

Dear Friends,

Suppose we were to tell you exactly how to have one of the most prosperous years of your life, and at the same time see the Church come into the most real and vital program of its history? If you were prospering side by side, with your local Church also growing and expanding, what more could you ask of God?

Friends, that very prospect is before us. "Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death." God has always given choices to us. The prospect and vision for spiritual blessings, soul-winning, material prosperity have always gone hand in hand with God's promises.

We are now challenged to share in the greatest blessings of our Church's history. Each who believes the Word of God can share in them. It is the only road back to God for our Church. It is the only way by which we can repair our spiritual walls.

#### HERE IS THE PROGRAM .

It is a complete restoration of the spirit of UNITY and REBUILDING upon solid foundations, the only sure way back to God. This positive program, motivated by Christians who had vision and spiritual inspiration, was especially underscored just six years ago, when our people declared themselves in support of a COMMON UNITED PURPOSE.

Our common purpose is to fellowship in Christ and take to the world a positive, saving message, based on those particular tenets of faith which have been preserved, valued and bought by the blood of martyrs.

In Isaiah 59:14 we read that "Truth is fallen in the street." We have before us the task of raising its banners. Are we the people to do it? Are we big enough spiritually? We have tried in past years, but with much ineffectiveness. That was the work of evil powers - to prevent us. But that was the past. What about now, today and tomorrow?

What caused our past failures? Why was our work impaired? As you look at our present program, objectives, and positive sound approach, we believe that you can see why we had to fail in the past to prepare us for our present future:

#### SEVEN STEPS TO VICTORY - for Christ!

- Sound Educational program through our educational planning. Scores of youth are now intelligently preparing for their future through applied wisdom and Christian education.
- 2. A foreign work that is being approached on an entirely new basis by personal contact and investigation, and a plan for establishment of home representation in foreign mission stations to guide this work. Converts abroad cannot be left to themselves. They need teaching, guidance, and living with a real challenge to those who wish to PREPARE!
- 3. NATIONAL OFFICES are being built up with better systems, better equipment, sounder business methods, and personnel in training to meet the problems of handling an expanding work. Our work will expand only as we are able and qualified to meet it.
- 4. Better training and preparation of the ministry. Better methods of reaching prospects and spreading the gospel.
- 5. Higher Christian Ethics among the working personnel, and among the laity. A higher spiritual life held up before our people.
- 6. Constant Improvement of publications and new literature to meet the NEEDS of our times, and strike HOME with the message! Literature designed to win and convert to bring decisions.
- 7. A beginning and growing scope of personal witnessing such as we've never before embraced within our Church. This is a vital key to a great future. It is a return to the NEW TESTAMENT model as a living, witnessing Church. Plans and preparation are being energetically pursued. Delays and obstacles meet us, but the force of inspiration from a close contact with Christ urges us on to meet His terms "Ye are my witnesses."

### DON'T YOU THINK THESE SEVEN STEPS ARE THE BEST NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR LIFE TIME?

And in your life time you will see results and God's mighty working power, God helping us! If Christ can inspire such a program and motivate us to such action, don't you think our future is in good hands? Don't you think HE WILL BE PRESENT with us in a

#### CHRIST-CENTERED PROGRAM .

Every part of the work - every arm, every branch is blossoming out with expanding activity. This means that each part needs more financial provision, but God is to supply this through every child of His who catches this positive vision. God is in our future. He is able to supply our need. That supply is through you, through all of usfor every worker and every lay-member shares in this supply.

#### UNITED GIVING

It is our duty and desire to avoid conflict and confusion, and eliminate haphazard giving. It is impossible for any one of us to know just what part of the work needs our help, as we go along. Some who are close to one thing see only that thing. Yet, those who see the OVER-ALL PICTURE, see that EACH PART depends upon the other.

Some things appear to be glamorous to us and we only want to support that thing for awhile. Some may feel only the need of the foreign missions. Others like the idea of radio, and another sees only home missions or the need of the school.

Brethren, cannot we achieve a broader vision and feel the need of ALL parts of the work together? Not one part alone will save the Church. All of them TOGETHER WILL SAVE THE CHURCH and cause it to fulfill its mission to God.

God places all parts as it pleases him. No work is outlined by the Church which has not been carefully analyzed as being a most necessary part. (Please compare I Cor. 12:22-25).

## "BUT IT SEEMS TO ME....."

Yes, we know that sometimes it APPEARS that only one particular part is doing anything! But behind the work which does appear stand the heavily loaded workers behind the scenes, making possible those activities which do appear. They are the ones who study, plan, organize, write, work the presses, design the program, the literature, coordinate the work - work and plan and PRAY!

That is why your Church says: "GIVE TO THE UNITED FUND AND HELP THEM ALL."

This fund is divided among all departments by those who know the exact and urgent needs of each part. There are times when some parts must be held in abeyance until other sections of the work have MOVED FORWARD. Only those in very close contact can guide in those activities.

We know that every one who reads this is made happy to see the over-all planned PROGRAM herein presented to you. We know that you are happy to be presented with a plan of UNITED GIVING that permits every one to share in ALL the work at once.

#### YOU CANNOT LOSE

what you give to Christ! (See John 6:9-13). As converts of Christ, we must know that to retain all His blessings in the coming year, we must share of what we have received at His hands.

### LET US PROVE GOD - for one year!

God has said that He will open the windows of heaven and pour out such a blessing that we will not have room to contain it. Do you want this for yourself and your Church this year?

# GIVING TO THE UNITED FUND MEANS AN ALL-OUT EFFORT

because we are not just giving to one thing, but to the whole program. It cannot be just a nominal gift, if there is to be a blessing.

This is a combined effort. Your Church does not try to raise money in questionable ways by lotteries, gambling, church banquets, nor indulge in schemes and devices which rob us of spirituality.

There is only one way that God has directed that His work be supported. His way is not only the best way, but is a part of God's commands. Your Church receives support through an honest, fair approach. God does not beg. He asks. He tells you the need. That is all we can do.

# GOD'S WAY OF FINANCING

is through the holy tithe (Lev. 27:30), through offerings of worship (Psalm 96:8,9), and thanksgiving (Psalm 50:14).

# TO WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH - is to G-I-V-E.

The tithe is a holy part. It already belongs to God. Now if we would truly worship God, we not only pray, but we BRING.

In the very earliest times, God taught mankind that giving was a part of true worship, II Chron. 24:10. Worship becomes the real delight it should be, when we share with God. (Chapter 29:29-31.) God returns all we give!

# "HARVEST THANKS GIVING"

which is the name of our fall season of giving is Bible based. When God's people were enjoying His protection, care and blessings, they were taught to remember Him as INSURANCE against loss of their blessings.

# GIVE ABUNDANTLY and reap YOUR blessings!

This is a special annual offering, which will launch the 1955 PROGRAM and carry it forth. The future of our work for God now rests upon each of us and upon how well we try, and upon how serious we are in this business of the King.

Every employed person of average income should give or pledge \$100.00 for the UNITED FUND for the coming year. You'll be blessed. God will return it over and over. Why not PROVE GOD herewith? Christ has assured us that we CANNOT LOSE what we give. Its impossible! You can't outgive God!

For those who earn ABOVE the average, we can only call attention to the words of Jesus, "For all they did cast in of their abundance, but she (widow) of her want..."

Then there are those who are not earning and are in no position to earn. However small their gift shall be - it probably will be GREATEST OF THEM ALL.

# SANBALLAT STILL MOCKS - "Will they really sacrifice?"

He represents Satanic mockery of those who do not want to see God's work go over the top. Here is what he says, "When Sanballat heard that WE BUILDED THE WALL, he was WROTH...and said...WILL THEY SACRIFICE?" (Neh. 4:2).

#### DOES GOD WANT A TOKEN - OR A SACRIFICE?

"My saints... have made a COVENANT with me by SACRIFICE" . . . ... Psalm 50:5.

# WHAT IS A SACRIFICE?

A sacrifice is not a donation, or a token, or a gesture. It is giving that which COSTS us something real! Does such sacrificing bring hurt or blessing? Abraham was challenged to give something very costly - his beloved son! What happened? God provided a ram, and gave Him back his son and many more blessings. We cannot out-aive God!

#### "BUT WHAT ABOUT PLEDGES?"

We make down payments and sign two, three and ten year contracts - pledging ourselves to pay for automobiles, homes and many other things. WE HAVE FAITH that we can fulfill those contracts. Yet, your church does not bind you, in cases of misfortune. It never demands payment. It simply says, "Help us plan intelligently for the coming year by telling us what you will try to do WITH GOD'S HELP!" Don't be afraid to go on record before God that you are asking Him for a year of blessings.

If we have boldness to ask His blessings, let us like Jacob, say, "I will surely GIVE to you. I believe, Lord, that I can determine a reasonable amount of giving, tell my church about it, so that they can better plan, and that YOU LORD can surely help me to fulfill it, and ADD your blessing."

# YOU CAN ASK OTHERS TO SHARE

Take the enclosed THANKS GIVING HARVEST FOLDER, which pictures the work of the Church, and give your friends and relatives an opportunity also to share in this work. Even if they are not ready for a decision, they would feel honored that you have invited them to share in a blessing. Please send their names and addresses when you send their offering, so that we can personally thank them.

One man was approached, on a certain occasion, by a Pastor who asked him to share in a Church project. The man said, "You are the first Pastor in this town, and the first Christian, who has ever asked me to share in such a work." With tears of gratitude he shared, and thus began the road back to God.

### YOU CAN GIVE A REAL OFFERING OF THANKS GIVING

and reap God's providential blessings through 1955. GIVE WHAT YOU CAN NOW, and state your pledge for the year ahead. We KNOW that God will bless you for it. Friends, we just cannot afford to lose His WONDERFUL blessings in store for us. MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS AND KEEP YOU.

"THE UNITED FUND CAMPAIGN"

P. O. Box 2370

Denver, Colorado

Church of God (7th Day), Inc. 1899

"To HIS honor and glory.

