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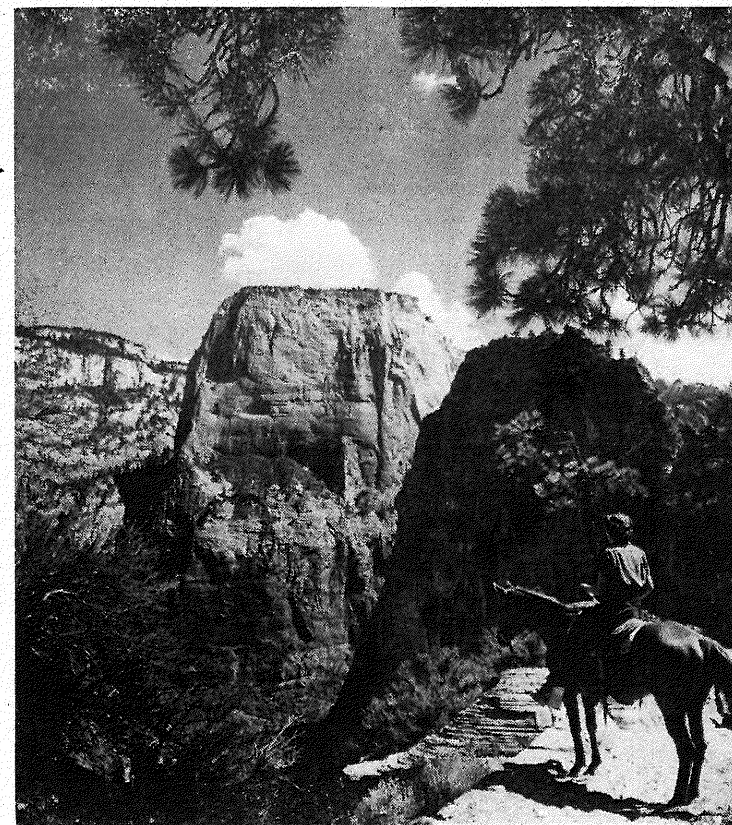
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PEACE RULES THE DAY WHEN CHRIST RULES THE MIND.

Aim The magazine for young people

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among the young people of the Church of God. It is published monthly under the direction of the Young People's Department of the General Conference by the Church of God Publishing House at Second and Willow Streets in Stanberry, Missouri. It was entered as second class matter on September 10, 1959, at the Post Office in Stanberry, Missouri, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Vol. XXX, No. 8

Hope E. Dais, Editor

The fairest flower in the garden of creation is a young mind, offering and unfolding itself to the influence of divine wisdom, as the heliotrope turns its sweet blossoms to the sun.

—J. E. SMITH

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What Faith Did For Me

One bright sunny Sabbath afternoon as we—my sister, three brothers and I came home from church, we were hoping that the atmosphere would be different than it was when we left.

My father had been sick when we left which forced Mother to stay home and look after him. But as we entered our little abode we found it just as we had left it. And perhaps my father was a little bit worse. I don't remember if we ate lunch. But I do remember that we were all upset about Father's condition.

One of the sisters of the church came over to help us.

Some of the things I remember most that she did for us were to call the doctor for advice, call the sheriff, and clean up a mess of scattered corn flakes that one of us kids had spilled.

A few minutes later the pastor and his wife came over. Our pastor's wife took us for a walk as she felt it might make it easier on us if we didn't see the sheriff take Daddy to Pennsecola, as my little brother was only three.

Pennsecola was an accepted joke around the school and community. Seldom did a day go by without someone making some smart remark about a certain person being bound for a strait jacket at Pennsecola. How I had roared with laughter then!

Never, never again could I feel that way. It seemed like the door of my life had slammed shut in my face, depriving me of the blessings of a "daddy" around the house.

Oh, I had known that Dad had not been as alert as he used to be, but I refused to face the situation. Now I had no choice. I was forced to accept the fact that Dad—my own father—was mentally ill and might not be home for weeks, months, and maybe even years!

I can still see the expression on my mother's face. Time can

erase every other memory, but I can never forget the look on her face—her eyes so devoid of emotion and hope as to seem transparent, her whole face frozen in an expression of despair. And I realized that she had more and bigger problems than mine.

Right then and there I made up my mind that, no matter what, our family would stay together. We had to for Mom's sake. And I would do my best to make things easier for my family.

At this point, I realized that turning to God in my despair would give me the needed strength and confidence. But somehow, God seemed the farthest away from my thoughts. With bitterness in my heart, I reasoned, "If God let such a misfortune happen to a family who didn't deserve it, then surely my prayers—if even heard—would be unwelcomed and go unanswered."

To make matters even worse, I felt sorry for myself—sorry for the bad stroke of fate and the unwanted added responsibility which was facing me.

* * *

Finally, the time came when we were to see Daddy. After all, two months was a long time to be without a dad. And somehow my bitter ways were sweetened somewhat by the magical effect of the day, and I began to think of some one else besides myself. I began thinking of all the lonely hours and weeks and months and years that Dad, and

many, many others like him were spending.

My old resentment began to "tug" at my conscience. Once again I began to wonder how God could be so merciless as to let such an illness strike us.

Suddenly, deep down inside me I could hear a voice say, "You look so sad; that's no way to be." That seemed to snap me back to reality again.

* * *



The nurses all had such sunny natures that it caused even me to let out a smile. Just one simple act—prayer—had relieved me of an unaccountable amount of grief and had made me rely strongly and vitally upon God.

At last, my closed door was unlocked and I began to ask God to take care of us as He saw fit, not as I saw. I asked God for help. For then, only then, would I feel that my burdens had been lightened.

At last I realized I had been shunning the only One Who could help me. He had been waiting patiently by my side until I could "see the light" and put my wholehearted trust in Him.

Maybe it was God watching over me. Maybe it was God Whom I heard speak to me—to teach me one of the most important lessons of my life.

Which reminds me of many, many years ago, when the greatest miracle of all mankind took

(Continued on page 26)

Barbara Mann was one of our graduating seniors at Spring Vale Academy last May. This composition was written in connection with her Bible IV class.

Father of All EVIL

By Barbara Mann

As one would search the dictionaries, encyclopedias, and of course the Bible for the definition of Satan, we come up with something like the following:

Satan is an ancient Hebrew word for devil. In the Apocrypha it says that Satan is the author of all evil and that he rules over a host of angels. In Matthew 25:41 we learn from the Scriptures that Satan is the leader of a host of evil spirits or angels who share his evil work, and for whom the "everlasting fire is prepared."

The proper name or title, Satan, only appears in five different books of the Old Testament. In Job 1 and 2, the Sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Sa-

tan is with them. In Zechariah 3:1, Satan is standing at the right hand of Joshua, the high priest, ready to resist him. In 1 Chronicles 21:1, Satan stands up against Israel and provokes David to number Israel. In Psalm 109:6, it states, "Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand."

Of the nature and original state of Satan, little is revealed in the Scripture. In Ephesians 2:2 he is spoken of as the prince or ruler of the demons. One cannot say that God created something that was originally evil, but one may say that Satan is a fallen angel, according to the Old Testament, whose condemnation is now fixed.

Now, let's take a look at some of the instances in the New Testament which help prove Satan's status. First, we will turn to Matthew 12:22-30. In this chapter it tells of Jesus casting the devils out of the blind and dumb man. When the Pharisees, one of the Jewish sects, who were of the lower class, saw what was done, they made fun of him and said Jesus cast out the devils by Beelzebub, the prince of



devils. But Jesus knew what they were thinking and He told them that every kingdom that is divided against itself will not stand. He continued saying unto them, "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, the kingdom of God is come unto you" (Matthew 12:28). For all they that are not with the Lord are against Him, and they that gather not with Him, are scattered abroad.

Also as we turn to John 8:44 we see what Jesus thought of the devil and the people that follow him. Here Jesus was talking to some Jews who didn't believe in Him and who wanted to do away with Him. They said that Abraham was their father, but Jesus said that if they were the children of Abraham they would do his works. Then they said that God was their Father. Again Jesus told them that if God was their Father then they would love Him, because He proceeded forth and came from God.

He then explained to them what they really were. He said, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

These were unpleasant words. They sound awfully harsh to us today, but of course Satan is far from pleasant and we must keep him out of our lives. For every sin committed makes a man the "servant of sin" for the future. It creates in the spirit of man a positive tendency to evil, which aids the temptation of the evil one.

* * *

God would as soon see people in their nakedness, and being what they actually are, as trying to cloak their hypocrisy. Be what you are.

PLAYIN' SQUARE

*Don't count the game as lost, my boy,
Because the runs are more
For the opposing team than yours.
What matter is the score?
Why, being beaten can't impair
Your courage when you're playin' square.*

*When bigger games and bigger stakes
Are yours to lose or win,
Don't waste your time connivin' for
Advantage—just dig in
And do your best to claim your share;
But first be sure you're playin' square.*

—SUNSHINE MAGAZINE

The

Winning Team

By Dorothy Nimchuk

"Come on, Son, time for family worship!"

"Aw, Dad, can't I skip it this time. I've got to talk to the coach before school starts to see if our new track uniforms came yet or not," pleaded Larry. Any excuse to get out of that ceremony. He knew exactly what would happen. Dad would read something or other out of the big family Bible and then each member of the family was expected to contribute toward prayer. That was an awful long time for a fellow to have to stay on his knees. His mind was

usually quite far away from worship and when it finally came his turn he would mumble something so low no one could hear, and be thankful it was done for another day. Pretty monotonous way to start each day, to his way of thinking!

But Mr. Clapp was adamant. Family worship was for the entire family and no one was going to slip out



without it. He and Jane, his wife, were getting a little worried about Larry. He had never shown any real interest in the morning family get-together and played hookie from Sabbath school and church at every opportunity. It seemed his one interest lay in the track team up at Riverside High. After the youngsters were all on their way to school his parents discussed Larry's seeming disinterest in spiritual things.

"I don't know what we're going to do with the boy. The three girls all seem to take an active interest in Sabbath school, and Young People's, too, but Larry daydreams his way through every service. I've reached the end of my rope with him." sighed Leonard.

Jane patted his arm and smiled as she said, "I've been thinking we should send him to Uncle Henry's

farm for the summer. You know how well he likes the boy, and Henry is a good Christian man. It may be he could straighten him out."

"What a wonderful idea, Jane," exclaimed Leonard. "Why didn't we think of it sooner. I'll phone Henry from the office this morning. Speaking of the office, I'd better get going or they'll think I'm not coming in today."

And that's how it came about that Larry spent the summer with his Uncle Henry at Redgate Farm. Henry's purebred Herefords were his pride and joy. The afternoon the bus stopped at the lane running from the highway to Henry's rambling farm house and deposited Larry along with his suitcase, Henry was almost finished seeding oats in the big field behind the barn. Larry stopped long



enough at the house to greet Aunt Matilda and to change into old clothes before racing out to the field where Henry's big tractor made relentless rounds of the field followed by the seed drill.

After greeting his uncle, Larry climbed on the back of the drill and watched as the seeds poured down the little spouts into the rich black soil. Having finished the seeding the two made their way to the house where Aunt Matilda had lunch ready.

"Will all of those seeds sprout, Uncle Henry?" inquired Larry.

"Well, son, it's like this. That's all

good registered seed I'm using but take a look at the field right now. Already those birds are over there eating their fill before I can get it harrowed. Then there's that sandy corner at the south end of the field. Nothing will grow there unless we get plenty of moisture this year. The weeds used to choke out quite a few young plants but all these new sprays and chemicals keep the weeds under fairly good control. Most of the seeds will take good root and grow. Still there are hazards to be encountered prior to harvest. Insufficient rain! Early frost! Always puts me to mind of the parable Jesus told of the sower and the seed. Here, Larry, find Matthew 13:3-9 in this Bible of mine."

Larry found the place with a little difficulty. He had never bothered learning the books of the Bible in order although all the others in his Sabbath school class had done so. Now he wished he had, so Uncle Henry wouldn't think he didn't know anything.

"Read it, boy," commanded Henry. Larry read these words:

And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; and when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:

And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. and some fell among thorns;

and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: and others fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

"Just like people," commented his uncle. "Some of them hear the Word of God, but selfish interests soon blot it out of their minds. Others accept the Word but are not well grounded in the faith and soon drift away to the world again when trials or temptations appear. Others believe and accept the Word and build their lives upon it. They study to know more of God's will and daily commune with Him in prayer."

Being allowed to work the harrows after lunch time was quite a thrill for Larry. However, he still found time to think about what his uncle said concerning the seed.

* * *

The golden days of summer passed swiftly on silent wings. Summerfallow to do; then before Larry knew it, haying time was upon them. Preferring to use his horses for cutting hay, Henry was hitching up his matched team of bay geldings to the mower when Larry put in an appearance.

"Only one seat on the mower, lad, so guess I can't take you with me. After I do a round or so, I'll show you what to do and then I'll let you take a try at it if you like."

"I'm not sure I could handle them. They sure look big," exclaimed Larry eyeing the spirited animals. "Oh, Brownie and Butch won't be any bother. They are quite soft in the mouth and easy to handle. Easier than controlling your tongue! Here, take this New Testament I carry in my

shirt pocket and read James 3:3 and 8, and you'll see what I mean," and with that Uncle Henry guided his team out to the hay meadow leaving Larry behind with the Testament in his hands. He laboriously found the book of James after much hunting and read the verses his uncle mentioned.

Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

He was beginning to see that Uncle Henry made a very practical application of scripture in his everyday life. Like last week when one of his prize herefords broke into the alfalfa field and later died of bloat. He did everything he could to save the animal but to no avail. Afterwards he simply quoted Job 9:12, "Behold, he taketh away, who can hinder him? who will say unto him, What doest thou?"

He went on to explain how Job lost all he had; finally, wealth, cattle, etc., yet he could still praise God. Even when his body was covered with boils and his wife admonished him to curse God and die, he would not. That night Larry located the book of Job in his Bible and read it from beginning to end.

Larry was beginning to take an interest in Bible reading but had difficulty in knowing where and what to read. So one evening he asked his uncle how to study the Bible.

"Be glad to help you, Larry, anyway I can," beamed Henry. "First you must believe the Bible and accept it as God's Word. In 2 Peter 1:21 we read: 'For the prophecy came not

in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.' You must pray for guidance by the Holy Spirit and study diligently for truth. I'll loan you my concordance and you can study by subject matter. For instance, look under faith in the concordance and you will find listed all references to faith. This will help you to become acquainted with your Bible. If you need any help, just let me know."

"Thanks, Uncle Henry, I will."

Several evenings later, Larry looked up from his Bible as Henry entered the room. "Say, I never knew that reading the Bible could be so exciting. I've just been reading some of the adventures of the Apostle Paul in the book of Acts. It's better than 'Treasure Island,'" exclaimed Larry.

"That's fine," said Henry. "I'm glad to see you taking such an interest in the Bible. As a matter of fact, your mother and dad have been rath-

er concerned about your spiritual welfare lately. I'm beginning to think they won't have to worry about you too much longer."

"Not at all, they won't have to worry. You know, Uncle Henry, the interest I have always had in track? We guys on the team always put our best into each practice and every meet. It reminds me of what Paul was telling Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:7, 8. 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the

faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.' I've just been figuring that I want to be on God's team and do my very best for Him."

"You'd think everyone would want to be on the winning team," added Henry, "and with God you can't lose!"

Dear Diary,

By Cecyl Fischer, written from the viewpoint of a young camper

Sunday, June 20—We just arrived at Gospel Ranch. It's beautiful—right on the edge of a gorgeous lake. Just wish they had less mosquitoes and more hot water. A bus arrived full of kids and staff from Denver and the Dakotas. I heard there are 65 of us campers besides staff. Not bad for the first year. Elder Patchen is directing the camp.

Monday—Met a lot of kids today. We got our schedule; Nature study; breakfast; general assembly; classes & crafts; lunch; recreation; supper, evening service and campfire. Sister Heavilin introduced the theme: "God's Great Launching Pad," with a chalk drawing at general assembly. She'll be doing one each evening to develop the theme. I got to play softball, ride horses and swim this afternoon. We heard a real good sermon in the evening about being chosen. It sure makes a person think.

TUESDAY—Boy, would I love a hot bath! We're studying Bible heroes in my classes. I'm sure learning a lot. I rode horses and donkeys again today and played some badminton. They have us divided into four teams for competition. There sure is lots of musical talent here. Even the cooks formed a quartet. Another good sermon tonight.

Wednesday—I had K.P. today—all day! Rode horses again and went swimming. Hot water? Who needs it? We had a real good service in the evening. Several prayed at the altar. We had more good testimonies and singing later at campfire. The mosquitoes were there, too.

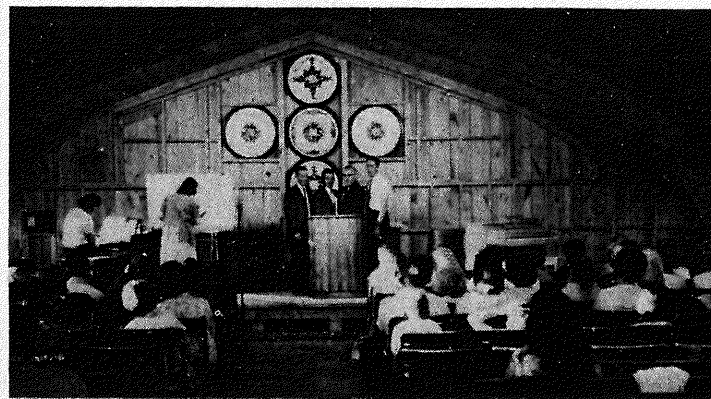
Thursday—Big day! We had team competition in horseback riding, donkey racing, track, and Bible quizzing. Martha Heavilin and Ruthella Ling sure shone in quiz competition. The 1962 World's Champion Fisherman,

Virgil Ward, spoke to us today about his experiences in faith. He's a Church of God member. After the evening service there was a surprise gathering in the dining hall in honor of the Sweet's tenth anniversary. The cooks had a cobbler and ice cream prepared. No campfire tonight.

Friday—This afternoon we campers challenged the staff at softball. They ate popsicles in the field while we soared ahead of them 9 to 0 in two innings, but they ended up winning, 15 to 12. We'll show 'em next year. God was really present at the evening service. We've had from four to eight

special numbers each service. A few visitors came in this afternoon—friends and relatives of campers. We went to bed early.

Sabbath—We got to sleep a little later. We had Sabbath school and preaching service in the morning and a youth rally in the afternoon. The rally was called, "Hill City, U.S.A." It was arranged on the order of the play, "Our Town." The evening service was excellent. Many lingered in prayer. I had to say goodbye to some of my friends already tonight. We'll be leaving after breakfast tomorrow. I sure wish camp lasted two weeks.



In the chapel, Male quartet; Elders Melvin Sweet, Vernon Patchen, and Brothers Paul Heavilin and Gary Dais singing as Sister Heavilin is making the chalk drawing for the evening. Sister Patchen is at the organ.

My Problem

Youth Questions
answered by
Ray L. Straub



Is . . .

PROBLEM:

Our pastor is always suggesting that we should come to him with our personal problems. I notice that you feel we should be doing this, too. Why do you ministers always want us to come to you with our problems when all you give us is a preacher's viewpoint instead of a teenager's? Let's face it, we don't think alike!

ANSWER:

Your question offers a fair challenge. You certainly have a right to know what help you may expect, if any, by counseling with a minister. I must admit that your inquiry is not easy to answer, but I must try!

Most ministers recognize that their viewpoint is that of a minister. I think that people come to them for advice and/or counseling because they seek the views of a pastor. If one wanted

the opinions of a teenager, he ought to go to a teenager. You should understand quite readily that if a preacher did not give a minister's viewpoint, he would hardly be doing his duty.

A logical question follows: what good is a preacher's viewpoint to a teenager?

While the teens are exciting years, they are also accompanied by numerous pitfalls. As I sit here at a typewriter, looking out the window I see a raging fire. It is really quite ferocious, making loud crackling sounds and sending up billows of smoke. The neighborhood is aware of the fire because of the sight and smell of smoke and the sound of fire. Fortunately, the fire is under control, burning the weeds alongside a nearby railroad track.

The years of our teens are quite like this fire. These fast, lively, important years can bring immeasurable good if properly used. However, if wrongly used and uncontrolled, they bring a lifetime that is damaged and regrettable.

The minister should be able to give help during these formative years by presenting some of the deeper values in life. Other than your parents and close relatives, he should be the most concerned about you as a personality—he may be more concerned than any other individual. Most pastors are genuinely trying to direct the truest of values into youthful lives. They want what is best for you.

Also, as we mature, assuming more and more responsibility, moral values become important. The more responsible a person becomes, the more he must be concerned with what is right and wrong. If someone has little regard for moral values, he definitely is not equipped to take a responsible place amongst others. A moral analysis is important, and the minister is trained to help arrive at wise conclusions, consistent with clean, peaceful, helpful living.

It is not being too liberal to suggest that your pastor recog-

nizes that in many instances he is giving a viewpoint, nothing more. He is no doubt convinced that it is a good one, worth serious consideration—but it is nevertheless an opinion. Few ministers will consider their opinions to be outright instructions to those who come only for viewpoints.

When I am asked for an opinion, and I feel that I have one to give, I do so. Having shared it, I do not feel that the person has to do what I suggest, nor do I suppose that he owes me any explanation if he decides on some other course of action. It is a minister's responsibility to give wise, compassionate answers. It is the individual's responsibility to make proper use of the advice without fearing the disapproval or condemnation from the minister.

The most important part of this answer has been saved until last. You must understand that in many instances what a minister has to tell you is far more than mere opinion and viewpoint. Statements will come from the pastor's lips that are not personal ideas but observations that have repeatedly been proven to be accurate and worth paying attention to.

For instance, when one indulges in anti-social behavior, he may expect to receive an anti-social reaction. This is no mere opinion. It is an accurate axiom of life that ignorance cannot change. If one walks down a street and impulsively socks someone on the nose for no

Do you have a special problem, or a matter in which you wish extra advice? You are invited to write to Elder Straub for his counseling. Send to: Aim, Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

reason, he will get quite an unkind reaction—probably a solid punch on his own nose!

It is also true that the emotion of hatred is harmful to the one doing the hating. He may feel that he has reason to hate—I'm sure he does. But, the emotion itself will disease, weaken and eventually destroy a personality, and it does not matter in the least who it is. This is no opinion. If you hate, of if I hate, it matters little; whoever does it suffers because of it. There is no escape.

When one is told that very youthful marriages stand little chance of succeeding to the degree that a marriage between more mature people does, he receives no mere viewpoint. Statistics continually prove this. A minister can quickly give you reasons for this, some of these reasons reflecting his own viewpoint. However, the statement that most teenage marriages do not work out is true.

A pastor may tell a counselee that lack of obedience reflects a lack of self-control. Again, this is no mere viewpoint. This is a truth that neither of us can disprove. One who is not controlled in the home cannot be controlled by either himself or society after he leaves home. Lack of discipline will always plague him until our loving God delivers him from his chains of weakness and sin.

I leave a challenge with you. Why not stop considering the source of the advice and give

wise, mature consideration to the *value* of the advice?

The Apostle Paul made an interesting observation. He noted that when the moral Law of God manifested itself to him, it exposed sin and the influence of carnality in him. He wisely recognized that the sin was not in the law but in himself.

This suggests that when the values taught by our pastors reflect unworthy opinions in us, we must take great care not to blame the preacher because he shines light our way. Rather, if we want to acquire any worth at all, we must recognize our own shortcomings, accept the blame for them, and proceed quickly and definitely to correct them.

It is not the advice of the minister that causes one to feel uncomfortable and out of step. It is our own lack of understanding and willingness to accept moral responsibilities that dwarf us. Sympathy from another brooding, self-justifying teen-ager will add nothing to our stature.

It does not matter so much whether the viewpoint given is that of a teenager, preacher, doctor, lawyer, teacher. It matters most whether the opinion is a good one. If it is good, prize it. If it is not, be patient. There will always be more. Viewpoints are easy to get!

* * *

Not he that reads most, but he that meditates most on divine truth, proves the wisest, choicest Christian.

A Gift -- Worth Striving For

By Jerry Boor, 1965 SVA graduate

One of the greatest lacks today is the absence of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit of God. There are very few miraculous healings, there is very little prophesying or speaking in tongues.

The reason is simple.

Christians are not devoting their all to God, nor are they striving for the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Not all Christians are intended to receive the same gifts. But wouldn't it seem logical that in order to have the gift or baptism of the Holy Ghost, one would have to be blessed with at least one of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit? How many of us have the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healings, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, or the interpretation of tongues? The answer is that not very many have even one of these gifts because they have not striven for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Every Christian should strive for the baptism of the Holy Ghost because, really, his Christian life is not complete without it. And there isn't a Christian alive who devotes his all to God who cannot receive it.

It is not for us individually to decide just what the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is, nor how it will manifest itself in our own personal life. But we must be so dedicated to God and His purpose, with a real hunger for His good gifts—that we are ready to seek and receive from Him what He wants to give us.

“Then Peter said unto them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.’” This verse does not say ‘a few of you,’ it says ‘every one of you.’ “For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:38, 39). That includes every follower of Christ who has ever lived since Pentecost.



In Acts 2:38, the scriptures make a promise unto every person who is baptized into the blood of Jesus for the remission of his sins. This promise is that he will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Bible does not lie. If a Christian has not received it, it is because, for some reason or other, they have not striven for it. "But covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet show I unto you a more excellent way" (1 Corinthians 12:31). That more excellent way spoken of is not to be substituted for the gifts themselves, but rather it is a better way of receiving the gifts.

1 Corinthians 13:1 states, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." In other words, the Spirit without love is dead and amounts to nothing in God's eyes just as 'faith without works is dead.' Neither one can stand alone! A Christian is to have both the love (truth) of God and the Spirit of God dwelling in him.

"Blessed are they which do *hunger* and *thirst* after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). One hungers after the Word of God; one thirsts after the Spirit of God. Bread is a symbol for the truth of the Word of God, while water is a symbol for the Holy Spirit of the Living God. One should try eating solid foods without any liquids for a day, and then the next day he should try

drinking all liquids without any solid food. Doing this all the time, how could one live? Chances are the soul would be lost if it didn't have an equal balance of bread and water or truth and Spirit. The Church of God needs not to eat less bread, but it does need to drink more water.

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is something more than just the presence of the Holy Spirit in a revival meeting, for example. People may be deeply moved due to the presence of the Spirit, which is wonderful. But it takes a deep experience in which the Holy Spirit descends upon a person and gives him one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit—then he has received the genuine Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Often Christians talk about being on fire for God. The sure way to do this very thing is to receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. A Christian must really be dedicated to receive this wonderful gift, but if he is devoting his all to God, he will undoubtedly receive it. The promise was not made to everyone in order for only a few to receive it.

The Bible commands man not to be lukewarm or God will spew him out of His mouth. Christians are to be on fire for God and by receiving this great gift they will bring down the fire from Heaven so necessary in the church today.

* * *

Tarry at a promise till God meets you there.

True Heroes

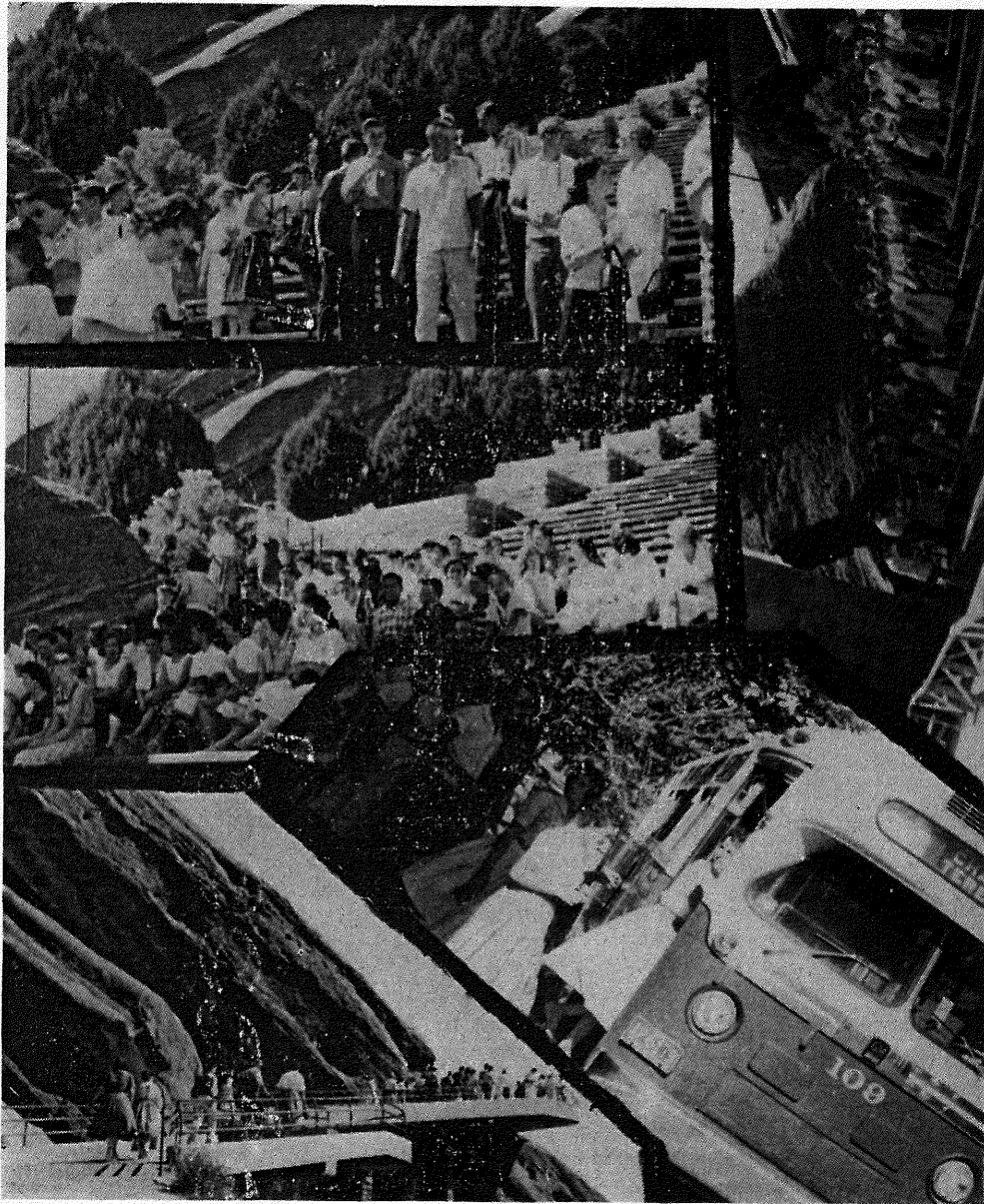
True heroes stand for God and truth,
For right against the wrong;
Set good examples for our youth
And live where they belong;
Act wisely when they're talked about
And hold a steady hand;
Keep faith in God when others doubt
And say they'll never stand.

True heroes do not shrink with fear
When dangers lurk around;
Stay calm because the Lord is near
To help them hold their ground.
They watch and pray and keep their eyes
Upon a distant goal,
When we will meet Him in the skies,
And joys await the soul.

True heroes do not yield to sin,
Though they are tempted sore
By those who strive to draw them in
To share their vice galore;
But even when the wicked crowd
Looks on and hates their name,
Such heroes praise their God aloud
And scale the peaks of fame.

True heroes sing the victor's song
And wave the victor's flag,
Though they're opposed by forces strong
Who laugh and jeer and nag;
But in their godly hearts and minds
They know the right wins out,
And through the years its beauty shines
When wrong has ceased to shout.

—Walter E. Isenhour



Dianne's

Camp Meeting

Plans

Nothing short of an emergency could have kept Dianne from camp meeting this year. For weeks she had looked forward to this time—and at last, here she was on the campgrounds. All of her plans, and all of her preparations had centered around this one week that would be spent on the campgrounds. Her wardrobe had been carefully selected, with more than sufficient changes of clothing—and you can be sure, the clothes were most becoming to her. Oh! Everything must be perfect at this camp meeting. Dianne was determined it would be a success.

Now as she walked across the campground with Jan on the third evening of camp meeting, Dianne wondered what had gone wrong. Everything was just going along in a matter-of-fact manner. This didn't seem like the week that she had looked forward to and planned for during the last few weeks.

True, nothing had gone particularly wrong. Dianne just naturally made friends easily, and she surely had made new acquaintances already. Everyone was friendly—but an unexplained dissatisfaction persisted, and in spite of Dianne's outward appearance of exuberance, she was unhappy. She hadn't had even one date since she had arrived at the campgrounds—and now as she watched several cou-

ples walk by chattering happily, she felt a mixture of resentment, unhappiness, and—yes—at the same time she felt a little ashamed of her own feelings.

In spite of her unrest inside, Dianne slept soundly that night, and when she awoke early the next morning to find the sun shining brightly, and a refreshing breeze blowing the curtain across her bed, she felt a renewal of her former anticipations for a wonderful time here on the campgrounds. Today would be a perfect day—she knew it! Nothing could go wrong. Determined to make it a perfect day, Dianne sprang out of bed, and nudged Jan (with an oversized nudge).

"C'mon, Jan. Dig out! It's a grand

day. Let's not waste one minute more. We've got to make the most of it."

As Jan slowly slid out of bed, still in a state of extreme somnolence, Dianne sprinted down the hall, dashed cold water in her face, and in double-quick time, was back in the room. She selected the mint green dress, which she had so carefully sewed. As she ran the comb through her hair, every wave seemed to fall into place this morning. Oh! Truly it was a perfect day—it had to be!

For some time, they had heard the jangle of dishes downstairs in the dining hall, indicating that the kitchen crew was carrying out their usual early preparations for the large crowd that must be fed. Breakfast time revealed that Jan and Dianne were not the only ones who had thought this the perfect morning to arise early and make the most of the day. As a matter of fact, they had to wait in line quite a while.

It was here in the breakfast line that Dianne became acquainted with Dave—the tall, dark-haired fellow who had caught her eye several times in the last three days. As they and other young people nearby chatted about their interests, Dianne once again had the feeling that this was the beginning of a perfect day—and subsequently a perfect week for the rest of the camp meeting.

The day's activities progressed normally—and in what seemed an incredibly short time Dianne was sitting in the evening service once again—having, of course, changed her clothes again, selecting one of her most becoming outfits. *Tonight, Dianne thought assuredly, I will surely have*

a date—oh, truly, this will end a perfect day.

Suddenly the words of the evening message penetrated Dianne's thinking. What was this he was saying? He had just turned to Philippians 3:14: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

"Young people," the minister continued, "Are you *pressing* toward the mark for the high calling, or are you just drifting along in your fellowship with other young people of like faith around you, allowing yourself to be content with the degree of holiness to which you have already attained, allowing yourself to be content to have been given the opportunity of salvation yourself, but too busy and selfish with your own plans and interests to be an ambassador for Christ—to truly press toward that high mark?"

"Let's go back and read the verse preceding our key verse for tonight—'forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.' Have you forgotten those things which were formerly the most important things in your life—popularity in worldly things, social fun, the most becoming clothes, etc.?"

"Are you forgetting those things of this world which will last for only a short while—and soon pass away? Are you reaching—*reaching*, young folks, putting forth an effort, stretching forth your hand and reaching for those things which are before you? Or are you limply holding out your hand to catch whatever may fall there—content with the minimum of accomplishment that will be yours?"

And so the message, directed spe-

... as Jan and Dianne walked together to the Chorus Sing and Fellowship Hour around the campfire, Dianne poured out her heart to her best friend.

cifically at the young people this evening, went on. Dianne listened intently, not realizing how her mind had been captured and completely turned from her former thoughts. The sermon finally ended with a single and simple Bible verse—but one that meant so much.

"And so, young people, may I remind you of this one closing statement from Matthew 6:33—'But seek ye *first* the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.'"

As the altar call was given, on the first verse of the invitation hymn, Dianne found herself kneeling at the altar. Truly she had been given the answer to the unhappy feeling which had persisted. Dianne knew now that she had been reaching forth unto those things which were behind, not those things which were before.

Later as Jan and Dianne walked together to the Chorus Sing and Fellowship Hour which was being held around the campfire, Dianne poured out her heart to her best friend.

"Oh, Jan, I'm so happy now—and it comes from way down inside—and I don't have to worry about *making* the rest of my days happy here at camp meeting. I just know that the great peace I have found in giving myself fully to God is something lasting, and that's enough to make all our days happy."

"I know," answered Jan. "I came to camp meeting, too, with the wrong idea. My idea was to have gobs of fun. And I must confess that I thought having gobs of fun depended on being coupled off with a fellow. These things are still a part of our lives—and will remain so, but now I realize that when we seek *first* the kingdom of God, then He adds the other joys to our lives just as we need them.

Dianne nodded. "Just what the rest of the camp meeting will bring forth, we can't know. Whether or not we will meet special fellows and enjoy companionship of this kind, we don't know. But this one thing we do know, Jan. These things are minor now when we find a new relationship in our friend, Christ Jesus—the friend that sticks closer than a brother.

"And this one thing I will do—I will *press*—and I mean *press*—not drag—toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Jan, too, had been among the young people who had found a deeper experience at the altar that evening, and she and Dianne hugged each other with a new depth of friendship. They were pressing for the same goal in life—to be of service to God wherever He would lead them.

—Hope E. Dais

—Reprinted from August '59 AIM

The Editor's Page

"Superfluous! Simply superfluous!" were the enthusiastic words of an excited female admirer to a political candidate who had just finished an impressive speech. We smile amusingly, realizing that in her attempt to compliment him on his super (or perhaps more correctly, his super duper) speech, she actually deflated him with a very unflattering remark.

Is it possible that some of the things in our lives that we think are super-duper, are actually superfluous? Perhaps there can be a very fine line between super and superfluous.

Did you sing a special at the youth rally that could have been a "super" testimony for God? If you sang it mainly concerned with self-exaltation because of your fine voice and fine delivery, then that testimony that could have been super was actually **SIMPLY SUPERFLUOUS** in God's sight.

Did you enjoy the last all-day meeting you attended? Just what were the sort of preparations you made for that day? Were your main thoughts of preparation concerned with just what might be the most becoming clothes you could wear to be particularly noticed and popularly accepted with the younger set? Or did you prepare to receive wonderful blessings of communion and fellowship in store for a ready heart and a ready mind? Could it be that the day that could have been filled with super blessings from God was actually "simply superfluous" because you were "meditating" on earthly things?

Perhaps you tried to witness to your friend and bring her the real truth of the gospel. Is it possible that she saw you fail to show even as much concern or love for others less fortunate, than others around you show—and thus your witness which could have been super because the love of Christ shone out through you, actually became superfluous because your knowledge of truth was not backed up with real love—a real, genuine understanding of others?

May we beware that we do not fill our minds with the *seemingly* super things of this life—the things that are superfluous as far as God and His wonderful Kingdom are concerned.

Have you ever heard, "I just can't understand why I have so much hard luck," or "Everything happens to me, I don't know why?"

Perhaps those who know not Christ cannot understand why certain things happen to them, and then it may be that Christians sometimes fail to grasp the meaning of the many obstacles that come in their lives.

We are told in 1 Peter 4:12 and 13 not to think it strange that we have fiery trials, but to rejoice in that we can partake of some of the sufferings Christ had to endure. Many of us have a long way to go, I fear, to reach the place where we can rejoice at our hardships.

by
**Roberta
Harris
Schueler**

There is another good verse in 1 Peter 5:9 which admonishes us to remain steadfast in the faith because our brethren (in the faith) also suffer the same as we. Then verse 10 comforts us by saying that after we have suffered a little while God will make us perfect, stablished, strengthened and settled, receiving eternal glory if we remain firm in Him.

We have the assurance in 1 Corinthians 10:13 that temptation is common to all men. Matthew 5:12 says to "Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." There are many examples in the Bible of persecutions and tribulations. In the New Testament we think of the stoning of Stephen, the various persecutions of Paul; and in the Old Testament we think of Job, Jeremiah and many others who suffered because of their faith. In all these cases we find that they endured and were made

the stronger for their endurance. You will find also, that after each trial that is won you will be drawn that much closer to your God.

We are instructed throughout the Bible to endure all things and my prayer is that we might have that sufficient faith and trust in God to win continually and thus gain the crown of eternal life.

A verse that I think is especially comforting in the dark hours is found in 2 Timothy 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." I think this is why Peter told

Endure Ye All Things

us to rejoice in our tribulation for by this one is assured that he is God's child. We know he tried the children of Israel to see if they truly loved Him and to make them worthy of their promised land. So God tries His children of today, that they might be pure and blameless; fit vessels to

enter into our promised land, the Kingdom of God.

We share with you here another of Roberta's compositions, written while attending Midwest Bible College in '53—submitted recently by her mother.

Tested By Habits

Manhood and womanhood are tremendously tested by habits. Fame may not always be a test of character. It is possible to be famous with men but infamous with God. And after all, it is that which God sets His approval upon, or disapproval, that really and truly counts for time and eternity.

Habits may make or mar, build or destroy. Think! Health and strength, success or failure, peace and happiness, or wretchedness and woe, goodness or badness, length of life or brevity, depend largely on habits.

We see young people fade who should be rosy, healthy, strong, active, persevering, and going at good speed to life's best and grandest goal. The cause for their fading oftentimes is some bad and ruinous habit, or habits. Taking alcohol and nicotine into the system is literally undermining and destroying the health of millions of our youth today.

Regardless of all who drink, and smoke, or use tobacco in any form, and regardless of how highly it is advertised and pictured as enjoyable, and upheld by those who sell these poisons and argue in their favor, that makes them none the less injurious and obnoxious. It is highly disgusting for the supporters of an evil thing to praise it in order to make it acceptable. Praising a bad thing does not take the evil out of it—nor the poisonous sting.

Good and bad habits do not lock arms in sweet fellowship. Amos asks the question: "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). Sobriety does not agree with intemperance; cleanness does not agree with uncleanness; drinking does not agree with total abstinence; clean, sweet breath does not agree with the foul breath of the smoker.

To form a bad habit is very costly. It costs in money, in health, in manhood and womanhood, and it is especially very costly spiritually.

What are your habits? Consider the question honestly and conscientiously.

—Walter E. Isenhour

—Nelson Caswell

Youth Camp at Sleeper State Park

District 6 Youth Camp at Sleeper State Park got off to a start very early Sunday morning, June 27th, as people of the Great Lakes area loaded their gear into station wagons and cars and headed toward the thumb area of Michigan.

It was a nice day as campers rolled in, signed up, and headed apprehensively toward their assigned cabins for a week of frolic—and a week with God.

When noses were counted at the end of the day, there were 67 campers, one more than last year, in spite of the fact that our Wisconsin neighbors who had been with us last year were attending a youth camp nearer their vicinity this year.

Some folks came quite a distance. One girl came to camp from Buffalo, N Y. Our camp nurse, Mrs. Williams, came from Cleveland, Ohio. Our camp cook played two roles this year. Sister Susie DeWind was nurse for the District No. 2 camp. Then she flew back to Michigan, put on her apron and became camp cook for our hungry campers.

Our camp was only made possible by a group of dedicated laymen who sacrificed and

worked hard, using their vacations so that our camp could take place. These laymen did everything from bandaging fingers to sweeping, mopping, praying, cutting watermelon, preparing foods, acting as counselors, singing, speaking, testifying, supervising, worrying, and everything but resting. They were wonderful!

Every day included several servings of spiritual foods along with the fun and handcraft, swimming, games, campfire, and treats. Somehow, the environment at camp is just perfect for getting through to young folks in a way not usually possible. At altar calls they came streaming forward to pray as if pushed by a giant hand and the result was a large baptismal class out of which six expressed a definite desire for baptism at the camp. Others desired to wait for their baptism upon arriving home.

The young folks were wonderful and their response was so spontaneous that it alone accounted for much of the success. They became so enthusiastic that at some campfires they would sing themselves hoarse

and still be roaring for more.

The camp attendance increased considerably for the last weekend as local folks drove in to spend a night or two, and their presence also added to the fun.

As the week drew to a close, it was pleasing to hear the near unanimous cry to "have another week." What a nice way to conclude a week of fun and blessing—with people still demanding more. It makes all the planning and hard work worth-while and more.

The following testimonies give good evidence of the camp from the point of view of the young people themselves:

Being here at Youth Camp has been a week I really enjoyed. Many of the activities which I took part in were really fun. One of the most important parts which I liked was Bible study.

Youth Camp is a place where everyone can have Christian fellowship with one another, meet new friends, and can have a better understanding of God's Word. Attending youth camp for three years has been wonderful blessings for me which I will remember.

Abram Camero

Swartz Creek, Michigan

The camp of 1965 seemed especially inspiring to me. The campers were very responsive to the various meetings and many gave their heart to the Lord. Besides all this, we had a lot of fun and I know many who

received a blessing this year want to attend again next year.

Sue Taylor

I will always enjoy coming to camp because it is a place where you can meet different people, and it is a place where you can worship and praise God, and learn about His wonderful words.

It is also a place where you have fellowship with one another. Like I said before, I have always enjoyed coming to camp and I always will.

Ruben Garza

Saginaw, Michigan

* * *

WHAT FAITH DID FOR ME

(Continued from page 4)

place. Jesus was this miracle—a miracle that made possible such minor miracles as had taken place this day of remembrance.

This was where I found the faith that sustains me over these years when my father is struggling up the rocky road to recovery.

* * *

A BETTER YOU

"Your task—to build a better world," God said.

I answered, "How?"

The world is such a large, vast place, So complicated now.

And I so small and useless am, There's nothing I can do."

But God in all His wisdom said, "Just build a better you."

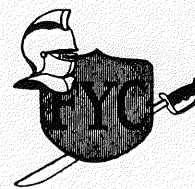
—Dorothy R. Jones in P.E.O. Record

Are You Fully Dressed?

By Kathleen Roche

In the modern world of today, hemlines are up and necklines are down. We all know that bathing suits never did cover very much, but the new trend seems to be to cover less and less every year until now, even the two-piece is going out of style.

Being properly clothed is indeed important for Paul admonishes us to "adorn ourselves in modest apparel" (1 Timothy 2:9), but the dress I am concerned about today is our armor. Some will smile and say, "This girl is really old fashioned. We don't have armor anymore," but the armor I'm referring to is our Christian armor as listed in Ephesians 6:14-18.



Just as wearing his armor was a matter of life or death to a knight or soldier engaged in battle, so it is with a Christian. We are admonished to wear the whole armour of God so that we will be able to withstand and overcome evil.

The shield guarded the body against the clubs, swords, arrows, and spears of the enemy. Above all, we are advised to take on the shield of faith. We do not have to ward off literal arrows or swords but with this faith we will be able to escape being hit by all the fiery darts of the wicked. Faith is so important that Paul tells us in Hebrews 11:6 that it is impossible to please God unless we have it. So we see that this is an extremely important part of our dress.

The shield, however, did not protect the head, arms, and legs. Another part of the armor that protects an extremely critical part of the body is the helmet. The Christian's helmet consists of the hope of salvation. Without this hope we would have no reason to fight the battle but when we have it, we have a beautiful goal to work toward.

Breastplates were developed to prevent damage to the heart. Our armor has a breastplate made of righteousness. In His "Sermon on the Mount," Jesus called those "blessed" who hunger and

(Continued on page 33)

Minute Men Program =

"Patterns"



By Cecyl Fischer

A short time ago at one of the Church of God Youth Camps I had occasion to help prepare place cards for a banquet. I observed that the closer I got to the 100th card, the less each one looked like the original pattern. This reminded me of the little girl who was practicing her penmanship by writing a certain line over and over. When the page was full and she asked her mother to examine her work it was obvious that as she neared the bottom of the page her work had grown progressively worse. Her Mother pointed out to her the reason. Instead of copying the perfect example at the top of the page each time, she copied the imperfect line she had just written.

We often make this same mistake as we practice our Christian living. Instead of following the perfect example that Christ set for us we measure ourselves by our fellowmen. Probably they, too, have followed the imperfect example of someone else, so we tend to drag each other down—in behaviour, in prayer time, in study. Let us

not think that because we are with a church group or at a church school, everything we see there is right. No matter where we are or who we are with, Christ is our example. Of course if we see a trait in someone else that we admire it is good to try to develop this trait in ourselves, but only if it is a Christlike trait.

In 1 Kings 13:11-26, an interesting incident is related in which God sent a certain prophet to a place and told him not to eat or drink while he was there. Another prophet, however, told him, "...I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him." Thinking it safe, I suppose, to take the word of a man of God, the first prophet returned to eat and drink at his house. As punishment he was slain by a lion.

Even the best of us here on earth fall into temptation and make mistakes, so let us judge our own lives not by that of

those around us, but by the life of Christ and the Word of God. The example of others may be lying to us. Let us study then to know Christ and follow God's Word and will.

Following are verses to memorize in the coming month:

1 John 3:16
Revelation 3:20
John 14:6
Ephesians 6:2
Philippians 4:13
2 Timothy 4:2
James 1:4
1 John 4:4

When God asks us for our treasured loves in full surrender, he asks nothing less than His own enthronement in our heart. As with Abraham, He may not remove our dearest love from us altogether. But He will remove it from the central throne where He alone would reign. He teaches us freely to give back to Him all that He has given us, only then to discover how blessedly we may possess all things aright!

Dwight Harvey Small
(Fleming H. Revell Co.)

JUST A LITTLE WHILE

By Nancy Pruitt
Bakersfield, Calif.

**It just takes a little while
To ask the One above
To help you or bless a friend
And send him all your love.**

**It just takes a little time
To thank Him for His help
And ask His help for
Someone else who feels
He has too little time
To ask it for himself.**

**Who is this One Who only takes
A little while in prayer
To give you what is needed
For your friend who has no prayer?**

**I'll tell you who it is; it's God,
The one who's always there
To help us or to help our friends
When we come to Him in prayer.**

From Across the Ocean

Welcome Missionaries!

The following is the welcome address presented by the youth of the Ogba District in Nigeria to Elders Butrick and Straub upon their visit there:

"It is with humility mingled with happiness we have to present this address of welcome to you.

"In the first place we thanked the Almighty Who had helped to make your missionary tour possible. We also reserved the second thanks for your anxiety of coming over to see things by yourselves, like the apostles of old.

"Having landed safely on Nigerian Soil, our thanks and praises to God is beyond expression; therefore, we stand to extend our heartiest WELCOME to our dear Missionaries.

"We received the truth here in Nigeria through Bishop B. I. Tikili. Since we tested the truth and found that the Church of God's doctrine is first and foremost and it is the only church that teaches the Ten Commandments and the Faith of Jesus Christ in accordance with the Bible. Our leaders and workers here are working vigorously for the uplift of the gospel work here even despite the poor conditions of services and financial embarrassment. We are grateful for the gospel tracts and *Advocates* which we received from time to time free of charge.

"For quite a long time we, the youth, had been longing to see this Godly people forefrontly, but today we are fortunate to meet with you here, Elders Straub and Butrick.

"We seize this opportunity to acquaint you with our progress and wantings in the district. If our visitors will make time to tour round the district, they will see some signs of improvement existing in the Church of God Mission here in Ogbaland. We, the youths, are pleased to inform you that we are greatly in need of a hospital to be built in our district, a Bible training school where our youths will get a fundamental knowledge of the Bible, and

a secondary school, and lastly the need of a stationed Missionary in this district is really beyond expression.

"Many missionaries from England and America who have come to settle here in Nigeria do not overlook the above needs because they seem to be another way the gospel could be preached. Our country, Nigeria, is a fast growing country. Our government welcomes and respects Missionaries, especially those who have come to help and save their lives; therefore, we believe wholeheartedly that our requests will be highly considered when you reach the United States.

"We present you here with two native fans, which we think will be a sign of our needs.

"In conclusion, may we assure you that we should be pleased to welcome Mr. Fischer the YPO Chairman in America to Nigeria for a visit. And may you extend the young people's greetings to Mr. Fischer, Mrs. Linville, and all the youth of the Church of God in America.

"And may the Lord God guide you throughout your Missionary tour is our prayer."

It must have been a real joy to Elders Butrick and Straub to receive such a fine welcome from the young people, and we can all be thankful for the interest and active part the young people of Nigeria have in the gospel work.

May we pray always for them.

TYPEWRITER PROJECT



NOW—IS NOT TOO LATE! But we must hurry if we see the completion of the project to purchase a typewriter for the Ahoada, Nigeria, Church Office in 1965!

Only four more months left in the year and the project has been underway now since August, 1964, and still we do not have sufficient funds with which to make the purchase.

Won't you talk with your FYC Groups about helping to sponsor this worth-while project so that we can see the completion of it before the end of 1965?

God will surely bless you for your interest.

Write me your decision at 903 East Boone Street, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464.

—Jewell Linville

Two Miraculous

Date	Chapter
Aug. 15	Gal. 1
Aug. 16	Gal. 2
Aug. 17	Gal. 3
Aug. 18	Gal. 4
Aug. 19	Gal. 5
Aug. 20	Gal. 6
Aug. 21	Luke 1
Aug. 22	Luke 2
Aug. 23	Luke 3
Aug. 24	Luke 4
Aug. 25	Luke 5
Aug. 26	Luke 6
Aug. 27	Luke 7
Aug. 28	Luke 8
Aug. 29	Luke 9
Aug. 30	Luke 10
Aug. 31	Luke 11
Sept. 1	Luke 12
Sept. 2	Luke 13
Sept. 3	Luke 14
Sept. 4	Luke 15
Sept. 5	Luke 16
Sept. 6	Luke 17
Sept. 7	Luke 18
Sept. 8	Luke 19
Sept. 9	Luke 20
Sept. 10	Luke 21
Sept. 11	Luke 22
Sept. 12	Luke 23
Sept. 13	Luke 24
Sept. 14	John 1

The story of the birth of Christ is probably the best known story in the Bible. We hear it on every side during December and shudder at the abuse and misuse it suffers. It is possible that our awareness of the false teachings and pagan customs concerning the birth of Christ has built a wall between us and the beauty of the true story.

Read the account of the miraculous birth of John the Baptist, followed closely by the birth of his cousin in the first two chapters of Luke. Let your mind picture the events as they occurred, as so beautifully told for our knowledge and joy. Can you imagine the joy in the household of Elizabeth and Zacharias when they realized that their prayers were being answered by a special miracle from the hand of God? Consider this promise—how would you feel if an angel said to you, “And thou shalt have joy and gladness . . . : and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother’s womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God,—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” What a wonderful reward to Zacharias and Elizabeth who “were both righteous before God.”

Six months later Mary received a visit from an angel, too. The message she heard was quite similar to the one delivered to Zacharias. She would bear a Son under unusual circumstances, another miracle from the hand of God. So Mary went to visit her

By Jessie Truman

Births

cousin and together they rejoiced and praised their Lord.

The events took place in due time as was prophesied. When John was eight days old he was circumcised and named. Then his father regained his speech and prophesied as he was instructed by the Holy Spirit. “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit” (Luke 1:80).

The birth of Jesus although in a lowly stable, was marked by the greatest of celebrations. The angels came down from heaven to spread the great joy. When He was but a few days old, it was revealed to Simeon and Anna that He was the Christ when He was taken to the temple in Jerusalem. “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him” (Luke 2:40).

Let us from time to time use the songs that have been written in praise of the Saviour’s birth. They can be sung in sincere worship as we sing any of the other hymns, as long as we understand and believe the story as recorded in the Holy Scriptures.

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A man who lives only by himself and for himself is apt to be corrupted by the company he keeps.—*Isenhour*

ARE YOU FULLY DRESSED?

(Continued from page 27)

thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled, and in the same chapter He said, “Blessed are they which are persecuted for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:6, 10). All we have to do is desire to have this righteousness and God will gladly fill us with it. Although we may be persecuted for it, we should glory in these trials because they draw us closer to our Father and to our heavenly home.

Truth is of utmost importance in the Christian life. We cannot claim to be followers of Christ without it. Our feet should be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace and our loins girt about with truth. The Word of God is truth. It is our sword. We are warned that in the last days many shall turn away their ears from the truth, but we are commanded to do the work of an evangelist (2 Timothy 4:4, 5) so we see these portions of our armor as being very important.

Last but certainly not of least importance is prayer. It is our means of communication with our commander - in - chief. Through prayer we can find God’s specific orders for us. Then if we have taken on the whole armor of God we will be fully protected against the evils about us and be outfitted to fight the good fight of faith even when the going gets tough. Are you fully dressed?

FYC NEWS

and REMINDERS

CAMP MEETING YOUTH PLANS

A. In His Steps

An interesting eight days of activities to promote spiritual growth and Christian fellowship is being planned. The week will be centered around the theme, "In His Steps," with a film by this title to be shown the first evening. The day will begin with morning devotions after breakfast. We will have services and workshops of all types. We are giving serious consideration to having a 10 x 50 foot trailer house on the grounds for youth activities. We plan to offer practical classes on leadership and youth work. We hope to have a youth singspiration preceding each evening's service.

B. Olympics

The recreation at Denver will be centered around an Olympic theme with Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 entered. Brother Calvin Burrell will direct this program. (Those from other areas will help to balance the teams.) Awards will be given for different events.

Evangelette News

As the Youth Missions Tour progresses, many Evangelette booklets are requested by youth. This has made it necessary for a third reprinting of the booklet. About 300 have been

distributed—but only a fraction of these are reporting to date. We hope those showing an interest in the booklets will meet the goals of the program. Begin in any month and follow through with a report promptly at the end of the month.

Brother Calvin Burrell has accepted the directorship of the Evangelette Program. Send your reports (even if you earn less than 10 points) to him at Spring Vale Academy, Rt. 5, Owosso, Michigan. For August, study the tract, "Jesus Is Coming Again."

TOUR WELL RECEIVED

After 23 stops by the Youth Missions Team the *average* attendance stands at 80. The success of the tour is difficult to measure but many express a real blessing from the services. There have been a number of conversions as a result of the service. A number have been encouraged to go to Spring Vale and Midwest, and some have traveled as far as 160 miles to hear the program again. As a result of many prayers for the team, we have definitely received physical strength to continue.

The offerings are presently exceeding expenditures for which we praise the Lord, too. (At this writing, seven stops are ahead. We will make a more complete report in a future "AIM.")

CAMP MEETING IS NEAR! WILL YOU BE THERE?

Special Plans for Youth Include:

- Theme: "In His Steps"
(including a film by this title)
- Morning Devotions
- Special Youth Services
- Workshops of varied nature
- Practical Leadership & Youth Work classes
- Olympic theme for recreation
- Awards given for special events
- Calvin Burrell, director of "Olympic" events



If you have felt the call of the Master in your personal life to seek and save the lost, have you considered the possibility of attending Midwest Bible College?

If you feel so led, don't give up easily. Many who thought it an impossibility at first consideration, have found that God makes a way if it is His will.

Write today for your free bulletin and information to:

MIDWEST BIBLE COLLEGE

STANLEY J. KAUER, DIRECTOR

Box 86, STANBERRY, MISSOURI