

Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 1

July 1.

The Drummer Boy

In the hospital in Gettysburg a Jewish surgeon, Dr. M. L. Rossvally looked over the papers before him. There were twenty-eight men needing emergency surgery that day. He could not operate on them all in the same day. "I'll have to help the ones who need it most," he said.

Everyday was the same. More and more wounded soldiers were being brought into the hospital. "War, war, WAR!" he muttered. "Why do men fight and kill? "There were no good reasons for some wars. But this war was to end slavery. It would make all men, women, and children in the United States free, if the North won. Yes, this war had to be. Men were dying so the black people could be free.

He arose from his chair and entered the room lined with narrow roughly made beds. Never before had there been so many beds, and it could not hold them all. There were beds out under the trees, and in smaller tents. What a gloomy sight greeted him. Soldiers were missing an arm, or a leg. Some had battered remains of an arm or leg. Others had gun shot holes on some part of their bodies. Some were missing an ear. Others had broken bones.

In the tent were many needing immediate help. He started down the aisle, examining each man. Bed after bed he passed, stopping at each one, and seriously considering that soldier's condition, then moving on to the next patient. On the south side of the room he stopped and looked at the chart hanging on the cot. "Charlie Coulson," he said, greeting the boy. "You look very young to be a soldier."

"Yes, I am too young to be a soldier, but I wanted to help the slaves to be free like other men, so I enlisted as a drummer boy,"

While talking to Charlie, he was studying the condition of the boy's leg. After a moment he said, "I have sad news for you. To save your life, I must remove your leg. Loosing a leg will be better than dying, though. I will send for you shortly, and see what I can do."

Prepare Charlie for surgery," he told the nurse.

While getting him ready, one of the assistants said, "We must give you chloroform. It will cause you to go to sleep."

"Sir,I wish to not take chloroform," Charlie said.

"But you must."

"Please, don't make me take it," he begged.

"It is the doctor's orders. Nor could you stand to have your leg amputated without it," he insisted. "Do you think you are brave enough to watch the doctor saw off your leg, as if you were watching a log being sawed in two pieces?"

"I guess he thinks because he got into the army, he's brave enough for anything," the nurse remarked with a sneer.

"Please let me talk to the surgeon," he pleaded.

When the doctor came, Charlie said, "I don't want to take chloroform."

"May I ask why?"

The drummer boy laid his hand on the doctor's and said, "One Sunday morning in (Continued on page four)



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

26 He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

28 And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thickes, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said, He that shewed merey on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

Central thought: When we help persons who are needy, we are obeying the commandment that says, "Love thy neighbor as thyself."



Questions:

- 1. Who asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"
- 2. Jesus answered the question by telling the story of _____ ____.
- 3. Where was the man when he was attacked?
- 4. Did the priest or the Levite help the man?5. Why was it the duty of the priest or the Levite to help the man?
- 6. In what ways did the Samaritan help the wounded man?
- 7. What did the Samaritan do when he had to leave the sick man?
- 8. Is it the Christian's duty to help the needy?
- 9. Name some ways you could help others.

Memory verse: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17



A young lawyer once asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"

To explain the answer, Jesus told a story.

He said that a man left Jerusalem and was walking alone on the road toward Jericho, when some robbers attacked him. The lone man could not defend himself, so the robbers took his money and clothes, and left him bruised and bloody beside the road to die.

At the time when Jesus told this story, there were about 12,000 Jewish priests living in the city of Jericho. The large city of Jerusalem was the center of their Jewish religion. It was where business of the church was conducted. The high priest and other men of great authority lived in Jerusalem. Because of this, priests often went to Jerusalem. Most every day priests would be walking the road between Jericho and Jerusalem.

This day was no different than any other day. A priest soon came walking by and discovered the naked, bloody man lying on the road side. Instead of stopping to help, he went to the other side of the road and walked on by. Perhaps he was clean and going to do some important business in Jerusalem and did not want to soil his clothes. Maybe he was going to conduct some religious service, and thinking the wounded man was already dead would not go near him. The priest's religion would not permit him to do religious service after being near a dead body.

Later that day a Levite came traveling over the same road and saw the bruised, beaten man. The Levites were also leaders in the Jewish religion. They were "given as a gift for the Lord, to do the service of the tabernacle." This Levite did the same as the priest, he crossed the road and walked on by, leaving the man to die.

Both the priest and the Levite should have remembered God's law which says that the Jews must not only help other Jewish persons, but that they are also responsible to help their neighbor's animals that have fallen, been hurt, or gone astray. (Exodus 23:4-5, and Deuteronomy 22:1-4.) The two men were servants of the church and supposedly

of God. They should have helped the wounded man, but they did not.

Before the day was over a Samaritan came walking along the same road. The Samaritans were considered by the Jews to be such a low, godless people that the Jews did not speak to them. They were enemies against each other. When the Samaritan saw the dying man, he felt sorry. He pushed aside prejudices and hatred. Going over to the poor wounded man he carefully administered all the help he could. Then he placed the man on his donkey and took him where he could get more help.

When Jesus finished His story, he asked the lawyer, "Which of these three men was a neighbor to the man who had been robbed and beaten?'

"He who helped," the lawyer answered.
"Do as he did," Jesus said.

"Who then is my neighbor?" It is those who show mercy and help when we are in need.

To whom are we to show neighborly love? To all those with whom we meet who are helpless and need our assistance. By doing that, a Christian is showing that he or she loves his neighbor as himself.

-Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. A lawyer. 2. The Good Samaritan. 3. He was on the road between Jerusalem and Jericho. 4. No. 5. Because they were the men who taught the people how to serve God, so they should have served God by serving others. 6. He gave him first aid treatment, by putting wine (alcohol) on for a disinfectant, and oil to keep the wound moist and to keep the bandage from sticking. Then he bound up the wounds, laid the man over his conkey and took him to the nearest inn (a place to lodge). 7. He paid the inn keeper to care for the wounded man until he was able to travel again. 8. Yes. 9. Answers will vary.)

Sunday school when I was nine and one-half years old I gave my heart to Jesus. I have trusted Him from that day, and wish to trust Him now."

"Young man, when I first saw you, I thought you were too far gone to help, but when you opened those large blue eyes, and looked at me, I felt I must try to save you. I thought your mother would be hoping to see her boy alive. You have lost so much blood, and are too weak to endure an operation without chloroform. You had better let me give you some."

"Jesus has always been ready to help me. I believe He will give me strength."

"I know God helps people," answered the doctor. "Jesus, though, what can He do for a man?"

"A drink of brandy will ease your ability to feel pain. Allow me to give you some brandy."

Charlie looked into the doctor's face and very seriously said, "Doctor, I have no father. Mother said that he died a drunkard and fills a drunkard's grave. She hopes that I will spend my life warning young people about the terrible troubles that come to people a few years after those times of drinking just for fun. She made me promise to never taste any alcoholic drink. I promised. I was only five years old when I made that promise. Now I am seventeen, but to this day I have never tasted beer, wine, whiskey, brandy nor any drink of the kind. ———— If I drink brandy, I'd be breaking my promise. -What if I die during the operation? I would die drunk, just like my daddy, and also with a broken promise on my heart,

"You wouldn't be dying like your father. You are clean —and honest — and pure, I'm sure. It is just a medicine in your case."

"Doctor, will you send me into the presence of God with brandy in my stomach? Please, don't."

War raged in the doctor's mind. How could he, a notable surgeon let a poor boy tell him how he must do a surgery? How could he have courage to tear into the flesh and nerves of this boy with the boy feeling the sharp teeth of the saw? How could he? Just how? 'Anyway the boy might not live. Why should he force himself through this horrible task, when there were so many more needing his help.

His other question was, how could Jesus so deceive a heart that it would be loyal through such severe pain? The doctor did not believe Jesus, but there was something about the boy's loyalty that he loved. He stood thinking for a few minutes.

When he finally spoke, he said, very gravely, "Charlie," I will do for you something I have never done for anyone. I will send the army chaplain. Please discuss this with him."

"Yes, Sir," Charlie answered.

The doctor gave orders for the nurse to call the chaplain, and let him know when he came.

When the chaplain came, he greeted the boy by name for he had seen Charlie often in the camp prayer meeting. "I am sorry to see you in this condition," he said.

"I'll be all right," Charlie answered. "If I die, I am ready to go right into Jesus' arms. The doctor can't understand why I refuse chloroform or brandy, but I want to be in my right mind all the time. I want to meet Jesus pure as a new shiny gold piece."

"Don't talk about dying. You may live a long time yet," the chaplain said. "Say boy, is there anything I can do for you?"

"Yes there is," Charlie continued. "Please take the Bible from under my pillow and send it to my mother. Her address is on the inside of the front cover. Do write a letter also and tell her I have read God's Word and prayed for her everyday. And be sure to add that I kept my promise of never taking anything that would cause my mind to be unclear.

"If you can find the time, will you also write to the Sands Street Sunday school, in Brooklyn, New York, and thank the teachers for their prayers and good advice. The good training has helped me through all the dangers of war and is now helping me through this pain. I am asking God to bless them to help many others as they did me."

The doctor listened while the chaplain encouraged Charlie to stay true to his promise, and while he prayed for God to give Charlie grace to endure the pain.

Then after Charlie prayed he said, "Now doctor, I am ready. I promise to not even groan, if you will allow me not to take chloroform.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

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(USPS549-000)

Part 2

July 8, 1990

Charlie's Prayer

Charlie was lying on the operating table when Dr. Rossvally came in to do the surgery. Just thinking of amputating a leg with the patient awake so unnerved the doctor that he had to go out and take something to calm himself. He was still wondering if Charlie could stand the pain. "If he does, it will be because of some power more than just human," he said to himself.

The surgeon took his sharp knife and sliced through the muscle of Charlie's leg. Charlie never groaned. Then the doctor laid down the knife and picked up the saw. He laid the saw blade through the flesh until it touched the bone. Charlie never flinched. Back and forth Doctor Rossvally pulled the saw, through Charlie's leg. Suddenly Charlie turned his head to the side and bit the corner of his pillow. With his teeth clamped tightly on the pillow he said softly, "Blessed Jesus, stand by me now."

After a long hard nauseating day, the doctor went to bed, but he could not sleep. Those whispered words "Blessed Jesus, stand by me now," kept ringing in his ears. Finally he got up. "I must go see about Charlie," he said.

"What are you doing here?" the hospital nurse questioned. "Did someone call you?"

"No, no one called me, and I have never visited the hospital in the middle of the night unless I was called. I—I—couldn't sleep, so thought I would check on Charlie."

"That's the drummer boy who had his leg amputated today? I hear he's a brave Christian lad."

"Yes, yes. How is he doing?"

"Sleeping like a baby. I don't know how he could with all the noise. We've carried out sixteen dead men since I came on duty."

"Oh, so many, and a miracle that Charlie wasn't one of them. I must go see him," the doctor said.

A nurse who noticed the doctor's special interest in Charlie said, "About 9:00 o'clock the chaplain and two young men came through to read the Bible and sing. When they came to Charlie's bed, they knelt around his bed and prayed for him. While still kneeling, they sang, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul." Although I could hardly believe my ears, I am sure I heard Charlie singing with them."

Five days later, Charlie asked for the doctor. When the doctor came he said, "Doctor, you have been good to me. Thank you. I know you did all you could, but I think I will die tonight. Before I die, I wanted to tell you about my best friend. He is a Jew, and I believe you are also."

"Yes, I am a Jew. My parents were Jews and taught me very carefully in the Jewish religion. My father wanted me to be a rabbi, and made me promise to never go into a church which worshiped Jesus as the Messiah. I have kept my promise, just as you have kept the promise you made to your mother."

"Though I know you do not believe in Jesus, I wish you to be here when I leave my body and go to meet with my Saviour, Jesus."

The doctor did not have the courage to watch Charlie die, so he gave the excuse that he had many things to do and hurried away.



The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Central thought: Those who will forgive other people will be forgiven by God. Those who do not forgive will not be forgiven.



Questions:

- 1. What did the king do?
- 2. How many talents did one servant owe him?
- 3. What did the servant ask of the king?
- 4. Was the king merciful?
- 5. What did this servant do to another servant?
- 6. How did the king feel about what the servant had done?
- 7. Why did the king say the servant was wicked?
- 8. Why did Jesus tell this story?
 - 9. Will God do to us as the king did to this servant?

Memory verse: "If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." (Matt. 6:14)



The story of "TheUnmerciful Servant" gives a very clear message. The message is that any person who is forgiven of Jesus for their sins must be willing to forgive others who have harmed him. Jesus says, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." That is very simply spoken. Believers must forgive or God will not forgive them.

Very often we have heard men and women quoting a verse which is found in Acts 16:31. It reads like this, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,..." These words were spoken by Apostle Paul to the jailer who had already repented of his sins. An earthquake had violently shaken the jail, opening the doors and releasing all the prisoners. The jailer was afraid and fell at Paul's feet, crying, "What must I do to be saved?" The Holy Spirit revealed to Paul that the jailer had a forgiving heart, so Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

A person with a forgiving heart can be saved by only believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. A person with an unforgiving heart cannot be saved by only believing. His or her stony unforgiving heart must be first broken up. It is true that a person cannot change his heart without God's help. The prophet Jeremiah said, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil. A person with an unforgiving heart must ask God to give him a new soft heart. God will do it, for He has promised, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26. After a person has received a new heart, then he or she may believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and will be saved.

There are times when a saved person will be hurt by other persons. Some of these injuries may be very hard to forgive. At such times the Christian must cry to God to help him be able to forgive. Sometimes a person must also discipline his mind not to think on the injury. Apostle Paul said, "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: Sometimes we just don't want to forgive. We want the person to suffer because they caused us to suffer. (That is an unforgiving attitude.) At such times we must resist such attitudes and bring our body or mind into subjection to God's way and not have our own way.

Not thinking about the injury nor wishing evil on the person who hurt you is one way to help yourselve gain a forgiving heart. Here are some other ways that will help: Do something good for the one who hurt you. Speak cheerfully to them, even when you don't feel like doing so. Smile at them, when you feel like gritting your teeth at them. If it is possible to stay away from the person until the hurt has time to heal, this also may help That should help you to not recall the hurt.

Yes, to receive forgiveness for our many transgressions, we must forgive others who transgress our rights. With the grace and help of God we can forgive, every person who has hurt us. Surely we do not want to be like the Unmerciful Servant. Neither do we want to be treated as he was treated, for he was delivered to the tormentors.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. He checked up on his servants, 2, 10,000, 3. To have patience with him, 4, Yes. 5. He had no patience, but put this fellow servant in jail because he owed him a very small amount of money. 6. He felt very badly. 7. Because he had no compassion and did not forgive. 8. It was lits way of teaching us that people are like the servants, and God is like the king. 9. Yes.]

About twenty minutes later a nurse knocked on Dr. Rossvally's door, "Come in," he said.

"Charlie Coulson is calling for you." The doctor just sat there with head bowed and hands over his eyes.

"I have just seen him, I cannot go every time he calls," the doctor said, not raising his head.

"He won't last another hour, and he says he must see you before he dies. Maybe he has an important message for you."

The doctor knew that the drummer boy wanted to give him a message about Jesus, and the boy thought that having the doctor see him die trusting the Lord would be a good way of giving him the message.

Something was pulling the doctor to Charlie like a mysterious magnet. He decided to go once more and say a kind word to the boy and leave, but not allow Charlie's faith to influence him.

The boy's big blue eyes were closed when the doctor got to his bed. He looks like he is already dead," the nurse whispered to the doctor.

Dr. Rossvally was tired so he sat down in a chair beside Charlie's bed. The boy moved and opened his eyes. "Take my hand, please?" he begged the doctor. "I love you doctor, because you are a Jew, and my Jesus is a Jew. I think He must have looked like you.

I hope you will learn to know Him like I do. I believe you keep promises. Will you promise to never forget what I am about to tell you?"
"I promise."

"While you were amputating my leg five days ago, I prayed for God to save your soul. You are too good to be lost."

The doctor just scratched his head, he couldn't understand how a person suffering so intensely could be thinking about His Saviour and wanting others to know Him. "Well, my son, you will soon be all right." the doctor said, "I must go now."

Twelve minutes later Charlie Coulson died.

Dr. Rossvally didn't usually go to soldier's funerals. There were funerals and burials everyday, but there was something about the drummer boy that pulled on the doctor. He had Charlie Coulson dressed in a new uniform, and placed in a officer's coffin with a United States flag over it. Then he rode three miles to the see him buried. The rich doctor said to another officer standing by, "I'd give all my wealth to have the peace and power that boy had. He said it came from Jesus."

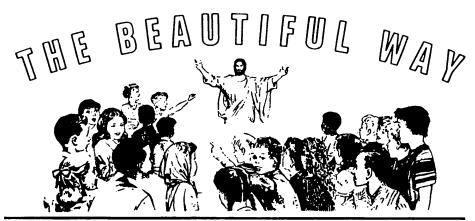
"I thought you didn't believe in Jesus?" his friend questioned.

"I don't believe in Jesus, I will never believe in Jesus — at least that is what I was taught to do, and that is the promise I gave my father before leaving Germany.

(To be continued)



Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

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(USPS549-000)

Part 3

July 15, 1990

The Barber

The remaining years of the war Dr. Rossvally was as busy as ever trying to save the lives of the men who were wounded in battle. Each time he amputated a leg or arm, he remembered Charlie, the boy who was loyal to his Saviour to the end. Many soldiers were treated by the army doctor. But not one had refused every form of drugs as the drummer boy had done. It was so he could have his mind clear at all times, Charlie had said.

After the war was over, the doctor was put in charge of the military hospital at Galveston, Texas. Days, weeks, and months passed until ten years had gone by. The doctor had forgotten Charlie's words, but he had not forgotten Charlie Coulson.

He continued going to the synagogue, praying standing facing the East and believing that Jesus was a deceiver, not the Messiah. He was now living in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Ruth, and children Abraham and Sarah. Besides having responsibilities of the hospital in Texas, he had been appointed to be an inspecting surgeon.

One very cold day in February he was returning home from an inspection trip. The train stopped in New York City, so he rented a hotel room to get some much needed rest. After dinner, he went into the barber shop to get his face shaved before catching the evening train for Washington.

On the walls of the barber shop hung sixteen different Bible verses. They were attractively written in colored ink and framed in beautiful wooden frames. Another sign read: "Please don't swear in this room."

Dr. Rossvally had just begun reading the Scriptures when the barber began brushing on the shaving soap and talking at the same time. "I see we are kinfolk," he said, "I'm a Jew. And you?"

"I'm a Jew by nationality and also by religion," the doctor answered.

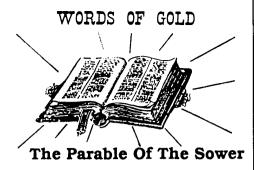
"I thought so," he said. "Then we are both important people in this world. The Jews were God's special people. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the old patriarchs brought God's Word to the people. Even the laws of our United States are based on the Commandments God gave the Jews."

All the while he shaved the doctor, he talked about the Bible. The doctor had to keep his mouth still or get cut by the razor, so he just listened.

Before long the barber began saying that Jesus was the Messiah that the Jews were looking for. Then he said, "When I was a little boy, I prayed toward the East. I was taught that Jesus was a terrible impostor, and that I should never worship Him. However, one day, something happened that changed my thinking." Then he went into detail about where he lived and who he met leading up to his change.

There was something about this man that caused the doctor to remember Charlie Coulson. He felt drawn like an unseen magnet was there. He had felt the same thing in the drummer boy.

Dr. Rossvally was so interested in what the barber was saying that he asked for a haircut. When his hair was cut, he asked for a shampoo. He still wanted to stay and listen but didn't want the man to know he was



Matthew 13:1 The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.

- 2 And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
- 3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow:
- 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
- 5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
- 6 And when the sun was up, they were searched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
- 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
- 8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
- 18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
- 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.
- 20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;
- 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
- 22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of

riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Central thought: The seed of God's Word will grow only in the hearts of those who love the Word and obey it.



Questions:

- 1. What does the seed represent?
- 2. Who do you think is the sower?
- 3. Men's hearts are represented by what?
- 4. What happens when a person does not understand the Word?
- 5. What happens to the Word that falls on stony ground?
- 6. Why did the plants dic, which fell on stony ground?
- 7. What choked the plants among the thorns? 8. He who hears and understands the Word is called
- 9. How much fruit did the plants on good ground bear?

Memory verse: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James 1:22



The seed either grew or died, depending upon the kind of ground into which it fell. If it fell on hard, packed earth, it did not even swell and sprout. If it fell on stony ground where the earth was shallow, it grew up but soon withered and died. If it fell among thorns, the thorns grew more rapidly than the good plant and after a while choked it. If it fell on good ground, it grew into a healthy plant.

These four different kinds of ground represent all the people in the world, for all people have an opportunity to hear the Word of God. The Bible, in Titus 2:11 says, "The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

The person who hears the Word is the one who causes it to grow or not to grow. God does not make one heart hard, one heart stony, another heart full of thorns and another heart good.

Each person is the carctaker or gardener of his own heart. He allows his heart to grow hard by not being careful to pay attention to the little impressions from his conscience. When a person feels he should do something and does not do it, he is making his heart hard. Or if his conscience causes him to feel he should not do something, and he does it anyway, he is also causing his heart to become hard. His heart grows a littler harder each time he ignores his conscience. Then when he hears the Word of God, his heart is so hard he cannot understand it. This is the seed that fell by the wayside.

Don't fear if your heart is hard. There is still hope for the person with a hard heart. If he will diligently seek God to give him understanding of the Word, God will do that. God will not let the Devil steal away the Word if the person really wants to understand it. When the seed fell on the stony ground, it sprang up quickly, but became discouraged when trouble came. A person who has been hurt by others and will not forgive will have a stony heart. He feels that the world has not treated him fairly. Then when he has to

suffer because of the Gospel, he thinks that it is too much suffering and so he gives up his salvation. He is already tired of suffering hurts. If he would have forgiven those past hurts, he would have forgotten all about the suffering. It would have been as if he hadn't been hurt. The suffering of persecutions or tribulations would not have seemed so bad, if it had not been stacked on top of a lot of other unforgiven hurts.

Hope for the stony-hearted person is found if he will ask God to help him dig out and forgive hurts of the past. Getting rid of the hurts of the past will give the roots a chance to reach the good soil.

The seeds that fell among the thorns, fell into a heart that loves the world more than it loves God. This person has been disobeying the greatest of all commandments. "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." He has disobeyed it for a long time, so the weeds and thorns have grown strong.

Hope for a person with a thorny heart is that they cry to God for mercy and force themselves to spend more time reading the Bible and praying so their love for God will grow. If they allow themselves to continue working hard to get rich, or studying hard to be the best student, or doing whatever things they have loved most, their love for the world will choke out the Word which they have heard.

Let each of us look into our hearts today. If someone finds that he or she does not understand the Word, ask God to help you understand it so the Devil cannot snatch it away. If we see our heart is stony, ask God to remove the stones. If you have hopes of getting rich or love the things of this world very much, ask God to change your love and work hard to help yourself. If your love and understanding of God's Word is good, then just cultivate it by staying close to God.

-Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. The Word of the kingdom, or God's Word. 2. Jesus and His ministers. 3. The different kinds of earth. 4. The wicked one takes it away. 5. It grows up fast, but soon dies. 6. Because their roots were not deep in the earth. 7. The problems of life and the idea that riches would bring happiness, 8. Good ground, 9. Some 100, some 60, and some 30.)

interested. What else could the barber do for him? Nothing. So he said, "I need to catch the next train to Washington, so I'd better hurry on."

He paid the barber, and took his coat down from the hook. While he was putting on his coat, the barber said, "Say, it's awfully icy out there, and you're not accustomed to the walkway. I shall walk with you."

He steaded the doctor all the way to the station. He said little except cautioning about dangerous places in the walk.

Once at the station the barber continued to talk about the peace, strength, and happiness that he had found in Jesus. Then he added, "You may think it strange that I talk to you like this and walked you to the station, friend. Take my Friend, Jesus, as your Friend" he pleaded with tears flowing down his cheeks.

The two men shook hands. The doctor was eager to get away, but the barber held the doctor's hand with both of his as he would an old friend with whom he hated to part. "Now sir," he was saying, "if you don't mind, I would love to have your name, or business card, I promise you that each day, for three months, I shall call your name in prayer. May God go with you and Christ speak to you, until you find that He is your Saviour and the Messiah for which you are looking."

The doctor took a card from his pocket and handed it to the barber, saying rather sneeringly, "I fear there isn't much danger of me becoming a Christian."

"And now, Sir, my parting words. Will you please send me a letter if God should ever answer my prayers? Here is my card."

"I certainly will," the doctor said very confidently, for he thought the man's prayers would never be answered.

"It is good to be home," he said to his wife, the next morning.

"Great to have you back," she answered, as they sat down to breakfast with the children.

After breakfast, Dr. Rossvally picked up the newspaper he had bought on his way home from the train station. One of the first things that caught his eye was the announcement of a revival in one of the largest churches in Washington. A little voice seemed to whisper in his hear, "Go to the revival."

"Me, go to that church?" he questioned himself. "I have never been inside a Chris-

tian church during worship service." Then he felt the same pull. It was an irresistible pull. "I'll just walk by and see what's going on," he told himself.

"I will be going out for a while," he told his wife. "Bring my wraps, please."

She brought his wraps and bid him goodbye.

Against the cold bitter February wind, he made his way to the church. There it was standing big and beautiful. Hatred welled in his heart. "In that building, people are being deceived," he muttered to himself. Then he looked all around. Were any of his friends watching him? What if his wife found out what he was doing? She was also a Jew. She would be ashamed of him. How would this affect his children or his in-laws, who lived in the house across the street from his?

"I can't go in there," he told himself. Then the magnet pull became harder and harder. "I'll come back tonight when it's dark," he promised, hurrying back to the warmth of his house.

(To be continued)



Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey. Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 4

July 22, 1990

Separation

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After his children were in bed, Dr. Rossvally excused himself and left the house. It had been cold in the morning, but the sun had warmed him a little during the day. Without the sun, the cold night wind seemed to cut his face and chill his bones.

He arrived early and very few people were there, so he found a seat close to the front. The service was different all right. For one thing, the people that he could see acted like they were really enjoying themselves. There was nothing sad nor monotonous about the service. He saw in their eyes the same look of peace and contentment that he had seen in the eyes of Charlie and the barber.

When the preacher was talking, Dr. Rossvally thought he kept pointing to someone behind him. Finally overcome with curiosity he turned to see who it was. To his surprise, the house was full! Some of the faces he recognized. He felt like 2,000 pairs of eyes were looking at him and saying to themselves. "There's a Jew in the house."

He had a sudden eagerness to get away, but he couldn't do that. He was crying, and if he walked out many people would see his tears. Then he imagined a news article reading like this, "Dr. Rossvally, a well known and respectable army surgeon, and also an orthodox Jew, was present at the revival servicesheld just five minute's walk from the synagogue he usually attends." He surely didn't want that to happen, nor did he wish for anyone to see him crying. He knew they would if he took out his handkerchief. "I'll not cry any more," he told himself, but the

tears kept coming. He couldn't understand. It was something he couldn't control, kind of like the tugging he'd felt when he followed Charlie to the grave.

Finally the service was over. He was anxious to leave, but the preacher was inviting people to stay for another service. Dr. Rossvally waited until the aisles were empty then arose and headed for the door, slipping on his coat as he went. Just as he was passing through the door, he felt a tug on his coat. He turned around to see an old lady hanging on to it.

"Excuse me, Sir," she said. "I have been watching you all evening and believe that God is speaking to you to be saved. I beg you not to leave this house until you find your Saviour. God may not speak again, and we must answer when He calls. Do come back, I want to talk to you and will pray with you if you would like."

"Madam," he answered, "I am a Jew."

"That is wonderful. Jesus was a Jev. He died for the Jew as well as everyone else."

The magnet pulled again, and Dr. Rossvally followed the woman back into the chapel, and up the aisle to the front.

"Now if you will kneel, I will pray for you," she said.

"I have never kneeled to pray, I have no plans of ever kneeling to pray. Jews stand when they pray."

The lady looked into the doctor's eyes and said, "That will be fine. I know the God I serve can save a Jew standing on his feet. I will now kneel and ask Him to do it."

The doctor, dressed in officer's uniform, stood gallantly tall in the chapel, while the



Tares Among The Wheat

Matthew 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also

27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

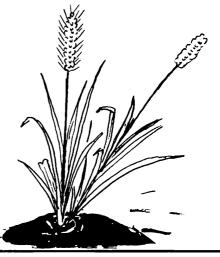
41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his

kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of toth

43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath cars to hear, let him hear.

Central thought: The world is like a field in which both good and bad plants are growing beside one another: Christians are the good plants.



Questions:

- 1. Who is he that soweth the good seed?
- 2. What did the sower sow?
- 3. Where did he sow the good seed?
- 4. What does the field represent?
- 5. Who is the enemy that sowed the tares?
- 6. When is the harvest?
- 7. Who are the wheat plants?
- 8. Why did the sower not want the tares uprooted?
- 9. What will happen to the wheat and the tares at the end of the world?

Memory Verse: Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Eph. 6:10



Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a large field in which the owner planted good seed. During the night an enemy of the owner came and planted weeds among the good plants. Isn't that just what happened in the world? God created everything good in the beginning. The Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve lived had only good things. They had no trouble. After a while though, the Devil came into the garden and planted evil thoughts in the mind of Eve. From that time on, evil and good have been in the world.

`Everyone has to make a choice. They have to choose to serve the good and be a good plant, or they choose to do evil and be a tare. I hope that everyone who reads this lesson will choose to live for Jesus and be a good plant.

It would be nice to live in a world without evil as it was in the beginning, but that is not possible. Evil is here to stay. Jesus said in another place. "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse.." (II Tim. 3:13)

We can not root out all the evil from the world, so we might as well prepare ourselves to not allow the evil to get inside of us. Jesus said, let the tares alone until the end of the world.

I know of a group of people who believe it is their responsibility to root out all the evil from the Church. The government of the Church is on Jesus' shoulders. (Isa. 9:6). He will take out and put in according to His judgment.

Another group of people believe that Jesus is coming again to reign on this earth as soon as they get the earth prepared spiritually. They are working hard and getting many others to help clean up the Christians in America. They think this will hurry the coming of Jesus. Remember, the king said, "Let them both grow together until the harvest, then I will say to the reapers, gather ye together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them." There will be evil in the world until Jesus comes again.

Let us not be a tare, but let us do all the good we can. Let us live holy and do good kind deeds. In this way we let our light

shine. Some may see our light and turn to the Lord and then there will be one less tare.

—Sis. Charlotte

Deeds of Kindness

Suppose the little Cowslip
Should hang its golden cup
And say, "I'm such a little flower
I'd better not grow up!"
How many weary travelers
Would miss its fragrant smell,
How many a little child would grieve
To lose it from the dell!

Suppose the glistening dewdrop
Upon the grass should say,
"What can a little dewdrop do?
I'd better roll away!"
The blade on which it rested,
Before the day was done
Without a drip to moisten it,
Would wither in the sun.

Suppose the little breezes,
Upon a summer's day,
Should think themselves too small to cool
The traveler on his way.
Who would not miss the smallest
And the softest ones that blow,
And think they made a great mistake
If they were acting so?

How many deeds of kindness
A little child can do,
Although it has but little strength
And little wisdom tool
It wants a loving spirit
Much more than strength to prove
How many things a child can do
For others by its love.

—Selected



(Answers: 1. The Son of man (Jesus) 2. He sowed good wheat seed. 3. In the field. 4. The world. 5. The devil. 6. The end of the world. 7. The righteous. 8. Because there was danger of destroying the wheat while uprooting the tares. 9. The tares will be gathered and burned. The righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.)

old lady kneeling at his feet began praying in carnest for God to save the Jew.

He felt embarrassed and ashamed. He wondered who of his acquaintance had by now recognized him. These thoughts soon vanished however, for he was intrigued by the lady's way of praying. It was not legalistic nor repetition from memory like the prayers of the Jews. She was talking as if God was standing right beside her. She was speaking to Him like one would to a good friend.

Suddenly his past life came back into his memory. Wicked things he had done years before were making him feel guilty. He wanted to get them off his mind and be relieved of the heavy guilt. "If I could just get out of here, I think I would shake this," he told himself. He was too respectful to leave while the old woman was praying, so he waited.

When she arose, she offered her hand saying at the same time, "Will you promise me that you will pray before you go to bed tonight?"

"Yes, I will. I will pray to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

"Then you will be praying to my Jesus," she said, "For my Jesus is also the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and He is your Messiah. I am Mrs. Young, if you ever need me."

The doctor thanked the lady for her kindness, and left the church as hurriedly as possible. He fairly flew home, never noticing the bitter cold.

"You're out of breath. What has happened?" his wife questioned.

He trembled to think of telling her where he had been and what he had done. Neither did he wish to lie to her, so he said, "Ruth, please don't ask me any questions; and if you don't mind, I would like to be alone in my study for a while."

"Very, well, I am going to bed,"

He closed and locked the door. Then standing facing the East, he began to pray. He repeated every prayer he knew, always addressing them to "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." The longer he prayed the worse he felt. The feeling of guilt for all his sins got heavier and heavier as he thought of more and more sins he had committed. He tired himself out praying and felt no different. Finally he submitted to kneeling as the

old lady had done. Fear gripped his heart.

"Would he become deceived by this Jesus if he bowed to pray, as the Christians do?" he asked. "I promised my father, I would never worship Jesus."

The night was bitter cold. The room had not been heated that day, yet he was perspiring as one does after a long run on a very hot day. He fell to his knees and began praying much like the woman at the church had done. To his surprise, he started feeling better. The darkness and confusion in his mind cleared. He could understand prophecies in the Old Testament, which he had never before understood. The heavy guilty feeling floated away, and he felt light enough to float. He was happy, happier than he had ever been. Jesus was his Saviouri

"I must share this with my wife," he said. "She is looking for the Messiah just as I have been." Remembering that she had already gone to bed, he looked at the grandfather clock. It was 2:00 o'clock. "It's a bad time to wake her, but I just can't keep this good news."

He dashed into their bedroom shouting, "Ruth, Ruth, wife, I've found the Messiahl I've found the Messiahl"

"What?" she asked sleepily.

"I've found the Messiah!"
"From whom?" she asked, jumping out of bed and pushing him back.

"Jesus, is the Messiah. He is my Saviour. He is the Christi"

She spoke no other word. She put on her clothes, went to the closet and took out some other clothes.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "Aren't you happy that the Messiah has come. We've been expecting Him."

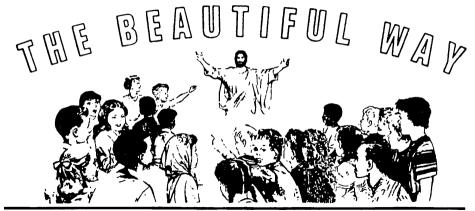
She gave no exclamation. Putting on her coat and throwing the clothes over her shoulder, she walked out into the freezing wind, while he was begging, "Ruth, Ruth, please don't."

From the open door, he watched her go across the key street to her parent's house. She went in and close the door behind her.

He knew by what she had done, that she wanted to remain a Jewess. Her religion would not allow her to live with a Christian, even though the Christian was a spouse.

(To be continued)

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Vol. 41. No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 5

July 29, 1990

The Letters

Dr. Rossvally felt strange being without his wife. "Oh, Ruth, Ruth, why did you leave me?" he cried, and fell on his knees in prayer. While he was praying, someone knocked on the door.

Old Josh, the gardener for Ruth's parents, was standing on the porch. "Ruth has sent me to get the children," he said.

The doctor had already decided to let Ruth have the children. He hoped it would cause her to come back to him.

Later that day she sent a note. It said: "I will never again call you my husband, nor will the children be allowed to call you Father, unless you admit that Jesus is not the Messiah. I would rather lose you than to be cast out of the synagogue and counted as dead by my parents."

Every day the doctor watched the house across the street, hoping that he might see his Ruth or one of the children in the yard. He sent messages, but the notes were torn into tiny pieces before they were read.

Five days later, Dr. Rossvally was ordered to go away on government business. He planned many ways to see his family and tell them good-bye, but every scheme failed.

Ruth must have heard that he was leaving, for just before he left she sent another note. It read like this: "As long as you call Jesus the Saviour, I nor the children will have any dealings with you. You must give up your Jesus or us. Which one will you choose?"

"I can but choose my Jesus, for He is God," he told himself.

Dr. Rossvally waved to the house across the street as he was driving away. "Abraham

or Sarah might be peeking out a window," he mumbled.

He was a strong man but after he got scated on the train, he broke, and cried. He was going 1,300 miles away. When he would be back he did not know. When he would get to hear from his children or his dear wife, he did not know.

The very next morning, he wrote a letter to his wife. The next day he wrote another. Every day he wrote a letter and everyday he prayed that God would soften her heart and cause her to read the letters.

Back in Washington, D.C., the snow was deep. Sarah was building a snowman in the yard when a pony came galloping up. The rider reigned the pony to a slow trot and shouted to Sarah, "A letter from Mr. Rossvally."

Sarah took the letter and ran to the house shouting over and over "A letter! A letter!" As she opened the door she called "Mama, a letter from Pa — from Dr. Rossvally," she finished almost in a whisper.

Ruth was sitting beside the fireplace embroidering a rose on a new collar for Sarah. She laid down her sewing and came into the kitchen.

"I'm glad you caught yourself," she said to Sarah. "Remember, don't call him Papa or you'll lose all four of your grandparents, also your uncles, your aunts and your cousins. Let me have the letter."

She took the letter. Sarah and the cook watched from the door as she threw it into the fire.

"Mama, don't burn Daddy's letter. I want to read it."



The Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said.

- 2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,
- 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.
- 4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.
- 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:
- 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.
- 7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
- 8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.
- 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.
- 10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
- 11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
- 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
- 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and

cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

Central thought: God calls all men to repent and know Jesus as their Saviour, but only a few will heed the call. Therefore only a few will be chosen to enter heaven.



Questions:

- 1. What is the lesson about?
- 2. How were the people invited?
- 3. Why did the king send his servants the second time?
- 4. What were some excuses for not coming to the feast?
- 5. What happened to the people who would not come?
- 6. What were the servants commanded to do the third time they went out?
- 7. Why was one guest asked to leave the wedding?
- 8. What happened to the man who came without a wedding garment?
- 9. Can you tell what the characters in this story represent?

Memory verse: "Many are called, but few are chosen." (Matt. 22:14)



flowers are beautiful, the music lovely. The cake is sweet and the punch and other food are so-o- yummy! The bride and bridesmaids are as attractive as any fairy in a story book. The groom and groomsmen look so knightly and handsome. Those in the crowd, dressed in their very best, greet one another cheerfully. Yes, wedding time is a happy time.

The bride and groom light the unity candle and put out their individual candles. A wedding is the uniting of two persons. Getting saved is also the uniting of two. The person getting saved is uniting with Jesus. Because getting saved is like a marriage, Jesus often used a wedding to illustrate the kingdom of heaven.

In today's lesson a man made a wedding feast and could not get people to come and enjoy it with him. Jesus told this story because He wants men, women and children to understand that God is making a wedding for them. He will to be married to the Church. Everyone who comes to know Jesus as their personal Saviour, becomes a part of the Church of God, which is Christ's spiritual bride. Everyone is invited to be a bride in this wedding. If a reader is not saved, won't you be saved today and take part in the wedding that God is preparing?

Jesus is inviting everyone to come but if someone does not come, He will go invite someone else. Heaven will be filled on that great day when the whole Church unites with God in heaven. Whoever does not accept Jesus will just miss out on the happy wedding.

Today God is sending men into the highways to seek out those who are willing to come. When Jesus speaks to a heart inviting that person to be His child, the person should answer. "Yes, Jesus, I will come to you." We must never laugh about it as some of those in the story. ("They made light of it," means they took it as a joke.) Neither should we make excuses as they did. Excuses will only keep us from getting into heaven, just as it kept the people from enjoying the wedding feast.

God invites, but each person must put on the wedding garment of salvation or he can not get into heaven, even though he may attend the church here on earth. In our lesson, one man was thrown out of the feast because he did not have on a wedding garment. No one will be chosen to go into heaven unless he has on a spiritual covering of salvation.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. A king having a wedding feast for his son. 2. Servants were sent to invite them personally. 3. Because those invited did not come. 4. Some did not consider in important; others went to work on their farms; others to their jobs. Excuses might have been something like this, "I have other more important things to do." "I must care for my farm animals." "I must plant today." 'I must keep my place of business open or l will lose customers." 5. They were destroyed. Go into the highways (streets), and as many as ye shall find, bid, (invite) to the marriage. 7. Because he did not have on a wedding garment. 8. He was cast out. 9. The king is God; the son, is Jesu;, the servants are prophets, preachers, and teachers. The people who were invited are people who hear the Word of God and either accept or reject it; the man without the wedding garment represents persons who try to be a part of the Church but are not saved.)

"You'll get yourself in a heap of trouble if you don't watch out," the cook cautioned.

"You must never read a letter from him. God will punish you for it. Grandpa will curse us and send us away, and we could not go again to the synagogue. Remember, never read his letters."

Sarah went back outside biting her lip. She tried hard to finish the snowman, but all she could do was think of her papa so far away and wonder what his letter had to say.

The next day another letter came. It was also burned. The next day, the third letter came, then the fourth, the fifth, the sixth, and the seventh. For a month, Sarah and Abraham watched everyday as their mother destroyed each letter from their father. Sarah loved her papa. She was the younger child and his little pet. Every time a letter came, Sarah hoped against hope that her mother would read it. Sometimes she said, "Please, Mama——"Her mother's quick rebuke made her stop.

More and more letters came: 49, 5051, 52, 53, 54, letters came. One letter came each day. All 54 letters were destroyed. Not one of them was read.

"Mama," Sarah said very softly, "can't I just read one letter from my dear ----." Hush my child, her mother ordered.

That night Sarah went to bed with a sad troubled mind. The next morning she got up with a different attitude.

Soon after breakfast she put on a sweater and went out into the fresh spring air. She busied herself watching a mud dauber roll a ball of mud and carry it way. Then she discovered a crocus breaking through the crusted ground. A red cardinal flew away to the blossom-covered cherry tree where she had seen her nest. All the while she was amusing herself, she was listening for the hoofbeats of the pony.

She looked down at her chest. Her heart was beating fast. She thought she might see it moving her blouse. Questions. Multitudes of questions flooded her. "Would anyone see her receive Father's letter? Would she really be sinning against God if she read a letter form her own loving Papa? Would Grandpa send them away. Would the church not allow them to hear prayers said after she read the letter?" One thing she knew for sure, she was going to save this letter.

Suddenly she heard the sound of the horse's hoofs. She ran to the edge of the garden and reached her hand out into the lane to catch the letter. The pony rider dropped it into her hand without slowing up. That was good. Mama might think it was just a rider going by.

Quickly she slipped it under her sweater and dashed, light as a feather, into the house and up the stairs. She shut and locked the door behind her. There in her bedroom, she calmed her racing heart and wiped her sweaty hands. Then, carefully, very carefully, without making the least bit of noise, she opened her father's letter.

Fighting back tears, she read every word carefully. Then she read it again, and again. "Oh, daddy, daddy, you're the same good daddy you've always been." she sobbed quietly.

(To be continued)



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Vol. 41. No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 6

Aug. 5, 1990

United

Sarah held her father's letter close to her pounding heart. It was hers forever, the fifty-fifth letter that he had sent and the first one she had read. What it would cost her, she didn't know. One thing she did know was that her daddy wasn't bad like her mother and grandparents were saying.

When she finally went downstairs, her mother saw her tear-stained face and asked, "Sarah, why have you been crying?"

Suddenly Sarah felt cold and sweaty. Her heart was racing like it wanted to run away. She opened her mouth to speak, but no words came out.

"Why have you been crying?" her mother asked again. "And why are you so frightened? What have you been doing?"

Sarah, trembling with fear, said, "Oh Mama, please, Mama, if you promise not to be angry, I'll tell you why I'm crying. Oh, Mama, I'm so afraid."

Don't be afraid, Sarah, dear, Mother won't be angry, she said softly.

"I had a terrible dream last night. I dreamed that Pa—Pa—"

"Go ahead, what did you dream."

"I dreamed, that Pa— Papa died," she blurted out. "He's a good, good Papa he is. Last night I promised myself that I would keep his next letter. Mama, I've done an awful thing. I ——I —I read his letter. Please don't be angry with me. But Mama, he's still good, as good as ever. A bad man couldn't write a letter like that."

"Hand me the letter," Mrs. Rossvally ordered.

"Please, Mama, please read it" Sarah begged.

Ruth hurried away to her bedroom with the letter. Sarah heard the door lock.

Sarah waited in stone silence. "Would her mother destroy the letter or was she reading it?" Sarah wondered and waited for what seemed to be a long, long time.

Ruth's eyes were red and swollen when she finally came out of the room. Sarah breathed a sigh of relief. "Why are you crying?" she asked.

"Child, my heart aches."

"But did you read the letter? Are you going to tell Grandpa that I read it?"

"I read it through five times."

"Then you are going to keep it?"

"I hid it in my desk."

Mother was unusually quiet the rest of the day and stayed in her room hours at a time. It made Sarah afraid.

The next day, however, she did not destroy her husband's letter. Sarah felt very happy about that.

For days Ruth was very sad. She ate very little and stayed in her bedroom, crying. Then one day she came out happy. "I'm going to send a telegram to your Papa," she said.

Sarah went with her mother to send the telegram. This is what it said: "Dear Husband.

Come home at once. I thought you were wrong, and I was right. I found that you are right and I am wrong. Last night at 11:19 p.m., I too found the Messiah. He is Jesus Christ your Saviour and mine."

When Dr. Rossvally received the telegram. He left all his work and got on the next express train heading for Washington.



The Ten Virgins

Matthew 25:1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

- 2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.
- 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:
- 4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
- 5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
- 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.
- 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.
- 9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.
- 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.
- 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
- 12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.
- 13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

- 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
- 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Ephesians 5:13 But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

- 14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.
- 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, by as wise,
- 16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Central thought: To receive a good reward, the Christian must keep pure and have his light glowing when Jesus calls for him.



Questions:

- 1. For what were the virgins looking?
- 2. What did the foolish virgins not do?
- 3. When did the bridegroom come?
- 4. Why did the wise not wish to share their oil?
- 5. What happened while the foolish virgins went to buy oil?
- 6. Did the foolish virgins get to go into the wedding feast?
- 7. What did the Lord promise to those who keep watching with their lamps burning brightly?
- 8. Does anyone know the time when Jesus will come?
- 9. In what way must the Christian walk?

Memory verse: "See then that ye walk circumspectly [cautiously], not as fools, but as wise," (Eph. 5:15)



The disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Tell us, what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

Jesus told them when certain things would be happening, they would know that the end of the world was near. These are some of the things He said would be happening near the end of the world: 1. There will be many wars and talk of more wars. 2. Men will be crying "Peace, peace," but there will be no peace. 3. There will be much tribulation. 4. People will be eating, drinking, and marrying as they did in the days of Noah. 5. They will be careless about keeping their spiritual lights burning.

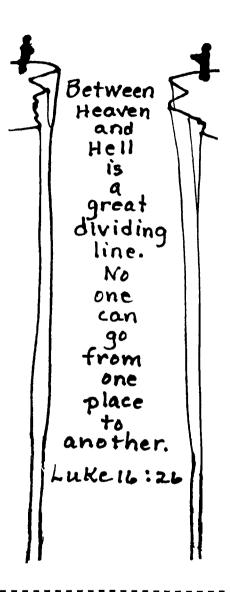
To help the people understand what He meant about keeping their spiritual lamps bright, He told the story about the "Ten Virgins."

Remember, Jesus said this is one of the ways people will be acting near the end of the world. He is saying that when He does come, only half of the Christians will be ready. The others will have become careless and lost the burning Spirit of God out of their heart. There were ten virgins, right? All ten virgins were pure, so they represent the Christian people. Five of these virgins were letting their light shine, but five of them did not have enough oil in their lamps to keep them burning. Five is half of ten, so only half of the Christians will be glowing for Christ when He comes. The other five will be in spiritual darkness.

There are many ways that oil will help a Christian. The oil is the Holy Spirit. Christians need the fuel of the Holy Spirit in their lives to supply power to be victorious over sin and the desires of the flesh, just as many machines use oil for fuel power to keep running.

Oil is also used to keep machinery from squeaking. So the Holy Spirit will give a person power to be gentle and kind instead of angry and squeaky. Oil is also used on the skin to smooth irritations from dry skin. It is also used to beautify. The Holy Spirit will smooth irritations and make one more beautiful.

Having the Holy Spirit to keep us victorious is the way that a Christian keeps oil in his lamp so his light will shine.—Sis. Charlotte



Answers: 1. For the bridegroom, 2. They did not take enough oil for their lamps: 3. At midnight, 4. They would not have enough for themselves, 5. The bridegroom came and went into the feast and shut the door 6. No. 7. He promised that he would serve them. 8. No. 9. He must walk circumspectly, or cautiously.) The next day Ruth and the children went to stay across the street in their own home. Everyday they watched the road for a carriage bringing their father.

One day the carriage came. Ruth, Sarah, and Abraham rushed from their house to the carriage. Dr. Rossvally jumped down and hugged all three at the same time.

Ruth's parents saw them together and pronounced a curse against them in the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac and-Jacob.

Sarah had lost her grandparents, her uncles, her aunts and her cousins because she accepted her Christian father.

Later, a letter came from her grandmother who lived in Germany. Her daddy was so happy to hear from her He laid the other letters on the table and hurriedly opened the letter. "Oh, my," he said, "Listen, Ruth, and I'll read you Mother's letter. It doesn't say, 'Dear Son', as usual, neither does it have a date. It just says, 'Max: You are no longer my son; we have burned you in effigy; we mourn you as dead. And may the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob strike you blind, deaf, and dumb, and damn your soul forever. You have left your father's religion and the synagogue for that Jesus "The Impostor," and now take your mother's curse. Clara."

"Ruth she didn't even sign it, 'Mother.' "

"No, you're not her son any more, and I'm not a daughter of my parents. Max, we'll have to stand alone for Christ."

"No, not alone. We have each other and Jesus is always by our side. I found that out soon after I got saved."

Sarah walked over to her papa and put her arms around him. Then laying her head on his shoulder, she said, "Papa, I'll always be with you. And Papa what did Grandma mean by 'burning you in effigy?' "

"Well, burning in effigy means that Grandma and others who believe like her, got together and burned a picture of me and pronounced me to be dead."

"But you aren't dead."

"No, I am not. I am very much alive in body and have a new life in Christ. Oh, Ruth, I now know how badly you felt when your parents cursed you. Now I understand King David's feelings when he said, When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

Sixteen months later Dr. Rossvally was on a job in Brooklyn and went into a church for prayer meeting. Many people were standing up and telling of ways that God had shown His love to them. An old sister stood up and said. "Dear friends, this may be the last time I will get to testify, so I want to take this opportunity. The doctor who examined me said one of my lungs is almost completely destroyed and the other is badly afflicted with the same disease. So you see, I don't have long to live, but what is left of me is all for Jesus. I do not fear to die. I am looking forward to meeting my son in heaven. My son died from being hurt in a battle. He was a good soldier for our country and a good soldier for Jesus. After the Battle of Gettysburg, his leg was amputated by a Jewish doctor. The army chaplain sent me his Bible and wrote me a letter telling me that just before Charlie died, he called the doctor and said to the doctor, "While you were amputating my leg. I was praying for you to believe in Jesus and be saved."

Dr. Rossvally thought the woman's son must have been Charlie Coulson, so he went and asked her name. Then he said, "I am the Jewish doctor who amputated your son's leg. Your son's prayers were answered about eighteen months ago when I was saved in my own home. Now my wife is also a Christian."

I will never forget Charlie, he sticks to me like iron does to a magnet." —Selected

THE END



Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 7

Aug. 12, 1990

The Water Tank Message

(A true story)

Bennett raised his eyes and peered through the leaves, "Are listening, God?" he questioned.

"I know I promised to do whatever you wanted, but I can't do that. Why, I can hardly read. How could I study the Bible? Have you forgotten, Lord? I lived out in the backwoods far from a school when I was a boy? Now, God, don't get me wrong, I'm not being rebellious, I'm just not educated."

"Could the God that made all the world, teach a boy to read?"

"Yes, Lord, if you think I'm worth your time," Bennett answered.

"Well, that's settled. If God teaches me to read, I'll do it." He got up and brushed the dust from his pants and started for the barn.

Halfway to the barn, he went back to the tree where he often prayed, and carved a heart and the date deep into the bark of the tree. "This is a reminder of the time and place where I gave my whole heart to God, even my weakness and lack of education. From now on, I'm God's man through and through."

He began trying to read the Bible. Before long, he was able to read very well, and had learned many promises in the Word.

For twenty-three years he had trouble hearing. One day he read a prophecy about Christ in Isaiah 53:5, which says, "With His stripes we are healed." He also read in Luke 4:40, "All they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them, and healed them." "Jesus healed all the people when He was on the earth," he mused. "And

I read some place else, let's see where was that? Oh, yes, in Hebrews 13:8, 'Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today, and forever.' Then He can heal me. I'll just ask Him to do it." He did. Bennett was able to hear clearly again.

Bennett began preaching once in a while in the nearby church. He also worked hard on his farm trying to make a living for his family, but no rain came that year and his crops dried up before producing fruit. Fall came and also the neighbor from whom he had borrowed money.

"Mr. Bennett," he said. "The drouth hit me as well as you. I'll need that money you borrowed before the winter is over.

Bennett heard there were jobs in South Dakota, so he went. Sure enough he got a job cutting timber at Keystone. In about a month he saved up enough money to send for his family. He also made enough money to send the neighbor all the money he had borrowed.

"Say, honey," he said to his wife, "We're out of debt now, and I'd like to get back on the farm again."

"I've never seen a good farm since I came to these parts," she answered.

"But I have a good job offer from Mr. Cox. He's got a big ranch and raises cattle. He said you could cook for the ranch hands, too. That way we could both be bringing in money."

"Sounds like a good idea," she said.

They moved on the Cox's ranch. Soon after that, a Baptist minister asked Bennett if he was a Christian.

"That I am." Bennett answered.



Parable Of The Talents

Matthew 25:14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredest unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Central thought: It is very important that a Christian develop the talents which God has given him and use those talents according to God's will.



Questions:

- 1. What did the man give to his servants?
- 2. Why did some servants receive more talents than other servants?
- 3. What did the servant who had five talents do?
- 4. What did the servant do with his one talent?
- 5. What did the Lord say to those who had used their talents?
- 6. What excuse did the servant with one talent give?
- 7. What did the Lord call him?
- 8. What should the servant have done?
- 9. What should we do with our talents?

Memory verse: "That servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes."

(Luke 12:47)



The word "talent" has several meanings. The Lord, in our lesson, gave his servants money. It was called a talent because in those ancient times a talent was a unit of money. It was also a unit of weight. My Bible says a talent was \$5,280.

The money which the servants received was not earned; it was given to them by their Lord. It was like a free trust which the Lord had given to each one, to use until he returned.

Just as the lord gave to his servants talents of money, so the Lord has given to each person talents. They are not the same kind of talents, but they were given to us; we did not earn them.

A talent is an ability to do a certain thing easily and well. Some people have many of these abilities. Some people have only a few. Some have only one.

It is impossible to list all the talents which God has given for they are too many, but we can list a few: music, singing, drawing, painting, writing, speaking, building, repairing, nursing, and many others.

It is true that most everyone can speak, but some people can do it easily and what they say is very interesting. That is their talent. Most anyone can sit beside a sick person, but those with a talent for nursing can really care for the patient.

Some children think they have no talent, but I am sure that God has given everyone at least one. Often a child feels he has no talent because he is wishing to have a talent he sees in someone else. Everyone should take a serious look at their own abilities and work to make those abilities better. The talent must be developed. Every child of God must try hard to discover the talent God has given to him. Then he must prepare himself. Sometimes it takes a lot of training before a talent can be used to the glory of God.

Whatever the talent may be, God is expecting it to be used. We must not be afraid and hide it. A person is hiding his talent if he is not using it. Remember what God said to the servant who hid his? He told that servant that he had been slothful and was a wicked man. Then he commanded another servant

to take the talent away, and to throw the unprofitable servant into outer darkness, where there would be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Who would want to be treated like that? I surely would not, so I think I shall use my talent in the best way I can. Will you do the same?

All those who use their talent to glorify God can expect to hear these words from the Lord, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

—Sis. Charlotte



"Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;

Where there is hatred let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much

Seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand; To be loved as to love."—Selected



"There is no growth without challenge, and there is no challenge without change."

—Selected

(Answers: 1. Talents: 2. The number of talents were given according to the servant's abilities. 3. He traded with them and earned five other talents. 4. He hid his talent. 5. Well done thou good and faithful servant. 6. He said, "Thou art a hard man, and I was afraid." 7. A wicked and slothful servant. 8. He should have at least loaned the money so it could have carned usury (interest); that would not have been any work for him. 9. We should use them to the glory of Cod.)

"What kind of a Christian are you?" he questioned. "I mean what church?"

"The Church of God," Bennett replied. "I believe in all the Bible. I try to do what I think Jesus would do if He were in my place."

"Then you and your family must come to Sunday school with us. We have Sunday school to learn. Perhaps you can teach us something we don't know. We want to know all of God's Word."

The next Sunday Bennett and his family went to Sunday school. After it was over, the superintendent asked, "Have you ever preached?"

"Yes," Bennett answered. "I've preached a few times."

"We would like to have you preach here this coming Sunday."

During the week Bennett and his family prayed for God to give the message which God would speak if He were the speaker.

God did. The people listened carefully and asked that he preach again in two weeks. Every two weeks on Sunday afternoon Benett preached to the ranchers and cowboys. From Monday through Saturday he did the work of a cowboy: feeding, chasing, roping, and once a year branding the cattle. Sometimes he carried water to the cow's watering tanks and filledthe cisterns of the houses on the ranch.

The cowboys from the ranches all around began attending. Some rode as far as 25 miles away from the church. They would hitch up their horses, hang their spurs and revolvers on their saddle horns and come in. There they listened in amazement to the preaching while tears coursed down their wrinkled weather-beaten faces "We've never heard anything like this," they said to each other. "Bennett doesn't talk like those educated preachers who are just reciting what they have learned in a big school." Sunday after Sunday the cowboys came.

One afternoon when Mr. and Mrs. Bennett had their children loaded in the wagon ready to start home, some of the cowboys rode up alongside the wagon and asked, "Couldn't you come and preach in our community? Lots of folks over there haven't gotten to hear this good stuff. Can't you come?"

"Sorry, boys," Bennett answered, "I don't have time. I work for Mr. Cox, and the Bible teaches to work hard and do right by your boss. He hired me six days a week from sun

up till sun down. That pretty well fills the day."

"Well, just thought we'd ask. Lots of folks over there would just love to know the truth, you preach." Then spurring in the horses, they were soon lost in a cloud of dust.

About halfway back to the ranch, Mrs. Bennett said, "I sure felt bad when you told those boys you didn't have time to go preach for them. I think it is time for us to move away from the ranch and go preaching the gospel."

"Aw Honey," Bennett answered, "you are homesick and want to go back to see your folks. Tell you what, I'll send you back for a visit. Stay as long as you like. I'll be here holding down this good job when you get back."

Mrs. Bennett said no more until the next Sunday morning. "I want to read to you Ephesians 6:5-7." She read, "'Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:"

"I suppose this is the Scripture that you feel justifies you in not going to preach for the boys. But I would like to know who your master is. Who are you going to obey from the heart, God or man?"

"You are homesick and want to go home," Bennett told her again. "Please, go on home."

"Sure I can go home, but that wouldn't get the gospel to hungry persons. God's not after me, He's after you."

"This is the best job, I've ever had. The work is so easy and I love to do it. I think that if you went home a while and to see your folks and maybe went to a camp meeting or two this summer, you would feel differently about it. Won't you try my suggestion. I am gaining at this job. We have all we want to eat, and with my wages I am investing for our future."

All she replied was, "I tell you Bennett, if you don't get out of here and into God's work, God is going to let something happen to you or me or maybe one of the children."

"You think I'm like Jonah trying to hide from the Lord? Maybe He will have to throw me overboard and get me willing."

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK, Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK, Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 8

Aug. 19, 1990

Praying Under A Water Tank

(Continued from last week)

Bennett hooked the four horses to the water wagon. "These two good teams will be able to pull the wagon when the tank is filled with water," he said to his little daughter Minnie. "When it's full, it weighs 6,000 lbs."

Minnie's big eyes grew larger. She thought that sounded as heavy as a big train she'd once seen. "May I go with you today?" she asked.

"Yes, get your little brother and sister. I'll take all of you."

Minnie climbed into the wagon. Bennett lifted in the other children.

They brought one tankful of water back and emptied it into the eistern. "Now Mama will have enough water to do the wash and to scrub down you children," he said winking at Minnie. "Let's go for another load."

Away they went after the second tank of water. As they came to the slope leading down into the Cheyenne River, the front wagon wheel fell into the ditch. Knowing the large tank might fall on him, Bennett jumped to his feet to leap clear, but alas, he had tied the brake rope across his lap and both ends were tied to the wagon. In the next instant the tank had crushed down on his back, forcing his head between his feet. As quick as you can blink your eye, Bennett remembered his wife saying, "Something is going to happen to you or me or one of the children."

"Papa, Papa, what shall I do?" wailed Minnic, picking herself up from the ground. "Get the children away from the horses," he said, "then run to the house for your mother."

Quickly Minnie scated the children where they could not get hurt. Then she ran all the way to the house.

It was a mile to the ranch home. By the time she got there she was so out of breath she could only gasp, "Mama,— Mama, Pa, Pa, — Papa."

"I knew something terrible would happen," Mrs. Bennett said. She hurriedly rushed out of the house and down toward where Minnie had pointed, Minnie trying hard to keep up with her.

There under the water tank, Bennett prayed, "Oh, God, forgive me for not obeying you. I'm sorry I wouldn't take off work to preach, but now I'll be off work for a long, long time. If I don't die from this, I promise that I will quit my job and preach for those boys."

When Mrs. Bennett arrived, he yelled out, "Honey, I'm sorry I wouldn't listen to you please forgive me." When these words were out of his mouth, Bennett felt like angels came swooping down over him.

"Well, I knew something was going to happen," she said. "It's a miracle you are still alive, and the children. You'd all be dead if these horses had run away.

She found a one inch rope and tied it to the wagon then unhitched the horse and hitched them to the back of the wagon to pull it back up the ditch bank. Then she tied the rope around the tank and hitched the four horses to it. Slowly and steadily they lifted the tank about ten inches, then the rope broke and the tank and remaining water fell back on him. "Oh, no," she wailed. Then, spying a log chain she fastened it to the tank and the



The Parable Of The Workers

Matthew 20:1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

- 2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- 3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the market-place,
- 4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.
- 5 Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.
- 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?
- 7 They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vincyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.
- 8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.
- 9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.
- 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.
- 11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,
- 12 Saying, these last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.
- 13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

- 14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.
- 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?
- 16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

Central thought: Many will not serve God nor work for Him because they think God is not just in things which He allows to happen.



Questions:

- 1. What did the householder do early in the morning?
- 2. How much did he offer to pay the laborers?3. Name the four other hours of the day when men were hired.
- 4. Why did some men not work until the eleventh hour?
- 5. At the end of the day which workers were paid first?
- 6. Why did the men who were first hired murmur?
- 7. Did the men receive the wages for which they agreed to work?
- 8. What did the householder ask the men who murmured?
- 9. Is it right for God to do what He wishes with the things that are His?

Memory verse: "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Ps. 126:6



God created all things. Is it not right for Him to do what He wishes with His own things? Although all things are His, He is not selfish. He is very sharing and allows men, beasts, and plants to share all these things with Him.

We have things we call our own because God has allowed us to obtain them. Does your dad have a car? God gave him the ability to get that car. Do your parents own the house in which you live? If so, it is because God has enabled them to buy it. If it has been given to them, it is a gift from God and the person who gave it. Why do you have a sister or brother? God gave you them.

Everything we own is ours because of God. Our toys, our books, our bike, our tools have all come from God though others. Our hair, our eyes, and our smelly feet came from Him. Even the long nose or the flat one came from Him also. Some boys and girls are angry with God because they don't like the way God created them. Some are angry because He has allowed some very bitter things to happen to them. Not only children feel this way toward God, but some adults also do.

They are acting very much like the men who grumbled because a man paid those who had worked only a short while the same as he paid those who had worked a long time. Was it not his privilege to give all the men the same amount? It was his money.

It is God's world and everything in it is His. Why should any man murmur about what God does with His own world? We are receiving what He promised to us.

-Sis. Charlotte

Give To The Living



Give your sunshine to the living;
Do not wait til they are dead.
Oh! there's joy in constant giving—
Human hearts are comforted,
And the giver feels the sunshine
Of the heart's responsive smile,
Knowing that another's pathway
Has been brightened all the while.

Give your blossoms to the living:
Let them have their fragrance now,
Ere their eyes are sealed in slumber,
And like marble is their brow.
Often for some loving token
Human hearts have asked and bled:
Give your blossoms to the living;
Do not wait till they are dead.

Give your sunshine to the lonely,
Through they seem but cold and proud;
Oft, perchance, some hidden sorrow
Makes them shun the cheering crowd.
Give a loving word or token,
Just a pressure of the hand,
Let them know your love is tender,
Though you may not understand.

Give your heart's love to the fallen'
Oh! they need the tender care;
Though you see not their temptation,
They must meet it everywhere.
Oft a word, a smile, a handclasp
Gives the needed strength and cheer,
Helps them in the bitter conflict
When the tempter lingers near.

Give your sunshine to the living,
Scatter flowers with willing hand;
You may wake the chords responsive
That will vibrate o'er the land.
Lavish smiles upon the aged,
Cheer the sad ones on their way;
You can make this world an Eden
By the kindness of today."

-Selected



(Answers: 1. He went out to hire laborers into his vineyard. 2. A penny a day. 3. The third, the sixth, the ninth, and the eleventh hour. 4. Because no man had hired them. 5. The men who were hired last. 6. They thought they should have been paid more because they had worked much longer than some of the others. 7. Yes. 8. "Is it not lawful (or right) for me to do what I will with mine own? 9. Yes.)

horses again pulled the tank off his back.
"Get up quick!" she ordered.

Bennett could not move. Only his right hand and his tongue obeyed when to tried to move them. Mrs. Bennett, seeing the condition of her husband, hurried around the tank and pulled him free. That was the last thing he knew for a while.

She bent over her unconscious husband and began trying to get him conscious. "Bring me some water," she ordered Minnie who had finally gotten back. "I'll wash his face."

This she did, then called the children to gather around and pray for their Papa. While they were praying, another ranch hand came galloping up. "Say, Bennett's in bad shape," he said.

"Yes, could you please get a wagon and bring the scather mattress to lay him on to carry him back to the house."

He was soon back with the wagon. They lifted Bennett on to the featherbed and took him back to the house. On the way home he regained consciousness. As soon as he was reasonably comfortable, Mrs. Bennett wrote a letter asking for prayer.

Mr. Cox heard about the accident and came over. "I'll get you a good doctor," he said.

"I always trust the Lord, and He heals me," Bennett answered.

"Sure God heals, but you must do all you can." he insisted.

"No, thanks, "I don't need any medicine."
Mr. Cox just shook his head and went back
outside. Out in the yard he met Mrs. Bennett. "Your husband is out of his head. He
says he doesn't need a doctor, but I know he
does, or he's going to die."

"He's not out of his head," she calmly said. "God is our healer."

One after another of the cowboys heard about the accident and came to sit through the night with the good preacher, for they were sure he would die before morning. After much persecution, they all left and Bennett got a little rest.

Mr. Cox came carly the next day. He still insisted a doctor be called. Later that day, others who didn't believe in trusting God came to see if the accident was as bad as they had heard. It was. "You'll never get out of

that bed," one said. Another said, "You will never be able to walk again." So the next few days were filled to overflowing with Job's comforters.

Bennett could talk to them. But he could not move. He was turned from side to side, by two men pulling on his sheet until he rolled over. For a whole week men came several times a day to help Mrs. Bennett move him. "Still trusting the Lord?" they asked each time.

"I will trust the Lord whether I live or die," Bennett always told them. One day a religious magazine called *The Gospel Trumpet*, came in the mail. "Look what I read in here," he exclaimed to Mrs. Bennett when she came to bring him some soup. "A lady was dead, but in answer to prayer came back to life. Look, eight people have signed that it is true. If God can raise her from the dead, He can raise me up from here!"

"Sure thing," she agreed.

"The letter we sent for prayer has had time to reach the brethren. Call the children and we will agree with them in prayer. I'm ready to be healed right now."

Mrs. Bennett and the children gathered around the bed and offered the prayer of faith. When they said "Amen," Bennett turned himself for the first time since the accident. He got out of bed and began walking.

"My legs feel like a thousand needles are piercing them," he said.

"But you're walking," the children cried.

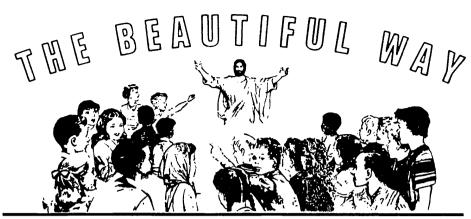
The news of Bennett's healing soon spread all over the country. His decision to move away from the ranch and preach full time reached the ears of Mr. Cox.

Mr. Cox came again to see Bennett. "I just can't do without you," he said. "Name any wage you like and I will pay it."

"I will not stay if you give me the whole ranch," Bennett answered. "I learned the same lesson under the tank that Jonah learned in the whale's belly."

—Rewritten by Charlotte Huskey from Startling Incidents and Experiences in the Christian Life.

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 9

Aug. 26, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(These Elsie stories are adapted from Elsie's Children, an out-of-print book by Martha Finley.)

In the large estate called Roseland, the Dinsmore family gathered about the breakfast table. They were Grandfather Dinsmore and his two daughters, Louise Conly and Enna Percival, and their children.

The conversation was about the return of their Aunt Elsie Travilla to her home place, which she called Ion. Colhoun had been to the Oaks to his Uncle Harold Dinsmore's last evening and learned of their safe return.

"We must all go see them this morning," announced Grandfather.

"Let's divide our forces," said Colhoun.
"Suppose Grandpa, Mother and Aunt Enna
go first to Oaks and we younger ones to Ion?"

"Very well," replied the old gentleman. "I shall spend an hour with my son then come over to Ion. How many want to go and visit Aunt Elsie?"

"I." "And I," "And I." cried the children.

"But you can't all go in the same vehicle. All you cousins make too large a group."

"Well, I'm going," said Molly Percival with a cock of her head. "The boys can ride their horses—I mean Colhoun, Art, Dick and Walter—they each have one."

"I'm not going to be bothered with Bob or Betty," said Enna, Molly's mother. "They will have to go with you or just not go this time." "Then they'll wait," remarked cousin Isadore, "for I shall wear my new silk suit, and I don't want it tumbled."

"Last year's suit is quite good enough," said her mother Louise Conly. "They're only your cousins."

But rich ones who can afford to dress, and I'll not go if I have to look shabby.

"Nor I," chimed in her sister, Virginia. "So Mama, you might as well agree."

"Have your own way," returned her mother indifferently, "but remember there will be no more new dresses this season."

"Dear me, why aren't we rich as the Travillas?" pouted Isadore. "I do think things are very unequally divided in this world."

"Never mind; the wheel of fortune often takes a turn," said her mother. "Several of your father's family are rich. Maybe they will leave you some money."

"How long will it take you girls to get ready?" asked Colhoun, pulling out his watch. "We'd better start soon, before it gets hot."

"I'll be ready by the time the carriage is at the door," said Molly jumping up.

Thirteen-year-old Molly, already as tall as her mother, was witty and full of fun. She was not a beauty, but her clear skin and dark eyes lent to her charm. That and her good humor and intelligence caused her to be attractive.

Dick took a brotherly pride in her.



The Wicked Tenants

Matthew 21:33 Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round a bout, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:

- 34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it.
- 35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another another, and stoned another.
- 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.
- 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son.
- 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.
- 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.
- 40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?
- 41 They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.
- 42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?
- 43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.
- 44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.
- Acts 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Acts 3: 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

Central thought: Some people believe they can ignore Christ's salvation and set up another religion to gain neaven. However, in the end they will not gain heaven but will be destroyed.



Questions:

- 1. What did the householder do that showed he cared for his vineyard?
- 2. At what time did the householder check on his vineyard?
- 3. What did the husbandmen do to the householder's servants?
- 4. Why did the householder send his son?
- 5. Why did the husbandmen kill the son?
- 6. What happened to the stone which the builders rejected?
- 7. What will happen to those who fall upon this stone?
- 8. What will happen to those on whom the stone falls?
- 9. Who is this stone which the builders rejected?

Memory verse: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Acts 4:12

Jesus told the story about the "Wicked Tenants" so the Jews would understand what was going to happen to them for rejecting Him. Matthew 21:45 reads, *When the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them."

In the story, the householder is God, the servants are His prophets, and the son is Jesus. The wicked husbandmen are the Jews. God entrusted in their care His Holy Law. However, these Jews did not obey God's laws. Neither did they give tithes to God as He commanded. This is only a few of the many commandments they did not obey. Then when God sent His prophets to caution them about their disobedience, they beat, stoned and killed His prophets.

God finally sent His Son, just as the man in the story sent his son. The Jews did not reverence Jesus, God's Son. They killed Him. They thought if they killed Jesus, then they would not have to obey His teachings. They could then have their own religion...

People today are very much like the men in the story and also the Jews. They do not want to believe and obey the teachings of God. They say in their hearts, "Let's stamp out the simple faith in the blood of Jesus. Let us draw from our own inner strength to make ourselves good."

The person who rejects God in his heart is like the men in the story that would not give to the householder his own fruit. A person's life is his fruit. Some will not turn their life over to God; they want to keep it for themselves.

Those who reject God's command: "Be ye holy even as I am holy," and are teaching that there is an easier way, are as the men in the story who said, "Let us take the inheritance." They are taking Jesus' place if they want men to listen to them and follow their teachings instead of following the teachings that God has already made in His plan for their salvation. The stone which the builders rejected, shall fall on them, and "it will grind them to powder."

What is the way to be saved? It is to fall on the stone (Jesus) which the builders have

rejected and be broken because of sin. Then a person can trust in the saving power of Jesus' name, and be saved. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12.)

-Sis. Charlotte



Trust In God And Do The Right

Courage, brothert do not stumble, Though thy path be dark as night; There's a star to guide the humble-"Trust in God and do the right." Through the road be long and dreary And the goal be out of sight Foot it bravely, strong or weary; "Trust in God and do the right."

Perish policy and cunning, Perish all that fears the light; Whether losing, whether winning, "Trust in God and do the right." Fly all forms of guilty passion, Friends can look like angels bright; Heed no custom, school, or fashion; "Trust in God and do the right."

Some will hate thee, some will love thee, Some will flatter, some will slight; Cease from man, and look above thee; "Trust in God and do the right." Simple rule and surest guiding, Inward peace and shining light. Star upon our path abiding-"Trust in God and do the right."

—Norman MacLeod

(Answers: 1. He built a hedge around it, and a tower for a watchman. 2. When the fruit was ready. 3. They beat one, stoned one, and killed another. 4. He thought they would reverence his son. 5. Because they thought they would then receive the son's inheritance. 6. The stone became the head or the most important stone. 7. They will be broken. 8. The stone will grind them to powder 9. It is Jesus.)

Enna sometimes felt motherly pride for Molly, and sometimes felt a dread of looking like an old lady beside such a tall daughter. She followed Molly into the dressing room they used in common.

"Wear the very best you have, Molly," she said. "I don't want it said that the Conly's dress better than my children."

"No one will say that," Molly said ringing for the maid, "though they are jealous when Grandpa gives me a present."

"Of course they are and they get more than their share, too. But do see to it that they don't get ahead of you. And remember, Aunt Elsie likes the credit for being generous, so keep on the right side of her. There is nothing more important than having rich beautiful things."

Enna, who always supervised Molly's dressing, was sorely vexing both Molly and the maid with her orders. Finally Molly ready to go, bounced out the door only to be called back and ordered to wear her gatter boots.

"I don't want to wear them," cried Molly, stamping with impatience. "The heels are so high and narrow, I can't stand them."

"They're just the style and they make your feet look beautiful. Sit down and let Rachel put them on you."

"Grandpa says they're dangerous, and so did Dr. Barton," grumbled Molly.

"Put them on her," commanded Enna to Rachel, the maid. "And you'll stay at home if you can't obey, little Miss Molly."

Rachel was fastening the second boot, when Isadore and Virginia were heard running down the stairs.

Up sprang Molly and away in hot haste. She gained the landing, caught her heel in the carpet on the first step of the next flight, and a wild shriek rang through the house, accompanied by the sound of a heavy body tumbling and rolling down the stairs.

Echoing the scream, Enna rushed out into the upper hall.

Colhoun at the foot of the stairs, was picking Molly up.

"Is she hurt?" Is she killed?" asked the mother. "Molly, Molly, how did you come to be so awkward?"

"I wasn't! It was those heels."

"H'm! You're not killed; haven't even had the temper knocked out of you," remarked Enna going back to her dressing.

"You must be hurt," said Colhoun, laying her gently on a sofa, "but no bones broken, I hope?"

"I — I don't know," sobbed Molly. "It's my back. Oh my back, my back!"

"Shall I go for the doctor?" asked Dick, running to her side.

"No, no, I'm going to Ion. Help me get up."
"I'll take you tonight. Please lie still and let
the doctor see you now." Colhoun said.

"No, please, please, Dick, help me outside." The boys helped her outside.

"I'll be okay in a few minutes," Molly said as she was getting in with the other children.

The others wanted to sympathize with Molly and so did her cousins at Ion, and Aunt Elsie, but Molly wanted them to forget it. Talking about it caused her to feel badly and to remember her mother's repeated harsh scoldings about her awkwardness.

That evening while the adults were visiting, Molly heard Aunt Elsie urging her mother to have her examined by a doctor.

"She can't be seriously hurt," her mother said coldly, "or she wouldn't have been ready to come over here."

"By the way," said Grandpa Dinsmore, "I haven't heard what caused her fall."

"She's an awkward child, always tumbling about," returned Enna, her face reddening.

"Especially since she wears those fashionable boots with the high narrow heels," he remarked. "Was she wearing them when she fell?"

Enna reluctantly admitted that she was.

"I'll send them into town today with orders that half the heel be taken off," he said determinedly.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 10

Sept. 2, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(Continued from last week)

Life at Ion was much different than life at Roseland. Aunt Elsie Travilla's wealthy mother died when Elsie was a small baby. Elsie and her Christian maid were then brought to Roseland to be cared for by her father's parents, the Dinsmores, while he was away in Europe. The Christian nanny faithfully kept her promise to Elsie's mother to teach Elsie how to live for Jesus. Because Elsie found Jesus to be her best Friend, she loved Him more than anything else, and was now carefully teaching her children to also know Him.

Aunt Elsie loved her children so much, she protected their bodies, their emotions, and their minds. At Roseland the children were educated by a governess. Remembering much cruel treatment from Miss Day, who had been her governess, Mrs. Travilla chose to educate her own children. Each school day began with a half hour study of the Bible. The children, who were able to read, were expected to quote a new verse each morning. The verse was discussed by the group, then prayer was offered. After this the older children and their Mama went to their schoolroom and book work began.

Fall, winter and spring were spent much in the same way; summer was for vacations.

Mrs. Travilla's friend who lived on the Hudson River in New York had often invited them to spend a summer vacation with her, so the family decided that Mother and the children would go and visit several weeks with the Ross family. Father would come and get them when they were ready to leave.

The boys, Eddie, Harold, and Herbert loved the ride on the steamboat up the Hudson River. The first part of the trip on the train was interesting too, but not nearly as exciting as plowing up the wide river. The girls, Elsie, and Violet, enjoyed the beauties of nature all along the way and often called to one another to notice a bird or a waterfall before it was out of sight. As for baby Lily, she cooed and slept.

Mrs. Ross, whom they called Aunt Lucy, and her children Gertrude, Harry, Archie, Hal, Kate, and baby Sophie, were standing on the portico of their mansion to welcome them.

The children played in the woods, fished on the nearby dock (with a servant attending), read, or did whatever they wished the first week of their visit. But the second week both Mrs. Travilla and Mrs. Ross thought the children should use a couple hours a day for lessons.

Mrs. Fisk was the governess at Crag, (for so they called their estate). Every morning she took the children to the Ross' summer schoolhouse which was in the edge of the woods on the south side of their mansion.

One morning Elsic's tooth hurt so bad she could not study.

Through the evening there was a great deal of romping between the children and the new dog which Mr. Ross had brought home a few days before. Elsie sat unusually quiet, scarcely stirring, but she did not tell her mother because she was afraid of being taken to the dentist. In the night the pain grew so severe that she could not keep from crying and groaning. She did not want to



Prayer Of The Pharisee And Publican

New word: Vanity: Too much pride in one's looks, ability, accomplishments, etc.

Luke 18:9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

- 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
- 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.
- 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.
- 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.
- 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Psalm10:4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

Proverbs 6:16 These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

- 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,
- I Peter 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Central thought: God hates pride; therefore pride can keep a person from obtaining God's mercy.



Questions:

- 1. Who went to the temple to pray?
- 2. Why was the Pharisce not justified by his prayer?
- 3. Why was the publican justified?
- 4. Why don't the wicked seek after God?
- 5. What did the Pharisee do that showed he was not seeking God?
- 6. What is one of the six things that God hates?
- 7. With what should a person be clothed?
- 8. What does God do to the proud?
- 9. What will God do if we humble ourselves?

Memory Verse: "Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it." Job 35:13.



God did not save the Pharisee because the Pharisee was so proud of what he was doing that he did not really pray. To pray is to enter into worship with God or to sincerely ask requests of Him. The Pharisee neither worshiped God nor asked a request of Him. He only bragged about himself. That was a very foolish thing to do, for God already knew what the Pharisee had been doing. I have heard many prayers over the radio which sound very much like the prayer of the Pharisee.

It is very easy to pray a boastful prayer if we think we have been very good or are doing something great. So, you see, the trouble isn't with the words, the trouble is in the heart. Those kinds of prayers come from a proud heart. Jesus said, "From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." The meaning of this verse is, "Whatever is in the heart will come out."

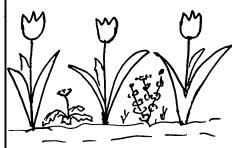
The Publican did not have a proud heart. He felt so bad about himself that he would not even lift up his eyes. There was no pride in his heart, so the words that came out of his mouth were, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner." If he had been a little boy he might have prayed a prayer something like this. "God, I am just a bad little boy, please forgive."

I wonder If we really understand the meaning of the word "pride." One meaning of pride is to feel satisfaction or happiness about something. Another meaning of "pride" is too high an opinion of oneself, or conceit. The second meaning is the kind of pride that will keep us from getting our prayers answered. It is all right to feel good about yourself, so long as you give God the credit for making you good.

Have you ever had someone say, "I'm real proud of you." They are saying, "I feel happy because you did so well." This kind of pride is okay. God expects us to feel happy about what He helps us or others to do. He also wants us to feel happy about what He allows us to have.

The kind of pride which will separate us from God is having too high an opinion of oneself. We must always think of ourselves as nothing. We are only what we are because God allows it or because He has blessed us to be what we are, or do the things that we do. He allows people to do things that He does not wish for them to do. He helps others do the things that He wants them to do. But either way, God should be praised for all the good. Man is nothing but a weak worm of the dust. We have nothing to be proud of in ourself, so let us stay humble and our prayers will be answered.

—Sis. Charlotte



To Conquer Self

Tis a good thing sometimes to be alone, Sit calmly down, search every secret place,

Prayerfully uproot the baneful seeds there sown.

Pluck out the weeds ere the full crop is grown.

Gird up the loins afresh to run the race, Foster all noble thoughts, cast out the base.

Thrust forth the bad, and make the good thine own.

Who has this courage thus to look within,

Keep faithful watch and ward with inner eyes?

The foe may harass, but can ne'er surprise,

Or over him ignoble conquest win.

Oh, doubt it not, if thou wouldest wear
the crown.

Self, baser self, must first be trampled down.

—John Askham

[Answers: 1. A Pharisee and a publican: 2. Because he did not ask to be justified; he thought he was aiready very good. 3. Because he humbled himself and asked for nercy. 4. Because they are proud and do not hink of God. 5. He never asked for God's help: He only boasted about himself. 6. A proud look. 7. With humility. 8. He resists them. 9. He will exalt us.]

wake anyone so buried her face in the pillow to smother the sound of her sobs, but mother heard, and came into the room.

When morning came, plans were made to take Elsie to the dentist. Mrs. Ross wanted to leave before her children awakened.

When Eddie, Vi, and Harold came to breakfast, the Ross children were making a perfect riot in their anger of being left at home. Sophie was screaming, Kate whimpering, and Gertrude walking about with flashing eyes saying, "I'll never forgive Mama for this, no I won't."

Violet, Eddie, and Harold looked at each other in horrified silence. How could she speak so? Not forgive?—especially one's own mother.

Miss Fisk came in. She stood, in her deliberate way, looking for a moment from one to another of her pupils in a sort of amazed reproving silence that had the effect of quieting them down. Then she spoke:

"Young ladies and young gentlemen, I am astonished!—especially at your expressions and behavior, Miss Gertrude Ross. How can you permit yourself to indulge in such harsh words against one's parents?"

Gertrude, muttering something about "people not keeping their promises," slipped into her chair. The boys and Kate followed her example. Sophie allowed a servant to lift her to her highchair.

After the meal, Miss Fisk announced that a picnic was scheduled for the day instead of the usual morning lessons.

"Good, good," the children cried. "Where are we going?"

"To the grove adjacent to the schoolhouse," replied the governess. "We could not find a lovelier spot, and its proximity to the mansion renders it most eligible."

"Proximity, eligible, adjacent, what do you mean by those words, Miss Fisk?" asked Gertrude, hatefully.

"I desire you to consult one of our standard lexicons. You will then be more likely to retain the definitions in your memory," returned the governess, ignoring the tone of her pupil.

Gertrude shrugged her shoulders, muttering, "I wish you'd talk like other people, and not like a dictionary."

"You quarrel with my phraseology because you do not understand it," said Miss Fisk nonchalantly, "which is very irrational. If I

never employed in conversing with you, words beyond your comprehension, you would lose the advantage of being induced to increase your stock of information by a search for their meaning."

"If that's why you do it, you may as well give it up at once, for I don't care enough about your meaning to take half that trouble."

"Miss Gertrude, permit me to remark that you are lacking in respect to your instructress," replied Miss Fisk, blushing.

"Well, let's go right away," said Gertrude, pushing her chair back and jumping up.

"Immediately Miss Ross," corrected the governess. "Right away is exceedingly inelegant."

"How tiresome," muttered Gertrude, as Miss Fisk left the room. "I say VI, does your mother reprove you for saying right away?"

"I don't remember that I ever said it. Mama..."

"Said it?" interrupted Gertrude. "Why don't you say 'used the expression'? my dear. You should never condescend to make use of a sixpenny word, when a fifty cent one would express your sentiments as correctly, or perchance even more so."

Vi couldn't help laughing at Gertrude's remarks about Miss Fisk, but at the same time she felt a little guilty for making fun of the governess.

The next three weeks passed like a bird that lands for a moment to peck a seed from the ground and then flies away.

The following Sunday, Phil, the Ross family's oldest son, came home for summer vacation. He had been attending a boarding school.

"Phil," said his mother, following him into his room that night, "you have made a good impression and I'm hoping you will keep up your good behavior while the Travillas stay."

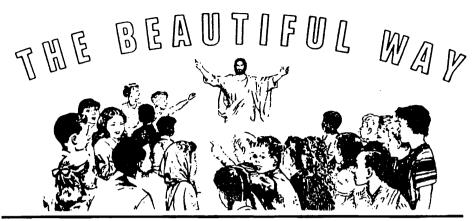
"I intend to, Mother," he returned. "Elsie, has been my little lady love since the first time my eyes lighted on her. I know that to secure my prize I've got to keep on the right side of her father and mother."

His mother laughed. "I advise you not to say a word of your hopes in their hearing for ten years to come."

"Trust me to manage my own affairs," he said, nodding his head wisely. "But don't be so outrageously unreasonable as to expect a fellow to be perfect," he said.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41. No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 11

Sept 9, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(Continued from last week)

"To each his sufferings: all are men Condemn'd alike to groan; The tender for another's pain, The unfeeling for his own."

After Phil came home, the children were excused from lessons. Nearly every day was taken up with picnics, riding, driving and boating, although they were never allowed on the water alone.

One day Phil got permission to take Gertrude and Elsie for a ride in the pontoon.

On their return home, they were overtaken by a heavy rain. Seeing a small crude cabin in a wide spot among the rocks and trees, they reined in the horse.

The door stood open, for the rain blew against the back of the cabin protecting the entrance. The moment Philip drew rein, the girl at the window called to them to come in out of the wet.

Gertrude ran lightly in with a laugh, and Elsie followed close at her heels. Phil tied the horse on the sheltered side of the house before coming in.

The girl rose and, setting out two unpainted wooden chairs, invited them to be seated, remarking as she resumed her work that she hoped they were not too wet.

"Not enough to hurt," said Gertrude.

"Hardly at all, thank you," Elsic said. "I

hope our mothers will not be worrying about us."

"I don't think they will be as long as there is no lightning," Gertrude answered. "Ah, see how it is pouring over yonder on the mountain, Elsie?"

A pale faced woman sitting in a rockingchair, looked carefully at the girls. Her face worked with emotion while studying Elsic. Suddenly she questioned, "Child, child, who are you?"

"They are the young ladies from the Crags, Mother," said the girl soothingly.

"I know that, Sally," she answered peevishly, "but one's a visitor, and the other one called her Elsie. She's the very image of an Elsie I once had as a pupil. What's your family name?"

"Travilla, Madam," Elsie said, looking surprised.

"Oh, you're her daughter; yes, of course I might have known it. So she married him, her father's friend who was so many years older."

The words were spoken as if to herself and she finished with a deep drawn sigh.

The invalid woman in the chair had loved Travilla, all unsuspected by him, for he was not a conceited man. And there had been a time when she would have almost given her hopes of heaven for his affection.

"Do you know my mother?" Elsie asked, rising and drawing near the woman's chair.



Barns That Were Too Small

Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater, and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

41 Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?

42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?

43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

45 But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;

46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did

according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Central thought: People who are blessed to have riches or talents are required by both God and men to use them for helping others.



Questions:

- 1. What was the rich man's problem?
- 2. What was his solution to this problem?
- 3. What did the rich man plan to do after his barns were built?
- 4. What did God say to the rich man?
- 5. What does God expect a wise steward to do?
- 6. What will happen to the servants who mistreat others and are drunken?
- 7. How will those be punished who knew the Lord's will and did not do it?
- 8. What will be the punishment of those who didn't know the Lord's will?
- 9. Will much be required of those to whom much has been given?

Memory verse: "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." (Luke 12:48)



The weather had been good and God had sent just the right amount of rain, so the rich man's farm produced much more than he expected. Before all the crops had been gathered, his barns were filled and overflowing. "What shall I do with all this food?" he said to himself.

After thinking for some time, he decided to build larger barns and store the food. "Then I will have enough food for many years," he said. "I will not have to work. I will just eat, drink and be merry."

In the land where this rich man lived there were many hungry people. He should have thought about trying to share with the hungry, but he selfishly decided to store it for himself and stop planting his fields.

What did Jesus say about people like the rich man who have so much? Jesus said, "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required:"

The rich man may have helped his farm produce well because he tended it well. However, the farm would have had no fruit if God had not sent the good weather and the right amount of rain. So God had really given the bountiful crop that he was trying to hoard. Because God had given him much food, God required him to give much food.

We can talk about what the rich man should have done, or dream about what we would do if we were rich, but what are we doing with what God has given us? Some have a good ability to sing. Are you singing to the glory of God? To some God has given a good ability to write letters. Are you writing letters that will help others? Some have good strong bodies. Are you using your strength to help others know about Jesus, or are you using your strength selfishly? Some are blessed with parents who give you money. Do you consider God's work, or do you spend it all on yourself?

The goods that God gives cannot always be valued by dollars but, they are riches and we must use those riches to help those in need. Some needs may be physical and some needs are spiritual. Whatever the need, we must feel compassion for the suffering person. If

we have something that will be of help to them, then we should share.

Remember that Jesus said, "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." —Sis. Charlotte



Beyond Today

If we could see beyond today
As God can see;
If all the clouds should roll away,
The shadows flee,
O'er present griefs we would not fret,
Each sorrow we would soon forget,
For many joys are waiting yet
For you and me.

If we could know beyond today

As God doth know,
Why dearest treasures pass away
And tears must flow,
And why the darkness leads to light
Why dreary paths will soon grow bright,
Some day life's wrongs will be made right,
Faith tells us so.

-Selected

Answers: 1. He had no place to store the bountiful produce from his farm. 2. He would build bigger barns. 3. He would "eat, drink and be merry." 4. "This night, thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" 5. To give meat (or food) when needed, 6. They will be cut asunder, or separated from their master. 7. They shall be beaten with many stripes. 8. They will be beaten with few stripes. 9. Yes.)

"Yes, if she was Elsie Dinsmore, and lived at Roseland. That was many years ago, long before I was married to John Gibson."

"That was Mama's name and that was where she lived with her grandpa, while her papa was away in Europe so many years. Did you live near Roseland?"

"I lived there, but I was only a poor governess," remarked the woman in bitter tones, an expression of angry discontent settling down upon her face.

"Are you Miss Day?" Elsie asked, taking a few steps backwards, as if she had seen a snake.

Elsie's mother had seldom mentioned Miss Day, but from her aunts she had heard of Miss Day's many acts of cruelty and injustice to her mother, who was also named Elsie.

"I was Miss Day. I'm Mrs. Gibson now. I was a little hard on your mother sometimes, as I see you've been told; but I'd a great deal to bear, for those Dinsmores were a proud haughty family. I was not treated as a lady but as a sort of servant," she said. "But your mother was a good little girl, and pretty too, and heiress they said to a great fortune. Is she rich still or did she lose it all by the war?"

"She did not lose it all," said Elsie, "but how rich she is I do not know. Mama and Daddy seldom talk of any but the true riches."

"Just like her," muttered the woman. Then she sneeringly said, "Tell me, what are the true riches you speak about?"

"Those which can never be taken from us. Treasures laid up in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and thieves don't break through to steal.' " (Matthew 6:20.)

Only the rain hitting the roof could be heard as everyone was silent for a while. Then Mrs. Gibson spoke again, "Well, I'd like to have the true riches, but I'd like to try the other for a while."

Elsie wished that her mother was there to speak to the poor woman about Jesus.

"Is your mother at the Crags?"

"Yes, we will be there a week or two longer."

"Do you think she would come to see me?"
"I am sure she would come."

"Then tell her that her old governess is sick and poor and in great trouble." Tears were rolling down her cheeks as her eyes rested on her own daughter. Motioning for Elsie to come close, she whispered in her ear, "She's going blind. She always had poor sight and now that she has to support herself and me with her needle, her eyes are nearly worn out."

The rain had nearly ceased, and Philip saying they were in danger of being late for dinner, hurried the girls away.

As soon as they got home the girls hastened to tell their mothers all about meeting Miss Day. Elsie ended, begging her mother to help the old governess.

Both Mrs. Travilla and Mrs. Ross remembered her. "I wouldn't do a thing for her. Why she treated you with absolute cruelty," Mrs. Ross said.

"She was sometimes unjust and unkind," said Mrs. Travilla, "but probably my sensitiveness, timidity and stupidity were often very trying. Now please tell me all you know about the family."

"They came to that hut years ago, but some say they have not always been poor. The father stayed drunk until he died. Mrs. Gibson was forced to earn their support while taking care of many children. That is all I know except that several children died of scarlet fever one winter leaving only a boy and girl. The boy does just like his father."

"Poor woman," sighed Mrs. Travilla, "I must go to her at once."

"Please do Mama," said Elsie, "she looks so miserable."

"I will go right after dinner."

Mrs. Gibson was taking a nap when Mrs. Travilla came to the door of the hut. Sally quickly opened the door so her mother would not be disturbed by the knocking. "You are Mrs. Travilla?" she asked softly holding out her hand. "I am glad you came. Mother will be delighted to see you. Won't you come in?"

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 16, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Travilla showed such loving interest in Sally and her mother that Sally felt free to tell about herself and her family. Before her mother awoke, Mrs. Travilla had promised to pay for having Sally's eyes treated by the best doctor in the country, and that her mother would be taken care of while Sally would be away.

Sally tried to speak her thanks but tears and sobs came instead. The sobbing awoke Mrs. Gibson. As soon as she saw Mrs. Travilla, she exclaimed, "Elsie Dinsmore!" She struggled to sit up. "I would have known you anywhere!"

"I cannot say the same, for you have changed much."

"Yes, I've grown to be an old woman, and no wonder, for my life has been nothing but trouble and trials from beginning to end."

"Oh, Mother dear, we have many mercies from God," Sally said. "And I hope for better things to come."

"Well, maybe so, if Mrs. Travilla can help us."

"I shall do my best for you both."

"I knew you would! You were always generous. But it is easy to be generous with a large and well filled purse."

"Very true," Mrs. Travilla answered with a smile.

She visited a while with her old tutor. Before leaving she had her servant bring in a basket of groceries and gave Sally a check for \$100.00.

While Mrs. Travilla was visiting with Sally, Elsie and her sisters planned how they, too, could help.

"Sally needs new clothes," Elsie said. "She had on a very old faded dress."

"And not a bow or pin, and her dress was so old-fashioned and patched all over," Gertrude remarked, joining them.

"Let's put our pocket money together and buy her material for a new dress," proposed Vi.

"And make it for her, 'cause her eyes hurt when she sews," Elsie said.

"Oh, what's the use of giving our money?" exclaimed Gertrude. "We want it for ourselves. Your mother has loads and loads of money, doesn't she Eddie?" she asked turning to him as he stood near.

"I don't know," he answered. "She never told us she had any. She never talks about money except to tell us it all belongs to God, who only lends it to us."

"And that we must give it to the poor and needy," said Vi.

"Well, I know she does, 'cause my mama often says so."

"But even if she has, her money is not ours. We want to help, too."

"I haven't a bit more money than I want myself," Gertrude said walking away with her chin in the air."

"Gerty," said Elsie, running after her. "Don't be angry. We weren't asking you for money."

The next day, in their room, Elsie and her mother made plans of how they would help Sally. As they were coming down the stairs, Phil met them.

"Want to take a ride early in the morning?" he asked Elsie.

Elsic looked at Mrs. Travilla for permission.



The Lost Sheep And Coins

Luke 15:1 Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

- 2 And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.
- 3 And he spake this parable unto them, saying.
- 4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?
- 5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
- 6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoiced with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.
- 7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.
- 8 Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and seek diligently till she find it?
- 9 And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.
- 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Jeremiah 3:12 Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the Lord, and I will not keep anger for ever.

13 Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the Lord thy God, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the Lord.

14 Turn, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you: and I will

take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:

Central thought: God is merciful and is happy when any person comes to Him and asks forgiveness for doing wrong.



Questions:

- 1. Of what did the Pharisees accuse Jesus?
- 2. How many sheep did the man have?
- 3. How many sheep were lost?
- 4. How many sheep did the man leave to seek the lost one?
- 5. Was the man happy to have found his lost sheep?
- 6. Why was the woman rejoicing?
- 7. What is happening in heaven after a sinner repents?
- 8. What must the backslider do when he returns to the Lord?
- 9. What has God promised the backslider?

Memory verse: "Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you." (Jer. 3:12)



Jesus said that God loved the backslider and the sinner so very much that He was willing to leave His other sheep and go over the rugged way looking for the lost one. God's big heart is sad because there is someone reading this paper who has not trusted Jesus for their salvation.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.." Isa. 1:18-20. God wants to take every sin you have committed and throw it as far as the East is from the West. He also says that He will never remember them against us any more. (Isa. 43:25.) After He does this, your heart will be as white as snow. Also your name will be written in the Lamb's book of life. (Rev. 20:12-15.) Then there will be great rejoicing in heaven.

It is very true that God is seeking out sinners to save them. He is also expecting people to be seeking for Him. The woman who lost her coin got busy and hunted for it until it was found. Any person who gets away from God should be seeking for His favor again.

Sometimes a person may lose faith, or patience, or the desire to study God's Word. Whatever has been lost can be regained. Just get busy cleaning out your life and soon you will find what you have lost.

If you have drifted away from God, please come back. God loves you so much He is willing to leave the 99 and devote His time to you.

—Sis. Charlotte



Your Mission

If you cannot on the ocean
Sail among the swiftest fleet
Rocking on the highest billows,
Laughing at the storms you meet,
You can stand among the sailors,
Anchored yet within the bay,
You can lend a hand to help them
As they launch their boats away.

If you have not gold and silver
Ever ready at command;
If you cannot toward the needy
Reach an ever helping hand,
You can succor the afflicted,
O'er the erring you can weep;
With the Saviour's true disciples
You a tireless watch may keep.

Do not, then, stand idly waiting
For some greater work to do;
Fortune is a lazy goddess—
She will never come to you.
Go and toil in any vineyard;
Do not fear to do or dare—
If you want a field of labor
You can find it anywhere.



[Answers: 1, They accused Jesus of receiving sinners, 2, 100, 3, One, 4. Ninctynine: 5. Yes. 6. She had found her lost coin. 7. There is much joy in heaven. 8. He must acknowledge his iniquity or his sins. 9. God promised to be merciful and not let his anger fall.) "Will Gertrude be going?" her mother asked.
"Not this time," Philip answered. "She sleeps too late."

"You may go if you will not go before the sun is up nor on any lonely roads," Mrs. Travilla said. "And please will you take a note to Sally."

When Sally received the note she read it aloud to her mother. "I know a good doctor in Philadelphia to which I would like to take Sally. I have also rented a nice room for you, Mrs. Gibson, and have secured a nurse to care for you."

"Why can't you be with me instead of hiring a stranger to stay with me?" Mrs. Gibson interrupted angrily.

"Wait, Mother," said Sally in a quivering voice. Tears of joy filled her eyes. She dashed them away and read on. "Doctor Morton gave his opinion that your eyes can not be helped, but I believe Doctor Thomson may say differently. He has cured others that were believed to be hopeless. Come up to Crags this morning, Sally, and we will make arrangements."

Sally slumped into a chair, hid her face and cried loudly.

"Come, don't be foolish," her mother said.
"There's too much to be done to waste time crying, and besides it will hurt your eyes."

Sally jumped to her feet, wiped away the tears and began placing the meager breakfast on the table.

"How soon are you going to Crags?" her mother asked.

"As soon as I can, if you think you can spare me."

"I feel well enough to help myself to anything I might need."

When Phil and Elsie returned from their ride, there was still another half hour until breakfast would be served.

Elsie hurried to her room and began reading her Bible, for she had only read a few minutes before Phil came for her. She usually read several chapters each morning.

After a while Gertrude came looking for Elsie. "Dear met" she exclaimed when she saw Elsie reading, "How many times a day do you pore over that Book?"

"I am allowed to read it as often as I please."
"Allowed? Not compelled? Not ordered?"

No. I read because it is interesting."

"Well, I can read it, too, as often as I like, but a chapter or two on Sunday does me for all week. There is the bell for breakfast."

As they were leaving the table, a servant announced that Miss Gibson was there to see Mrs. Travilla.

Mrs. Travilla and all her family gathered in her room to tell Sally their plan.

Mrs. Gibson, who was always thinking of herself and not considering how Sally felt, had sent with Sally a long list of things for which she was to ask. Sally felt so thankful for all that had been done for them that she didn't want to ask for anything. Much to her surprise, Mrs. Travilla had on her list most everything her mother had wanted and many, many other things.

The children were already dressed for a shopping trip. They had put on their older play clothes so that Sally would not feel so uncomfortable. Before Sally came, Gertrude had said to Vi, "I'd be ashamed to go with her to the stores or anywhere, or to have her ride with me."

"But Elsie says she's clean and nice," Vi protested. "And Mother always says that riches don't make a person better than another."

They wasted very little time planning. Within two hours they were in town. By the next hour they were walking down the board walk to the Yardage store. Each child was clutching something they had purchased for Sally. Eddie, who loved to read had a book which had beautiful pictures of the Hudson River and told about the river. Harold was carrying a lacy white umbrella. "All girls need an umbrella to shade them from the sun and rain," he said. Herbie, under the guiding eyes of Elsie and Vi, had gotten her a lovely hairbrush and comb set. Elsie and Violet were saving their money to get material for a new dress.

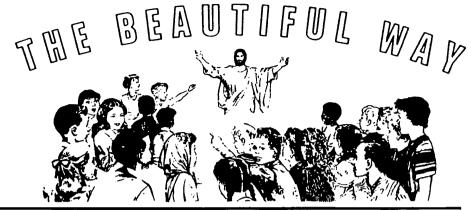
"Howvery beautiful," Sally exclaimed, when Vi showed her the material she and Elsie were going to buy. "We will have Diana cut it out for you as soon as we get home," Vi told her

However, when they returned home, Mrs. Travilla said that Sally should go home and take care of her mother.

"We will start your dresses tomorrow, she said. There was not one dress to be made, but three.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 13 S

Sept. 23, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Ross found a seamstress to help with the sewing. Between her, Diana, and help from Mrs. Travilla, Elsie, and Vi, Sally's new clothes were soon finished and arrangements completed for her trip to Philadelphia to see Dr. Thomas, the eye specialist.

While the women were sewing, the boys were busy helping the servants move Sally's mother into a cottage in town so she would be more comfortable.

Mrs. Travilla had made arrangements for Sally to stay with Mrs. Edward Allison, who was Mrs. Travilla's aunt. Sally was afraid to take such a long trip alone but she never said a word, and things happened so that Mr. Ross needed to attend some business in the city, so they went together.

"Do you have the doctor's address?" Mr. Ross asked before he left her at Mrs Allison's.

"Yes, sir. Mrs. Travilla gave it to me on a card and I have it safe."

"I hope you have no trouble finding your way around in this big city. Dr. Thomas' office is on the next street and only a few blocks from here."

When Mr. Ross returned home from his business trip, Mr. Travilla was at Crags. Mr. Travilla had come to take his family for a vacation at Cape May.

Mrs. Ross was sorry to part with her guests. As for young Philip he was greatly vexed. Finding Elsie sitting on the porch, he sat down beside her. "It is really too bad," he said.

"What's too bad, Phil?" she asked.

"That you must be hurried away so soon. I've only been home two weeks, and we have not seen each other for two years."

"Well, I've been here a good while, and you will soon have your cousins Herbert and Meta here."

"Herbert," he interrupted impatiently, "who cares about him. And Meta, prying, meddling, tell-tale, Meta. I have a better idea!"

"What is your idea."

"That you stay on another week, or as long as you wish."

"Oh, Phil, I couldn't do that. I couldn't let my family go and leave me."

After being at Cape May for two weeks, a letter came from Sally Gibson. Elsie had written inviting her to come to Cape May and be with them. The letter said that she was able to see wonderfully well and would come to visit soon.

In a few days Sally came. How different she looked. Glasses changed her looks that is sure. Also the badly needed weight which she had gained really improved how she looked, and the bright cheery attitude made her whole countenance glow.

"I can never thank you enough for sending me to Dr. Thomas. All I needed was suitable glasses. There was no disease in my eyes, nor were the eye nerves damaged. I can read even the smallest print, and now I can sew with ease. Oh, Mrs. Travilla, I do thank you for helping me."



The Unjust Judge

New Word: Avenge, to return evil for evil done, or good for good.

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

- 2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:
- 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.
- 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;
- 5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
- 6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.
- 7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
- 8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

- 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
- 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?
- 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?
- 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?
- John 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be gloristed in the Son.

Psalm 91:15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

Isaiah 65:24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

I John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Central thought: God will answer prayer but sometimes we have to pray a long time for what we want.



Questions:

- 1. Who are the characters in the story that Jesus told?
- 2. What kind of a man was the judge?
- 3. Why did the judge decide to help the widow?
 - 4. What will God do for His children who cry to him day and night?
- 5. What will happen if we ask God for something?
- 6. If we seek, what will happen?
- 7. In whose name must we ask?
- 8. Has God promised to deliver those who call upon Him?
- 9. Does God sometimes answer before we ask or while we are speaking?

Memory verse: "O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come." Psalm 65:2



Jesus told the story about the unjust judge and the poor widow, to teach us to always pray and to never give up praying. The widow went many times to the judge to get help. Finally the judge helped her. He did not help her because he thought it was his duty before God, nor because he feared what men might do to him if he failed to help someone so needy. He helped her because he knew if he didn't she would be forever coming and bothering him.

Jesus said that God will also help those who keep coming to Him with their problems and needs, just as the judge helped the widow.

It doesn't matter what we are asking, for all things are possible with God. The missionary in the following story thought Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ban asked for something impossible.

The Ban family lived in the heart of China, in a remote village. It was a three day's journey to any city.

The Ban's had four children, that is, until sickness came to their home. One by one. each child took the dreaded disease. Each one had high fever. Each child, during his sickness, was visited by the local medicine man. Each had been given some vile concoction which had brought more suffering to each one, but healing to none. One by one the three older children died. Only the youngest, a two-year-old son was living, but he too had the same disease. He also had a fever, he also had suffered the concoctions of the medicine man. For three days he had lain as if dead, only breathing. His face, especially his lips, were already dark as if death was stalking near.

The medicine man was called again, "An evil spirit has entered your son," he announced. "The only remedy is to place burning irons on him to burn the spirit out."

The irons were heated, but when the medicine man was ready to place them on the dying boy, the mother screamed, "Don't burn my boy! Never, never, will I let you burn my suffering son."

"Then he will die," was the answer.

"But I can not bear to see him suffer more."

The doctor left. Mr. and Mrs. Ban sat silently beside their only son, their dying

The same afternoon, someone came with the news that the Jesus man had come to their village. "I will go and get him," Mr. Ban said. "Maybe he can help our boy"

Soon he returned with the man. "Oh, I know you can make our baby well," cried the mother clasping her hands in anguish.

"If we only had some ice, we might get the fever down and might save him," said the man half to himself, but he knew it would take five or six days to bring ice from the nearest city. The boy could not last that long.

"The other time you came, you told us that your God could do anything. He can send ice. Ask your God to send ice." she pleaded and almost demanded in the same voice. "Ask Him."

Immediately both Mr. and Mrs Ban fell to their knees. "Pray to your God," Mrs. Ban pleaded again.

He obeyed her.

Within 15 minutes, dark storm clouds filled the sky and hail fell over the village. Most of the villagers had not seen hail, for it had been forty years since any had fallen. The hail was gathered and used to cool the child's temperature. The boy recovered.

The Ban's like the widow, kept on asking for help until it came.

God can do anything, if we keep praying.

"Wrestling prayers can wonders do, Bring relief in deepest straits; Prayer can force a passage through Iron bars and brazen gates."

-Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. An unjust judge, and a widow. 2. He did not fear God or regard men. 3. Because the woman kept troubling him. 4. He will avenge them speedily. 5. We will receive it, if we ask in faith. 6. We will get what we seek for. 7. In Jesus' name. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.]

"Don't thank us," interrupted Vi, "you're supposed to thank God. Mama's money isn't hers, it belongs to God. That's what you always say isn't it, Mama?"

"Yes, dear, all my money belongs to God. He has only lent it to me."

"Sally, I just received a letter from your mother. She is doing fine, so I believe you should stay here with us for a week or two," said Mrs. Travilla. You have been working so hard. Stay here and rest and play. It will do you good."

Sally tried hard to forget every problem of the past and the fears of the future. She did pretty well, except she worried about her brother Tom. He had been gone from home several weeks before they left. "Where could he be? What is he doing?" she asked herself often. One thing she feared was that he might have gotten into trouble and been put in jail, for he got drunk every time he could get money.

One day Elsie saw Sally turn suddenly pale while reading the newspaper. "What is it?" she asked. "You look so frightened."

"Look, my brother Tom has been arrested. Oh, he'll never hold up his head again, or have a heart to try to do better."

"Oh, don't despair. Remember the verse in the Bible that says, 'Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear."

"I cry day and night to Him for my poor brother. Will God ever hear me?" Sally exclaimed.

"Sure He will hear," Vi assured her. "He always hears if you pray in faith."

After Mr. Travilla heard about the girls' conversation with Sally, he decided to go to Philadelphia and look for Tom.

He found Tom in jail. After paying the fine and getting the paperwork done, he bought Tom new clothes. Tom came out of the store looking like a new man. "Now let's go see Sally." he said.

"Sally, she's a long way from here."

"Not so far," he answered. Tom just looked puzzled.

"Oh, Tom, Tom," Sally cried running to him. "I'm so glad to see you."

At first Tom acted nervous and out of place. He kept his eyes down as if ashamed to look at anyone. Harold and Eddie tried to help him enjoy the beach, but little Herbert and his cute baby talk brought more laughs from Tom than anyone else. Soon he was at ease among them; but seemed very humble and used his eyes and ears far more than his tongue.

Sally was instructed to get Tom something to eat or drink very often so he would not be so tempted to go up town to buy drinks.

On the seventh day after Tom had come, Sally noticed he acted very restless. That evening when they sat alone on the veranda, he said, "Sally, this place is like a heaven. Even the children are so loving and peaceable. They are so clean and pure. It is no place for a fallen wretch as I am. I have no business here. I can't stand it any longer, I'm leaving."

"No, Tom, no. Don't do it. You've given up those bad habits. You're not bad any longer. You'll never go back to them."

"I don't want too, but I — I— am so weak and —"

"Oh, Tom, fly to Jesus! He says, 'In me is thine help,' and 'Fear not; I will help thee.' Jesus never turns anyone away. He promised, 'Every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

"I will, I will," sobbed Tom, covering his face. "I will go to Jesus."

Mr. Travilla suggested that Tom, and Sally go to Kansas and get some land that was being offered for homesteading. "Getting away from the city and old friends will help you not be so tempted to go back to your old ways," he said. I will buy you some farm equipment to take along."

"I would love to do that, and I will repay you as soon as possible," Tom told them.

Both Tom and Sally thanked the Travilla family for helping them through the dark tunnel of their lives and for bringing them out into bright hopes. They thanked the children for sharing with them such a wonderful vacation.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 3

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 14 Sept. 30, 1990

More Stories About Elsie

(Continued from last week)

Mr. and Mrs. Travilla and their children, Elsie, Harold, Eddie, Violet, and Herbert walked along the water's edge. Baby Lily had been left at the cottage with the maid. "I think the beach at Cape May is the best in this area," he said. "And it's nice to be alone with my family," Mr. Travilla remarked. "We'll do our own thing the rest of this vacation. How about building a few sand castles, or burying Herbie in the sand?" he said, catching Herbie. "Shall we do it now?"

"But I liked helping Sally and Tom," Elsie said. "I wish they were here now."

"I did too, Daddy," Vi added.

"And me, too," added Eddie, but I'd rather bury Herbie in the sand.

When the family returned, the maid had lunch on the table. Scarcely had they sat down to cat when Grandpa Dinsmore and Aunt Louise with three of her children, Isadore, Virgina, and Arthur, knocked at the cottage door.

"Any room for us," Aunt Louise asked, as she ordered the children to unload their luggage.

"Of course," Mrs Travilla answered. "We rented two cottages this year, one for ourselves and one for a friend, but she's gone now, so it's waiting for you."

"Where is Cousin Cal?" Eddie asked as he hugged Grandpa Dinsmore.

"We left him in Philadelphia with Enna. She's brought Molly up there to see some surgeons. You know Molly still can't walk."

"It's hard to believe that the fall downstairs may make her a cripple for life," sighed Mrs. Travilla. "Poor child, how's she bearing it?"

"She cries her eyes out everyday," Isadore said disgustedly. "Cry, cry, cry, that's all she does."

"I'd cry too if I couldn't walk," Vi said.

"And me, too," Herbic added, as his cousin Virgina swooped him up in her arms.

"Molly has a right to cry," remarked Grandpa. "It's terrible to not be able to walk. And to think it might be for life, and her mother has no patience—"

"She feels sorry for herself having to care for an invalid, instead of feeling for Molly. Poor Molly," Virgina interrupted.

Elsie listened silently as the family spoke of Molly. How she wished she could do something to cheer her. But Harold put his desires into words. "Mama, won't you invite her to come here?"

"Yes, do Mama," Elsie urged. "Surely we could make her happy."

"Do, please, do," chimed in Vi, Eddie, and Herbert.

"I will if you all are willing to give up some play time and entertain her. She won't be happy sitting here at the cottage while you all are playing at the beach, or swimming or boating."

Vi, who was always first to speak, quickly said. "Yes. Mama, we will."

"I'll ask Jesus to help me. I'm sure He will," Elsie said rather softly.

Molly was invited. Aunt Enna said she would think it over.

A few days later, Aunt Louise came from the post office with two letters. One was from Aunt Enna saying that Molly could come for a visit. The other letter was from Mrs. Delaford, Aunt Louise's sister-in-law. *Lis-



The Kingdom Of Heaven

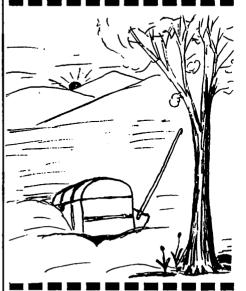
Matthew 13:31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying. The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:

- 32 Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.
- 33 Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.
- 44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.
- 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:
- 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.
- 47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:
- 48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.
- 49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,
- 50 And shall east them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
- 51 Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.
- 52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is

an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

53 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence

Central thought: The kingdom of heaven is so great it can be likened to many things.



Questions:

- 1. In what way is the kingdom of heaven like a grain of mustard seed?
- 2. Is the kingdom of heaven like leaven?
- 3. Why did the man sell all he had?
- 4. Is the kingdom of heaven like a treasure?
- 5. What is like a pearl of great price?
- 6. In what way is the kingdom of heaven like a fisherman's net?
- 7. When will the bad be cast away?
- 8. Where will the wicked be east?
- 9. Those who are instructed unto the kingdom of heaven are to do what?

Memory verse: "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was east into the sea, and gathered of every kind:" (Matt. 13:47)



The kingdom of hearen is so as ge, it is said to be like many different things. Jesus, Himself said that it was like a mustard seed, a treasure hid in a field, a pearl of great price, a fisherman's net, and leaven. All of these things are very different, yet the kingdom is like all of them.

Have you read the poem about the blind men who went to see an elephant? One man feit the elephant's big leg so he said, "The elephant is like a tree." Another said the elephant was like a snake, because he was touching its trunk. Still another, feeling its huge side, exclaimed, "It is very much like a wall." Each man was right, yet each likened the elephant to a different thing.

Sis. Agnus Huskey told me that she was visiting one day with a missionary. The missionary said, "One day while traveling in India I became very hot and tired, so I sat down in the shade of a tree to rest. While sitting there cooling off, I began appreciating the tree's protection from the sun's hot blast. I looked up to see what kind of tree it was, but I had never seen one like it, so I said to my native friend. "What kind of tree is this?"

"It is a mustard tree, she said."

From the tiny mustard seed this large tree has grown," I exclaimed.

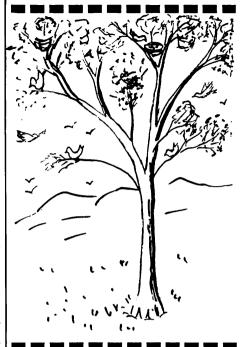
Just as the seed grows from a tiny seed into a large tree, so the kingdom of heaven began in Jerusalem and has filled the whole earth. It will also grow in our hearts, if we will read the Bible, pray and live as righteously as we know how.

To get into the kingdom of heaven or to get its seed to begin growing, we must do as the farmer and the merchant. Each man sold all he had to buy the field in which the treasure was hid. Selling all we have is giving ourselves into Jesus' hands and letting Him do with us whatever He wishes. We can not get into the kingdom of heaven if we are unwilling to sell everything.

The Kingdom is like a net, because it welcomes everyone. Just as the fisherman throws away the fish that aren't any good, so will those who did not accept salvation through Jesus be east out at the judgment day.

The great, mighty Kingdom of God can be likened to many things, yet is so simple and easy to understand that even a child may enter into it.

—Sis. Charlotte



The Kingdom

Tis a kingdom of peace, it is reigning within,

It shall ever increase in my soul; We possess it right here when He saves from all sin

And 'twill last while the ages shall roll."

What a pleasure in life it is bringing!
What assurance and hope ever bright!
Oh what rapture and bliss are awaiting,
When our faith shall be lost in the sight!

—B. E. Warren

[Answers: 1. It is very small in the beginning but becomes very big. 2. Yes. 3. He wanted to buy a field which had a hidden treasure; 4. Yes 5. The kingdom of heaven. 6. The fisherman's net gathers all kinds of fish, so the kingdom of heaven is made up of all kinds of people. 7. At the end of the world. 8. Into a furnace of fire. 9. They are to bring forth out of Ills treasures things new and old.)

ten," she cried. "Isadore and Virgy, listeni Your wealthy Aunt Isadore has offered to educate you girls in a very prestigious school, and she may appoint Isadore her godchild and namesake to be heir of her wealth."

"It's the greatest news I've ever heard," Isadore sang, swinging her arms in the air and spinning around causing her long full skirt to form an umbrella.

Aunt Isadore hugged Virgina who was looking on rather sadly. "Don't feel sorry, honey," she said, "I'll see to it that you and I get our share. There will be plenty for us all."

Elsie wondered if her Aunt Louise knew about the true riches.

In a few days, Aunt Enna came with Molly and her brother Dick. Molly had to take a nap before anyone was allowed to visit with her. As soon as she awoke, Herbie ran into her room, "Poor child, I so sorry Molly for you," he said.

Molly laughed, then covered her face with her hands and cried.

"Don't ky, Herbie will love oo, poor old sing," he said.

"I didn't mean to cry," Molly said wiping her face.

"Herbie," Elsie scolded as she came into the room. "Don't make Molly cry. You had better go away and play."

"No, no, let him stay," Molly cried. "No one likes me cause I'm such a cry baby. But I think he does."

"We like you," Vi and Harold called as they came in from the hall.

For a while the children laughed and played together. Then each child, one at a time, lost interest in being with Molly and went to play. Elsie was alone with her. "Would you like to hear about our stay at Crags and meeting our mama's old governess? I guess she taught your mother too, or maybe your mother was too old to be in school when Miss Day was at Roseland. Anyway, she's as selfish as ever, but she has a nice girl named Sally."

"Please tell me anything to help me forget. I wish I was dead. I really do. I can't bear to think of never walking again."

"Molly, don't cry. Don't feel so angry. Jesus will help you. He loves you and will some day take you to heaven where there will be no more pain."

"No, He doesn't love me. I'm not good enough, and if He did, why did He let this happen to me?"

Elsie didn't know how to answer Molly's question. "Couldn't He have kept me from falling?" demanded Molly.

"Yes, He can do anything."

"Then I hate Him for not keeping me from falling."

"Oh, Molly, don't ever say you hate God. That's awful."

"I know. I'm just awful. I can't help it. If I could keep a dog from hurting, I'd do it. Then why didn't He keep me from getting hurt?"

"The Bible says, 'God is love,' " Molly said.
"It says, 'God so loved the world He gave His
only Son that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish, but have everlasting life.'
Jesus must love you to have died for you."

"He didn't die for me."

"Yes, for you if you will believe."

"How can I believe after what's happened. I know He doesn't love me."

"I love you," said Dick who had come in unnoticed and was listening. "I brought you a new game. Let's play it."

Elsie gave a sigh of relief that the subject had changed, for she didn't know what else to say. "I'll be back in a little while she called."

Elsie found her mother on the veranda. She was watching the children at play on the beach. "Mother, let's go for a walk. I want to talk to you."

"I'm ready," Mother answered.

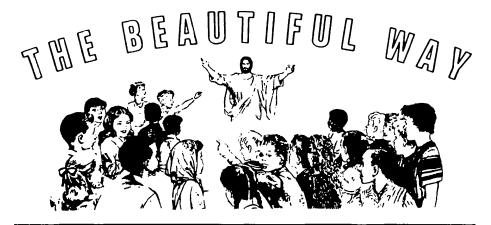
Elsie told her mother about the conversation with Molly. "What can I say to make her understand?"

"Elsie," Mrs. Travilla answered, "Prayer can do more for her than any words of ours. We must pray every day for God to show His love to her so she will change the way she feels about Him. I will pray with you each day. Will you pray?"

"I will," Elsie promised. Else kept her promise and prayed everyday for Molly. She also kept her promise of using her play time to entertain Molly. Sometimes it was hard to stay home when the family went boating, for she especially enjoyed boating. But knowing that it pleased Jesus was a good reward for her sacrifice.

(To be continued)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 1

Oct. 7, 1990

Those Last Words

(Continued from last week)

In her large bedroom at Roselands, Molly sat in a recliner looking out the window. How she wished she could go for a walk in the woods. She lay her head on the window sill, and sobbed. "I haven't taken a walk for over a year. Why, oh why, am I chained forever to this chair. Only when Dick is home to help me, can I even go to the other side of the room." She raised her head and looked at the book she so wanted to read. It was lying on the bookcase across the room. "Maybe I could get it, if I'd try real hard," she said.

She tried forcing herself to stand, but her legs and feet wouldn't cooperate. She raised herself off the chair by supporting her weight on her arms. She lunged, tugged at the window sill, and she struggled, but she couldn't get herself out of the chair. "I thought I might roll over there and get my book," she said to herself. "How I wish I at least had something to read."

"If only Grandpa or someone would come and take me for a ri..." Molly hadn't finished saying "ride" when her mother burst into the room. She was dressed to go out. Holding out her wrist she said, "Button my gloves, Molly. The servants are all busy and you have nothing to do. How fortunate you are to just take it easy all the time. I wish I had nothing to do but sit and look out the window."

"But, Mother, I hate sitting. I'd be glad to change places with you for awhile."

"You don't know what you are wishing, the way I must worry over my sewing for myself and four others. By the way,it's high time you made yourself useful. With a little effort you could learn to sew, since you have nothing to do from morning until night."

Molly felt the sting of her mother's words. "Mother, I don't want it this way. I'd give anything to be able to work." She was buttoning the second glove when tears sprang from her eyes and one dropped on her mother's wrist. "There now, you've stained my glove," she said, jerking away. "What a baby, continually crying," she stormed.

"It's terrible to sit everyday from morning till night and have nothing to do, nothing but think, yes, think of sitting for a lifetime. But I will try to bear it. I shall never again look to my own mother for sympathy, seeing she has none for me," Molly said haughtily.

"With all the work I have to do, and the added care of an invalid, who is there to sympathize with me?" her mother answered.

Just then Molly's little sister Betty burst into the room. "They are waiting for us, Mama," she called. "Grandpa said Molly could go too, if she wishes."

"There isn't enough time to get her ready," Mother answered, as she shooed Betty out the door and closed it behind them.

Molly watched through tear-filled eyes as they drove down the driveway. "If only I could have gone," she sighed.

She wondered where they were going. Her Mother was dressed so finely. But that told her nothing, for her mother loved to look like the richest ladies in the country. She wanted to be like them. She resented being a widow, and having an invalid teenager to care for.

Then Molly remembered how the accident happened. It was because of those



Israel Rejects God

I Samuel 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah.

- 5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.
- 6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord.
- 7 And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.
- 9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.
- 10 And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king.
- And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots.
- 13 And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers.
- 14 And he will takeyour fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants.
- 15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.
- 16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work.
- 17 He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants.
- 18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have

chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day.

- 19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;
- 20 That we may be like all the nations;

Central Thought: Many times we get into trouble when we do as others around us are doing.



Questions:

- What did the elders of Israel ask Samuel to do?
- 2. How did Samuel feel about the request?
- 3. How did Samuel handle this problem?
- 4. What did God say to Samuel?
- 5. Name some of the ways the king would treat the people?
- 6. Did the men still want a king after Samuel talked to them?
- 7. Who would the king use as soldiers to fight his battles?
- 8. Why did the people want a king?
- 9. Should we want to be like others around us or be like Jesus?

"Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."

(Rom. 12:2)



The people of God had lived together and become a big nation. Their nation was called Israel. There is still a nation called Israel, although after its people rejected Christ, it was no longer God's chosen nation.

At the time of our lesson, Israel had never had a president, a dictator, nor a king. Their leader was called a judge. God appointed these judges by letting the prophets know which man should be the judge.

Samuel was the last of these judges. He had appointed his sons to help him and to be Israel's judges after his death. Samuel's sons didn't treat the people very good, neither had the sons of the judge before Samuel been good men.

The people were tired of being led by judges who were humble men and who sometimes did very strange things. This and the fact that their sons were not so good caused the people to decide it would be better to be like other nations and have a king. They wanted a handsome, well-dressed, dignified man to represent them among the nations of the world. The judges were a sore eye compared to a royally dressed king.

Samuel warned the people that they would be sorry for making this choice, for the king would appoint captains over them. He would take their men, their sons, their daughters, and their servants to do his work. He would also take their land and seed if he wished. The people heard Samuel's warning, but they said they were willing to suffer these things if they could only have a king.

It is very strange why people like to be copy-cats, but they do. The very first man whom God created acted like a copy-cat. He copied his wife and ate of the forbidden fruit.

Why did God destroy the world by a flood? Because many, many people were being copy-cats and doing sinful things that they saw others doing. The Devil makes it very easy to copy the evil that others are doing. He makes it look like so much fun, but he never warns of the suffering that comes after the fun is past.

Are you sometimes a copy-cat? Do you sometimes want to do things others are

doing, even though you know it is not right? Each of us have probably had these times.

What are some things others do that a Christian should not do? Should a Christian use drugs or alcohol? Should they watch X-rated movies or ungodly T.V.? Should they wear immodest clothing or wear clothing with ungodly slogans or pictures? Should their hair style cause them to look like a godless person? God teaches us that we should not do any of these things. His Word tells us that we must live holy as God is holy.

God cannot lie, and He says in Revelation 20:12, "The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." The books are the different books of the Bible. Everyone must, by the help of God, make himself do what is right, even if everyone around him is doing evil.

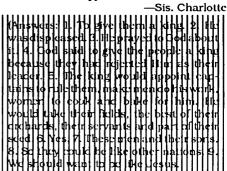
Noah and his family were the only ones who believed and obeyed God's Word. They were also the only ones who were saved during the worldwide flood. They were the family who were not copy-catting.

The next time you want to copy-cat something that someone else is doing, think about what happened to all those people in Noah's day. Remember also that fire destroyed all the people in Sodom and Gomorrah except Lot's family. Why did God destroy them? They were sinning, doing what others around them were doing.

If you want to copy something you see, ask yourself these questions: "Is this something Jesus would do if He were here?" "Would He wear this kind of clothing?" "Would He watch this T.V. show?" "Would His hair style look like mine?" "Will God be pleased if I do this?"

God warns us that if we do sinful things like the people around us that we will have trouble, just as the men who rejected God as their leader and asked for a king.

Let's all be copy-cats of Jesus.



high-heeled boots which I hated. Mother forced me to wear them and I tripped and fell down the stairs. Her face reddened with anger, and a lump choked her. Just because Mother wanted me to look like other girls, I'm in all this trouble," she wanted to scream.

She knew screaming would do no good, but she had to do something to calm her anger. She resorted to her old habit of crying. She cried until she fell asleep.

How long she slept, she didn't know. Some unusual noise downstairs awakened her. In the next moment Betty rushed in screaming, "Oh, Molly, Molly, Mother and Grandpa are killed! Both of 'em."

Molly was stunned, she thought she must be dreaming. Then she heard Betty repeat, "They're killed, both of 'em. They were thrown out...." And before Molly could ask a question, Betty was bouncing down the stairs.

Molly had to know what had happened. She rang her bell, but no one answered.

She remembered the harsh words she had spoken, and the hateful thoughts she had against her mother. "If I could only apologize," she sighed.

Voices were stient downstairs. She could only hear footsteps rushing to and fro. "Does anyone think of how terrible it is to be glued in a chair upstairs?" she wanted to yell, but respect for other hurting ones trapped the words in her mind. They surged and beat, until her head throbbed. "Come, come back Betty," she called. There was no response.

Minutes dragged slowly by, as if they were hours, while Molly was chained there in gloomy doubt and distress. The silence answered with groans from the wounded below.

The noise of wheels coming up the drive aroused her. It was Doctor Barton and Cal. She saw them hurry towards the house and disappear. Soon Uncle Horace and Rosie came. A little later Aunt Elsie, and Mr. Travilla arrived.

Aunt Elsie would bring her news, for Aunt Elsie always thought of her needs.

Grandpa had a broken leg and arm, besides cuts and bruises. Molly's mother Enna, was unconscious for many days.

When she was able to talk, she asked everyone who entered her room who they were. The family waited and hoped. Dr. Barton did all he could. Aunt Elsie stayed two weeks nursing Enna. But Enna never knew her family again. Instead of being the proud lady who loved to imitate the richest women in the country, she would not bathe, comb her hair, nor dress herself properly unless made to do so. She especially loved to sit in the floor and play dolls as Betty did.

"Oh, how I wish I could help Mother," Molly said to Aunt Elsie. "I'd give anything to take back those last hurtful words. I'm willing to do anything for her, but there is nothing I can do."

"Yes, there is something you can do," Aunt Elsie assured her.

"What?" Molly questioned.

"You can pray for her. Pray to the God who controls everything."

"I can't do that. I don't know how to pray, and God isn't my friend anyway."

"You can make Him your Friend. He says, 'Come unto me all ye that are heavy ladened, and I will give you rest," and "He that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out."

"If I only knew how, but Aunt Elsie, Mother never taught me to love God, and I think I hate Him, because of not being able to walk after that fall. He surely wouldn't hear my prayers..., not mine, after all I've done."

"He will if you give yourself to Him and believe His promise."

But He doesn't want me. No one wants a useless cripple, Molly said, bursting into another fit of crying.

Aunt Elsie knew Molly felt ashamed of crying around others, so she left the room.

Day after day Mrs. Travilla nursed Enna. Everyday she came to Molly's room to talk with her. One day she said, "Molly, I have brought you a surprise."

"A surprise? What can it be?"

"You and Dick are going to live at my house!"

Nothing could have made Molly happier. She loved Aunt Elsie more than she did her own mother, that is until the accident. After the accident, she realized she loved her mother more than she had ever thought, and she hoped someday to feel relief from the guilt of those last hasty words.

(To be continued)

Vol. 41. No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 2

Oct. 14, 1990

Important Choices

(Continued from last week)

Elsic inspected the rooms carefully. "I like this better than the cottage we had last year," she said. "I think it will be fun to share a big hotel with a lot of people. We will have a chance to meet new friends."

"I like this too," exclaimed thirteen-yearold Vi. "There might be some good looking guys around here."

"You better watch out," Eddie cautioned.
"Besides, you can't have a date until you are sixteen."

"I know, but I can be looking can't I?"
"No harm in looking, I suppose."

The Travillas had arranged with the Ross family to have vacation together. They went to the beach and stayed in the same hotel, so Elsie's friend, Phil Ross, was there.

Hugh Lilburn and Herbert Carrington were both guarding Vi with covetous eyes. Both had asked permission of Mr. Travilla to pay their visits, but had received the same answer. "She is too young to be approached on that subject," he had said.

"Well, Mr. Travilla, if you say that to every boy, as no doubt you do, I'm willing to wait," said Herbert, tolerably contented.

Leland was another admirer of Elsie. He was a poor boy, but Mr. Travilla, thought him a fine man for Elsie, because he was a very honest hard-working man.

One day Mrs. Ross came bringing a friend to visit Mrs. Travilla. She introduced her as Mrs. Faude, from Kentucky. Mrs. Faude was very pleased with the family, especially the two older girls, Elsie and Violet.

In the following days she came often to visit with them. They learned that she was a wealthy widow with but one child, a grown son, of whom she talked a great deal. He was evidently to her the perfection of manly beauty and grace, a great genius, and indeed everything that could be desired.

"He is still single," she boldly told Elsie.
"Although I know plenty of lovely girls who would be delighted with him, wait till you see him! He'll be here tomorrow!"

Elsie was quite willing to wait, and no dreams of Mrs. Faude's idol disturbed either her sleeping nor waking hours.

Mrs. Faude's son, Clarence, made his appearance the next day as they were having dinner. He was mighty handsome!

Mrs. Faude had been studying the Travilla girls, and knew that her son could find no better wife anywhere.

"I'll ask Elsie for a ride this morning, and while we are out I'll invite her to the boating party tomorrow. I know she will go with me."

"I'll see what my folks say," Elsic told him.

"What do you think of Clarence? Do you wish his friendship?" her father asked when she asked if she should accept the invitation.

"He might be a little fun. He sure knows how to talk," she told her folks. "But the expression on his face shows a kind of contempt for those whom he isn't interested in."

"Is he the kind of young man you would like to marry?"



Israel's First King

I Samuel 12:1 "... Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.

13:1 Saul [the king] reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,

- 13 ... Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.
- 14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee.
- 15:10 Then came the word of the Lord unto Samuel, saying,
- It repenteth me that I have set up Saul tobe king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the Lord all night.
- 13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord
- 16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.
- 17 And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight,...the Lord anointed thee king over Israel....
- 23 Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.
- 16:14 ... The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.
- 19:9 And the evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his

javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand lon the harpl.

- 10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.
- 11 Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning:...
- 12 So Michal [David's wife] let David down through a window; and he...escaped.
- I Samuel 12:19 And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto the Lord thy God, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king.
- 20 And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart;
- 22 For the Lord will not forsake his people...."

Central thought: God expects moral purity. Saul proved by his actions that he wanted to please people more than to be pure in God's sight.

Questions:

- 1. Who was made king over Israel?
- How long had King Saul reigned before he disobeyed God?
- 3. What was Saul's punishment for not obeying God?
- 4. What did Samuel do when he learned that Saul had not obeyed?
- 5. What happened to Saul after he disobeyed God several times?
- 6. What did Saul do that showed he had an evil spirit?
- 7. Why did the people beg Samuel to pray for them?
- 8. What did Samuel tell them to do?
- 9. Will the Lord forsake His people?

"If ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed, both ye and your king." (I Samuel 12:25)



People from all over the country were traveling to Mizpeh. Many had already arrived. The streets were crowded with men from all the twelve tribes that made up the nation of Israel. They had come for a great feast and to see who would be the new king.

"I hope the new king will come from our tribe," an old man said to his friend. "We have many wise men among us."

"I hope the new king will be my son," said a man who was walking by and heard the old men talking.

All day long people swarmed into the city. When all were there, Samuel said, "Come near to me one tribe at a time and God will choose the tribe from which the new king will be selected."

Thousands of men marched before Samuel, one tribe at a time, until the tribe of Benjamin came by. "This is it," God said. There were old men, young men, rich men and poor men standing before Samuel. But the one who was to become king was not there! "He is hiding among the luggage," God told Samuel.

Samuel sent a man to bring Saul.

When Saul was crowned king, the people shouted, "God save the King." Right then, many men volunteered to become his servants.

When asked why he hid, Saul said he felt unworthy of becoming king.

In just two years, however, he changed from feeling unworthy and had become so proud of himself that he thought he could do most anything. He thought he could even take over the administration of the religious services that God had called His special servant, Samuel, to do. For this and other disobediences, God had to reject him from being king, for God saw he was leading the people away from serving Him.

After King Saul was rejected by God, he became jealous and hateful. An evil spirit came on him at times and he was very, very miserable. He was so miserable that his servants found David and brought him to the palace to play music for the king to calm

him. David's music worked like magic to rid Saul of his misery.

Time passed and David was sent back home.

After the fight with the Philistines when David killed the giant, poor King Saul was more miserable than ever. The women sang praises to David saying he had killed ten thousands of their enemies; they praised Saul for only killing thousands.

Saul tried to destroy David by putting him in the hottest battles, but David had come back alive each time.

The evil spirit was so tormenting that Saul again called for his music. David played as usual, but King Saul did not become calm. Instead, he became more and more miserable because he was already jealous of David. He could stand David no longer! He threw his javelin at David hoping to nail him to the wall!

King Saul was never happy again. The evil spirit got more and more control of him. He did many strange things which proved he was surely controlled by an evil spirit. Finally he tried to commit suicide. When he saw he was not going to die, he asked another man to kill him.

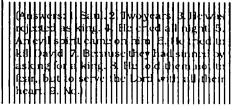
Saul started out little in his own eyes and was blessed by God, but he became proud and had a life of misery.

Many people are miserable, just like Saul was miserable, because they will not obey God, and an evil spirit or sometimes evil spirits torment them for years before they die.

We should all be careful to obey God so that no evil spirit will come on us and make us miserable.

—Sis. Charlotte





"I would never marry a guy like him. He's so proud of himself," Elsie answered. "I can't stand people who think they are something great. That's why I don't like Phil."

"Would you like his mother for a motherin-law?" her mother questioned.

"I hardly think so," Elsie answered quickly.
"She never speaks about the good things of God. She talks about money, clothing, and the world all the time. I get awfully bored with those things."

"Do you think she or Clarence are Christians?"

"I don't think she is," Elsie answered.

"Would her son know much about the hidden riches of God if he has been raised by a mother who loves the riches of this world?" Mr. Travilla asked Elsie.

"Oh, Daddy, I never thought of things like this," Elsie exclaimed. "I would never think of marrying a guy like Clarence."

"But it is very easy to believe you love someone who puts on his best manners when he is with you. A romance follows and when anyone is caught up in a romance, it is hard to make wise decisions."

"Now I think I see why we should not begin keeping company with anyone whom we would not think seriously of marrying," Elsie told her father. "But can you help me know how to refuse this invitation without hurting Clarence or Mrs. Faude?"

Clarence was so sure Elsie would accept, that he didn't bother to talk with her again, he just waited at the appointed place and time to take her. Mrs. Faude waited happily with him.

While he was waiting, one of the Travilla servants walked up and handed him a note.

"What?" questioned Mrs. Faude. "She isn't coming."

"It's from her mother. Just thanked me for the invitation, but gave no excuse."

, "Maybe they don't think you are serious."

"They will soon find out that I am," he said angrily. "I'm going to find Mr. Travilla. Why should they refuse me?"

Clarence searched until he found Mr. Travilla. Luckily he was alone.

"May I have permission to take Elsie for a ride?" he asked very confidently.

"I'm sorry but we do not wish for her to go," Mr. Travilla answered very softly. "May I ask why?" Clarence asked in a quivering voice.

"Well, sir, it is because Elsie, Mrs. Travilla and I decided it was not best."

"Wow! You all are sure hard to please. What is the objection?"

"First let me ask you one question," said Mr. Travilla.

"Go right ahead, sir."

"Would you be interested in marrying a girl who is wealthy, beautiful, and of a prestigious family if her character was not better than yours, or if her life was not pure?

"Of course not, sir. I want a wife with good character who is pure as the new fallen snow."

"That is the kind of man my daughters want also."

Clarence Faude left in a rage, for he knew it would do no good to keep talking.

Leaving, however, didn't lessen his desire to win Elsie.

He begged his mother to persuade Mrs. Travilla to at least let him talk to Elsie.

"My son would make your daughter a good husband," she said to Mrs. Travilla, "and if allowed to know my son, I am sure she would learn to love him. At least give him a chance. It is never well to be hasty, especially in declining such a good offer. Our family is an old aristocratic family, and we have wealth. Clarence, too, is handsome and of a good disposition," Mrs. Faude said rather boastfully.

"Believe me, it is painful to refuse," Mrs. Travilla answered, "but we consider moral purity more essential than anything else in those we permit to be friends with our children."

"My son is not a bad man. Very far from iti" Mrs. Faude exclaimed, grossly insulted.

"I am sure those of the world would think him a very good man. But the Bible is our standard; and guided by its teaching we desire above all things purity of heart and life in those who are to become our children's partners for life. They will be the future fathers or mothers of our grandchildren. They must have pure hearts and Bible standards to guide their children right."

"That is certainly looking far ahead," returned Mrs. Faude with a polite sneer.

(To be continued)



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 3

Oct. 21, 1990

God and Happiness

(Continued from last week)

"I hear you are leaving tomorrow," Kate Ross said to Elsic.

"Yes, we have to go home now to be ready when it's time to start school."

"Don't mention school," Kate groaned. "I hate to think of studying again."

"I love to study," Elsie answered.

"Maybe I would too if we had a good instructor like your mother and handsome Mr. Leland for an art teacher. Who wouldn't enjoy school with him around?"

Elsic's face reddened. Mr.Leland had been lots of fun. But the support and encouragement which came from her mother was the real reason why Elsic loved studying. "Mother always says, 'The most important things are learned from the teacher's love.' That's why Mother has taught us herself."

"What a nice mother," Kate exclaimed. "And your mother could afford the best instructors in the world. I—I—don't think my mother could stand me all day. Well, I just came over to tell you good-bye."

"Good-bye. Maybe we can spend vacation together again next summer," Elsie said.

"I think we are going to Gertrude's next summer," Kate said.

"How does she like being a married lady?" Elsie asked.

"She's already bored with it," Kate answered.

"What? She's only been married eight months."

"I know, but who would want to live in a pig sty even if it is lined with gold," Kate said laughing. "Her name is Mrs. Hogg, and he's

fat as a pig. I told her she wouldn't be happy with him, but Mom said a guy with his wealth was awfully hard to find and she better take his offer."

"Gertrude married him without loving him?" Elsie questioned in horror. "She had to tell a lie then, because you promise to love the guy you marry."

"I guess she loved him or his money, one."

"I could never do that," Elsie exclaimed.

"Is he a good man?"

"Not what you would call a good man. He isn't religious, but Gertrude never liked religious things anyway."

Elsie remembered the time when Gertrude saw her reading her Bible and had said, "You are always reading that book."

She shivered, thinking of the unhappy years ahead of Gertrude, already hooked up for life to a man she didn't love. Gertrude was no older than Elsic.

How happy Elsie felt that her mother hadn't encouraged her to start going with Clarence. She might have ended up the same way as Gertrude.

"Well, guess I'll say good-bye again," Kate said and walked back towards her hotel room.

Elsie was so troubled about Gertrude that she almost forgot to say good-byc. "Good-bye," she called as Kate started up the stairs.

Later in the evening Mrs. Ross came to tell Mrs. Travilla good-bye. "Do you mind



Israel's Greatest King

II Samuel 7:4 It came to pass... that the word of the Lord came unto Nathan, saving.

- 8 Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, I took thee . . . from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:
- 9 ... I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth.
- 12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers [die], I will set up thy seed after thee, . . . and I will establish his kingdom.
- 14 ... If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:
- 16 ...Thine house and thy kingdom ... [and] thy throne shall be established for ever.
- 17 According to all these words, ... did Nathan speak unto David.
- 18 Then went king David in, and sat before the Lord, and he said, Who am I, O Lord God? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?
- 19 ...This was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come.
- 21 . . . According to thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things. . . .
- 22 Wherefore thou art great, O Lord God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, . . .
- 25 ... Now, O Lord God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it for ever, and do as thou hast said.
- 26 And let thy name be magnified for ever. . . .
- 28 . . . O Lord God, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

29 Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord God, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever."

Central thought: God made David great and promised to establish his kingdom forever.



Questions:

- 1. What did the Lord say to Nathan?
- 2. From where did God take David?
- 3. What did David become?
- 4. Why did David's name become great?
- 5. What was to happen after David died?
- 6. What did David do after hearing what God had said?
- 7. What did David say about God's great-
- 8. Whose name did David want magnified?
- For how long was David's kingdom to be established?

"Now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee."

(II Sam. 7:29)



In I Kings 14:8, we read that David followed the Lord with all his heart. He did only that which was right in God's eyes. For this reason David became the greatest king that Israel ever had. God also promised David that one of his sons would always rule God's chosen people.

David's son, Solomon, was king after David died. God gave him more wisdom than any other man. But even with all this wisdom, Solomon did much evil.

God punished him for not doing right by letting other countries cause him much trouble. "If he commit iniquity [or sin], I will chasten him with the rod of men." (II Samuel 7:14)

As Solomon grew older, he went farther and farther away from God. Finally God caused war among the Israelis and they became two nations. After Solomon's death, his best worker become king over the large nation. His son was king over the very, very, small nation. The large nation was then called Israel and the very small one named Judah.

The country of Israel became so wicked that God allowed the nation to dissolve. Its people married with other nations and went to live in those countries. Many were taken captive as a result of war. Others were killed. Finally there was no nation.

The country of Judah was very sinful also, but they had kings every few years who would get them straightened out and God would bless them again. At last, however, the day came when God let them be captured by the Babylonian kingdom. From then on they were a small despised nation ruled by another country. God did the best He could for them, but they continued to bring trouble to themselves by their sinful actions.

Although the nation refused to let God bless them, God did not forget His promise to David. He established the kingdom of David by letting His Son, Jesus, be born in the family of David. If you like to read genealogies, you may read the genealogy of Jesus from the first chapter of Matthew. Matthew

is the first book in the New Testament. David's name is in the sixth verse.

Remember, the greatness of David came became he obeyed the commandments of God and did only that which was right in God's eyes.

Every person who obeys God and does only what Jesus would do is blessed. He is great in the Kingdom of God and in the eyes of God although he may never be a great king like David was.

Once the apostles asked Jesus, "Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

Jesus called a child to him and then answered, "Whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Now we know how to be great in the kingdom of God.

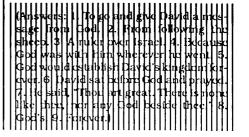
Let us stop desiring to become some great person. Let us ask God to make us humble so that we can be great in God's Kingdom, which is also a part of David's kingdom.

—Sis. Charlotte



"The brave man is not he who feels no fear, For that were stupid and irrational; But he whose soul its fear subdues, And bravely dares the danger nature

And bravely dares the danger nature
shrinks from." —Selected



strolling alonging the beach with me so we could talk awhile?" Mrs. Ross asked.

"I'd be glad to," Mrs. Travilla answered.

After the two women were a good distance from the hotel, Mrs. Ross said, "I don't know if you noticed or not, but I am full of fears and anxieties. I have no peace in my life.

"Phil is grown now and is making plenty of money, but he is so over-confident of himself, so proud and unconsiderate of others. He has so much trouble with his employees.

"Then there is Gertrude. Though she has made what is considered an excellent match, she is easily fretted and needs change and excitement all the time in order to be happy.

"Kate is pleasant in company, but at home is dull and spiritless. Why are my children so dissatisfied and depressed and yours so happy and optimistic?"

"Are you being a little over-concerned?" Mrs. Travilla questioned.

"No, I have been watching your children for years. They were happy through childhood, and now they are happy teenagers. You have nothing to worry about; they bring you joy. I think it is something about your home that makes the difference."

"What is the difference in our homes?"

"That I don't know. . . . None of our children suffer for lack of anything. They are well-educated. They have had plenty of play, vacations, and travel. They know how to dress well and are well mannered so they can fit into the best of society.

"What do you do that makes your children different?" Mrs. Ross asked as if pleading for an answer.

"There are a few things that are different about the daily routine of our homes. My children are not allowed to stay out late at night."

"We love to stay out late on Friday and Saturday night," Mrs. Ross commented. "The movies and dances are such fun."

"My children arise early in the morning and sometimes go for a walk or horseback ride before meeting in the drawing room and sharing daily memory verses," Mrs. Travilla continued as if not hearing what Mrs. Ross had said.

"They learn a new menory verse every day?" Mrs. Ross questioned.

"Yes, they do, and that before breakfast."

"We could never do that. My Gertrude would seldom get up in time for breakfast."

"Every school day at our house starts with Bible study and prayer. Then the small children go to their places of play under Nanny's watchful eye, while I instruct the older ones."

*Oh, Mrs. Travilla, how do you do it? I can't stand my children all day. They are such a pain."

"I love them and am very glad to be with them from morning to night. When I have to be away, I can hardly wait to get back to them. I am sure my love for them makes them happy. But the thing that brings them the most happiness is their love for God."

"I think that must be the key to it, Mrs. Ross sighed. "You have always put God first in your life. Even when a little girl, I remember you were so careful not to displease God. Sometimes it used to annoy me," Mrs. Ross said smiling. "Your children want to be helpful and make others happy. They seem to have a desire to work to make the world a better place," Mrs. Ross commented. "My children think only of their own happiness. What can I do to make me happy?' is their every thought. When Gertrude isn't happy she talks about killing herself, never thinking of the pain this would cause our family."

"Maybe some of their teachers have influenced them to be self-centered. You know, I always say, The student learns a little by what the teacher teaches. He learns more by what the teacher does. But he learns the most by what the teacher is.' Some teachers don't respect life as a sacred gift from God."

"And some mothers don't either, and I've been one of them," Mrs. Ross said covering her face to hide her tears. "I must find God myself if I am to lead my children into a happy way of life. Oh, Mrs. Travilla, do you think it is too late? Have I rejected God and loved this world so long that He will not help me, so I too can help my children?"

"Of course not," Mrs. Ross. "God is ready to help all who come to Him with a broken heart. Your older children, though, have already formed their attitudes towards life. But if you change, and they like the change, God may have mercy on them and help them to find this true happiness, too."

(To be continued)



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 4

Oct. 28, 1990

Being The Mother

(Continued from last week)

In front of the mansion at Ion stood two ponies saddled and ready for riding. "Good morning, Eddie," Violet said. "Sorry to keep you waiting."

"Good morning," he cried, turning to face her. "No need to apologize, I've only been here five minutes."

He helped her into the saddle, then mounted himself. "Try to cheer up, little sister," he said as they trotted down the road side-by-side.

"I do try, but I can't. It isn't like home without them."

"No, indeed, how could it be? Mr. and Mrs. Daly are very kind, yet not in the least like our father and mother. No one could take their place."

"I try to make myself happy by thinking of the time when I will see them coming home with our little sister, Lily, well and strong," Vi said, struggling bravely with her tears.

"I am so glad they left Aunt Chloc and Uncle Joe here. They are some comfort," Eddie remarked. "It seems so strange that you and I are acting as Mama and Daddy."

"I'm doing my best," Vi said. "But you can't believe how much I miss Elsie, yet I am glad she could go along. She will be a great comfort to Mother and Lily and she promised to write everyday."

"It's a chance for you to practice being a mother. Elsie had her practice when Aunt Enna had to be nursed after that terrible accident."

"We shall meet in Mama's room every morning just as usual. We can say our

memory verses to each other and talk them over and read the Bible together," Vi said.

"I will do my part," Eddie promised her. "Which way shall we go now?" he questioned as they neared a crossroad.

"Let's go to the Oaks. I want to see Grandpa. A word or smile from him would do me good this morning."

Mr. Dinsmore was pacing the veranda as the young riders came in sight. His welcome smile made Vi's heart race. He helped her out of the saddle and gave her a big hug. After they were seated he called the servant to bring them some oranges. "Please stay for breakfast," he said, "it will cheer you both."

"No, we can't do that, the other children would feel so alone without us," Eddie said.

As they returned home, plump five-yearold Rosie came bounding to meet them. "I've been waiting for you," she said. "It's time to say our verses."

"What is your text?" Vi asked when they were settled in the room.

"Take me on your lap first, like Mother does, and I'll tell you."

"Now then," Vi said, complying with the request.

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

"Who taught you that?" asked Vi with a sight tremble in her voice.

"Cousin Molly. I was crying for Mama and she called me in and told me I shouldn't cry, 'cause Jesus loves me and will never, never go away from me."

"That's like my text," said Herbert. "Mama gave it to me for today. 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."



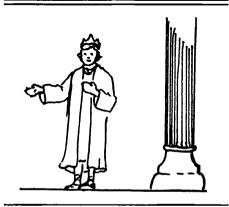
Judah's Youngest King

II Chronicles 22:10 ... When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah.

- 11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons that were slain, and put him and his nurse in a bedchamber... so that she slew him not.
- 12 And he was with them hid in the house of God six years: and Athaliah reigned over the land.
- 23:1 ... In the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself, ...
- 2 ... And went about in Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the chief of the fathers of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem.
- 3 And all the congregation made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And he said unto them, Behold, the king's son shall reign, as the Lord hath said of the sons of David.
- 8 So the Levites and all Judah did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest had commanded, . . .
- 9 Moreover Jehoiada the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds spears, and bucklers, and shields, that had been king David's which were in the house of God.
- 10 And he set all the people, every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the temple to the left side of the temple, along by the altar and the temple, by the king around about.
- 11 Then they brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown, and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, God save the king.
- 12 Now when [Queen] Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the house of the Lord:

- 13 And she looked, and, behold, the king stood at his pillar at the entering in, and the princes and the trumpets by the king; and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of musick,...Then Athaliah rent her clothes, and said. Treason. Treason.
- 24:1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem.
- 2 And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

Central thought: God will always keep His promise.



Questions:

- What did Athaliah do after her son was dead?
- 2. What happened to Joash?
- 3. Over what country did Athaliah reign?
- 4. How long was Joash hidden?
- 5. Whose weapons were used to protect the king?
- 6. Why did Athaliah come into the temple?
- 7. What did she see and hear in the temple?
- 8. Howold was Joash when he became king?
- 9. How long did Joash do right?

"There hath not failed one word of all His good promise."

(I Kings 8:56)



Years before Joash was born, King David had been king over the nation of Israel. David loved God and served Him all the days of his life. Although David sometimes did wrong and sinned, he never rebelled against God. He always repented of his sins. Because he was such a faithful servant, God promised that someone of David's family would always be king over Israel.

David's son, Solomon, became king after David died. God gave Solomon much wisdom and he ruled very well—until he fell under lust and married many wives. These wives brought their own gods to the palace, and after a few years the people were worshiping many idol gods. This was direct disobedience to God's commandments which said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." "Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor serve them." (Exodus 20:3-5.)

God may have rejected Solomon from being king just as He did Saul, except that He had made a promise to David.

What would God do? He had already promised a curse to all those who worship other gods. He had also promised David to keep one of his sons on the throne forever.

This is how God handled the problem: He divided the nation of Israel and placed two kings over them. On the throne of the part called Judah, He sat one of David's sons. Another family ruled the other part of the kingdom which kept the name Israel.

At the time of our story, Joash was the only one left of the family of David. His father had married wicked Queen Athaliah, who thought she had killed all of David's family. God, however, was protecting some of David's family.

When Queen Athaliah ordered all the royal seed killed, baby Joash was carefully covered and carried by his aunt into the house of God. Queen Athaliah worshiped idols and cared nothing about the house of God. So inside the sacred house of God Joash lived for six years.

The queen ruled the country of Judah from the great palace which Solomon had built. She had broken down much of the

house of God, and had set up places of worship for her idols.

How surprised she would have been to know that her worst enemy was running and playing among the rubbish and growing stronger everyday. God's faithful priest, Jehoiada, was teaching Joash the laws of God, while others guarded his life.

Finally, after six long years, Jehoiada called five important captains into a covenant with him. Then they went about all the country of Judah and told their plan to the Levites and those who were faithful to God.

On the day appointed, all these important men of the country came into Jerusalem to the house of God. They did it secretly without the queen or her men knowing anything about it.

When they were all assembled, Jehoiada gave them the weapons of King David. Men with these weapons were posted at every entrance of the house of God and all along the altar from the right-hand side of the temple to the left-hand side. Then a group were placed around Joash, so no one could break through the line and murder him.

When the crown was placed on the head of Joash, the trumpets were blown, singers began singing, and the people shouted, "God save the king!"

People who knew nothing about the crowning began running towards the house of God. When the queen heard the people running, she too ran to see what all of the excitement was about.

She saw the people shouting happily and the new king standing by his pillar.

"Treason, Treason!" she cried and then turned to run. She was killed at the entering of the horse gate by the palace for all the murders and wickedness she had committed in the land of Judah.

Again one of David's sons was on the throne as God had promised him.

-Sis. Charlotte



"And mine," said Harold, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

"And here is mine," Vi said, " This God is our God forever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death," she repeated slowly.

"Here's mine," said Eddie, "'Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land."

"All the verses from the Bible are good, but the ones we have learned this morning have special comfort. The Bible is the Book of all books.' It has something for everyone and for every time of need," Vi said in her most grown-up voice.

The breakfast bell rang.

"Oh dear," cried Rosie, "I don't want to eat without Mama"

"Don't cry," Vi said, hugging Rosie. "You know Mama wants us to be cheerful and make it pleasant for Mr. and Mrs. Daly."

Mr. Daly talked so entertainingly all through the meal that no one had time for a lonely thought.

After breakfast Vi took Rosie and the two small boys for a walk to the little lake. Rosie brought bread crumbs to feed the fish, but the boys skipped so many rocks on the lake that the fish were afraid to come up for the food.

They got the mail while returning to the house. There was a letter to Molly from her brother Dick who was in Philadelphia studying.

Molly was sitting by the window as usual, but since coming to live with the Travilla's she had learned not to sit wistfully looking out the window. They had bought her a wheelchair and had stocked the bookshelves in her room full of interesting books. She was studying everyday with the other children. Mr. Daly was their teacher. He was helping Molly master French and German. She was working hard and hoping that someday she could translate some stories and sell them. Her wildest dream was to write a book. Mrs. Travilla encouraged her to do so.

At the present moment she was so absorbed in her book that she didn't hear Vi enter with her letter.

"It's school time. Want me to wheel you in?" said Eddie, who had come in after Vi.

School started with family worship. Mr. Daly prayed and explained a few Scriptures, then each began his work.

"Here is a note from Dr. Arthur for Miss Violet," said one of the maids as she handed a note to Mr. Daly.

At break time, Mr. Daly gave the note to Violet. "It's a note from Cousin Isabella, asking me to bring Rosie and come to Roselands for dinner." Vt told Eddie. "Should I go?"

"Ask Mr. Daly if you want to go," Eddie told her. "I'll keep an eye on Harold and Herbie. I might take themover to see Grandpa. Molly will want to answer her letter from Dick, won't you Molly?" Eddie questioned looking at her.

"Yes, do go Violet and bring me back news from home, or what used to be home. Virginia has a friend visiting her. I'd like to know what she is like."

"If your lessons are well done, you may go," Mr. Daly told Vi.

When they arrived, Virginia's friend Miss Reed was looking out the window of the drawing room. "Here comes that rich cousin of yours," Vi heard her say. "She looks like a fairy, except she forgot her jewelry and wand."

There was quite a contrast in the way Vi and Miss Reed looked. Vi was dressed in a simple white dress with a blue sash and ribbons. Miss Reed was dressed in a bright silk and loaded with showy jewelry.

After greetings of hugs and kisses, Isabella said, "Dinner is ready to be served. We were waiting on you."

When the meal was finished, Isadore took Vi and Rosie to her apartment. Rosie was persuaded to lie down and take a nap while the older girls visited in Isadore's sitting room. "Isn't it delightful to be home again, after all those years in the convent?" asked Vi

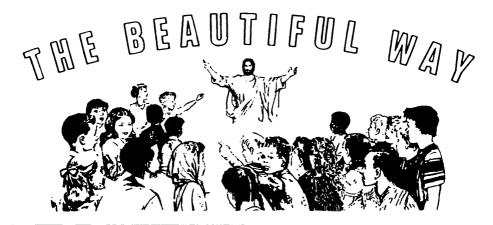
"I enjoy home, certainly," replied Isadore, "yet I miss going to school and studying."

"You could study at home like we do. Mr. Daly might help you if you have problems."

"I could study at home, but I deeply regret leaving the sisters; they were so good and kind to me. Shall I tell you about my life in the Catholic convent?"

"Oh, please do," exclaimed Violet, "I'd love to hear about it"

(To be continued)



Vol. 41. No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 5

Nov. 4, 1990

The Secret

(Continued from last week)

Thirteen-year-old Violet sat on the edge of her chair as her cousin Isadore told thrilling stories of her life while studying at a Catholic convent.

When Isadore was seventeen a wealthy aunt had offered to pay for Virginia and her to attend the highly prestigious convent. Vi's mother and grandfather had begged Isadore's mother not to send the girls, but she felt it was a great opportunity for her daughters. Besides, she hoped the aunt would will them her money as she had no children of her own. Sure enough, the aunt named Isadore heir of her wealth. So twenty-one-year-old Isadore was educated and heir to a fortune.

After telling many exciting things that had happened, Isadore said, "The nuns are such lovely sisters. They lived such holy, devoted lives, were so kind, so good, so self-denying. You would love them, Vi, I know you would. I wish your mother would send you and Elsie there to finish your education. Would you like to go?"

"I wouldn't want to go. Not me."

"Why not?"

"I could never bow to images or pictures, or kneel before them, or join in prayer or hymns to the Virgin Mary."

"I don't know how you could be so wicked as to refuse," Isadore said. The Virgin Mary is the queen of heaven and mother of God."

"Isadore! She's not the mother of God. No one is!"

"You can't deny it. Wasn't Jesus God?"

"Yes, He is God. 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the

Word was God,' and 'The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,' Vi quoted from the Bible.

"Ahl and was not Mary Jesus' mother?"
At first Vi was perplexed as to what to say. Then she said, "I know Jesus was both God and man."

"Well?"

"Mary was the mother of Jesus' human nature, only. Mother says to pray to her is idolatry."

"I thought that too, before going to the convent," said Isadore, "but the sisters convinced me of my error. Vi, I should like to show you something. But first, can you keep a secret?"

"I have never kept a secret from Mother," Vi said.

"But you can't tell her things now, for she isn't here. This concerns no one but myself, so you need not tell her when she does come home. Promise?"

Vi shook her head yes.

"I know I can trust you, Vi," Isadore said. Then taking Vi's hand she opened a door and drew her into a large closet. It was lighted by a small circular window quite high up on the wall. The place looked like a small Catholic chapel. Isadore pointed to a cross with Jesus hanging on it, "That's called a crucifix," she said. "This string of beads that looks like a necklace is a rosary. It helps me know if I repeat lines of my prayers enough times. Vi remembered a verse in Matthew 6:7 which says, "When ye pray, use not vain repetitions as the heathen do, for they think they shall be heard for their much speaking."



King Joash Is Killed

Il Chronicles 24:1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. . . .

- 7 . . . The sons of [Queen] Athaliah, that wicked woman [who killed the royal seed], had broken up the house of God; . . .
- 8 And at the king's commandment they made a chest, and set it without at the gate of the house of the Lord.
- 9 And they made a proclamation... to bring in to the Lord the collection....
- 10 ... All the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, ...
- 12 And the king and Jehoiada [the priest] gave it to such as did the work . . . and hired masons and carpenters . . . and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the Lord.
- 14 And when they had finished it; . . . they offered burnt offerings in the house of the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada.
- 15 But Jehoiada . . .died; an hundred and thirty years old was he when he died.
- 16 And they buried him in the city of David among the kings. . . .
- 17 ... After the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them.
- 18 And they left the house of the Lord God . . . and served groves and idols; and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass.
- 19 Yet he [God] sent prophets to them, ... but they would not give ear.
- 20 And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehotada the priest, ... and [he] said ... Thus saith God, ... because ye have forsaken the Lord, he hath also forsaken you.
- 21 And they conspired against him, and stoned him [to death] . . . at the commandment of the king. . . .

- 22 Thus Joash...remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada...had done to him, but slew his son....
- 23 And it came to pass at the end of the year, that . . .
- 24 The army of the Syrians came with a small company of men, and the Lord delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken the Lord...So they executed judgment against Joash.
- 25 And when they were departed...his own servants...slew him...and he died: and they buried him in the city of David, but ... not in the sepulchres of the kings.

Central thought: God blessed the country of Judah while they served Him, and He let their enemies destroy them when they did not serve Him.



Questions:

- 1. Who had broken up the house of God?
- 2. How did King Joash get money to repair the house of God?
- 3. Were the people happy to give their offerings?
- 4. Jehoiada was a priest, not a king. Why do you think he was buried with the kings?
- 5. What did Joash do after Jehoiada's death?
- 6. How did Joash treat Jehoiada's son?
- 7. What happened at the end of the year?
- 8. Why did Syria defeat Joash's army?
- 9. Was Joash buried as a king?

"Behold, I set before you a blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, and a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord."

(Deut. 11:26-28)



King Joash could have had a long prosperous reign if he had stayed true to God.

When he was a small baby, he was hidden in the house of God because the wicked queen was having all the royal seed murdered. Living inside the house of God, he learned much about the laws of God.

He heard Priest Jehoiada when he offered prayers to God. He saw his tears and his sighing because the people of God were worshiping idols. He knew that God often answered Jehoiada's prayers.

Often the old priest told him the story of why he had to stay in the house of God. He always ended with a smile as he said, "Someday you won't have to be afraid of being killed by the wicked queen. Someday you will be the king, my boy. You will be a good king and will lead the people in the way of God. Then our people will prosper and have plenty to eat."

Joash did become king and led the country right as long as the old priest lived. The country was blessed by God just that long.

After the priest died the princes of Judah who loved to worship idols came to Joash. They flattered and praised him until he was willing to do whatever they suggested. They wanted him to allow idol worship again in Judah. He allowed it.

Do you wonder why the people loved to worship a stick or stone shaped into an idol? There were many reasons. Here are two: 1. All other nations of the world worshiped idols. The nation was very small, and not worshiping as the other nations made them very odd, so odd, that the other nations made fun of them. 2. During the ceremony of worshiping idols, men did some very sinful things which they enjoyed. But God commanded them not to do these things.

God saw the sins of Joash and his people. He sent prophets to them, but they would not listen. Then he caused trouble, lack of food, clothing, housing, etc., to come on them. 'Still they did not stop sinning.

One day, Zechariah the son of the old priest Jeholada, came to the court of the house of the Lord and said, "Thus saith God, you cannot prosper because you are transgressing the commandments of the Lord. You have forsaken the Lord and He hath also forsaken you.

Some of the princes of Judah who were great friends of the king, ran to the king, "Don't allow him to talk like that," one demanded.

"He must not live," shouted another.

So they conspired against Zechariah and the king commanded him to be stoned. He was not taken outside the city and stoned. No, but was stoned in the courtyard of the very house of God which the king had a few years before rebuilt for worshiping God.

I am sure when Joash commanded Jehoiada's son to be stoned, he was a most miserable person. The memory of all that Zechariah's father, the old priest, had done for him was surely pressing on his mind.

The following year God sent destruction on the land of Judah. A very small army of Syrians conquered the great army of Judah. Why? Because they had forsaken God. Joash was badly wounded. While laying on his bed some of his servants killed him.

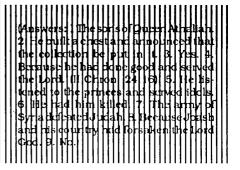
The people had such little respect for Joash that they did not bury him as a king. However, just a few years before, they had buried the old priest Jehoiada as if he had been a king.

Joash chose to serve his friends, losing all the respect he had gained while he was a good king under the leadership of the priest. Changing after the priest died showed the people what kind of guy he really was.

Don't do what is right just because your parents want you to. After they are dead you may fall like Joash. Get grounded in the love of God now and He will enable you to do right if you are the only one in the town doing so.

Remember, God sets before you the choice of a blessing or a curse—a blessing if you serve the Lord and a curse if you serve other people or things.

—Sis. Charlotte



Isadore picked up a book, "This is a book of prayers. Some of these I memorize and repeat; some are just for reading, like reading the Bible."

Vi noticed that the table on which these things lay was like an altar. There was also a picture of the Virgin and child. Vi had never before seen these things, but her mother had told her about them.

"Isadore! Isadore!" she cried, "have you become a Roman Catholic?"

"I am a member of the one true church," the older girl said very coldly.

"How horrid! It is simply terrible!" Vi exclaimed.

"How unreasonable you are, Violet. You should be open-minded and tolerate other views about religion. I cannot believe it of so sweet and gentle a young lady as you. I trust you will not consider it your duty to betray me to my mother."

"Betray you? Not me, never. But does Aunt Louise not know? How can you think it right to hide this from your mother?"

"I was directed by my father confessor not to tell her. Because my motive is a good one, 'the end sanctifies the means.' That is what the sisters taught me."

"Mother taught me that the Bible says it is never right to do evil even if it is to bring good."

"Perhaps your mother doesn't always understand the real meaning of what the Bible says. It must be that many people misunderstand it. Why else are there so many different churches teaching opposite doctrines and all professing to get the doctrines from the Bible?"

"I have a question," Vi said after a moment of silence.

"Out with it."

"When you pray, do you kneel before that — that —"

"That crucifix? Yes, sometimes. Sometimes I pray to the Virgin and child."

Vi shuddered. "Oh Isadore, have you forgotten the second commandment? Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them."

"I have not forgotten, but I am content to do as the holy church directs."

"Didn't they promise Aunt Louise that they wouldn't interfere with your religion?"

Yes.

"Then they broke their promise, so they are even untruthful. How can you think they are good?"

"They did it to save my soul. Was that not a good and praiseworthy motive?"

"If they thought it their duty to try to make you believe as they do, they should not have promised not to do it."

"But in that case I should never have been placed in the convent, and they would have had no opportunity."

"Vi remembered the time at the cottage on the beach when Aunt Louise received the letter inviting the girls to study at the convent. Her mother had reproved Aunt Louise for even thinking about it. How glad Vi was that her mother had taken more care about her children. She was also happy that they memorized and studied so many Bible verses.

What Isadore was doing reminded her of a verse in Isaiah like this, "Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."

Vi returned home from Roselands with a heavy heart. She told Molly about Virgina's friend, about Aunt Louise and the boys being away to visit with their grandfather at Pinegrove, about Aunt Enna, Molly's mother, and about Isadore's stories about school, but she never breathed a word about their secret.

Violet had never before promised to keep a secret. It was a heavy burden she had never carried before. She thought Aunt Louise ought to know, but was not clear that it was her duty to tell. Besides, she had promised and she would stick to her promise, cause God always sticks to His, and she wanted to be as much like God as she could.

She prayed that God would cause Isadore to tell on herself.

What Vi did not know, was that Isadore had set herself the task of bringing Vi over to her new faith.

Will she convince Vi?

(To be continued)



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Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 6

Nov. 11, 1990

The Secret Gets Out

(Continued from last week)

Every day Vi wished she hadn't promised to keep Isadore's secret. She wanted others to know about it so they would pray for Isadore. She talked often to Isadore about it, hoping to convince her that she was wrong.

What Violet didn't know was that Isadore had set out to convert her into becoming a Roman Catholic also. She thought her opportune time was while Violet's parents were away. She came almost daily to Violet's home, usually under the pretense of bringing something to Molly or one of the children.

Mr. and Mrs. Daly thought it quite good of her to be so thoughtful of them, especially while they were lonely for their parents, and Violet thought it gave her another opportunity to speak with Isadore about her soul.

All the time, however, Isadore was on the watch for favorable openings to say something to undermine Vi's faith or make her think the Catholic faith was best.

Violet began studying the Bible more and more. She wanted to show Isadore that her faith was not according to the Bible. But so many things Isadore said, she could not find answers for. She dared not ask anyone to help her, because she had promised not to betray Isadore. "If only I hadn't made that promise," she told herself many times.

Mr. and Mrs. Daly, Eddie, and old Aunt Chole noticed her weary dull look, very much unlike cheerful Vi, but they thought it was homesickness for her parents and the news that little Lily was only getting worse.

The more she talked with Isadore, the more confused she got. Finally the time came

when she was very confused. She cried out desperately to God for help.

Isadore, Virgina, and Miss Reed had spent two days and nights at Ion. This was the third day, and all four girls were discussing religion in general. Violet, needing to find a Scripture, went into the library.

"Oh, excuse me, sir," she said when she saw Mr. Daly reading. "I came to look for a Bible concordance."

"May I help you find something?" he questioned. "Are you having a discussion with your cousins?"

"Yes, it's about a book that Miss Reed likes. It teaches that Jesus Christ was only a good man. I want to show her that the Bible teaches that Jesus was God as well as man."

"That will not be difficult," he said. "Romans 9:5 says that Christ is over all. He would need to be God to be over all."

"Let me show her that," Vi said taking the Bible.

"Invite them in," he suggested, "I'll talk to them."

Vi brought the girls in. "Read this," he said to Miss Reed, pointing to I John 5:20. Then he turned to Isaiah 9:6 and several other verses which say that Jesus is God.

"If he was God, why didn't he say so himself?" she questioned.

"He did, many times," Mr. Daly assured her and began finding other Scriptures for her to read.

"Since Jesus says that He is God," Mr. Daly continued, "we must either believe He is or that He is a liar. He must be everything to us or nothing. 'He that is not with me is against me,' Jesus said."



Josiah Seeks God

II Chronicles 34:1 "Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

- 3 . . . In the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.
- 4 And they brake down the altars of Baalim [a god]...and the images, that were high above them,...and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images, he...made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.
- 5 And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.
- 8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan, . . . Maaseiah, . . . and Joah . . . to repair the house of the Lord his God.
 - 12 And the men did the work faithfully:
- 14 And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses.
- 15 And Hilkiah... said to Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord. And Hilkiah delivered the book to Shaphan.
- 16 And Shaphan carried the book to the king, and brought the king word . . . saying, All that was committed to thy servants, they do it.
- 17 ... They have gathered together the money that was found in the house of the Lord, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers, and to the hand of the workmen.

- 18 Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, ... Hilkiah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.
- 19 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes.
 - 20 And the king commanded....
- 21 Go, enquire of the Lord for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the Lord, to do after all that is written in this book.

Central thought: Seeking and following the Lord made Josiah a good king.



Questions:

- 1. How old was Josiah when he became king?
- How old was King Josiah when he began earnestly seeking God's will for his kingdom.
- 3. What were some of the first things Josiah did after he became king?
- 4. What did Hilkiah find in the house of God?
 5. Who read the book to the king?
- 6. What did Josiah do after he heard the book read?
- 7. Were the commandments of the book being obeyed?
- 8. What was to happen to the country because of their disobedience?
- 9. Who was Josiah wanting to hear from?

"While he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father."

(II Chron. 34:3)



Joash and Josiah were both very young when they were crowned as king. Joash was seven years old, and Josiah was eight years old. Both of these kings wanted to do what was right. One of the first things each of them did was to turn the people away from serving idols to serve the living God. Also, both of them had the house of God repaired during their reign.

God blessed Joash while he served the Lord, which was as long as the priest Jehoiada lived. After the priest died, Joash was influenced by his friends to allow the people to worship idols again.

In the next four lessons we will find out what King Josiah did while he was king of Judah. Will he also turn away from God and get into trouble as Joash did?

When Josiah was sixteen years old, he began seeking after the God of his great, great———grandfather David. He wanted to know what God was going to do about the disobedience of his nation. He must have heard about God helping David kill the giant and about the other great things which God blessed him to do.

Josiah's father, Amon, had not taught him about God, for he was an idol worshiper. His grandfather, Manasseh, had also been an idol worshiper until God allowed a captain of the Assyrian army to take him as prisoner to Babylon. Manasseh repented in Babylon. Then he returned to his country, destroyed the idols and served God. Manasseh's father had been the great king Hezekiah who served God with all his heart, so Manasseh knew what he should do. Maybe knowing that his grandfather had destroyed the idols caused Josiah to know that his people should not worship idols.

When he was twenty years old he began destroying every form of idol worship. Fearlessly he broke down the altars of Baalim while the dreaded idol was "looking" at him. Most of the men in Judah were afraid of Baalim.

He also had the shrines torn down. The carved images and the molten metal images were destroyed. Josiah was busy for six

years. Not only one he cleanse Judah of idol worship, but also several cities under the rule of the king of Israel.

His next project was to rebuild the house in which God was worshiped. This was started when he was twenty-six years old.

The people from the cities in Israel also gave money to repair the house of God. Soon many workmen were busy cutting stones and timber, replacing the floor and repairing the roof.

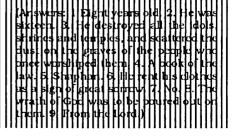
While Hilkiah the priest was helping with the work, he found a book. It was a book of the law. God had told the people that they should always be talking and thinking about the laws in this book. He promised that if they did they would be prosperous and would have good success. (Josh.1:8). Most of the people in Josiah's kingdom had not even heard of this book, so it was impossible to be thinking about it. The book had been stored in the temple and forgotten.

Hilkiah sent the book to King Josiah. When Josiah heard the book read, he was so excited he tore his clothes. People in the land of Israel and Judah did this when they were very, very sad. The king was sad, very, very sad, because the book of laws told how people should live, and the punishment that would come upon them if they dared not. He knew the people in his country were not doing as the book said they should. He feared that God might any moment let terrible things happen to them.

He called some men whom he knew seared God and said to them, "Please, let us seek God. Let us find out what we should do to keep the great wrath of God from being poured upon us."

—Sis. Charlotte





Isadore was listening carefully, but Virginia showed impatience. "What difference does it make whether we believe in His Divinity or deny it?" she exclaimed

"It is very important," said Mr. Daly. "If Christ is not Divine, it is idolatry to worship Him. If He is Divine and we fail to acknowledge Him and trust in Him for salvation, we will be eternally lost. For there is salvation in no other. 'But whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.'

"We acknowledge the Bible to be inspired of God, so one plain declaration of a truth is as good as a dozen."

"Suppose I don't believe it is inspired?" said Miss Reed.

"And there is only one true church," remarked Isadore, unthoughtedly, "the Holy Roman Catholic Church. And outside of her no one is saved."

Everyone sat in shocked slience. Mr. Daly looked at her in astonishment. Violet was at first startled, then she realized the secret was out. She didn't have to keep it any longer! What a great relief!

Virginia broke the silence, "There now," she said, 'you told it yourself. I always knew you would, sooner or later."

"Well," returned Isadore, trying to pretend she hadn't made a mistake, "I'm not ashamed of my faith, nor afraid to defend it against any who may wish to attack it," she said looking defiantly at Mr. Daly.

He smiled at her. "I am very sorry for you, Miss Isadore," he said. "Let me beg you to rest your hope of salvation only in the blood and righteousness of Jesus Christ."

"I must do good works also," she said.

"Yes, as an evidence that you are saved, but not to be saved, for Jesus said, 'If a man love me he will keep my words.' And Vi, you look so puzzled. What is your question?"

"I have some questions I would like to ask about this church that Isadore speaks of."

"I was trying to help Vi save her soul, so I have been talking to her. Mr. Daly, maybe you can answer some of Vi's questions, but I don't imagine you can answer all the claims I have against Protestantism. Where was that church before the Reformation?"

"Wherever the Bible was the law of faith and was practiced in daily living, there was the true Church. All through the dark ages when the Roman church dominated almost all of the world, the light of a pure gospel burned brightly among the secluded caves and hovels. For 1,200 years the Catholic church persecuted the true Church, but she could not stamp it out."

Mr. Daly continued, "I know that your church claims it is the oldest and that the others came from it, but the Lord Jesus Christ founded the true Church. That was before the Romish church."

"You are making statements you cannot prove," Isadore stormed.

"Study history and you will see how the Catholic church formed over hundreds of years as one error after another crept into the Christian Church."

"I don't believe she was ever the persecuter you make her to be."

"Their own history tells about it and glorifies it as a great heroic act," Mr. Daly said.

"And you are persecuting it by bringing up things that happened hundreds of years ago."

"Not really, when she says she has always done right and vows she will do the same again to keep the church clean."

"I find the people in this church to be kind, good people," Isadore said.

"I am sure most of them are," Mr. Daly assured her, but the church nevertheless is a persecuting power, even today. In Revelation 17, it is spoken of as 'Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth."

"How do you know that is talking about my church?" Isadore asked growing red and angry.

"Because it is the only church which answers to the description. It has been estimated that 60,000,000 Protestants were murdered during her persecutions. Is it not truly said then that she is 'drunken with the blood of the saints?"

"Hello," called Calhoun. "Oh, sorry to interrupt but I've come to take the girls home. Ready to go?"

"Sure thing," they answered together. Vi knew they were more than happy to go, but she was sorry, for at last Isadore was getting someone to challenge her faith, something Vi had tried so hard to do.

(To be continued)



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 7

Nov. 18, 1990

The Storm

(Continued from last week)

As soon as Mr. and Mrs. Travilla came home, Vi told them about Isadore. I tried to convince her that bowing to images was very wrong," Vi told them. "Instead of me helping her I became very confused myself."

"How dangerous," exclaimed Mrs. Travilla. "We must study now to arm you against any further attacks like this."

"Maybe Isadore and Virginia could study with us," Vi suggested.

Isadore loved to study and loved her Aunt Elsie, so she agreed to come. Virginia was uninterested. Everyday they met in the afternoon to study history and the Bible to understand more about the Catholic church.

One lovely evening in May, the family were lounging around on the patio.

"Our ship leaves in five more days," Vi exclaimed. "I can hardly wait. Just think, we are going North again, and on a ship."

"And with our cousins," Elsie added. "It'll be so much fun."

Finally preparations were made for the trip on the steamer. They arrived at the wharf early in the morning of a perfect day. The weather was warm and the Atlantic Ocean perfectly calm. "Are we all here?" asked Mr. Dinsmore looking over the group. There was Mrs. Travilla and her six: Elsic, Eddic, Violet, Harold, Herbert, and Rosie. (Only Lily was missing. She had gone in November on her last trip. It was to her everlasting home in heaven.) There was Aunt Louise with Isadore, Virginia, Molly, Lester, Leland, and the servants, Diama and Ben. Mr. Travilla, Art, and Cal were to come later on the train.

As soon as they were out a little way in the water, Eddie, Harold, and Herbert wanted to go looking around.

When they came back, Mrs. Travilla said.
"You boys wash your hands; it's almost time for supper."

"I'm afraid we're going to have a storm," remarked Isadore as the boys hurried away. "See the clouds in the northwest?"

"A thunderstorm at sea, how remainter" said Virginia. "It will be something to talk about all our lives."

"Silly child," remarked her mother. "You think there is no danger?"

"Why Mama, we're hardly out of sight of land."

"That would increase our danger if the storm came from the opposite direction' said Mr. Dinsmore.

"Do you really think there will be a storm. Grandpa?" Violet asked Mr. Dinsmore.

"Let's eat now and not borrow trouble "he replied.

When they came out of the dining room, everyone looked at the sky. "The clouds do look stormy and the air seems unusual," Mr Dinsmore remarked.

The storm came up rapidly, bursting on them in its fury. The wind blew, lightning flashed and the crash and rumble of thun der followed quickly. The captain's voice came over the speakers telling the passengers to remain calm, but the voices of the officers shouting orders to the crew, and the heavy hasty tramp of the men's feet made themvery uneasy. The wind whistled through the rigging and the steamer creaked and groaned as the sea boomed against it built



Why Was Josiah Afraid?

Il Kings 23:2 ...King [Josiah] went up into the house of the Lord, and all the ... people, both small and great: and he read ... all the words of the book ... which was found in the house of the Lord.

- 3 ...The king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant [promise]... to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments ... that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.
- 4 And the king commanded . . . to bring forth out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them . . . in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.
- 5 . . . He put down the idolatrous priests, . . . them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.
- 6 And he brought out the grove from the house of the Lord, ... and burned it at the brook Kidron. . . .
- 7 And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the Lord, where the women wove hangings for the grove.
- 10 And he defiled Topheth, ...[so] that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.
- 11 ... He took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, ... and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.
- 15 Moreover the altar [of the golden call] that was at Bethel...he brake down,
- 16 And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres... and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres and burned them upon the altar, ... according to the word of the Lord which the man of God

proclaimed. (You may read about this in I Kings 13:1-9.)

- 17 Then he said, What title is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which . . . proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel.
 - 18 And he said, Let him alone; . . .
- 19 And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away,
- 20 And he slew all the priests of the high places . . . and returned to Jerusalem.

Central thought: Josiah turned to seek the Lord when he was afraid and the Lord blessed him.



Questions:

- 1. From what was Josiah reading?
- 2. Did the people promise to serve the Lord and obey His commandments?
- 3. What did Josiah command to be taken out of the house of the Lord?
- 4. Name some of the gods the people were worshiping.
- 5. What did Josiah do to the houses of the Sodomites?
- 6. Were some idol worshipers forcing their children to go through fire?
- 7. What happened to the chariots of the sun god?
- 8. What did Josiah do that had already been proclaimed he would do?
- 9. Why did Josiah cleanse the country of all its idols?

"Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice." (Deut. 13:4)



God always keeps the promises He makes. If He promises good, the good will come. If He promises punishment for wrongdoing the punishment will come.

Josiah read from the book that was found in the house of God. It read like this: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the farthers upon the children unto the third and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments." Ex. 20:4-6.

As Josiah was reading, he thought of the hundreds of altars, idols and images he had seen while touring his kingdom. He had seen great high altars on which sacrifices were made to Baal or Baalim their most popular god. He saw altars on which to burn incense to the sun, to the moon, to the planets and a host of other heavenly objects.

Before he left his palace in the city of Jerusalem, he saw idols. Right in the temple of God images and altars were built for worshiping them.

His Grandfather Manasseh had built altars in the two courts of the house of God. "He may have used these same altars in God's service after he repented," Josiah said to himself. "And as soon as he died the people began again to worship idols from the same altars. I do not want that to happen again. I'll have these altars beaten to dust and the dust thrown into the brook Kidron. That should keep the people from ever sacrificing to idols on them."

In Jerusalem he also found houses of Sodomites (homosexuals) where men came and performed rituals in honor to some of these idol gods. Idolatrous women were also hired in these houses to weave hangings for the images. One of these houses was beside the house of God.

Other things he found in Jerusalem were horses and chariots dedicated to the sun god. "I'll have all those chariots burned," he promised himself.

In the city of Topheth he found that people were worshiping the idol Molech. To calm the wrath of this god, they forced their children to pass through fire. He cringed to think of children being burned. He had just read from the book of laws, "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire." (Deut. 18:10.)

In some cities of Israel he found golden calves which the people worshiped.

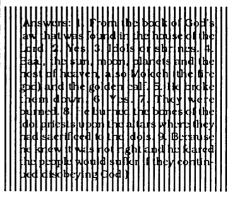
Idol worship wasn't the only sin they were committing. He read: "A man also or a woman (a witch) that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death." He knew witches and wizards lived in his kingdom.

Josiah read on and on in the newly found book. "Six years thou shalt sow thy land, but the seventh year thou shalt let it rest that the poor of thy people shall eat; and what they leave, the beast of the field shall eat. Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest," he read.

Then he read on: "If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, then the Lord will make thy plagues [tremendous], until you be destroyed and ye be few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude." (Deut. 28:58-62.)

The more Josiah read, the more fearful he became. He knew God kept all His promises. God promised good for His country if they obeyed God's laws, and He promised trouble if they didn't. Josiah knew the people in his country were headed for real trouble. He was determined to do what he could to save them.

—Sis. Charlotte



Then came the downpouring of the rain which caused the passengers to take shelter in their berths.

In the Travilla berth the family bowed and prayed. Molly, Diana and Ben prayed with them. Then they sat quietly, trusting that God would care for them.

Aunt Louise and her girls paced back and forth across the floor of their berth. "This is dreadful. I'm afraid we shall all go to the bottom," said Aunt Louise. Then came a loud noise like an explosion which knocked some off their feet and others out of their seats. Aunt Louise and the girls ran to be with the Travillas.

"It struck! We're lost!" cried a number of voices. Many women and children screamed; some fainted.

"Take courage, my friends," shouted Mr. Dinsmore from the door of their berth. "All is not lost that is in danger. And the 'Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear."

"Yes, it's time to pray," said an excited man. "The lightning has struck and shattered the masti"

"Mama, what will happen to us?" Viasked with trembling lips.

"Even the wind and the sea obey Jesus," Mrs. Travilla said softly.

"But the boat might catch on fire!"

"Still God is able to take care of us," she replied.

"We've forgotten the life jackets," exclaimed Eddie who had jumped up and was throwing them out of the trunk. Just then, Mr. Dinsmore came in the door.

"Is the vessel on fire?" questioned Aunt Louise, clutching his arm. Her eyes were wild with terror.

"Try to calm yourself," he said. "We do not know for certain."

"Horrible!" she cried, "I can't die. I've never made preparations for death!"

"My poor sister, we will not despair yet, but prepare for the worst. Turn now to God, He is the only One who can save us."

"Virginia's fainted. Look at her on the sofa. She'll be sure to drown," Louise shrieked, hurrying to the sofa. "Oh, what can be done?"

"Mother, let us ask God to help," Isadore whispered.

"Yes, ves, pray, You know how."

Isadore knelt by her sister's side, but she had no images nor her rosary, and she seemed to have forgotten the prayers she had memorized. Isadore's faith in the Catholic religion had been shaken by the study she had with the Travillas, but she had not altogether given it up. Now on her knees, in desperate need of God, she called out to Him with all her heart. She realized how very useless a form of religion can be.

The lifeboats were made ready for taking to the water at a moment's warning. Life jackets were worn and any valuables were securely fastened to the body.

"I have never felt so helpless in all my life,"
Molly said, "but God will take care of us."

"How do you have such hope?" Aunt Louise guestioned.

"It's because I have learned to trust Jesus as my Saviour." she replied.

The sounds of screaming, sobbing and crying were lessening as passengers slumped into a dull despairing waiting period.

Virginia and Aunt Louise sat on the sofa together, both trembling and trying to calm each

other.

Rosie had fallen asleep in Elsie's lap. Vi and Mrs. Travilla had been repeating the 23rd Psalm together. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death; I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;" Violet was quoting when Mrs. Travilla noticed Harold and Herbert were missing.

"Where are the boys? she questioned, "Surely they haven't gone up on the deck. They will be swept off by the strong wind."

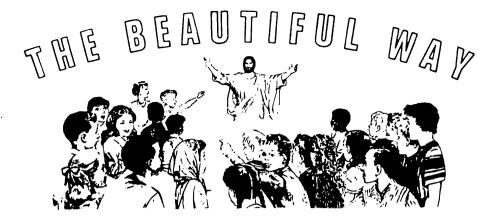
"I'll find them," Eddie promised, seeing the distressed look on his mother's face.

They were soon back in the berth. "Where have you been?"

Harold came near, and putting his arm around her neck and his lips to her ear said, "Mama, we knew you were sad because you were afraid that if we died we wouldn't go to heaven, so we went away to pray and give ourselves to Jesus. Now we are His children too and hope to be His always whether we live or die."

"And now we aren't afraid," Herbert said with a big smile.

(To be continued)



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 8

Nov. 25, 1990

Fun On The Beach

(Continued from last week)

After a long sleepless night they came into the port of Philadelphia. "Oh, look! There is Dick," Molly cried when she spotted him in the crowd that waited on the shore. "I didn't know he would be here to see me."

"Are you going with us to the beach?" Molly asked Dick.

"I can stay a couple of days with you here, but then I must go back to school and take some final examinations. Maybe I can come after that."

They spent several days in Philadelphia, Molly visiting with Dick; the others visiting old friends and getting needed provisions for their stay at the beach cottage which was far from any store.

"Mother, I want to go with the Travillas," Isadore said as they were loading up to leave.

"But you must go with us to Saratoga. Aunt Delaford will be here tomorrow to take us for a fine vacation with her wealthy friends," her mother said. "Remember, you are Aunt Delaford's favorite niece. She's named you heir of her money. You must not offend her."

"I like Aunt Delaford, but all the finery and pomp and show that she and her friends put on, just about drives me up the wall," said Isadore."

"You can go later to the beach. I'm sure you'll enjoy this more after you've met a few handsome young men."

So the Travillas left Isadore behind and drove out in the country to the cottages that Mrs. Dinsmore and Rosa had reserved for them. It was right beside the one she was renting for the Dinsmore family.

Ronald Lilburn, a cousin from Scotland, had rented a small one on the other side of them.

The cottages were built facing the ocean. The children hailed the first whiff of the salt sea breeze with delight. "I'll beat you to the water," Harold called to Herbic, and the race started.

Vi and Elsie stayed to help arrange their clothing and room, then they took Rosie by the hand and went for a stroll. All morning they hunted shells and helped Rosie build sand castles.

After lunch, Ben, who was a very good swimmer, went with them and they climbed onto a cliff from which they fished. When they were tired of fishing, they left the high cliff and went to the sandy sloping beach where they played in the water until the sun was getting low in the west.

After bathing and eating a dinner of clam chowder, hot southern corn bread, and apple pie, it was time for family worship. Mrs. Travilla read the story of Jesus calming the stormy Galilee for His frightened disciples.

"He did the same thing for us, didn't He, Mother?" Rosie who had slept through most of the storm asked.

"Yes, honey, He calmed the storm for us also."

After worship they went for a moonlight ride along the beach, then settled into their beds and were lulled to sleep by the churning of the waves as they were washed to shore then ran away again.

The next morning they were out again for a ramble on the beach before breakfast. Immediately after morning prayers, Vi, Rosie,



The Great Feast

II Kings 23:21 . . . King [Josiah] commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the Lord your God, as it is written in the book. . . .

II Chronicles 35:2 And he set the priests in their charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house of the Lord.

- 3 And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel, . . . serve now the Lord your God, and his people Israel,
- 6 Kill the passover, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the Lord by the hand of Moses.
- 7 And Josiah gave to the people, of the flock, lambs and kids, ... thirty ... and three thousand. ...
- 8 And his princes gave willingly unto the people, to the priests, and to the Levites: . . . two thousand and six hundred small cattle, and three hundred oxen.
- 9 ...His brethren and ... [the chiefs] of the Levites, gave ... five thousand small cattle, and five hundred oxen.
- 10 So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their courses. . . .
- 13 And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: but the other holy offerings sod [boiled] they in pots, ... and divided them speedily among all the people.
- 14 And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the priests: because the priests . . . were busied in offering of burnt offerings and the fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the priests
- 15 And the singers the sons of Asaph were in their place, . . . and the porters waited at every gate; they might not depart from their service; for their brethren the vites prepared for them.

- 16 So all the service of the Lord was prepared the same day, to keep the passover, . . . according to the commandment of king Josiah.
- 17 And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover... and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.
- 18 ... There was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; ...
- 19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

Central thought: The people of Israel were blessed of the Lord because they obeyed and worshiped Him.



Questions:

- 1. What did King Josiah command the people to do?
- How many animals did Josiah and the princes give?
- 3. How many did his brethren and the Levites give?
- 4. How many animals were used during this great feast?
- 5. Who killed the animals and cooked the meat?
- 6. What did the porters do?
- 7. Was singing a part of this great feast?
- 8. How many days did the people feast?
- 9. How did it compare with other Passover feasts?
- 10. How old was King Josiah at the time of this Passover?

"Happy is that people whose God is the Lord." (Ps. 144:15)



Many years before Josiah became king, the ancestors of the people he governed had been slaves in the land of Egypt. God sent many terrible things upon the Egyptians because of the way they treated the Israelites. Finally, when God sent a death angel and every firstborn in Egypt died, the slaves were freed.

God told Moses to tell the Israelites that this would happen. They were told to eat at midnight and be packed, fully dressed and ready to travel in a moment. They were also commanded to put blood from a lamb over and on the sides of their doors. This was a sign to God that they really believed He would send a death angel. The death angel would not enter the homes of those who believed God's Word.

At midnight, while they were eating the cooked lamb with bitter herbs, they heard the Egyptians crying. They knew the oldest child in each Egyptian family was dead. The Egyptian king sent servants to command the Israelites to leave at once, because he knew their God had sent the death angel.

To remember this important day, God said, "The month that you escaped from Egypt and from death shall be the first month of the year. Have a feast every year in that month. Have it on the same day that you were delivered. Call it a Passover Feast, because the death angel passed over you and struck only the Egyptians."

When Josiah read this from the newly found book of laws, he said "This is a commandment of God, so we will do it."

He and his helpers read very carefully the instruction for this feast. "It is to be on the 14th day of the first month," he said. "The animals must be killed very carefully so that no bones be broken; the blood is to be sprinkled before God for cleansing of our sins." (These animals represented Christ who gave His blood for the sins of the world; none of His bones were broken.)

"The feast of unleavened bread will start the day after the Passover, and last seven days. We will camp out those seven days to remind us of the way the newly freed slaves had lived. We will eat unleavened bread, because the women left Egypt in such a hurry that their bread didn't have time to rise," he told his helpers.

"The feast must begin with a holy meeting the first day and end with a holy meeting the last day. No one shall work on those days," Priest Hilkiah reminded him.

The feast was announced throughout the land and people began bringing in animals so there would be plenty for everyone. Josiah gave thirty-three thousand lambs and kids from his own flocks. His brethren, the princes, and the leading Levites also gave thousands of small cattle and hundreds of oxen.

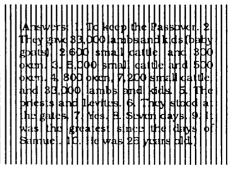
On the 13th day of the first month, people began coming into Jerusalem. Tired, hungry, thirsty men, women, and children poured into the city. Some had traveled many miles; some had not walked so far. They built shelters from palms and other brush. Tomorrow the Passover Feast will start," they shouted one to another.

The Passover started early the next day. There was lots of work to do. Every man, woman, and even the children had plenty to do. There were fires to be made and kept burning, and offerings to God for the priests to make. Animals had to be prepared for roasting and boiling, bread baked and camping places to be made.

The priests and Levites had to serve the people first, so it was late before they had a chance to cat. The priests were still making burnt offerings to God when night came.

Everyone slept outdoors. They slept in the booths they had made.

The next day was a day of holy quietness before the Lord. No one was to work that day. They worshiped God and rejoiced that He had delivered their fathers from the Egyptians, also that He had delivered them from idol worship that had kept them from enjoying these great feasts. —Charlotte Huskey



Harold and Herbert, with Ben attending them, returned to the beach.

Cousin Ronald had spent the first day visiting with the Dinsmores and Mrs. Travilla, whom he had not seen for two years. Elsie also stayed to visit with the adults and work on a painting of the landscape she had started the year before.

Elsie's painting just wasn't turning out like she wanted it too, so she asked Cousin Ronald and Rosa Dinsmore to walk with her down to the water's edge. They were about 50 feet from the rest of the group when Rosie picked up a shell.

"Hold it to your ear and you can hear the ocean waves," VI told her.

She held it to her ear for awhile and then exclaimed, "I hear music! Does the ocean make music?"

Vi put the shell to her ear. "I don't hear any music," she said.

Rosie put the shell back to her ear. "See Vi. there's music!"

Vi took the shell again and she heard the music. She pulled the shell away and looked inside, as if she might see a miniature guitar or perhaps a small radio inside. Then she heard Elsie laughing. Looking up, she saw the three coming towards her and knew it must be one of Cousin Ronald's ventriloquist tricks.

After they tired of walking, they all sat down on the sand to watch the birds and the waves. There were some pelicans flying a few yards out over the water. Suddenly one tipped himself over and dove with great speed into the water. A moment later he surfaced with a fish in his bill. He flew to a nearby post and perched on the top of it. He then tossed the fish into the air, opened his bill, and the fish went headfirst, slithering down the pelican's throat.

Later, another pelican with a fish in his bill, flew down and settled himself on the same post. The fish seemed to be a very large one and was fighting to get away. The poor pelican tossed his head this way and that trying to get the fish into the right position to make a meal of him. Five minutes passed, ten minutes, then fifteen minutes, and the pelican was still working with the fish. Finally he gave up and tipped his bill over, letting the fish slide out into the water.

"Oh, goodie," cried Rosie, "the fishy got awayi"

"But the poor pelican is still hungry," said Cousin Ronald. "Don't you feel sorry for him? He worked a long time."

While they were entertaining themselves watching two sea gulls fighting over a fish one of them had caught, Rosie had found a crab which she stooped to pick up just as Ronald noticed her. She jumped back as she heard the crab scream out in a shrill tiny voice, "Don't touch mel I'll pinch you if you do."

The merry laughter of the group told her that it was only Ronald again, but she let the crab alone, keeping a safe distance from its claws.

"Rosie loves the sea," she said, as she came over to sit with the others. "I wish we could take it home with us."

"We couldn't take it home with us, Rosic. Why it is bigger than this whole United States. If we took it home, we'd be under the water,' Rosa Dinsmore told her as she laughed.

"Rosie, did you ever see a mermaid?" asked Ronald.

"No, sir. What is it?"

"They're said to live in the sea and to be half fish and half woman and to have long hair and come out of the water and sit on rocks and comb their hair while they sing. Look sharp now and see if you see one out there on that rock," he said pointing to a large rock about one hundred yards out in the water. "Don't you hear her sing?"

"Oh, I do! I do!" screamed Rosie. "Boys can you hear it too?"

I hear music," remarked Herbert, "but I suppose Cousin Ronald makes it. A mermaid's only a fable creature."

"What's a fable creature?" asked Rosie.
"A make-believe animal." Herbert told her.

As they were eating supper out on the deck of the cottage, Eddie exclaimed, "I don't think Virginia, Isadore, and Aunt Louise are having as much fun as we are!"

"I am sure they aren't," Mr. Travilla agreed.

The pleasures of sin always have a sting.
But fun with the family enjoying God's nature can't be beat. It's pure clean fun with no sorrow added to it."

(To be continued)

Vol. 41. No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 9

Dec. 2, 1990

The Promise

(Continued from last week)

"I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," Elsie read from her Bible. The verse seemed to speak a message to Elsie today. Just why, she didn't know. She had never felt alone. She was always surrounded by a caring family, and even the family servants adored her, but for the past few months she was struggling with strange inner feelings. Her mind seemed to stay always on her art. Mostly, however, on her art instructor, Lester Leland. How he smiled at her with a romantic look in his eyes! The strange feeling she had in his presence. . . ! Sometimes she wondered if maybe she was falling in love.

She tried reading to keep her mind off Lester. Often she walked out by the lake to be alone and read.

Oneday, however, she found that she was not alone at the lake. There in the boat sat her lunatic Aunt Enna, Molly's mother. Enna was pulling petals from a bouquet of flowers and throwing them into the water. "The fish are hungry," she said to her china doll.

Elsie hardly knew what to do. Enna just couldn't drown! She wasn't saved. The whole Travilla family with Molly and Dick had been praying that God would restore her mind so she could understand how to be saved.

Elsie was glad Enna hadn't seen her. Enna would probably jump in if she thought anyone saw her. Everyone knew she wasn't to be away from Roselands and they always took her back when they found her. Enna hated being returned.

Elsie noticed that the wind was blowing her towards the other shore. "It isn't as deep over there," she thought. "If I just stay very quiet, she will soon be out of danger. She sat still, pretending to be reading, but all the while watching Enna and planning how she would save her should anything happen.

After what seemed to Elsie a very long time, Enna noticed her, and to Elsie's surprise she called, "Will you come and take a ride with me?"

"Okay," Elsic said, running and praying at the same time. Then she remembered, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." "Please don't forsake us now," she said to God.

She reached the spot where she thought the boat would most likely reach shore. She stopped and looked towards Enna, but Enna was drifting towards the deepest part of the lake.

Enna was still sitting quietly in the boat, smiling as if looking forward to the ride with Elsie. But suddenly, as Elsie stood waiting and watching in trembling suspense, Enna sprang up, tossed the doll from her, then leaped over the side of the boat, disappearing beneath the water.

Elsie did what she had planned. She tore off her long ribbon sash and tied a small rock to one end. "Catch this," she called to a spluttering, struggling Enna, as she threw it into the water. "I will pull you to shore."

"Be careful," called a manly voice. "She'll pull you in." It was too late. Enna seized the ribbon with a jerk that threw Elsie into the water.

Lester, who had come out to the lake hoping he would find Elsie, quickly kicked off his shoes and jumped in. Bruno, laying



God's Promise To Josiah

II Kings 22:14 ... Huldah the prophetess,

15 ...said unto them [Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's], Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Tell the man [Josiah] that sent you to me,

16 Thus saith the Lord, Behold ! will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

17 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, . . . therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

18 But to the king of Judah [Josiah] which sent you to enquire of the Lord, thus shall ye say to him, . . .

19 Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the Lord, . . . and wept before me; I also have heard thee, saith the Lord.

20 Behold therefore, . . . thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

23:26 Notwithstanding the Lord turned not from the fierceness of his great wrath, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations that ... had provoked him. ...

27 And the Lord said, I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

II Chronicles 35:20 After all this, . . . Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish . . . and Josiah went out against him.

21 But . . . [Necho] sent . . . to him saying, . . . I come not against thee this day,

... forbear thee from meddling with God who is with me, that he destroy thee not.

22 Nevertheless Josiah . . . disguised himself, . . . and came to fight. . . .

23 And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said . . . I am sore wounded.

24 His servants therefore . . . brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah . . . mourned for Josiah.

II Kings 23:25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, . . . neither after him arose there any like him.

Central thought: God kept the promise He made to Josiah when Josiah humbled himself before God.



Questions:

- 1. Why was God going to bring evil upon Judah?
- 2. Why was God not going to bring evil upon Josiah?
- 3. Would trouble come to his country while Josiah was living?
- 4. What was to happen to Judah?
- 5. With whom was Necho fighting?
- 6. What did Josiah do about the battle?
- 7. How did Josiah die?
- 8. Who mourned for Josiah after he died?
- 9. What kind of king was Josiah?
- 10. Did God keep His promise to Josiah?

"Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, I have even heard thee also, saith the Lord."

(II Chron. 34:27)



Josiah was eight years old when he became king. When he was about sixteen, Shaphan brought him a book. "Oh king, here is a book which Hilkiah found while cleaning out the treasury of the temple," he said. "I will read it to you, if you wish."

Josiah was interested, so Shaphan began reading. The book was a long, long roll of parchment. It was very large and was handwritten. Shaphan could not read it all in one day.

"My people are doing many things which this book says they should not do," young King Josiah said. "And it says that God spoke all these saying in the book. What is this book?"

"This book is the laws which God gave our father Moses."

"I have never heard of the like," he said.
"What will happen to us if we do not obey
these laws."

"I do not know," Shaphan said. "We must read and find out." He read until King Josiah was tired.

Every day they read from the book. One day while Shaphan was reading, Josiah jumped to his feet, tore off his mantle and ripped it in two pieces. "Call the priest, and Ahikan and Asaiah," he shouted, "I must talk to them."

When the men arrived he said, "Go and ask God what we should do, for God must be ready to pour out His wrath on us any minute."

The men found the prophetess Huldah whom they knew could get in contact with God. After seeking Him, she said, "God said to tell King Josiah that He will bring evil on this place and its people, for they are worshiping idols and are not obeying my commandments. But I will not let it happen while he is living."

Josiah was relieved to know that God had seen his tears and heard his prayers of repentance. However, he was not satisfied to let his people continue to sin against God. He spent the next six years cleaning up his country and part of the country of Israel.

After that he made one of the greatest Passover feasts in the history of Judah. The people were happy they had followed Josiah and chosen God as their Lord.

The people loved their young king. He reigned for 13 years after this great feast. The prophet Jeremiah enjoyed the kind treatment that Josiah gave him, for after Josiah's death, he was treated terribly by Josiah's son's who ruled after him. As long as Josiah was king he obeyed the commandments of God and enforced laws so that the people would not anger God by what they did.

After Josiah's death, his son Jehoahaz became king. His reign lasted only three months, for the Egyptian King, Necho, took him as prisoner to Egypt where he died.

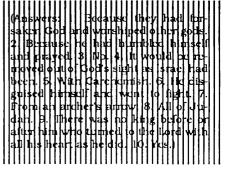
Another son, Jehoiakin, was put in as king by King Necho. Necho was an Egyptian king and he put a tribute on the people of Judah. The people of Judah had to be heavily taxed in order to pay this tribute. (My Bible says the tribute was \$720,000.)

A short time after this, the famous Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah. Jehoiakin rebelled against him, and soon the whole land of Judah was slaves to the Babylonian kingdom. Those who had escaped from the sword were carried away to Babylon where they were servants. (II Chron. 36:20.)

Every king who ruled after Josiah worshiped idols. God said that He would send trouble on them for their idol worship and He did.

God also promised Josiah that the trouble would not come while he was alive. It didn't.
—Sis. Charlotte





on the porch of the house, heard the unusual noise and raced barking to the lake to investigate. His animal instinct let him know his beloved Elsie was in trouble. He jumped in, took the sleeve of her dress in his mouth and pulled her to shore, while Lester brought in Enna.

"Go to the house for help," Lester ordered Bruno pointing to the mansion. Bruno whinned and looked at Elsie as if to say, "I don't want to leave her."

"I don't want to leave her either," Lester told the dog. "I'd give my life for her. She's my love, only she doesn't know it yet. Now go!"

The dog dashed away.

He was back in an instant, for he was met by Enna's son, Authur, and his dog, Pomp, who were tracking Enna after it was discovered she was missing. Authur, who was hoping to someday be a doctor, knew a little about first aid, so he was soon on his knees working with first one and then another until both were able to breath again.

"The Lord did not forsake today when I needed Him so desperately," Elsie told her mother that evening when Mrs. Travilla came

to pray with Elsie.

"God is so good to us," Mrs. Travilla said.
"I am so thankful He spared you to share our home a few more years and that He spared Enna from death that she may get saved.

"Where is Aunt Enna now?"

"She is here. I want to keep her here to nurse her in hopes that our care and love might help her understand God."

"Oh, Mother, how very sweet of you. I will help you as soon as I am able. I want to do all I can as long as I am here."

"You don't plan to go away do you?" her mother asked.

"No... no," Elsie answered as if embarrassed. She was remembering that Lester had told Bruno, "I'd give my life for her," and "She's my love, only she doesn't know it yet." She had heard every word, although she was unable to speak. Now she knew that he felt the same way about her as she did about him and she hoped he would soon tell her.

The next day Elsie was feeling fine. She got up and dressed, thinking Lester would come to see her. She waited all day, but he didn't come. The next day he didn't come, nor the next. "Maybe I was just dreaming"

this about Lester and Bruno," she said to herself.

The very next day she heard her father say to Eddie, "What happened to Lester?"

"He's gone. He left the morning after the accident," Eddie answered.

Elsie went to her room, "Does he love me or not?" she cried. "Oh, how I wish I knew."

The words "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," came again into her thoughts.

Elsie was faithful to her promise and helped care for Aunt Enna. When the family gathered for family worship, Elsie's mother asked, "Do you think Enna will get well soon? She doesn't seem much better and its been 14 days now." Elsie knew the exact date because she had written all about the accident in her diary. Lester's words to Bruno were underlined.

"I must save her if I can," she continued,
"I am praying that reason will come back and
her life will be spared till she has learned to
know Jesus."

"My precious, unselfish little wife," he said, "I'm sure God will give you this soul. Remember the promise, 'According to your faith so be it unto you."?"

"I believe it. If I didn't I wouldn't be doing all this extra work to care for her. She is so childlike and doesn't appreciate it."

"Be encouraged, Mother," Elsie said. "God has promised to never leave us nor forsake us."

"Yes, that is right. He never left us during the sickness and death of sweet little Lily. He was with us when Molly was so bitter and hard to care for. Now she is sweetly saved."

"He cared for us during the storm on the steamer, too." Herbert said. Harold and I got saved then."

"If He hadn't been with me when Isadore tried to ruin my faith, I sure would have sunk," said Vi.

"And now Isadore is liking our way better than hers," Harold commented. Maybe she will soon be saved.

"I hope so," Vi answered. "She's my favorite cousin."

Elsie wanted to say, "And He's been with me all these weeks that I'm wondering if Lester really loves me," but she just kept quiet.

(To be continued)



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 10

Dec. 9, 1990

A Dream Come True

(Continued from last week)

"Oh, Molly," cried Violet, running with a letter in her hand to Molly's room. "A letter from New York!"

"Is it from the Dodd, Mead, and Company Publishers?" Molly asked.

"Sure thing!" Vi answered.

Molly's trembling hands picked up the envelope. "Read it! Hurry!" Vi demanded.

"I can't," Molly said, handing the letter to Vi. "I'm afraid they may have refused.

"Remember what Mother always says, 'Don't borrow trouble half-way,'" Vi said as she hastily tore open the envelope. "They didn't, they didn't, " she cried.

"They didn't?" Molly sighed and burst into tears.

"No, don't cry. Don't cry. They didn't, they didn't refuse it," Vi said trying to comfort Molly. "They accepted! They did! Just listen!" And Vi read the letter.

"I'm an author, a real honest-to-goodness author. My book is getting printed!" she shouted. "How I wish I could dance!" she said, struggling hard to get unglued from the chair in which she had sat in for five years.

Herbert, Harold and Rosie were playing in their tree house just outside Molly's window. "What on earth is going on in Molly's room?" Harold questioned.

"Maybe she fell out of her chair and broke her nose." Rosie said.

"Hush, Rosie," Herbert said as they all rushed in.

Elsic, who was working on a painting in the schoolroom adjoining Molly's room, came

through the door with paintbrush in hand, just as Harold rounded the corner to go into Molly's room. Elsie stepped to the side to miss colliding with him. Herbert, right behind Harold, ran his face into her brush covered with orange paint. It hit his upper lip and ran up and around the right side of his nose. He jerked his head to one side, causing a long orange mark across his forehead. "Wow," he cried sputtering, "that paint doesn't taste very good."

Rosie, who couldn't stop in time, crashed into Herbert, hitting him so hard she was forced to take a hard seat on the floor.

She hollered and the maid came running.

After all the commotion settled down, Molly told everyone that her dream of getting a book published had come true.

Elsie felt real happy that Molly's dream had come true. She gave the maid some terpentine to clean Herbert's face. Then she cleaned the brush a little and finished adding orange streaks to the sunset she was painting. In her heart she was still wondering if Lester's words, "She's my love too, but she doesn't know it yet," were for real or a dream during her unconscious moments after almost drowning. "If this is all a dream, I wish it would come true," she said softly to herself.

"What did you say?" questioned Mrs. Travilla who had just come into the room.

Oh, nothing, Elsie answered, reddening.

"Well, I just came in to tell you that your father and I are going over to Mrs. Lanco's.



A Dream About A New Kingdom

Daniel 2:27 *Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

- 28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;
- 31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image . . . stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.
- 32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,
- 33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.
- 34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet . . . and brake them to pieces.
- 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces... and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.
 - 38 ... Thou art this head of gold.
- 39 . . . After thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.
- 40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: . . .
- 41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' elay and part of iron. the kingdom shall be divided; . . .
- 43 . . . They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

- 44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: . . . it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.
- 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Central thought: God showed King Nebuchadnezzar the time that the Kingdom would begin, Jesus was born at that time.



Questions:

- 1. Could the astrologers, the magicians or the soothsayers tell the king's dream?
- 2. Who revealed the secret?
- 3. What did the great image represent?
- 4. What do you think the stone represented?
- 5. Who was to set up a Kingdom that would never be destroyed?
- 6. How many more kingdoms would there be before God set up His Kingdom?
- 7. How much of the world would the new Kingdom cover?
- 8. When would the dream happen?
- 9. Was Jesus born while the fourth kingdom was in power?

"In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed." (Dan. 2:44)



Many years ago God told Abraham not to worship anything except Him. Abraham obeyed God although all around him people were worshiping idols, or some part of nature like the sun, moon, stars, fire, wind, etc. Because of Abraham's great faith he was blessed more than any other person. From him came the great nation of Israel.

This nation was God's channel to work on the earth. They were given a list of God's laws. Other people learned from them what God expected of mankind. When the Israelites obeyed these laws, God blessed them. When they disobeyed these laws, trouble came upon them. In this way the people of the world learned about God. They learned what to do to please God and what happened to those who disobeyed Him.

The Israelites were a very disobedient nation, so disobedient that God let the Babylonian empire destroy them.

Daniel was one of the Jews taken captive at the time the Babylonian's captured Judah.

While he was a servant of the pagan king Nebuchadnezzar, the king had a strange dream. He forgot the dream, but it troubled him so much that he vowed he would kill all the wise men in the kingdom if no one could tell him the dream and its meaning.

No wise man in the kingdom knew what the king had dreamed. All were afraid. Daniel and his friends were also afraid. They did what we should do when we are afraid. They prayed.

God showed the dream and its meaning to Daniel.

The dream was about the greatest Kingdom the world will ever know. It was about God's everlasting Kingdom. It was a very important dream. King Nebuchadnezzar was the greatest king in the world at that time. Because he was so great, news of this dream could travel all over the world. In this way God was letting the nations of the world know that He would be finished with the old system of using the kingdom of a chosen nation to be His way of getting His truth to people.

The new system He was setting up was to be a spiritual Kingdom. It would never have a king who would disobey God and turn the people away from Him. It began with a rock cut out without hands. A rock cut without hands symbolized something that would come directly from God Himself. It was the rock Jesus, His only Son.

When was this new Kingdom to begin? It was to begin when the rock hit the toes of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had seen. The toes were part iron and part clay. They were different kings who would not work together but were all under the great Roman ruler Caesar Augustus. He was the Roman emperor who ruled many nations at the time of Jesus' birth.

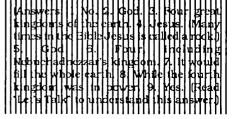
The kingdom represented by the toes was to be the fourth after Nebuchadnezzar. What were the other two kingdoms which ruled before Jesus was born? The Medo-Persians took the ruling power from King Nebuchadnezzar's son. (This happened on the night when God's hand wrote on the wall. Dan. 5:30.) It was the second kingdom. The next was the wise Greeks, and the last or fourth was the Roman Empire. The four kingdoms were the Babylonians, the Medo-Persians, the Grecians, and Roman Empire.

During the time when the Roman Empire was great in the earth, Jesus was born. (Luke 2: 1). For this reason we know that God set up His Kingdom when Jesus was born. The time was right. Jesus was born in the "time of these kings," so He is the King of this new Kingdom.

The Kingdom began like a small rock, but it soon became a great mountain as more and more people heard about salvation and came into this Kingdom. God's followers from every nation and from all ages of time are in it. No kingdom before had people from all nations, but the Kingdom of God does. In this way, it fills the whole earth.

Are you a part of this great Kingdom that fills the whole earth? You can be, by repenting and believing in Jesus. Then you will be God's chosen child just as faithful Abraham was God's chosen man.

—Sis. Charlotte



Ben said that Lester is there visiting. Since he went away right after the accident, we have never thanked him for saving yours and Enna's lives. Would you like to go along?" Elsie's heart skipped a beat. "I'd love too," she said. Then, remembering the hurt she felt towards him for not staying around long enough for her to know if his words were real or imaginary nor to see if she recovered, she added, "Thank you, I won't go this time." She wasn't sure either if she knew how to act around a man she loved so dearly, yet didn't know if he loved her.

Mr. and Mrs. Travilla noticed that Lester acted a little nervous. His Aunt, Mrs. Lanco, chatted easily for awhile about any and everything, then she excused herself and left the room. Mr. Travilla seized the opportunity to pour out his heartful of thanks for Lester having rescued Elsie and Enna from a watery grave.

Mrs. Travilla also had many lovely things to say about him, not only for that, but for being a good instructor for her children. She also expressed appreciation for the respectful careful manner in which he had conducted himself the four years he had been so closely associated with their family.

Lester reddened and looked down at the floor. He shifted himself from first one side of his chair to the other and cleared his throat. Mr. and Mrs. Travilla were sure he had something to say. They caught each other's eye now and then while they waited patiently.

Finally, he began. "Mr. Travilla," he said, then cleared his thoat again. "I have something I've been wanting to ask you for a long time.

"I'll be going away to Europe in a few days.
I... I may be gone for several years. I have a job over there that sounds like it might turn out good for me. I do so want to make money so... so I can... can someday get married. I promised myself that I would go and make a fortune before I spoke to you, but... my heart was aching so... I just couldn't go away. I just wondered if you would let me let me... maybe talk with Elsie alone, just once before I go and... and.. maybe write to her while I am away?"

The silence that followed was like death.

Finally, Mr. Travilla cleared his throat. His voice sounded husky when he said, "Young man, I am glad youasked my permission. It tells me you are an honest man. But do you know the worth of the prize you desire?"

"I know sir, that 'her price is far above rubies' and that I am not worthy of her."

"Well, Lester, we will let Elsie decide if you are worthy or not, won't we, little wife?" he said looking over at Mrs. Travilla.

She shook her head in agreement.

"Do you mean I can speak to her like I am, a poor man with only a hope of being able to support her half as good as you have done?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Travilla. "Though not willing to give up my daughter, I think it's best that you know each other's feelings before such a long absence from each other, and," he added with a smile, "if she loves you, it will make no difference if you become wealthy or not. A pure honest man is worth 500 wealthy ones who have sowed their wild oats."

The light was on in Elsie's room when they returned home, so they quietly went up the stairs and tapped on her door. "You look like you have been crying!" Mrs. Travilla exclaimed. "What is troubling my sweet Elsie?" She embarassed Elsie for a moment, then Elsie stepped back and wiping her face answered, "Nothing."

"I think we know what it is," her father said lovingly. "I think I can tell you something that will help dry your tears," he said smiling.

"What is it?" Elsie asked holding her head down so they could not see her face.

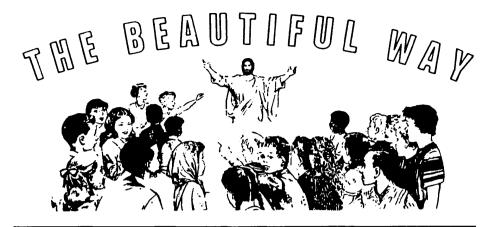
"Lester has asked our permission to talk with you and write to you while he will be away in Europe."

Elsie couldn't conceal her happiness. "Really, Daddy!" she cried. "And you said, yes, even though he is a poor man?"

"I did, my child. He puts great value on eternal riches which our family knows are worth more than the whole world."

After her parents had said good night and left her room, Elsie bowed beside her bed. "Thank you, Jesus," she said, "for making Molly's dream come true, and mine, too."

(To be continued)



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A Wonderful Baby's Birth

(Luke 2:1-39)

Out on the streets of Nazareth the people were standing in groups, talking excitedly. News had just reached their city that the great emperor of Rome had commanded all of them to go to the town or city from which their families had come and have their names written on lists. The emperor wished to have a list of the names of all the people in his great kingdom, or empire. And no one dared to disobey his command.

Soon travelers were seen going in every direction, for the emperor's command had been read in every city in the land. Out from Nazareth a company of people started toward the south, and in that company were Joseph and Mary, for they were both of the family of David, and they were going to Bethlehem, the city of David, to have their names written on the list there.

The road to the south led through the country of Samaria, then over the hills of Judea into Jerusalem. From Jerusalem Joseph and Mary went farther south, till they came to Bethlehem. Some of their company had left them in other cities along the way, while others had joined them. And when they reached Bethlehem they found that it was swarming with people who belonged, as they did, to the city where David was born. From every part of the land these people had come, and they had filled the lodging rooms till no more place could be found for the new arrivals.

The long journey from Nazareth had been very tiresome, and Mary longed for a place to rest. But Joseph could find no place except in the stable of the inn. One night while they stayed here baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Him in soft cloths called swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger where the cattle fed, because she could find no better place.

Shepherds were watching their flocks that night in a field near Bethlehem. Perhaps David, the shepherd king, had tended sheep in that same field many years before. These shepherds knew about David, and about God's promise to David that one of his descendants would be the Saviour of men. And they may have been talking about God's promise when the angel of the Lord suddenly came near and a glorious light broke upon them through the darkness. Trembling with fear, they looked upon the angel and wondered why he had come to them. Then he spoke, and said: "Fear not, for I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

What a wonderful message! The shepherds listened eagerly to the angel's words, and when he finished speaking they saw a multitude of angels join him and begin to sing. Such music this world had never heard, for the angels were singing one of heaven's glad songs, giving glory to God in the high-



The Beginning Of The New Kingdom

Is Jesus King of the new Kingdom?

Luke 1:30 . . . The angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: . . .

- 31 ...Behold, thou shalt...bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- 32 ... 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.

John 18:36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: . . .

37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, . . . To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, . . .

Did the new Kingdom begin when Christ came?

Matthew 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

- 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- 3 ...This is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias [Isaiah], ... Prepare ye the way of the Lord, ...

Luke 16:16 The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

Mark 1:14 Now after ... John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

Is the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of heaven the same?

Matthew 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 6:20 ...Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.

Matthew 11:11 ... He that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he [John the Baptist].

Luke 7:28 . . . He that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he [John the Baptist].

Matthew 13:11 ...It is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

Mark 4:11 ... Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God. . . .

Matthew 13:33 ... The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal. . . .

Luke 13:20 . . . Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?

21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, . . .

Central thought: <u>Jesus</u>, <u>John the Baptist</u>, and all the apostles were establishing the <u>new Kingdom</u> that God had promised.



Questions:

- 1. What did the angel say about Jesus?
- 2. How long was Jesus' Kingdom to last?
- 3. What did Jesus say about Himself being a King?
- 4. Is Jesus' Kingdom of this world?
- 5. What did John say about the kingdom of heaven?
- 6. When did Jesus begin preaching the new Kingdom?
- 7. To what did Jesus liken the kingdom of heaven?
- 8. Are the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven the same?
- 9. Are you a part of the Kingdom of God?

"Thou shalt bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

(Luke 1:31-33)



John was sitting at the table trying to memorize the Lord's Prayer. "Our father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven," he repeated.

"What does all that mean?" he asked, looking up at his mother who was mixing whole wheat rolls in a large bowl.

"Sh- sh- finish memorizing it before you start asking questions," she admonished.

"But why should I memorize something I don't understand?" he questioned.

"Well, maybe you shouldn't," answered his mother. "Thy kingdom come...' John, do you know God made people from dust?"

"Yes, but what does that have to do with this?"

"When we say, 'Thy kingdom come', we are asking Jesus to come into our earthly hearts. When we ask, 'Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven', we are asking Jesus to reign or rule over our earthly bodies so that we will do as He wants us to. Only in this way can we be subjects in His Kingdom. You want to be in Jesus' Kingdom, don't you?"

"I sure do, so the Devil can't control me."

John studied a while longer then asked,

"Why did my memory verse last week say
that Jesus would reign over the house of
Jacob forever? How could Jesus be reigning
over the house of Jacob and reigning in
people's hearts also?"

"Jacob was a man who lived a long time ago. He was the grandson of Abraham. From Abraham God made a big nation. He chose this nation to show the people of the world how to please Him. But many times the kings of this nation did not love God, therefore they were not showing God's way to the world as God had planned.

"When Jesus was born He became the King over God's people. God's people are the people whom God has chosen to bless the world. They are called the children of Jacob, because Jacob was the father of the people God had chosen to bless the world many years ago. Jesus will be a faithful King and His people will forever be a blessing to the world."

"So we are part of the house of Jacob."

"Yes. We are God's chosen people, just as the house of Jacob was God's chosen people."

"I'm glad God chose me."

"God chose you when He gave you a desire to be saved. When you got saved, He changed you from being in the kingdom of Satan, and placed you in His Kingdom. When you get sanctified, He will come and sit on the throne of your heart. Then you will be able to do all of God's will."

"Jesus, then, is reigning on the earth today by reigning over me and you and all the other people who are saved. Isn't that right, Mother?"

"Yes, my son. Each of our hearts is like a little heavenly kingdom over which Jesus is King. This is the heaven from which the Devil has been cast out. The Devil was never in the heaven where God dwells, but he has been ruling in many hearts. He rules in this earth because he is ruling in most people's hearts."

"But I read a comic book that said Jesus would come to earth and be the ruler of the world for 1,000 years," John told her. "And I read another one that said a great beast which could speak would control all the world by using computers. All the good people were to be taken up before that time. Can you explain that?"

"It is a misinterpretation of the Bible. Some people are expecting Jesus to set up a kingdom on earth. However, according to the Scriptures, Jesus, John, Matthew, Luke, Mark, Daniel, and many other writers of the Bible said that His Kingdom would be set up when He came to earth the first time.

"When Jesus comes again, it will be to snatch the righteous away, before the earth is destroyed." (I Thess. 4:16-17; II Peter 3:10-12).

"All those who escape the final destruction of the world will have to already be in the Kingdom of God?" John asked.

"Yes, they will have already been born into the Kingdom of God by a spiritual birth," said his mother. (John 3:3).

(Answers: 1 That He would sit on the throneof David and rule over the house of Jacob 2. It is to have no end 3. He said that if e dame to be a King. 4. No. 5. He said "The ding om officaven is at hand." 6 After John was put imprison 7. To leaven 3. Nes. 9 You are flyouare following Jesus)

est. And they also sang, "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

When the song had ended, the angels went back into heaven and the glorious light faded again into the darkness of the still night. But the shepherds never forgot the sweetness of that song nor the joy it brought to their hearts. They did not wait until daylight to hasten to Bethlehem in search of the wonderful child. Just as soon as the angels disappeared they said to each other, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known to us." So they left their flocks and hurried to Bethlehem. There they found Mary and Joseph in the stable, with the infant Saviour lying in the manger, as the angel had said.

The shepherds told Mary and Joseph about their angel visitors and about the wonderful song that the angels sang. No doubt they knelt before the manger and worshiped the little babe who lay quietly sleeping in the hay. Then they ran into the streets of Bethlehem and told every one whom they met about the angels' visit and about the wonderful child who had been born that night in a stable. And the people wondered about the strange things that the shepherds told.

When the baby was eight days old Joseph and Mary gave Him a name, and they called Him by the name the angel had chosen. That name, Jesus, means "salvation," and it told to men the work that God had sent this child to do.

There was a law among the Jews that an offering should be made to the Lord for the first boy child born into each family. Among the rich people this offering should be a lamb, but among the poor people the offering

of only two young pigeons would please God just as well. When Jesus was 40 days old Joseph and Mary took Him to the temple at Jerusalem to give their offerings to the Lord. They brought two pigeons, for they were poor and could not bring a lamb.

An old man named Simeon was in the temple when Joseph and Mary came to bring their offering. This old man had served God for many years, and he wanted to see the Saviour whom God had promised to send into the world. God knew about this longing in Simeon's heart, and one day He spoke to Simeon and said, "You shall not die until you have seen the Saviour."

When Mary brought the baby Jesus to the temple, God's Spirit caused Simcon to know this child was the promised Saviour. He came eagerly to meet Mary and took her baby in his arms. Then he said, "Now may God let me depart in peace, for I have seen with my eyes the salvation which He has sent."

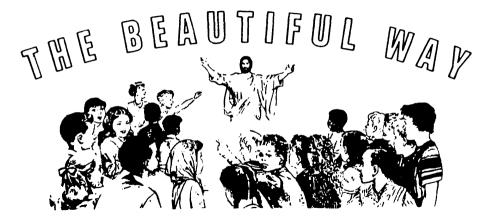
Another faithful servant of the Lord was in the temple that day. She was an old lady named Anna, who spoke words of prophecy to the people. When she saw Jesus she gave thanks to God. And to the people who stood in the courts of the temple she spoke about this child of promise which had been sent from God to man.

Mary never forgot the words of these dear old people concerning her wonderful child. She remembered, too, the story that the shepherds had told about the angels' visit to them and about their words and song. In the days that followed, Mary always thought about these strange things and wondered how her son Jesus would finally become the King and Saviour of the world.

-Elsie Egermeier



Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 41, No. 4

Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 12

Dec. 23, 1990

Susy Diller's Christmas Feast

"Pleas'm, only a penny. I'm 'most froze and starved!"

The carriage stood at the edge of the sidewalk, and Mrs. Linley was just going out with her two children to buy some Christmas gifts. Nellie had a happy face framed with golden curls, and her brother, Frank, was not a whit behind in elegance, though a trifle more haughty, as you could tell by the wide distance he gave the miscrable little beggar.

"Get awayl" said Mrs. Linley, with a dis-

dainful sweep of the hand.

The woman and the child looked at each other—one of those glances that stamp a face upon one's memory. Mrs. Linley was always afraid of street people. They might have a disease lurking in their rags.

The carriage drove on. The children were happy, generous, well-behaved, and belonged to a Christian family. They were going to prove all this now. Besides gifts for Mama and Papa, and some little cousins, half a dozen poor children were to be remembered.

They spent all the pleasant, sunshiny middle of the day going from shop to shop. What hosts of tempting things! It was like a glimpse of fairyland.

"Poor children love to play just as rich children, don't they?" said grave sweet Nellie.

"It is so nice to make them happy!"

Mrs. Linley gave her darling a smile. "I hope you will never forget, my dear, that we are all created alike, and that all the poor little ones are just as precious in God's sight."

"And Christ the Lord was born for everybody," Frank added in a reflective manner. "My teacher told me so last Sunday—so that all little children might be saved, and have a merry Christmas."

"Maybe they can't all have a merry Christmas. Some are very poor and sick, and nobody seems to care for them—like the little beggar girl who stood watching us when we started. Oh Mamal isn't it hard? What becomes of them?"

The sweet face was full of tender pity.

"God takes care of them, like the sparrows," said Frank.

Mrs. Linley did not answer. Already her heart condemned her, for after all, she was a kind-hearted woman. She half expected to find the wretched object on her doorstep. If so, she would try to make amends for her harsh words. But she was not there.

When they returned home from shopping, they shivered with the cold and ran to the stove. Then Papa came home, and they had the happiest Christmas Eve imaginable. Of course one cannot make one's charities go all around the world, but Mrs. Linley thought she had stretched hers a long distance. So she had. And yet she might have given the child at her door a few pennies. But street beggars were so often thieves!

Meanwhile the beggar girl wandered on. For nearly a week she had slept in the station house and begged a little during the day, just enough to keep body and soul together. She used to sell matches and pins, but she had no money to buy a new stock, and there were so many in the trade. A month ago the old woman with whom she had lived, died suddenly. Then she had to live the best she could.

She went on asking now and then for a penny. Some gave the forlorn little beggar a



Birth Of A New King

Luke 2:4 ...Joseph... went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

- 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- 12 ... This shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
- 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

- 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
- 17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
- 18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
- 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Central thought: The new King was born who will reign over an everlasting Kingdom which is not of this world.



Questions:

- 1. Into what city did Mary and Joseph go?
- 2. Why did Mary lay her new baby in a manger?
- 3. What shone around about the shepherds?
- 4. How would the shepherds know if they had found the right baby?
- 5. What were the multitude of heavenly host saying?
- 6. When did the shepherds begin hunting for Jesus?
- 7. What did the shepherds do after they had found Jesus?
- 8. How did the people accept what the shepherds were saying?
- 9. Would you like to have gone with the shepherds to see the new king?

"For unto us a child is born, His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." (Isa. 9:6)



Nothing tells the story of Christ's birth better than the old Christmas carol by George F. Handel:

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

"While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he; for mighty dread Had seized their troubled minds, "Glad tidings of great joy I bring, To you and all mankind.

"To you in David's town this day Is born, of David's line, The Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; And this shall be the sign:"

"Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." (Luke 2:12.)

The story of the birth of Christ is very old, but is as interesting as when it was first told. Every year at this time, we see the glowing lights of Christmas, hear the carols, and listen with awe to the story of Jesus' birth.

The promise of a Saviour who would reconcile God with man had at last been fulfilled. Yes, that Saviour has come. Now men everywhere can communicate with the Almighty God.

Godly men for centuries had longed for this opportunity. I wonder if we appreciate this opportunity like we should.

Readers everywhere, whoever you are, take time today to communicate with the Almighty God through Jesus Christ. He will listen to your problems without scolding you. Many times we get ourselves into trouble and we know we have caused it. For this reason we are ashamed to ask for help. We need never have fear of coming to God with these problems. He will not find fault with us about them. He loves everyone and will help

whoever comes to Him. He sent His only begotten Son into the world to make a way that we could get help from Him.

Rest easy, the new King has been born who will never lead His people wrong. Become a part of His Kingdom by repenting and believing in Jesus.

"And ye beneath life's heavy load, Whose forms are bending low, Stop beside the weary road And hear the angels sing."

Each reader who will stop their sinful ways and call on Jesus for help can hear the angels sing as the shepherds did almost 2,000 years ago.

—Sis. Charlotte

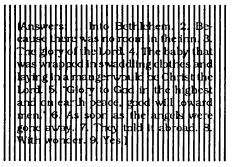


Away In A Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down His sweet head:
The stars in the sky
Looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
The baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle,
Till morning is nigh.

-Martin Luther



scowl, some did not even look at her, and one or two men spoke roughly to her. Oh! she was so hungry and so cold.

She looked wistfully into basement windows. She stared at the merry, happy children who ran by in warm clothing. Her shoes had holes in them and her ragged dress flapped in the biting wind.

It was growing colder and colder. She ran along until she came to a restaurant. Such a delightful smell came through the grating. Not a mouthful of anything had she eaten since yesterday noon. People went along with great market baskets full; men with bundles in their arms, girls and boys with Christmas gifts, all hurrying homeward.

The pain gnawing at her stomach was so hard to bear. There was a jacket she might steal—. No, she couldn't. She never had been a thief. She remembered her mother, who had died two years ago. The pretty lady getting into the carriage had made her think of her! Her mother had said, Oh! how good it was that the dear mother would never be hungry again. And she had said, "Jennie, never tell a lie, never steal." She sat down on a doorstep and began to cry. It was very cold now. She curled herself up in the corner. If she could only go to sleep.

"Hello!" said a cheerful voice, and someone shook her by the shoulder. "You'll freeze to death here! You better run home!"

"I haven't any home."

Sturdy young Susy Diller, herself a poor working girl, dragged up the forlorn little object and scanned the thin blue face.

"Where have you been?"

"Station houses and such," the child answered. "After old Molly died, they turned me out. I haven't any money, so I had to go out of trade. I've tried to beg—"

Susy stood considering. What would Granny say if she brought the poor thing home? "Don't you ask another one to your Christmas dinner," she had said already. "There won't be room for 'em to stand on one foot." Susy drew her sleeve across her eyes. Somehow her heart had grown very tender since she had been going to the mission school. A little scene flashed into her mind: On Sunday, Mr. Linley, the most splendid man in the world, Susy had insisted to Granny, had been explaining to the boys and girls how even the Saviour of all the world had been homeless.

"I wish I'd been there!" said Susy bravely, "I'd have taken Him in."

"Susy," replied Mr. Linley, "when we do such a thing for the very poorest, we do it for the Lord." Then he read the beautiful commendation that the Saviour was to bestow at the last upon those who did what they could in this world, picturing their blessed joy and surprise as they said, "Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in?" [Matt. 25:37-38].

So Susy had announced to Granny that she meant to give a Christmas dinner.

"I thought you were going to get that nice new jacket? And you have just money enough."

"I'll wait two or three weeks for that," declared Susy. "You see it's so much nicer on Christmas. I don't understand a bit how the Saviour did come down to earth, but when you think of all that, you can get closer to Him, just as I do to Mr. Linley, our Sunday school teacher.

"Maybe, if we ask in the poor and lame, He will look down and think we are trying to keep Christmas the right way. There'll be lame Tim Jenkins—you know he was run over by the street car, and Humpy, whose mother is dead, and the little Smith boy whom I set up in the paper business, and Kit Benner, who's been sick and lost his place, and—"

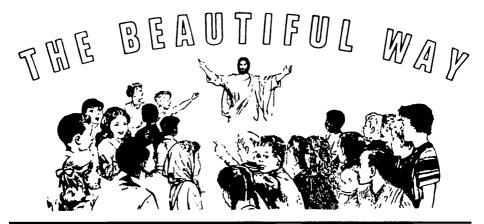
It was then that Granny had said, "Don't ask another one. There won't be room enough for 'em to stand on one foot."

"And we'll have a rousin' turkey. I know where I can get one real cheap—and cranberry sauce, and pickles, and mince pie. A regular feast, and no mistake!"

But finally Susy had found two more; so now there were six of them. Susy had worked in a factory and took care of Granny, who was too old to do much of anything, and was almost bent over with rheumatism. They had a room on the second floor of a tumble-down barrack, and one small bedroom out of it; but Granny thought it almost a palace, because Susy was so good to her.

Now here was one more to share their Christmas dinner. What would Granny say? But the young missionary did not stop long to consider the matter. Here was a case of real suffering, and Susy's conscience quickly adjusted itself.

(To be continued)



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Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 13

Dec. 30, 1990

Susy Diller's Christmas Feast

(Continued from last week)

"Come along," said Susy to the little vagrant, thinking somehow of the Lord of all who had nowhere to lay His head.

"For maybe if He were here," she soliloquized, "we shouldn't be able to tell Him from anyone else. And it's just—anybody."

Susy took the little stray by the arm, and hurried her along. Poor little Jennie! her feet seemed hardly to touch the ground, they were so cold and numb. She didn't much care even if she was being taken to the station house.

But she wasn't. After a while she felt the warmth and heard the voices, but she was so tired and sleepy that she dropped into a little heap before the fire and only heard heryoung rescuer say:—

"Let her sleep, Granny; it'll do her more good than anything else."

"But, Susy, child, we can't take care of her all the time. And—" Granny stopped there, looking into Susy's eyes.

"It's Christmas Eve, Granny. I feel as if we ought to do something."

By and by, Jennie Morgan, the poor little waif, woke up, had some supper, and told her story. It was like hundreds of others, only her mother was a beautiful lady. She had seen someone in the street this morning who looked just like her.

"She's smart and chipper, Granny, and she'll soon be better," said Susy.

Jennie's cheeks were very red the next morning, and her eyes very bright; moreover,

her voice had a curious tremble in it, but she declared she was quite well. It was so delightful to be housed and warmed, and to have no great hunger pangs gnawing at her stomach.

Susy went out a while, and Granny prepared her turkey to roast. Poor Jennie thought there never had been such a savory fragrance before.

It was a famous Christmas feast. There was lame Tim with a clean face, and a new red shirt to do honor to the occasion; Humpy, as the little fellow was called, who sold pins, tape, and shoe strings on the corner, and had grown deformed from a bad fall; Kit Benner, looking white enough and thin enough to frighten you; three others, and the little stray Jennic Morgan, besides Granny, in a new cap and new calico dress.

Such a time they had! They were so crowded around the table that they had hardly elbow room. They laughed, drank, and ate and were as happy as the happiest.

Meanwhile, over at Mr. Linley's they had a grand day. Nellie, dressed like a fairy, distributed the gifts, carefully laying aside those for the poor. Of course they could not ask such people into their festivities. Then Mrs. Linley played, and they had some charming carols.

They also sang two or three songs at Susy Diller's. Susy had learned them at the mission school. Finally Jennie begged to lie down in the corner by the stove, for she felt a little chilly, and her head was aching.

"Oh Susy, won't you sing again?" she pleaded. "It's like heaven. Mother used to tell me about it. And do you suppose that the



Conflicts Of The New Kingdom

Revelation 12:1 ... There appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman [the new Kingdom] clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:

- 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon [Satan's kingdom of idol worship], having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.
- 4 . . . And the dragon stood . . . to devour her child [people getting saved] as soon as it was born.
- 5 ... And her child was caught up unto God, . . .
- 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.
- 7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,
- 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.
 - 9 ... The great dragon was cast out,
- 13:1 ... I [John the Revelator] stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, ...
- 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast saying, Who is like unto the beast? . . .
- 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name,
- 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

- 8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life....
- 17:6 ... I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: ...
- 7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.
- 8 The beast... shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life... when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

Central thought: This is a history of some of the conflicts which the Kingdom of God has had with other religious powers.



Questions: (Read "Let's Talk" before answering questions.)

- 1. What does the woman clothed with the sun represent?
- 2. What does the red dragon represent?
- 3. How did God protect the woman and her child?
- 4. In what way was the dragon cast out of his heavenly place in the religions of the world?
- 5. Who did the followers of the beast worship?
- 6. Who were the only people who did not worship the beast?
- 7. On what was the woman who rode the beast drunken?
- 8. From where did the beast come and where is it going?

"Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."

(Heb. 12:28)



In this lesson we will talk about some of the great conflicts which the new Kingdom had. While the new King, Jesus, was just a baby the Jewish King, Herod, tried to kill him.

The Jewish rabbis, doctors, lawyers, Pharisees, and others, worked against Jesus until they finally killed Him. Of course we know that if Jesus had not been willing to die, they could have had no power over Him.

After Jesus was out of the way, they began persecuting His disciples. While the Jews were persecuting the Christians, the Christians moved into many different countries. The people in these countries worshiped idols.

Although the religions of these different countries were not alike, they worshiped some kind of idol and they hated God and those who worshiped Him. These pagan people who were directed by a wicked pagan spirit became the major conflict of the *new Kingdom*. It is called a great red dragon in the book of Revelation.

This dragon had seven heads, ten horns and seven crowns. These heads, horns and crowns represented the many different governments, kings, and nations which were under this pagan satanic religion. All those who were under the power of the red dragon hated those who served God, so they persecuted the Christians who moved into their cities.

The dragon tried to devour the "man child," the children of God's Kingdom. But God protected many of His children by taking them on to heaven. Then God made a place for the new Kingdom to hide away in the wilderness. There she stayed for 1260 days (1260 years).

While God was taking care of the new Kingdom, there was a great war among the religions. This war took place in the spiritual heavens of this world. The dragon lost and was cast out of his heavenly place as a great religion of the world. Thousands of people quit worshiping idols.

This happened in the years following the teaching of the apostles. The new Kingdom

grew so-o-o- strong and large that people all over the world accepted it. It "became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

After a few hundred years a new kind of religion became popular. The Apostle John saw it as a beast. It had seven heads, ten horns and ten crowns. (It controlled many nations, governments, and kings just like the dragon religion did.) The people who had the religion of this beast were really worshipers of the dragon. (Rev. 13:4). They renamed the idols with Bible names however, and conducted worship service in a different way. They also changed the name of the religion. They called it The Universal Christian Church. This beastly religion was accepted by all who lived on the earth, excepting those "whose names are written in the book of life." (Rev. 13:8).

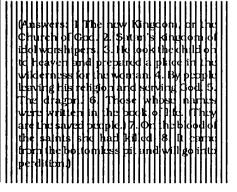
The people in this religion, although they called themselves Christians, made war against the saints. (Rev. 13:7). The conflict between the beast and the *new Kingdom* became so great that the church of the beast became drunk with the blood of the followers of Jesus which it had killed. (Rev. 17:6-8).

The conflicts which the new Kingdom has encountered have been many and very severe. The conflicts have destroyed many subjects of the Kingdom, however, they have not destroyed the Kingdom. It is an everlasting Kingdom and although the gates of hell fight against it, they can never conquer it.

The conflict is going on today. The dragon was to be loosed again at the end of the world. The religion of the dragon was to worship idols and things other than Christ or God.

We do not need to be deceived by this dragon spirit. We can stay in this everlasting Kingdom if we "love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength."

-Sis. Charlotte



Lord Jesus cares for little girls who have to live on the street and sleep where they can?

"Yes He does care. Mr. Linley told me so. You see," and Susy laid her forefinger in the palm of the other hand, "you see, this is the way: He puts the thought into other people's hearts, 'cause He isn't here any more to do the work."

"Oh," said Jennie slowly, and with a sage nod. "Wouldn't it be good, Susy, if He would put it into the hearts of rich folks? They could do so much."

"Sometimes He does. Look at the newsboys'dinner! And there's a good many things."

Poor Jennie sighed a little. She could not make it out straight in her tired brain.

The crowd went away presently, declaring that it was the happiest sort of a Christmas. They thanked Susy and Granny over and over again.

The next day was Sunday. Susy begged Mr. Linley to come and see the little sick girl at her house. One way and another, the story of the Christmas feast came out.

Jennie, the little beggar girl, was very sick. Cold and hunger had done their worst. It had been so hard and dreary since her mother died, with no one to care for her, and to have to dodge around continually, kicked, cuffed, and almost starved. And if the Lord up above did care—

"She's a pretty sick little girl," said Susy, "but Granny and I will do our best to pull her through."

Mr. Linley felt the pulse and shook his head. The fever was high and there was no strength to battle with it.

Then he looked into Susy's great wistful eyes, and was touched to the heart. She had learned the sweetest and noblest lesson of all. She had gone out into the highways and hedges, she had gathered in the lame and halt and the blind.

"You see I've grown fond of her, already," explained Susy. "I'd do anything for her."

"I'm afraid it's too late, but I will help in any way I can. I will send some things from the house."

"If you please, I'd rather not have you send anything. You see, Granny spoke a little cross at first, and now she's trying to make it all up to her. She'll feel better if she does everything; Granny has a good heart."

What a point of conscience here amid poverty and ignorancel

"The lessons have not all been on my side," said Mr. Linley to his wife afterwards. "The poor little factory girl has taught me something that I shall never forget. To think of her going without her coat that she might provide a dinner for some homeless, hungry children. I wish you would go and see them, my dear." Mrs. Linley went with her husband.

Susy stared as if she had seen an angel. Granny dropped a curtsy, and dusted a chair with her apron.

"Little Jennie," Susy whispered, "poor little girl, can't you open your eyes a minute?"

She opened them wider and wider. Then she rose a little and stared around—stretched out her trembling hands towards Mrs. Linley, and cried, "Oh Motheri Motheri Susy said I should find you. I tried to be good, and not to lie or steal, though I was nearly starved. Susy's been so—kind. She brought me in—to the Christmas—dinner—"

Mrs. Linley caught the swaying form in her arms. The last words quivered slowly on her lips and her eyes dropped. She remembered just where she had seen the child, and a pang of bitter self-upbraiding pierced her heart. She kissed the still lips for her mother's sake, and laid her gently down. Had Susy and Granny entertained an angel unawares, while her blind eyes had not been able to discern "the least of these"?

"Ohi" said Susy sobbing, "I'm so glad you came. I suppose she thought it was her own mother, for she has talked about her all the time. Poor little girl! I shall always be thankful that I brought her in out of the cold, though I never guessed she was going to die."

"The fame of your Christmas feast has gone up among the angels, Susy," said Mr. Linley reverently. "And now, my dear girl, have little Jennie buried where you like, and bring the bill to me. I want to share in your good work."

Mr. and Mrs. Linley walked home quietly. Had they borne any such fruit as this?

"For I was an hungered and ye fed me." —Selected