



GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

Official Publication of God's Missionary Church, Inc.
Penns Creek, Pa.

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

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New Year

by Charles Wesley

Sing to the great Jehovah's praise!
All praise to Him belongs,
Who kindly lengthens out our days,
Demands our choicest songs.

His providence hath brought us through
Another various year;
We all with vows and anthems new
Before our God appear.



Father, Thy mercies past we own,
Thy still continued care;
To Thee presenting, through Thy Son,
Whate'er we have or are.

Our lips and lives shall gladly show
The wonders of Thy love,
While on in Jesus' steps we go
To see Thy face above.

Our residue of days or hours
Thine, wholly Thine, shall be;
And all our consecrated powers
A sacrifice to Thee,

Till Jesus in the clouds appear
To saints on earth forgiven,
And bring the grand sabbatic year,
And jubilee of heaven.

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The Years of God

by George E. Failing

*Of old thou hast laid the foundation of the earth;
And the heavens are the work of thy hands,
They shall perish, but thou shalt endure;
Yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment;
As a vesture thou shalt change them,
And they shall be changed:
But thou art the same,
And thy years shall have no end.*

— Psalm 102:25-27

ONE OF THE CHRISTIAN'S greatest comforts is that he is surrounded by the eternity of God.

By the purpose and power of God man was created. While he lives, God's providences precede and follow him. When he dies, he falls asleep in the everlasting arms.

The psalmist affirms the eternal God. Our paraphrase would read like this:

At the beginnings of matter and men, of space and time, thou wast the architect-creator. The entire universe is the work of thy hands. Thy fingers wove the splendid web of the heavens, drawing orbits and scattering stars. Thy hands also laid the foundations of the earth. But they were not built for eternity. They will perish and become old as garments do. Old garments and old worlds are cast off, but thou remainest. The circling eternity of unending years is thine. Years — and worlds — pass, but thou remained forever (vv. 10-12).

The creation of the world implies its transitoriness. That which has a beginning also has an end. Only the Creator himself shall not change. While nature seems stable for long periods of time, also at work is the physical "second law of thermodynamics." At creation all is strong, orderly, beautiful; but through entropy the general trend of the universe is toward death and disorder. The Creator himself, who is the center of creation, notes this dissolution while He himself does not change.

All of this reminds me of my *origin* — by God. Of my *daily needs* — supplied by God. Of future years of *declining heath* and lengthening shadows — in the light of His countenance. And of an *eternal home* — God's home.

We speak of 1990 as a new year. When it arrives, we will only continue in the endless years of God; "thy years shall have no end." So there need be no fear of 1990 for God has a future for you and me in that year. And that future is with Him. Not only is it true after death, it is true now: "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

Wars shall cease. Human strife shall end. Poverty will be unknown. The shouts of the powerful and the cries of the powerless will cease. All the marks of an aging universe and of a human race that is distraught and discouraged will be remembered no more.

Christmas shall be forever because the God who once became man is the everlasting God-man. Even in eternity Christ will not divest himself of His incarnation. Nor in resurrection glory can Christians ever lose the identity of mortal experience.

Some day "the perfect day" will dawn, and then shall "the righteous shine forth in the kingdom of our Father." Meekly now we serve the Lord Christ. But one day He will crown us with glory and honor.



Make It A NEW Year

By C.D. Hansen

The calendar reminds us that another year has passed and the human race stands at the threshold of a new year, proving again that time waits for no man. The days, months, and years move on without ceasing. No man can stop their determined step. For this reason, if for no other, one should regard time as a precious ingredient of life.

Isaac Watts, the seventeenth-century theologian and hymn writer, speaks in "O God, Our Help" of man's entanglement with time:

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.*

Time is not only persistent, it is precious. As you look at this valuable resource for the new year, you should remember that it is a daily miracle. Time is neither storable nor retrievable. It cannot be lent or borrowed. You must choose how you will spend the time God gives you each day.

Unfortunately, there are comparatively few who recognize the value of this daily miracle. Too often time is spent in futile striving for tomorrow's benefits and rewards or in fretting over what will never come to pass.

Perhaps this is why Jesus instructed His disciples about the use of time by saying, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself" (Matt. 6:34).

Rather than trying to figure out how to spend time that has not been given to me, I would do well to make today exciting and useful.

This does not mean that one should not plan for tomorrow — or even beyond that. The Bible teaches that due care must be given to the things in life that will enable us to live wisely in the future. Solomon illustrated this by pointing to the ant as she prepares for the winter (Prov. 6:6-11). No less should be true to God's crowning creation. God does not honor the sluggard.

However, even if I am to make provision for the future, I am still not to be unduly anxious over tomorrow. I am going to have to trust God with that (Ps. 37:5).

A precious Christian lady I know is sick almost every day. She cares deeply about the future and even makes plans for it. But she also lives each day as if it were her last.

For her, joy can be found in listening to the birds sing, watching the flowers bloom, visiting with friends and living for her family and church. If tomorrow comes, she has provided for it. If it does not she is prepared for that too. And she will have lived her last day on earth giving of herself to others, making each hour of the clock of her life important.

As 1990 unfolds before us, these truths need to be remembered so we can make the new year a friend and an opportunity. By reflection we hopefully make adjustments in life so as not to repeat the same mistakes of the past year. Therefore, by making use of each hour and day so that we will not live with regrets over lost opportunities, we will not only enrich our own lives but also those of others.

Some years ago I came across a wisely worded tract published by the Open-Church Foundation, Gloucester, Massachusetts, entitled "Your Next Twelve Hours." The advice for living twelve hours is also applicable to living each day of the next twelve months. To make the coming year meaningful and happy, here are the suggestions in expanded form:

For 1990 I will try to live through one day at a time and not tackle my whole life problem at once. Most of us fail to enjoy life today because we are too busy worrying over the future.

For 1990 I will be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." In other words, what the mind can conceive, and the heart can believe, man can achieve. This includes our state of happiness.

For 1990 I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will read something that requires effort, thought, and concentration.

It has been said that a person is what he eats. It is equally true with what a person "digests" mentally. Now is the time to resolve to read the Bible through during 1990 and to read companion literature that will help unfold the truths in God's Word that sparkle like a brilliant gem of priceless value. It should be noted that although possessions may be lost, what is stored mentally will not be.

For 1990 I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires. Most of us are not as flexible as we would like

to think we are, especially as we grow older.

For 1990 I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn and not get found out. I will do at least two things I don't want to do — just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but I will not show it.

For 1990 I will agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, not criticize, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody but myself.

For 1990 I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Usually, hurry is the result of worry or poor planning. And indecision comes because of poor planning. It may sound trite, but most of us need to plan our work, and work our plan.

For 1990 I will have each day a quiet half-hour, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

Introspection is good. J. Edwin Orr put it well in his famous hymn "Cleanse Me":

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;

Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.

See if there be some wicked way in me;

Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

For 1990 I will begin the day upon awakening by praying: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; [I] will rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118:24).

That is not just a catchy phrase. It is crucial to beginning the day right. It is true that not every day will be sunny, or that we will feel good every day. But it is also true that the way we begin the day is about how the day will go.

Finally, for 1990 I will give back to God each day before going to sleep in this covering prayer:

O Lord, Thou knowest how I live;

All I've done amiss, forgive;

All of good I've tried to do,

Strengthen, bless, and carry through;

All I love in safety keep —

While in Thee, I fall asleep.

If we plan to live by the wisdom shared in this prayer and in these thoughts, 1990 will be one of the best years of our lives. Happy New Year!

*In Gospel Herald
—Dates Adapted.*

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Church News

43rd Annual Sea Breeze Camp

February 1-11, 1990

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Robert Pelton

Special Music

George and Ruth Vernon

Children's Workers

Paul and Robyn Clemens

Youth Worker

Mike Avery

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Begins 9:30 a.m.

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Gossip

Gossip is a deadly thing,
That spreads better than butter.
It travels very fast,
Especially when about a brother.

Someone hears a juicy tale,
And decides to pass it on.
When it should have been stopped,
Never given to another.

Some folks do not realize,
The damage that they do.
When they talk about a brother,
And spin a tale or two.

It's unusual how the "grapevine,"
Grows all the year.
How the story started -

You'll probably never hear.

And while we're spreading rumors,
Of one who's fallen down
The message of the gospel
Fails to get around.

So let's put a stop to telling
The stuff we often hear
Remembering God is listening
And He is always near.

For one day we shall stand
Before the throne of God
To give account of all
We did here on this land.

— Nathan Shaffer

Tribute to Miss Thelma Witherup

Miss Thelma Witherup was born June 21, 1913. She departed this life, August 23, 1989 to join the cloud of witnesses who surround the Savior and call for us to continue following them faithfully.

She is survived by one brother, Louis, numerous nieces and nephews, and many spiritual children who received the Words of Life from her teaching.

Since her mother passed away while she was still quite young, she laid aside the plans for her life and reared four younger brothers. Years later, her attention returned to the calling to teach. She studied at God's Bible School, Transylvania Bible School, and other schools.

She labored as an instructor in God's Bible School, Asbury Bible College, Bible Missionary Institute, Salem Bible School, and Penn View Bible Institute. She taught at Penns Creek from 1969 to 1986.

I was privileged to have Miss Witherup as an instructor in my freshman year of Bible school, her first year at Penn View. I can still remember the excitement of her spirit as she taught. Then when I returned to Penn View in 1983 as Academic Dean, I enjoyed fellowship and interaction with her as a fellow staff member. I have heard her repeat



Miss Thelma Witherup

some of her stories quite often, but each time I listened intently and did my best to absorb the application, knowing there would come a time when her voice would be silenced.

In 1986, she retired. Since then, she has resided in Clintonville, Pennsylvania. For a while, she held Sunday morning services in the apartment complex where she lived. Eventually her health did not permit her to continue. Less than two weeks before she died, she told the Barry Mason family, "If I had my life to live over, I would preach and teach Holiness more than ever." She urged them to remain true to the Lord, because "I want to see you in heaven." She related that the Lord had spoken to her. He still had four tasks for her to complete. She planned to finish those assignments and then wait for Him to come for her. To the best of our knowledge, she

completed all four. Her doctor wanted her to have open-heart surgery. She responded, "The Lord has given me seventy-six good years, and He has taken good care of me. He has just a few tasks for me to do yet, and then my work is completed." The doctor seemed to understand completely and released her. On August 23, the Savior called. And she answered!

Who could count the number of former students and graduates that have come from her classroom? Today many are blessing the world as they carry the message she helped impress on their hearts.

She has not forsaken us nor fallen from our ranks; she had been promoted! She has climbed the stairs to the stage of eternity to receive her honors.

Miss Witherup was a member of the Mountain Road God's Missionary Church, Penns Creek, Pennsylvania. The pastor, Rev. Stewart Mason officiated at the funeral. Services were held in Clintonville.

We will not forget her labor of love. We will pursue the same holiness she preached. We have had to say, "Good-night" here, but we plan to see her in the morning.

Timothy L. Cooley

Academic Dean

Penn View Bible Institute

In Memoriam

Our beloved Sister, Naomi Deetz Allem, 76, was called home May 3, 1989, very suddenly. She was a charter member of God's Missionary Church, Coopersburg, Pa. Preceded in death by her husband Floyd Allem Sr. January 16, 1988.

The funeral was held in God's Missionary Church, Coopersburg, Pa. with Rev. Dennis McCoy officiating.

Two of her favorite hymns were sung by her son-in-law Don Smith, accompanied by Rev. R.J. Hevalow on the organ, also a son-in-law.

An eulogy was given by her brother Rev. Earl Deetz, and another Tribute by her brother Rev. Howard Deetz, under whose ministry she was converted. Prayer was offered by Rev. Harold Parry, retired Nazarene Minister.

The Message by Pastor McCoy was taken from Mark 14:8 "She hath done what she could". There was no price too large or task too great for her to express her love for her Lord! Thirty



Floyd and Naomi Allem

years ago 'Mom & Pop Allem' opened their home to a band of God's people to come and worship with them. The Living room soon took on the appearance of a Chapel. Like the Shunamite woman of Elijah's day - her home became the dwelling place of the man of God and his family. Rev. Fred Watson was the first pastor and thus we have our sanctuary in Coopersburg because "She hath done what she could!"

Three noteworthy things about Sis. Allem were: I. Her life of Faithfulness

- to her Lord, her Church, her convictions and her family. II. Life of Fulfillment - She did what she could and it brought great satisfaction and fulfillment. III. Life with a future - May 3rd her future became the present. Right now she is rejoicing together with Pop Allem in the Presence of Jesus! We can't bring them back but we can go to them!

Surviving is one son, Floyd Jr. & wife Alice, four daughters, Blanche wife of Lyle Trunk, Allentown, Pa. Lillian, wife of Rev. T.I. Ramsay, Reading, Pa. Ruth, wife of Rev. R.J. Hevalow, Trainer, Pa. and Judy, wife of Don Smith, Chambersburg, Pa. fourteen grandchildren and several great grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Her prayers and testimonies are greatly missed, we know our loss is Heavens gain. She will always be remembered with love and affection.

Reporter

Marjorie Young



"Four Years in the Life of a Missionary"

Seasonal fall greetings to our friends of the Standard family from the semi-tropical and summery Island of Haiti. As your fall season begins to take its effects on you, you begin to feel cool, to cold, to coldest. Here in Haiti we go from hottest, to hot, to warm. We are just entering into the warm season now. As the Haitian weather never really gets cold, except maybe in the mountains, it is easy for us to forget about the cold and its effects on the body. But we will not be able to forget the cold this year; for to our body's shivering sensation, and to our heart's surprise and delight, our board has informed us that we will be going home on furlough January - June of 1990. So, though we will be making a BIG jump from warm to coldest, we are excited because this will be our first full-fledged deputation on behalf of the Foreign Missions Dept.

It has been four years, this October, since we obeyed God's call and came to work with our Haitian God's Missionary Churches under the Foreign Missions Dept. To say the least, many things have happened to make these years full and very interesting.

Let me give you a rundown of my experiences during these past four years.

The first year I termed as "The Year of Frustration." This entails fitting into a new culture, trying to find your niche in the mission work, and finally, learning the language. All of these new 'things' cause frustration and patience for quite awhile, but God has helped this missionary over this hurdle.

The second year is termed as "The Year of Adjustments." The missionary finally knows the language enough to at least hold an intelligent conversation. Also, during this year I found myself adjusting to the niche as Bible school teacher and part time worker on the maintenance projects at the Carrefour station. Also, I became responsible as leader of the Men's prayer meeting group, as well as becoming the father of a baby boy. As far as the culture is concerned, well, sometimes you wonder if you will ever adjust to it?

The third year of service could be

termed as "The Year of Change and Increased Responsibilities." You may go to the mission field thinking that you will be doing one kind of work at one particular station for as long as you may labor there. But things don't always work that way for missionaries. During this year we left the Carrefour station and began to work at the LaCroix station trying to fill in the gap left by Bro. and Sis. Evans furlough leave to the States. Cathy helped Sis. Wing in the clinic while I had the responsibility of maintenance, as well as preaching in a good number of the services there. We were enjoying our work but after only 3 months service, we had to go home for my father-in-law's sickness, which ended his life here on earth, and continued his spiritual life in the heavenly world.

Upon returning to the Carrefour station the same year, I was relieved of my responsibilities in the Bible school and took on the full time maintenance work of which there never seems to be an end. This included helping Bro. James Susan and his father do the electrical work on Miss Williams new house. Following this I laid flooring, built closets and a vanity, put in plumbing, placed bathroom fixtures, ran phone wires, etc... Then Bro. Joe Kuhns and Bro. Tom Houck came and accomplished the large task of building and placing the kitchen cabinets, cupboards, and sink in just a few days time.

Our Men's prayer group took on a new dimension by starting an evangelization group. This group holds services at the houses of our church people where we encourage them to bring and invite the unchurched and sinners to come hear the preaching of the Gospel. Our very first service the Lord came and helped Bro. Louis Jeune preach and a young mother got saved. She has since then returned to her home out in the country and we may never see her here on earth again, but we trust to see her in the heavenly world someday.

The fourth year is termed as, "Work, Work, and More Work." By this time the missionary has forgotten

what it was to wish he had something else to do to fill up his spare time. A very busy schedule has become a part of his life. We have our 2½ year old son, Ryan, to keep an eye on and spend time with. This year also found me overseeing and helping with the building of a wall along the road frontage of our Leogane station. Also, a new and larger out house was built to accommodate Miss Cleaver's school children and church people.

Here at Carrefour, all the tables and benches used by our Bible College students and sewing students, have been repaired, sanded, and painted. The school needed another lecturn so the church gave the school its old pulpit and a new pulpit was built and took its place in the church. All the church benches were sanded down and painted. Many improvements were made to our house and there are too many other complete tasks to list.

The fourth year also found me taking on the task of visiting our church people with our pastor, Selon Dieu. This brings us up to date and to the most current happenings. We are now coming up to the starting line of our fifth year of service. Because of inexperience with this year I do not as of yet have a name for it.

We are looking forward to this year, not just because we will be home on furlough, but because our lives will be reaching the level of experience by which we can start to be most effective for the salvation of souls in Haiti.

We can never say that we have attained in everything. With each new day comes new learning experiences and understandings. We are in no way humanly perfect, however, heart purity makes for perfection in the spiritual realms.

For all the accomplishments that have been made during these years we give all the glory to our God, Who not only called us, but also sustains us in our work in the center of His will. We look forward to the future with anticipation that God will accomplish His Sovereign and Divine will for Haiti and particularly, with our Haitian God's Missionary Churches.

Your Missionary,
Reuben Brubaker

Satan's Subtle Plan For The Church

by Wilfrid E. Moutoux

We cannot know everything, but we can know some things; And what we can and should know we must expend a full effort to find out. There are two fundamental forces at work in God's universe. The war continues to rage between the armies of good, and the legions of evil. Supporting and directing these troops are two powerful persons. God the Father and creator of all things promoting the good, and a scheming Satan leading the legions of evil. With this warfare, and its leadership in mind there are two basic questions Christians should be finding the answers to. — What is God doing in our time? And what are Satan's plans for this generation?

God the Father, through the executive authority and leadership of the Holy Spirit is endeavoring to call out a bride for his beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. On the other side the Devil's primary purpose is to engage Christ's Bride in adulterous relations with the world, and thus disqualify her for bridehood. If Christians can grasp the awesome significance of this sacred scenario, and conduct themselves accordingly they will discover a new intimacy with Jesus Christ, and will learn what true worship really is. This inspiring contact with Christ will enable them to be a tremendous power for good in this time of moral and spiritual deterioration.

The worldliness of the contemporary church is not just a trend of our time, but a successful ploy of Satan to rob Christ of his glory, and corrupt his spotless Bride. Satan's plan is to separate the church from her eternal lover. Unfaithfulness to one's spouse is adultery. Unfaithfulness to God is spiritual adultery. Many theologians never mention this consequential truth. Even though some conservatives harp on the subject they fail to explain its significance. The church's conformity to the world is a traumatic tragedy of our time.

James establishes the scriptural certainty that friendship with the world is spiritual adultery. "Ye adulterers and adulteresses know ye not the friendship of the world is enmity with God. (James 4:4) The world James had in mind is human society organizing itself apart from God, and his plan for His people. It is those customs, maxims, principles of action, sentiments, aims, feelings and fashions which rule our lives without regard for God's scripturally stated standards. — All these taken together is that

hostile world that crucified Christ, and is still living in opposition to his command to — "Come out from among them and be separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you." (II Cor. 6:17)

Conformity to the world is the debilitating disease weakening the church, and rendering her impotent. Many Christians wear gold and pearls even though scripture forbids these ornaments — "...not with broided hair, or gold or pearls or costly array..." (I Tim. 2:9) Too many church members are swayed by the world's opinions: Intoxicated by the world's applause: Addicted to the world's pleasures: Ruled by the world's standards: And slake their thirst at the world's fountains. God knows they do. Sinners know they do, and are convinced that such mawkish piety is only cant and hypocrisy.

Adam Clark had this to say about worldliness — "How strange that people professing Christianity can suppose a worldly spirit: Worldly companions and lives governed by worldly maxims can be in favour with God." It has been said that we can measure our spiritual decay and defeat by our success in adapting to the world's standards and opinions.

The only church that will meet the need of our time is a church different from the world. When a church can no longer be identified it has ceased to exist. The acid test of our devotion is why, and to please whom do I live as I do? The lack of liberty and radiance of expression in many modern congregations results from their infatuation with carnal pursuits. Too often their life consists in the abundance of things they have. Spiritual adultery brings condemnation and makes one timid and ashamed in God's presence. It quenches genuine love, and severs our relationship with Jesus Christ. Our preoccupation with the spirit of the world grieves the Holy Spirit and brings a chill to the soul. Worldliness brings reproach on the cause of Christ, and arouses the wrath of the heavenly Bridegroom.

Finally, if we would reverse the trend we must put off our worldliness by drawing near to God in intimate worship, and keep in touch with him by constant communion. We must take sides with God against the Devil, and refuse to be captivated and infatuated by Satan's glint and glitter.

Sinners Also Sing

by Vard L. VanBriggle

It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome; but the noise of them that sing do I hear. (Exod. 32:18)

NOTHING IS better for the elevation of the soul than good music and singing. How much music adds to our worship. If the song comes from the heart, God is delighted with it.

As a lad living on a clay farm in southern Indiana, poor as could be, I was extremely happy. There were times when my heart was filled with joy. I would sing, shout, run, and dance for happiness. Oh, the pleasure of youth, good health, and the sheer joy of being alive.

How much greater the joy of salvation and the song of one redeemed through Christ. Christians sing because victory is theirs and hearts overflow with praise.

This is not the message of our text. Theirs was not a song of praise to God. Singers are, as a rule, overcomers; but not so here. A different melody fell upon the ears of Moses.

In the mount with God receiving the law, Moses is long absent and the people become impatient. They implore Aaron to make them a God. The golden calf is fashion-

ed, and they indulge in lustful, idolatrous worship. Then they sing.

THE SONG WAS NOT A SONG OF VICTORY. "It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery."

There is a difference in the melody. The song of the defeated has a strange and unholy ring. When the children of Israel were asked to sing in captivity, they replied, "How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" Have you discovered how difficult it is to sing in the moment of defeat?

THE SONG WAS NOT A SONG OF WEAKNESS. "Neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome."

Engrossed in a desire for the false, the truth is lost. Feeling the false security of a god they could see, Israel did not call upon the God who had so wonderfully delivered them from bondage. Theirs was not strength but weakness. Had they realized their weakness, God could have strengthened them.

THEIR SONG WAS A SONG OF SIN. "But the noise of them that sing do I hear."

Moses' estimation of the situation sinks downward from

voice to noise. Communication specialists define noise as "a disturbance which does not represent a message from a specified source."

The noise of sin drowned out all else. The sensitive soul of God's servant distinguished between a holy and an unholy melody. It was the song of a backslidden people.

Much of the "music" of the world is little more than noise—a beat and a cry. It sings of a heart unsatisfied, the song of a deep soul need.

There will be some sort of song in our soul. One who shouts for mastery is a victor. He needs no help. The one who cries in weakness will receive help. But when the noisy song of sin is sung, it is evident we are not crying for our Father's help. Satisfied we are, pleased with our golden calf.

Some play the piano so long out of tune they complain when it has been put in perfect pitch. We can become accustomed to the wrong melody and happy with our own selfish song.

The world needs a new song, the song of victory in Christ. Let us sing with grace in our hearts to the Lord. If Moses was offended with the wrong melody, how much more will be the One who is greater than Moses!



SUPERINTENDENT:
REV. DENNIS McCOY
92 E. Landis St.
Coopersburg, Pa. 18036

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I trust that the coming year will indeed be a happy one for you and your families. It will only be that way as we keep Christ the very focus of our attention. The holiday season is such a wonderful time of the year. Hearts are merry as we consider the Christ Child and His coming to earth to be the Saviour of the world. Then as the new year approaches we anticipate what lies ahead for 1990. It is a time for making "resolutions." Turning over a new leaf if you will! For those of us who are a little on the "fluffy" side of the weight chart, it is a time to try the latest diet. I heard of one recently called the "three day diet." You are supposed to eat six bananas the first day, six eggs the second day and six hot dogs the third day. That's all! If you live through it, you're **guaranteed** to lose 10 pounds in three days! I'll keep the weight, thank you! But not only is the New Year a time for looking ahead, it is also a time for looking back at the year that is closing.

It is interesting to note that the month of January was named for the Roman god Janus. Janus was known as the gate god, and an image of him was placed at the entrance gate of each city. The reason that Janus received such honor was because he had two faces. Thus he could see in two directions at the same time.

Joshua 1:5 & 6 says, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with Thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage." In this first month of 1990 we need to take a look in both directions so that we can have a proper appreciation of the past and a bright outlook for the future. Notice three things with me that this forward and backward look will do for us as we prepare for what is in store

in 1990.

I) The Assurance Of His Presence!

"As I was with Moses, so will I be with thee." God's promise to Joshua came at a time of great crisis in his life. And so we see that God directs his attention to the past to draw strength for the future. Joshua had witnessed some of the great things that God had done for Moses and the Lord said that if He would do that for Moses He would do it for him. But not only was that promise for Joshua, it is for you and I as well. "I will be with thee." What more could we need or want to rest our faith in for 1990? In the New Testament the Lord assures His disciples with these words, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." We can rest assured that God will be with us in the coming year, just as He was with us in the past!

II) The Assurance Of Continued Progress!

"I will not fail thee." Isn't it wonderful to be living for a never failing God? I'm sure there are times in our lives when we wonder if God really knows or understands the situation we are in. Bills come due at the end of the month, and the funds just aren't there to make ends meet. Words comes of a terminal illness of a close loved one. It seems as if the bottom is falling out of everything and then we recall His promise, "I will not fail thee!" Uncle Bud Robinson said that God would take care of His children even if He had to stand the devil on his head and shake the change out of his pockets to do it with! He will not fail us!

III) The Assurance Of Abundant Possibilities!

"Be strong and of a good courage." The Lord has promised you and I that

as children of God we shall be strong and do exploits. I trust that you are planning to do more for God in the coming year than we did in the year just closed. We are living in an age of abundant possibilities! I read some time ago in a news report that the modern theology that was being propagated in the '60's and '70's the God is dead is a thing of the past. We are living in a God-conscious generation today. People are searching for something to fill the vacancy created in their souls that can only be filled by Jesus Christ! Shall we take advantage of the opportunity that awaits us and win men to Christ, or will we let it pass us by for another year? I trust that as we look back at 1989 and ahead at 1990 it will cause us to take every opportunity that is ours to win the lost to Jesus.

On behalf of the Home Missionary Department, I would like to extend a special "Thank You" to every church, organization, and individual who made a contribution to our department in the past year. Not only for financial contributions, but for the spiritual as well. Were it not for your prayers and kind words of encouragement we could not exist or make inroads in the devils territory. Thank you so much! Let us pray together that God will help us to tear down some of Satan's strongholds and establish new light houses for lost souls in 1990! By God's help, much can be done in the coming year! Thanks and may God's choicest blessing be yours in the days ahead!

Please continue to pray for the Palacios! When we talked to them last, Bro. Palacios was doing some better. He still needs a touch from the Lord. They are both far from well. Pray that God will strengthen them and encourage them. Thank you!

LAYMEN AND REVIVAL

by F. J. Goins

There are two indispensable elements in revival, "God and His people." After many years in evangelism, I became deeply concerned over the fact that many revivals and campmeetings were worthy of the term, while others were mere protracted meetings. I found myself praying, "O God, help me to be more efficient and effective." No ambitious soul delights in failure, especially when engaged in soul winning. As I prayed for divine help, God said to me, "You are not as important as you may think," I inquired of the Lord, "What is it?" God answered, "It is I and My people."

This made me realize that God works with and through His people. The people's part was being fearfully neglected. I have observed that in the average evangelistic meeting, workers are engaged, people attend the services, and except for a song or two and a short prayer, they contribute little to the service. In fact, they come to see and hear much like attending a program. How different were the revivals of yesteryears when the lay members played an important part. They were preceded by much preparation and attended with joyful anticipation. The saints sang, prayed, testified and shouted to Satan's consternation. The preacher preached with divine inspiration and revelation, while the people responded with loud ovation. There was great rejoicing over the sinner's salvation and the revival services ended in a time of holy jubilation.

However, with the arrival of the engaged workers, how do we proceed? I make no claim of being philosophical, ideological or sensational, but with a plain sensible, scriptural and practical approach, I submit the following as to the lay members part in revival meetings.

The Lay Member must enthusiastically advertise the services.

I can no more think of a revival without enthusiasm than I can imagine a successful sports event without it. In fact, the term has been cheapened by its relation to the sports world. The term has a spiritual connotation. It suggests supernatural inspiration, inspired prophetic ecstasy, or religious frenzy. Webster uses as a synonym, the term passion. This, I fear, the church has lost. The Samaritan lady, excited and enthused about her confrontation with Jesus went forth shouting, "Come, see a man." As a result many believed on Him for the saying of the woman, "He told me all that ever I did." (See John 4:29-39.) We need to get so enthused over revival that our faces will show it.

Faithfully and joyously attend each service, and when possible, bring someone with you.

David said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." It is said to watch the manner which many professed Christians attend revival services. They drag in late, collapse in a seat, day dream, endure the service, and never get excited until dismissal is announced when they quickly come alive, stand to their feet and are ready to go.

By your spirit and personality, create an atmosphere conducive to revival.

Come to church prayed up, demonstrating life and vitality. Come with an exuberance of spiritual joy. David admonished, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise." There is something captivating and stimulating about spiritual excitement. Frankly, if we

allow our services to be drab, colorless, staid and stereotyped, we should never wonder why visitors never return.

Pray for the evangelistic workers.

Paul solicited prayer. "Pray . . . for me, that utterance may be given unto me." It is a joy to sing or preach when you know the incense of prayer is going heavenward. Remember how Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands at Rephidim, and Israel prevailed. It seems easier for one to observe grammatical errors and analyze the minister than it is to pray for God to anoint and direct the truth to needy souls.

Pray for souls and believe God for victory.

True revivals are prayed down. Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent taketh it by force." In a meeting I heard the pastor repeatedly praying for a certain man. I asked him which one he was, "Oh," he said, "He has never been here." But, the last day he did come with his wife, son, and a sister. All four found God.

Personally witness and invite people to church and solicit their salvation.

I have observed on hundreds of occasions that when a kind soul would invite a hungry heart to go forward for prayer, they responded. It seemed a little moral support was all that was needed.

Let me also emphasize that altar work is the responsibility of the church. Many a time my heart has ached when seekers would be kneeling at an altar, and no one has a burden of prayer to assist them. People may excuse themselves by saying, "I do not have the art or gift for altar work." My indictment is: "You do not have the passion, the divine motivation."

You can mind God.

The least that anyone can do and consider themselves an honorable Christian, is to mind God. Mary said, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." If we obey God, He will underwrite the needs of the hour. Human emotion, ecclesiastical programs, an array of talents and abilities will never bring revival, but minding God will.

It is impossible to anticipate what God will ask of His people. He may want the church to declare a fast or to become intercessors. He may ask you to confess some weakness, sin or failure. He might ask you to accept and walk in additional light or assume greater responsibility. To be sure, God wants strict obedience. Until we obey God, we have no reason to expect the manifestation of the supernatural. But when we have obeyed God faithfully and discharged every known duty, God will then work through His people. There will be a new and divine anointing on the workers. There will come a quickening of the saints resulting in an enlarged vision, a new strength for battle, a new courage for convictions and a new passion for souls. Conviction in turn will grip the backslider and sinner. Men will be brought to repentance and faith in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember, there are certain fundamental laws and basic principles that govern revival. When these laws are obeyed and principles applied, revival will come. Until the body of believers are willing to share this responsibility, it is wishful thinking to anticipate a spiritual awakening.



Penn View Bible Institute

P.O. BOX 970

• PENNS CREEK, PENNSYLVANIA 17862



In Luke's gospel, chapter 19, verse 13, it states, "Occupy till I come." The word "occupy" means to employ, be busy, keep engaged. In light of the fact that we look for the soon return of our Lord, perhaps we should take more heed to the admonition from Luke - occupy!

Surely you will agree that we are living in a world of uncertainties, with trouble spots across the globe, with social problems, problems in economics, job vacancies because folk lean on the welfare system instead of laboring with their hands; yes, a general unrest in the world and also in the church society.

I suppose we should remember that the days of life here on this earth are short at the longest. The business world sets deadlines for jobs to be accomplished, and so should we realize that soon time will be up for each of us. The scripture states: "Days on earth are as a shadow" and "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away."

Palestine is shaping up for the battlefield of all times. Since life is so short and uncertain, we should be concerned about laying up treasures in heaven.

Another matter of concern is the lack of laborers in the harvest fields. Penn View is concerned about this and that is why she is busy training youth for the harvest fields. "Harvest truly is plenteous, white and ready to harvest." Our own fields where we live. Oh, what a challenge is ours to get out into the fields of Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and even to the uttermost parts of the world! In this New Year let us be busy about our

Father's business. Let us occupy!

Penn View Bible Institute has, through the years, been busy training youth; and today many are out in various parts of the world serving the Lord faithfully and winning the lost to Jesus. What if there had not been a Penn View to train these youth? Well, as we all help in prayer and in giving of gifts, Penn View will remain till Jesus comes and will be occupying - training and preparing in many ways youth who have the call of God on their hearts.

We are looking forward to a great year in the Lord here on the hilltop. There is so much to be done for Him. He is truly the leader here at Penn View; and we want to rely more wholly on Him for the many tasks that lie ahead of us. Won't you join in prayer with us for God to have His way in every aspect of school life? I believe that, under God, this will be the best year ever - not because of man's ingenuity but because God is truly in charge.

Yes, the new year affords many blessings not heretofore experienced, but also tests and trials along the trail as well. Let us: (1) Walk in wisdom - Col. 4:5 and 6; (2) Use the gifts given by God - I. Peter 4:10. A giving of all of ourselves and not living to please the flesh. Yes, stripped of self and our pettiness. Paul states it well, "I must decrease and He must increase." Let us have the determination of Esther for the battle: "If I perish, I perish." "I'll go, I'll go; forget my Queenhood, my safety. I am standing in the breach for my people." Selflessness! (3) There are rewards - Matt. 10:42. "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple,

verily I say unto you, he shall in no way lose his reward." Oh, may we be faithful in this day of let-down and compromise. May it never be said of us that we have failed in giving out the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This would be a good time to support Penn View Bible Institute and her ministries by a monthly gift to the school. All monies are used with much care; and we try our very best to get the most out of your dollars. The past year has been many new necessary projects begun and some of them completed because many like you have given sacrificially and monthly to Penn View: the new roof, a new much-needed phone system, several faculty home repairs, exterior and interior painting to some.

Above everything else we need additional prayer support. Why not join us on Wednesday around the throne, as this is the day for more concentrated praying here at Penn View. We must increase our prayer support for the work God has for Penn View to accomplish this New Year. We are helpless unless prayers are made for our school and for those who labor faithfully.

I give you a special invitation to our indoor camp meeting February 16 through 25. The workers will be the Victory Trio and Rev. J.M. Sullivan. Schedule of services: Feb. 16 and 17 - 7:30 p.m.; 18 - 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; 19 through 23 - 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. (Children's service only), 7:30 p.m.; Sat., the 24th - 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., the 25th - 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Why not come for the entire days and stay with us. Lodging and meals are available if you make previous arrangements.

Rev. Marlin E. Moore
 P.O. Box 122
 Madisonburg, PA 16852-0122
 Reg. Mar 90

January 1990

Welcome to the Florida District

CAMP MEETING

God's Missionary Church
 Orange City, Florida

JANUARY 18 — 28, 1990

- Shady camper spaces and hook-ups available.
- For reservations, call or write REV. JAMES COOPER, 416 N. Park Avenue, Orange City, FL 32763. (904) 775-9786

FLORIDA DISTRICT CAMPGROUND

Graves Avenue
 Orange City, Florida
 (I-4 EXIT 54)

Evangelists

Rev. Wayne L. States
 Rev. Marshall Smart

Song Evangelist

Larry & LaDonna Thomas Family

DAILY SCHEDULE

Prayer Meeting.....7:00 A.M.
 Breakfast.....8:00 A.M.
 Morning Service.....10:00 A.M.
 Lunch.....12 Noon
 Afternoon Service.....2:30 P.M.
 Supper.....5:00 P.M.
 Praise Service.....6:15 P.M.
 Evening Service.....7:30 P.M.

DINING HALL

Meals will be served on the Free Will Offering
 Basis

SPECIAL SERVICES

January 20, 10:00 A.M.....
 Fort Myers Rescue Mission
 January 20, 6:15 P.M.....Intercession City
 Christian School
 January 27, 10:00 A.M.....Miami Cuban Mission
 January 27, 2:30 P.M....Foreign Missions G.M.C.
 Haiti Work
 January 28, 2:30 P.M.....Rev. Paul Miller
 General Superintendent
 January 28, 6:00 P.M....Penn View Bible Institute