

# THE FIELD MESSENGER.

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST John 4: 35.

VOL 1

STANBERRY, MISSOURI, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1921

NUMBER 8

## WE WAIT

In eager weariness we wait  
For triumph of the truth,  
O Father, make the crooked strait,  
And all rough places smooth.

We lose our path, we feel the thorn,  
The sharp stones cut our feet,  
Night closes in, we look for morn,  
When light shall be complete.

No more to stumble, weak and ill,  
Along a troublous way,  
No more to climb life's hard up-hill,  
No need to watch and pray.

All past the rear, the guilt, the  
shame  
Sin puts upon us now,  
With life secure in Jesus' name,  
How blest to Him we'll bow.

How our glad powers shall fill that  
life,  
Untrammelled, deathless, free,  
And all combine, in sinless strife,  
Dear Christ, to honor Thee.

—Sel.

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## FAITHFULNESS

Jesus saith, "He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

This wonderful promise is made to the overcomer, and not to the person that is overcome by his temptations. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

Again he saith, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life." Think of the many great and precious promises that are included in the expression, a crown of life.

My dear brother, shall we not be faithful? May the Lord help us to be. Jesus saith, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptations; for when he is tried, he shall receive a crown of life." We are each being tried, prepared and fitted to enjoy the

crown of life. One thing we will be tested in will be stewardship. It is required of a steward that he be found faithful.

Jesus said in referring to our rendering unto the Lord our tithe, that we should not leave it undone. Matt. 23: 23. Why not, Lord? because I have loved you, saith the Lord. Mal. 1: 2. Again, the Lord saith, "Bring ye all the tithe into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now. (Yes, why not do it now?) Herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Brother, is your cup of blessings running over? No? Then "prove Him. Prove Him now.

The Lord saith, "I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your grounds, neither shall the vine cast her fruit before time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts."

We are living in the time when Is. 11: 11, 12 is being fulfilled. Yes, the Lord has set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people, and this is the Lord's work, and it shall be cut short in righteousness, although it takes large sums of money, the Lord is not dependent on us. Hear Him, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills; I know the fowls of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell thee; for the world is mine and the fulness thereof."

The Lord can accomplish His great work without us, but if we would be gathered with the redeemed when He comes to make up His jewels, we must overcome and be found faithful in all things, for our God shall come and He shall not keep silence; a fire shall come down before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the

heavens above and to the earth; that He may judge His people. Gather My saints unto Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

Brethren, have we made a covenant with the Lord?

And now unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood unto Him that said, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." Unto Him be glory forever and forever—Amen.

J. W. Crouse.

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## THE DEBATE AT CANADIAN, OKLAHOMA

A public discussion on the Sabbath question was held at Canadian, Oklahoma in the High School auditorium, with Elder G. E. Searcy, one of the leading Theological and political debaters of the south. He has been congressman in the state legislature several years, and is an able man. He was substituted in this debate for Elder Elkins who had signed the propositions. The discussion lasted seven sessions, each two hours in length, giving to each speaker two thirty minute speeches. The first four sessions we affirmed that Saturday the seventh day of the week was the Sabbath, and the last three sessions, two of which were each three hours in length, Eld. Searcy affirmed that the first day of the week was the Christian Sabbath. The principal of the school, Professor Rowe acted as chairman, Elder R. A. Barnes served as our moderator, and Elder Spier as our opponent's moderator.

The discussion was attended by from three to six hundred people, some coming from quite a distance in the country around Canadian, and everything went through in good order, and we thank the chairman for the courtesy and fairness shown both sides.

As those who have made a care-

ful study of the questions discussed know, our opponent while on the popular side of the question, was on the wrong side for Bible proof, and as many others he seemed to be sincere in the argument presented against the Sabbath and for Sunday, but not one prop or error will stand when coming in contact with truth.

One among the worst setbacks our opponent got was when he offered us \$1,000.00 for one text that said Christ was resurrected on Saturday. He turned to us while speaking and asked us to read the text, and we gave him Matt. 28: 1. He said the Greek there did not say anything of the kind. In our following remarks we asked him if the word Sabbath in Matt. 28: 1 did not mean Saturday, and he said yes, it did. We read from the Greek Testament where it was translated "In the end of the Sabbath as it was getting dusk toward the first day of the week," and he had some other translations which translated the text, "When the Sabbath was past," so as these translations would not settle the point, we asked him if he would not submit it to the professor of Greek at the University of Oklahoma, and give us the thousand dollars if he translated it as we said, "in the end of the Sabbath". He hesitated for some time, but after we presented the fairness of that to the audience, he finally agreed to submit it to him.

We had already written to Prof. Paxton, professor of Greek at the University of Oklahoma, and had his letter with us and his translation of the text as follows, "Late on the Sabbath (seventh—near the end of the week." We had the chairman compare carefully the Greek we sent to the Greek professor with the original Greek, and he stated to the audience that it was the exact Greek from the text in question. Then we read the letter we had written to the Greek professor and had our chairman read his reply, and then asked our opponent if he had his check book. He said he had, and we told him to write out the check. We then told the audience we did not want the money ourselves, but we would present it to the city or to the school fund, and made inquiry if the school fund needed the \$1,000.00. The professor said he did not think they needed it. Then I told the audience that we would put it in the bank and appoint a committee to have it paid out to the poor of the town, but he would not write out the check. We

informed the audience of the statement of Proverbs 23: 25, "Buy the truth and sell it not," and told them that while he had paid a big price for this truth, it was worth that much to him. Still he refused to meet his own offer and agreement. One of the first day ministers of the town said the city ought to make him pay, what he had offered, and it was the common talk even among the boys on the street, and most everyone, that he broke his own agreement. We kept this before the people, together with the plain Bible teaching, throughout the entire debate.

His failure on the Sunday question was more visible to all present, than on the former proposition, for he did not have one text to even appear as if it would prove the subject in question. We informed the people the last evening that his failure was not because he was not a smart man, for he was, and that he had handled the question as best he could without Bible evidence. We told them that there was not a text there, was why he had not relieved their minds.

During our last speech which closed the debate we had four of our brethren pass out more than two hundred pencils, and over four hundred sheets of tablet paper, and then gave the people every text in the Bible where the first day of the week is mentioned, and the strong proof texts in the New Testament for seventh day observance. Then we explained to them about the Bible Advocate, and asked all who were interested in Bible truth and wished to investigate further by reading the Advocate six months to hand in their name and address. Between fifty and sixty families handed in their name for the paper six months. Seed has been sown here that will soon ripen into much fruit for the kingdom. Editor.

#### —§—§— GLEANINGS FROM THE HARVEST

We are thankful to the heavenly Father for His merciful kindness to us, and for the privileges extended to mankind in choosing life or death, through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are grateful to Him for intrusting to His people the last message of reformatory truth, to the world before the coming of Jesus, namely the Sabbath truth with the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, as the

Christian's standard of righteousness, and eligibility for the soon coming kingdom of God, and most of all for the precious souls all over the land who are receiving with gladness the message and placing themselves in the narrow way of our Savior.

We are grateful one and all, for the tithes and offerings from the brethren and sisters of the Church of God everywhere, which makes it possible for this message to be sent forth, and in the great reckoning day they will have the reward of the righteous. The Lord is opening the minds and the hearts of His people everywhere to the divine obligation of tithe paying, so they will have a part in the ingathering harvest of souls, and consequently have stars in their crowns in the glorious kingdom.

At this writing we are at Canadian, Oklahoma, and are not in touch with the progress of the work as we would be if at Stanberry, but Elder M. W. Unzicker who is here with us just closed a meeting near Crowder where fourteen came out in the truth, four or five of these were reported in the last "Field Messenger." Elder L. I. Rodgers and Elder J. W. Crouse engaged in the meeting at Milan, Mo., with Sister Maud Rodgers and Cleora Close as Bible workers report 33 added to the church there, five of whom were reported in the last Messenger. The meeting was closed at South Gifford conducted by Elder R. E. Hosteter, where five were received into the church and some others commenced the observance of the Sabbath, and the meeting at Pleasant Hill conducted by Elder R. C. Ward closed with four additions to the church. Elder Hosteter is now in a meeting near his former place of meeting at South Gifford, and Elder Ward held a meeting of three weeks' duration with good crowds and interest at Gentry.

Elder Miles closed his meeting at Santa Rosa with two converts and is now conducting a meeting at Maryville, Mo. We have received no word from the Michigan conference work, the Texas-Mexican work, or the progress of the message in Old Mexico or China since the last issue. There have been a number who have received the light on the Sabbath truth and commenced its observance in Omaha, Nebr., lately. Elders Salkeld and Slankard have left the work in Omaha, and were in Des Moines, Iowa, but we have

not heard from them for about two weeks prior to this writing. There are a number of other general evangelists we have not received reports from for several weeks.

The Oklahoma Conference at Stidham, Oklahoma, closed Sunday afternoon Nov. 20th, after having had a very successful session, where plans and resolutions were made for greatly advancing the cause in that state. The two churches at Stidham and Pierce will assist Brother Robert Barnes in his gospel work so that he can spend all of his time in the ministry the coming year. Bro. Barnes is a young man who has made a marked improvement during the past year and speaks forth the message with power and simplicity. He will be a strong factor for good in that state, and the Lord is with him. He will remain at Canadian, Okla., a few days speaking to the people following the discussion, and then will commence a protracted meeting somewhere in answer to the many calls for meetings in that state. Elder M. W. Unzicker and wife will commence a meeting at Calvin, Okla., in a short time. They are both good workers and usually establish a church wherever they go. The discussion here with Elder Searcy of Oklahoma City, has proven a great victory for the truth. Elder Searcy is a leading man in this state, having been congressman in the state legislature several years.

The debate was attended by from three to six hundred people, many from the country from all directions and from town, and was held in the high school auditorium. People are talking all over town of his failure, and while we were writing the above in our room, the news was brought to us of several business men of the town assembled in a certain store, all agreeing that Saturday must be the true Sabbath. Between fifty and sixty families handed their names in on slips of paper the last night of the debate as persons interested in the Bible, wishing to investigate further, and wanting the Bible Advocate sent to them six months. We meet the same man in debate on the same question, at Dale, Oklahoma, commencing Dec. 1, and continuing eight days. A N. Dugger.

#### —†—†— BIBLE ADVOCATE

The Bible Advocate is issued weekly from the Church of God Publishing House, at Stanberry, Mo. It is dedicated to the promotion of bible

truth, apostolic purity, power and love.

Some special features of interest in its columns are the Letter Department containing letters every week from the brethren over the world; the "Items of Interest" department, containing gleanings of general news items from over the world; the Zion News Department, which keeps God's watchful children posted as to the events connected with the restoration of the Holy Land, for the Lord says that when he builds up Zion he will come in his glory; the Question Corner department where questions on bible themes are answered by scriptural evidence: the department of printed sermons on bible themes; the editorials and notes, and also the list of books and leaflets dealing exhaustively on all bible subjects of timely interest and importance. Each issue contains sixteen pages, in magazine form, printed weekly at \$2.50 per year. Our special offer to new subscribers is only \$1.50 per year. Your subscription will be thankfully received.

#### —†—†— OUR HOPE

The hope we cherish is not vain, but is based on a solid foundation, namely, God's Word. It has ever been the hope of the church in all ages, as they looked forward to a glorious era when it would be consummated by a full realization of future bliss so long foretold. In this latter day we are much nearer our heavenly home; as the traveler who is approaching the place of nativity, where he will greet his family, quickens his step, even so the saint of God hastening with agile step pursues his way till he reaches his heavenly mansion.

Our hope lays hold of the promise that eternal life will be given to all who by patient continuance, seek for it, but that precludes the possibility of our having it in this life. A man may imagine that he is going to heaven at death, but he has not a good hope for it. We entertain no such idea. Only by a resurrection to life can there be eternal life.

Again our hope looks forward to an earth more bright and glorious—the saint's inheritance; this world now under the blight of sin, remodelled and beautified as a paradise, where saints and angels will forever dwell. God will then be adored by every sentient being, who will be loyal subjects under his peaceful reign. No wonder the apostle calls

this a blessed hope, as it surely is. God help us to cherish it.—Sel.

#### —†—†— WHY PAY TITHES?

1st, As Christians and professed followers of Jesus Christ, we have an object of life higher than a satisfaction of earthly lusts and desires. The one fact alone that Jesus tells us in Luke 11: 42 that we should not leave tithe paying undone is sufficient instruction. Tithe paying therefore is a command of Jesus Himself, which must not be disregarded.

2nd, Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 9: 11 to 14, about the way the ministers of the Lord were supported under the Levitical priesthood, which was by the tithing system, and says in verse 14, "Even so" (or in this same way), "hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel shall live of the gospel." It was by the tithing system then, and Paul says it is "even so" now, therefore it is the tithing system, at this time.

3rd, Jesus gave his whole life, and spilled His very blood at Calvary to save the sinners of the world. We are to follow in His steps. He was our example. And as He suffered and died to save the world, we are also to devote and dedicate a portion of our life, at least, to the same cause. Anyone who professes to be a Christian, and who is not to some degree devoted to this great cause for which Jesus gave His last full measure of devotion, their profession is a sham, their religion experience is void, their heart is with the world, and their doom will be destruction. While we are not in this age, called upon to die for him, we are called upon to send forth the saving gospel message, to save sinners from their eternal doom. If we will not sacrifice or suffer, or at the very least, take an interest and be enthusiastic, for this work, our hearts are not right with God, and we are not traveling the narrow pathway.

The crying needs of the hour are great, our responsibilities are weighing heavier each day as the cloud of darkness and Babylonian confusion settles over the world. The cry is on to "Come out of Babylon", and escape the wrath of the seven last plagues. So it is the urgent duty, that every Christian in the fear of God, put his all upon the altar of service, and in one way or another, send forth the last message to fallen humanity.

## THE FIELD MESSENGER

THIS PAPER IS THE OFFICIAL FIELD ORGAN OF THE SEVENTH DAY CHURCH OF GOD, WITH HEADQUARTERS AT STANBERRY, MO.

"Entered as second-class matter May 13, 1921, at the post office at Stanberry, Missouri, under the Act of March 3, 1879."

A letter received some time ago from our Brother Bert F. Marrs of Oklahoma, states that he is making all plans on entering the evangelical work next spring. Many of our readers already have heard through the papers, something about this able young man, who is responding to the call for more laborers. The Lord is leading the way, and all we need to do is just to surrender to Him, do our duty, and He will take care of the rest.

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"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3, 8, 10.

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