



GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

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Penns Creek, Pa.

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalms 68:11.

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The Road of the Star

by Kathryn Blackburn Peck

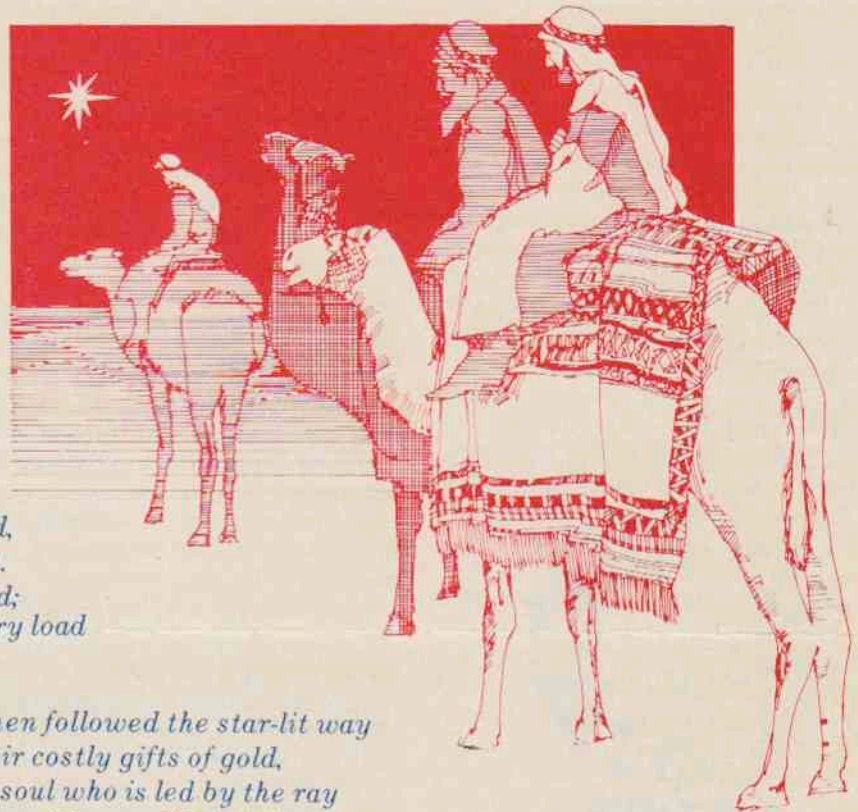
*The road of the star is an old, old road,
And many have traveled its length.
'Tis a narrow road, yet the safest road;
There are burdens there, but for every load
There is given a magic strength.*

*The wise men followed the star-lit way
With their costly gifts of gold,
And every soul who is led by the ray
Of the star of hope will find the way
To a blessedness untold.*

*Perchance some soul may be groping still,
And following but afar.
His courage flags with his fainting will;
He sees but the Cross on the brow of the hill
And loses sight of the star.*

*Yet the road of the star is the sweetest road
That a traveler ever may take.
Loving hands will reach out to share his load;
There are smiles and gladness along the road,
And a song for love's dear sake.*

*Come, walk with me on the star-lit trail,
And gifts for the Christ-child bring.
We will find a faith that can never fail;
There are peace and joy on the star-lit trail
Where the Christmas angels sing!*



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GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

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The Irresistible CHRISTMAS BABY

by HAROLD R. CROSSER

Christmas has charms all its own, and its fascination is wrapped up in a starry-eyed infant entwined in swaddling clothes. Similar to burlap, the bandage-like swaddling went round and round the divine infant until the eternal Son of God was as helpless as a worm in a cocoon.

Little wonder then that Cyprian, a third-century preacher, exclaimed as he contemplated the manger:

"I am not astonished at the creation of the world, at the heavens, at the earth, at the succession of days and seasons, but I wonder to see God enclosed in the womb of a virgin, the Omnipotent laid in a manger, the eternal Word clothed with flesh."

Little babies, miracles that they are, have always caused happiness. The birth song is the world's sweetest refrain. Newness has come and a thrill pervades the air, whether life comes forth in a mansion in a great city or in a lonely cabin enshrouded in whispering pines. Poverty or wealth matters little. The joy is always the same.

The Reverend John T. McFarland caught the thrill of this when he wrote, "Bed of straw on manger floor, or queen's couch canopied with silk and gold . . . And so Jesus entered the stream of human joy not halfway down its course but at its fountainhead." And not Mary alone, but the whole world could sing, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given."

That the Christmas Baby was significant and eternal could not be escaped. The world's Redeemer had arrived and angels were dispatched to tell to some obscure shepherds that a Saviour . . . a Baby . . . had come. In their song of "glory to God in the highest," heaven swooped low and with the message "on earth peace," kissed a prodigal planet.

The significance of the angelic singing must not be lost in sentiment. The basis of Christmas glory is the Daystar from on high. The deeper

meaning of the joyous Christmas message is that the great Creator himself became a creature, human and in the flesh. The bursting of the tides of heavenly gladness through earth's cynicism meant that God could be found and was being revealed among men as a remedy for sin.

We cannot forget as we are drawn by the Christmas Baby that the remedy for sin had to be pure and holy. In the midst of joy there was an enshrouding mystery that never can be understood but must always be eternally appreciated. God became man by a virgin birth. The eternal Spirit had overshadowed a mortal, had planted the life germ of everlastingness, and had produced the Christ Child. His body has been given to Him by Mary but His inheritance of life — Spirit and soul — were divine — and pure.

Jesus became the gift of joy. He became the pivot around which all of life's best responses circle. He became the hinge of history, the center and circumference of existence. These are the reasons that Christmastide is different from other holidays. And all of us know this in our hearts and can say with a good minister of yesteryear: "It has a softer, tenderer, more domestic interest about it. It falls in with other feelings, and blends with some of the closest and dearest associations of family life."

Yes, there are profound reasons for Christmas joy. The Child of heaven and earth came. The Child of God and man came. The Child to fulfill both heaven and earth's longings for redemption came. Heir of heaven, heir of earth, heir in whom all might claim their spiritual legacy. He was the Baby who epitomized hopes unspeakable.

Christmas has charms all its own. Yearly the throngs delight to worship at Bethlehem's stable. One day in 365 we have a Christmas world. The Christmas Baby is irresistible!

The Night Before Christmas

by Fred T. Fuge

(By this I mean the night before our Lord was born)

Nothing was much different from hundreds of other nights that had come and gone before. The evening shadows had fallen, the sun had gone to rest behind Mt. Carmel, and the hills that Pharoah saw. The moon hung dimly in the misty sky, and the stars were just the same as they had been for hundreds of years.

True, there were occasional streams of silver light that flashed in the eastern sky, but that may have been caused by a passing meteorite, or by some star in one of the old constellations shining just a little brighter. The entire surrounding heavens were about the same as they had been since Israel came to Canaan, nearly two-thousand years before. The stars were travelling over their same appointed courses, and the moon was faithfully keeping her appointed vigil, two hundred and forty thousand miles above the earth.

Eighteen miles down the mountain-side, the sparkling surface of blue Galilee was almost undisturbed, for the fishermen had cast their nets for the last time, and had tied up their boats somewhere along the sea-washed shore. The usual hub-bub in the houses had quieted down, and the noisy children were fast asleep. The shepherds on the hillsides were taking care of their flocks, and the donkeys and oxen, tired from their day of toil, were grazing in the open fields, or at rest in their sheltering stalls.

The lights burned dimly in God's great House on Zion's hill. The silver trumpet was quiet. The fires were smoldering on the altar, and the

white-robed priest and the vested choir had returned to their rest. Herod was asleep in his golden mansion at Jericho, with mail-clad Roman guards stationed at all the surrounding walls. There were watchmen of undisputed loyalty on guard at every gate. The portals of the old city on the hill were closed for the night, and the temple captain was moving slowly, almost unheard, from one watch-post to another. John the Baptist born six months before, was fast asleep in his home-made crib in the little old town outside the city wall.

Early in the morning, long before the sun peeped out from behind the jagged rocks of Pisgah and Mt. Nebo (even before it touched the tall peaks of Judah to paint in gold and purple glory, the mountains and the valleys) all was still. But soon the sun would break in bewildering splendor on the gem-set walls and golden dome of God's great Temple on Mt. Moriah. The gates of the old city were not yet open, and only the dawning traffic was moving about the streets, when suddenly -! there appeared a swift runner from Bethlehem six miles away, racing toward the Temple Mount!

According to the custom of the times, his loins and lower limbs were covered with what looked like baloon breeches, while the loose garment over his shoulders, fluttered in the wind like the welcome flag of some swift herald, bearing a message of extreme importance, direct from the monarch's throne. And that was exactly what he carried - a MESSAGE FROM GOD HIMSELF.

His face and exposed limbs were covered with the dust of the highway, and his breathing was almost too rapid for words. Rushing to the nearest Temple opening, he met old Solomon and Anna, just arriving from their places of rest and prayer.

"Good news! Good news!" he shouted, "such news as was never heard!"

"What is it, Messenger? Tell us quickly! Has the Roman Empire declared Palestine a free country? Has Caesar been converted?" they questioned excitedly.

"No, No! No news so unimportant as that! Poor stuff that, as compared with the tidings that I bring! (pause) Old Simeon believed to be five-hundred years old, and Anna considerably over one-hundred, could hardly contain themselves.

"But calm yourselves, old Friends, for the Good News! Good News such as the world has never heard; No newspaper ever published it, no billboard even announced it. No herald ever shouted it out; nor have the lungs of a man, the legs of a horse or the swinging stride of a camel ever carried it abroad. It is news! It is news' - and wonderful! And it all happened last night - the night before Christmas!"

"Hurry Messenger, don't delay!"

"Wait, wait a moment while I breathe a prayer for all creation to help me make it known. Let the winds waft it over the earth; let the thunders roll it across the sky, and let the waves billow it over the oceans! Let the lightning flash it, the cyclone scream it; let the mountains break forth and sing, and the valleys shout for joy! Let angels, men and beasts and all creeping things proclaim it! Let heaven and earth join in the Hallelujah Chorus; let the trees of the forests clap their hands, and all the flowers of the fields throw love kisses over the world! Let the aurora borealis flash it out across the ice-capped mountains of the rugged North and over the turbulent and uncharted water of unknown Polar seas! Let the mighty equinox billow it out from the chambers of the South, and all the glorious daughters of the dawn put on their golden slippers and celebrate in holy dance this greatest and grandest event through all the eastern world! And lastly, let all the planets, single stars and constellations dress in their bright silver robes and march in heavenly triumph across the wondrous sky; let all the harps of heaven sound, and all the bells of earth ring out! The crowning act of all the ages had come to pass - yes, and of all the ages yet to come! THE BIRTH TIME OF THE SON OF GOD, and it all took place last night - the night before Christmas - the night that Christ was born!"

"Listen, my old Friends: last night while the shepherds of Bethlehem were caring for their flocks, suddenly - the sky seemed to catch on fire! A light brighter than human eyes had ever seen, lit up all the heavens around. The shepherds were frightened, but a band of holy angels came out of the heavenly light, and told the shepherds not to be afraid, for they had come to bring glad tidings of great joy to them, and to all people:

(Continued on Page 8)

CHURCH NEWS

Youth Rally On Florida District!

A district youth rally of the churches on the Florida District was held on October 6 in the Lakeland Church where James Cooper is the pastor.

All the pastors were present and each church was also represented in the congregation. Rev. Clifford Sarver and Rev. Ron Hayes presented messages in a Youth Ministerial format. The topic of Rev. Sarver's challenge was "A Vision for Youth." Rev. Hays spoke on the topic "Christian Responsibility in the Home." Certainly all who were in attendance were challenged and are looking forward to the next rally.

NOTICE

When you are anticipating a change of address please notify the Business Manager of the Standard well in advance of the move so as to not suffer an interruption of your service as a subscriber.

When sending change-of-address notification please send your "old address" as well as your "new address." Thanks so much!

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The Annual Camp Meeting

of the

Florida District

of

God's Missionary Church
Tampa, Florida

January 17 - 27, 1980



Evangelist
Rev. Paul King
Lima, Ohio

Rising Bell & Prayer	7:00 a.m.
Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer	8:45 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 noon
Service	2:30 p.m.
Dinner	5:00 p.m.
Youth	6:30 p.m.
Evangelistic	7:30 p.m.

Meals to be served in local dining hall. Motels and accommodations available in local area.



Evangelist and Singers
Rev. and Mrs. David Fuller
Penns Creek, Pa.

The camp meeting will be held on the John Wesley Memorial Campground. Trailer spaces are available. Lodging is available. Bring your own bedding.

For information contact:

Camp President
Rev. Melvin Evans

Rev. R. D. Walker
1702 Fowler Street
Fort Myers, Fla. 33901



Rev. 1:1-3,

Some folk look at the book of Revelation as a puzzle book, sealed and closed to man. John does not say it is a book of mysteries, but rather declares it to be, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" The Word revelation is just the opposite of mystification. It means to lighten to remove the cover, to unveil.

The word is not in the plural but in the singular. The revelation. Christ is it's one central theme.

1. The Purpose of the Revelation.

Ver. 1, To show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass. This verse teaches us the book was not mere history but prophecy which has to do with future events.

God the Father gave this revelation to Christ, Christ gave it to his angel, the angel gave it to John, and John gave it to the Saints. In chapter 1, We have Christ in glory, Ch. 2 and 3, we have Christ in the midst of his people Ch. 4, Christ's return to the air, Ch. 5, Christ claiming creation, Ch. 6 to 18, Christ in judgment. Ch. 19, Christ as the Bridegroom King, Ch. 20, Christ reigning in the earth, Ch. 21-22, Christ triumphant over all.

In these chapters the Kingdoms are no longer under the dominion of wicked ruthless Dictators and kings, but have now become the possession of Christ upon whose shoulders the governments of the world now rests. Well can we understand why the poet penned the words of that beautiful hymn, "What a day, What a day that will be."

In I Thess. 4:16-18, The Apostle Paul had a revelation of the Saints exit out of this world, For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together

with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Here is a specific line of truth to be preached and re-preached by God's faithful ministers as a source of comfort in this dark and troublesome world.

What he actually is telling us is this, The grave is not the end but rather a resting place for the bodies of loved ones until that great and glorious day when Jesus returns for his own.

In Chapter 21, John gives us a bird's eye view of the City and who is going there.

And I Saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

These verses of scripture are in perfect harmony with Christ's farewell message in St. Jno. 14:1-3, Let not your heart be troubled ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am ye may be also.)

I would like for you to note some things that will be absent in this city and country.

Ver. 4, And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away.

In verse 5, we have a command, And he that sat on the throne said unto John, Write for these words are true

and faithful. The conditions for entering this City is set forth in verse 7, He that overcometh shall inherit all things, This does not sound like all that go to Church and say, Lord, Lord is going to be there. God is very pointed in revealing unto John who would not enter the home of the Saints.

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.

Ver. 27, And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. The book of revelation begins with a holy church at Ephesus and culminates with a spued out church at Ladiocea. The reason for this church being spued out is recorded in chapter 3:14-17, And unto the angel of the church of the Ladioceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would thou wert cold or hot.

So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot I will spue thee out of my mouth.) The churches mentioned by John are figurative and well represent the present age in which we live.

There was a time when the church could sing with life and spirit We are marching, to Zion beautiful Zion, Today the protestant Church is in full retreat protesting nothing. Announce a prayer meeting in many places hardly a Baker's dozen shows up. Announce to the same crowd a supper, a frolic or a bingo party and an overflowing crowd turns out.

This is the test as to who and what man loves most. Paul said in the last days, Men would become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

One need not be a graduate from a university to see this, It is being fulfilled before our very eyes. In addition to this he said man would ever

(Continued on Page 10)



CHRISTMAS WITHOUT CHRIST

While people in America hurried to decorate their lovely Christmas tree with brightly colored bulbs and tinsel the man in foreign lands bowed down to clean all the place under the giant tree and carefully prepared the place to put his food that he had brought for the spirits. It must be very clean, it must be just the way the spirit would want it to be. Everything must be done to please this evil one or trouble would come to his family and those he loved. He had walked a long ways to find just the right tree. It reached its arms some two hundred to three hundred feet towards the heavens and it seemed to breathe mystery and fear there in the darkness of the jungle forest. Its branches seemed to reach out for you in the night and the roots of the tree scurried along and twisted their way up and over each other, some of them so high from the ground one could almost walk under them. When everything was ready he offered the sacrifice to appease his god and then walked away. But his heart was empty and unsatisfied. This takes place after almost two thousand years when that One Great Sacrifice was given for all peoples.

Instead of colorful wrapped gifts being given to the members of the family like in America, thousands this Christmas will buy charms from medicine men to wrap around the necks, legs, and arms of their babies to protet them from evil spirits. A dirty foul smelling thing that will do nothing for them. And still the babies die from malnutrition.

Instead of Christmas carols being sung and beautiful choral programs being heard, the ears of millions will ring with the sound of voodoo drums and they shall jump and dance in their frenzy of desire to escape the realite of death, disease and darkness that surround their lives like plagues. At times they will leap into the air as demons take over their bodies. We as missionaries have seen it, and our hearts shuddered.

Instead of hearing the sweetest story ever told this Christmas they will sit around their fires and repeat legends, superstitions, fanciful tales of zombies, dead spirits that haunt the living if they are not treated well by their relatives. There will be no story of a Saviour Who died to set them free.

This Christmas those without Christ shall know nothing but darkness, sin and despair. What about your Christmas? As you sit down to your Turkey and cranberry sauce, and eat more than you need will you remember the hungry in other lands?

Will you spend your Christmas day without a thought of countless millions who do not know the meaning of the word Christmas?

December 25th will be celebrated as usual, all the same things in the same way. But this year while you decorate your tree, wrap your presents and sing the carols would you remember those who have never heard about the Christ of Christmas? He knows, cares, and wants them to know. DO YOU?

your missionaries in Haiti

Christmas Greetings

From

Intercession City Christian School



We have appreciated your prayers and gifts for the Intercession City Christian School. Please continue to pray for us and our school. We value your prayer support. May God Bless you and give you a most Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Board of Directors
Intercession City Christian School

For The BOYS and GIRLS

Susie's Christmas List

by Marjorie L. Nelson

Susie felt the red softness of the new dress that hung in her closet. Then she stooped down and tried to see her face in the shiny patent leather shoes. She could hardly wait to wear her new things at the Christmas program tonight.

It was almost time for Sunday school, so she looked at herself in the mirror. Her hair was brushed bright, and the ribbon looked just right. She opened her Bible, and a piece of paper fell to the floor. Quickly she picked it up. On it were written four words:

presents	new dress
carols	program

She hoped she had spelled the words right.

The superintendent had asked everyone to write what each thought was best about Christmas. She wondered what her brother Alan had written, so she went downstairs to find him. He had forgotten, so Susie helped him find a paper and pencil. She listened to the scratching of the pencil and then asked, "What did you write?"

"I put presents first," said Alan, "and then Christmas dinner."

When the Sunday school started, the superintendent collected the lists in a small basket. He said the best list would be read at the program.

That night when they arrived at the church, Susie and Alan went to the front. She was glad she didn't sing in the choir because she would hate to cover up her dress with a robe. She looked at poor little Liza who came from such a large family and wore hand-me-down dresses that were too big. Susie smiled at Liza, and Liza smiled back.

Finally the program started. The pieces were said, and the songs were sung. Then the superintendent thanked the people for coming and wished them all a happy Christmas. He said, "We have one more thing to do before we go." He held up the basket of papers. "out of all these lists, we picked the one we thought

was best. Many boys and girls wrote 'presents' or 'toys.' Some wrote 'Christmas dinner.' " Everyone waited. "The list we chose says, 'Jesus is best.' It was written by Liza Daniels. Will Liza come forward?"

Liza walked to the platform. Her funny dress hung far below the choir robe. But her face was shining. Susie was happy for Liza, but underneath she felt sad because she had forgotten to put Jesus on her list at all.

The superintendent asked Liza to tell why she thought Jesus was the best part about Christmas. Liza took a big breath and said, "Because He lasts all year!"

The people smiled, but Susie knew that Liza had said those words right from her heart.

On the way home Susie whispered, "Next time, dear Jesus, I'll put you first on my Christmas list."

—Gospel Herald

Bobby's Window Friend

by Louise Price Bell

"What are you going to do with all the money in your bank?" inquired Mrs. Brown one day near Christmas time.

"Buy something!" answered little Bobby, promptly.

"But what are you going to buy?" asked his mother. "Something for sister, Nancy, or for Grandma, for Grandpa, or for just whom?"

Little Bobby looked very serious.

"I want to buy something for the little sick girl," he said. "the girl who always waves to me from her wheelchair when I go past her house."

Mother looked surprised.

"Sure, I know her! She always looks for me when I go to school, and she waves; and just before I turn the corner, I always turn around and wave again. The day I was at home with a bad cold, her brother told me she missed me."

Mrs. Brown, who had known nothing about this friendship, was pleased. She knew about the little girl who sat day in and day out in a wheelchair and would never be able to walk again; and she was happy that Bobby had grown to know her in this pleasant way.

Bobby continued: "I never, never saw her playing with a doll, Mother. Don't you think she'd like to have a doll for a Christmas present? Nancy told me they don't have very many toys or games or things."

"I am sure she would," answered his mother. "Would you like to go shopping tomorrow and get a doll for her?"

"Oh, yes!" cried Bobby, jumping up and down with delight.

So the next day, Mrs. Brown and Bobby emptied the money out of his little bank. It was money he had been saving for a long, long time, and which he had earned doing many helpful things. Sometimes he swept the porches; sometimes he wiped the silverware; and very often, he went to the grocery store for his mother.

"Is there enough money for a doll?" Bobby asked his mother, as they had it all in a little box ready to take to town.

"Oh, yes, plenty!" answered his mother, and away they went to the big toy shop.

Here, Bobby picked out the doll he liked best of all, and Mrs. Brown let him give the money to the clerk. She said they would send the doll the night before Christmas, and Bobby wrote a little card to put into the doll's hand. It read:

"A very Merry Christmas to my Window Friend!"

That was how it was that Christmas Eve a poor little crippled girl was made very happy by the kindness and thoughtfulness of a very fine little Christian boy.

Always after that, when the little girl waved to Bobby as he went past her home, she held the doll in her arms, and Bobby never had a happier Christmas, for he kept thinking of the little girl and her Christmas doll.

—Olive Plants.

The Story Of Christmas

—By Oswald J. Smith

Nearly two thousand years ago there was born, in Bethelhem of Judea, a Babe whose life was destined to affect countless millions. That Babe was Jesus Christ.

The time was ripe for His birth. Roman roads had been built throughout the civilized world in preparation for the feet of His future messengers. The Greek language had become almost universal in readiness for the proclamation of His Gospel.

The people among whom He was born were poor and despised, having been conquered by the Roman power. In the heart of every man was a cry for deliverance.

The world knew not of His birth. Work went on as usual. There was no tremendous upheaval announcing a new order. Kings and potentates continued to rule as before. Nothing outwardly heralded His Advent into the world.

Only Heaven appeared to be interested. In fact, God had to arrange a welcome Himself, and so legions of angels circles the skies and heralded His birth. Wise men from the East, studying the stars, and observing an unusual phenomenon in the heavens, came later with their gifts from afar.

Rulers learned of His birth and became fearful and afraid. Anger filled their hearts. Murder was conceived and executed. Fearful of their power, they sought by every possible means His death.

Every diabolical plan that Satanic ingenuity could devise was used to destroy Him. Demons trembled.

Satan became enraged. All hell was allied against Him. But God was watching, and He lived in spite of all.

He did not come to a palace. No luxurious bed chamber was prepared for His birth. Neither nurses nor doctors were in attendance. Cathedral bells failed to toll; bands were silent. Only the heavenly orchestras were heard.

For He came to a stable. And He was laid in a manger. His mother had only the straw for a bed and animals for companions. There was no room in the inn.

Little did Caesar know that this Babe, through His teachings, would one day destroy the great Roman Empire, bring to naught the majesty and power of Rome, and that the day would come when His birth, His life and His death would have a greater influence on humanity than the birth and death of any other man.

For He was destined to be recognized by countless millions as the greatest of all the prophets, the mightiest of all the mighty, the Savior of the world, God incarnate.

But more amazing still, this Babe was born of a virgin, born without a human father, for Mary, His mother in the innocence of her girlhood, had known no man at the time of His conception. God was His Father. He was conceived of the Holy Ghost. No other in all the world was so born.

And now for nearly two thousand years His birth has been commemorated. More than nineteen hundred Christmas days have come and

gone since that never-to-be-forgotten night. And boys and girls, as well as men and women the world over, have kept sacred the memory of His birth.

When He reappears it will not be as a babe, nor will He be born a second time. It will not be to the stable and the manger and the little, obscure village of Bethlehem. He will not come in poverty as before. Nor will He be despised, persecuted and cruelly slain.

When He reappears it will be in glory, in triumph and in power. He will come as the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the All-Conquering One, Lord of lords and King of kings, the one and only Potentate, Creator of the world and Ruler of the universe.

All nations will do Him homage. All mankind will fall down before Him. Countless millions will raise their voices in welcome. Translated saints will accompany Him. Angels and archangels will be His bodyguard. And down from the celestial glory of His heavenly home, breaking through the clouds of the skies, He will reappear to take over the reins of government and rule the nations for a thousands years.

Men will hail Him as their Deliverer. Satan will be bound. He, the Babe of Bethlehem's manger, will reign in majesty and power Divine. Every knee to Him shall bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord. Thus He will return.

THE NIGHT BEFORE

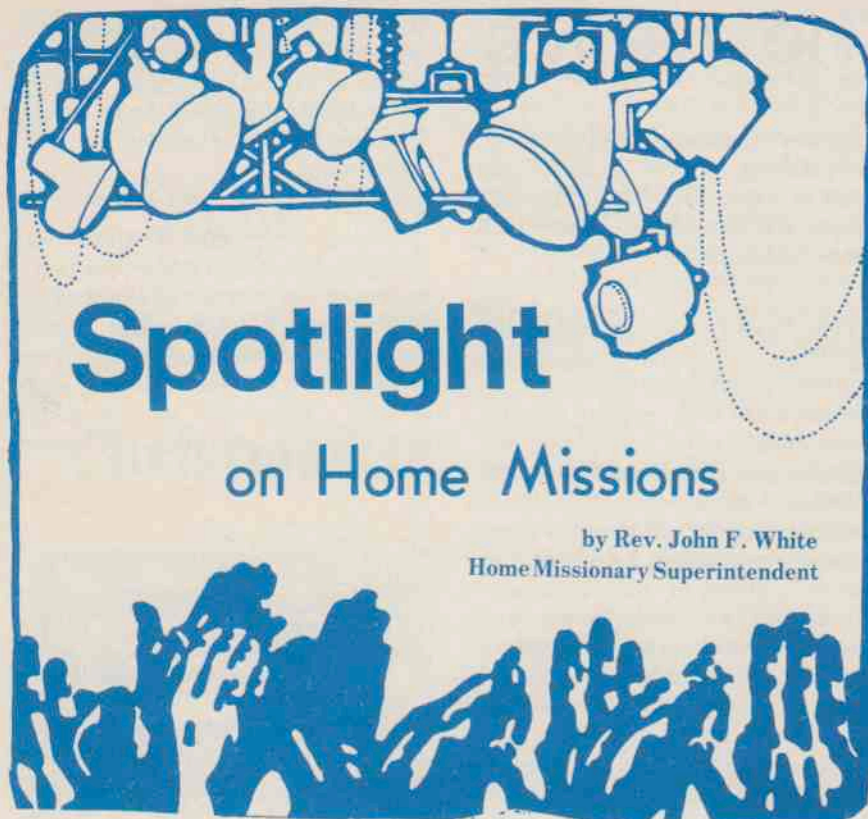
(Continued from Page 3)

"Last night there was born in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord. Go," they said, "to Bethlehem and you will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger." The shepherds went, and found it just as the angels had said.

"Glory to God, Simeon! Glory to God, Anna! the Son of God has come! The Messiah for Whom you have waited long WAS BORN LAST NIGHT IN DAVID'S INN."

And just here, I would like to think that these two aged veterans of the Lord, who had waited so long, shook their stiffened limbs, clasped hands, embraced, and did some kind of a Hallelujah demonstration!

"Glory to God in the highest! The Son of God was born, and it all happened last night — THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS."



Spotlight on Home Missions

by Rev. John F. White
Home Missionary Superintendent

Home Missions & Christmas

John 1:11 "He came to his own and his own received him not."

Yes, it is Christmas time again! Who knows, it could be the very last one we will have before the Lord returns. It is a time of joy, singing, bells ringing and giving. Truly this is one of the happiest times of the year. Even in our day when the world has mis-used this blessed time we that are true believers rejoice in the message of peace and joy. It is a story that never will die but grows sweeter year by year.

Christmas and Home Missions are very closely knit together. For Christ was the very first home missionary. The Word declares he came to his own, to seek the lost sheep of the house of Israel. In Luke we have the story of the nativity and it was the Jewish shepherds on the hills of Judea that received the first Christmas message from the Angels. They were the first to come to the new born king. The Wise men of Matthew Chapter two as Gentiles came when the baby was a Child. Here we have a complete picture of Missions, the shepherds representing the home fields, and the wise men the foreign. The instructions to the disciples in Acts 1, were

to witness first at home in Jerusalem, then to the uttermost parts of the earth.

The promotion of Home Missions is linked with Christmas in many ways. First the shepherds went away rejoicing and praising God in their own neighborhood after seeing the babe. They spread the news among their own folks. This is a real need today even in America. The Home Mission Field is ripe to harvest. Our own people need to see the salvation of God. We are not blinded by pagan religion but blinded by the truth and light of the gospel. Many know better but do not keep the truth they know. The latter part of our verse said his own received him not. It did not say they believed him not, for many believe but do not receive.

Secondly, the shepherds went back to their own flocks on the hill sides. This is a need today for preachers here at home. Good Bible, spirit-filled preachers are very few. We need men and women with the glow of God on their faces and the fire of God in their hearts. The world does not want nor need a dead form of religion or preaching. We need those like the shepherds who have the praise of God ringing forth from their inner souls.

I trust you will remember with prayer and a gift those who labor on Home Mission fields this year. It would be a good time to let the "Hoskins" up in Indian country know you are behind them with a special Christmas love gift. They labor so hard in their work among the Indians. There are good young preachers who are struggling to pastor small churches and work at the same time. Think of our evangelist (full time ones) who have off because of the Christmas season. Their bills still go on and a Christmas love gift would be such a real blessing to them. If you are interested in sending a Christmas Home Missionary love offering to any one of our Home Missionary workers you can send them to me and I will see they get it, or send it directly to them.

This year let us keep "Home Missions in Christmas." This is truly what Christmas is all about. Jesus never quit, he preached, healed, bled and died for his own. Today the World is all his and the door is open to both Jew and Gentile. Christmas is for everyone, let us not keep it to ourselves. The Home Missionary Department, and I as your General Conference Home Missionary Superintendent which to wish you all a God-filled, happy, holy Christmas.

—Rev. John F. White
Home Missionary Superintendent

* SPECIAL HOME MISSIONARY *
* LOVE-OFFERING *
* *
* Date: _____ *
* *
* Dear Bro. White: *
* Enclosed is my Special love offer- *
* ing for Home Missions. Please use it *
* for *
* _____ Wolf's Store Fund *
* _____ York Church Fund *
* _____ Home Missionary *
* _____ Revival Fund *
* (others) _____ *
* _____ *
* _____ *
* Send to Box 321, R. D. #1 *
* Allenwood, Pa. 17810 *
* *****

Religion In The News

MODERATES URGED TO RESIST 'RIGHT-FUNDAMENTALIST' TREND

MINNEAPOLIS (EP) — An appeal to religious and political leaders of moderation to raise their voices in protest of the growing "Right-Fundamentalist" trend has been made by the regional director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

In a guest column in the Minneapolis Star, Paul O. Sand, director of the Minnesota-Dakota Region of the NCCJ, said his office has been increasingly concerned about the formation and the organized efforts of the "Christian Right." If the present campaign is left unchallenged by responsible and moderate religious and political leaders, he warned, it "has the potential to destroy the delicate fibers of trust, tolerance, mutual respect, openness, and equal human dignity and worth — all essential elements in our pluralistic society."

In Minnesota, Mr. Sand said, "the attacks by Right-Fundamentalists have focused primarily on our public schools for allegedly teaching atheistic secular humanism, and on individuals and groups who support such issues as the ERA, freedom of choice, family planning, day care centers, ecumenism, academic freedom, free speech and press, global interdependence, UNESCO, UN., the International Year of the Child,

brotherhood, sex education, Medicare, the teaching of the evolutionary theory in biology, and SALT II, which is perceived as an appeasement with godless communion.

"This Right-Fundamentalist trend — perhaps caused by the high degree of economic and social insecurity — assumes that only secular conservatism espouses the true philosophy of Christ and the Holy Scriptures. Furnished with an apparatus of conservative ideology, various politico-clerics of conservatism have begun to mobilize millions of so-called 'born-again' for an assault on our democratic system, which is based on a plurality of religious and political norms."

INERRANCY DISPUTE, SAYS SCHOLAR, IS AT LEAST AS OLD AS THE BIBLE

MIAMI (EP) — The controversy over verbal inspiration of Scripture which disrupted the recent meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention and is being debated in some other denominations is nothing new, insists one of the nation's leading Bible Scholars.

Verbal inspiration of the Old Testament became an issue among the Jews during the final century A.D., says Dr. James A. Sanders, professor of interTestamental and Biblical studies at the School of Theology at Claremont, Calif. The same kind of controversy over the in-

spiration of the New Testament developed among Christians in the fourth century, Dr. Sanders added at an Interfaith Day meeting of Church Women United recently in Fort Lauderdale.

"In the earlier days, Scripture was thought of as story rather than text," explained the founder of the Ancient Bible Manuscript Center for Preservation and Research which opens publicly here on Nov. 12. "The early scribes believed in 'dynamic equivalents' in recording and sacred story."



THE REVELATION (Continued from Page 5)

be learning but never come to the knowledge of the truth.

In our schools of learning the greatest of all books has been set aside. While this is being done room is being made for many other things of less importance. In verse 3, of the scripture lesson a blessing is pronounced upon those who read God's word.

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep these things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

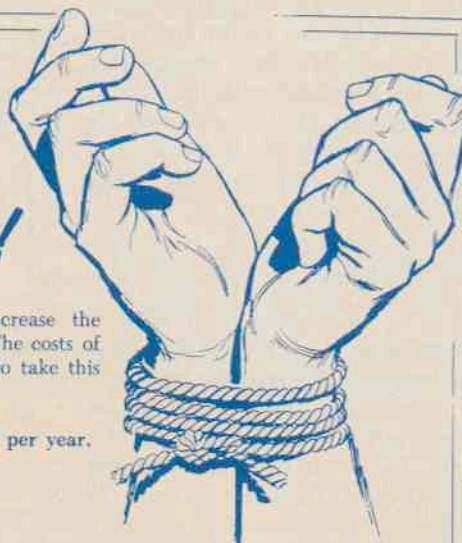
The last book of the Bible is the only Book in the Divine library that specifically promises a blessing to those who read and hear. **Read, hear and keep** are the three key words in the text, where this is done and practiced - God has promised to be one in our midst.

Our Hands are Tied!

Effective January 1st, we must increase the subscription rate to \$3.00 per year. The costs of postage and printing are forcing us to take this long-delayed step.

Renew now for the old rate of \$2.00 per year.
Send your subscription to:

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Box 100
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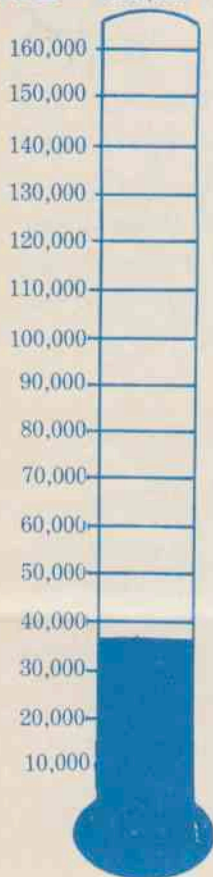




School News, Penn View

From the desk of Rev. Kenneth E. Walter --
President

GOAL — \$300,000



Where Are The Soldiers Of God?

TOTAL
CASH
AND
PLEDGES
TO
DATE
\$36,288.48

over and over again teaching us that most battles are won by the perseverance of the faithful few. The majority stand on the side lines saying "go ahead", "sounds great" or "it ought to be done" but they make no effort to get involved.

Paul admonished Timothy to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. This kind of a battle can only be won through sacrificial giving. In II Corinthians 12:15 Paul gives evidence of the true spirit of self-sacrifice saying "I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you the less I be loved." This is truly a different spirit than that manifested today by many who cut off their support as soon as something doesn't please them. God is counting on you to join the ranks of the faithful few. Will you accept the challenge to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ and help us bear this heavy burden? Do it now for Jesus' sake and you will not lose your reward.

In reading over the account of Gideon's call and the challenge he faced I am reminded that the greater percentage of the people were faint-hearted and turned back before facing the battle. History has repeated itself

A High School Senior Speaks

I have gone to a public school all my life, but this year the Lord provided a way for me to come to Penn View. The change was drastic and many things I didn't understand. The Lord has helped me to learn and love the ways of this school.

The school itself, is a nice building and is placed in one of the prettiest areas of Pennsylvania. The people are kind and helpful. Our president, Bro. Walter, is a very Godly man and considerate of the student. He carries a heavy load and does his job well. Bro. Fuller, school principal has many responsibilities, but he also does a good job.

I appreciate the discipline and the standards of the school. These add a lot to the Christian life. The school has a good spirit and has helped me to grow spiritually more than ever in my life. I thank the Lord for sending me to this school; to a school I can stand behind, love, and most of all, depend on.

Written by:
Lynn Sickler
R.D. No. 2, Box 151
Nicholson, PA 18446

GIDEON'S BAND CERTIFICATE

Dear Brother Walter:

I enlist in "Gideon's Band" and pledge my allegiance to God on behalf of Penn View Bible Institute to pray daily and contribute as God makes it possible. I understand that everything I invest in the "Gideon's Fund" will be used for debt retirement.

Name _____

Address _____

Amount of Pledge _____ Amount Enclosed _____





A

"REAL"

CHRISTMAS

The "Real" message of Christmas has been lost in all the hustle, bustle and tinsel of the Holiday.

The Music Department of Penn View Bible Institute wishes to present the "Real" message of Christmas through music.

HEAR: *The Chapel Choir sing selections from the musical, "An Old Fashioned Christmas" and also some additional songs of the season.

*The Penn View Band play the old carols as well as some rousing songs for the New Year.

*The Children's Choir.

*The Junior Choir.

*The Penn View Special Singers.

December 15, 1979

7:30 p.m.

Tabernacle Building

**(Beautifully decorated with candles,
lanterns, and lamps.)**



*
Plan
now to
attend
and enjoy the
evening as we
celebrate an
"Old
Fashioned Christmas"
We are looking for you!

C
O
M
E
!!!