

Left over

The following letter was written on re-
of a letter announcing Mr. Ballenger's
g health:

Brother and Sister Ballenger:
r letter just came this morning, and
ng crying to God as I write you through
ng tears, that God will spare my dear
er in Christ, restore him to normal
a again, and then fill him to overflow
with the Holy Spirit.

my God, I plead through Christ Jesus
ar petition be granted. Will Thou
and answer? Will Thou remove and
the run-down weakened condition of
and make over again the one that has
all for Thee? Oh, O Thy counten-
shone upon him, and let the Holy
now show what he lacketh.

r sister, I cannot express in words
ich more and more I love you
of Brother Ballenger. I saw in plain
a Brother Ballenger in sorrowful,
eam attitude, making a nest in your home.
looked at me in such a peculiar, care-
way, I burst into crying. He said not
rd as to the cause of the sadness, or
sorrowful look, but those eyes looked
ing and pleading to me. That was the
m. I was left without the interpreta-
i can led now to believe that it was
sion of his failing health. But we are
ding, praying and crying to God to
e you both.

dear ones, look up! Trust in the
y One, the Prince of Peace and glory,
ove and wisdom. Oh, Jesus is so preci-
He knoweth all about our infirmities
weaknesses, and also our temporal
ds. He will lead us if we do not get
lead of Him.

We are having some precious seasons at
meetings, just home cottage meetings.
e are planning, if the Lord wills, to have
tent in the field this winter with two
tos, and a band of six or ten workers.
May the blessed Lord keep and protect
and yours.

Your brother in Christ,
[Signature]

Melt
Melt

The columns of the Gathering Call will
be held open for any confession or explana-
tion which any of the brethren may feel
led to make.

Nothing would rejoice the writer more
than to know that his former brethren were
willing to acknowledge their sins and make
right an injustice done to his dear brother.
Come brethren, be honest with God and
the world and your brethren.

over
DENY HIS FAITH?

Chapter of Acts gives
a storm on the Medi-
a prisoner in charge
being taken to Rome

Havens he cautioned
the centurion and the captain of the ship
against undertaking to make the trip in the
time of the year when the storms were
common in the eastern Mediterranean.
They were anxious to get to a more com-
modious port in which to winter and there-
fore gave no heed to Paul's advice.

"And when neither sun nor stars in many
days appeared, and no small tempest lay
on" them "all hope that they should be
saved was taken away. But after long
abstinence, Paul stood forth in the midst
of them, and said: 'Sirs, ye should have
hearkened unto me, and not have loosed
from Crete, and to have gained this harm
and loss. And now I exhort you to be of
good cheer; for there shall be no loss of
any man's life among you, but of the ship.
For there stood by me this night the angel
of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,
saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought
before Caesar; and, lo, God hath given thee
all them that sail with thee. Wherefore,
sirs, be of good cheer; for I believe God,
that it shall be even as it was told me.'"
Acts 27:20-25.

Paul had gained the confidence of the
company so that they believed him and
were very much cheered, and at his sugges-
tion ate their first regular meal in two
weeks or more.

Shortly after this they sounded several
times and found that they were drawing
near to some land, and so they cast out
anchors and waited for the dawn. The
storm was still raging when daylight arrived.
Sure enough they were near to land. The
sailors treacherously let down one of the
life boats on the pretext of letting out an-
other anchor; but they were scheming to
make their escape and leave the passen-
gers to their fate.

Paul divined their scheme and went to
the centurion and the soldiers and said,
"Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot
only a day or two before, for he had told
them that an angel of God had said that not
a single one of their lives should be lost.
Now he was telling the centurion that un-
less the sailors remained aboard, they could
not be saved.

Was not Paul denying his faith? God
had said that they should be brought safely
to land. Was God dependent on the sailors
to fulfil His promise?

Paul might have gone to his berth and
had a quiet sleep with the assurance that
God would save the lives of the two hundred
and seventy six people aboard, reckoning
that it would not make any difference to
God whether he had the co-operation of the
sailors or not.

Was not Paul losing his confidence in
God's power to save them? I trow not.
Paul was neither losing his confidence in
God nor was he unconscious that it was
God's will that the entire company should
be saved. Paul knew that God was able to
do it, but at the same time he recognized
that he was an instrument in the hands of
God to carry out His purposes; and so Paul
told the truth when he said, "Except these
abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved."

Paul was perfectly consistent, and God
honored his consistency by bringing them
all safely to land, and the following day
magnified Paul in the eyes of his company
as well as in the eyes of the natives of the
island.

God expects us to co-operate with him in
fulfilling His promises. He wants to save
every one of us, and He will do it if we are
willing to co-operate with Him.

We are not denying our faith in God when
we do all we can, in God's vineyard. God

We will not care
to use these things
no you may do that
that but please return
them to the same Ballenger

Declared to Quaker
including the
is early more for
are 300 years TV

We will not care

to save these sailors

Melt

no of my own money

*but I have return
them I have to give*

G. S. Hallinger

time of the year when the storms were common in the eastern Mediterranean. They were anxious to get to a more commodious port in which to winter and therefore gave no heed to Paul's advice.

"And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on" them "all hope that they should be saved was taken away. But after long abstinence, Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said: Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. And now I exhort you to be of good cheer; for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar; and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer; for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." Acts 27:20-25.

Paul had gained the confidence of the company so that they believed him and were very much cheered, and at his suggestion ate their first regular meal in two weeks or more.

Shortly after this they sounded several times and found that they were drawing near to some land, and so they cast out anchors and waited for the dawn. The storm was still raging when daylight arrived. Sure enough they were near to land. The sailors treacherously let down one of the life boats on the pretext of letting out another anchor; but they were scheming to make their escape and leave the passengers to their fate.

Paul divined their scheme and went to the centurion and the soldiers and said, "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot only a day or two before, for he had told them that an angel of God had said that not a single one of their lives should be lost. Now he was telling the centurion that unless the sailors remained aboard, they could not be saved.

Was not Paul denying his faith? God had said that they should be brought safely to land. Was God dependent on the sailors to fulfil His promise?

Paul might have gone to his berth and had a quiet sleep with the assurance that God would save the lives of the two hundred and seventy six people aboard, reckoning that it would not make any difference to God whether he had the co-operation of the sailors or not.

Was not Paul losing his confidence in God's power to save them? I trow not. Paul was neither losing his confidence in God nor was he unconscious that it was God's will that the entire company should be saved. Paul knew that God was able to do it, but at the same time he recognized that he was an instrument in the hands of God to carry out His purposes; and so Paul told the truth when he said, "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved."

Paul was perfectly consistent, and God honored his consistency by bringing them all safely to land, and the following day magnified Paul in the eyes of his company as well as in the eyes of the natives of the island.

God expects us to co-operate with him in fulfilling His promises. He wants to save every one of us, and He will do it if we are willing to co-operate with Him.

We are not denying our faith in God when we do all we can in God's vineyard. God wants His message to go to all the world and He expects it to go; but He expects you and me to act our part in carrying that message.

God has a place for you and for me. Are you filling that place, or are you saying to yourself, "God will carry out His promises regardless of me?"

I hope every reader of this article will put himself positively on the side of God, and co-operate with Him in carrying out His plans for this time.

"Lord give me courage for the fray"

Left over

Metz 4/18

MRS. WOODWARD'S STORY
The Martyr Spirit

When I read Brother Ballenger's description of what he had endured for what he believed to be a vital point, not only of his own salvation, but of the salvation of all mankind, and afterwards heard from his own lips a more detailed account. I longed to write his life-story and submit it to Collier's Weekly, which was then running a series of articles devoted to telling true stories of men and women who had accomplished heroic tasks.

I read these articles from week to week; but in no instance did I read of one who had suffered so much from any cause or principle as had Albion F. Ballenger.

As vividly fresh in my mind of the story were than is the case today. My heart seemed to bleed in sympathy with Brother Ballenger as he found himself deserted by nearly everybody he loved; no salary; no income with which to provide for the wants of his family; after spending years in the work as a minister of God, to find himself on a southern farm with no choice before him other than to wrest a living from the soil, if he could; then of his removal to California to a bit of land.

I could then have told more powerfully than I can now, how that cast-out minister of God, that superior man, found it necessary to accept a most menial position as a helper in the construction of a highway; how the burning sun consumed his strength until it seemed that he would perish by the wayside.

Oh, what a pitiful story! And most pitiful of the entire recital is the fact that these things were endured, and had to be suffered, because Brother Ballenger believed God's Word. They were suffered because he believed that the Son of God is the Prince of Peace, and that He, having "made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on High."

When I hear people say that there is no such thing in this age as the spirit that upheld the martyrs of the past, I point to Brother Ballenger as a refutation of any such belief. And what stronger power for witnessing could one request.

In 1913 when Brother Ballenger was at our Hoadley's home for the first time, I was editing a paper in Honesdale, five miles away, and thus I did not see him during the day-time. I frequently walked from home ~~and I walked there about.~~ I am no poet, but one morning my thoughts took that form of expression. And when I reached my desk I wrote out the thoughts as they came to me. There was one place, however, where all connection seemed to be broken and I found myself unable to complete what I had commenced.

When I reached home that night, having in mind his poem, "Fighting Against God," I submitted my composition to Brother Ballenger who went over what I had written, came to the place where the muse had deserted me, and requested that I leave the manuscript with him while I was absent the next day. When I returned the following night, he handed me the completed work. I give it below: not because of its excellence but because I want you to note fully the *part of the poem*—the last verse—which is set in italics; that part was composed by Brother Ballenger. Here it is:

JUST FOR TODAY

Dedicated to Questioning Ones Everywhere,
Including the Writer, Frank P. Woodward.
In early morn 'fore rise of sun,
Ere daily tasks I've scarce begun,
By faith I pierce beyond the skies,
Where dwells the One with sleepless eyes,
Who, through the ravens, prophet fed,
And murmur, "Give, oh give me bread!

...these seemed to
come to me subjects to write about. I am
no poet, but one morning my thoughts took
that form of expression. And when I reach-
ed my desk I wrote out the thoughts as they
came to me. There was one place, however,
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lence but because I want you to note cor-
rectly the ~~parts~~ ^{parts} of the poem—the last verse—
which is set in italics. The last part was
composed by Brother Ballenger. Here it is:

JUST FOR TO-DAY

Dedicated to Questioning Ones Everywhere,
Including the Writer, Frank P. Woodward.

In early morn 'fore rise of sun,
Ere daily tasks I've scarce begun,
By faith I pierce beyond the skies,
Where dwells the One with sleepless eyes,
Who, through the ravens, prophet fed,
And murmur, "Give, oh give me bread!
Lord, give me bread," I humbly pray—
"For this one day—
Just for TO-DAY."

The tempter comes and points to years
Pressed full of struggle, pain and tears,
Till, full of fears, my heart grows weak,
And scalding tears course down my cheek;
Then far beyond the sun and stars
I call to God of peace and wars:
"Lord, give me courage for the fray
For this one day—
Just for TO-DAY!"

Again I'm shown long years of strife
Where hope means much, and faith means
Life,
Where millions sink along the road,
Destroyed by greed, and gold, and goad.
Once more I call with all my might,
To Source of right, and might, and light—
"Lord give me skill! give! give! I pray,
For needs to-day—
Just for TO-DAY!"

*The light breaks through from shining
Throne,
A smile from Him, for me alone;
A voice says, "Son, thy prayer is heard,
No tear is lost, ne'er lost a word.
I'll give you courage, bread and skill—
It is My will—sad hearts, be still!
Yea, I will give you all the way
Help for TO-DAY—
Help EVERY DAY!"*