our thinking, keeping our minds stay-

ed on the Christ, concerned and sober in the use of earthly enjoyments, and in a disposition conducive to prayer, praying frequently lest the end come upon us unaware.

The fact of our approaching end is a powerful argument to make us sober in all earthly matters and earnest in the service and worship of the Lord, ever rejoicing in that hope.

—Pilgrim Holiness Advocate

The Former Glory

(Continued from page 6)

to lose their former glory? "Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as it is this day." (Ezra 9:7) They broke their vows. "They kept not my Sabbaths." This present day is a day of broken vows. Marriage vows, church vows and business vows are so commonly broken as to bring chaos in the world. God's holy day is so desecrated in this age. Men and women work and buy and sell on Sunday with no compunction of conscience whatever. Even some who profess holiness are guilty of these practices.

A further cause was they took strange wives. (Ezra 10:11) They intermarried and mixed and mingled with the world. Even the priests were guilty of this. One is reminded of this when he beholds many of the preacher's wives of the modern holiness movement.

Is there a way back? Yes, Thank God! God wants us to have this glory. "So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was intreated of us." (Ezra 8:23). They put away their strange wives. (Ezra 10:2-3) The way back today is the route of old fashion repentance and restitution. There are many today who want the results but do not intend to pay the price for an old fashioned revival. They will put on banquets and call councils, etc., but it will take some real prayer fasting to get humble enough for God to come. It is much easier to make ecclesiastical resolutions and talk about going the old fashion way than it is to

(Continued on page 11)

The Spirit Departed

(Continued from page 4)

church. Oftentimes these sins are of a grosser nature. Still again there are some of the more common sort as neglect, indifference, lack of unity, gossiping, backbiting, dishonesty, worldliness, any of which will grieve the Holy Ghost and drive Him from our midst.

One preacher friend argues that we must not think of the Holy Spirit as a wild bird seeking to escape from the human heart. This sounds like a clever statement but it still does not explain why there is such a grievous lack of Holy Ghost power in our public services. The working of the Spirit means infinitely more than a made to order service. Certainly the blessed Third Person of the Trinity is not a wild bird seeking to escape, but He is a tender Dove that cannot endorse sin by His Holy presence. There is no reason to believe that the sins of a modern Achan are any less offensive to God today as when the people of God suffered inglorious defeat. Does God wink at sin with more complacency in this age of light?

SELF. The holy anointing oil of the Old Testament was not to be poured upon the flesh. Neither can we expect an outpouring of the Holy Ghost when the honor of the resulting achievement will be ascribed to the human instrument. There is a growing tendency these days to ascribe the credit to the evangelist, the singer, or some leader rather than to the Lord alone. "That no flesh should glory in His presence."

The work of the Holy Ghost is to exalt Christ. "He will take the things of mine and show them unto you," declared Christ. He certainly will not bring a revival in order that the preacher or church or denomination may exult in the success of His divine efforts. God emphatically states that He will not give His glory to another. It is too often true that success in the work of the Lord adds personal popularity to the leader. This was brought forcibly to our minds at the close of one of the camp meeting seasons. People came in from these gatherings singing the praises of the speakers and singers. They talked in glowing terms of the masterful sermons and talented singers. I fear they talked

more about the evangelist than about Christ. Is this not missing the mark? It is said that two sermons were delivered in a certain place. After one preacher had spoken the people left, talking about the great sermon. After the second man had spoken the congregation left, talking about what a great Christ we have.

SUPPRESSION. The Apostle exhorts the Thessalonians, "Quench not the Spirit." The Holy Spirit has His own way of operation and we have ours. Oftentimes these methods cross. Wherever Christ went something took place and those happenings were often very much out of the ordinary. A notable example is when two thousand hogs rushed down into the sea and were drowned. Many devout people today would wholly condemn such an episode as inconsistent. They would loudly affirm that God does not destroy another's property in any such manner. The stark fact is nevertheless recorded and we must accept it. It is a different thing, however, when something takes place in a service that is quite out of keeping with our ideas of decency and order. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is Liberty." We do not wish to intimate that the Holy Spirit is the author of confusion, but we are finite and earthly. His ways are as far above ours as the heavens are above the earth. We are not fully qualified to always pass judgment upon His methods and work. There is danger of becoming so wedded to a program that the Holy Spirit cannot freely operate.

"Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect in the flesh," declared the Apostle to the Galatians. It is possible to begin praying in the Spirit and conclude in the flesh. There is such a thing as shouting in the Spirit but ending in the flesh.

Charles Finney was accused of having fanaticism in his meetings. Mr. Finney countered by saying that the surprising thing was that there was not more. When the Holy Spirit is awakening the people and powerfully stirring their emotions it can be expected that the devil will seek to counterfeit the real work of the Spirit. It can be expected that some may get into the flesh. The significant thing is that these occurrences did not trouble the old time saints as much

as they do people today. Auntie Coon tells of a mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost in one of their camp meetings. She and Bishop Robert's wife staggered about as if intoxicated. John Wesley Redfield exhorted the people to take off their shoes as they were on holy ground. This exhortation of course was only to emphasize a spiritual truth. During this high tide of the service a woman rushed to the platform and deliberately slapped Dr. Redfield. This to be sure was entirely out of the Spirit. The woman was soon taken to account by some of the older saints. She was made to see the error of her way and, as I recall, soon repented and the meeting went on without interruption. Not so today. Many people would dump a car load of wheat overboard because of a grain of sand. Fanaticism is of far more reproach than formalism. Many churches have not had a genuine revival in many years and perhaps it has been as long since there has been a real manifestation of the Spirit's presence. Such a condition fails to greatly disturb some people but when something of a lively nature occurs that may be offensive to worldly minded, sophisticated church members they are ready to cry fanaticism and condemn the whole affair. What we need is a balanced fear against both formalism and fanaticism.

It is to be wondered if the Holy Ghost would be welcome if He would come to some of our gatherings. There are multitudes of saints who long and pray for a greater manifestation of the Holy Spirit's presence in our services. Human display and human programs fail to satisfy them. If the fire from heaven had failed to fall, Elijah's sacrifice would have been no better than that of the prophets of Baal. Oh, for something beyond the routine of service and private devotions. To see soul travail come upon some of us as it came upon Abel Clary, Father Nash, Charles Finney, and Praying Hyde. When Abel Clary writhed in soul agony, Mr. Finney did not pronounce it fanaticism but exhorted his brother to let him alone and he would bring forth a revival. And so it came to pass in Rochester, N. Y.

The blessed Holy Spirit is still as operative as in the days of the apostles, but He must have clean passive channels through which to operate.

Trying The Spirits

by R. D. Perry

In the Christian life it is not always easy to know whether we are being prompted by the Lord, or if suggestions are from Satan, the tempter. We may detect Satan's suggestions by the following tests:

1. He suggests doubt of God's love. This may be either direct or subtle. God's touch is quiet and confiding. He gives us a sense of trust.

2. Satan's suggestions are selfish. God's touch gives us strong desire for himself that will push the self right out, while the touch of Satan makes us selfish. Under his prompting we want what will please us. We want our own way.

3. He introduces a hurried spirit. He may worry us by a slow, dragging out of his purpose, but usually there is a sudden quick movement. "Do it now or else," seems to be his motto. You may be impressed to do something and do it right now or backslide. Beware of this impetuous spirit. God does not move in a hurry. He may move swiftly but not hastily. Rather, His promptings are a quiet on-moving, a gentle pull—not a drive, but an urge.

4. Satan's suggestions are apt to make one feverish. God's touch always calms. It is quiet, clear, and deliberate.

5. Satan used flattery. This is a reminder of one's power or ability. The Holy Spirit never flatters. He may encourage, but He never appeals to one's vanity. He may lead us to recognize properly the strength we possess or the gifts with which we are entrusted, but with it there is a recognition that they are from God and are to be used as a trust from Him.

6. Satan may produce a sense of fear. Satan's voice makes us afraid, while God's voice brings quiet confidence.

7. Satan may bring a sense of depression—either mental or spiritual. Much depression may be due to over-tired nerves and Satan may take advantage of this to bring distrust and discouragement. But God's presence brings peace, rest, and joy.

8. Satan is fond of extremes. He gets things out of their right relation, and truth out of its proper setting brings error. Error is flashy, spectacular, and erratic.

The Holy Spirit is a spirit of sanity — producing poised and sane judgment.

May we be careful that we are in the hands of the Holy Spirit that He may guide and direct us to be more than conquerors over Satan through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Message To The Church

by Rev. John White

"He that hath an ear, hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches" (Rev. 2:11)

As we speak to the church, we speak not to an earthly building, but to the true followers of Christ, those who are washed in the blood of the Lamb and form the Church of the Lord. The Holy Spirit is dealing to the church, but how deaf are the ears of the saints. If we are to have a spiritual relationship with Christ and perform the duties of the Word, we need to hear the tender voice of the Spirit calling us to a closer fellowship and deeper experience. Let us observe the word church and see the secret of its success.

The letter "C" in the word church stands for Christ. In any spirit filled church Christ must be first, complete Ruler and the exalted One. Truly churches need more of Christ and less of the "I". When we give Christ the credit and praise and talk less about what we do, surely He will bless us more.

The letter "H" stands for holiness. We in this day need more holiness of God and less righteousness of man. A holy church is a Godly church for we are commanded to be holy as God is holy.

The letter "U" means unity. How can two walk together less they agree. We need to agree first of all with God, take His way as He commands, then be in unity with each other in perfect love. A divided house cannot stand and a divided church cannot experience spiritual success.

The letter "R" means righteousness. God has a righteousness for His church which is above the rags of man's goodness. God is good. His goodness is extended to His church without measure.

The letter "C" means consecration. We are to be deeply sincere

in our work as a representative of God. Do all things for the glory of God. Not for earthly gain, but that God may be exalted.

The last letter "H" stands for humility. The church is the servant of God. Do all things in meekness. Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth. The first shall be the last and the last first. The church needs respect but not pride.

Now if you will put all these things into the church you will have victory. A church with Christ, holiness, unity, consecration, righteousness, and humility cannot fail. The gates of hell can not prevail against it.



"Lift up your eyes to the hills"

The Former Glory

(Continued from page 9)

make wrongs right and get back on praying and believing ground with God. Many worldly minded professors now can see the tragic condition of the modern holiness movement and are anxious to talk about control in regard to their worldly pleasures but they are not willing to make a clean break and get rid of them. But God said, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: (Isa. 55:7) Some have gone so far and said so much that it is doubtful if they will ever have the courage to take the long rough trail of repentance and restitution that leads back to God. Though God will not compromise with sin, there is mercy for the one who will forsake sin and come to God with a truly penitent heart! God is waiting to bestow His power and glory on all who will honestly meet His terms. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land." (II Chron. 7:14)

—The Missionary Revivalist

A Good Picture

From Scotland comes this beautiful and touching incident:

One of the rough and hardy fishermen of the Northeast Coast was long famous (or infamous) for his drinking propensities. When money was in his pocket, it was not long until drink had its way with him. A visitor to the little village saw in this man's cottage a very beautiful picture, "Light of the World," by Hunt, and spoke to him about it.

"Aye, that's a guid picture," said the fisherman, and he told this incident about it:

"I was far down with drink," said he, "When one night I went into a saloon, and there hung this picture."

"The sight of it sobered me, and I said to the innkeeper, 'Sell me that picture—this is no place for the Saviour.' So I gave him all the money I had, and brought the picture home. Then, as I looked at it again the words of my old mother came back to me. I dropped to my knees and cried, 'O Lord Jesus, wilt Thou pick me up again, and lift me out of all my sin?'"

His prayer was abundantly and graciously answered, and today, in that little Scottish town the fisherman is the leader in every good cause.

When the visitor asked him if it had not been a struggle, a look of exultation came over the rugged face as he replied:

"When such a Saviour comes into one's heart, He takes the love of drink out of it!"

—Exchange

Take Time

*I will not hurry through this day!
Lord, I will listen by the way
To humming bees and singing
birds,*

*To murmuring trees and friendly
words;*

*And for the moments in between
Seek glimpses of Thy great unseen.
I will not hurry through this day,
I will take time to think and pray;
I will look up into the sky,
Where fleecy clouds and swallows
fly;*

*And somewhere in the day, maybe
I will catch whispers, Lord, from
Thee!*

—War Cry

Right or Wrong?

Trying to decide whether to do something or not? Here are eleven tests to help you decide if it's right or wrong.

The Personal Test: Will doing it make me a better or worse Christian?

The Social Test: Will doing it influence others to be better or worse Christians?

The Practical Test: Will doing it likely bring desirable or undesirable results?

The Universal Test: Suppose everyone did it?

The Scriptural Test: Is it expressly forbidden in the Word of God?

The Stewardship Test: Will doing it involve a waste of God's talents invested in me?

The Missionary Test: Will doing it likely help or hinder the progress of the kingdom of God on earth?

The Character Test: Will doing it make me stronger or weaker morally?

The Family Test: Will doing it bring credit or dishonor to my family?

The Publicity Test: Would I be willing for my friends to know about it?

The Common Sense Test: Is it good, plain, every day, ordinary, common sense? —Selected

Fiery Trials May Be Your Answer



Pressed by needs and problems we pray to God for help, and all too frequently look for it to come from a particular source.

But our Lord, understanding us and our needs far better than we do ourselves, often sees that it is far better for Him to work in our behalf in such a way that the answer comes from an entirely different direction from that which we expected. Thus the disturbing incidents which so distress us at the time, often later prove to be the very means God used to answer our prayer. Amid perplexities, then, we need patience and trust.

The only survivor of a wrecked vessel found himself thrown upon the beach of an uninhabited island. After a while he managed to

build a hut for himself. In this he placed the precious little which he had been able to salvage from the wreck.

Daily he prayed to God for deliverance and anxiously scanned the horizon to hail any passing ship. Day after day, week after week passed. But no ship ever hove into sight. His plight became even worse. Upon returning one day from a hunt for food he was horrified to find his hut in flames. All of his possessions—every one essential to his existence—were going up in smoke before his eyes.

This calamity proved to be a divine providence. It was significant, perfectly-timed answer to his prayer. The very next day a ship arrived. Why, he wanted to know, had the vessel come to this isolated, uninhabited place? The captain answered, "We saw your smoke signal." —A. D. Peisker

The Deadline

*There is a time, we know not
when,*

*A place, we know not where;
That marks the destiny of man,
For glory or despair.*

*There is a line by us unseen,
That crosses every path,
The hidden boundary between,
God's mercy and God's wrath.*

*To pass that limit is to die;
To die as if by stealth
It does not quench the beaming eye
Nor pale the glow of health.*

*The Conscience may still be at
ease,*

*The spirit light and gay;
That which is pleasing still may
please
And care be thrust away.*

*"O where is that mysterious borne
By which our path is crossed?
Beyond which God himself hath
sworn,
That he who goes is lost.*

*"How far may we go on in sin?
How long will God forbear?
Where does hope end, and where
begins
The confines of despair?"*

*"The answer from the sky is sent,
'Ye that from God depart,
While it is called today, repent,
And harden not your heart.'"*
—Selected