

Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part One

Jan. 7

My Life's Heartstrings Part One

Mary Ann's Reflections

In a small house, a mother sat rocking her first tiny baby girl, as she looked out a window upon the territorial plains of New Mexico, watching the sun setting in the west. The different hues and colors in the sky were indeed a beautiful sight to behold above the brown plains which were dotted with huge piles of tumble weeds. It had been a dry winter thus far, but since it was only February. she hoped they would have sufficient rain before it was time to break the ground and plant their crops. Times had been hard for this young pioneer mother and her husband. Straining her eyes. she tried to see if a wagon was coming down the trail across the plains. Her husband, Fred, and their six-year-old son, Andrew, had left very early in the morning to go to Clovis for food and supplies. Since her baby was very young she had stayed at home. It had been a long, lonely day for this twenty-fourvear-old mother and she sighed with the weariness of it all. Watching and waiting always made her feel a bit tired.

Lawrence, who was playing at her feet. He was about three years of age and was a fine, healthy boy, with brown hair and blue eyes. Watching her little son romp and play in the deepening shadows of their home made her remember some of her own youthful days.

The last time this mother, Mary Ann Pruitt, had heard from her grandmother Venrick, who lived in Kansas, she was not very well. She now wondered how she was getting along. Her thoughts then went back to her own mother. Polly Ann Balla, who died when she was only six years of age. After her mother's death, on May 27, 1896, she and her two brothers, Jim and George, went to live with her mother's parents. She had missed a Mother's love and often longed for it. Her father, Edward F. Balla, stayed around for awhile after her mother died, but when he saw that the three children were being well cared for by their grandparents, he left town and she never saw him again. Many times Mary Ann wished that he would come. or even write them a note. Through others, her grandmother heard that he was out in a western state, herding sheep, and later it was verified that he She looked down at her little boy, was in the states of Washington and

Oregon. Sometimes, when her grand-1 mother would be harsh with her, she would cry herself to sleep, wishing for her own mother and father. She just knew things would have been different if they had been with them. Her grandfather resented having been left with the care of the children. He talked to them but very little. Mary Ann only remembers him speaking just one kind thing to her. She had on a new hat and he said. "Mary Ann. you have on a pretty hat."

Mary Ann trusted that God would let her live to rear her own children so they would never know the vacancy in their lives that had been in hers. She loved the baby in her arms dearly and looked out the window again. She didn't know very much about God, as her grandparents never attended church services. They did try to live a good life and be honest with everyone, and taught their grandchildren to do the same. She did not know how to pray but did believe in God and often looked to God to help her.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Venrick, her grandparents, lived on a farm close to Walnut, Kansas, They were considered prosperous farmers. They lived in a big house and had plenty of food for themselves and the three grandchildren. Mrs. Venrick was a very stern, conservative woman. She lived very economically and managed her money well. Her husband did not oppose her very often. He was a mild-mannered, quiet man. She visited her neighbors but was very careful not to enter into their gossip. She told Mary Ann never to repeat anything bad that she heard about a person, as it would get back to them. As a verse in Ecclesiastes 10:20 says, "Curse not the king, no not in thy thought: and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter." She had

high ideals, and taught them to her three grandchildren. She taught them to be kind to those who were less fortunate than they were, and never to make fun of a person who was crippled, or had any physical defect. She saw to it that the grandchildren kept busy and they were punished if they were careless in any manner. She taught Mary Ann to be a clean housekeeper, to be saving with her food, to patch her clothes. to keep her room in order and her clothes hung up. She also was taught to be modest and to live a morally good life. Many good things were taught to her and she put them in practice. She loved her grandparents and often wondered what would have happened to her and her two brothers if they had not cared for them. -Marie Miles

(to be continued)

"When Samuel was only a child the Lord talked to Him. Can we say, as Samuel did. that we are the Lord's servant?"

STATEMENT OF OWNERSRIP. MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of Aug. 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code)

1. Title of publication: THE BEAUTIFUL WAY.

2. Date of filing: September 28, 1978.
3. Frequency of issue: Quarterly.

4. Location of known office of publication: 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Logan, Oklahoma 73944. 5. Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers:

Same as above.

6. Names and addresses of publisher, editor and managing editor: Publisher-Lawrence D. Pruitt, 118 W. Wash., Guthrie, Okla. Editor-Marie Miles, 1010 W. Masur, Guthrie, Okla. Managing editor-Same as last abova.

7. Owner: Paith Publishing House, Inc., 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Oklahema. (This is a non-stock, non-profit religious and charitable corporation.) 8. Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders: None

9. The purpose, function and non-profit status: Have not changed during the preceding 12 months.

10.	Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. of Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
Ā.	Total Number Copies Printed	1727	1800
B.	Paid Circulation— Mail subscriptions	689	901
C.	Total Paid Circulation	689	901
	Free Distribution (including samples) by mail, carrier, or other means	643	429
E	Total Distribution	1532	1330
7.	Office use, left-over, un- accounted, spoiled after printing	195	470
G.	TOTAL	1727	1600

-L. D. Pruitt, Publisher

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

This is the first lesson for this year and we are going to study about the places in the Old Bible where it refers to Christ's coming as our Saviour. We want to remember that our lesson today took place about 4000 years before Christ came. God gave Adam and Eve a glimpse of Christ's coming and what He would do when He came, so let us remember this fact as we study our lessons from Sunday to Sunday.

The background of our lesson today is well known to you. God put two trees in the Garden of Eden where He placed Adam and Eve, the first man and woman that He created. We note in our lesson that Eve is the "mother of all living."

God said for them not to eat of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. If they ate of it they would die, or be separated from God, which is called a Eve listened to the devil and looked at did eat. the tree. She took of it and did eat, and

Our lesson makes us know what happened. God had to put them out of the Garden of Eden, and their sin caused them to be separated from Him. No longer could God talk to them and commune with them. They were put out of His presence.

We are glad that God did not leave the people of the world in this condition. He promised that they would have a way back into His favor. We find this promise in the 15th verse of our lesson. God is talking to the devil that spoke through the serpent, therefore, he said he would put enmity, which means "hostility." between the devil and the woman. He goes on to say he would put it between the "seed" of the woman and the "seed" of the devil. We remember that Jesus said to the wicked men that they were children of the devil, or that they were of their "father the devil." (John 8:44). The children of the devil would be against the "seed" of the woman, who was Christ, as He was the only one that was born in the world without an earthly father. If we are saved we are children of God. Today there is no blending between the children of God and the children of the devil, or those who do not love nor live for God. How glad we are for the promise of a Saviour even in the Garden of Eden, and that Christ would bruise Satan. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 1. January 7, 1979 SEED OF THE WOMAN

Gen. 3:6 And when the woman saw spiritual death. But the devil said, as he that the tree was good for food, and that spoke to Eve through the serpent, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to they would not die. Of course, we know be desired to make one wise, she took of that the devil, as Jesus told us in John the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave 8:44, "is a liar." How sad it was that also unto her husband with her: and he

7 And the eyes of them both were then gave it to Adam and he ate of it. opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art

thou?

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the

tree of life.

Memory Verse: Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 1:18.

Questions:

1. After Eve ate of the forbidden fruit, to whom did she give to eat?

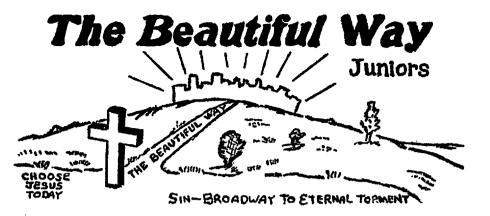
2. What did they clothe themselves with when they realized their nakedness?

3. What did Adam and Eve do when

they heard God?

- 4. When they told God they hid because they were naked, do you think God knew they had eaten of the fruit?
- 5. On whom did Adam blame his sin?
- 6. On whom did Eve blame her sin?
 7. What curse did God put on the
- 7. What curse did God put on the serpent?
- 8. Who is referred to as the "seed of the woman?"
- 9. What punishment did God give the woman?
- 10. Was God satisfied with the aprons with which Adam and Eve were clothed? What did He do?
- 11. Why did God drive the man and woman from the garden?
- 12. What did God place near the garden to protect the tree of life?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Jan., Feb., March 1979

Part Two

Jan. 14

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Mary Ann and her brothers had to walk to the country school house in rain. snow, or sunshine. Sometimes the snow would be up over their shoe tops, but they trudged along, arriving with the others to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic. There were grades from the first to the eighth. They had one teacher, who was very strict with them. During the busy seasons of the year the school was closed down, so the boys could help on the farm, as they were needed to help take care of the crops. This would cause many of them to be quite old when they finished the eighth grade.

Mary Ann studied her lessons and became a good student. She especially learned to write well. She was a very bashful, quiet girl at school. There was one older boy at school who would tease her to get her to talk to him. He would walk along behind her from school and step on her heels just to get her to turn around and smile. This boy's name was Fred Pruitt, and there was something about Mary Ann that he liked very much. One thing, he appreciated her was a fine young man, she invited him

modesty and morals. When the older boys would try to get her to sit on their laps she would refuse, while the other girls accepted. She stood out in his mind as a wonderful, pure girl.

Fred took a trip out to the state of Washington after he had finished the eighth grade of school. It was a long train trip from Kansas and he had many experiences while there. He worked hard and bought 20 acres of land. His mother did not like for him to be so far away and kept asking him in her letters to come back home. After being gone for some time he returned to Walnut, Kansas, to his parents' home. At the age of 23, when he decided to settle down and get married, he remembered Mary Ann.

One day Fred rode into the Venrick's neatly kept yard, dotted with cedar trees and flower beds, in his buggy and went in for a visit. Soon he was visiting there often. At first, Mary Ann was very bashful, but after helping her gather eggs, and being with her while doing other little things, he found she was not so bashful. Her grandmother Venrick soon guessed what his purpose was in coming, and knowing that he

old and she wanted to see her granddaughter married before she died, since her husband had died on December 14. 1904.

Mary Ann's heart beat fast as she looked out of her window and saw Fred coming up the road in a nice fancy buggy with a prancing horse. He tied his horse to the hitching post and walked up to the door. He had rented this nice buggy, as this evening was to be a very special time. She loved this handsome young man, and it was with joy that she met him at the door, ready to go riding with him, as he had previously made this appointment with her. She was delighted with the attention and love he had been showing her. As they drove down the country road it seemed that the April showers had done an excellent job of bringing forth the flowers and had been bencficial to the waving fields of grain. The grass was greener than usual and everything was beautiful. It was a perfect day for Fred to propose to the girl whom he loved. As the horse walked slowly, Fred asked Mary Ann to marry him and she accepted his love and proposal. They were soon lost in a world all to themselves. Their love was great. Fred told Mary Ann of his plans. He had filed on a claim of 160 acres of land in the territory of New Mexico. He wanted her to go with him and live on it for five years so the land would then be theirs. This was a challenge to her but she was in love and young. She was a happy girl, as now there was someone to fill that vacancy in her heart and life that had been left by her mother's death and her father's disappearance.

Mary Ann was radiant as she walked into the house that evening. She told her grandmother about their engagement and their plans. She and her

to come often. After all, she was getting | grandmother began to make plans for their wedding. The wedding dress was made and invitations were sent out to come to the Venrick home for the wedding. The big, white house became a scene of great activity, and it took on a new look, as they daily cleaned and prepared for the great day. Soon, everything was ready. A big wedding dinner had been prepared and the guests began to arrive. Mary Ann looked beautiful in her pale blue dress that almost touched the floor. She had a white collar, also a tapered white front with a brooch at her neck. Her dark hair had been done up with a part in the middle and drawn back to a roll in the back. She wore a white bow on the back of her hair. Fred had on a dark suit and white shirt. Probate Judge W. O. Jeffey of Erie, Kansas was asked to perform the marriage ceremony for them on April 9th, 1906. Fred was 241/2 years of age and Mary Ann was almost 16. The marriage took place on a Monday at noon. Daniel Mullin was chosen to be the best man and Miss Mary Parker as bridesmaid. Afterwards, the happy guests were served the dinner and wedding cake. The newly married couple received many lovely gifts, and after the delighted guests extended their congratulations and best wishes, they departed. Grandmother Venrick remembered the workers at the Eagle Newspaper with a good supply of the wedding cake in appreciation for the nice article they had in the paper about the wedding. Mary Ann's wedding was a happy affair and the rememberance of it brought many pleasant thoughts to her as she sat rocking her baby girl, whom she had named Anna after her Grandmother Venrick. Anna Marie had been born on Feb. 8, 1914. She was a healthy baby, with blue eyes, very fair complexion, and brown hair. -M. Miles (to be continued)

MIRIAM WAS A HELPER

The story of the little girl, in God's blest Holy Word,

Who helped her mother long ago, I'm sure vou must have heard:

I love to hear it many times—as often as I can—

O how she kept wee Moses hid-safe from a cruel plan;

O Minam was a helper sweet with courage strong and true

And watched the baby tenderly as she was told to do.

Her little brother safely lay within the cradle boat

Until a royal princess came and found it there afloat:

And at the Princess' brief command her loving heart was glad

To find and bring her mother there to nurse the little lad:

long ago

And we must all be helpers too, and serve the best we know. -Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION fering

Dear Boys and Girls:

We want to remember that we are taking parts from the Bible that will tell

come because of Adam and Eve's sin. Adam and Eve had many children. "Tradition says, that they had 33 sons and 27 daughters." (Halley's Bible Handbook). Cain's wife must have been his sister, as Eve was the mother of all living. Since our lesson takes place when Cain must have been 129 years of age, according to those who have studied it out, there could have been hundreds living at that time, descendants from Adam and Eve's children.

Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain raised vegetables or things that grew from the ground. One day they both brought something to offer as a sacrifice to the Lord. No doubt, when God killed the animal, after Adam and Eve had sinned, to make them "coats of skin," he taught them about offering a sacrifice to Him for their sins. It had to be the O Miriam was a helper true in days of firstling of the flock. Cain did not try to please the Lord, so he just brought some of the fruit of the ground to offer to the Lord. God was displeased with Cain for his sin. Cain became angry with Abel because God accepted Abel's sacrifice. We read in I John 3:12 that "Cain who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous." Cain was not righteous and was obeying the devil, but Abel was righteous. Paul tells us in Hebrews 11:4, "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." We see that one brother was righteous and the other was wicked. God will not accept praise, prayers, etc., from those who are wicked at heart. God wants us to first give Him our hearts and to live and obey Him. We can then find help from Him.

Cain got so angry that he killed his us something of a Saviour that was to brother. Oh, how sad that is! Jealousy is a terrible thing. Boys and girls, be glad when others are blessed. Rejoice with them. Ill feelings and jealousy will cause you to do awful things to the person that is blessed. You will say hateful things which wound and cause tears. How sad!

We are glad that God thought about sinful creation and provided a way to come to Him through Christ.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, January 14, 1979 BLOOD SACRIFICE OFFERED

Gen. 4:1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

- 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.
- 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.
- 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
- 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.
- 6 And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
- 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.
- 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.
 - 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where

is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand:

12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

Memory Verse: And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. Heb. 12:24.

Questions:

- 1. What was the name of the first child born into the world?
- 2. What kind of work did Abel do?
- 3. What offering did Cain bring to the Lord? What offering did Abel bring?
- 4. Which offering was the Lord more pleased with?
- 5. How did Cain feel when he saw the Lord liked Abel's gift better than his?
- 6. What did the Lord say was the reason Cain's gift was not accepted?
- 7. What did Cain do to Abel? Can you see what other sins jealousy leads to?
- 8. When the Lord asked where Abel was, what did Cain say?
- Could Cain hide his sin from the Lord?
- 10. What punishment did God put on Cain for this murder?
- 11. How did Cain feel about his punishment?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Three

Jan. 21

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

CHAPTER TWO

Pioneer Days

The baby girl stirred in Mary Ann's arms as she looked out of the window again. Across the plains she saw a small cloud of dust. She knew someone was coming. As she watched closely, she arose from her rocking chair, saying to Lawrence that she believed Papa was coming. He ran to the window to watch. as his mother laid the baby down. They both went out to meet Fred and Andrew, as they drove the wagon into the yard. They unloaded the supplies that were to stay at the house, and took the feed and other farming supplies to the barn. Then Fred herded the cows into the barn and sat down to milk each one by hand. He was glad things were beginning to look better for Mary Ann and him. He thought about the day they had boarded the train, arriving in the territory of New Mexico, in the fall of 1906, bringing with them their belongings and some stock. Although it had been only seven years ago, it

father, as he thought of the hardships they had endured. When they first came they lived in a "dugout." They had dug a hole into the ground four feet deep. eight feet wide and ten feet long. They built a room above it with a floor, two feet from the ground, and in this "dugout" they first began to keep house for themselves. There was very little rainfall, so about twice a week Fred drove his wagon twelve or thirteen miles to haul water for the household and for the cattle. To improve his place he had to go to a canyon, about 35 miles away, for wood and posts. Many times through those early years it seemed they would starve because of the lack of rain, but God was faithful to His promise. Jesus tells us in Matt. 6:26 that we are of more value than the "fowls of the air" who "sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns"; yet he feedeth them. The all-seeing eye of God was looking down upon this young couple and He helped them. Fred felt he was now over the hardest part and that he could make a living on his farm. His brother was wanting to leave and had 160 acres that joined Fred's land on the north. Fred traded 20 acres which he owned in seemed much longer to this young the state of Washington for his brother's

land which gave Fred 320 acres. He had used some of the lumber from the roof of his brother's "dugout" house, and added a room onto his house he had previously built. Later, he bought a big two-room house from Mr. Rice and moved it to his farm. Then he built three more rooms on to it which made a nice, family farm home. He had broken most of his land and had planted a small orchard of cherries, peaches, and apples. His stock was building up and things did look better. But his heart went out to his young wife, who had bravely faced the severe hardships and had stayed by his side. Two of their infants had died at birth and had been buried out on the plains. How happy they were when their first baby boy was born on July 29, 1908. They named him Andrew Jennings Pruitt, Fred had been a great admirer of William Jennings Bryan who had run for president, so he named his son Jennings. Their little son was their joy and delight.

Three years later, on Nov. 15, 1911, a strong feeling of happiness was again known in their little home. God had given them another healthy son, whom they named Lawrence Daniel. As Fred thought of the past and present blessings he realized that God had been good to them. He had an inner longing to be at peace with his Maker.

As he went to milk another cow, Fred suddenly had a strong desire to see his parents, brothers, and sister. He had been born to Harrison and Mary Pruitt on October 4, 1881. He had six brothers and one sister. Both of his parents had taught school in their earlier years but when they were rearing their family they tried to make a living on the farm. The whole family had to work hard. His father was frail in body and therefore, they had many hard times in rearing such a large family. His parents professed religion in the Christian

Church. They did not take their religion very seriously and therefore the children very seldom attended Sunday school. When he was sixteen years of age, he had joined the Christian Church and was baptized along with a group of other young people with whom he associated. He failed to get an experience of salvation and knew he was not living right, so he quit professing, although the minister said he was all right. He felt he was as good as most of those who professed, but he would not be a hypocrite. He knew very little about the Bible.

Fred was a normal country boy who loved to hunt, and to fish and swim in the Neosho River, and gather nuts on the river banks. Baseball was his delight and many times he would rather play than eat. He indulged in some gambling, and a little drinking, also dancing with other associates. He was a naturally tenderhearted person. At times, God dealt with him, and he felt good when he did what was right, or showed sympathy to others and did kind deeds.

-Marie Miles

(to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



such a large family. His parents "Let us go no place to which we would professed religion in the Christian be ashamed to take Christ with us."

Everybody Must Die

"I feel so good I believe I could live

forever," said Sally.

"Don't be fooled," replied Mary. "The Bible says that it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. And that means all of us." _W. M.

Keep Looking Up.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We have skipped a lot of things that happened, which are written in the Bible, but today we are going to talk about Abraham. Let us remember that Adam knew Methuselah and Methuselah knew Noah. Noah's son, Shem, knew Abraham. Therefore, the things that happened were passed down from one to the other. Since people lived to be almost a thousand years of age, there were a lot of people in the world. Noah's son, Shem, was 96 years of age when the great flood came that destroyed all the people except Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives. Shem lived 502 years after the flood.

Abraham lived about 2000 years after Adam. The people of that day had a very high degree of skill. Today man has uncovered the very street that Abraham walked on nearly 4000 years ago in the city of Ur in Babylonia. There were homes, shops, schools, chapels with thousands of tablets. business documents, etc. The houses were built of brick, two story, flush with the street and the court on the inside. (Halley's Bible Handbook).

The people of Ur worshipped gods of fire, sun, moon, stars, etc. Abraham's father was an idolater. (Josh. 24:2). God talked to Abraham and asked him to leave his home and go to a country where he could build a nation free from idolatry. Abraham's first stopping place was at Haran about 600 miles him; and Abram was seventy and five

northwest from Ur, and 400 miles northeast from Canaan. But soon, he moved on and came to the Canaan land. This was the land that God wanted to give to him and his future family.

God told Abraham that He would bless him and that through him "all the families of the earth would be blessed." This was a wonderful promise. Through Abraham's family Jesus would come, and all the nations of the earth would be blessed if they would believe on Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Abraham's father, who had come with him when he left Ur, died, but his nephew Lot was still with him. We read in our lesson how they separated because of the strife between their herdsmen. Abraham unselfishly let Lot choose the best land. After Lot left to go toward Sodom, that wicked city, God again told Abraham that He would bless him and give him and his family, which would number a number that no man could count, all the land around him. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, January 21, 1979 REDEMPTION PROMISED THROUGH ABRAHAM

Gen. 12:1 Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with years old when he departed out of Haran.

5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

7 And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him.

13:8 And Abram said unto Lot, let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.

14 And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

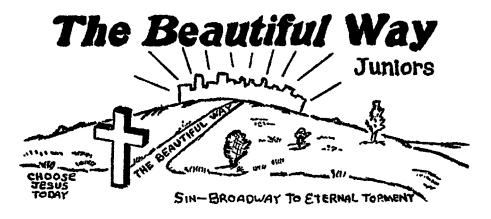
16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

Memory Verse: And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal. 3:29.

Questions:

- Who did the Lord tell to leave his homeland, and that through him, He (God) would make a great nation?
- 2. What did God say He would do to the ones. who cursed Abram?
- 3. What did the Lord mean when He said "in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed"?
- 4. How old was Abram when he left Haran, his homeland?
- 5. Who went with Abram to the new country?
- 6. What was the name of the country to which they went?
- 7. When the Lord promised Abram the land, what did Abram build unto God?
- 8. Did Abram want strife between himself and Lot?
- 9. In order to prevent strife, what choice did Abram put before Lot?
- 10. Which land did Lot choose?
- 11. Near what town did Lot live?
- 12. What type of people lived in Sodom? Do you think Lot was wise to move near this city?
- 13. After Lot and Abram separated, what did God tell Abram about all the land around him?
- 14. What did the Lord say concerning Abram's seed, or descendants?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 1 Jan., Feb., March, 1979 Part Four Jan. 28

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Fred finished his milking and stepped out of the barn. As he stood watching the last light disappear over the horizon, he thought of the time when he had lain in the "dugout" racked with pain from nervous prostration, which came upon him from several years of hard work. The doctor had given him enough strychnine to counteract the pain, which would have killed a person in normal health. He remembered how he had promised God, that if He would get him out of that severe suffering, and spare his life, he would try to do better. He did not know how to pray, but God turned those desires and words into a prayer. The next afternoon, the pain and intense suffering began to leave his body. His limbs were left drawn, and it was almost a year before he could walk straight, but he never forgot his promise to God. One thing puzzled him greatly—he saw so many professing to be Christians, yet they did not live according to the Bible. He longed to meet someone who truly lived a sincere life for God.

He finished his chores and went into

the house to eat supper. Mary Ann had an inviting table set with sausage, fried potatoes, green beans, cottage cheese. homemade bread, butter and jelly, prepared for her little family. Mary Ann, Fred, and the boys eagerly sat down and enjoyed the good food the Lord had given them while the baby, Anna Marie, slept in her crib. As they sat around the fire that evening, he told Mary Ann about his day in town and together they were thankful they were in a house and not still living in the "dugout." Mary Ann did not have the fear of seeing a snake in her cupboard or on her bed now. Soon they retired and were lulled to sleep by the squeaking of the windmill which turned by the steady blowing of the wind on the New Mexico plains.

CHAPTER THREE

A Busy Mother

Anna Marie was a healthy baby but she was a mother's girl. When she was awake she wanted her mother. One day, her mother had to go out and hoe in the garden. She told Andrew to stay by the buggy and if Anna Marie awoke, he was to rock the buggy back and forth. Andrew knew to mind, so he lay down on the floor beside the buggy and soon he fell off to sleep.

"Why didn't you mind me?" Andrew heard his mother say, as he got a swat for not taking care of the baby. Anna Marie was screaming at the top of her voice when Mother came into the house and found Andrew asleep.

Soon Anna Marie was walking, following the boys and her parents all over the farmvard. Her mother was very happy she had a little girl. She made her a little bonnet like her own to wear. saving that she didn't want her little girl to get freckles like the boys. She was very fair of skin, had blue eyes and brown hair. She was a healthy child and loved to be outside when she could.

Her folks put in a phone, and it was the delight of Andrew and Lawrence to turn the crank the right number of times and call Mrs. Charlie Dickson. She would take turns talking to them and then listen to Anna Marie's jabber for awhile.

The pioneer women in the neighborhood exchanged recipes and ideas on how to preserve their foodstuff for the winter. One day, Anna Marie's mother was talking to Mrs. Dickson, who had ridden down to her house on her horse. This was a great treat to her mother. They enjoyed visiting together when they could spare a few moments from their homemaking duties.

"When will Fred be going to the 'breaks' to get wood?" asked Mrs. Dickson.

"He will have to go soon, as we are getting low on wood. I hate for him to go as he has to be gone several days and I do miss him being away, as 35 miles in the wagon takes time," Mary Ann said. "It is pretty hard on me to take care of the children and do the chores too, but that is part of life. I am glad that Andrew is big enough to help. He carries

can hold the cow's tail while I milk, which helps. We have one cow that delights, it seems, to switch her tail into my face."

"I know what you mean," Mrs. Dickson said. "Oh sav. do vou have any wax? I am going to can some of my apples and I need wax to pour around the lids of the syrup cans to seal them."

"Yes, I have some to spare, I have canned most of mine but ran out of syrup cans, so I am drying the rest." answered Mary Ann.

"The bees are sure trying to eat my apples and peaches that I have out drying," stated Mrs. Dickson.

"Say, when are you going to butcher?" asked Mary Ann.

"I think Charlie will butcher next week or maybe later. He will have to go to town first and get some salt as I don't have enough to pack down my pork in our barrels."

"Yes, Fred will be butchering too," Mary Ann said. "We don't have barrels to pack our pork meat in but will use some wood boxes that Fred got. They have thick sides and bottoms. They are about three feet deep and three feet square. I do wish I had more crocks to pack the sausage patties down in lard."

"Your mentioning lard, reminds me that I must get my iron kettle cleaned up so I can render out my lard, and then make soap in it. I brought my new soap recipe over too, that Mrs. Rice gave me. Do vou want it?" asked Mrs. Dickson.

Mary Ann wrote the recipe off as follows: "5 lbs. rendered grease: 1 can Lewis lye; 1/4 cup ammonia; 3 tablespoons Borax; 3 tablespoons sugar; 1 at. water. Dissolve lye in hot water and let stand until cool. Add Borax and sugar, dissolved in ammonia. Melt grease and cool until lukewarm. Pour lye into fat. When it thickens, pour into molds and cool. Be sure to do this out in the vard as in all of our wood for the stove. Lawrence you might get poisoned from the fumes."

Just as this recipe for soap was used to wash their soiled clothes, the Bible also gives us a recipe for cleansing our lives from sin. I John 1:7 says, "... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." "... though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. ..." Isaiah 1:18.

"Charlie is plowing today so I must get home and get supper started. I have to go out and pick up some cow chips to burn as we are getting so low on wood," Mrs. Dickson said, as Mary Ann and the children followed her out into the yard. She mounted her horse and soon was galloping out the gate and down the road.

—Marie Miles

(to be continued)



Dear Boys and Girls:

God loves you and He loves me. Jesus proved His love for us by dying on the cross for our sins when we did not love and obey Him. How happy He is when we serve Him and keep His words and obey Him! We need Jesus in our lives. We need Him when we live and, oh, we want Him when we die! How wonderful to know that when we die Jesus will send the angels to take our souls to be with Him! I want to please and serve Him, don't you?

The people in the day that Abram lived did not know Jesus as we do today. They knew that there was a God, but many of the people didn't serve God. They worshipped idols, or things they could see. This displeased God very much. We are glad that Abram loved God and pleased Him.

We studied about Lot choosing the best watered land and pitching his tent toward the wicked city of Sodom. Soon Lot moved right into the wicked city. His children grew up like the others in the city and forgot about God. How sad! God tried to get Lot's attention by letting trouble come his way. Later we read about Sodom and Gomorrah being destroyed.

One time some kings made war against the cities in the plains. They rushed into Sodom and Gomorrah and took all the food and good things from those cities and left. They also took a lot of the people to make slaves out of them. They took Lot, his family and his goods, and departed. Someone ran to tell Abram about it. This made Abram sad. He had forgiven Lot for being selfish in taking the best land. He felt sorry for him. Abram armed 318 trained men of his household and followed the kings who took Lot. They rescued Lot, his family and all of his goods, and also the other people and their goods.

Mel-chiz-e-dek, the king of Salem, went out to meet Abram. He was a priest of God. Later we read about this priest of God in the New Testament. Paul wrote about him. He compares him with Jesus Christ. We do not know anything about this priest, as to who appointed him as a priest, anything about his family, his beginning nor end of life. Therefore Paul says Jesus Christ is a priest like him who "abideth continually." Abram gave tithes to this priest. This meant a tenth of all he had.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, January 28, 1979 MELCHIZEDEK CALLED THE TYPE OF CHRIST

Gen. 14:2a That these made war with Bera king of Sodom.

11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and

his goods, and departed.

14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and

the people.

18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he [Abram] gave him [Melchizedek] tithes of all.

Psa. 110:4 The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Heb. 7:2 ... Abraham gave [Melchizedeck] a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is. King of peace:

3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a

priest continually.

11 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchizedek, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Memory Verse: For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore. Heb. 7:28.

Questions:

- Many battles were going on around Sodom and Gomorrah. What did some of the men of war do to these two cities?
- 2. Whom did the men take captive?
- 3. What did Abram do when he learned Lot had been taken captive?
- 4. How many men did Abram take with him to rescue Lot?
- 5. Did Abram succeed in rescuing Lot and his belongings?
- 6. Who was a priest and the king of Salem?
- 7. After Melchizedek blessed Abram, what did Abram give him?
- 8. How much was a tithe?
- 9. Of whom was Melchizedek a fore-shadow?
- 10. How was the Levitical priesthood imperfect?
- 11. Who was sent to bring perfection, or cleansing from sin?
- 12. Who is our high priest that abideth forever?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Five

Feb. 4

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Mary Ann went over to the big, black, iron kettle, that was on the outside wood fire. She took a stick and punched down her white clothes that were boiling in soapy water. They would soon be ready to take out, rinse and hang on the line. She had already finished scrubbing the dark clothes on the rub board and they were hanging on the line.

Mary Ann went back into the house thinking about the wonderful neighbors whom she had. "Oh, what would we do without them out here on these plains," she said half aloud. Many times she longed for company and she appreciated the generous and kind people that had sparsely settled in the plains of New Mexico.

The furnishings in her home were of the barest necessities, and according to today's standards would be very crude. The kitchen stove burned wood and had a warming oven above and a water reservoir at one end. There were two small hinged shelves at the back that could be lowered close to the cooking lids. These were ideal for keeping a stack of pancakes hot. There were a number of buffalo wallows on the plains that would fill up with water. There was one close by the house so Fred built two cisterns, 20 ft. to 25 ft. deep and used a hand pump and pumped the water out of the pond into the cisterns near the house. This was the water they used for drinking and washing clothes, as well as other household needs.

Fred also built a silo in which to store feed for the cattle; it was 25 ft. deep, with about four feet above the ground, and it was made of adobe bricks at the top. Andrew was lowered into the silo in a tub on which a rope had been tied to form a pulley. Andrew would fill the tub with silage, which was green fodder that had been preserved for cow feed. When all was brought up that was needed, he would be pulled up in the tub.

For entertainment the community would have dances at their different homes. One time, they attended a dance at the Rice's home. Andrew, being small and not understanding, was very upset when his mother fell for some reason. He was afraid she was hurt, but she wasn't. They also had entertainments at the school house. On one Christmas, Fred was the Santa Claus.

When he came in and called out the names. Andrew wondered who that big fellow was with a long white beard. Fred and Mary Ann did not know the Lord, therefore they sought to get some kind of pleasure out of worldly things around them.

Part Two CHAPTER FOUR

Parents Make a Change

When Anna Marie was about a year old, her parents became very much interested in their souls' salvation. Some holiness people put up a tent, and held meeting about two miles from their farm. Since any new thing that came within miles of them on the plains was of great interest, they hitched up the horses to the wagon and rode over to the meeting. The first night, Bro. George Harmon preached on the "Biblical Trace of the Church." Her father had never heard such preaching before. It came forth with authority and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Conviction settled down upon them heavily. Bro. Erle Forbes and his sister were there, and gave him some tracts, which helped him greatly as he read them. Later, he heard another preacher of the truth whose name was Bro. Hammond, who had monthly appointments at the school house. Her father always looked forward to his coming, as it seemed his preaching was what his heart was longing for. He began to quit sinning. He almost quit swearing, which had been a longstanding habit. He found that conviction gave him power to quit many of his sins. It was God's goodness leading him to repentance. God was good to her parents and helped them both to understand enough to pray through at home, and receive peace in their souls. They read their Bibles and life took on a new glow. They even loved those whom they had formerly hated. When her father got l"Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth."

saved, he quit smoking tobacco. This new life began in the year of 1915 and their new found joy knew no bounds. They wanted more of the love of God. and as they read the Bible they measured their lives to it. As they heard and read about the second work of grace, they sought for sanctification and it was a definite experience in their souls. Her father just felt like he was floating in the air, and his great love for God causing him to be willing to do anything the Lord called him to do. God was leading and he was following. He did not want to enjoy this new found joy by himself but desired that others know about Jesus and His power to save.

One day, Anna Marie's father was greatly surprised when he felt a burden to preach the gospel. He tried to make excuses, but God held that burden upon him. After a long struggle, he told the Lord that he would get up before the people, but that God would have to do the preaching through him. This was all God was asking him to do.

One Sunday night the schoolhouse was filled with neighbors from all directions. He felt weak and frail, but he moved under the power of God's divine love in his heart for souls. God blessed him and truly spoke through lips of clay. This was a new experience for him. He continued to preach there and God used him and blessed his soul. God showed him the family of God and the beautiful Church of God. Others became disturbed and this caused him some trouble. The devil was contesting every step he took to obey the will of God in his life. He had many battles with the enemy of his soul, but God was teaching and leading him. Love for God was a guiding force in his life.

-Marie Miles (to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"Words break no bones; but God alone knows how many hearts they have broken."

"Faith which worketh by love." These are the three steps of the ladder which alone reaches from earth to heaven. Faith to believe what Christ has done for us, love to Him for it, and works to prove this love.

Dear Boys and Girls:

God had given Abraham a son. He and Sarah named him Isaac. Isaac was taught to love God. He was also told about the great promise God had made to his father, Abraham, that through him God would give them the land of Canaan, and also the promise that all nations in the world through him would be blessed. This promise, we know, was that Jesus Christ was to come through Abraham's family and all who believed on Him would be blessed.

to offer Isaac as a sacrifice unto Him. for his act of obedience. He was to take him up on Mount

Moriah, Mount Moriah included all the mountains in that place which was about 42 miles from Beersheba, where Abraham and Isaac lived. This was the same place, about 2000 years later, that Jesus was crucified and died on the cross. It was also where Solomon built the temple in which God was worshipped. Let us think of the comparison between Isaac and Abraham and God and Jesus, His only begotten Son.

Notice that it took three days for Abraham and Isaac to reach the place where he was to offer his only son. Now we can think of Jesus being God's only Son and how he was dead in the tomb and arose the third day. Do you not think that for the three days that Abraham and Isaac journeyed, after the command, that Abraham thought about his son as being dead?

Abraham moved on up the mountainside with faith in God. The Apostle Paul tells us that Abraham offered up Isaac with faith that God would be able to raise him up again to life. Just as his being born to them in their old age was a miracle, so God was able to perform another miracle. God had promised that through Isaac, and his seed, the whole world would be blessed, and Abraham believed God.

It is thought that Isaac was about 33 years of age at that time. Notice how he willingly obeyed his father. I believe that Isaac loved God and he looked beyond his father's command and saw God in that command. Just so, boys and girls, look beyond your parents' rules and requests and see God in them. God has told us to obey our parents, so that is why we do it. We want to also notice that Jesus was willing to obey Abraham and Sarah's having a son in His Father. He let wicked men take him their old age was a miracle from God. In and bind him to the cross. God did not our lesson we hear God telling Abraham let Abraham kill Isaac but blessed him

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, February 4, 1979 SHADOW EVENT OF CHRIST'S LIFE

Gen. 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

- 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.
- 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.
- 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.
- 5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.
- 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?
- 8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.
- 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.
- 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

- 11 And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.
- 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.
- 16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:
- 18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Memory Verse: Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called. Heb. 11:18.

Questions:

- In what way did God tempt, or test, Abraham?
- 2. Did Abraham obey the Lord?
- 3. Where did God tell Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice?
- 4. When it came time to offer the sacrifice, what did Isaac ask Abraham? What was Abraham's reply?
- 5. Did Abraham put Isaac on the altar?
- 6. How many sons did Abraham and Sarah have?
- 7. Who stopped Abraham from taking his son's life?
- 8. What did the angel say unto Abraham?
- 9. Why do you think the Lord told Abraham to sacrifice his son?
- 10. Was the Lord pleased that Abraham obeyed Him?
- 11. In what way may our love for God be tested today?
- 12. Whom should we love dearer than our parents or closest loved ones?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Six

Feb. 11

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Some of the saints from Clovis began to come out to the schoolhouse in St. Vrain for meeting. One Sunday, several were there and Anna Marie's father was preaching. Sis. Vera Forbes and her husband were in the congregation. Sis. Vera said that her attention was taken away from the gospel message, as she watched a little girl, quietly come in the side door and walk over to the altar bench. She carefully looked into her hand and took out some long carpenter nails and laid them on the bench. She then moved on down the bench a little farther and laid down some shorter ones, and then at the other end of the bench she laid down the smallest ones. Without paying any attention to anyone around her, she walked out the side door and came back with some more nails, placing them neatly, according to size, beside the ones on the bench. She continued to do this for some time. As soon as the service was over Sis. Vera wanted to meet the preacher and his wife. She soon learned that the "sweet, busy little girl" was their daughter-Anna Marie.

In 1917 Anna Marie's father bought a 1916 Model T. Ford. There were very few cars at that time. Many times he was "cussed out" because the horses would get scared of the noisy, shining, black car as it chugged down the road. With the use of this car, her father was able to have meetings in schoolhouses around the country. He also took his family to services in Clovis, New Mexico. which was about 18 miles from his home. Brother George Harmon was the pastor. He met many of the saints who attended there. Some of them were Bro. and Sis. W. I. Miles, and their family. Later in life, their son became Anna Marie's husband. Also their daughter became Lawrence's wife.

Anna Marie's father took an active part in the services in Clovis. He was asked to teach the young people's class, but it was a hard thing for him to do. He didn't understand how to handle young people since his children were yet young. He gave to the support of the work there, also obeyed the Lord as He led him. Bro. Harmon, his pastor, did not have a cow. Anna Marie's father gave him a cow to use until the cow was dry and then he would take her and give him another one to use. God had blessed him greatly on

for the Lord. When he saw the need of the pastor needing money to make a car payment he gave him a hundred dollars. He was very sensitive to the leadings of the Lord, always listening to his chosen Guide in life.

On March 20, 1917, Anna Marie's father called her oldest brother. Andrew. who was nine years of age, into the r bedroom. He took him over to the sewing machine and there, in a wicket basket, lay a baby. His father told him the baby had died. Andrew immediately felt strange about this. He had seen cattle die and his reaction was very different, as this was the first person he had seen dead. He felt very sad and began to cry softly. Then his father said, "There is another baby over here in the bed with your mother." As he looked at the sweet little round face of the darling baby girl he was happy. They named the twin girl who lived, Mary Lola. She was named Mary, after her paternal grandmother and her own mother. She was the joy of the family.

Sis. George Harmon had come to help take care of the family for a few days. She brought her granddaughter, Verta. with her. She was just a little older than Anna Marie. Her father said that Sis. Harmon had great patience with Verta. which caused him to marvel, as she had been spoiled by her mother and grandparents. This was a great lesson to Anna Marie's father.

God was dealing with this young father, leading him to leave the farm and go out into the work of the Lord. He loved his farm and through hard work and severe troubles he had built it up so that he was able to take it a little easier. He had built up a fine herd of cattle which consisted of more than 60 head. He had about 14 head of mules and also many hogs. He loved to watch the pigs grow and enjoyed work-

the farm and he wanted to do all he could | ing in the soil. His young orchard of apples, peaches, and cherries was now bearing. He was led of the Lord to leave all this.

> In 1917, her father had a sale on his farm. It was always a big day in the community. Soon the yard was full of wagons and people. A large iron kettle of pinto beans was put on the fire outside where they were cooked, then served to all who came.

> After the sale he moved to the edge of Clovis, New Mexico, where be bought some property. Later he took a trip in his Model T Ford car up to Kansas and Oklahoma. He stopped to visit Bro. and Sis. L. Y. Janes in Guthrie, Okla. They had a small printing office and were trying to put the gospel out through the printed page. They talked to Anna Marie's father about coming to Guthrie to live and to help them in the printing of the gospel literature. Although he had a limited education, this appealed to him. When he returned and told his wife about how the Lord was leading, she was willing to go. After much prayer and more consecration, he obeyed the calling of God to work in this capacity. They would not receive pay, but would have to live by faith, which would be a new life for them.

> > —Marie Miles

(to be continued)

God Knows the **Bottom of the Barrel**

"Mother, I think God always hears when we scrape the bottom of the barrel," said a little boy to his mother one day. His mother was poor. They often used up their last stick of wood and their last bit of bread before they could tell where the next supply was to come from. They had so often been provided for in unexpected ways, just when they were most in need, that the

when they scraped the bottom of the barrel. This was only that little fellow's way of saying what Abraham said when he called the name of the place where God had delivered him. "Jehovah-Jireh" (God will provide).

Dear Boys and Girls:

Isaac married Rebekah and later Abraham died. Rebekah and Isaac had twin boys, Esau and Jacob. Esau married women that worshipped idols. but Rebekah and Isaac wanted Jacob to marry a girl that loved God, so they told him to go back to Rebekah's home and choose a girl from there. Today in our lesson we find Jacob on his way to Haran. We notice that our lesson says, "Jacob obeyed his father and mother." That is a wonderful testimony of Jacob. Don't you want that to be written of you by those who watch your life? Many boys and girls today do not obey their parents, but if you do, I am sure you are loved by many, even though they may not tell you so. God loves you for it, I am gure.

Jacob had walked many miles and I am sure that he was lonesome and maybe homesick. The sun sank in the west, while Jacob took some stones to use for his pillow and then lay down to sleep. He dreamed, and behold a ladder was set up on the earth. The top of it reached to heaven. Angels of God walked up and down the ladder. The Lord stood above the ladder and said, "I am the Lord God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac. The land upon which you are lying will I give to you and to your families [seed]. Your families will be as the dust of the earth in number and will journey to the west, east, north, and south. In you, and in

little boy thought God always heard earth be blessed. I will go with you where you go and bring you back to this land and do as I have promised." When Jacob awoke he was startled. He said. "Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not. This is none other than the house of God and the gate to heaven!" Jacob took the stones he had for a pillow and poured oil on them as an offering to the Lord. He called the place Bethel, which means "the house of God."

Jacob had bought the birthright from Esau. Then he and his mother deceived his blind father and got the blessings of his father and the birthright. Yet Jacob paid dearly for his deceptiveness. Now we find that God has given him the blessings that were given to his father and grandfather. Through His family Jesus Christ would come to bring salvation to all the world, or to those -Aunt Marie who would accept it.

Lesson 6, February 11, 1979 THE PROMISE REPEATED

Gen. 26:1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.

3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father:

28:1 And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him. Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.

7 And that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Padanaram.

10 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.

11 And he lighted upon a certain your seed, shall all the families of the place, and tarried there all night,

because the sun was set; and he took of all that thou shalt give me I will surely the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

13 And, behold, the Lord stood above Questions: it, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

15 And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not.

17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

18 And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of

19 And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of

give the tenth unto thee.

Memory Verse: And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man. John 1:51.

- 1. What was going on in the land when Isaac went to the king of the Philistines?
- 2. As the Lord had given a promise unto Abraham, so he gave this promise to Isaac. What was the promise?

3. From what place did Isaac want Jacob to take a wife?

- 4. Did Jacob do as his parents wished?
- 5. On his way to Haran, Jacob stopped to sleep. What did he use for his pillow?
- 6. What did Jacob see in his dream? 7. Who spoke to him in the dream?
- What did the Lord tell him concerning his seed, or offspring?
- 8. Did the Lord tell Jacob He would be with him wherever he went?
- 9. What land did God promise to give Jacob and his children?
- 10. When Jacob awoke, was he afraid?
- 11. Because of God's presence, Jacob felt that place was the house of God. and the gate to
- 12. What did Jacob do with the stones he had used as a pillow?
- 13. What did Jacob name this place where he had the dream?
- 14. What did Jacob promise to give God? Does the Lord want us to give as we've prospered to Him and His work today?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Seven

Feb. 18

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

CHAPTER FIVE

Moving to Oklahoma

The yard was full of wagons, some covered wagons, and a few cars. An auction sale was in progress at the Pruitt home near Clovis. New Mexico. just prior to the family's leaving for Guthrie, Okla., where Bro. Fred Pruitt would work (without the promise of pay) in helping to publish gospel literature. Anna Marie was a little over four years of age.

Andrew and Lawrence talked about a war, while the three of them sat on the front porch. This was during the First World War. She asked many questions and felt sad about so many people getting killed. She was very tenderhearted and this touched her deeply; therefore, she never did forget that conversation on the front porch of this Clovis home.

Anna Marie helped in various ways that a four-year-old child could during a sale. She didn't understand too much about what was going on, but knew they were going to move and things had to be packed, while the rest were to be sold.

around her and went about her play. There was a bare spot in the grass, so she went into the house and brought out her little broom to sweep it off. She laid down her broom to go into the house for some more playthings. As she turned around and looked back, she saw a little girl run from a covered wagon, get her broom and take it back into the wagon. She didn't say anything to the girl, but went on into the house. After the sale. her mother asked her where her little broom was and she told her what had happened. Her mother told her that this was stealing and that God was not pleased with that little girl. "Thou shall not steal," is one of God's commandments and we are to obey what God tells us. This made an impression upon her and became one of her earliest recollections at the age of four.

A number of boxes were shipped on the train, but as much as possible of the needed clothing was put in the Model T Ford. Bright and early, on the eleventh day of June, 1918, Anna Marie, her two brothers, and baby sister, Mary Lola, all got into the car with their parents and left for Guthrie, Oklahoma, Anna Marie doesn't remember too much about the She soon lost interest in all the activity trip but she did remember they had to

cross the flooded Canadian River. They were taking cars across the river on a ferry boat. As she looked at the wide red river of moving water she felt alarmed. When it came their turn her father drove the car on the ferry boat and this scared her. She asked Jesus to help them and she then felt better. Some people, who had tried to drive their horses while pulling a wagon through the water, got stuck and had to be pulled out. The man was cursing and whipping his horses. She felt sorry for the horses and also the people. Soon, they drove off the ferry and were back on the road, headed for Guthrie, Anna Marie felt much better to be off the ferry and on the solid ground again. That night they stopped to camp. The three older children amused themselves by running up and down the hills near the Canadian River. They had always lived on the plains and had never seen hills before. They played until they nearly wore themselves out and then were called to eat supper. Her father read to them from the Bible by the glowing, yellow lantern light, had prayer and all slept until daylight. It took them almost three days on the road before arriving in Guthrie, on June 13, 1918. Guthrie was a small town, but Lawrence was intrigued by the streetcars that ran on the tracks up and down the streets. This was the first time he had ever seen streetcars. After living in the country for many years, this was a new venture for the Pruitt family to live in town.

The L. Y. Janes family lived at 611 W. Mansur, in a small house. They had their printing work in the same place, but welcomed the Pruitt family. As soon as possible, the transaction of renting the house next door was made and the Pruitt family moved in (617 W. Mansur). It was a four-room house, which was small for the family of five, but Mother

to the Lord's work, by faith, and they were not expecting things to be according to all of their wishes. They gladly were guided by their love for God.

Anna Marie was glad there was a girl about her age in the Janes family. She and Evelyn soon became good friends. At first, Sunday school and church services were held in the Pruitt home, and when her father was not helping in the printing work, he was holding meetings at different places. Several years later the Pruitt family attended services at the chapel at the corner of Sixth and Warner.

Anna Marie enjoyed having Sis. Janes for her Sunday school teacher. She loved children and made the lessons very interesting. She remembers clearly how Sis. Janes told about Jesus being beaten before He went to the cross. She had a long pointer that she used to point out the characters on the large lesson picture. She had one of the students stand up in front, and she acted like she was beating him, but of course, didn't touch him, so the children could understand how Jesus was beaten. Anna Marie was very tenderhearted and as she understood how the innocent Jesus was cruelly mistreated, she began to cry. She never forgot this lesson and it made a great impression upon her of how much Jesus loved all people by taking so much punishment for their sins in order for them to go to heaven. Oh, she loved Jesus so very much!

One Sunday morning, service was in progress and the front room was so crowded that Anna Marie was sitting in the front window facing the porch. A rain storm was in progress and lightning struck the tree in front of the house. It knocked Anna Marie out of the window to the floor. She was stunned and her father was soon kneeling beside her praying, as well as others. She was not and Father Pruitt had made a venture in- hurt, but the front of the tree had a huge

chunk of bark torn from it all the way to the ground. All who had seen the huge ball of fire roll down the tree were greatly alarmed. The meeting progressed and prayers of thanksgiving were given to the Lord for protecting the home and all within. Anna Marie's prayers were surely sincere. She loved Jesus very much for caring for her. The Bible says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1. Surely He did take care of -Marie Miles them all that day.

(to be continued)

"He enjoys much who is thankful for little. A grateful mind is a great mind."

"Laziness is the father of poverty."

Dear Boys and Girls:

The story of the Hebrew nation continues with Jacob's family. Jacob had twelve sons. Through these sons and their families, they increased and became a large group of people. They continued living in Egypt after the famine, during which time Joseph had asked them to come.

Our lesson begins with Jacob on his last sick bed. He calls his sons to his side to give them their last blessings from him. Joseph brings his two sons also. Each of them was blessed and became heads of the twelve tribes of Israel, Jacob's name had been changed to Israel. That is the reason they were called Israelites. They were to inherit the land of Canaan. Let us remember that the tribe of Levi didn't inherit land. They were to take care of the offerings of sacrifices. (Joshua 21:8). So, with Joseph's two sons receiving the blessing instead of him, and his ten other brothers, these made up the twelve heads of tribes.

Judah. As you read the blessing, unto Israel your father.

remember that through the tribe of Judah, Jesus Christ was to come into the world. Now the Jews are called by that name because they came from the tribe of Judah. David was born of the tribe of Judah years later, and through his family Jesus was born.

Notice that the blessing of Jacob to Judah says, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." From this we know that there would always be a king from the tribe of Judah until Jesus came. Shiloh stands for the Messiah, who was Jesus Christ.

The words of "washing . . . his clothes in the blood of grapes" might have reference to Jesus' death on the cross and the shedding of his blood for our sins.

Joseph was still a ruler in Egypt and he and his brethren took their father's body to Canaan and buried it. When Joseph and all his brothers returned to Egypt, they were afraid that since their father had died, Joseph might punish them for having sold him into Egypt. They all fell before him and begged for his mercy to them. Boys and girls, always remember the words that Joseph said here and how he forgave them. saying that they meant it for evil, but God meant it for good. You have been told how Joseph suffered when he was sold and spent many years in prison, but now we see forgivenes and the great love of God in his heart. It pays to forgive others who do us wrong.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, February 18, 1979 TRIBE OF JUDAH CHOSEN

Gen. 49:2 Gather yourselves together. One special blessing Jacob gave to and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken

8 Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.

9 Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion: who shall rouse him up?

10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

12 His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people.

50:14 And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brethren, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

18 And his [Joseph's] brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants.

19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?

20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land

which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

Memory Verse: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. I John 1:7.

Questions:

- What was the name God had given Jacob, meaning a prince who prevails with God?
- When Jacob was on his deathbed, whom did he call unto him to bless?
- 3. To which son did Jacob say the others would bow?
- 4. Who was to be one of the descendants of Judah?
- 5. What happened to Jacob after he finished talking to his sons?
- 6. Where did Joseph and his brothers go after burying their father?
- 7. What did Joseph's brothers do after they returned to Egypt? What did they think Joseph would do to them?
- 8. Did Joseph want them to be afraid of him?
- 9. Joseph told his brothers that God brought good from his having been sold as a slave. What good had been brought about?
- 10. Had Joseph forgiven his brothers?
- 11. Does the Lord want us to forgive those who treat us wrongly?
- 12. What did Joseph tell his brothers that God would do for them?
- 13. Did Joseph want his bones to be left in Egypt when his brothers and their children went back to Canaan? What did he want them to do with his bones?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Eight

Feb. 25

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Night and morning the Pruitt family gathered together in the living room and had family worship. Her father would read from the Bible or the Bible Story book, and then all would kneel upon their knees before the Lord. This was a time of seriousness and all felt they were coming into the presence of the Lord. Father, Mother, and all the children took turns praying. Anna Marie prayed as she had been doing from her earliest remembrance. She truly felt that she was talking to God and God honored her faith in Him and blessed her little soul. She had faith in God and believed that He would do as He had said He would in the Bible.

One evening, her father took her and her two brothers up to Bro. and Sis. Janes' and let them stay all night. Of course. Anna Marie was delighted to get to sleep with Evelyn, her true friend. Sis. Janes came in and knelt beside their bed, prayed, and kissed them goodnight. The next morning her father came for his children. As they went into the house, he told them to come into the

something. Anna Marie was very surprised to see two little babies with dark hair, lying on the bed with her mother. She thought they were the sweetest little darlings that she had ever seen. She was told the twins had been named Frances Edna and Frank Edward. This was on August 22, 1918. What a joy they were to the family, yet a lot of work for Mother Pruitt, as she already had four children to care for! Some of their care fell to four-year-old Anna Marie. She very often stood beside a huge rocking chair, with the two babies in it, rocking it back and forth to keep them quiet.

CHAPTER SIX

More Childhood Incidents

During the winter of 1918 measles came to the Pruitt home. The children were very sick and many prayers were prayed for the children. Anna Marie began to get better but took a back set with the measles and was very, very sick. Her parents wondered if she would pull through but they earnestly called upon God and she was spared; but it was spring before she had much health. A weakness settled in her body from bedroom, as he wanted to show them I that severe sickness, which she carried

all of her life. She had an inner tremble that was very noticeable in her hands. At times in her life, it was better and at other times worse. Before this affliction her mother said she was the healthiest child she had, but God had a purpose in it all. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." When any kind of affliction would come upon her, she would call her parents to pray for her, as it seemed it affected her greatly. God again and again would heal her, and she would be up and going. This caused God to be very real to Anna Marie. She prayed often to Him for herself, and loved Him very much because He helped her so often.

Anna Marie started to school in September 1920, at the age of 61/2 years. Bro. Robert Longley, one of the workers, who lived with them, taught her the A B C's before she went to school, which helped her very much. He was just like one of the family. He and her father had many good times together in prayer and in the gospel work. At this time, her father and Bro. Robert Longley were printing and sending out the Faith and Victory paper from 611 W. Mansur after buying the building. An addition was added and more machinery bought. Bro. L. Y. Janes and family had moved and were not helping although they lived in Guthrie.

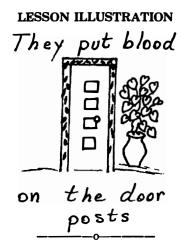
The Pruitt's four-room house seemed to be getting smaller as the family grew, especially since the arrival of the twins. Anna Marie's father sought the Lord's guidance in purchasing a larger home for his family. He looked at a piece of property which was three blocks away from their present home. The house was on the corner of 9th and Mansur, had four lots with it and also a large barn in the rear. The house had two bedrooms upstairs, with three large rooms downstairs which included the kitchen,

dining, and living room. Her parents felt the Lord's approval in purchasing this property; so in the year of 1920 the family of eight prepared to move into their new home. Anna Marie's first remembrance of the house was when she was taken with her mother to begin cleaning prior to their moving. She had to stay downstairs and keep the twins off the stairway. She so much wanted to go upstairs too, but knew that her mother meant what she said, so she watched the babies. It was a thrilling day to her when the family moved into the big house. They would have plenty of room now.

Bro. Pruitt had used all the money he had received from the sale of his farm and was living by faith in God to supply their needs. He had some severe tests of faith. Many times the family had very little to eat and not much clothing. Mother Pruitt would patch and wash the clothes often. The children had clothes saved just to wear on Sunday. At times. they would eat potatoes three times a day, as they always made a big garden on the two vacant lots, next to the home. Her father would get wheat, grind it, and there would be graham mush for breakfast with skim milk. Bro. Pruitt's faith was strong in the Lord, and God gave him the Scripture, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." 2 Cor. 9:8. He was willing to do what God had called him to, and wait upon Him, knowing that God never makes mistakes in His call. but that God will let a person be tested and tried to see if he is willing to obey Him. Surely this was a testing time for the Pruitt family in getting the Faith and Victory paper and tracts sent forth. -Marie Miles

(to be continued)

Faith is the Answer.



"He that would have friends must show himself friendly."

Dear Boys and Girls:

From the death of Joseph to the Birth of Moses there were about 300 years. The children of Jacob, or as they were called "children of Israel" as Jacob's name was changed to Israel, increased in number. When it came time for them to leave (430 years from the time Jacob came to Egypt), they numbered 600,000 men above 20 years of age, besides the women and children. (Numbers 1:46). This would be very possible as we have had such an increase in our nation since it was founded.

Moses had been adopted by the princess of Egypt and therefore had great learning. God told him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt to the Canaan land. God sent many plagues to the Egyptians in order to get Pharaoh, their king, to let them go, as they had been made slaves by the Egyptians and had endured much. Of course, this was necessary, and in God's plan to help them to be willing to go, and also to be able to endure the hardships of the long trip by foot to the edge of the land of Canaan, they needed endurance.

The final plague was ordered by the Lord. As we talk about this plague we want to think about its meaning. It's a type of Christ and his blood. We find that Jesus still remembered the passover feast 1400 years later, which was kept until his death.

The Israelites were to choose a male lamb without blemish. It was to be perfect, as it was to represent Jesus Christ, who was the Lamb of God who died on the cross for our salvation. They were to take the blood from this lamb and put it on the door posts of the houses wherein they ate the lamb that night. They were all to be ready to leave Egypt, and this was to be their last food in their homes. While they ate, the Lord would pass over. The eldest son in each house that did not have the blood on the door posts would be killed. This was the time when Pharoah would let the Israelites leave. The Israelites had suffered so much that they were glad to leave their homes and do as Moses had commanded, because they felt that he was a prophet from God. They also knew that God had promised the land of Canaan to them and that He would keep His promise to them.

Years later, Jesus went to the cross and died as a Passover Lamb. Today we want the blood of Jesus covering our souls, and when God looks down upon us and sees the blood covering our sins, they are not remembered against us and we can have favor with Him.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, February 25, 1979 THE PASSOVER LAMB

Ex. 12:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying.

3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every

man a lamb, according to the house of offering thou wouldest not, but a body their fathers, a lamb for a house:

- 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish. a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:
- 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses. wherein they shall eat it.
- 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.
- 11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover.
- 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.
- 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.
- 14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

John 13:1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world. he loved them unto the end.

Heb. 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and

hast thou prepared me:

- 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of god.

Memory Verse: The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29.

Questions:

- 1. To whom did the Lord talk, giving instructions concerning the passover? What people were to partake of the passover?
- 2. What kind of lamb was to be used in the passover?
- 3. What was to be done with the blood of the lamb?
- 4. What kind of bread were the Israelites to eat during this time? Unleavened bread represents something without corruption or evil.
- 5. In what manner was the passover to be eaten?
- 6. Whose lives were to be taken the night of the passover?
- 7. What would God do when He saw the blood on the door posts?
- 8. Did the Lord want the Israelites to always remember the passover?
- 9. What feast had taken place just before Jesus was crucified?
- 10. Just as the blood of the lamb on the door posts protected from the wrath of God, whose blood on our hearts will protect us from God's final wrath?
- 11. Do we offer sacrifices of lambs today? Why not?

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Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Nine

March 4

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

One day Anna Marie was helping pick up potatoes, after they had been dug. She would run to the faucet, wash off the tiny potatoes and eat them. After eating a number of them, her stomach began to hurt. When it was time for supper, her father came looking for her. She was lying on the bed, very sick at her stomach. He prayed for her and soon she felt better, but didn't want anything to eat. Prayer was always offered for any of the Pruitt children when they were sick and they never knew anything else but God's healing them. They knew Jesus healed when He was here on earth and the Bible said. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Heb. 13:8.

It was hard times and Anna Marie did not have toys like other children. She didn't have a doll to love like most little girls. She would wrap up a piece of wood or something else in a cloth and carry it around. She often longed for a little doll. One time, through the mail, someone sent two little celluloid dolls for the twins. Oh, how Anna Marie wanted one of them for her own; but of course, they belonged to the babics, who were

walking around at that time! When they would lay one of them down, she would pick it up, and didn't want to give it back to the baby; therefore, she would be punished for making the baby cry. One evening, her father was putting wood in the big stove in the dining room. He had the big lid off and up walked Frank, threw in his doll and Frances came up right behind him and threw in hers. They of course instantly went up in flames. Anna Marie began to cry as she wanted them so very much. Her mother reminded her that if she had not fussed with the babies, that maybe they would have soon got tired of them and she could have had them. This was a lesson in not being envious. By envying the babies, she lost the dolls altogether and they did too. She never forgot that lesson. She did love Jesus and did want to do what He wanted her to do. She always prayed for the Lord to help her to be a good girl. He did try to help her as much as she would let Him. She at times disobeved her mother and received spankings. Her mother had much to do and didn't have time for any of her children to be disobedient. She was a busy mother, keeping her home very clean and doing the cooking for her

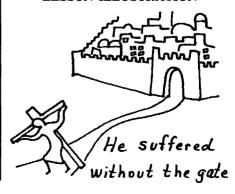
family of six children, two workers, and her husband. She also answered many letters, and helped in the office in other ways, as well as teaching her children to work, which takes much time and patience. One of the neighbors said that she had the patience of Job with her bunch of children.

Since Mother was so very busy, Anna Marie had most of the care of the three younger children, and also helped in the house as well as in the office. Many times when she came home from school, she went to the office, sat at a table and folded tracts, since they did not have a tract folder. She was not allowed to play when there was work to do, and generally there was much work to be done. Her mother brought up her children by the old saving that, "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." When she was allowed to play, she could not leave the vard; therefore, there were other children who came to play in the Pruitt vard. They had many good times together, especially during the summer. playing in the yard and in the big barn in the back. Anna Marie would follow the boys when they climbed trees and jumped out of the barn loft. She, of course, was made fun of by the boys because she was always behind, and most of the time afraid to do what they did. Her mother kept an eve on her children and saw that things were going right.

Many times the children would play church and sing hymns. One time their kitten died so they put it in a box, dug a hole, and had a funeral. They sang, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and also the "Star Spangled Banner." Frank generally was the preacher. He was always outgoing and was willing to speak in his childish way, which was an enjoyment to the older children. Her father preached many funerals, which caused the children to think of having one for their kitten.

One time four little girls were asked to be pallbearers for a baby who died. All were to wear pink dresses. The other girls had pink dresses but Mother Pruitt did not have one for Anna Marie. She was very sad about not having one like the other girls, so she prayed about it. The morning before the funeral, a box came in the mail. In it was a pink dress that fit Anna Marie. It had lace on it and some pretty embroidered flowers. Anna Marie was very happy for that dress, but later she was made sad because her Mother took off the lace and cut off the embroidered flowers. When she complained, Mother gave her some Scriptures on being proud. She said, "'Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.' Prov. 16:18. I don't want you to be filled with pride, and be haughty, so it's better for you to be plainly dressed. The Bible says, 'For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.' Psa. 149:4. When you love Jesus, and have salvation, you will have beauty inside your heart and then your actions will be beautiful. That is the kind of beauty that God wants you to have. There is an old saying which says, 'Beauty is as beauty does.' I hope you will remember this." Anna Marie's

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



mother finished taking off the last of the lace and the dress was pressed. Anna Marie was happy because the Lord gave her a dress in answer to prayer. Her love for God was becoming a guide to her, drawing her heart to follow Jesus and obey His commands. —Marie Miles (to be continued)

Jonah disobeyed the Lord and ran the other way when God told him to go to Ninevah. He was punished, but when he prayed, God forgave him and helped him.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Aren't we glad that we do not live under the old law system as in the days of Moses? They had many different ordinances to keep. Today we are going to talk about one which is a type of Christ. God was trying in some way to help the people understand what Christ was to do for them when He came. All of these ordinances were shadows of things to come.

Our lesson today brings out about the two goats that were used in this ceremony. Let us remember that these two kids were to be made as one offering before the Lord. Each would represent a part of what Jesus would do for us when He came to this world and died for our sins on the cross as the perfect, one and only sacrifice.

Aaron, who was the high priest, was to first offer a bullock before the Lord for a sin offering for himself, and was to have on his holy garments and be washed clean. (Lev. 16:1-5). Then from the congregation he was to take two kid goats, and put them before the door of the tabernacle. He was to cast lots upon these goats. To cast lots, Aaron would take two pieces of wood, stone, or any kind of metal, and write on each of them. On one he wrote Jehovah, and on the other scapegoat. He would then stand before the goats. The vessel was

shaken and Aaron put both of his hands into the vessel and brought out the two lots, one in each hand. He would then lay the lot on the head of the goat at his right and the other on the head of the goat at his left. They were each offered according as to what was written on the lots. One was to be offered as a sacrifice, and the other was to be the live scapegoat. God was to do the selecting of each goat and what it would be used for. Aaron would lav his hands on the head of the scapegoat and confess over it the sins of the people, putting the sins on the goat. He then put the goat in the hands of a person to lead that goat out into the wilderness to be heard of no more. That goat was presented before the Lord alive to make an atonement for the people's sins. The other goat was killed and sacrificed to the Lord as a sin offering.

This stood for the two parts of Jesus' death on the cross. He died in the flesh for our sins and took our punishment, but then He arose alive with victory over death, sin, and the world. Let us remember the two made the complete type of what Christ died for.

The Apostle Paul tells us today that we need not trouble about ordinances and divers ceremonies, or the bodies of beasts, etc., but that Jesus Christ died once and for all. He died without the gate of Jerusalem. He suffered to forgive us of our sins and to sanctify us. Let us go "without the camp, bearing his reproach." Regardless of what we have to suffer, let us stay with Christ.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, March 1979

Christ's Foreseen Death's Atonement

them. On one he wrote Jehovah, and on the other scapegoat. He would then stand before the goats. The vessel was Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt tabernacle. offering.

6 And Aaron shall offer his bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself. and for his house.

7 And he shall take the two goats. and present them before the Lord at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

8 And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the Lord, and the other lot for the scapegoat.

9 And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the Lord's lot fell, and offer

him for a sin offering.

10 But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the Lord, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

21 And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness:

22 And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in

the wilderness.

26 And he that let go the goat for the scapegoat shall wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp.

Heb. 13:9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace: not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

10 We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the

11 For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.

12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

Memory Verse: Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens. Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. Hebrews 4:14.

Questions:

- 1. What animals were to be used for the sin offering?
- 2. Who was to make the offerings?
- 3. How many goats were to be sacrificed for the sins of the people?
- 4. How was Aaron to determine which would die and which would be the scapegoat?
- 5. What was done with the goat on which the Lord's lot fell?
- 6. What was to be done with the scapegoat?
- 7. Whose sins were to be put on the head of the scapegoat?
- 8. After someone had taken the goat into the wilderness, what was that person to do before he re-entered the camp?
- 9. Does the Lord want us to follow after various beliefs, or doctrines?
- 10. By whose blood are we sanctified?
- 11. Of what city did Jesus suffer "without the gate"?
- 12. Are we to bear the reproach of Christ? What are some ways we might be reproached for Christ's sake?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30. No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Ten

March 11

Mv Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie had given her heart to the Lord when she was six years of age. Sis. Janes had prayed with her and she knew that she belonged to the Lord. When she was eight years of age, a preacher was preaching and said that the Bible said, "Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Of course, Anna Marie knew this verse by memory, since it was the first one she had ever remembered learning. While he was preaching, she remembered the many times she had disobeyed her mother and she felt convicted by God. through the Word of God. She went to the altar and prayed earnestly for the Lord to forgive her of her sins. She felt a sweet peace come into her heart and she knew she was God's child. The Lord touched her body also and her nervous affliction was much better.

The preacher was going to have a baptizing service. He asked her if she was going to be baptized with the others and she told him that she didn't want to be baptized. He told her that he would talk to her father about that. Now Anna had floods in Guthrie, and many times in the night when the whistles would be blowing, she would lie in bed and tremble. When she would watch the water covering the streets and creeping closer and closer to her own home, she would be afraid that it might get to her house. Being a child and not understanding about the floods, she acquired a great fear of water.

Her father asked if she wanted to be baptized and she began to cry. She told him she was afraid of the water. He took her in his arms and told her she would not have to be baptized. She could wait until she was older and then she would clearly understand what she was doing. She knew that Jesus said for us to be baptized, but as a child, she really didn't understand why. She was greatly relieved when her father said she could wait until she was older. Since he thought that was right, then she was sure that Jesus thought it would be all right. Her mind was at ease because it had worried her greatly. Being frail in body, she had lost some sleep over it. When she watched the others being baptized, she would hide her eyes as the preacher put them under the water. In her childish Marie was terribly afraid of water. They mind she was afraid he would not get them up fast enough. She was glad when that service was over, yet she was glad for all who were saved. Children should clearly understand what they are doing when they are baptized. It means more than just being put under the water. It means that we have the "answer of a good conscience toward God" and are buried with Christ, arising in newness of life. We read in the New Testament where only "men and women" were baptized. Acts 8:12.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Some Lessons Learned

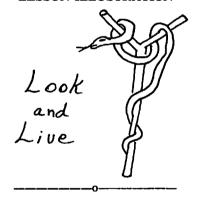
A Sister, named Celena, from another state came to help in the printing work. She brought several trunks and Anna Marie looked at her with wonder. She thought she surely must be rich. After she had unpacked, and occupied an upstairs room, Anna Marie sneaked up one day and looked things over. She peeked into her small closet and it was full. She barely opened her dresser drawers and looked in. She saw things that were pretty. She didn't know what some things were, but she hurried out as she knew if her mother caught her snooping around in someone else's things she would really get spanked. She had been taught to never meddle or bother anyone's things, but she was just looking around, and didn't touch anything. Sis. Celena was an old maid and was set in her ways. She also had ideas about how children should be reared. Of course, Mother Pruitt had ideas too, about how she wanted to rear her own children. Sis. Celena decided she would help her, which didn't go over with Anna Marie at all. One day while Mother was gone with her father, Sis. Celena got the dinner and proceeded to clean the house in the afternoon, not that Anna Marie's mother wasn't a good housekeeper, because she was the best, but it just needed cleaning. Well, Sis.

her feet while she did the work: therefore. the doors were all locked and the children were kept outside. This was something new. Mother never kept her children outside. Anna Marie didn't know what to do about this. She was so troubled that she couldn't even play. She would try this door and that one which upset Sis. Celena. The report went to Mother that she had been very naughty, but her mother understood. Different things happened and Anna Marie didn't care much about Sis. Celena. She would pray for the Lord to help her to like her better, as that is what her mother told her to do. Mother didn't know the struggle that was going on in her heart. Anna Marie just knew that Sis. Celena didn't like her.

-Marie Miles

(to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

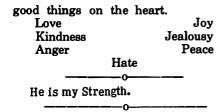


Pure in Heart

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." (Matt. 5:8).

Jesus makes a promise in this verse. He tells us that all who keep their hearts clean and full of goodness will see God someday. This is a wonderful promise.

but it just needed cleaning. Well, Sis. Decide which words belong in a pure Celena didn't want any children under heart. Draw a heart and write these



Dear Boys and Girls:

In all of our lessons we talk about sin and how terrible it is. Sin is still terrible today. Even though many people in the world do not think sin is very bad, yet we must never think like they do. They will go down to a devil's hell by sinning. It's a terrible thing to sin. Just because many in the world think sin is all right doesn't make it all right. God's Word is true and you, I, and every person in the world will stand before God in the last day and give an account for how he has lived. God's Word says that "it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." Heb. 9:27. Let us remember that it is a serious thing to commit sin.

In our lesson we find that God punished the children of Israel for rebelling against God and against Moses. They had suffered much down in Egypt and even at one time their sons were killed as soon as they were born, to try to keep them from becoming such a great nation. God sent Moses down there and led them out in a wonderful way. God was leading them now to the Land of Canaan, which he had promised to them, but they were murmuring against Him. How terrible! This was sin and God was very much displeased with them. They even spoke against the manna or bread that God would send from the sky every day, except Saturday, for them to eat. They were very unthankful and ugly in their

A cry went up from the camp of the Israelites. They were talking differently now. No longer were they talking against God, but they were begging for mercy. They were in trouble. The serpents crawled into their tents and bit them while they slept or while they worked around the camp. Their children cried because they were bitten. Many were bitten while they buried their dead. They cried out, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord! Oh. Moses, pray for us! Pray God to take the serpents away!" Moses prayed for the people. God told him to make a brazen serpent and put it upon a pole in the camp. Anyone who passed and looked upon it would be healed.

Jesus was lifted up on the cross after coming down to us from heaven, growing up as a child and becoming a man. As we look to Jesus and confess that we have sinned, we can be forgiven and will not perish, but have everlasting life. Oh, how wonderful! Boys and girls, look to Jesus and live!

We are studying what the Bible says about strong drinks. It is a sin to harm our body. Our lesson brings out that strong drinks will bite like a serpent. Strong drinks, dope and other things that cause you not to be able to use your mind rightly are sin. They will lead to many other sins, even to murder, gambling, fighting, and different horrible sins. Beware! Never touch the cup and you will be blessed by God.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, March 11, 1979 THE FIERY SERPENT

except Saturday, for them to eat. They were very unthankful and ugly in their spake against God, and against Moses, manner. God punished them by sending Wherefore have ye brought us up out of fiery serpents among the people and Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there many of them were bitten and died.

and our soul loatheth this light bread [manna].

6 And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

8 And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass. he lived.

John 3:12 I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Prov. 23:29 Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes?

30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

Mem. Verse: Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. I John 3:4.

Questions:

- 1. What did the Israelites complain about?
- 2. What did the Lord send because of their murmuring? Did anyone die from the snake bites?

3. Did the Israelites realize they had sinned? What did they want Moses to do about the serpents?

4. What did the Lord tell Moses to make? On what did Moses put the serpent?

5. How did this help the Israelites?

- 6. When Jesus came did everyone believe He was the Messiah? Do we still see unbelievers in the world today?
- 7. As looking upon the brazen serpent protected one from death of the poisonous snake bites, even so we are protected from eternal death caused by sin, if we look unto and put our faith in whom?
- 8. Who can have eternal life?
- 9. Why was Jesus sent into the world?
- 10. According to Proverbs, what happens to the man who cannot resist strong drink?
- Could this "wine" be symbolic of sin? It's enticing and many find pleasure for a time, but at last it brings sorrow and death.

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 1 Jan., Feb., March, 1979 Part Eleven March 18

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

As the children grew older, it was a necessity for Anna Marie to sleep with Sis. Celena. Oh, she didn't want to do that at all! Sis. Celena tried to make her feel welcomed, but she would lie on her side of the bed, being very afraid that she would disturb her. Sis. Celena would have Anna Marie kneel with her beside the bed and have prayer. Anna Marie would pray too, and of course, Sis. Celena would prompt her by telling her to ask the Lord to help her be a better girl. Anna Marie was very careful to only be up in the room just long enough to sleep. She would get up as soon as she awoke and run downstairs. She never bothered anything of Sis. Celena's. Sis. Celena told her something to do and she didn't want to do it because she didn't think she had the right to tell her what to do. Anna Marie said, "My mother is the only one to tell me what to do." Of course, this was very naughty and she paid dearly for those words. Children should obey their elders and her parents had taught her to do so.

The next day Anna Marie's sister, Mary Lola, was asked by Sis. Celena if

she wanted to go to the park with her. When Anna Marie asked if she could go. she was told, "no," and was given a little lecture on being a better girl and doing what she was told to do. Sis. Celena combed Mary Lola's hair differently and put a little ribbon in it. She got to put on her Sunday dress and was all fixed up in the middle of the afternoon, and sat around, waiting to go. Anna Marie tried to be brave until they left. Then she fell upon the couch and cried her heart out. Mother felt sorry for her and agreed that Sis. Celena should have taken her, too. She told her not to cry, that she could go down to the store and get a candy bar. This was a rare treat in the Pruitt family household as money was very scarce. Anna Marie learned a lesson from it all and tried to be nice and not speak what she thought. She learned that it didn't pay for her to not do what older people wanted her to do. From then on, she tried to be careful about that, and she found out that Sis. Celena was nicer to her when she tried to please her. By praying and asking Jesus to help her to be a good girl, she overcame. Her love for Jesus was a guiding force in her life.

Anna Marie thought Sis. Celena was

some others, bought a dining room table Mother said "no," she was not to come and chairs. That afternoon, before they and ask him. Later Mother gave her a were delivered, the children were again spanking for disobeying. Her mother locked out of the house while their was very strict about her children being mother was away. Anna Marie was out lobedient. in the yard and a red ant bit her on the toe. She, of course, cried hard as it did hurt. Sis. Celena was very kind to her and she and Bro. Longley prayed for her. This caused her to like Sis. Celena very much. That evening she gave her a special treat. Anna Marie did thank God in her prayer, that Sis. Celena liked her better, and that she no longer had this struggle going on in her heart and mind.

One evening after meeting. Evelyn asked Anna Marie to go home with her and stay all night. Anna Marie asked her mother if she could go and she told her "No." Evelyn said, "Let's ask your father if you can." So they ran to her father and begged him to let Anna Marie go. He finally said she could. When the Janes' family left in their car. Anna Marie got in with them. The girls had a nice time in Evelyn's room and soon went to bed. Sis. Janes came in and talked to them and then knelt beside their bed and had prayer. She then kissed them goodnight and told them to go to sleep; but Anna Marie couldn't sleep. She kept thinking about her mother telling her "no" and then begging Father to let her go. She knew this was wrong and she knew she would get into trouble. Finally she dropped off to sleep but before she got out of bed the next morning Sis. Janes came to their room saying that her brother had come up early and said that her mother wanted her to come on home right away. She got up quickly, dressed and went home as it was near enough that she could walk. When she came into the house her mother scolded her, also her father told her to never do that again. He reminded her to think and be sure ness. King Balak, who was the king of

really rich when she, with help from she did as Jesus told her to do. When

Anna Marie took very sick with a cold and it seemed that her throat swelled almost shut. She had a high fever and could hardly eat or drink anything. She would call her father to pray for her often, and she knew her parents were very concerned about her. She would lie in her bed and pray to Jesus. One evening, her father called all the children around, anointed her with oil and prayed very earnestly for her. The Lord touched her and she was able to drink some juice. She slept good that night and the next morning was able to eat some cereal. Oh, how Anna Marie loved Jesus for healing her!

-Marie Miles (to be continued)

shall come

Dear Boys and Girls:

The children of Israel, who were of the family of Abraham, had marched toward the land of Moab. The Moabites were of the family of Lot, who had lived five hundred years earlier. Lot's family had become a great nation, also, but were idol worshippers and God was going to punish them for their wicked-

whose name was Balaam, to come and curse the Israelites in the name of God for him. He promised to give Balaam many great gifts. Balaam longed for these gifts. God told him he could go. but that he was to speak only the words that God would tell him. Balaam knew very well that God would not let him speak against His people, but he wanted the money and gifts, so he went. This displeased God, so he sent an angel to meet Balaam on the way. To teach Balaam a lesson the angel appeared first to the ass upon which Balaam was riding. The ass left the road and went out into an open field and Balaam struck the ass. The angel appeared again where the road was narrow with a stone wall on each side. The ass saw the angel and turned to one side, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall. Balaam struck the ass again. At last the angel appeared where the ass could not turn. so he fell to the ground, while Balaam struck him again and again. The Lord allowed the ass to speak, and the ass said to Balaam, "What have I done that you struck me these three times?" Balaam was so angry that he never thought it strange for the ass to speak. so he said, "I struck you because you will not walk as you should. I wish that I had a sword in my hand: then I would kill you." And the ass spoke again to Balaam and said, "Am I not your ass, the one that has always carried you? Did I ever disobey you before? Why do you treat me so cruelly?" Then God opened the eyes of Balaam and he saw the angel. Balaam leaped off his ass and fell to the ground upon his face before the angel. The angel told Balaam that he was going the wrong way, and if the ass had not seen him, he would have killed him. "The road you are taking will lead to your death." Balaam said that he had sinned, "Forgive me and I the Lord, I have sinned; for I knew not

the Moabites, called upon a prophet, will go home." But the angel knew that Balaam wanted to go, so he told him to say only what God told him to.

Read in our lesson what Balaam said about the Israelites. He could not curse them and please God. Notice that he prophesied that "there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel." This is in reference to Jesus who was to come many years later. Can you tell something about the star in the sky that appeared when Jesus was born? Let us think of the light from a star and compare it with the light that came from Christ's life to bring help to those who had darkness in their souls.

Later we read about Balaam who did not curse the Israelites, but he told the Moabites to marry them and cause them to become idol worshippers. This was sinful advice, which Balak took, and God sent a plague of death upon the people, and many died. The Israelites made war against them and many were killed. Among them was Balaam, the prophet: he had caused Israel to sin because he had given them the wrong advice. It doesn't pay to do wrong. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, March 18, 1979 THE STAR

Num. 22:31 Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand; and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

32 And the angel of the Lord said unto him. Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me:

33 And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive.

34 And Balaam said unto the angel of

that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again.

35 And the angel of the Lord said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak, [who had asked him to curse the Israelites].

24:10 And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times.

11 Therefore now flee thou to thy place: I thought to promote thee unto great honor; but, lo, the Lord hath kept thee back from honor.

12 And Balaam said unto Balak. Spake I not also to thy messengers which thou sentest unto me, saving,

13 If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the Lord. to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the Lord saith, that will I speak?

14 And now, behold, I go unto my people: come therefore, and I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days.

15 And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eves are open hath said:

16 He hath said, which heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the Most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there 12. Was this prophecy fulfilled?

shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies: and Israel shall do valiantly.

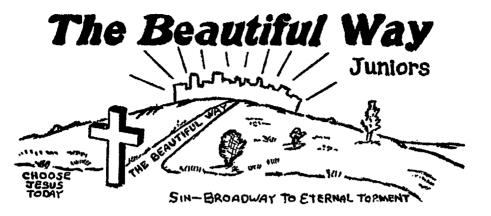
19 Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

Memory Verse: I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. Rev. 22:16.

Questions:

- 1. What stood in Balaam's way as he was going to Balak?
- 2. What did Balaam do when he saw the angel?
- 3. What had Balaam's ass done when it saw the angel in the way? What did Balaam do to the ass each time it stopped?
- 4. If the donkey had not stopped each time the angel stood in the way. what would have happened to Balaam?
- 5. Did the angel tell Balaam to go on to Balak? Who was to tell Balaam what to say?
- 6. What did Balak want Balaam to do?
- 7. Did Balaam curse the Israelites? Why not?
- 8. What had Balak promised Balaam if he would curse his enemies?
- 9. What did Balaam prophesy would come from the family of Jacob?
- 10. To whom were the Star (light) and Scepter (royal authority) referring?
- 11. Were the Israelites to have victory over their enemies?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 1 Jan., Feb., March, 1979

Part Twelve March 25

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Bro. Pruitt, his family, and workers would go to the jail and have meetings, also to the poor farm. Anna Marie felt so sorry for those poor men in the jail and also out at the poor farm. Her father was very tender toward the elderly people in the poor farm. He felt very sorry for them. Often, he would pray for the Lord to work out something for elderly people so that when they came down to their older days they could have something on which to live. Many had bitterness in their hearts as they had worked hard and yet ended up in a poor farm when they could no longer work. One dear elderly woman who was at the poor farm was blind. She was piecing a quilt with small white and red blocks. She never missed putting them right. Anna Marie was amazed that being blind she could place the different colors in their proper place, so she asked the lady how she did it. She was told that the red material felt different from the white material and that was the secret.

before they died and Bro. Pruitt and all the pain was so severe that she thought

their labors there with them. The caretakers were fine people and were very nice to the Pruitt family and others for coming and showing interest in the dear elderly people.

CHAPTER EIGHT

God, the Healer

Anna Marie was attending a meeting with her parents. A boy came to the front in a wheel chair and was praved for. He had never walked. He was about nine or ten years of age. After he was prayed for he got up and walked. Later. he had braces on his ankles but he walked from then on. Her father was called over to pray for a woman who had been in bed for two years. After prayer the woman got up from the bed and walked. She was healed.

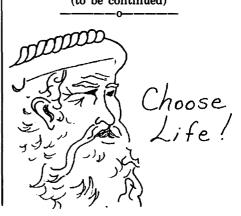
One day, Anna Marie was playing in the yard with her brothers. They were throwing the children over their backs and they were supposed to land on their feet. Her brother threw Anna Marie over and she landed on the ground all twisted up. She began to scream with pain. Her back had such terrible pains Some of the elderly people got saved in it. She was taken into the house. of the family were very thankful for she was going to die. Her mother and

the rest of the children stood around her bed in tears. Anna Marie told them to call her father to come and pray for her. She was shaking all over and the pain was almost unbearable. Her father was about three blocks away. When he got the word that Anna Marie had broken her back, he wanted to run all the way to the house, but the Lord stopped him. God told him that he would not be in a condition to pray when he arrived so he walked, praying as he went. When he came into the room. Anna Marie looked up at him and he seemed so calm. He came over and calmly asked her if she believed that God would heal her, when they prayed. She said that she did believe. He anointed her with oil, and all knelt in prayer. She was shaking so hard that the bed shook. All of a sudden, she felt the divine healing power of God go through her body, and as it went she was healed. The shaking quit and the pain left. She was very happy and those standing around the bed were glad too. It was such a wonderful experience that she never forgot it. Oh, how she loved Jesus and wanted to please Him all the days of her life! This was a wonderful experience and one which she never forgot. It was an anchor to her, especially when the devil would try saying that God was not real. Her love for Jesus knew no bounds. And Jesus' love for her drew her close to Him. His love became a guiding force in her life.

One day the Pruitt family was told that they had smallpox. Anna Marie's mother was awful sick. She had sores in a solid mass from her wrist to her arm pit. It was all over her. She had to have care, as she was very sick. Much prayer went up for her as it looked like she would not live; but God healed and spared her life. All the family had the smallpox. A big red sign was put on the house next to the front door and people stayed away. Friends brought groceries

for them and put them out by the fence. It was a dreaded disease. Anna Marie had a high fever for two nights and days. Her father prayed for her and the Lord touched her. She only had two sores on the back of her neck from the smallpox. The Lord kept the other children from having a severe case of them. Nothing was done for any of them except prayer. Anna Marie didn't even know what medicine tasted like, because her parents never gave her a drop of medicine. She and her brothers and sisters had chicken pox also. Once again a big red sign was put beside the front door, but this time it said, "Chicken Pox." The children were sick from time to time, but Bro, and Sis, Pruitt trusted God fully and He never failed to heal.

One night Anna Marie had such a high fever that she was almost "out of her head." Her father came upstairs to see about her. He stayed by her bed, praying for her often. At times, she would tell him that she was crumbling up. She would put one hand in the other and hold it out saying that it was full of crumbles. It was a terrible feeling. The Lord heard and answered prayer and she was made well. She was frail and often would ask her father to pray for her. God never did fail. —Marie Miles (to be continued)



wherever I may go.

He sees each deed, hears each word, and every thought He knows.

Since my life is being watched. I'll ever honest be

And let my deeds and words be clean, so He'll be pleased with me.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We will skip a lot of the history of the Israelite nation, but let us talk about some things that happened. Moses sent 12 spies into the Canaan land to spy it out. When they came back, ten of them said there were giants over in the land of Canaan and they could not take the walled cities. The people lifted up their voices and cried. Joshua and Caleb, two of the spies, tried to comfort the people. and said that they could take the land. The people wanted to stone Moses, Joshua and Caleb, but the glory of the Lord appeared at the tabernacle door, and God wanted to kill all the people, but Moses pled for them. God said that "all those men which have seen my glory and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times . . . shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers, . . . only Caleb" and Joshua. (Num. 14:22-24.30). The children of Israel were turned back into the wilderness to live until all of them had died who were over 20 years of age. (Num. 14:29). They fell because of unbelief. God had done many miracles, but they did not believe that He could fight their battles for them as they went into the land of Canaan. How sad! Boys and girls, hold your faith in the Lord and He will do great things for you.

Our lesson today starts out with Moses talking to those who were only 20 years of age at the time God caused them to turn back into the wilderness. I the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abra-

There's one who looks upon my life. They were now 60 years of age, and had children and grandchildren that had been born to them in the wilderness. Moses was telling them about what God had said and done for them and for their parents. They were on the opposite side of Jordan from the Canaan land. God had promised the land of Canaan to them. Moses was giving them his last message. (The whole book of Deuteronomy is that message.) Moses told them that the whole land before them was theirs. They were to go in and possess it. He told them that God would fight their battles for them, just as he had for their fathers in Egypt. He reminded them that God had been with them for the forty years that they had lived in the wilderness, and He would still take care of them and they would lack nothing. Moses told them that he could not go over with them, but would die in that land.

> You also read in our lesson how Moses warned them not to forget their God and start worshipping idols or they would be punished. If they did not obey, God would scatter them among the nations. and they would be few in number.

> The most important part of our lesson is that Moses told them that God would. in a future day, "raise up a Prophet from among their brethren," and He would speak through Him to all peoples. This Prophet was to be Christ who was to come about 1400 years later.

> > -Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, March 25, 1979

A PROPHET LIKE MOSES

Deut, 1:1a These be the words which Moses spake unto all Israel on this side Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain over against the Red Sea.

8 Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which

ham. Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto mouth; and he shall speak unto them all them and to their seed after them.

30 The Lord your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in

Egypt before your eves.

2:7 For the Lord thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

4:22 But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.

23 Take heed unto vourselves, lest ve forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the Lord thy God hath forbidden thee.

24 For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

25 When thou shalt beget children. and children's children, and ve shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt vourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the Lord thy God, to provoke him to anger:

26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

27 And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you.

18:18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his

that I shall command him.

19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name. I will require it of him.

30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

Memory Verse: For had ve believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. John 5:46

Questions:

- 1. Who was God's servant that led the Israelites to Canaan and told them how to live to please God?
- 2. Was Canaan the land God had promised to give Abraham?
- 3. How long had the children of Israel been in the wilderness?
- 4. Did Moses go into the Canaan land?
- 5. What did Moses warn the people not to do in the new land?
- 6. Did Moses remind them of the wrath of God if they worshipped images?
- 7. What did Moses say would happen if they began making images to worship?
- 8. If the Israelites remained true to God, would He bless them? Will the Lord bless us today if we serve Him?
- 9. What did God say He would raise up among the people? Who was this Prophet?
- 10. Did the Lord want the people to listen to His prophets? Should we listen to God's ministers today?
- 11. God gave the Israelites the choice of life or $_$ $_$. __ Are we given this choice today?

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Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part One

April 1

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie was sleeping peacefully one night when she was awakened by the ringing of the telephone. She heard her father answering, "Yes, I will come over right away." She knew it was probably someone in the congregation who was sick. Her father received many such calls asking for prayer. In the wintertime he would often get pneumonia by going out in the night to pray for those who had called. The old Model T Ford only had side curtains to keep out the cold, but God always came to his rescue and healed him.

When Bro. Pruitt was fifty years of age, he had consumption or TB. He coughed a lot and was getting real thin. One day he was standing in the kitchen praying to the Lord. He had made arrangements with Anna Marie's mother, as what to do when he died. He knew that unless God healed him he could not live much longer. As he stood there praying, the Lord spoke to him and told him that He was going to heal him and add twenty years to his life. God did just that, and more, as he was the stood the began to mend

and was soon well. Anna Marie rejoiced, as it troubled her a lot because her father had not been well, although he worked in the office part of the day but had to rest often. God's love drew her close to Him.

God healed her father of kidney stones and healed the family of many afflictions. It truly was a great privilege to trust the Lord. Anna Marie didn't know what it was to ever see a doctor. When one came to the school to check the children Anna Marie was very scared of him. She was naturally timid and with him checking her all over made her scared. She was so very glad when she could leave that doctor. Word was sent home to her parents that she had a physical defect and also needed glasses and should have a checkup by her family doctor. He didn't know it but the Pruitt family didn't have a family doctor. The Lord was their Physician and He never failed them. She often heard the Scripture quoted, "I am the Lord that healeth thee." Ex. 15:26.

and told him that He was going to heal him and add twenty years to his life. God did just that, and more, as he was past 81 when he died. He began to mend also learn about Jesus by reading these

gospel papers. He decided to sit on a table near the press. Being only around the age of 10, he was a little short to get on the table, so he reached over and put his hand on the moving arm of the press to help pull himself onto the table. When he put his hand on the moving arm it carried his little hand down through the cogs on the wheels. It mangled the bones and flesh together across his hand. It was a terrible sight to Anna Marie and she prayed with the others for him. Her father took him to a doctor. who knew more about such things than he did to get the bones and flesh separated so it would heal. The doctor worked on his hand and finally said that the middle finger needed to be taken out up in his hand and the hand pulled together. My father didn't want an operation, but only wanted it fixed and dressed. The doctor was displeased because he wouldn't let him take out the finger as he said it would die and his hand would be in a terrible shape. He said he would not have anymore to do with it. Andrew was taken home and his hand was dressed every day and much prayer was offered for him. His hand healed up nicely and the middle finger lived. It was crooked on the end but he could use his hand. God again was glorified and His love was shown to those who loved Him. God's love drew the hearts of all the family to Himself and they desired to please Him above everything else in this world.

One day the old tomcat which all the Pruitt children loved, got shot above his hips. This brought tears and made the children sad. They asked their father to pray for the cat. He felt sorry for the children and also wanted their faith in God to be honored. He did pray for the cat and the children prayed, too. He laid him by the stove, cared for him and he got well. He limped, but he was loved by

all and God was honored because He heard prayer.

CHAPTER NINE

Normal Children

The Pruitt children were normal children. They had their fusses, their joys, their times of being naughty, and being corrected. Mother Pruitt never hesitated to use the strap. It was placed over the window. The children called it "strap tea" when it was used. Often when one did something wrong, another child would tell him or her they were going to get some "strap tea." It seemed Anna Marie was often subjected to the strap, as well as her brothers and sisters. Mother Pruitt had her hands full with six children and she didn't have time for any disobedience. They were taught that they should live peaceably with one another. Romans 12:18 says, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Andrew was the oldest brother and he loved to tease the younger children. He gave each one a nickname, and of course it was a name that the child didn't like; therefore, it was a good tool to cause that child to become upset. When Andrew would get one of them upset he would laugh and seemed to enjoy it. This didn't go on when his parents were around. They tried to keep everything running smoothly when they were present, but Mother Pruitt helped in the office, and then sometimes she would also go with Father Pruitt to pray for someone and Andrew was to take care of the five younger children.

-Marie Miles

(to be continued)

Your Happy Self

Allen sat watching his uncle fish. He would put some bait on the fish hook and then spit on it. He would throw it into the water and soon a fish would get

on his hook and Allen would jump up and down. He didn't dare to make any noise as he would scare the fish away.

Soon he and his uncle were walking home. "Why did you spit on the fish hook?"

"Well, it's like this. If you put part of your happy self into fishing you will get something back. That is something you must always remember. If you empty the trash for your mother, put some of your happy self into it and you will be happy."

The next morning Allen put some of his happy self in the work as he ran out and emptied the trash. He said, "It does work just like Uncle said. I am happy today."

—M. Miles



Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we are going to talk about the great-grandmother of David. Through David's family Jesus was born. We do not want to forget the theme of our lessons. We are talking about the predictions, or prophecies, of the coming of Jesus Christ that are found in the Old Bible. All of this was planned by God thousands of years before it came to pass.

Naomi was an Israelite. She and her husband lived in Moab because of a famine in Israel. While there, their two boys married women of Moab. Later, Naomi's husband and her two sons died. leaving just her two daughters-in-law. Ruth and Orpah. When Naomi decided to go back to Israel to her kinsmen. Ruth went with her. She loved her mother-in-law and said, "Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." Ruth 1:16. What a great love this dear girl had for Naomi and her God!

Both of them were very poor, so Ruth went out into the fields to glean, or gather what the reapers had left. The law of Moses said for those who owned fields not to pick up a dropped sheaf or to reap in the corners of their fields, but leave it for the poor. Ruth gleaned in the field of Boaz. A warm friendship developed, and love blossomed between them. They could not marry because there was a kinsman closer to her than Boaz, who, according to the law of Moses, was supposed to marry her and redeem the property of her dead husband. He let Boaz have her when he found out that he would have to marry Ruth. So they were happy that God had worked it out that way for them. Naomi was very happy also, as her life had been filled with sorrow.

Boaz was attracted to Ruth because of her great love for her mother-in-law and her willingness to work. He saw her kindness, humility, and that she was a virtuous woman. Many times the devil will try to cause boys and girls to think that they are not loved or appreciated because they try to live good, but that is a lie of the devil. Remember, boys and girls, we have to reap what we sow, and if we sow evil things we

will reap evil. It's better not to sow wild oats as they will come up and cause trouble. Keep your life clean and your rewards will be great.

God gave Ruth and Boaz a son. His name was Obed. He was the father of Jesse, who was the father of David.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, April 1, 1979 THE STORY OF RUTH

Ruth 2:1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

- 2 And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.
- 3 And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.
- 11 And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been showed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.
- 12 The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.
- 3:10 And he said, Blessed be thou of the Lord, my daughter: for thou hast shewed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning, inasmuch as thou followedst not young men, whether poor or rich.

- 11 And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman.
- 12 And now it is true that I am thy near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I.
- 4:6 And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: . . . and she bare a son.

16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

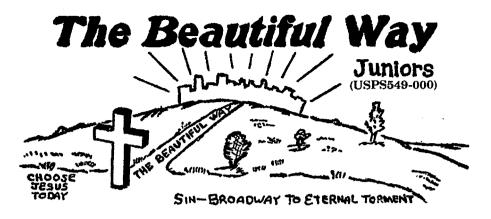
17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Memory Verse: For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. Job. 19:25.

Questions:

- 1. Who was Naomi's wealthy kinsman?
- 2. Who wanted to pick up corn in the field?
- 3. What does gleaning mean?
- 4. In whose field did Ruth glean?
- 5. What kind of woman was Ruth?
- 6. Did Boaz learn of Ruth's love for her mother-in-law?
- 7. Why could Boaz not marry Ruth at first?
- 8. Did the nearer kinsman marry Ruth?
- 9. What was the name of Ruth and Boaz's son?
- 10. Who became a nurse to the child?
- 11. Who was Obed's grandson?

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Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Two

April 8

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Andrew gave Anna Marie the name of Rip. Since she was frail, she did have to rest often, so he compared her to the fairy tale about Rip Van Winkle who had slept for 20 years. She didn't like that name at all. Therefore it caused her to get very upset when he would call her "Rip." She would hit him, but that only made him laugh all the more, as she couldn't hurt her big husky brother. She had learned she always got the worst end of the deal when she crossed her older brothers. One time Andrew put her in a big cupboard. She knew there had been mice in that cupboard and she was scared and did a lot of screaming and crying. He let her out soon, but to her it seemed like a long time. Other times Andrew was a sweet big brother, and Anna Marie looked up to him as being a special person. Most of his teen-age life he loved the Lord and wanted to please Him, yet he was a normal big brother, not understanding how to handle children at times. It makes older children feel important to be left in charge and they like to use that

older brothers and sisters having authority over them. Many times Andrew would buy candy when he had money and give to the younger children, or take them for a ride in his car, and was in general a good big brother.

Lawrence was just older than Anna Marie. He didn't tease the children, but when he said something he generally saw that it was carried out by the younger children. He and Anna Marie were close to each other, being nearer the same age. But Andrew didn't fool with him too much, because when he upset Lawrence he would really tear into him. Lawrence loved the Lord and in his early teens gave his heart to the Lord and endeavored to please Him. Money was scarce in the Pruitt household and sometimes Lawrence and Anna Marie would walk to town to buy something. Instead of buying candy with the little extra money they had they would buy some cheese. They would wait until they got down by the bridge, where no one would see them, and eat their little bit of cheese, which was a very rare thing in the Pruitt house.

children feel important to be left in Anna Marie's brothers loved to scare charge and they like to use that her, which wasn't a very nice thing to do. authority. Most younger children resent She was scared of the dark, but she tried

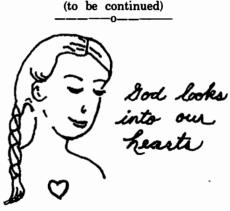
very hard to be brave. Sometimes the neighbor boys would be at their house. and they would get together and tell ghost stories. Anna Marie was very young and she would believe most of those stories, but when she would ask her parents about them they would tell her they were not true. One night the house was all dark except for the kitchen. Andrew, Lawrence, and a neighbor boy were telling ghost stories. She was listening, and was trembling inside because they were so scary, yet she tried to be brave. She didn't want them to know that she was scared. Finally the neighbor boy said he had to go home, and he left. Her brothers told some more ghost stories and began to tease her for being scared. She declared she wasn't. Finally Andrew said. "You are so very scared you are afraid to go into the living room." She didn't think she would be scared of a ghost in her own house, so she said, "No, I'm not afraid to go into the living room."

"Then why don't you go?" asked Andrew, and Lawrence also encouraged her to go. Finally, she did get up and go. but she was still trembling inside from listening to all the ghost stories. When she got into the dark living room, something long and white began to move and make funny sounds. She ran screaming back into the kitchen. Andrew and Lawrence were rolling on the floor with laughter. Anna Marie looked back and that long white thing came rolling into the dining room. She then knew that it was the neighbor boy in a long white sack—one of those cotton sacks the boys used when picking cotton after school. The sacks were made of heavy material and had a strap which was put over the shoulder, so the picker could use both hands.

Anna Marie's parents really got after the boys for scaring her, but to the boys it was a lot of fun. They didn't know they

had caused her to have a fear that only God helped her to overcome in later vears. Sometimes she would be afraid at night after a scary dream. She would pray and ask the Lord to help her as her father had instructed. One verse she learned in the Bible, that helped her so very much was, "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." Psa. 34:7. She would try to think about all those angels around her and she would feel comforted, yet it was a big struggle for her. Her Sunday school teacher would say that the dark was God's time for us to sleep and we can sleep better when it was dark, but Anna Marie wanted to be sure that someone else was in the house when she went to sleep. Through prayer the Lord helped her many times.

-Marie Miles



Dear Boys and Girls:

The children of Israel wanted a king, so God gave them one. His name was Saul. But Saul displeased the Lord, so God said that the kingdom would be taken away from him. He told the prophet Samuel, who had mourned over Saul's sins, to go down to Bethlehem and there God would show him who was to be the next King. Samuel filled his

horn with oil and went down to Bethlehem. He told the elders to take a heifer and offer it unto the Lord as a sacrifice. He told them to call Jesse to come and bring all of his sons.

When Samuel arrived, he asked Jesse to have his sons pass before him. The first came by and Samuel looked on him and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before me." But God said to Samuel, "Look not on his countenance [or face] or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh upon the heart."

Boys and girls, this is one of the main thoughts in our lesson. Can you tell me what you really like in other boys and girls? There can be a very pretty girl, but she may be hateful, lazy, and a troublemaker. She doesn't need to be, does she? There might be a girl who is not so pretty, but she can be kind, ready to work, and a peacemaker. The same can be true with boys. There might be one who is handsome and wears nice clothes, but he may be very mean, noisy and loud, and ready to start fights. But he doesn't have to be that way. There can be a boy who isn't nice looking, but is kind, mannerly, can take a few knocks and yet smile, and is ready to help. It's not the outward appearance that God is looking at. God looks at the heart. The Bible says that he will "beautify the meek with salvation." We want God to beautify us. We want to be filled with thoughts from God and be ready to help others, even if we aren't blessed with really good looks. That is what counts. That is what God wanted Samuel to look for. So Samuel waited as the next boy passed by, and the next one. All had passed by and God didn't tell him to anoint any of them to be the next king.

When Samuel asked Jesse if he had another son, Jesse told him about David, the youngest son, who was in the field caring for the sheep. Samuel sent for him. David was a ruddy, or healthy looking young man from working in the sunshine. He was also nice looking and very kind. The Lord told Samuel, "Arise, anoint him: for this is he."

Later when David was living in Saul's palace, we find that Saul hated David and he fled. When Saul tried to find him and had gone into a cave to rest, David was in that cave. David's men urged him to kill Saul, but David loved him and refused. He cut off a piece of Saul's robe and later called to him showing him the piece. David showed the greatness of his heart. Saul said, "You are more righteous than I because you showed me good when I rewarded you evil."

Boys and girls, keep right thoughts which come from reading God's Word, and you will do good deeds and be rewarded with good. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, April 8, 1979 THE CALL OF DAVID

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I Sam. 16:1 And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

6 And it came to pass, when they [Jesse and his seven sons] were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.

7 But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said. Neither hath the Lord chosen this.

9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said. Neither hath the Lord chosen this

10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse. The Lord hath not chosen these

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said. There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse. Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil. and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

I Sam. 24:2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel. and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

3 And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet; and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

8 David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.

11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see

that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; vet thou huntest my soul to take it.

17 And he [Saul] said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.

Memory Verse: And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fufil all my will. Acts. 13:22.

Questions:

- 1. Who did God reject as king?
- 2. In whose family did the Lord provide a new king?
- 3. Who was sent to anoint the new king?
- 4. Without God's help, would Samuel have selected the right one?
- 5. What would Samuel have looked at in selecting a king?
- 6. What did God look at, that Samuel could not see?
- 7. Where was Jesse's voungest son while the others were at the sacrifice?
- 8. Who did the Lord tell Samuel to anoint?
- 9. What feelings did Saul have toward David?
- 10. When Saul went into the cave to rest, who else was in the cave?
- 11. Did David kill Saul when he had the opportunity?
- 12. What did David show Saul to prove he could have killed him?
- 13. Did Saul recognize David's goodness?
- the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in 14. How are we to treat our enemies?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Three

April 15

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

One evening the clouds looked very dark and Mother Pruitt said that a storm was coming. Soon the wind began to blow and she said, "Anna Marie, run out and gather the eggs before the storm hits." Anna Marie ran to the chicken house and got some of the eggs, but a big puff of wind blew one of the chicken coops around and that scared her so she ran back to the house as fast as she could. Soon it was blowing hard, and the hail was making a terrible noise as it hit the roof. The house seemed to rock under the severe wind. A crash was heard, and as she looked out of the window she saw a tree lying on the ground, taken up by the roots. Anna Marie began to cry and ask her father to pray. They had already had prayer, asking the Lord for protection, but all knelt again and prayed. The upstairs doors banged back and forth and then a crash was heard in the kitchen. A tree limb had hit the kitchen window and broken out the glass, scattering it all over the table of food. The Pruitt children were scared, but tried to be brave as their father assured them that God would take care of them.

although they knew it to be a very serious time. The rain came down in torrents, and garbage cans and other things made noise as they rumbled by the house. Again, Anna Marie begged her father to pray. All knelt and prayed. Soon the wind let up, but the rain continued to pour. Later the family had worship and went to bed. In the morning several huge trees around their house were lying on the ground being taken up by the roots. Surely the Pruitt family thanked God for His protection to them and for sparing their home. Others did not fare as well. This took Anna Marie a long time to get over and when the clouds would get dark she would remember that storm and wonder, yet the Lord was her comforter. She knew He loved her and would care for her.

Anna Marie's father was very grieved when his children were naughty. He often took them aside and read to them from the Bible. He often read to them about how children should "obey your parents in the Lord for this is right." This was the first verse she ever remembered learning. He said that if they didn't learn to obey him, when they were young, they would not obey the

Lord when they were older. Often he would pray with his children and then ask them to pray and ask the Lord to forgive them for being naughty, or disobedient and ask for help to be good.

One time Anna Marie and her younger sister, Mary Lola, got into an awful fuss. Their father took them aside from the other children and talked and praved with them, telling them they should love one another and not fuss. After he had them to pray, he told them to kiss each other. This was a little hard to do as the Pruitt children were not overly affectionate to each other. But they kissed each other, and after that things were smoother between them. Anna Marie loved Mary Lola, Frank, and Frances very much as they were younger and she had to take care of them a lot since their mother was very busy. They would come to her with their little hurts and she would take time to wrap up their scratches and wash away the blood. Generally, she didn't have any trouble with them because of her great love for them, and because she had cared for them from babyhood. She always thought that Frank could say the cutest things as he was always laughing and finding something funny to do. Frances was more sober and would cry easily. She was very tenderhearted. She loved cats and it hurt her to see them not being treated as she thought they should.

CHAPTER TEN

Grammar School Days

The Pruitt children were taught to live according to the Bible. They were in school with children who did not have the same teaching. This caused many conflicts in their attitudes. It is a natural thing for a child to want to be accepted by others. But this cannot be when a child loves God and wants to please Him, because that brings a cross between them and the children at school whom they are around. Children

need to understand this fact and learn to face it. One thing is very important and that is, they should not be ashamed of Jesus, the teachings of the Bible, nor the plain manner in which the Lord wants His children to live, dress, and act. Most children of the world are not taught to be careful to tell the truth or to be strictly honest, nor to be obedient to their teachers. The children, who are taught by parents that love God, are taught these things.

Anna Marie had dark brown hair. Her mother combed it every morning before she went to school. At this time, it was a fad for the girls of her age to have their hair cut short. This made a cross between her and the girls at school. One day, a girl made fun of her long hair. This caused her to feel embarrassed. She wanted to please the Lord because of her love for Him, yet she wanted the girls to like her and not make fun of her. At times this was a very severe struggle. She would pray and ask Jesus to help her to not care what they said. Sometimes she would cry and tell her mother about being made fun of. Mother plainly told her the Bible said for women to have long hair, and that it was "a shame" for a woman to have her hair cut short. Her father would read to her out of the Bible, "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering." I Cor. 11:14,15. Anna Marie did want to please the Lord. Her love for God was a drawing force to her and she wanted the Lord to guide her through life. She wanted to do the right thing. -Marie Miles (to be continued)

"The Lord Will Provide"

A poor but pious widow in Boston, in her eighty-seventh year, said to a friend,

"When I was left a widow with three I little children. I was brought into a sad condition. My children were crying for bread and I had nothing for them to eat. As I arose on Sunday morning, I knew not what to do but to ask my heavenly Father to feed my little ones, and commit myself and them to His care.

"I then went out to the well to get a pail of water, and saw on the ground a six-cent piece, which I picked up. When I found out that it did not belong to any of those who lived in the same house with me. I thought I might take it to feed my hungry children. Though it was Sunday morning. I felt it would be right to go to a baker who lived in the neighborhood and tell him my trouble and buy bread with the money God had thus cast in my way. The baker not only did this, but the Lord opened his heart to add much more. From that hour to this, which is fifty years later. I have never doubted that God would take care of His children." -The Wonders of Prayer





Dear Boys and Girls:

would be no Saviour sitting at the right hand of God, asking God to help us as we pray to Him. Oh, I am so glad that Jesus did not stay in the grave. He came forth with victory over death, hell and sin. Todav as we believe on Jesus, love and serve Him, we find peace to our souls. I love Jesus very much, don't vou?

Today is the day that we want to think about Jesus' rising from the grave. We do not want to be like most people today. or other boys and girls who think only of getting new clothes, or of just coloring eggs and hiding them. We want to think of something more than just those things. Of course, we know that when spring comes we need new clothes, or lighter clothes, as the heavy ones are put away because it is warmer weather. And of course, we know that eggs remind us of the change that takes place when an egg is kept warm and a baby chicken is hatched from it. That is a miracle and makes us think of the time when our bodies will be changed and we will put on a new body in the resurrection day. When we see the butterfly, we know that it once was a worm; but that worm made a big change and turned into a beautiful butterfly. That makes us have faith that we too will put on a new body when Jesus comes in the clouds on that last great day. The bodies of the dead in the graves will come forth and be changed into new bodies and their spirits will return from paradise and enter the new bodies. In these new bodies they will live in eternity with Jesus Christ. That will be so wonderful! We love Jesus so much and it will be wonderful to be with Him in eternity. Our mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters, who loved Jesus, will all be there together in their new bodies. Won't that be wonderful?

Let us think a little about Jesus. He had been put to death without a fair What if Jesus had not arisen from the trial. He was hung on the cross and grave? Oh, how sad we would be! There died there. When he died an earthquake shook the ground and the veil of the temple was torn into two pieces. (Matt. 27:50-54). Those around said, "Surely this was the Son of God!" They took His body down and put it in the grave. They had soldiers guard the grave. After the third day. God sent an earthquake and the soldiers fell down as dead men. Jesus came forth, and when the women came they saw an angel who said, "He is not here: he is risen." Oh, praise God, he did come forth! Rejoice today, boys and girls, Jesus is alive. He has gone to heaven to prepare a place for us. Pray to Him; love Him and serve Him. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, April 15, 1979 JESUS AROSE

Mark 16:1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.

6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

I Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put

on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord

Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse: O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? I Cor. 15:55.

Questions:

- 1. Who took spices to anoint the body of Jesus?
- 2. On what day of the week did they go to Jesus' grave?
- 3. Who did the women see inside the tomb?
- 4. What did the angel tell the women?

 5. Through Adam double arms Through
- 5. Through Adam, death came. Through whom did everlasting life come?
- 6. When Christ comes what will happen to the bodies in the graves?
- 7. What will happen to the people who are living?
- 8. How long will it take for God to change our bodies?
- 9. What shall sound at the last day?
- 10. What is the difference between a corruptible and an incorruptible body?
- 11. Through whom do we have victory over death?
- 12. Can you explain how death is swallowed up in victory?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Four

April 22

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

One day at school during recess, Anna Marie was with a group of girls. They had just finished playing a game of jacks. As most of you know, it is a game using ten jacks and a ball. (The jacks are six spiked metal pieces that will roll when thrown on the floor. You bounce the ball and try to pick up the jacks and then get the ball before it hits the ground again. It is a lot of fun, especially for girls.) One of the girls asked Anna Marie, "Why don't you have your hair cut? You would look so cute." Oh, what a struggle arose in Anna Marie's mind. She had prayed that morning, also times before, about this very problem. She wanted most of all to please the Lord and that love for Him rose up in her heart. Again, she found that God's love was guiding her heart and life. She boldly said, "The Bible says that it is a shame for a woman to have her hair cut."

"I never knew that was in the Bible!" exclaimed Dorothy.

"Neither did I," Ruth declared.

"Well, it is, and the Bible also says that a woman's long hair is a glory to

her," Anna Marie boldly said.

"Well, anyway I like my hair short regardless of what the Bible says," Lillie affirmed.

"Well, this is a free country. The constitution says that we can have freedom of religion and so you have a right to your belief and I have a right to mine," Anna Marie answered. She felt the blessings of the Lord upon her soul and she didn't feel one bit ashamed anymore. She didn't care to look like the others because she wanted to please the Lord. God had given her victory and helped her to rise above embarrassment.

"Well you are right!" said Dorothy. About that time the bell rang and all ran toward the door, leaving a cloud of dust behind them, where they stood in line and waited for the teacher to tell them to march orderly into their classrooms.

Anna Marie had won a great victory there and she was glad the Lord had helped her out, but she still had battles ahead of her. She was chosen to sing in a quartet. She sang alto. They sang before the classes, and one time they sang for the P. T. A. in an afternoon meeting at the school. The music was good training for her, as she used her

she went to worship the Lord.

It was coming close to the end of the year for her sixth grade class. At Banner School the music teacher was teaching all grades the same song, as they were going to have a school singing on the steps of the Masonic temple, which was a huge building in Guthrie. It was a song about spring and also about tulips. Anna Marie was chosen, along with other girls, to be a tulip that evening. She was to wear green tights up to her waist and then crepe paper was to be used to make the petals of the tulip that would come up to her neck. During the song the different colored tulips were to bow. When she told her mother about this, she said that wasn't modest and she just couldn't be dressed as a tulip. Anna Marie thought the tulips looked pretty but she also felt it very immodest to have on tights up to her waist. In fact, she had been taught strictly to wear her dresses at a proper length, and to be very careful to keep them down over her knees when she sat down. Even when she would be careless. and they had company, she would feel her mother looking at her. When her mother caught her eve she made a nod of her head and Anna Marie knew what she meant. If she didn't comply and sit modestly, she was corrected very severely after company left. Even with just the family at home, she was taught to be careful with her dress. Therefore. she was very modest in her feelings about herself and kept her mind pure and clean. She prayed about being a tulip, and again the love she had for Jesus was her guide. She knew she couldn't do this and please the Lord. as He taught to dress in modest apparel. (I Tim. 2:9). When she told the music teacher she couldn't sing and be a tulip the teacher was upset. The teacher told her she must go or she would get a low

voice for the Lord at the chapel where grade. Anna Marie told her parents and her Mother wrote a note informing the teacher why Anna Marie couldn't go. The teacher was still upset. She said. "You will get a low grade for not partaking in this Senior Sing." When Anna Marie received her report card she had a 40 in music when she had been making 90 as a grade. The teacher wrote on the bottom of her card, "Grades incomplete. Did not attend Senior Sing." This was a blow to Anna Marie, but she still felt that she had obeyed the Lord. He was her precious Guide in life and her heartfelt love for Him drew her unto Him.

> Anna Marie loved to play baseball at school. During recess they chose the best ones to be on the team. Anna Marie was often chosen to play on the first base and sometimes short stop. She enjoyed playing. The schools would play each other. Anna Marie didn't tell her folks she was on the team until it was time for the Banner School team to go to another school to play. Her father said that she could not go, as he didn't know what all went on while they played at other schools. This was a disappointment to Anna Marie; but she accepted it, as she felt surely her parents knew best for her. She would play on the team when other schools came to her school. Her parents were very careful as to where she went -M. Miles and with whom she was.

(to be continued) ___0_-

People Chose A King

Samuel sent messengers through-out the land to call the people of Israel together at Mizpeh. This was the place where God had given them a great victory over the Philistines. When they came to Mizpeh Samuel talked to them about the way God had helped them out of their troubles.

Samuel said, "Now you are asking for

a king to rule over you instead of letting God be your King. God will give you the desire of your heart. He will give you a king this day."

God chose a man named Saul to be their king. The people wanted to see the man God had chosen for them. Saul could not be found. God told the people where he was hiding. They brought him out. Every one saw that God had chosen a young man who stood head and shoulders taller than any other man. The people shouted, "God save the king" (I Samuel 10:24).



Dear Boys and Girls:

We are still thinking about the prophecies foretelling the coming of Jesus Christ. We know that He was to come from the house of David. In our lesson we want to remember the verse that tells us that David's kingdom would be established forever. In other words, it would be forever because when Jesus came he would be king. Today our King is sitting on the right hand of God. The kingdom of God has been established even in eternity. When Jesus came, it became a spiritual kingdom. Everyone is in that kingdom who is saved from his sins and is obeying the Lord.

We want to think about David and of the kind things he did, and how he obeyed the Lord.

The first part of our lesson we read about the Philistine nation coming up against the Israelites to fight against them to take their land. David knew that they were a great and mighty nation. David needed God to help him. He prayed to the Lord in his time of trouble. He loved God and had faith in God. We read how God told him what to do and where to go. When he and his army got to the mulberry trees he was to stop there. He was to wait until he heard a sound in the top of the mulberry trees, and then he was to go out and smite the Philistine army. Now what if David had not waited until God made the noise in the mulberry tree tops; would he have won the battle? No! We must wait on God. We must not take things into our own hands and do things that are not according to God's Word. Wait and obey God. David waited and came out a great victor.

The last part of our lesson makes us know of the kindness of David. You remember how Saul, who had been king before David, hunted David and tried to kill him. Many times the mighty men of war who stood by David tried to get him to kill Saul, but he would not. Jonathan was Saul's son and he loved David and wanted to help him, but his father would not let him. After Saul and Jonathan were dead and David was the king, he asked if any of Saul's family were living, as he wanted to show kindness to them. See how David had forgiven Saul and even wanted to do good to his family? There was a crippled son of Jonathan's that was living. David had him brought to the palace where he lived, to eat with him. He also gave to him and his family all of Saul's land. The son of Jonathan really appreciated -Aunt Marie David's love.

Lesson 4, April 22, 1979 DAVID'S KINGDOM ESTABLISHED

2 Sam. 5:22 And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

23 And when David enquired of the Lord, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

24 And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the Lord go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

25 And David did so, as the Lord had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

7:16 And thine [David's] house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

9:3 And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? and Ziba said unto the king. Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

5 Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

7 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

8 And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. . . .

Memory Verse: The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne. Psa. 132:11

Questions:

- 1. Who fought against David and his army?
- 2. Of whom did David inquire concerning the battle?
- 3. Where did God tell David to go?
- 4. What was the sign David was to wait for?
- 5. Who won the battle?
- 6. Do you think David would have won the battle had he not waited as the Lord commanded?
- 7. How was David's house established forever?
- 8. How did David feel about Saul's descendants?
- 9. To whom did David show special kindness?
- 10. To what animal did Jonathan's son compare himself?
- 11. What did David give Jonathan's son?
- 12. Did David hold any spite against Saul and his household?
- 13. How are we to treat our enemies today?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 1

April, May, June, 1979

Part Five

April 29

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie had brothers and she didn't feel shy around the boys at school, yet she kept her place as her mother told her not to let the boys put their hands on her. Many of the girls would let the boys kiss them, but Anna Marie never would allow this. She tried to be friendly, but kept her distance. One day the boys chased the girls during recess and tried to kiss them. Anna Marie would run as fast as she could to get away. She didn't want them kissing her as she felt that was very wrong. One day a boy did catch her and she tried her best to fight him off, but he finally kissed her. She was very upset and told him she was going to tell the teacher. She thought the teacher would be like her mother and disapprove greatly, so when they went back into the class she went up to the teacher and told on this boy. The teacher laughed and said, "Did he kiss you?" She said it so loud that all the pupils heard her. Anna Marie blushed a deep red and took her seat. while the other pupils laughed. This still

going to let the boys kiss her because Mother said it was not right.

Her mother had also told her not to listen to dirty jokes which the children told. She said that was wrong and God was not pleased. In the beginning God had created Adam and Eve pure and holy. Because of sin, God made clothes for them, to help them stay pure and holy. Everything God had ordained in His plan for children being born into the world was pure and holy. Naughty boys and girls spoke in a joking manner about the human body. Anna Marie believed her mother and she would not stay around when the girls would talk naughty. Her mother told her about the facts of life and told her not to let others tell her, because they would tell her wrong. She was to keep a pure mind, and Anna Marie was very careful to do that. God blessed her for her purity and she felt very close to Jesus. Her father often read out of the Bible, "Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled . . . nothing is pure " Titus 1:15.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

A Wrong Made Right

while the other pupils laughed. This still Anna Marie liked school and studied didn't change her mind. She was not her lessons well. She didn't want to

come to class without her lesson. She forget it. liked her teachers and, being very timid. she didn't give them any trouble. One well. She worried about going to school time near the end of the school year, when she was in the sixth grade, the teacher asked her to stay after school and erase the blackboard. She only lived a block from the schoolhouse and was to leave for home when she finished. When she finished erasing the blackboard she walked down between the seats and there on a girl's desk was a little doll in a match box. The girl had brought it to school the day before and Anna Marie had thought it was so cute. The girl had left it on her desk. As Anna Marie stood looking at the doll, she wished so very much that she could have one like it. The devil was right there to talk to her. He told her that she could take it home with her and no one would ever know. She picked it up, slipped it into her pocket, and hurried out and was soon home. Her mother noticed it as it was her custom to check everything that came on the place, and she asked her daughter where she got it. Anna Marie answered, "Old Tennessee gave it to me." This satisfied her mother because he sometimes did give things to the children. He was an elderly black man who came by the house, riding in a wagon that was pulled by a horse. He went about the town collecting junk. He often would stop when the children would run out to the street, and give them some things.

Anna Marie took the doll up into her room. She put it in her dresser drawer. It didn't look very good to her anymore. She was feeling very grieved in her heart. She began to realize what she had done. She had stolen a doll. This was a terrible thing to think about. She had never stolen anything in her life before. She knew that stealing was a sin. Now she had sinned. She no longer belonged to Jesus. Sin had separated her from God. She began to cry, but the devil told her that it was too late now to take the doll back and that she might as well

That night she could not sleep very the next day. How would she ever face being found a thief? She wished she didn't have to go to school, but she knew that her mother would never let her stav home. Saying that she was sick would never go over with her mother; therefore, she never did try to put on being sick. Then she knew that she had lied to her mother, and all the children, as to where the doll had come from. Oh, she felt so badly! Finally, she fell off into a troubled sleep.

The next day she was trembling when she went into her classroom. Just any minute she knew the missing doll would be mentioned. She kept her head in her books and was very quiet. Finally, the long day ended and not one word was said. She felt comforted that it wasn't going to be brought up. She avoided the girl and so nothing was heard about the

missing doll.

She never could play with the doll as it kept bothering her. So one day, she took it out into the alley-took a brick and smashed it all to pieces. She thought that maybe this would be the end of it; but no, she knew that she had

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



that Jesus was displeased with her, and this hurt her very much. Even though He quickly said, "I have sinned greatly she was only twelve years of age she knew that it was wrong to steal and lie.

-Marie Miles

(to be continued)

Dear Boys and Girls:

We notice that our lesson says that Satan provoked David and got him to do wrong. The devil is always wanting us to do wrong. He will bring ideas to our minds that are not what God wants us to do at all. The devil told the Lord. when Job and the sons of God presented themselves before the Lord, that he walked up and down in the earth. (Job 1:6.7). The Apostle Peter said that the devil walked about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. (I Pet. 5:8). So we know that the devil is everywhere trying to get us to displease the Lord. Boys and girls, you need to be watchful. Satan will try to get you to do wrong. You need to "stop and think before you yield." If you "stop and think" you will not do wrong because there is a punishment for every sin.

God didn't want David to number his men and trust in numbers. God wanted David to trust in Him to fight his battles against the nations around him that came to destroy his kingdom. Other nations numbered their people, but God had dealt with David in such a great way that He wanted him to continue to trust Him and not men. In the third verse of I Chron. 21, Joab told David when he asked him to number the people, "The Lord make his people a hundred times many more as they be . . . why doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel?" But David still wanted them to be numbered, so Joab did it.

David felt badly when he knew he had displeased the Lord. I don't think David thee

stolen and that was a sin. She knewl was surprised that God was displeased. I am sure he knew he had done wrong. because I have done this thing."

Notice, when David was to choose which punishment that he was to receive for his wrong doing, he chose to fall into the hands of God instead of into the hands of his enemies. He knew that the mercies of the Lord were great; vet he knew that sin had to be punished.

Today we are glad that Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross. We can believe in Him and be clear before God, vet we know that we must reap what we sow. God will help us have grace to do the reaping and make it easier because of our faith in Him.

When David offered sacrifice for his sin, the angel put up his sword. This shows the mercies of God.

In the last verse of our lesson God promised that through David's son, Solomon, his kingdom would continue down to the time when Jesus would come. Jesus is our King today and we are in His kingdom when we are saved from our sins. We want to love and serve Him all the days of our lives.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, April 29, 1979 SATAN PROVOKED DAVID

I Chron. 21:1 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

2 And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.

7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him. Thus saith the Lord. Choose 12 Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the Lord, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the Lord destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel. Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me.

13 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the Lord; for very great are his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man.

14 So the Lord sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.

15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the Lord beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the Lord stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the Lord stand between the earth and heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

24 And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it [threshing floor] for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings without cost.

26 And David built there an altar unto the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the Lord; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering.

27 And the Lord commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof.

I Chron. 22:10 [God said to David] He [Solomon] shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.

Memory Verse: It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. Psa. 118:8.

Questions:

- 1. Who provoked David to number the Israelites?
- 2. Did David do as the devil suggested?
- 3. Why would David have wanted to number his people anyway?
- 4. Was God pleased with what David did?
- 5. What were the three punishments from which David could choose?
- 6. Which one did he choose?
- 7. Why did David choose the sword of the Lord?
- 8. How many people were killed because of David's sin?
- 9. Can you see how greatly displeased God is when we listen to the devil?
- 10. What did David see above the threshing floor of Ornan?
- 11. What did David do when he saw the angel with the sword?
- 12. Ornan wanted to give the threshing floor to David as a gift. Did he take it?
- 13. What did David build there?
- 14. How did God answer David?
- 15. What did the Lord command the angel?
- 16. Who did God say would build His house (temple)?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Six

May 6

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

After school was out, Bro. John Wilson came to have a meeting at the chapel where Anna Marie went to services. He preached one night on hell. She knew that she was on the road to hell. She was a liar and a thief. Oh, she felt so troubled! She knew she should go to the altar but she didn't. That night she went to bed, but not to sleep. She rolled and tumbled. Oh, how she wished that she had never taken that doll! She groaned and cried. She almost felt the flames of hell, as she thought about being a sinner and all that Bro. Wilson had said in his message. It seemed to her, the burden was so great, that the mattress was on top of her instead of her being on the mattress. Finally, she prayed to the Lord and promised Him that if He would spare her life until the alarm went off in the morning, and her father was awake so he could pray with her, that she would get saved. How glad she was when the alarm finally went off. She got out of bed and went into her parents' bedroom. She fell on her knees and told them that she wanted to get saved. She was very sorry that she had

she was that she had disobeyed Jesus. whom she loved so much. She didn't realize how easily the thread of love could be broken, nor how terrible sin could be. Her heart was broken and her spirit was in despair. She knew that only Jesus could mend her broken heart and bring her to Himself. It was not a sorrow of being caught, as it seemed the whole affair had been forgotten by everyone, but her. She was sorry because she had displeased the One who had died on the cross for her sins because of His great love for her. This was truly godly sorrow. Jesus saw her "broken and contrite heart." He saw how sorry she was that she had taken a doll that didn't belong to her. He saw how sorry she was that she had lied about it to her mother. By her promise to make it right when she could, He forgave her and took the promise for the act being done. Jesus heard her prayer, her confession, and saw her tears. She only confessed her sins to God and not to her father and mother. After her father prayed, she felt the sweet joy of God come into her heart. She was indeed a happy girl because that heavy burden of sin had been lifted from her soul. Now she knew that all was clear between her sinned against a God of love. How sorry and God. She arose with the joys of

heaven ringing in her soul. Once again she was back in the love of God. Her father and mother also rejoiced, because their greatest desire for their children was that they love and serve the God whom they loved so much. They wanted all of their children to make heaven their home. The guiding force of God's love drew her to Jesus.

The summer vacation from school soon ended, and Anna Marie again would see the girl at school from whom she had taken the doll. Now the battle began, as the devil tried hard to keep her from making it right with the girl about stealing her doll. Anna Marie knew that the Bible taught her to "restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed." Ezek. 33:15. She also knew about Zaccheus' telling Jesus, "If I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation. I restore him fourfold." Luke 19:8. The devil tried to tell her that the girl would tell everyone that she was a thief, and she felt that it would be more than she could face. She prayed much and was willing to face it all because of her great love for Jesus. She didn't want that thread of love to be broken again. She was only twelve years of age, but she knew what God required of her.

One day the girl was sitting in front of her in study hall. Anna Marie touched her on her back and asked her if she remembered the doll she had last year at school and had lost. She said she did, so Anna Marie told her that she had taken it and was sorry, and that she wanted to pay her for it. The girl said, "Oh, I didn't care anything about it, but I did wonder where it went to!" When Anna Marie insisted on paying her she said, "Oh, forget it, that's all right!" If the girl ever mentioned it to anyone else, she never heard about it, nor did the girls at school treat her any differently. So we see that the devil is a liar. The Bible says that "he is a liar . . . from the beginning." John 8:44.

Now she needed to make right the lie that she told her mother and all the children who heard her. One morning in family worship, she broke down crying, saying that she wanted them to forgive her for telling a lie about the doll she had taken. Her father told her that she was forgiven, and the worship continued. She had such an understanding father, and since she often asked him to pray for her, as she was very nervous and frail, they were drawn very close together.

Anna Marie had learned a valuable lesson that stayed with her all the days of her life. She was very careful to tell the truth and never to take anything that didn't belong to her. Her love for the Lord and His ways were strong, although she was very timid in speaking about the Lord around strangers and those whom she didn't know very well. In her heart she loved the Lord and served Him to the best of her understanding at her age. Her love for God was a guiding force in her life.

-Marie Miles

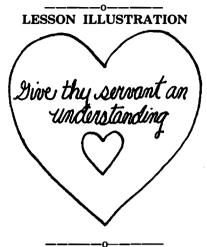
(to be continued)

Simple Trust

I know that Jesus loves a child As small as even me; And true to Him in everything I ever want to be. He loves me more than I can tell, And more than I can know: And so I'll always think of this Wherever I may go. I cannot see Him with my eve. Nor hear Him with my ear; But when He speaks within my heart I'm always sure to hear. When Mother tucks me in my bed, And kisses me good night, It seems I'm resting in His arms, And am huddled up so tight. I know I'm safe in Jesus' arms.

As safe as I can be;

And if an awful thing should come. He will be holding me.



Dear Boys and Girls:

David was nearing the time when he was going to die. He was old and tired. His last desire was that his son. Solomon, would build a house of God. He wanted a temple built in which to put the ark of the covenant. It should have two rooms. One was to be the Holy Place and the other the Most Holy Place where the ark was to be placed. We will talk more about the furnishings of the temple in a later lesson. David told Solomon to love God and to teach his children to love God. They were not to worship idols like their neighbors.

When Solomon was on the throne, after David's death, he felt his great need of God's help. He went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices. He wanted to show God that he loved Him and that he needed His help. He offered a thousand burnt offerings upon the altar. The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask what I shall give thee." Then Solomon prayed to God. He reminded God how He had shown mercy unto his father, David. He told God that David charged Solomon his son, saying,

had walked before Him in truth and with uprightness of heart. He then spoke of how God had told his father. David, that he (Solomon) was to sit upon the throne after his death. Solomon then said, "Oh, Lord . . . I am but a little child. I know not how to go out or come in. I am in the midst of a multitude of people that cannot be numbered. Now give thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?" God was pleased with Solomon's request. God told him that because he had not asked for riches, long life for himself, or the life of his enemies, that He would give him wisdom and all of these other things, too.

Solomon's wisdom excelled all others in the land. One day two women came to him with a baby. Each woman said the baby belonged to her. One woman said that they both had delivered babies and no other person was in the house. She said, "This woman's baby died in the night, and she got up and took my live baby and put her dead baby in bed with me." The other woman said that was not true that the living baby was hers. Solomon took the live baby and called for a sword. He said, "Divide the living baby in two and give half to one and half to the other." Then the true mother spoke up and said, "O, my lord, give her the living child and do not kill it." But the other woman said for him to divide it. Then Solomon said to give the true mother her baby. The true mother would never want it to be killed.

-Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, May 6, 1979 SOLOMON LOVES GOD

I Kings 2:1 Now the days of Dayid drew nigh that he should die: and he

- 2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;
- 4 That the Lord may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the thy words and an unit of the shall had been shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the thy words and an unit of the saked rich the life of for thyse judgment;
- 3:4 And the king [Solomon] went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.
- 5 In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.
- 6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.
- 7 And now, O Lord my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.
- 8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.
- 9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?
- 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

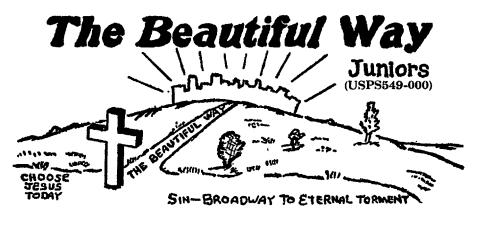
- 11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment:
- 12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.
- 13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.

Memory Verse: And Solomon's wisdom excelled the widsom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt. I Kings 4:30.

Questions:

- 1. To whom did David give good instructions on his deathbed?
- 2. What did God promise David if his children walked righteously?
- 3. When Solomon was king why did he go to Gibeon?
- 4. How many offerings did he offer there?
- 5. Who appeared to Solomon in a dream?
- 6. What did Solomon tell God concerning his father David?
- 7. Do you think Solomon was humble before God?
- 8. For what did Solomon ask the Lord?
- 9. Was the Lord happy with Solomon's request?
- 10. Did the Lord give Solomon what he asked for?
- 11. What else did the Lord give Solomon?

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Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Seven

May 13

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

CHAPTER TWELVE

Courage

"What did you say?" asked Anna Marie of a group of schoolmates who were talking as she and her two girl friends walked up on the school ground.

"Didn't you hear about Lindberg's flying in an airplane across the Atlantic Ocean to Paris, France, all by himself? He has become a hero overnight!" He had left New York from Roosevelt Field on May 20, 1927, and had arrived in Paris on the 21st. He was the first person to ever do that! This was the topic of the day by the teachers and students. Lindberg's flight had a lasting impression upon Anna Marie, and in her mind Lindberg was a great person. He was extra great because he had the courage to fly over that large body of water. When she thought about how he might not have made it, her heart sank within her as she thought of what a terrible thing it would be to go down into the deep, deep ocean of water, "He had a lot more courage than I have,' thought Anna Marie.

That evening, she was reading in her Bible about Joshua's being told to lead the children of Israel into the Canaan land. As she read where God told Joshua to "be strong and of a good courage: be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whitersoever thou goest" (Josh. 1:9), she thought about Lindberg. Now Lindberg was like Joshua. He was full of courage and he wasn't afraid. He started out with confidence, as he had a goal in mind. His goal was to fly over the Atlantic Ocean to Paris. Anna Marie continued to think about the goal that he had in mind. She wanted to make heaven her home and she needed a lot of courage. She should not let anything turn her away from her goal. Joshua had a goal of taking the children of Israel over into the Canaan land, and the Lord promised that He would be with him. Anna Marie knew the Lord would be with her all of her life, if she would ever keep heaven in view and not be afraid. She was only thirteen years of age but she had a deep love for God and wanted to please Him.

(About eight years later she was with others in Washington D. C. Time was limited, but she took time to run into the

Smithsonian Museum to see the airplane that Lindberg flew, non-stop over the ocean. She stood and looked at that plane with a sort of reverence, while thinking of what Lindberg did. Again she wanted to have courage to live for God and ever keep heaven as the goal of her life.)

One day at school the girls were talking during recess about a certain movie that was showing at the local theatre. One of the girls asked Anna Marie if she could go with them that night to the show. These girls did not live in her neighborhood and didn't know how she had been taught nor how her parents lived. Now a time had come for her to use some of the courage which she had read and thought about.

"My mother won't let me go to the show," answered Anna Marie.

"I'll tell you what to do. You ask her if you can come and stay all night with me. We can go to the show, and she will never know about it," spoke up Ruth. Now Anna Marie was put on the spot. She had been trying to avoid the question by saying her parents didn't want her to go, but that didn't work. She must now speak up for herself. Silently, she prayed to the Lord to help her.

"Oh, I couldn't do that, for the fact is I don't believe in going to picture shows."

"What's wrong with picture shows?" asked Ruth. "You learn a lot of things in picture shows."

"Well, there might be some good in them, but there is a lot of bad in them too. It's just like I heard a preacher say one time, that picture shows were like the garbage can. In a garbage can there might be a good piece of bread, but who wants to take that good piece of bread out and eat it? There would surely be some of the garbage clinging to it. So, I don't think you could take the good from the bad because there would be too much of the bad come along with the good. Do you get the point?"

"Well, I don't think any of the bad hurts me because I see a lot of bad without going to a show," Ruth commented. About that time the bell rang and the girls went to the classroom. Anna Marie felt real good in her soul. She felt the Lord had helped her to have courage to tell how she felt about picture shows, and she felt the girls had accepted it in the way that she wanted them to. She continued to be friendly to them. -M. Miles

(to be continued)

I Thank Thee

I thank Thee, Father in Heaven, For my dear home so warm and bright:

I thank Thee, for my mother's love Which helps and points me to the right.

I thank Thee, for my mother's arms, Which are so soft to hold me near: Help me to prove a blessing, Lord, —Sel.

Unto my mother dear!

Picking Strawberries

"Mother, I'm tired of picking strawberries," complained Gloria."

"Why we have just started," said Mother.

"I don't like to work, I want to go play. Why do we have to work anyway?" continued Gloria.

"My dear, the Bible says, 'If any would not work, neither should he eat.' I will make a strawberry shortcake for supper," replied Mother. "You will be glad for the strawberries then I am sure."

"I don't want any old strawberry shortcake," Gloria retorted.

"All right I will give you a choice. You may help Mother pick strawberries and then you will enjoy having some for supper or you may go play and do without your dessert tonight."

At that, Gloria dropped her pan and ran off with her arms flying in the air. She was glad that Mother gave her a choice.

But alas, at supper time she realized she had made the wrong choice. How she wished she would have helped Mother and the other children pick the strawberries. She again thought of the verse Mother had quoted to her from the Bible. "If any would not work, neither should he eat."

The next time Mother needed help in the garden, Gloria did not complain about the hard work. She had learned her lesson. She decided that work wasn't so bad after all. She also knew that God meant for us to work.

—E. E.



Dear Boys and Girls:

There is no one like your own mother. You might think at times she doesn't love you like you want to be loved, but, dear young people, she has a deep love for you. She may be so busy that she doesn't take time to show it, but she loves you. A mother's love is very special. I trust that today you will let her know in some way that you really love her. One boy gave his mother a candy bar and wrote a sweet note to her. That mother was so very happy for it.

Give your mother some joy. I also knew of some children who wanted their mother and daddy to know that they loved them, so they wrote notes and put them all over the house in hidden places. Their mother and daddy were thrilled about that.

We have a good lesson today and there are some truths that might be hard to understand, but I want you to get hold of them. Our lesson is about the church being our mother. Our lesson tells us that the church is the body of Christ. Each saved person is a member of the body. (I Cor. 12:12). Now the first part of our lesson says that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin. God was His Father. Mary was troubled when the angel told her what was to take place. But she was comforted when she knew that her Son was to be the promised Messiah that was to come. Mary was of the family of David. Christ was from above. The throne of David will have a king forever because Christ is still living. Isn't that wonderful? God had a perfect plan, did He not?

We read that Christ is the head over the church and has everything under His feet. In other words, Christ has all power in heaven and earth. When you and I were saved from our sins we were born into the family of God. We became a part of the body of Christ in the world which is the church. When the church. or saints of God, pray, new ones are born into the family of God. The church becomes the mother of those born into the family of God. The church, who is the mother, is to comfort and help the new converts, or the babies in the church. Peter speaks of "newborn babes" who are to "desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." I Pet. 2:2. The church is to give the Word of God to the new children in the church so they can grow. The children should be healthy and desire the Word of God.

The part in our lesson from Revelation brings to our attention the holy city, or the "new Jerusalem" that came down from heaven. Notice, it is speaking of the "new Jerusalem" and not the literal city of Jerusalem. In other words, the spiritual elements of the church have come down from God to us. They are love, joy, peace, faith, long-suffering, forgiveness, and also the power of God to make us new creatures in Christ. This is the Church which is from above and is with us—the mother of us all. Praise God!

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, May 13, 1979 CHURCH IS OUR MOTHER

Luke 1:28 And the angel came in unto her [Mary], and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Eph. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. 22 And hath put all things under his [Christ's] feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body [all spirit filled believers], the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Rev. 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem [the spiritual elements of the church], coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle [or church] of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Gal. 4:26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

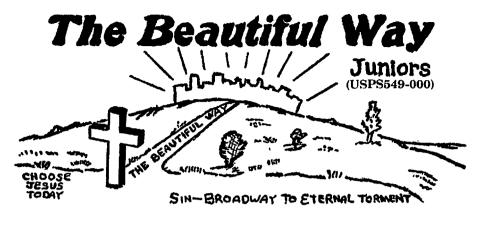
Isa. 66:13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Memory Verse: Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness. Prov. 20:20.

Questions:

- 1. Who appeared unto Mary?
- 2. What were Mary's first feelings at seeing the angel?
- 3. What did the angel tell her?
- 4. What throne did the angel say would be given to Jesus?
- 5. How long was Christ's reign to last?
- 6. Who is the head of the Church?
- 7. What is the body of Christ?
- 8. How does a person become a part of Christ's body?
- 9. What did John see coming down from heaven?
- 10. Where is God's tabernacle today?
- 11. Who is our spiritual mother?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Eight

May 20

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

At this time (1927) the state of Oklahoma had a law called, "Jim Crow Law." (Later this cruel law was repealed.) This law prohibited the black people from sitting on the buses, in the trains. and bus depots with the white people. The black children and white children went to separate schools. Many people had a lot of prejudice against the black people. Of course this is against the Word of God, because God loves all people regardless of their race, color, or station in life. Jesus died on the cross for every one and will save anyone who will come to Him with godly sorrow. At the chapel where Anna Marie and her family attended, the black people were welcomed and those who were saved were treated as brothers and sisters in the Lord. Since the church and state is separate, the law never bothered this meeting of blacks and whites. But this didn't stop people from staying away nor saying what they thought about it. At school, many times Anna Marie was teased because she went to church with the blacks. She was called names. This took much courage from the Lord to

face. When the subject would come up to her, she would defend the black people. by saving that she knew a lot of real nice black people. She kept a love in her heart for them although many times she was teased. She would ask her girl friends to go to Sunday school with her and they would come, but as soon as their parents found out that black people went there they would not let them go with her again. Many called the church where she went the "Holstein Church." The holstein cows are black and white, so that's how they became known as the Holstein Church. With courage, she kept her heart right with God and faced it all. She never thought of quitting church nor losing her love for the Lord because others had such a view. She loved the black saints and appreciated them. They taught her many things which she valued. They sang and prayed together and all were treated equal. Her father and mother loved them and they taught their children that the Bible said, "If ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin." James 2:9.

Anna Marie loved to hear a dear black couple. Bro. and Sis. G. W. Winn. tell about their experiences of how God blessed them and supplied their needs when times were hard. Bro. Winn would get happy and shout. He would say that his feet were riveted on the rock, Christ Jesus. Sis. Winn would give many instructions to the older sisters about keeping their homes clean and how to take care of their children. She taught the children to obey their parents. At assembly meetings and campmeetings the house would be full of the blacks and whites worshipping God in the Spirit The blessing of the Lord would be so precious that it could be felt as one neared the building and heard the singing. Souls were saved and the saints of God were healed and blessed in many wavs.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

God Supplies Some Needs

Bro. Pruitt felt led of the Lord to move the Print Shop (Faith Publishing House) from 611 W. Mansur up to the lots next to the home at 924 W. Mansur. This was a big undertaking, as a new building would have to be built. But the Lord never asks for anything to be done unless he is going to provide for its accomplishment. One brother had come to help, but God knew there was more help needed.

One day, a car drove up to the home. Three men got out and one was leading another man, who seemed to be very weak. It was a common thing for the Pruitts to have company, so this didn't excite them very much. Mother Pruitt could always take care of extras coming in. They ate supper with them and after supper they had their usual worship. After worship her father talked to the sick man who was nearly blind. He had heard that Bro. Pruitt prayed for the sick and that was the reason he came. He acknowledged his need to be saved as he was just a church member. The man knelt and they all prayed for his

salvation. When the man was satisfied that he had peace with God in his soul. Brother Pruitt anointed him with oil. All knelt and prayed for his healing. God verified His promises and healed the man's eyes. He was up the next morning and took a walk up town alone, being able to see since God healed him. His son was a big husky man and a cement contractor. Seeing the work that needed to be done about the building, he told Bro. Pruitt that he would take his father home and return and help with the building of the new office. Soon he and the brother were back helping in the work. While they were there, a letter came from his father, stating that he was well and had gone to work; something he had not been able to do for many years. He was rejoicing for all that God had done for him. God is a great Healer. He tells those who love Him, "I am the Lord that healeth thee." Ex. 15:26. -Marie Miles

(to be continued)

The Right to Eat

Mr. Brown had a pile of rocks in one corner of his yard. A tramp came to his door one day. "Would you please give a hungry man something to eat?" he begged.

Mr. Brown said, "I'll be glad to. If you will move that pile of rocks into the other corner of my yard, I'll give you a good meal for your work." But the tramp was too lazy to work, so he didn't get to eat.

Mr. Brown kept the stones to test the tramps. Every time a beggar came to his house, Mr. Brown would say, "I'll be glad to give you a meal. I have a pile of rocks I want moved into the corner of my yard." Those who worked, ate; those who would not work did not get to eat.

He acknowledged his need to be saved as he was just a church member. The man knelt and they all prayed for his by what the Word of God says. "If eat."

Every child of God wants to be useful. We will not be useful if we do not learn to work. When a child is very small, he cannot do much. Children have time to play. But they can begin to do little things, like picking up their own toys and helping around the house. By and by they will be able to do more, and someday they will have an important job if they will work hard.

God wants us all to learn to be good workers. Some people are too sick to work, or they just can't get any work. We should be glad to help them. But "if anyone will not work, neither should he eat." -Sel.

Dear Boys and Girls:

It's wonderful how God had a model of the true church during old Bible times. When you make a model of an airplane or a house, it is not the true house or airplane, but a figure of the true.

Today God has given us the true building of God. Christ is the King, or the ruler, of His house, which is all the people who are saved from their sins. He is the true High Priest and has passed into the heavens. Each saved person has a place to fill in God's house. It's a spiritual house today.

Let us talk about the temple, or house, that Solomon built. We can get some good thoughts as we compare it with the spiritual house that we are in today. First, let us think about the stones used to build the temple. Every stone was precut. When it was brought to the building it fit right in place. There was not a hammer, axe, or any kind of tool used inside the building. What does that make us know about God's spiritual house today? In I Pet. 2:5, we read that we are to be "lively stones." You "are built up a spiritual house . . . offer up

anyone will not work, neither should he | Jesus Christ." We are spiritual stones in the building. When we get saved from our sins, repent and forsake them, it makes the lofty humble. It brings those who are lowly up, and all are the same. All of God's children have to be made from the same pattern, have to be the same size, and are trimmed by salvation so they will fit in the house of God. There is no strife, nor big "I's" and little "you's" in God's house.

> Notice everything was covered with gold. No stone showed. We are all covered with salvation and only Christ is to show. All are measured by the Word of God and believe alike.

> There were two rooms in the temple. One was the Holy Place and the other was the Most Holy Place. There was an altar before each and animals' blood from the sacrifices were put on these altars. This makes us know that there are two works of grace in the heartjustification and sanctification. It takes blood for cleansing for both. In justification, or forgiveness of committed sins. it takes the blood of Christ to blot out our sins, and also for sanctification, or the cleansing of the sin principle passed down from Adam. "Sanctified through the offering of . . . Jesus Christ." Hebrews 10:10.

In the Holy Place there was a table with bread on it. That is what we needthe Word of God to sustain the soul. The candle sticks would be the light of the Spirit to guide us. The vail separated the two rooms. Only the High Priest could go into the Most Holy Place once a year and pray for the sins of the people. But remember the day Jesus Christ died on the cross the veil in the temple that was in Jerusalem was torn in two. Christ's body was torn so we could go right into the presence of God and kneel before the mercy seat. First we go by the altar and are cleansed from that sin principle and we are then filled with the spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Holy Spirit. God's presence dwells

within us through His Spirit. How precious are all of these figures, but we have the true today.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, May 20, 1979 FIGURES OF THE TRUE

Heb. 3:6 But Christ [King] as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

I Pet. 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

I Kings 6:2 And the house which king Solomon built for the Lord, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits.

7 And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.

18 And the cedar of the house within was carved with knops and open flowers: all was cedar; there was no stone seen.

22 And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house: also the whole altar that was by the oracle he overlaid with gold.

28 And he overlaid the [two] cherubims with gold.

2 Chron 3:14 And he made the vail of blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen, and wrought cherubims thereon.

I Kings 7:48 And Solomon made all the vessels that pertained unto the house of the Lord: the altar of gold, and the table of gold, whereupon the shewbread was,

49 And the candlesticks of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the oracle, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold.

51 So was ended all the work that King Solomon made for the house of the Lord. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the Lord.

Heb. 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Memory Verse: A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. Hebrews 8:2.

Questions:

- 1. How do we get into the house of God?
- 2. What kind of sacrifices do we offer to God today?
- 3. If a cubit is equal to about 20" what was the size of the temple Solomon built?
- 4. While building the temple what tools were used inside the building?
- 5. What king built the temple of God?
- 6. What kind of wood was used in the temple?
- 7. With what was the whole house overlaid?
- 8. Were the cherubims and the altar also covered with gold?
- 9. Of what was the vail made?
- 10. Of what were the vessels in the temple made?
- 11. Name some of these vessels.
- 12. Who is our High Priest?

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Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Nine

May 27

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie's great-grandmother Venrick took sick and her mother went to her bedside. While she was gone Anna Marie had to help her father with the cooking. Her father didn't know very much about cooking, and Anna Marie had done very little by herself as she was only twelve years of age. One day, she asked her father if she could make a lemon pie. She made the pie crust and put it in the oven. While it was baking. she got the recipe for the lemon filling and cooked it. When she took out the pie crust she poured the pie filling into the crust. When she tried to cut it and put it on pie plates to serve, the pie crust broke up and the filling was runny. She was in tears and thought it was not good to eat. She told her father that she was going to throw it out but he said, "That's all right, we will just eat it with a spoon." He was very kind about it and it helped her to get over her disappointment. Of course the boys made remarks about the pie, but her father took up for her.

One day someone brought some pumpkins. Her father told her to make had left what little she had for her great

the morning. She prayed the Lord to help her get the work all done as she was not very strong and it seemed like a big job to her. She cut up the pumpkins and cooked them, then mashed them. There was a great big pan of pumpkin. She thought he meant for her to make them all up in pies. She made a lot of pie crusts and stirred up the filling. She had a lot of filling left over so she made more pie crust. When her father saw all the pies she had made he said that he had not intended for her to make so many. They finally ate all the pies that were left, after giving some away. She was glad when her mother came home.

Her great-grandmother died in 1925, and had willed her a feather bed because she was named Anna after her. Her mother brought it, as well as some other things of her great grandmother's. Later, she was told that her greatgrandmother had some money put in savings and her mother was to draw the interest from it. Her mother's grandmother had not liked it because Anna Marie's parents were in the gospel printing work and were not charging for the literature that was sent out, so she some pumpkin pies. She started early in grandchildren. She had not understood

spiritual things, nor how a printing work could be operated by faith. Anna Marie's great-grandfather had left some money which was given to her mother after the estate was settled. In this way the print shop office was built, and also a new 1927 Chevrolet coach car was bought. This was a blessing to the family. Now Anna Marie's father would have a closed car to drive when going out in the wintertime to pray for the sick. The old Model T Ford had side curtains which were snapped on and it was very cold. The Ford was nearly worn out. Later, her older brother took the engine and made a power saw to use to cut wood.

The office building was completed and the machinery was moved in and things were in operation for the Lord. This was in the year of 1927.

Her brothers had brought a baby squirrel from the woods and raised it on a bottle. It got caught in the Linotype machine and broke its hip. Anna Marie, her brother, and sisters didn't hesitate to ask their father to pray for the squirrel. God healed the squirrel. The Pruitt children loved God and knew that He could do anything. Love for God was a guiding force in their lives.

The home place on the corner of 924 W. Mansur needed to be enlarged for the family and also the workers, who lived with them, so two bedrooms and a bathroom were added. Anna Marie was so delighted because she had a bedroom upstairs. She shared her room with the different older girls or women who came to work in the Print Shop. But there she could still get away and pray to the Lord, whom she loved very much. She needed His guiding love to help her know how to face the many struggles that she had at her age. Sometimes she didn't understand herself. Her mother would at times let her pick out some material for a dress but then after it was made, she didn't like it. She didn't know

why, but she just didn't. She didn't know, that at her age, she was changing very fast from childhood to adulthood. At times she wanted to do childish things and at other times she wanted to be grownup. Those are difficult times for children and they need the Lord to help them. She was beginning to feel that she knew a few things and didn't need to be told so much, yet she really needed a strong guiding hand. She had her struggles, but when she submitted to her parents and their wishes, the Lord blessed her greatly in her soul. She didn't like to wash dishes, but one day it came to her that it didn't hurt her to wash dishes nor to do what her mother told her. She began to realize her mother had a lot of work to do. When she was willing to be told, everything went along so smoothly and she felt happy. More and more she became willing to do as she was told. Life took on a new meaning and she began to take interest in the house and in keeping her room neat and clean, not because her mother wanted her to, but because she liked it that way. She wanted to learn to cook and sew and her mother was glad to teach her. Also, she took sewing and cooking in school. Her mother was a very tidy person and kept her house clean. The floors were kept scrubbed and the food was clean. Her mother was a wonderful cook and enjoyed cooking very much. –M. Miles

(to be continued)



Surely I will be with thee. Judges 6:16. | truth." John 4:24. So the instruments For thou, Lord, art good . . . unto all them that call upon thee. Psalm 86:5.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you ever see a shadow? There is something real that causes the shadow. The Israelites' worship to God was a shadow of the real that was to come in Christ, Let us talk about the shadow and then the real. Remember what the shadow is and you can better understand the real.

The house, or great temple, that Solomon built was beautiful and was covered with gold. Gold is a precious metal and sought after more than anything else in the world. Our money is supposed to have gold backing it. Gold does not change easily with heat or corrosion, but is very durable. So, we see that the house was covered with the most valuable material on earth and one that would hold the building together with the least change. Is not God's love the greatest thing we can have and does it not hold His children together?

God had Solomon build the temple because He wanted to get as close to His people as He could. Since Jesus Christ had not vet died on the cross, the closest He could get would be to let His Spirit dwell in their midst in the temple.

Solomon gathered together the Israelite people. He sacrificed sheep and oxen in such great numbers that they could not be counted. This was a shadow of Christ's dving on the cross. Jesus was called the "Lamb of God." (Remember a shadow has something real behind it.) Now Solomon called the Levite singers together. They were arrayed in white. They had their instruments. Today we are to sing praises to the Lord as the Lord touches our heartstrings. The Bible says God cannot be "worshipped with men's hands," (Acts 17:25). Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Solomon made for the house of the Lord him must worship him in spirit and in was finished:

are a shadow of the real things. God touches our spirits, by His Spirit, and then we can worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. Praise God! They were also dressed in white. The Bible says that God's people "are arrayed in fine linen. clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints." Rev. 19:7.8.

There were 120 Levite singers and when they were all "as one" God sent the glory, and His Spirit came down and filled the temple. That is a shadow. Now what is the real? We read in Luke and Acts about Jesus telling the disciples and others to "tarry for waitl in Jerusalem, until ve be endued with power from on high." After Jesus ascended, 120 gathered in the upper room, praying and waiting for God to send the Comforter, or the Holy Spirit, down into their hearts, or body, which is the temple of God (I Cor. 6:19). These were saved, having on white robes of righteousness, and were of "one accord," That was when the real took place.

Boys and Girls, we are no longer living under a shadow, but we are in the time when we can have the real. Isn't it wonderful to have God's presence in our hearts and not just in a building far -Aunt Marie awav?

Lesson 9, May 27, 1979 TYPE FULFILLED

Heb. 10:1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2 Chron. 5:1a Thus all the work that

6 Also king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were as-|eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto sembled unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude. him [Jesus].

12 (Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:)

13 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick. and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord:

14 So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God.

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Acts 1:14 These [120-Verse 15] all, continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

14a But Peter, standing up with the them.

25a For David speaketh concerning

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Memory Verse: At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father. and ye in me, and I in you. John 14:20. Questions:

- 1. Why could the law not make men perfect?
- 2. Through whom are we sanctified?
- 3. What sacrifice covers our sins?
- 4. Who built the temple (in old Testament times) in which God dwelt?
- 5. How many sheep and oxen were sacrificed when the temple was finished?
- 6. From what tribe were the singers?
- 7. Can you describe the singers?
- 8. How many priests sounded trumpets?
- 9. What happened when the singers and trumpeters sounded as one?
- 10. What in the Old Testament symbolizes the presence of God?
- 11. Before Jesus ascended to heaven for what did he tell his disciples to wait in Jerusalem?
- 12. What did the disciples do while waiting?
- 13. Were they all in agreement?
- What came into their hearts at this time?
- 15. Can you see the parallel between the day of Pentecost to the entering of God's spirit into Solomon's temple?
- 16. On the day of Pentecost how many souls were added to the church?

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Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Ten

June 3

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie loved her parents and was especially drawn to her father because she had been very frail and nervous most of her life, and he had prayed for her many times. One day, she walked into a house and a friend of hers was there. She was laughing and said to Anna Marie, "Say, do you know why vour father is bald headed?" Anna Marie didn't say anything and her friend continued. "It's because he has to walk on his head to keep the devil from tracking him." This struck her as being an awful thing for anyone to say about her father whom she loved so very much. She started crying, as her friend laughed thinking it was a big joke. She turned and went back out of the house. Her friend followed her, saying that she was just teasing. Soon, Anna Marie got control of her emotions, but she didn't appreciate anyone saving anything bad about her father. She felt he was truly a man of God and no one should say anything about someone who lived such a good life. But nevertheless, people did make up things to say and were critical

she didn't want people to say anything about the preacher's children and blame him for everything they did. It seems people forget that preacher's children are normal children and need training as well as anyone else's children. Children do not do right unless they have the Lord in their hearts to help them. Her father often told his children that unless he could guide his own house, he could not guide others to heaven. He prayed much for his family and children. He had rules and all had to come under those rules. He expected his girls to dress modestly as the Bible taught even if they were not saved.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Teen-age Experiences

laughed thinking it was a big joke. She turned and went back out of the house. Her friend followed her, saying that she was just teasing. Soon, Anna Marie got control of her emotions, but she didn't appreciate anyone saying anything bad about her father. She felt he was truly a man of God and no one should say anything about someone who lived such a good life. But nevertheless, people did make up things to say and were critical of him. She tried to live careful because

Many times in the evenings or mornings, while waiting for meals, he would sit with his Bible in his lap, lost in spiritual thoughts, while his six children talked and played around him. Sometimes he would have to be called twice to come to the table. He spent much time in meditation and prayer for God to guide him in writing articles for the paper, and for messages for the congregation. He also prayed for others' problems. visited and prayed for the sick. But Anna Marie felt very close to him because she often had him pray for her, since she was very frail in body. In his prayer for her he would also pray so earnestly for the congregation at Guthrie. She often shared with him some of these burdens in an agreement of prayer. When some would oppose him on his stand for truths in the Bible, it hurt her very deeply. Those things would become struggles for her. One lesson she learned early in life. This lesson was that one must not look at people and their failures to gauge his feelings about God or God's church in the world. Just because they failed, it wouldn't affect God's power, nor change what the Bible taught.

One time, when one person whom she thought was a Christian, opposed her father, it caused her to become confused. The devil tried to make her think there wasn't anything to being a Christian, and she just might as well give it all up. Then the Lord began talking to her. She knew that God was real, because He had been real in her life. He had healed her many times. She also knew that her father and mother lived for God. The Lord helped her to look away from people's failures and look to God. God made her know that sometimes Christians will make mistakes from a lack of understanding. Of course, they needed to correct those mistakes when they did understand, but this could not

make the Word of God of none affect nor did it make God's power any less in the life of the one who loved and served the Lord. This was a valuable lesson for Anna Marie. She tried to look to God and not look at people's failures and let them discourage her from living for God. She read in the Word, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:2a.

A knock came on the upstairs bedroom door. "Anna Marie!" called her father. His voice awakened her and she said, "Come in!" He opened the door and said, "Mother and I are going to be gone today and won't be back until late this afternoon. I want you to take the three children to Sunday school and services and then come home. After you fix your dinner, you stay here with the children until we return." Anna Marie agreed to do as she was told.

After the services, one of the girls wanted her to go home with her to eat dinner. She told her about her father's wishes and declined. They begged her to go, but she refused. Later, the girl came to Anna Marie and told her that the young people were going to a town close by and have young people's meeting in the afternoon, and that her mother would keep her two sisters and brother so she could go. Anna Marie still felt that she ought to obey her father. The girl's mother talked to her saying, "I am sure your father wouldn't mind, as he would know that the children were in good care." She gave in and went. She didn't enjoy her afternoon very much, as she knew she had disobeyed her father and that he had meant for her to do as he had said.

The next day, after school, she was up in her bedroom and she heard someone coming up the stairs. Her father tapped on her door and she told him to come in. He soon told her about her disobedience and she explained, but he brought her

back to what he had told her to do. Shell began to cry. She knew she had disobeyed and that the Bible said for children to obey their parents. She was punished, then her father prayed with her, instructing her to pray and ask forgiveness for her disobedience. She was told that she should not let others influence her to do a wrong of any kind. If she would let others influence her to disobey her father, she would let others influence her to disobey God. This was a great lesson to her. God expects us to obey Him and His Word even if others present a way that might seem right to us. -M. Miles

(to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

We have a wonderful Psalm to study today. Don't forget our theme for this quarter—the predictions, or foretelling, by the prophets of the coming of the Messiah. Remember that they did not know all about Him as you do. But over a thousand years before He came, God, by His Spirit, let them have a glimpse of what He would do and what He would be like. Isn't that wonderful? Jesus Himself read the Psalms and even

quoted from them. Today we are reading them, too.

The context of our Psalm brings out a positive statement that Jesus Christ, or the promised Messiah, would be a King. He would be a King above all kings. Today we know that He is our King and is sitting at the right hand of God, His Father. He is ruling over His Kingdom. which consists of all who have been "born again." He lets the wicked do wickedly, yet they can go only so far. The heathen or unsaved rage, and even the kings of the earth try to break down those who love and serve our King, but they can't. People have faced the firing squad rather than deny their King. One person I read about was knocked down. kicked and then thrown into water. trying to get her to do wrong and deny God. Another person was burned at the stake. While the flames leaped aroung him, he looked up and praised the Lord. No one can take the love for God out of our hearts unless we let them. God will give us victory. Jesus said, "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to destroy the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28). When we leave this body we go to a better place than this world. Oh, how wonderful heaven will be!

Many people hated Jesus when He was here. One day He rode into the city of Jerusalem on an ass. (The kings of that time rode on asses.) People praised Him and threw palms down before Him. They cried, "Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." He was not stopped although His enemies hated Him. They had to stand back that day. He was crowned as King by God and it was to be declared before all. (Matt. 21:1-15). Many said, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest."

(Luke 19:38).

The Jews said, "We will not have this man to reign over us." Luke 19:14. History tells us that the Israelites, or Jews, have suffered much because they rejected Jesus Christ. The Jewish people were scattered over the world. In late years they again have a country, but it's not a strong nation.

In verse 11 the prophet exhorts, "Be wise . . . serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling." Remember that "all power is given unto Christ," and we need to love and serve Him. Woe to them who resist Him. Christ is referred to as a stone. "Whosoever shall fall on the stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." Matt. 21:44. When we come to the Lord, broken in spirit over our sins, and fall before Him, pleading for mercy, we can be saved. Those who resist Him. one of these days, will meet Him at the judgment. They will be cast out of His presence forever into eternal suffering with the devil and his angels. Oh, how sad! "Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ve perish from the way."-Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, June 3, 1979

TRIUMPHAL REIGN OF OUR KING

Psa. 2:1 [Prophet speaks] Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

- 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying,
- 3 [Adversaries speak] Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.
- 4 [Prophet answers] He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

- 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.
- 6 [Jehovah speaks] Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.
- 7 [Messiah speaks] I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.
- 8 [Jehovah answers] Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.
- 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.
- 10 [Prophet exhorts] Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
- 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
- 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

Memory Verse: Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. Psa. 2:6.

Questions:

- 1. Did the kings of the earth accept Jesus as a king? Why not?
- 2. Who has power even over the heathen and unsaved?
- 3. Is the Lord pleased with unrighteousness?
- 4. Who did God set up to rule over Zion (the church)?
- 5. Did the prophets warn the people of the wrath of God?
- 6. How are people today rejecting Christ as king?
- 7. Why do you think people don't want Jesus to rule over them?
- 8. How can we kindle God's anger?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Eleven

June 10

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie had read about King Saul in the Bible, who disobeyed God and let the people persuade him to keep the sheep, oxen, etc. of the wicked nation of the Amalakites when God had told him to completely destroy everything. Saul's punishment was great, as God rejected him from being King. I Sam. 15:20-26.

The young people in the congregation who were older, began having young people's meeting every Sunday afternoon. Anna Marie attended and received much help to her soul. They would meet at different young people's homes on Sunday for dinner, after the morning services at the chapel. Many times they would play games and then gather at the chapel for their young people's meetings. Anna Marie's two older brothers. Lawrence and Andrew. were saved and they went to the young people's meeting also. The Lord would bless and it gave the young people something to look forward to during the week after attending school with so many worldly young people. This was a great help to them to love God and also to know that what the Bible taught was

good for young people as well as old. It had a great establishing effect upon Anna Marie's life.

Anna Marie was very timid and it was especially hard for her to say anything in young people's meeting, although she did love the Lord. As one young people's meeting closed, Margaret (Johnson) Eck, who was a few years older, suggested that at the next meeting. everyone get up and read a Scripture. Anna Marie prayed about this and she chose to read about the sower and the seed recorded in Luke. 8th chapter. It was hard for her to read it because of timidity, but when she sat down, she felt so good in her soul. She felt that she had done what the Lord had told her to do. This also helped her to overcome some of her timidity.

If Anna Marie had been bolder she could have related an experience that she had when she was about eight years of age, in 1922. Her father had planted a pecan out in the yard behind the house. Soon a small place in the ground began to crack and they saw new life springing forth. Anna Marie's father put some sticks all around it so the plant would not get knocked down by his active children. Because it wasn't watered the

plant seemed to die, but the sticks were left at the same place.

Anna Marie's mother generally canned about 400 quarts of vegetables and fruit during the summer for winter use. Anna Marie and her sister, Mary Lola, had made a playhouse around the place where the pecan seed had been planted. They took all of the cracked iars and old lids that were not usable and "canned" peach seeds in their playhouse, when they were not making mud pies in different shapes and letting them dry. They got an old circular saw blade and put it over the sticks around the pecan seedling that had died. They poured the water in it, pretending it was their garbage can. About a week later they were in their playhouse again. They looked down through the circular saw blade hole and saw something green. They took the saw blade off and it was the pecan tree growing. Both of the girls ran as fast as they could to tell the r father that the pecan tree was growing. He came to look and he was very pleased. That tree grew to be a big tree just because it had been watered when it was thought to be dead. Later, when the office was built, they managed to leave the tree standing and it has borne much fruit or pecans. (Today the tree is about fifty years old. May, 1978.)

The seed in the parable is the Word of God. We read that some of the seed fell on good ground, some fell upon the rock. and others fell among thorns. Some fell by the way side. Later Jesus explains the parable. We read that the seed that fell on the rock lacked moisture and it withered away. (Verses 6, 13). That is the way the pecan tree did. It lacked moisture and withered away, but when it received moisture it grew. When a person gets saved from his sins. it is because he has listened and believed the Word that was sown. He needs to pray

can grow in the Lord. If he neglects he will wither up and die spiritually. Not only does a person need to pray but he needs to watch. All praying and no watching will cause a person to wither up spiritually. All watching and no praying will do the same. He needs to pray and then watch to see that he is careful with his words, actions, thoughts. dress, and everything he does and says. That is watering the seed, or plant, so it can flourish and become a tree of righteousness. Also he can be a helper to others. Just as Anna Marie and Mary Lola watered the pecan seedling and it grew, he can help others to love the Lord and that will help him to grow in the Lord. A little love can be of great help in leading someone to a closer walk with God or yielding their lives to God.

It was a regular practice for the Pruitt family to attend Sunday school and preaching services on Sunday. Anna Marie had to help get the younger children ready for Sunday school, wash the breakfast dishes, and help clean up the kitchen. Her mother spent time in preparing the Sunday dinner before going to Sunday school. It was a regular thing for her mother to make a Sunday cake on Saturday afternoon. The Sunday dinner generally consisted of a cooked meaty soup bone and homemade noddles put in the broth which had been thickened. She also served vegetables. Each child had his work to do to help.

The Pruitt children were expected to respect the house of worship. They sat by their parents until they were older and then they were supposed to know how to keep quiet. They, of course, still needed correction and watching. One time Anna Marie and Hattie B. were talking in services during the preaching. Anna Marie's father quit preaching and told Anna Marie to stop talking and listen. This was a great embarrassment to her and a lesson and read the Word of God, so his soul learned. She surely did not want that to

be repeated. She loved the Lord and did want to please Him, but temptation was so great to talk to friends whom she hadn't seen all week. The Pruitt children were reminded that when Moses was in the wilderness and God spoke to him out of the burning bush, he was told to take off his shoes as he was on holy ground. God's presence was there and that made it holy. When God's people meet tragether, God's presence is there and that makes the place a precious place. "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him." Psalms -M. Miles 89:7.



Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we have a wonderful Psalm. I trust that if you have any time after you study this Psalm, your teacher will have you learn parts of it as a group. By saying it over and over together you can learn it better.

Let us take each verse and learn what the psalmist is talking about. First, we want to keep in mind our study for this quarter. We are taking parts of the Old Testament that predict the coming of

Him or His church that He came to build.

In the first verses God is speaking to His Son, Jesus Christ. In the New Testament the Apostle Paul referred to these words. Christ's throne will be forever and ever. A sceptre is a golden wand, or rod, that the kings held out to those who came before them, giving them notice that they were accepted. You can read about this in Esther 4:10-17. (She was afraid if she went before the king that he would not hold out his sceptre and she would die.) The sceptre that Jesus is holding out to us is a "kingdom of right." If we will come into His "kingdom of right" we will be saved. Verse 7 is quoted by the Apostle Paul as referring to Christ. He loves righteousness and hates wickedness. (Name some right things and some evil things that God hates or loves.) Then we know that Jesus was blessed, or anointed, in a greater measure than His disciples. We read in John 20:17 what He said to Mary while in the garden after He arose. He said for her to tell the "brethren" that He would "ascend unto my Father, and your Father: and to my God, and your God." In verse 8 we note that He would have some bitter things to bear, yet some wonderful things to make Him glad. Jesus Christ is our King and His daughters are "honorable women." (Who are honorable girls and boys?)

In verse 10 we read about the prophet's making an exhortation to the church, or those who are in Christ's kingdom. Notice in verse 13 that the "King's daughter is all glorious within." This is speaking of the church, which includes the men and women, boys and girls. We are pure and clean in our hearts because we have been washed in the blood of Jesus Christ. There is no hatred for anyone, no evil thoughts toward others, and no wrong desires. In fact, all of the Jesus Christ, or tell something about things that are mentioned in the last part of our lesson are in the heart of those who are the King's children, or those in the Church of God. What a glorious thing it is to have peace in one's heart. You can't have peace and joy if you hate anyone or if you refuse to do what your parents want you to do. It doesn't hurt you to obey your parents and please the Lord. What they want you to do might not be what you want to do, but they are the boss and you are to obey them now. You will be so glad you did when you are older and really understand why they required you to do so. Believe me, because I was there and know what I thought when I was older. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, June 10, 1979 THE CHURCH AND HER LORD

Psa. 45:6 [God speaks to Son: Heb. 1:8,9] Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.

7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

8 All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

9 Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.

10 [Exhortation to Church] Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;

11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

13 The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold.

14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.

15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.

17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.

Gal. 5:22 [Glory of Church] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

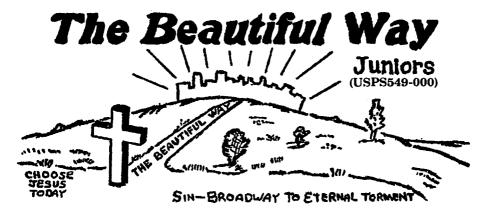
24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Memory Verse: Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. Rev. 19:7.

Questions:

- 1. What is a sceptre?
- 2. What kind of sceptre does Christ hold out to us.
- 3. How does Jesus feel toward righteousness? toward wickedness?
- 4. To what do the spices in verse 8 refer?
- 5. What are some traits of an honourable person?
- 6. Who is in the church?
- 7. In what ways is the church beautiful to God?
- 8. Name the fruit of the Spirit?
- 9. What is longsuffering? Meekness?
- 10. How often should we seek for an increase in the fruit of the Spirit?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.



Vol. 30, No. 2 April,

April, May, June, 1979

Part Twelve

June 17

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Anna Marie loved to go to the saints' homes who lived in the country. She enjoyed the cows and also the fresh milk. Many times she would take a cup and dip off some of the foam after the milk came through the separator (which separated the cream from the milk). This was a marvel to Anna Marie. She never did figure out how the milk could be separated from the cream, yet she enjoyed the foam and warm skim milk. Many times she visited the Ben Davis farm home and played with Thelma. Paul, and Polly. Evelyn was a little older, but at times she would play games with them in their big vard. Sis. Bertha Davis would at times invite the Pruitt's out to eat with them. She would put pure cream on potatoes and peas, also would have pure cream or whipped cream on deserts. The milk and butter she served were delicious, as they were rare treats in the Pruitt home. Bro. and Sis. Ben Davis were kind people and loved God. She loved to hear Bro. Davis sing the song entitled "The Redemption Story" in the Select Hymns song book, which is No. 90 in the Evening Light

Songs. He would bear down on the chorus, "Yes, yes, yes, it fills my heart with glory to tell the hungry, thirsting soul of the redemption story." She loved to listen to her mother and father and Bro. and Sis. Davis talk of early days and also about the Lord and His great love. They always had prayer together before they left their home.

Anna Marie's first rememberance of the Davis family was in about 1921. They came to her parents' home and carried Ruthie and Beatrice in the house and laid them on the bed in the living room of her home as they were asleep. She also thought she had never met a person as strong as their oldest son, Audney. One day he was showing off his strength and he lifted the whole back end of the Model T Ford off the ground. She thought he was almost as strong as Samson in the Bible. One day he showed her a letter from his girl friend. Etta Johnson, who later became his wife. Anna Marie enjoyed many nice times in Etta and Audney's home after they married. They would invite the young people out to their farm home.

After Etta married Audney, Etta's folks, the Johnsons, moved to Guthrie from Texas. Anna Marie enjoyed being

with Hattie B., who was a little younger than she was, as well as Margaret and Robert who were older. They were all saved and their father and mother loved the Lord. They moved to a farm near Guthrie, and she enjoyed going out to their place. She liked to wade in the creek that ran through their farm.

One summer, in 1927, Anna Marie went with her family to the campmeeting in Oklahoma City. It was the Oklahoma State Campmeeting and many came from other states to attend. Bro. George Harmon came from Calif. to preach, as well as others from other places. One time while Bro. George Harmon was preaching, a devilpossessed man came up to the front and picked up the altar bench, which was long and heavy, and started toward Bro. Harmon with it. He rebuked the devil. with other ministers' agreement. The man was brought under control. This made a great impression upon Anna Marie.

That summer, a family came from Texas that was especially of interest to her. It was the W. I. Miles family. They had six of their eleven children still living at home. They were especially of interest because Anna Marie called their older sister, who lived in Oklahoma City, one of her special friends. Maude had previously lived in Guthrie before her marriage. She hadn't wanted any children at her wedding but she did let Anna Marie go. This was the first wedding she had ever attended and she felt very elated over being a guest, therefore Maude was special to her.

The Miles family decided to live in Guthrie, much to Anna Marie's delight. She and Maybelle became very close friends, although Maybelle was over two years older. The Pruitt children were delighted when the Miles family rented a house only three blocks away from their home. It was during the depression

years and they could buy but little furniture: but Bro. W. I. Miles found work and they were all happy together. Sis. Lycenia Miles was a wonderful mother. She kept a clean, neat house. She saved the flour sacks, bleached them and made curtains to put around their shipping boxes which were used in the bedrooms to put their clothes in. She made curtains for the windows and had white sheets for bedspreads. In those depression years, with a large family, she washed and patched the children's clothes and did everything she could to get by on their limited income. Everyone was having a hard time making ends meet, even the Pruitt family, Sis. Miles would dve the flour sacks and make dresses and also aprons. She was a very resourceful woman. They had four boys at home, named Clyde, Carl, Clyne, and Curtis, and the girls' names were Wilma and Maybelle.

Bro. Miles loved to sing and had a wonderful tenor voice. The family spent many evenings singing together and they often came to the Pruitt home. Maybelle played the organ at the Pruitt home and the young people loved to gather around the organ and sing while she played.

A close friendship sprung up between Lawrence and Maybelle (Miles) and on November 18, 1933, they were married. How happy Anna Marie was when their first son was born. She was "Aunt" and she loved the little fellow so very much. Byron was such a sweet fellow.

One day Byron took sick with pneumonia. The family helped care for him as someone had to sit up with him at night. One night Anna Marie and Carl, Maybelle's brother, sat with him. He was very sick that night and didn't pay attention to anyone. The first thing in the morning Anna Marie's father and mother were called to come and pray for him. Her father anointed him with oil

according to the Bible instruction and all knelt and prayed. God touched him and he began to mend. —M. Miles

(to be continued)

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Sometimes Father is forgotten in the household. Remember that he loves you as much as Mother, and he needs your love returned. He is supposed to see that you mind him and your mother. When he works at night he often asks your mother about each of his children. Sometimes Mother tells him if you do wrong and lets him punish you, as she gets tired doing all the punishing. God holds your father responsible to teach you right and correct you, or he will be punished by God. Your father wants to please God and bring you up right. Give him honour that is due him today.

Our lesson today begins in Psalms. The first verse is a prophecy of Christ. In Matt. 13:35 we read where Matthew repeats this verse in speaking about Jesus. Jesus spoke in parables. A parable means "side by side," or a story that teaches a truth. Our lesson in Psalms also refers to fathers and how they are to teach their children to praise the Lord and to remember the wonderful

works God has done. Fathers are to teach their children to "Set their hope in God." They are to teach that God is the One who created all things and that through God we can find help to face the problems of this life.

We have chosen one of Jesus' parables. It's about a boy who got tired of working for his father. He wanted his father to divide with him the money that he would get after his father's death. He wanted to leave and go to a far country. Maybe he had never lived in a big city. Perhaps he thought that it would be fun to hit every beer joint and night club, sit at the bars in the taverns, take the girls out to dance, and try a little dope. The lights of the city dazzled before his eves and he wanted to try out everything that was there. This grieved his father. but he gave him his money. His father knew that what the young man was seeking was not to be found in the bright lights and night clubs. His father knew that it would be better never to try the terrible things that sin offered. because there is a law of God that every person will reap what he sows. Sow goodness and you reap goodness. Sow evil and you will reap evil. It's an honorable thing never to go deep in sin. It's a shameful thing for a person to brag about his terrible sins, even though God may have saved him from that kind of life.

The young man did not find all that he wanted in the city. Soon his money was gone. His willpower was weakened, his morality was lost, his so-called friends forsook him, and he was hungry and an outcast. The only work he could find was caring for hogs. He was so hungry he ate the hogs' food. Finally he came to himself. He said, "I will arise and go to my father and tell him that I have sinned against him and heaven." This was a wise thing to do. His father was looking for him, and what a welcome he received! God is looking for

the sinner to come home. He will forgive everyone of his sins and give him called thy son: make me as one of thy grace, or help, to do the reaping of the sins he has sown. -Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, June 17, 1979 TO SPEAK IN PARABLES

Psa. 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark savings of old:

- 3 Which we have heard and known. and our fathers have told us.
- 4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

Luke 15:11 And he said. A certain man had two sons:

- 12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
- 13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
- 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
- 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
- 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
- 17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
- 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

- 19 And am no more worthy to be hired servants.
- 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
- 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
- 22 But the father said to his servants. Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

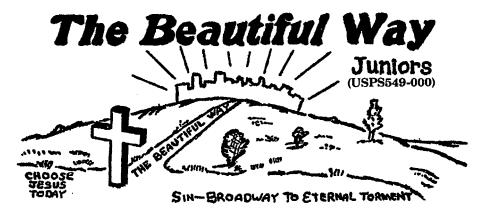
23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

Memory Verse: And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house . . . Deut. 11:19a.

Questions:

- 1. What is a parable?
- 2. Who often spoke in parables?
- 3. In the parable in our lesson, what did the younger son want his father to give him?
- 4. Did the son use the money wisely?
- 5. How do you think he might have spent it?
- 6. What happened in the far country where he was?
- 7. What did he get a job doing?
- 8. Did the son realize how foolish he had been?
- 9. To whom did the son decide to humble himself?
- 10. How did his father react to his son's returning?
- 11. Although someone has greatly sinned, how will God (our Father) react when one is sorry and repents?

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Vol. 30. No. 2

April, May, June, 1979

Part Thirteen

June 24

My Life's Heartstrings

(Continued from last issue)

Andrew, her oldest brother had married Rachel Norcutt on April 29, 1932. She had worked in the Print Shop. Anna Marie loved her as she shared her bedroom with her. Rachel and Andrew loved the Lord. They lived in Kansas when Rachel took sick with cancer. Anna Marie went with her parents and others to visit her before she died. She talked about seeing children with wings. One time when they wanted to close a window, Rachel said, "Do not close it as that is where the angels are coming in to get me."

One day Andrew was upon a steep hill above the house feeding the chickens. As he looked down toward the house, and was grieving about his darling wife and how near death she was, he saw a vision of an angel leaving the house. He hurried down to the house just in time to see her draw her last breath. Her sister. Olive, said that just before Rachel died she sang a song clearly. This was a severe blow to Andrew and his heart was broken. He loved her so dearly and they

great loss to the family when she passed away on Feb. 4, 1933.

(Later, Andrew married Hope Embly in July 1934, and they lived in Calif.)

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

Right and Wrong Influences

As a teen-ager, Anna Marie had her struggles at school and at times she was not very careful to pray as she should; therefore, one time she felt she didn't have a good contact with the Lord. The devil told her she was a hypocrite. Instead of getting down and praying through, or asking others to pray with her, she just quit serving the Lord faithfully. This was only for a month as it was not her desire to live in sin. The Lord never quit drawing her to Himself. She had a girl friend who lived near who was worldly-minded, yet this girl knew how she believed. Anna Marie would ask her girl friends to come in and wait for her, when they would come by to walk to school with her. Many times, they came early and would be in on part of the early morning family worship. Most of her girl friends knew how she believed and how her parents expected her to live. Sometimes they would tell had great plans for their life. It was a others at school how she believed even

before she could speak up for herself, which helped. She had refused to listen to dirty jokes and the girls at school soon found that out, not only from her but from her girl friends. Even some of her friends' mothers would not let their girls go to some places if Anna Marie's mother didn't let her go, but as she grew older, this didn't hold true.

One Saturday afternoon Anna Marie and her girl friend, Ida, walked to town. Anna Marie was not claiming to be saved at the time and she didn't have the Lord to help her as her Guide. Some older boys stopped and wanted the girls to go riding with them. Ida wanted to go but Anna Marie said they shouldn't, as they didn't know them. So the boys went on, but later they came driving by again. During this time, Ida persuaded Anna Marie that it would be all right. So they got in the next time. Anna Marie got into the front seat with the one boy and Ida got in the back seat. The boys drove around for awhile and then started for the country and stopped out on a country road. This alarmed Anna Marie as she knew this was not right. Her mother had taught her not to ever go out in the country with boys and stop along the road. She told the boys that she had to go home. Ida and the boy in the back seat were kissing and the boy in the front seat tried to put his arms around Anna Marie but she wouldn't let him. He tried to kiss her but she plainly told him that she didn't kiss the boys. Finally, she persuaded him to take her home and he did, but Ida stayed in the car as they were going to get another girl to go with them. (Ida kept going with this boy and married him, but it soon ended in a divorce.) This was an experience that shook Anna Marie up very much. It wasn't long until she went to the altar and got cleared up with the Lord. She again had the Lord for her guiding Friend. She

thanked God for His protection and help even when she wasn't serving Him.

She realized that she needed to only be with her girl friends at school and not be with them so much after school. Therefore, she chose to be with the girls who went to services in the chapel. She spent her time at home studying her lessons or doing other things. Girls came to work in the printing office, and even though they were older, she enjoyed being with them. One of the girls taught her how to drive the car.

Several boys liked her, but her mother really discouraged any interest in boys. She wanted her to wait until she was older. Anna Marie was a normal girl and at times she liked one boy and then another, but she was very shy in ever letting them know it. It was a serious time in her life. She looked forward to the week-ends when she could be with the young people, who went to services with her.

Anna Marie liked to read and therefore read a lot of books from which she learned many things. She had high ideals and refused to be influenced away from the teachings of God's Word. She also helped in the office after school. She really had a burden to see that the printed gospel went forth. When she was younger she only did the work in the print shop because she had to, but when she became older she realized the value of sending out the printed gospel and really felt thankful to be able to do something for the Lord. While she wrapped tracts to fill an order, she would pray the Lord to cause those tracts to be a blessing to someone.

-Marie Miles

(to be continued)

A Companion of Fools

James stood trembling before Mr. Simons, the principal.

prised to know you were among the boys who slashed the new chair covers in the assembly room. I've never known you to do anything like this before," said Mr. Simons, "I guess you know that each one who took part in this defacing of school property is being suspended."

"Mr. Simons, I didn't do any of it. I told the other boys not to do such a thing. They just called me "baby" and

"chicken," James pleaded.

"I'm sorry, James, but the other boys all say you took part in this deed and you were with them. I would advise you in the future not to hang around with boys who do such bad deeds."

James shamefully hung his head and thought of what he had read in the Bible, "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools

shall be destroyed."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

It is wonderful to have a friend. When you were a baby your mother took care of you because you could not care for yourself. (Never forget what your mother has done.) But as you grow older, mothers and fathers can't do everything for you because they, too, are have fathers and mothers who are still was going to do and do it quickly.

"James, I must say I'm really sur-|strong, but time will take that away from them. A friend is not always someone who takes care of your material needs. Friends are those who love you. They care about your well being. Even though I am 65 years of age. I still have friends I made when I was in my early teens. Isn't that wonderful? They love and care about me. It's important to be a good friend to others, too. Remember our memory verse-if you want friends, you are to show yourself friendly. We have One Friend who is above all other friends, and that is Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

In the Psalms we read about a friend who "lifted up his heel against" the one who was his friend. Then in John the 13th chapter. Jesus refers to this same Scripture when He is talking to His twelve disciples at the Passover feast. He said that one who was eating bread with Him would "lift up his heel against me." Jesus said that this would be done so the Scriptures would be fulfilled. What do you suppose Judas was thinking as he sat there listening to Jesus? Judas knew that for 30 pieces of silver he had offered to lead the rulers to Jesus. No doubt he sank down farther into his seat; or perhaps he sat up as boldly as he could, and looked around with all the innocency that he could muster up on his face. Anyway, Jesus continued to talk. He said, "I am very troubled in spirit. Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me." The disciples began to look at one another. John said, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus said, "It is the one to whom I will give a sop." Jesus dipped the bread in the soup and gave it to Judas. Judas then let Satan have full control of his heart. He was angry and was determined to carry out his plans of letting the rulers know where Jesus would be at a certain time. growing older. Of course, many of you How sad! Jesus told him to do what he

Later when Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane, Judas led the rulers to the Garden. Judas walked up and kissed Jesus before them all. Jesus said, "Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?" How sad! Boys and girls, when your friend lets you down and hurts you deeply, remember that Jesus knows all about it and understands. He went through the same thing. Let us be true friends to others. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, June 24, 1979 BETRAYED BY A FRIEND

Psa. 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

John 13:18 I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

19 Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.

20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

21 When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

22 Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake.

23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

25 He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

26 Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

27 And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

Luke 22:47 And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him.

48 But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?

Memory Verse: A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Prov. 18:24

Questions:

- 1. To whom does Psalm 41:9 refer?
- Why did Jesus tell his disciples beforehand that one of them would turn against Him?
- 3. Did the disciples know to whom Jesus was referring?
- 4. Who asked Jesus "Lord, who is it?"
- 5. How did Jesus say He would indicate the traitor?
- 6. To whom did Jesus give the sop?
- 7. Did Jesus realize His time was at hand?
- 8. With what sign did Judas betray Jesus?
- 9. What does a kiss normally signify?
- 10. What are some of the reasons why you think Judas betrayed Jesus?
- 11. Can we betray (or help the enemy of) Jesus today? How?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. One subscription, \$1.40 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.