

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 6, 1997

A New Assignment

(Continued from last week)

When Ahn saw many Japanese flags flying over Pyongyang, and hundreds of people around the train station, she felt faint. I shall surely be arrested as soon as I step off this train, she thought, for every official, and policeman of the city must be here. Above the roar of the train engine, she heard the people shouting, drums beating, bands playing and hundreds of uniformed students singing patriotic songs. A train load of Japanese soldiers had just arrived and were lining up in endless rows.

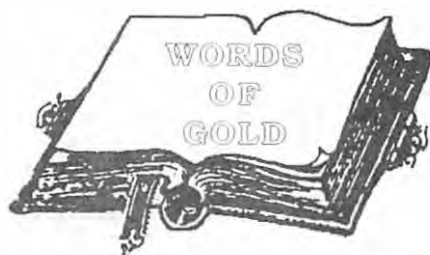
"Did God say, 'Go to Pyongyang' so I would be put in prison?" While wondering why God had sent her there she noticed the sadness on the face of the soldier just outside her window. "He's already captured, and headed for death on the battlefield," she mumbled. "At least I will die for a good cause and he—he will die for the sake of the state to please some proud emperor. Doesn't the Bible say that the wages of idolatry are wars, famines and pestilences?"

Ahn forgot about her immediate danger as she walked along looking at the rows and rows of soldiers. Each one had the same strange look of death. "Hundreds of soldiers are dying each day on the battlefields," she mumbled. "Someone must tell them about Jesus' saving plan before they die and go to hell," she told herself. "And it must be done quickly!"

Ahn stomped her foot in anger. The Japanese rulers were sacrificing tens of thousands of valuable young men. Tears began streaming down her cheeks. If only someone could persuade the rulers to believe in Christ there would be no more wars, nor Christians being brutally abused. Ahn shuddered as she remembered those long hot days and fearful nights she had hidden alone in the mountains to escape torture in prison.

"Oh, God, won't you send someone to wake up the leaders of Japan?" she prayed as she was leaving the crowd behind.

Ahn had attended an exclusive girls school in Pyongyang so she knew how to find the home of her niece. As she walked along, God



Paul Obeys Jesus

Acts 8:1-4

1 And Saul was consenting unto his [Stephen's] death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church...and they were all scattered abroad...

2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

Acts 9:1-6, 9, 11, 15-16 20-23, 25

1-2 And Saul,...went unto the high priest. And desired of him letters...that if he found any of this way,...men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he...came near Damascus:... suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul. why persecutest thou me?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest:...

6 And he...said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

11 And the Lord said unto him [Ananias], Arise, and...enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul,...

15 ...For he is...chosen...to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said: Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name...?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews...

23 And after many days...the Jews took counsel to kill him.

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

The Message: Saul becomes obedient to Christ and joins with the believers whom he had persecuted.

Questions:

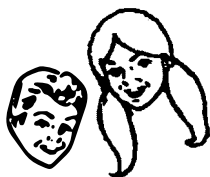
1. Who was suffering great persecution?
2. Name one of the men causing this persecution.
3. Who consented to Stephen's death?
4. Why did Saul go to Damascus?
5. What question did Jesus ask Saul?
6. Was Saul ready to obey Jesus?
7. What was Saul called to do?
8. What did the Jews want to do to Saul?
9. How did Saul escape?

Verse to Memorize

...He is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.

Acts 9:15.

Let's



Talk . . .

Persecution against the Church of God began when their Leader, Jesus, was killed. Persecution is, being abused for a religious belief. The Jews would not accept Jesus as God's Son and they killed Him, thinking that in this way others would not believe in Him and follow His teachings. But after Jesus arose and ascended to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit into His followers. This Holy Spirit caused those disciples to boldly preach that Jesus was the Son of God. They convinced many people that Jesus was not just a man, but that He was divine and that salvation came only by believing in Him. Thousands of people accepted Jesus as their Savior. They left the Jewish religion and joined with Jesus' followers. This angered the religious leaders and they began persecuting the Church. They arrested believers, put them in prison and abused them in many ways.

A highly educated Jew named Saul, assisted others in stoning Stephen to death. Stephen proved by Jewish scriptures that Jesus was the prophet which Moses said would come and to which they should listen. After Stephen's death, Saul obtained permission to go to Damascus and arrest any man or woman who believed that Jesus was the Savior. As Saul neared Damascus, a brilliant light blinded him. He fell to the ground, then heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

"Who are You, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom You are persecuting," the voice answered.

By now Saul was trembling. He meekly asked, "Lord, what will You have me do?"

The voice answered, "Go into the city and you will be told what to do."

The men who accompanied Saul led him into the city. During the next three days he did nothing but pray. After three days, God sent Ananias, one of His servants, to pray for Saul. Saul's eyes were healed, he was filled with the Holy Spirit and Ananias baptized him.

Then God told Saul that he was chosen to suffer for Jesus and to take the message of salvation through Jesus, to the Gentiles, to kings and to the Jews. Saul accepted this assignment from God and began preaching. In just a few days the Jews were angry and set out to kill him.

Saul soon learned that persecution only makes the Church grow. People left Jerusalem to escape the suffering, but wherever they went, they taught that Jesus was the Savior. Saul was doing the same. The Jews waited day and night at the city gate to kill Saul if he tried to escape, but the Christians hid Saul in a large basket and let the basket down over the city wall.

From Damascus, Saul went back to Jerusalem and joined with the Christians. At first, many thought he was only a spy, but Barnabas helped the Church to believe in Saul. Then he preached boldly. Soon however, the Jews became angry and he had to escape again because he was following Jesus whom he had once persecuted. —Charlotte Huskey

said, "I want you to tell Japan's leaders."

"Who? Me? But I'll soon be caught and die in prison. Besides, I'm just a woman. I have no influence, nor wisdom."

"Listen to the Lord," a voice told Ahn. "You promised to obey Him."

"Yes, that's why every policeman in Korea has been notified to arrest me," Ahn answered. She hurried on, thinking about this new job. Could she do what God had asked? She had studied in Japanese schools from first grade through college so she knew the language very well. It might, however, make her prison term longer and more severe, and her freedom shorter. But why shouldn't she use the little freedom she had left to share the Gospel? She thought and prayed about it all the way to her niece's home.

How surprised Ahn was to find her mother and sister there. "Thank You Lord, thank You," she explained as she bowed deeply in reverence to her mother. So many things had happened in the short time they had been separated that it seemed as if it had been a long time.

"What happened after I left you?" Ahn asked.

"Policemen were constantly watching Sister's house and repeatedly asking for you," Mother said. "Sister and I felt so much pressure we left and came here."

Ahn told of her experiences running through the mountains from village to village. She told of being tired, hungry and thirsty and about the frightening nights sleeping wherever she was when night came. She praised God for the times when she had no food or water but did not

feel hungry or thirsty. Then she shared her experience at the train station, and her new assignment to go to the Japanese rulers in Tokyo.

"You must obey God and prepare yourself to die for Him," Mother said. "I will help you."

"Yes, and use your remaining freedom to tell others about Christ," Sister encouraged.

They rented a small house near the open market, and boldly handed out tracts everyday. It was surprising to them that many people bowed and said, "Thank you, I will surely read this." Of course, there were those who scorned. But hadn't people scorned Jesus?

In the evenings, Ahn visited with the poor, unhappy merchants selling over-ripe or half-rotten fruit and vegetables or hard dry rice cakes. Often she bought the food they hadn't sold during the day. She told them that Jesus loved them and would answer their prayers. They listened carefully.

While witnessing to the poor, she often wondered how she would witness to the Japanese leaders. Some day she would know.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The believers in the Church of God. 2. Saul. 3. Saul. 4. To persecute the believers in that city. 5. Why do you persecute Me? 6. Yes. 7. To bear Jesus' name to the Gentiles, to kings and to the children of Israel. 8. They wanted to kill him. 9. Using a basket, the believers lowered Saul over the city wall.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 13, 1997

A Disappointment

(Continued from last week.)

"Be quiet now," Sister whispered to Ahn who was singing. "We're nearing the house and there may be a policeman closeby. We sure don't want to be raided tonight and miss hearing Pastor Lee tell of his experiences in prison."

Ahn quit singing.

Every Friday night, the Christians in Pyongyang met in Teacher Kim's home. They came a few at a time after dark and left a few at a time just before dawn. Because the Japanese were persecuting the Christians in Korea, many of the believers had changed their names and occupations, then moved from small towns and villages to this city. It was easier to hide among the crowds in a large city. If only the Japanese leaders would change, the Korean Christians could return to their homes and live happily again. Ahn wondered if they would change after she witnessed to them.

Usually the believers read and memorized Bible verses, testified, sang hymns softly and listened to Teacher Kim. Tonight they listened

to Pastor Lee. He and Pastor Joo had just been released from prison. "I am young," said Pastor Lee "but the years of abuse have caused me to look old."

"Doesn't God work miracles for His children like He did when He saved Daniel from the lions, and the three Hebrew children from the fiery furnace?" a believer asked.

"He didn't for me. I felt the cold, the hunger and the pain from the whip. I'm a living testimony that God makes His people strong. We can endure anything for Jesus."

"Amen," all the believers answered. They listened to Pastor Lee all through the night but it seemed only like an hour or two.

As Mother, Sister and Ahn were walking home, Ahn said, "I had hoped to hear that God delivers His children, or keeps them from feeling the pain."

"Perhaps God does deliver some. Let's visit Pastor Joo and see what happened to him while he was in prison," Sister suggested.

The following evening at midnight, they went to hear Pastor Joo speak. When they arrived, the house was full of people squeezed as closely together as possible. "The



Paul is Stoned

Acts 13:14, 43-45, 50

14 ...They [Paul and Barnabas] came to Antioch...and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many...followed Paul and Barnabas:...

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy,...

50 [And] stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

Acts 14:6-11, 13-15, 18-22

6 They...fled unto Lystra and Derbe,...

7 And there they preached the gospel.

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra,...a cripple...who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who...perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand up-right on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying... The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

13 Then the priest of Jupiter,...brought oxen...and would have done sacrifice...

14 Which when...Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

15 ...Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men...

18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

20 How be it, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

21 And when they had preached...and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra,...Iconium, and Antioch.

22 Confirming the...disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

The Message: Saul's name was changed to Paul and he began to be persecuted because he was a Christian.

Questions:

1. Who was preaching with Paul?
2. Where were they on the Sabbath day?
3. Why were the Jews filled with envy?
4. What did the Jews do?
5. Why did the people in Lystra think Paul and Barnabas were gods?
6. What did the Jews from Antioch and Iconium do?
7. What did the people do to Paul?
8. What did Paul do when he became conscious?
9. What advice did he give to the believers in the cities from which he had been driven out?

Verse to Memorize

...We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:22.

Let's



Talk . . .

Saul, who had persecuted those who believed in Jesus, was now being persecuted because he believed in Christ. His name had been changed to Paul and he had been ordained by the Church of God to take the message of salvation to the Gentiles. The Gentiles were people who were not Jews. The Jews had been chosen of God to receive the message of salvation first. The Jews, however, refused salvation and persecuted all those who accepted it. Paul had many exciting experiences as he traveled from city to city persuading people to believe in Jesus.

The people met to worship God in buildings, called synagogues, so Paul went there during worship or prayer time. Sometimes he discussed scriptures with the leaders or the people after the worship service was over. Sometimes he was asked to speak. In the lesson today Paul preached a very long sermon which you can find in Acts 13:17-41. In this sermon he proved that Jesus is the Savior of the world. After the service was over many Gentiles gathered around Paul and asked him to come again the next Sabbath and preach to them. Paul came the next Sabbath and almost everyone in the city came to hear him. They left the synagogue and spread the wonderful news of salvation throughout the whole region.

God must have smiled when He saw the people so anxious to hear and share about His Son, Jesus. The Jews, however, were frowning. They said, "Jesus is not the Savior." They argued a long time with Paul and Barnabas. Then they began stirring up the chief men and women of the city. These persecuted Paul and Barnabas and expelled them out of their city. God filled Paul and Barnabas with joy as they traveled on.

In Lystra, a man who had never walked was instantly healed. Because of this, Paul and Barnabas were praised as gods. Had the Apostles not stopped the people, they would have sacrificed an oxen and worshipped them. However, the peoples' attitude quickly changed when the Jewish leaders from Antioch and Iconium came and persuaded them against the Apostles. Finally the people stoned Paul and, thinking he was dead, dragged him out of the city.

This did not stop Paul. He left Lystra and went back to the cities where he had preached and encouraged the believers. He said, "Continue in the faith, and remember, we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." Paul was thankful he was now being persecuted instead of being the one doing the persecuting.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

II Timothy 3:12.

cruel whip tears the flesh," he said, as casually as though he was describing a walk in the park.

Ahn covered her face and began crying. Any day she might be arrested and tortured for not bowing to the Japanese shrine on Namsan Mountain, or if she went to warn the Japanese rulers she was sure to be tortured.

"We do not know how much suffering is awaiting us," Pastor Joo continued. "But do not expect a miracle to spare you. Men killed Christ on the cross. Do we think they will be kind to His followers? Dear believers, do not fear, God will give grace for what He let's happen."

"God, why don't You work miracles so Your children won't suffer?" Ahn questioned in her heart.

It was getting light when they returned to their little home. Already the merchants were gathering in the open market. "Isn't it strange that Christians feel happy when they can suffer for Jesus?" Ahn said.

"I was just thinking the same thing," Mother agreed.

"As we were walking home, I saw a vision of a cross far up on a hill, and a great power was pulling me toward it. Do you think that God is telling me that to obey Him, I will die on a cross?" Ahn asked Mother.

"I hope not," Mother answered.

"Well, I have decided that while I'm still young and useful, I will obey God regardless of what it cost me."

Mother smiled at Ahn, "You are

very brave," she said.

A few days later while Ahn and Mother were eating breakfast a strange voice called, "Is Miss Ahn in this house?" Through the window they saw an old man standing in front of their house. He was dressed in tattered Korean clothes, and held a stick in his hand.

"It's a trap to arrest me," Ahn whispered.

"But you are to witness to the Japanese rulers," Mother said, trying to encourage Ahn.

"Apostle Paul witnessed to rulers when he was a prisoner," Ahn answered.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Barnabas. 2. In a synagogue. 3. Because a multitude of people wanted to hear Paul. 4. They stirred up the people to persecute Paul and Barnabas and run them out of their coasts. 5. Because God caused a man to walk who had never been able to walk. 6. They persuaded the people of Lystra to persecute Paul. 7. They stoned Paul until they thought he was dead and then dragged him out of the city. 8. He went to Derbe, and then to the cities where he had just been persecuted. 9. He advised them to continue in the faith, and expect to go through tribulation to enter into the Kingdom of God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 20, 1997

Going to Japan

(Continued from last week.)

"You wish to speak with Miss Ahn?" Mother asked as she served breakfast to the stranger.

"Yes, God told me to come to Pyongyang and find her," the old man answered.

"God sent you to find Ahn?" Mother questioned.

"Yes, but first let me tell you about myself: I am Elder Park. When I was young, I studied Chinese medicine and treated many patients. One day I gave the wrong injection to a boy and he died immediately. I laid his body out and began praying, 'Lord, revive this child. If You will, I promise to be Your faithful servant all my life.' For three days I prayed, without eating or sleeping. God brought the child back to life. He is still living today.

"I kept my promise to God. I have served Him fifty years, and He has spoken many times to me. Since the Japanese have been persecuting the Christians, God has been speaking to me about warning Japan. He said that Miss Ahn

is a special soldier of the cross and would help me."

When the stranger said that, Ahn remembered the time she was hiding from the authorities and was sleeping in the school yard of a strange village. God had awakened her and said, "Go to Pyongyang." Then the day she arrived in Pyongyang, God told her to tell the Japanese rulers that they were sending many soldiers to hell.

"What did God say that I should do?" Ahn asked.

Elder Park answered, "You speak Japanese very well."

"How do you know I speak Japanese?"

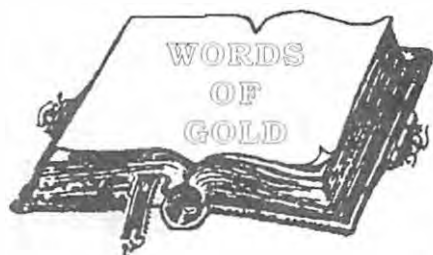
"God told me," Elder Park answered. "God has also told you to speak to Japan's rulers, but your faith is weak."

"And so," Ahn answered. She felt insulted. How could he say her faith was weak? She had just promised to die for Jesus.

"I want to go before you and show you what real faith is," he said.

"And how to die for our Lord?"

He ignored Ahn's question and continued, "Everyone is afraid to



Paul Is Directed By God

Acts 16:9-10, 13-20, 23-31, 33, 35, 39

9 And a vision appeared to Paul...a man...[was] saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately [he went] to Macedonia,...to preach the gospel unto them.

13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14 And a certain woman named Lydia,...heard us: whose heart the Lord opened...

15 And...she was baptized,...

16 And...as we went to prayer, a certain damsel (girl) possessed with a spirit of divination met us,...

17 The same followed Paul...saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul,...said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas,

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men...trouble our city,

23-24 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them...into the inner prison, and

made their feet fast in the stocks.
25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God:...

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake,...all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself,...

28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29 Then he...fell down before Paul and Silas,

30 And...said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his [family]...

35, 39 And when it was day, the magistrates...came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city.

The Message: Paul and Silas are being led by God's Spirit.

Verse to Memorize

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Romans 8:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

Paul and Silas traveled together preaching the gospel. They first preached in Phrygia and the region of Galatia and wanted to go into Asia, but when they prayed asking God what to do, the Holy Spirit showed them not to go to Asia. They were led by the spirit to go to Mysia instead. In Mysia they prayed about going to Bithynia, but God would not permit them to go there either, so they went to Troas. Wherever they went they were led by the Spirit of God.

One night Paul had a vision. A man from Macedonia was calling to him, "Come over and help us." Paul felt sure God wanted them to go to Macedonia, so they went.

God showed Himself great in Macedonia. Some of the first persons they met were saved and baptized. A young lady was delivered from an evil spirit. This caused a riot in the city, and Paul and Silas were thrown into jail. But an earthquake broke the stocks off their feet, shook the jail's doors open and set every prisoner free. Then the jailer and all his family were saved and baptized.

All this was known throughout the city, making it plain that the message of salvation preached by Paul and Silas was from God. The city leaders were so frightened they asked Paul and Silas to leave the city. Just how many people in Macedonia were saved after seeing these works of God we do not know, but we are sure that many people

became believers in Christ.

People today are still being led by God's Spirit. Sis. Faith Stewart saw in a vision the little children of India, holding up their hands begging for help. She went to India and saved many children, mostly girls, from lives of terrible abuse. She built orphan homes for both boys and girls. God blessed many people to be saved because Sis. Faith followed the leadings of God's Spirit.

When my husband and I were praying about where to go in Mexico, God said, "Go to Rosarita." We did not know where the city was, but found it on a map and went there. We soon learned that hundreds of men were arriving in the city each day. They came hoping to find work in a large electric plant being constructed. James witnessed to many men and gave them Bibles. Some were saved. Many did not find work and left the city. If we had not gone at that time many of these men might not have heard about Jesus.

We must follow God as Paul did, if we expect to be happy and successful.

—Charlotte Huskey

Questions:

1. Who had a vision?
2. What did the man in the vision ask Paul to do?
3. Where did Paul first preach in Macedonia?
4. Who were the first people to be saved and baptized?
5. What was causing the girl to say, "These men are the servants of the most high God?"
6. Why were Paul and Silas thrown into prison?
7. What happened to the prison at midnight?
8. When were the jailer and his family baptized?
9. Did the city authorities ask Paul and Silas to leave their city?

warn Japan. I fear nothing." Ahn could tell by the fiery look in his eyes, that he was not afraid. "I have been chosen to do it. You have also been chosen, haven't you?"

Ahn didn't answer.

"Your ability to speak perfect Japanese is what is needed. But you are afraid of being caught and tortured, aren't you?"

"Yes, I am afraid," Ahn admitted.

"Don't be afraid. God will hide us or blind their eyes," he said. "The Bible has many promises like that."

"Is that possible?" Ahn asked. "Pastor Lee and Pastor Joo said to not expect such a miracle."

"Is your kind of faith really faith?" he questioned thoughtfully as he twisted his gray beard with his bony fingers. Then he continued talking.

Ahn was embarrassed. She had fasted, slept without blankets, and eaten the poorest of food, preparing herself for the torture to come. And he was saying she could have been counting it a joy to trust a God who has power to control everything, even the amount of persecution. She wished her faith was like that of Elder Park.

Neither spoke for awhile, then he asked, "Will you obey God and go with me?"

"I'll pray about it," she promised. In her heart, however, she was afraid she could never do it.

Later when Ahn was alone with Mother, she asked. "Didn't God speak to you about warning the Japanese rulers?"

Ahn didn't want to be reminded. She hung her head.

"Why don't you answer me?"

"It's because I am afraid. Anyway, didn't God say for 'women to keep silent?'"

"Only in the church," Mother answered. "Ahn, I believe God has prepared you for this job."

"But, Mother, the Japanese will be sure to kill me."

"Didn't you say you wanted to die for Christ while you are young and pretty?"

"That's easier said than done."

"I know, but God will help you."

Friday night Ahn and Mother took Elder Park to the meeting in Teacher Kim's home. He told them who he was and why God had sent him. Many believed him, but some doubted after he reproved the group for their weak faith.

As weeks passed, the Christians became convinced that Elder Park was a special man of God. They encouraged Ahn to go with him.

All this time Ahn had been hunting excuses not to go. Now she had one. She was sick with pneumonia and could not be out of bed.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Paul. 2. "Come over into Macedonia and help us." 3. Beside a river where people gathered to pray. 4. Lydia and her household. 5. A spirit of divination. 6. Because they cast a spirit of divination out of a girl. 7. An earthquake shook the doors open and all the prisoners got loose. 8. The same night as the earthquake. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 27, 1997

If I Perish, I Perish

(Continued from last week.)

Mother's face was sad as she tried in vain to ease Ahn's pain. "Isn't pneumonia about as much torture as being beaten and kicked by the Japanese?" she asked.

"Maybe," Ahn answered weakly. "But I must know for sure that God is sending me to warn the rulers of Japan."

"He told you to do it. He has given you the opportunity and you can get a passport easily. You love the Japanese people, know their culture and language and will possibly be arrested and tortured even if you don't go. How many more reasons do you need to believe that God has prepared you for this work? Elder Park believes it, and so do our Christian friends." Ahn closed her weary eyes so Mother left her alone.

"Oh, God, Mother is right," she prayed. "I do love Japan. I would have married a Japanese and lived there, if Mother had agreed. I must not let them go to hell because of idol worship. If You will heal me, I will go and warn them."

In a few days, Ahn was well, but

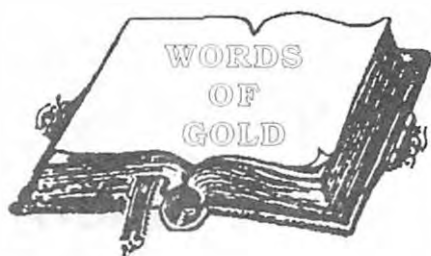
she was still afraid, so she asked God for a sign. "When I go to town, make my face glow like an angel so brightly that people will stop and look at me as if they are astonished. Then I will know You want me to go." She went uptown and stood all day near a busy intersection. But not one person acted astonished at how she looked.

Mother scolded when she heard what Ahn had done. "Jonah did not ask for a sign when God sent him to warn Nineveh. Esther did not ask for a sign before she went to the king. She said, 'If I perish, I perish.'"

"Esther fasted three days before she talked to the king," Ahn said. "I will also fast for three days." Ahn was so weak she had to stay in bed the three days she was fasting.

When Elder Park came to visit, he said, "You are always sick. Doesn't the Bible say to eat a lot and get busy?"

After he left, Ahn laid her Bible on the bed and opened it. The words from Ezekiel 2:1, 3 seemed to be running off the page at her. "Stand upon thy feet,... I send



Esther Sees The King

Esther 3:8, 9,13

8 Haman said unto the king...There is a certain people scattered...in...thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws; therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them [to live].

9 If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver [\$5,280,000]....

13 ...Letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy,...all Jews,...

Esther 4:1, 3-5, 7-17

1 When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai...cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

3 And in every province...there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing;...

4 So Esther's maids...came and told it her....

5 Then called Esther for Hatach,... and gave him a commandment to Mordecai,...

7 And Mordecai told him of all...

8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing...to shew it unto Esther,...and to charge her...to make request...for her people.

9 And Hatach...told Esther the words of Mordecai.

10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

11 ...Whosoever,...shall come unto the king...who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except...the king shall hold out the golden sceptre...I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther. Think not...that thou shalt escape...

14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall...deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

16 Go, gather...all the Jews...and fast ye for me....I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king,...and if I perish, I perish.

17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

The Message: Esther asked the king to save the Jews although she knew it might cost her own life.

(Look for "Questions" on page 3.)

Verse to Memorize

...Fast ye for me,...I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king,...and if I perish, I perish.

Esther 4:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

Esther was a beautiful Jewish girl who had been chosen from among many other beautiful girls to be the wife of King Ahasuerus. Although she was the queen, she did not live in the palace with King Ahasuerus. She lived in another beautiful palace. Only when the king called for her did she go into his palace.

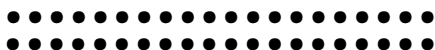
Haman had great influence on King Ahasuerus and did not like Mordecai, because Mordecai would not bow to him. He offered the king \$5,280,000 if he would make a law to have all the Jews killed. The king accepted the offer and sent letters throughout his kingdom that on a certain day anyone who wished could kill as many Jews as he wished.

Mordecai was Esther's uncle who had raised her after her parent's death, but neither the king nor Haman knew this. When Mordecai heard this sad news, he dressed himself in sackcloth (as was the custom) and began praying. He came everyday to the wall that surrounded the palace grounds to check on Esther. When he came dressed in sackcloth, Esther knew something serious had happened. She sent Hatach, her messenger, to Mordecai who informed her of the problem and asked her to try to get the king to change his decree against the

Jews. Esther wanted to help her uncle, but she was afraid for her own life if she went into the king without being called.

Esther told Hatach to tell Mordecai, "All the king's servants and the natives of this province know that every person is killed who comes into the king's court without being asked, that is unless the king holds out his golden scepter when he sees the person. He may or he may not hold out the scepter to me, for he has not called me for thirty days. You and the other Jews fast and pray for three days. I and my maidens will also fast. After we have fasted and prayed I will go to see King Ahasuerus. If I perish, I perish."

Next week we will find out what the king did. —Charlotte Huskey



Questions:

1. Who wanted to have the Jews destroyed?
2. How much money was Haman to pay the king for making a decree that the Jews be destroyed?
3. What did Mordecai do when he heard the Jews were to be destroyed?
4. What did he want Queen Esther to do about the problem?
5. What did Esther fear?
6. Did Mordecai believe the Jews would be delivered even if Esther didn't help?
7. What did Esther ask Mordecai and the Jews to do?
8. Did Esther and her maidens also fast and pray?
9. What did Esther decide to do?

thee...to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against Me:..." "This is my sign and command," Ahn thought.

The following day when Elder Park came she said, "I'm ready to get our passports."

"We don't need passports," he said. "We are ambassadors of God. We don't need a piece of paper from men."

"The Bible says to obey the laws," Ahn answered. "I won't go without a passport."

"If I go to the police department, I'll be put in jail because I won't bow to Shinto," he said.

They were both silent for a long time. Then he spoke, "Let me leave first. I'll go to the deputy general in Seoul, and meet you after three days at the Seoul train station."

"Okay," Ahn agreed. "First, however, I have one more question. May I buy you a suit?"

"Sure," he said. "I'd like a tuxedo." When Elder Park left the following day, he was wearing his tattered Korean clothes and carrying his tuxedo in a box under his arm.

Ahn went boldly to the police department and got her passport without any problems. She thought Jesus must have blinded their eyes to keep them from recognizing her as the lady who had not bowed to the Shinto shrine that day on the Namsan Mountain when the school children and teachers from the whole reigon were watching her.

When she got back with her passport, she packed her most expensive clothes. These were clothes bought by her sister and

mother to be used when she married. Then she filled her large leather purse with money.

That evening, many believers came to say good-bye and ask God to bless Ahn and Elder Park. Pastor Choe asked Ahn to read Ezekiel 2:1-8 and Esther 4:16. Ahn read again, "Son of man, stand upon thy feet,...I send thee...to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.... Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks,...thou shalt speak my words unto them,...hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house:... Then she read, Esther 4:16 "...So will I go in unto the king,...and if I perish, I perish."

"I will not be rebellious," Ahn promised her friends, "I will warn the Japanese and 'If I perish, I perish.'"

"We will be fasting and praying for you," they promised. Then they said solemn, sad "good-byes." Ahn was sure she would never see them again, nor would she see her dear Mother who so bravely encouraged her to obey God.

(To be continued next week.)

Answers: 1. Haman. 2. \$5,280,000. 3. He cried with a loud voice. 4. He wanted her to ask the king to save the Jews. 5. Esther feared she might die. 6. Yes. 7. They were to fast and pray for Esther. 8. Yes. 9. She went to the king although she knew she might perish.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Aug. 3, 1997

An Amazing Trip

(Continued from last week).

When the train stopped in Seoul, Korea, Elder Park was waiting at the station for Ahn. He was still wearing his tattered Korean clothing and his gray beard was long and shabby. "At last we are on our way to warn Japan," he said, as he sat down beside her in the train car.

"And here is your ticket," Ahn replied, handing him a ticket to Tokyo.

He laughed. "I don't need that. We don't need anything from man."

"Don't be funny. Take it," Ahn scolded. "And your passport?"

"I couldn't get one."

"What? Then don't sit by me. I don't want to be arrested with you." She was terribly embarrassed at his appearance, and he spoke so loudly everyone could hear. Why wasn't he wearing the suit she bought him?

"You are expecting the worst," he said grinning. "But I'll sit in the corner, if that's what will please

you." He went to the far end of the car and sat down in a corner.

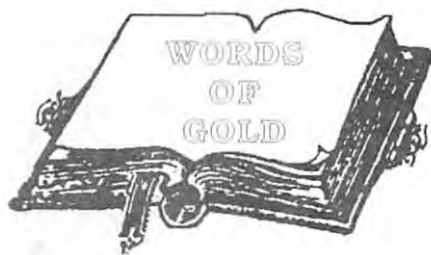
Ahn was glad.

Near Pusan, four policemen got on. Two started checking tickets and passports at one end of the car and two at the other end. Ahn showed hers, then looked back to see if Elder Park was in trouble.

He was smiling broadly. When he saw Ahn looking at him, he got out of his seat and came hobbling up the aisle leaning heavily on his cane, and chuckling all the while. He pushed two of the policeman aside and walked passed the other two. Then he leaned over and whispered loudly, "They became blind and couldn't see me. God is my refuge!"

Ahn put her finger to her lips in a sign to be quiet.

He quit smiling and stared reproachfully at her saying, "How weak your faith is, and you don't want to strengthen it." Then he turned as if disgusted and went back to his seat. Again he pushed the policemen aside so he could get through the aisle. His shabby appearance shouted his presence.



The Golden Scepter

Esther 5:1-14

1 Now it came to pass on the third day [of prayer and fasting], that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court...and the king sat upon his royal throne...

2 ...When the king saw Esther the queen... [he] held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

3 Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? ...it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

4 And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

5 ...So the king and Haman came to the banquet...

6 And the king said unto Esther ...What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee:...even to the half of the kingdom...

7 Then answered Esther,... My petition and my request is;

8 If...it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do tomorrow as the king hath said.

9 Then went Haman forth...with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai...that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

10 ...And when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.

11 And Haman told them...of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

12 Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

14 Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and tomorrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon:...and he caused the gallows to be made.

The Message: Esther used great wisdom in presenting her request to King Ahasuerus.

Questions:

1. How many days did Esther and her maidens fast and pray?
2. Did Esther wear appropriate clothing to visit the king?
3. Did Esther rush into the court of the king's house, or did she stand politely?
4. Was the king willing to give Esther her request?
5. Did Esther tell her request quickly?
6. Who besides the king did Esther invite to a banquet?
7. What did Esther request of the king when he came to the banquet?
8. What made Haman unhappy?
9. What did Haman prepare for Mordecai?

Verse to Memorize

Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I [God] am understanding; I have strength.
Proverbs 8:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

Esther, the beautiful Jewish queen, knew that King Ahasuerus had signed a decree allowing the Jews to be destroyed. She promised her uncle, Mordecai, that she would try to get the king to change this decree. Going to the king, however, was very risky, for the king did not always accept visitors. If a visitor was welcome, he held out his golden scepter. If he did not hold out the golden scepter, the visitor was taken away and killed. Esther, her maidens and the Jews in the city fasted and prayed for three days that God would cause the king to hold out his golden scepter.

On the third day, Esther put on her royal robe and prepared herself, then she went to see the king. She stood politely in the court until the king held out the golden scepter. When she touched the scepter, he asked, "What is your request? I will give it to you even to the half of my kingdom." Esther acted very carefully, she did not rush into asking what she wanted. Instead, she requested that he come to a banquet she had prepared for him and Haman.

At the banquet, the king asked again what her request was. Again Esther did not tell him her heart. She only said, "If I have found favor in your sight and if you are pleased to give me my request, will you and Haman come to another banquet tomorrow evening?"

During that night the king was troubled and could not sleep, so he had his scribes read to him from the books of records. In one book he

found that Mordecai had helped to save his life. It happened like this: After Esther became queen, Mordecai came everyday to the stone wall that surrounded the palace to communicate with Esther. One day he heard the keepers of the gate planning to murder King Ahasuerus. Mordecai reported what he heard. Two men were convicted and killed. This was recorded in a record book.

The king said, "I must do something to honor Mordecai." Early the following morning, Haman came to ask the king's permission to hang Mordecai on a gallows he had made. Before he had time to ask, the king said to him, "What shall I do for a man I want to honor?" Haman thought the king wanted to honor him so he told what he would love to have done. Then the King said, "Go quickly and find Mordecai and do to him as you have just said." So Haman had to dress Mordecai in the king's robe and crown. Then he led him through the city on the king's horse as he shouted, "This is the man whom the king loves to honor."

See how wonderfully God answered the prayers of those who prayed. Now things were in the condition for Esther to ask that the Jews not be killed, for Mordecai was a Jew.

We can learn how to ask a petition by following Esther's example. First, do a lot of praying and ask others to pray with you. Then prepare yourself in a way that will be pleasing to the person of whom you will ask a petition and do something nice for him or her. Last, but not least, be patient and let God have time to work before you ask your request.

Queen Esther sought God first and asked others to pray. She made herself pleasing to the king and did things to gain his approval. Then she waited for God's timing before she asked.

—Charlotte Huskey

Didn't he realize they might notice he hadn't been checked? Why couldn't he stay hidden in the corner?

At Pusan they were to take a ferry across the narrow strip of water that separated Korea and Japan. "Would you please watch my suitcase while I get my money changed into yens?" Ahn asked Elder Park.

He nodded that he would.

When she came back, Elder Park was gone. The suitcase full of her expensive clothes was unattended. Not seeing a porter to carry her suitcase, she began dragging it across the pier. That is when she saw Elder Park half hidden behind some posts. A policeman was helping him put on his new tuxedo. When he saw Ahn, he called, "Look, the policeman is kind. He is helping me get dressed like God's ambassador."

The policeman seemed to not hear what Elder Park said. He continued helping until Elder Park kicked his tattered clothes off the pier into the water. Then he smiled and walked away.

When the ferry whistle signaled the time to board, Elder Park hurried ahead of Ahn, "You'll want to see this," he said.

Policemen were on either side of the gangway checking tickets and passport. Not one of them questioned Elder Park! Ahn was so stunned that she couldn't find her own ticket and passport. Nervously she searched through her purse and handbag, while other passengers boarded the Japanese

vessel ahead of her. Elder Park was waiting impatiently. Finally he called out to her in Korean, "What's taking you so long? The boat is leaving!"

Ahn was furious. *Didn't he know speaking in Korean was announcing that he needed a passport. Why couldn't he wait quietly? Why couldn't he be cautious and respect what God had done to get him on the ferry?* She almost fainted when he came back down the gangway and asked the policeman. "Why are you keeping her here so long?"

"She can't find her passport."

"Here, I'll find it," he said, taking Ahn's purse. In a moment he showed it to the policeman.

While Ahn was getting herself situated, Elder Park disappeared. A police noticed her nervousness and coming to her said, "You must be looking for your father. I will find him for you." Before Ahn could answer, he was gone.

Ahn was really frightened that this policeman would discover that Elder Park had no passport. Elder Park was so confident, he might tell it himself.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Three days. 2. Yes. 3. She stood politely. 4. Yes. 5. No. 6. Haman. 7. That he and Haman come to another banquet if he was willing to give her the petition. 8. Because Mordecai would not honor him. 9. A gallows.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 10, 1997

Open Doors

(Continued from last week.)

"Look, my son, Yong Chang!" Elder Park called out loudly as he pointed to a moon-faced young man staring at them from the station window. "It's another miracle! Tell me, how did he know we were coming? It's like when I met you, Miss Ahn. A miracle!"

Ahn looked at the young man in the station. He looked very intelligent. "Did you say he studies at the Tokyo seminary?"

"Yes, and he will be a great help getting around here in Tokyo," Elder Park exclaimed.

Ahn focused her eyes on Elder Park dressed in his new tuxedo. He also looked wise and dignified, quite different from the stranger she had met in tattered Korean clothes. Even his face was glowing!

The first person they visited in Tokyo was Lieutenant General Yamamuro of the Salvation

Army. He was so feeble that his two secretaries had to support him on either side as he walked.

When all were comfortably seated, Ahn asked, "What do you think about Christians worshipping idols."

"I have never thought much about it," he answered promptly. Ahn expected his mind to move as slow as his body, but she saw that it worked rapidly.

"Then, Sir, you believe that it isn't a sin if a Christian worships the Japanese gods?"

"When I am in my hometown, I worship at a shrine where my friend is buried," he confessed, "and I am a Christian."

Ahn was so shocked that a Christian would disobey one of the Ten Commandments! When she could finally speak again, she asked, "If it is not wrong to worship idols, then do you think Japan is headed in the right direction?"



God Helps Queen Esther

Esther 7:1-9

1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

2 And the king said again unto Esther ...What is thy...request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

3 Then Esther...said,...if it please the king, let my life be given me...and my people...

4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed,...

5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman....

7 And the king arising...in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden...and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house?...

9 And Harbonah,...said...Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai...Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

Esther 8:1-2, 15, 17

1 On that day did the king

Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen....

2 ...And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

15 And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.

17 And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day....

Esther 9:20-22

20 And Mordecai...sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus,...

21 ...that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,

22 ...that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.

The Message: God
turned the evil
planned against
His people into
something good for
them.

Verse to Memorize

...All things work together for good to them that love God,...
Romans 8:28.

Let's



Talk . . .

King Ahasuerus reigned over 127 provinces from India unto Ethiopia. Jews were scattered throughout all these provinces and the wicked Haman had persuaded King Ahasuerus to let these Jews be destroyed. Haman hated the Jews because Mordecai, (being a Jew who bowed only to God) would not bow to him. Haman had a gallows 75 feet high built in his yard and was anxiously waiting for the day the Jews were to be destroyed so he could hang Mordecai on it.

Esther was prayerfully planning a way to save her people, the Jews. First she engaged many people to fast and pray with her. Then she invited the king and Haman to a banquet, but said nothing about the problem. In the lesson today she is having a second banquet for the king and Haman.

King Ahasuerus believed that Esther has a serious need, so he again asked, "What is your request Queen Esther? It shall be granted even to the half of the kingdom."

Esther answered, "If I have found favor in thy sight, let me and my people live, for we are sold to be destroyed."

"Who is he and where is he that would do such a thing?" the king questioned.

"My enemy is this wicked Haman," Esther answered.

The king arose angrily and stocked out into the palace garden. While he was gone Haman fell down before Esther to beg mercy. When the king returned and saw Haman at the "eat-

ing couch" of his beautiful wife he shouted in anger. "Will he also force my wife? Take him away!"

"The gallows he built, on which to hang Mordecai, stand in his garden," shouted Harbonah.

"Hang him on it!" the king roared. So they hung Haman on the gallows he had built for Mordecai.

The king then gave Haman's great house to Esther and she put Mordecai over it. The king also promoted Mordecai to a position just under himself. He dressed Mordecai in a royal robe and put a gold crown on his head and gave him his ring in which to seal legal documents.

The king's scribes then wrote another decree in the many different languages spoken in the King's 127 provinces and sent them by riders on horseback, mules, camels and young dromedaries. The Jews were not destroyed

Two days of each year, in the 127 provinces ruled by King Ahasuerus, the people celebrated this event by feasting, sending portions to each other and giving gifts to the poor. It was called the Feast of Purim.

—Charlotte Huskey



Questions:

1. For what did Esther ask the king?
2. Who had planned evil against the Jews?
3. Who was hanged on the gallows that Haman made for Mordecai?
4. To whom was Haman's house given?
5. Who did Esther set over this house?
6. How did Mordecai dress?
7. Was the city of Shushan happy?
8. What were the Jews to do on the fourteenth and fifteenth day of Adar?
9. Was this holiday like our Christmas?



"That's a hard question to answer," he said. "But I do think that Japan seems to be moving in a rather dangerous direction."

"The newspapers and radio say that Japan is going to conquer all of Asia. In order to do that, thousands of young men will be forced to die and go to hell. Do you agree?"

"Thousands of young men will die," he agreed.

"The government is blinded to what is happening because they do not know Jesus." Ahn continued, "God has sent Elder Park and me to tell the government leaders what is happening to the dying soldiers and to the Christians in Korea. We are to warn the rulers that Japan will soon suffer for their sins."

General Yamamuro looked very sad and said, "When I was able to walk, one of my duties was to go once a month to the palace and bless the emperor," he said very sadly.

Ahn was sure he felt sad because he had not shown the emperor the way of salvation. Now it was too late. She read some verses from the Bible to show him how Japanese Shintoism was very much like Baal worship.

He listened carefully, then begged, "Please pray with me."

When they left, he said, "I will pray that God will use you

to awaken the Japanese and lead them to repentance."

Ahn left his office praising God for touching General Yamamuro's heart. It encouraged Ahn that he listened to her. "I must speak to others!" she told herself.

The former deputy general of Korea, was General Ugaki. He had ruled the Koreans well. Ahn found his number in the phone book and learned he was at his villa. Without an appointment, which is usually necessary to see any government official, Ahn and Elder Park found his villa and went into the office.

Ahn handed the secretary her card which bore the name Ahn Ei Sook. The secretary must have thought she was a member of the Ei royal family, for he treated them with great honor. (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. She asked for her life and that of her people. 2. Haman. 3. Haman. 4. To Esther. 5. Mordecai. 6. In royal apparel with a gold crown on his head. 7. Yes. 8. They were to feast and send portions to each other and give gifts to the poor. 9. In some ways it was like our Christmas.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 17, 1997

A New Friend

(Continued from last week.)

Ahn and Elder Park were waiting when General Ugaki entered the room. They bowed to each other, then he asked Ahn, "You are of the Ei family?" he asked Ahn. His voice caused Ahn to remember his visit to a school in Korea where she was teaching. He had said, "You're the youngest teacher; don't work too hard." Ahn liked him then. She liked him now. It seemed that she was meeting an old friend.

"I am not of the Ei royal family," she answered. "I love Japan and attended school here, but I am a Korean, and one of the Christians obeying God's commandments. God has given my friend, Elder Park and me a special job." Ahn's voice began trembling, so she stopped.

General Ugaki waited awhile, then asked, "May I ask what is your job?"

"God has sent us to warn Japan," Ahn said shyly.

The General spoke comfortably, "It is safe to tell me whatever you wish. At present I have

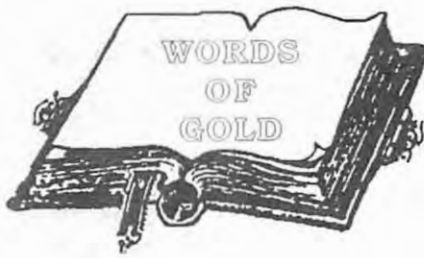
no power, but the government authorities are my friends. I think I can help you because they will listen to me."

"When you were ruling Korea the Christians had freedom to worship Christ. Now everyone must worship Shinto or be abused and hated more than a murderer. Many hide in caves in the mountains to keep from being tortured. Their families live like beggars in the slums of large cities. God has told us that Japan will be destroyed and burned for forcing people to worship idols."

"Most of my friends in the government are grieving for Japan's future," he said. "The situation is most dangerous right now."

Seeing he realized Japan's condition, Ahn said boldly, "It's because they are disobeying the commandments of the Bible." Then she asked his opinion of the Bible.

"I studied in Germany," he answered, "My landlady was a believer and read the Bible at the breakfast table and prayed to God at every meal. Since that time I've had an interest in the Bible."



Felix Trembles Before God

Acts 24:10-16, 22-26

10 Then Paul, after that the governor [Felix] had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself:

11 ...that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem for to worship.

12 And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people,...

13 Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me.

14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I...believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

16 And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

22 And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of that way, he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter.

23 And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let him have liberty, and that he should forbid

none of his acquaintance to minister or come unto him.

24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

26 He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, That he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him.

The Message: Paul uses every opportunity to persuade others to get right with God.

Questions:

1. To whom was Paul speaking?
2. Why did Paul answer cheerfully?
3. How long had Paul been in Jerusalem?
4. Could Paul's accusers prove that he had done wrong?
5. Did Paul try to always have a conscience void of offense?
6. Did Felix have a perfect knowledge of the truth which Paul spoke?
7. Who was with Felix the second time he talked with Paul?
8. What did Felix say when he trembled with conviction?
9. Why did Paul have many opportunities to speak with Felix?

Verse to Memorize

**...I continue unto this day,
witnessing both to small and
great,...**

Acts 26: 22.

Let's



Talk . . .

Paul traveled to many cities of Asia preaching and teaching men to believe in Christ. Many men and their families left the Jewish religion and became Christians. This angered the religious leaders in almost every city and they caused Paul much trouble, however, many, many people became Christians. So the Jewish leaders were anxious to get Paul in jail and stop him from preaching altogether.

Some of the Jews from Asia were in Jerusalem when Paul came to bring alms and offerings into the temple. When they saw Paul, they stirred up the people against him just as they had done in many other cities. They dragged Paul out of the temple and were beating him when soldiers came to his rescue.

In our lesson today, Paul is being judged by Felix, the governor. Felix has been a judge over the Jews for many years and knows much about the Jewish religion. His wife is also a Jew. Paul is being tried for breaking a religious law, therefore he is glad that Felix understands the religious laws of the Jews. After the hearing, Paul was given much liberty and was allowed to receive every visitor.

Days later when Drusilla, Felix's wife came, Paul was called

to talk with them. Paul spoke about the laws of God and how each person is responsible to obey these laws. He said there will be a resurrection of all the dead and each person will be judged. Felix became convinced that Paul was telling the truth and he began to tremble with fear.

"Go away," he said to Paul, "when I have a convenient time, I will call for you."

Paul was taken away but we have no record that Felix got right with God. He called for Paul often hoping that Paul would give him money so he could be released. Felix was not as interested in Paul's message as he was in money. How sad that he did not accept Christ when Christ was calling to him.

Paul preached to the Gentiles; he preached to the Jews. He preached to the poor and to the rich, to the base and to the noble. His summary of it all was this, "...We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. ...Ye see...brethren,...not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things...which are despised, hath God chosen,..." Honorable, educated Paul had chosen these base things to preach to the world.

—Charlotte Huskey

"I brought a Bible to give you," Ahn said, and gave him a Bible.

"I will read it every day," he promised.

When they stepped outside, a strong wind tore at Ahn's hair, but her heart was peaceful. God had helped her touch another soul.

Ahn, Elder Park and Yong Chang went to church on Sunday morning. After the short service, Ahn said to the pastor, "I would like to talk with General Hibiki. Is he here today?"

"Yes, he is," The pastor answered, and motioned for General Hibiki to come. The pastor introduce each one, then led them into a quiet room where they could visit.

General Hibiki was a Christian and the only surviving officer from the Russo-Japanese War. He was highly respected by the people and the top political leaders. The stately officer blinked his eyes and his face reddened in anger when Ahn told the conditions of the Christians in Korea. "I believe God is speaking to me through you," he said, "but I must not listen alone. Let us go talk with Congressman Matsuyama.

When they were all seated in the congressman's home, General Hibiki said, "Now tell him exactly what you told me."

Ahn told again of the awful persecution against the Christians in Korea. When she had finished, Congressman Matsuyama said, "We must have as many repre-

sentatives as possible to hear this before the religious bill is passed."

"Yes," General Hibiki agreed.

The two men began at once to telephone the representatives. Most of them were home preparing for the Seventy-fourth Imperial Diet. It had began meeting in December. Finally the arrangements were made. General Hibiki handed the schedule to Yong Chang and gave him instruction where to meet the different ones. "These men are very, very busy," he said. "It was very hard for them to give time for an appointment, so don't be late by even a minute."

They bowed to each other and parted. On the way to the hotel Ahn noticed each appointment was for only five minutes. The first one was at 5:00 a.m.. "I'll be at the hotel for you at 3:30," Yong Chang said, "so we will have plenty of time to get to our first appointment before 5:00."

All through the night Ahn prayed that God would help her to speak His message without fear to these top government officials of Japan.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To Felix, the governor. 2. Because Paul knew that Felix had been a judge of the nation for many years. 3. Twelve days. 4. No. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. His wife, Drusilla. 8. "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." 9. Because Felix sent for Paul often, hoping that Paul would give him money to be released.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 24, 1997

A Temptation

(Continued from last week.)

Ahn heard Elder Park pacing back and forth in front of her hotel room and coughing politely. When she opened the door, he said, "We must go so we aren't late for these important appointments. Yong Chang promised to be here at 3:30, it's that time now."

"I'm ready," Ahn answered, as she stepped into the hall with purse in hand.

"It is another of God's miracles that we have appointments with many government representatives today," he said as he impatiently checked his watch. "Where is my son? He's late!"

Just before 4:00 a.m. they went down to the lobby hoping Yong Chang was waiting there. "Thirty minutes late! I don't understand," Elder Park said.

They were desperate by 4:10, then 4:15 and 4:20 passed. Yong Chang had not come.

At 4:30 Ahn and Elder Park went back to their rooms. Ahn fell across the bed and began crying, "Why? Lord, why did this happen? We won't get to talk with Japan's

top political officials. Our trip is useless. And how angry they will be and General Hibiki. Lord, take me on to be with You. I can't face this." She got up and looked out the window to the street five stories below and felt like jumping out.

She had been awake all night praying about these appointments that she couldn't keep. Suddenly she felt a terrible pain in her chest.

The next thing she knew, she was awakened by Yong Chang's voice calling to her. It was 9:00 o'clock. "Why didn't you come when you promised?" she scolded.

Just then the phone rang. "Who are you trying to make a fool of?" the angry voice of General Hibiki demanded.

Ahn was crying and could not speak, so he continued raving. After awhile he shouted, "Are you listening? Are you listening to me?"

"Yes. Yes, Sir!"

"Why are you silent?"

"I - I - I cannot speak, your excellency. I will write you a letter and have someone take it to you."

That did not cool his anger. When he finally hung up, Ahn wrote a letter with quick brush strokes. She explained all that had hap-



Paul Witnesses To Agrippa

**Acts 26:1,6, 9-16, 19,
21-25, 28, 31**

1 ...Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself:

6 ...I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers:

9 I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10 ...and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.

11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.

12-13 Whereupon as I went to Damascus...I saw in the way a light from heaven,...

14 ...And...heard a voice...saying...

15 ...I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

16 ...I have appeared unto thee...to make thee a minister...

19 ...O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

21 For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.

22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those

which the prophets and Moses did say...

23 That Christ should suffer, and ...rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

24 And as he thus spake...Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

25 But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak...words of truth and soberness.

28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

31 And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

The Message: Paul rejected his place of honor among the Jews and preached Christ to the small and the great.

Questions:

1. To whom was Paul speaking?
2. Of what was Paul being judged?
3. Had Paul also thought he should do things contrary to Jesus?
4. What changed Paul's thoughts toward Jesus?
5. Why were the Jews trying to kill Paul?
6. Who was helping Paul?
7. What did Festus think of Paul?
8. Who was almost persuaded to be a Christian?
9. Who had done nothing worthy of death or bonds?

Verse to Memorize

**..I count all things but loss for...the knowledge of Christ Jesus...for whom I have suffered the loss of all things.
Philippians 3:8.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus said the most important commandment is, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

Paul surely did love God as Jesus said we should. He had once been an honored man among the most strict sect of the Jewish religion. He turned his back on this honor and became a person despised by the Jews and most of the world. Paul had education. He had power because he was a Roman by birth. He had authority because he had studied Jewish law. But Paul said that he counted all those things as dung (waste) so that he could win Christ. He suffered the loss of all things. He truly loved Christ with his heart, soul and mind.

Before Paul was saved, he entered a town in great pomp and show. He rode a beautiful horse and was accompanied by a group of men who did his commands. After he was saved, he walked from city to city, being greeted only by a despised group of Christians. Paul had chosen to do this because of his love for Christ and the people who needed Christ.

Sometimes when Paul preached, most of the people in a town would become Christians but this did not stop the persecutions. The rulers were often stirred up by a few people who told lies on Paul. Sometimes they would beat Paul and his helper, or put them in jail, or send them out of the city. These persecutions did not keep Paul from preaching, for he loved Jesus with all his being.

In order to please the Jews, the governor, Felix, left Paul in prison although he knew Paul was not guilty of a crime. While in prison, Paul continued to minister to those around him. He witnessed to other prisoners. He witnessed to those who visited him. He witnessed to the rulers, judges, governors and kings who from time to time brought him to a hearing.

Paul is witnessing to King Agrippa in our lesson today. Paul's talk was so convincing that King Agrippa admitted, "You have almost persuaded me to be a Christian." At the same hearing, Festus accused him of being crazy. People's opinions did not keep Paul from witnessing. He loved God so much he wanted everyone to know about Jesus.

Paul had chosen that good part that could not be taken away.

—Charlotte Huskey



Almost Persuaded

"Almost persuaded" now to believe;
"Almost persuaded," Christ to receive;
Seems now some soul to say,
"Go, Spirit, go Thy way,
Some more convenient day
On Thee I'll call."

"Almost persuaded," come, come to day;
"Almost persuaded" turn not away;
Jesus invites you here,
Angels are ling'ring near,
Prayer rise from hearts so dear,
O wand'rer, come.

"Almost persuaded," harvest is past!
"Almost persuaded," doom comes at last!

"Almost" cannot avail;
"Almost" is but to fail!
Sad, sad, that bitter wall,
"Almost," but lost!

—Phillip P. Bliss

pened. After it was on it's way, she prayed that God would help General Hibiki to understand and forgive.

That afternoon, General Hibiki called again. "Pardon me, Pardon me," he said in a soft voice. Then he began to cry. His heavy sobs vibrated the receiver. Ahn was also crying. No one talked for a long time, then he blurted, "Would you come and see me today? Please. I have many things to say to you."

They decided to meet near the east entrance of a popular Tokyo park.

When Ahn arrived, he was waiting inside the park. Somehow he looked like an aged pastor who loved the Lord and was ready to die for that love. Ahn bowed politely and he took her hand and seated her where he had been sitting.

"We both wish to save the Japanese," he said. After a long silence, he began crying. "I hate for men to cry. Crying is for women, but I have cried almost all day." He took his big white handkerchief out and wiped his eyes, then continued. "I have lived eighty-one years, but have never felt the presence of God as I have felt today. God has saved me and been very good to me, but I have done nothing for Him. So I ask a favor of you."

"Yes, General, what is it?"

"I have been praying and seeking a way in which I could serve God by spreading the Gospel. I think you are the person to help me do this. Will you please become my adopted daughter? I'll pay for seminary training and give you plenty of money to work for God."

Ahn was so excited she couldn't speak. He had offered her the dream of her life.

He continued talking. "It isn't necessary that you die. It is more important to live and tell people about Jesus, the only Way of salvation. You may think the Japanese will not hear, but, with your ability to impress others, you can do much for God. You aren't too old to enter the seminary."

He stopped. Ahn knew he was waiting for her to speak. "You think I am living, but I'm already dead. I had to die when I submitted to God to come and warn Japan that they will be destroyed. Ahn Ei Shook is a corpse. What can a corpse do?"

It was hard to refuse such an offer but Ahn knew she must obey God. Ahn felt Jesus' presence so sweetly she wanted to stay in the park, but the evening was getting cold, and she knew the aged general was very tired and needed to be inside a warm house. She stood up and walked with him to his car.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To King Agrippa. 2. Paul was being judged for the hope he had in Christ, which was a promise made of God to the Jews. 3. Yes. 4. A vision from heaven. 5. Because he obeyed the heavenly vision that told him to preach Christ to the Gentiles. 6. God. 7. He thought Paul was mad (crazy). 8. King Agrippa. 9. Paul.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Aug. 31, 1997

A Challenge

(Continued from last week.)

"We must do it," insisted Elder Park. "We missed our chance to present it to the legislators.

"We'll be arrested," Ahn protested.

"Sure, we'll be arrested. There will be a hearing. That is when we can appeal to the law and reveal what is being done to the Koreans."

"We'll be misunderstood," Ahn complained. "Then we will never be able to help the Christians."

"Is dropping a bill from the balcony and shouting out the truth at the Imperial Diet a criminal act?"

"Only representatives speak and that in their turn. No one will believe we have a message from God if we disrespect court law."

"You are just afraid," Elder Park accused. "Didn't you say you were dead. Can prison hurt the dead?"

Ahn admitted she was afraid, but she also thought there were better ways of warning Japan of God's judgments against their idolatrous actions. In a few days, however, the representatives would vote on the bill of religious organization and many did not know the abuse laid on Korean Christians who re-

fused to worship Japan's god, Shinto.

That night Ahn hardly slept. She was talking to God, asking Him to remove her fear, and to give them wisdom to do what was right.

The following morning, Elder Park did not come down to breakfast. That was unusual so Ahn went to his room. He was copying characters from a small paper onto a large one.

When it was finished this is what it said:

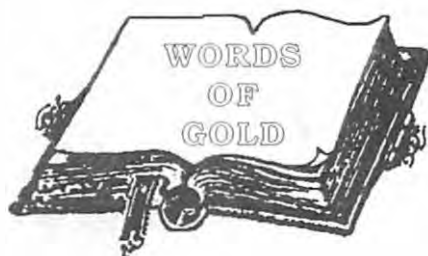
1. The Japanese government should repent and withdraw its tyranny from Korea.

2. Examine which is the true religion — Shintoism or Christianity.

3. Burn a stack of wood and throw a Shinto follower and myself into the fire. The one who is not burned shall prove the true religion.

After Ahn left the room, Elder Park rolled up the poster and put it up his pant leg.

With a letter of introduction from Congressman Matsuyama's secretary they entered the Imperial Diet. Ahn entered through the place provided for women. A female guard



Paul Warns the People

Acts 27:9-24, 37, 44

9 Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous,...Paul admonished [warned] them,

10 And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

12 And because the haven was not commodious to winter in, the more part advised to depart...if by any means they might attain to Phenice, and there to winter; which is an haven of Crete,...

13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete.

14 But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon.

15 And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her drive.

18 And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship;

19 And the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship.

20 And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.

21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete....

22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve.

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

37 And we were...in the ship [276] souls.

44 ...And...it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

The Message: Paul is bold to tell what God showed him.

Questions:

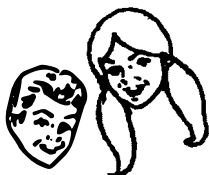
1. What did Paul believe would happen?
2. Did he warn the centurion who was in charge of him?
3. Who did the centurion believe instead of believing Paul?
4. What did they do on the third day of the storm?
5. Was all hope of being saved taken away?
6. Why was Paul not afraid?
7. Did Paul say that everyone in the ship would be saved?
8. How many people were in the ship?
9. Were they all saved?

Verse to Memorize

...I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

Acts 20:27.

Let's



Talk . . .

Often God uses men or women to warn others of dangers ahead. The apostle Paul was one of the prisoners being taken to Rome to be judged before Augustus Caesar. Paul had committed no crime as the other prisoners. He was a prisoner because the Jews wanted him killed. They had tried several times to kill him, but God had protected him from each of their schemes. Paul had asked to be judged by Caesar because he knew he would not get a fair trial among the Jews in Jerusalem.

They had gone only a short way on their journey when God revealed to Paul that danger was ahead. Paul said to the centurion which had charge of him, "We had better stay here for there is danger for the ship and the passengers ahead." But the ship master and the ship owner both wanted to go on and the centurion must have thought they knew more about navigation than Paul, so he followed their advice.

Not long after they set sail, a tempestuous wind beat against the ship and they could not get the ship to go the direction they wanted. For many days and nights the wind blew and drove

the ship around on the sea. The passengers threw the cargo and the ship tackling into the sea so the ship would stay afloat. This terrible storm lasted for fourteen days. The sailors and passengers were so afraid they did not eat for many days.

One night, while the ship was being tossed around by the waves and wind, an angel appeared to Paul. The following day the waves were beating just as violently as before, but Paul stood up and cried with a loud voice, "Do not be afraid, for God showed me that everyone in the ship will be saved. Now let us eat so we will have strength." He then blessed the food and they all ate. Then they felt much better.

About midnight on the fourteenth day they neared an island and dropped the anchor. The following morning they saw that a creek flowed into the sea, so they pulled up the anchor and tried to get closer to land at that point, but the front of the ship got stuck in sand. Now the front would not move, so the violent waves broke off the back of the ship. The sailors, crew and prisoners all jumped into the water and swam or floated on broken pieces of the ship until they came to the shore.

Paul had warned of this danger and he had also said that all 276 passengers and crew would be saved and they were.

—Charlotte Huskey

took everything Ahn was carrying, even her pencil and handkerchief. Then she ran her hands over Ahn's clothing, looked through her hair, and in her ears and mouth. She stepped back and looked at Ahn, then she felt over her clothing again.

Elder Park and Yong Chang had less trouble and were already on the third floor when Ahn got there. They sat together on the front row. Guards were everywhere. When all the balcony seats were filled, a guard instructed the listeners that they were to remain seated and to not look around, whisper, laugh, cough or raise a hand.

Ahn sat very still, listening to Representative Ando make a speech in favor of Christianity. She noticed Elder Park trying to get something out of his pant leg and motioned for him to be still.

Suddenly it occurred to her that he had managed to get the bill in and planned to drop it from the balcony. Watching the guard carefully Ahn whispered, "Let's go!" Immediately she left the balcony. Elder Park and Yong Chang followed.

Outside Elder Park scolded Ahn severely.

"We could get Congressman Matsuyama into trouble because his letter got us in," Ahn said. "We have to respect others."

"An excuse," Elder Park scolded. "You are just afraid."

The next morning they went to breakfast early. Ahn had not slept that night either. She was still unsure about breaking the court law.

"Are you really sure that God has chosen this way to warn Japan?" she asked.

"What? If you aren't willing to

die for the Lord, just refuse," he said angrily and left the table. Yong Chang followed him.

"Wait," Ahn cried. "I'll go, only let me change into warmer clothes and get my Bible." Ahn wanted to have on warm clothes because she was sure they would be arrested and put into a cold cement jail.

This time they got a letter from the secretary of the Korean representative. Elder Park sat on the front row. Ahn sat in a row behind them.

The moment the declaration was finished, Elder Park took out his bill and threw it down into the assembly hall. "Jehovah's great commission!" he shouted.

A great roar went up and Elder Park was seized by a guard, while the bill of warning was floating slowly toward the floor. Representatives watched and waited to catch it with upraised hands. Yong Chang follow his father and the guard.

Ahn closed her eyes and prayed, "It is finished, Lord, I trust it was Your will."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Paul believed that the ship and the passengers would be in danger if the ship sailed. 2. Yes. 3. He believed the master and the owner of the ship. 4. They cast out the ship tackling. 5. Yes. 6. Because an angel from God had visited him and told him that only the ship would be lost. 7. Yes. 8. 276. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 7, 1997

In Jail

(Continued from last week).

When Ahn stopped to get her purse and Bible as she left the Imperial Diet, a guard asked, "Are you with the old man we just arrested?"

"Yes," Ahn answered.

Elder Park, Yong Chang and Ahn were arrested and taken to the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Headquarters. Later they were taken to prison.

The prison watchtower was high and located so that the guard on duty could see into each prisoner's cell at all times. The sharp, cruel eyes of the guard watched every move Ahn made. He watched when she sat down. He watched her get up and walk around. He watched her shivering with cold, but he brought no blankets. He watch her crying, but only sneered.

Ahn prayed Psalms 23 in this way, "I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, but Thou Lord art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou

preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies."

After many days Ahn was taken to an interrogation room where a nervous detective shouted, "You lawless Koreans, you disturbed the Diet of holy, Imperial Japan, and hindered the assembly of our great national leaders! Why did you come to Tokyo?"

Before Ahn had time to answer, he said, "Speak up. Tell me, why did you come to Tokyo?"

Waves of joy and gratitude rolled over Ahn. She had missed the opportunity to speak to the government officials because Yong Chang had overslept. Now this was a new opportunity. She said, "Japan is rebelling against God, the Creator of the universe, and God is going to punish Japan. I have been sent here to tell the rulers that Japan is going to be ruined by sulfur fire."

"Such a crazy thought," he said looking sharply at Ahn. "Do you believe what you are saying?"



Suffering For Christ

Acts 4:1, 3-5, 7-10, 12, 15-19, 21

1 And as they [Peter and John] spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple,...came upon them,

3 And...put them in hold unto the next day:...

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

5 And it came to pass on the morrow,...

7 ...When they had set them in the midst, they [the council] asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent [paralyzed] man, by what means he is made whole;

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus...doth this man stand here before you whole.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name...whereby we must be saved.

15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

The Message: Peter and John continued teaching in the name of Jesus although they knew it might cause them much suffering.

Questions:

1. Who was arrested and held over night?
2. For what were the apostles being questioned?
3. In whose name was the man healed?
4. By whose name are men saved?
5. Did the council believe the healing was a notable miracle?
6. What was the council's command to Peter and John?
7. Why did the council want to stop Peter and John from speaking about Jesus?
8. What did Peter and John decide to do?
9. Why did the council not punish Peter and John?

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Acts 5:29.

Let's



Talk . . .

Peter and John were going into the temple through the gate called Beautiful, when a crippled beggar asked them for money. Peter wanted to help the man, but he had no money so he said, "I have no silver nor gold, but what I have I give to thee. In the name of Jesus rise up and walk." Immediately the man's feet and ankles received strength from God and he leaped up and began praising God. Curious people, who were going into the temple to attend the prayer service, looked around when they heard his shouts. The beggar, who had been crippled, was jumping around like an excited child.

In Solomon's porch the healed man caught Peter and John and held them tight. Now the people knew who was responsible for this miracle. Hundreds gathered around and Peter preached to them. His sermon and the miracle they had just seen cleared up any doubts the men had concerning Jesus. About 5,000 men accepted Jesus as their Savior and praised His name.

Jealousy erupted in the hearts of the high priests and other religious Jewish leaders when they saw the multitudes praising the name of Jesus. "What shall we do to stop this thing?" they asked. "Soon the whole world will be following Jesus, and our temples

and treasures will be empty. Then what will we do?" Someone suggested they should lock Peter and John in jail, so they could not teach the people. This they did.

The following morning they brought Peter and John before the council and asked, "Where did you get power to heal that beggar who had never in his life walked?"

"Jesus made the crippled beggar well," they answered. "For only through Jesus, whom you crucified, is there salvation for soul or body."

When the leaders saw the boldness of Peter they were sure that he had special power from Jesus. They were also more angry, partly because Peter made them responsible for killing Jesus, and because they believed that only by keeping the commandments that Moses gave could a person be saved. They would not accept Jesus as being the Son of God, but thousands of others were accepting Jesus and leaving their religion. The only way to stop this was to stop those who were teaching about Jesus.

"You cannot teach or even speak again in the name of Jesus," they told Peter and John.

"If you are a servant of God answer this question," Peter said boldly, "Is it best to obey God or to obey men?"

No one answered the question, but Peter and John were released because it was not a criminal offense to heal a crippled beggar and the council could find nothing else for which to keep them in custody. —Charlotte Huskey

"God said it. I believe it," she answered.

"Who was so foolish as to give you a letter to enter the building?" he asked. "And to whom have you talked?"

Ahn named the generals with whom she had visited. "But they only listened to me," she said, hoping not to get them into trouble.

"Is this true?" the detective demanded.

"Why should I lie?"

"It was a crazy thing you did."

He turned to the detective who was taking notes. "She seems to be an important character," he whispered.

"Sulfur fire!" the other detective mocked. "She's crazy!"

While Ahn was in Tokyo, her sister brought her daughter there to find a suitable college for the girl to attend. She read in the newspaper what Elder Park had done, so she stayed longer than planned, hoping to find out what would be done to Ahn and him.

It was a month before Sister got permission to visit with Ahn. What a surprise for Ahn! Sister brought tasty food, new clothes and gave Ahn a large sum of money. "Be faithful," she encouraged. "Jesus is smiling on you."

When Ahn returned to her cold cell, her heart was warm

with happiness and thankfulness to God. She worshiped Him.

A short time later, they were sent back to Korea. Three guards accompanied them on the train, five on the ferry and three after they got into Korea. Everything they said was written down.

The officer in Bhak Chon where Ahn grew up seemed angry and ashamed that a citizen from a respectable family in his city would do what she had done. He asked a few questions, then snapped, "You have a good education and could have done something far better than to upset the police force of both Imperial Japan and Korea. Go home and let your father straighten you out."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answer: 1. The apostles, Peter and John. 2. They were being questioned about the healing of a crippled man. 3. In the name of Jesus. 4. By Jesus' name. 5. Yes. 6. The council commanded the apostles not to teach or speak in the name of Jesus. 7. They did not want the knowledge of Jesus to spread any further. 8. They decided to obey God rather than obey man. 9. The council found nothing for which they could punish the apostles.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Sept. 14, 1997

Home At Last!

(Continued from last week.)

"Ahn! Ahn!" Mother called as she came running barefoot to meet Ahn at the gate.

"I'm home," Ahn cried as she wrapped her arms around her dear mother. "I never expected to see you again in this world."

"Oh! Oh! — Oh! Oh!" was all that mother could say. She felt all over Ahn, then stepped back and looked at her as if trying to be certain that the girl in front of her was really Ahn.

After she was convinced it was Ahn, she asked, "And who are the young men with you?"

"These are my guards."

"Won't you please come in," Mother invited.

"No, thank you, thank you," the detective stammered. "This has never happened before, most people hate us."

"I hate no one," Mother answered.

"Be sure and notify us if you travel or move," the policeman told Ahn. Then they left.

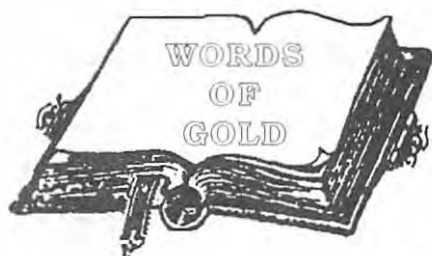
They walked into the house. Mother asked a flood of questions. "When did you come from Japan?

And how? Was Elder Park also released? Were you sick? Were you abused in prison?" Then she added, "I'm proud you were so strong."

"I'm not strong, but Elder Park and my experiences have taught me to believe in miracles. We arrived in Korea a week ago. Elder Park and his son were taken to their hometown. I was taken to Bhak Chon. There I stayed in Father's home for a week. It was too painful to see Father and his family still clinging to the idols, so I left. I had to come here and be with you and those who have stood by me in prayer and fasting. I know the success and the freedom we have is because of those prayers. Truly God is great!"

After dark many believers began gathering as they did each night to pray for Ahn's safety. "Ahn's here!" Mother whispered as each arrived. The gathering turned into a praise service. Then the believers sat on the floor and listened carefully as Ahn told all that had happened. She even told how the guards treated her more like a princess than a prisoner.

Every night believers came to Mother's home to listen to Ahn and pray for other persecuted Chris-



Delivered From Prison

Acts 5:12, 15-23, 25-26, 40-42

12 And by the hands of the apostles [Peter and John] were many signs and wonders [miracles] wrought among the people:...

15 Inasmuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches,...

16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, ...were filled with indignation [anger],

18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

19 But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.

21 And...they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest...called the council...and all the senate...and sent to the prison to have them brought.

22 But when the officers...found them not in the prison, they returned,...

23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, ...we found no man within.

25 Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

26 Then went the captain with the

officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people,...

40 And...when they had...beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

The Message: Peter and John obeyed God by teaching and preaching daily in the temple although they had been commanded not to speak of Jesus.

Questions:

1. What was done by the apostles?
2. How did the people react to the miracles?
3. How did the high priest react?
4. Who released Peter and John from prison?
5. What did the angel tell Peter and John to do?
6. Where did the officers find Peter and John?
7. Why did the officers take the apostles without violence?
8. Why did Peter and John rejoice?
9. What did the apostles do each day?

Verse to Memorize

...The word of God grew and multiplied.

Acts 12:24.

Let's



Talk . . .

This lesson follows the lesson from last week, so let us talk a little about that lesson. When God used Peter and John to heal a beggar who had never walked, 5,000 men became followers of Jesus. This angered the religious leaders and they put Peter and John in jail, hoping in this way, to frighten them into not preaching Christ. Peter and John were released and went again into the temple speaking about Jesus and convincing the people that He was the Savior in whom they must trust.

In the lesson today, God is continuing to work miracles by the hands of the apostles. People were healed if only the shadow of Peter fell across them. Multitudes from other cities brought their sick and those vexed with unclean spirits into Jerusalem and God healed every one through the name of Jesus. This caused many, many more people to become followers of Christ, and of course made the temple leaders more angry.

Peter and John were again arrested and thrown into prison. That night an angel opened the prison door and told them to go back to the temple and continue teaching and preaching. The

following day, when the rulers sent to bring Peter and John before the council, they could not find them in prison. Shortly afterwards a messenger came who said that Peter and John were in the temple preaching. By now the people were ready to stone anyone who hurt Peter and John, so the officers took the apostles out of the temple in a very nice way.

They were again brought before the council. "Didn't we commanded you not to speak again about Jesus?" the high priest asked. "But you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine."

Peter and the other apostles who were with him boldly answered, "We must obey God rather than man. God raised Jesus from the dead and has exalted Him to be the Savior of the world. We are witnesses for Jesus."

Then the council made plans to kill the apostles, but Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, said, "If this is not of God it will not keep growing. If it is of God we cannot stop it, even if we kill all the apostles. I think we should let these men go free." So Peter and John were beaten and released.

The apostles left the temple feeling happy that they were worthy to suffer for Jesus. Neither did they stop preaching, but every day they went to the temple to teach and preach. God continued to work miracles by healing the sick and delivering those who were vexed by unclean spirits.

—Charlotte Huskey

tians. Ahn told the same story over and over.

Elder Park had taught Ahn to not mar the happiness of today, fearing what might happen in the future. How she enjoyed her days at home, memorizing Bible verses, singing praises to God or worshipping together with the believers and Mother.

Each time the detective came, it reminded Ahn that she might be arrested any day. Each time she was afraid, she promised God again that she would suffer or die for Him. She feared not only for herself but for the believers who had exposed themselves to the authorities by visiting with her. For this reason Mother and Ahn moved without telling the authorities. Ahn preferred to risk getting caught and suffering herself than that the body of believers be found.

It was a few weeks before the detectives found them. A few days later, around 3:00 a.m. Ahn was arrested by Detective Yoo. Mother was away in the mountains praying, so Ahn wrote her a note telling what was happening. Then she hurriedly put on as many layers of underclothes as possible, for she remembered how cold the prison in Tokyo had been. As she left her home Ahn thought of Psalms 91:15, "...Call upon me, and I will answer...I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him." When she arrived at the Pyongyang Police Station, it was filled with believers and more were being herded in like so many cattle being herded into a slaughter house.

Officers here and there were interrogating innocent believers. Christian leaders were being inves-

tigated by a superintendent from the capital. Detective Yoo led Ahn in to the executive officer.

"Is this Ahn Ei Shook?" he asked.

"Yes," the detective answered.

"I expected a headstrong, heroic woman. She's a quite pretty young lady. Sit down, please."

Ahn sat down. "Are you really Ahn Ei Shook?" he asked again.

"Yes, I am," Ahn answered.

"Your voice is like a silver bell," he said. He sat still for a long while then said to the detective. "Take her to Sun Kyori, and you need not do anything harsh."

"Thank You Jesus, thank You," Ahn prayed silently.

As Ahn followed the detective to Sun Kyori he asked, "Why do you live such a strict life which causes you so much hardship?"

"I suffer gladly for my belief in Christ. I would rather fight against a nation and its laws, than to dishonor my Lord," Ahn answered. Then Ahn asked if he would go and tell her mother where she was being held.

"I certainly will," he said.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Many signs and wonders or miracles. 2. They brought their sick and those vexed with unclean spirits and everyone was healed. 3. The high priest were filled with anger or indignation. 4. An angel. 5. To go, stand and speak in the temple, all the words of this life. 6. In the temple teaching. 7. They were afraid of the people. 8. Because they were counted worthy to suffer for Jesus. 9. They taught and preached in the name of Jesus.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 21, 1997

Miracles in Prison

(Continued from last week.)

"How do you find life worth living?" the Japanese prison superintendent asked Ahn.

"Believing that Christ makes all misfortunes work for my good, makes life not only worth living but adventurous," Ahn answered in such a positive way that it surprised not only the superintendent but also the other officers.

"She is calm because she doesn't know what is happening in the real world," one said.

"I know why she is so different," the superintendent answered. "She's been in the best schools so long it has spoiled her. I know because I read her diary. And be careful what you do or say around her, she'll record it."

Ahn praised God silently that he had read her diary, for in it were recorded many lessons of faith and Christ's love, also her confessions and repentance. Some were in poetry, some were not."

At the close of the interview, he told the officer to supply Ahn with a desk, pen and paper so she could continue to write in her diary.

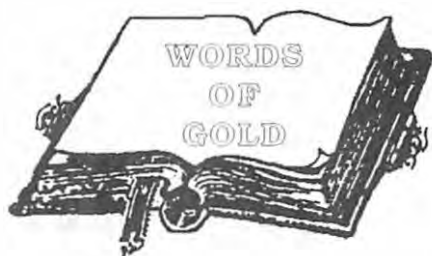
This was the second miracle since she had been arrested. The first had been that Ahn was put in a private cell in a new building without being treated harshly. Most Christians were shamefully abused and put in crowded, dirty cells.

There was one jailer who was very mean to other prisoners, but not to Ahn. When he was on duty a hush fell over every prisoner. His every order was obeyed immediately. One day Ahn saw him being very cruel to a prisoner. Not long after that the detective from the secret service division called Ahn and asked her to write a report about the prison.

Ahn wrote about general conditions in the prison. Then she described in detail how the mean jailer had abused the prisoner. Last of all she wrote about the abuse forced upon the Christians. "I could not die in peace unless I let the world know how terrible the innocent Christians are treated," she wrote.

The report was twenty pages long. It was copied and sent to all the police departments in Korea.

A few days later the mean jailer lost his job. From that time the jailers were more careful how they treated the prisoners.



A Miracle in Jail

Acts 12:1-8, 10-12, 16-19

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also....

4 And...he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers [16] to keep him;...

5 ...Prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him,...saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said...Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate...which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out,...and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me...

12 And...he came to the house of Mary the mother of John,...Mark; where many were...praying.

16 ...And when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he,...declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

18 Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter.

19 And when Herod...found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death....

The Message: God's angel opened the prison doors for Peter and brought him out into the city.

Questions:

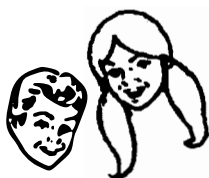
1. Whom did King Herod have killed?
2. Why was Peter put into prison?
3. How many soldiers were guarding Peter?
4. Who was praying for Peter?
5. Who brought Peter out of jail?
6. How many sections of the prison did Peter pass through?
7. Who opened the iron gate?
8. To whose house did Peter go?
9. Did Peter want the brethren to know he was out?

Verse to Memorize

And he [Jesus] said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

Luke 18:27.

Let's



Talk . . .

All things are possible with God. Men may try to hurt or destroy God's people but God can overrule men's plans. Herod thought he had Peter safely in his control. There was an iron gate that separated the prison grounds from the city. The prison was built in sections. To get out of the section where Peter was kept, he had to pass through two other sections. Besides this, Peter was bound with two chains and sixteen soldiers were appointed to guard him. Two were at his side when he escaped, and others at the doors. God did the impossible by sending an angel which awoke Peter and led him out of the prison onto a city street and then vanished.

The following morning when Peter could not be found, Herod had the guards examined and they were killed for letting Peter escape. This was very unjust, for it was no fault of the guards that God's angel took Peter out of the prison. God saw all this injustice of King Herod. God also heard the cries of the Christians who were suffering from the cruel hand of Herod. Not many days after this, the death angel of the Lord smote Herod. He was eaten of worms and died.

Do you have a problem? Does the solution of the problem seem impossible? Jesus said, "The

things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Let us look to God to work out all those things which seem impossible. Trust in Him and He will do the impossible.

—Charlotte Huskey

Failure

By Edgar A. Guest

I will not fail today.

I will not cry my burden is unfair,
Cast it aside and leave it lying there.

I will not say

Soft words of pity to myself, and whine
That others have an easier task than mine.

I will not fail today.

I will not mar this record white and new
By failing to do all that I can do.

Let come what may,
I'll do my best with what my hands

shall find,
And passing, leave no vain regrets behind

I will not fail today.

I may not play the shirk or play the cheat;

I will not stain my duty with deceit.

Though rough the way
And heavy seems the burden I must bear.

I'll not begrudge to life these hours of care.

I will not fail today.

I may not come to dusk by glory crowned,

But I shall fight my battle, round by round,

And hope shall stay,
And night shall find me, as the day began,

Though not a victor, still not less a man.

After a few weeks Ahn was sent to a very quiet police station in Soon Chon. There were only four cells and three prisoners when Ahn arrived. The Japanese officer who questioned her was very harsh. Ahn feared he might be like the mean jailer at the other prison. But God worked another miracle. While he was interrogating Ahn the chief called for him.

A few minutes later Ahn was taken into the chief's office. "The district administrator just called and told us to have you write a report on prison life," he told her.

"Hurry, now," he ordered the janitor, "go to her cell and clean it well."

When the jailer locked Ahn in her cell he wanted to know why she was being held.

"Because I'm a Christian and refused to worship the Shinto shrine," she answered.

"You fool!" he exclaimed.

The following day the department head called Ahn in to question her. He, too, wanted to know why she was a Christian.

Ahn said, "I am a Christian because the facts I saw in my childhood proved to me that Christ's way is best. My mother was a Christian and she was loving and content although she lived in very unpleasant situations. My father and his family worshiped idols and they were miserable, unhappy people."

The officer ordered tea for them and they visited and laughed together like friends. Ahn told him about Elder Park and her many embarrassing situations with him in Tokyo. Before she finished talking, he offered her his lunch, which she thankfully ate.

After that the ugly old chief who walked with a limp called her into his office. He chatted about this and that for awhile and then asked to take her to a movie which was showing in town.

Ahn was insulted. She looked straight at him and said nothing.

After awhile he asked, "What are you thinking?"

"I'm just thinking of what I will write in my report," she answered. "I was commanded to remember everything and write it down."

"Oh, just forget it," he said, and hurriedly sent Ahn back to her cell.

After a few days the chief told the jailer to only lock her cell at night. During the day she could go in and out when she pleased. Daily Ahn went up on the hill back of the jail and enjoyed God's creation. There she sang, prayed and memorized Bible verses. There she praised God for the privileges she had to testify to many officers and to write reports that many Japanese authorities all over Korea were reading. She also praised God for the many miracles He was working for her. God was doing just like Elder Parks said He would.

(To be continued next week.)

{Answers: 1. James, the brother of John. 2. Because Herod wanted to please the Jews. 3. 16. 4. The Church of God. 5. An angel. 6. Two. 7. It opened of its own accord. 8. To the mother of John Mark. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 28, 1997

Good and Bad News

(Continued from last week.)

Ahn was happy that Mother came to visit her at the Soon Chon jail, but she brought sad news. After she left Ahn prayed much and committed herself to do whatever she could.

When she went out on the hill behind the prison to pray, she thought of the terrible conditions of the Christian prisoners in Pyongyang. Could she help them if she went back to Pyongyang? The report she wrote about that prison had caused things to be better for awhile. At that time she had vowed to let the world know what the Korean Christians were suffering. Lord, I am willing to do anything," she said.

That night she wrote a letter to Superintendent Kuga.

Dear Police Superintendent Kuga:

Thank you for having me moved to Soon Chon. However, isn't it illegal to have me detained without any examination? Everyone should be given a trial to determine whether he is innocent or guilty. I have done the same things as the Christians being detained at Pyongyang. Shouldn't I also be tried? If you keep me here, perhaps it might cause some kind of danger."

Three days later Kuga and the head jailer came to talk with Ahn. "What kind of danger is there in keeping you here?" Kuga asked.

Ahn did not answer. She was in no danger. She wrote it only to get his attention.

The head jailer became very nervous and said, "I suppose it is something she cannot tell you, since she is so young and pretty. You know there are many single men in this station."

"Even the chief here is quite a character, isn't he?" the police inspector added.

Again Ahn did not answer.

"That is dangerous," Kuga agreed. "I should have known that. But, Pyongyang is the only other place for you and it is so dirty. You might suffocate there."

"So. We Christians are supposed to be criminals. Shouldn't criminals live in dirty, awful places?"

"I'll think about sending you back," he said.

It seemed strange even to Ahn that she wanted to go back to that dirty jail. It was because she was willing to do anything to be with the Christians whom Mother said were suffering so. She wanted to encourage them to be true. She wanted to



Jeremiah In Prison

Jeremiah 38:4-13, 16

4 Therefore the princes said unto the king, We beseech thee, let this man [Jeremiah] be put to death: ...for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt.

5 Then Zedekiah the king said, Behold, he is in your hand:...

6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon...that was in the court of the prison: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was...mire: so Jeremiah sunk in the mire.

7 Now when Ebed-melech the Ethiopian,...heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon;...

8 Ebed-melech went...and spake to the king, saying,

9 My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon; and he is like to die for hunger in the place where he is: for there is no more bread in the city.

10 Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon, before he die.

11 So Ebed-melech took the men with him, and...took thence...old rotten rags, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah.

12 And Ebed-melech...said unto Jeremiah, Put now these...rotten rags under thine armholes under the cords. And Jeremiah did so.

13 So they drew up Jeremiah with cords, and took him up out of the dungeon: and Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

16 So Zedekiah the king sware secretly unto Jeremiah, saying, As the Lord liveth, that made us this soul, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life.

God's Promise To Jeremiah Jeremiah 15:21

21 ...I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.

The Message: God is always watching His children to deliver them from the wicked.

Questions:

1. Who wanted Jeremiah put to death?
2. Why did the princes want Jeremiah killed?
3. What did the princes do to Jeremiah?
4. Who said Jeremiah might die of hunger?
5. Who got permission to take Jeremiah out of the dungeon?
6. How did Ebed-melech get Jeremiah out of the dungeon?
7. After getting out of the dungeon, where did Jeremiah stay?
8. What did King Zedekiah promise Jeremiah?
9. What did God promise Jeremiah?

Verse to Memorize

**...They shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the Lord.
Jeremiah 15:20.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Jeremiah was a very unusual prophet. Israel had many prophets, but only two were sons of priests. Jeremiah was one of these. His father, Hilkiah was of the family of Aaron whom God had chosen to be the priests. The work of a priest was very different from that of a prophet. The prophet was a free man who traveled, the priest served only in certain places. The prophets spoke and did things that were very strange to the priests and to the common people. A priest did the same ceremonies over and over, day after day, and year after year, and the people were accustomed to their duties. The priests did not change from the ritual of the law. Jeremiah was trained to be a priest, to stick by traditional rules. But he became a prophet, which shocked all of Israel, by prophesying God's destruction on the nation which God had chosen to magnify His power and name. Jeremiah was called, "The weeping prophet" because he felt so sad that his beloved country would be destroyed.

Although Jeremiah was sometimes abused for what he said, he did not cry because he felt sorry for himself. He was a strong man and used mightily of God for more than forty years. He was called to be a prophet when about fourteen years old and continued proph-

esying until his country was captured by the Chaldeans. The few Jews who were left in Jerusalem revolted against Gedaliah, the ruler which Nebuchadnezzar set up over them. When they escaped into Egypt, they took Jeremiah with them. He continued prophesying in Egypt until his death.

Before they were captured, Jeremiah told the king that it would be better for them to surrender than to fight against Nebuchadnezzar's army, for God had already said that they would be conquered by that army. For this the princes were angry at Jeremiah and put him in the dungeon.

God had already promised Jeremiah that He would deliver him from the wicked. God used Ebed-melech to deliver Jeremiah. Ebed-melech was black, but he cared so much for Jeremiah that he got the king's permission to take Jeremiah out of the dungeon. Jeremiah then stayed in the prison court and continued prophesying God's Word to the people.

How old are you dear reader? Nine, ten, or twelve? If you are twelve; in just two more years you will be as old as Jeremiah was when he was called of God. You should be asking God, "What do You want me to do?"

God has a job for every person. It may not be full-time work for Him, however, it may be. Whatever job He has for you to do, you will be happy doing it. If it is unusual like that of Jeremiah's, you will find it exciting and adventurous. God bless you to find your place.

—Charlotte Huskey

pray with them, to recite scriptures to those who had not memorized the Word. She wanted to rub their sore backs, to hold their heads when they were sick. She couldn't do any of these things here in Soon Chon. She began praying morning and night that God would send her back if she could help.

One morning the headjailer took Ahn into his office. "I am quitting this job and going back to Japan," he said.

"Have you resigned?" Ahn questioned, fearing that her letter had gotten him into trouble and he was being fired.

"Officially, I am leaving for a rest, but the truth is I am starting a new life because a change has come into my heart."

Ahn was so happy she couldn't speak.

"I want to live for an eternal reward and true hope as you are doing. This book you loaned me has brought about the change," he said holding up the Bible Ahn had loaned to him. "May I have it?"

"Of course you may have my Bible. It is just like the one I gave to General Ugaki." Then she added, "I have prayed a lot for you."

"Now I understand," he said softly.

They walked out to the hill and visited about the goodness of the Lord for a long time. Then he said, "I am concerned that you will be cold during the coming winter months. I will be praying for you."

"I will also pray for you," she said.

Ahn never saw the head jailer again, but she prayed often that God would keep him true and give him the faith she had learned from the Bible.

Weeks later Ahn was put on the train and taken back to Pyongyang where she was taken to the detention ward in the basement.

A terrible smell slammed into her face when the door was opened. She remembered Kuga had said, "You might suffocate there," and she agreed with him. Quickly she held her nose. Her eyes burned. She became weak and for a moment Ahn thought she would vomit right there in the cement corridor.

When her eyes adjusted to the dim light, she could see that most of the prisoners were asleep. Some were sitting with their arms wrapped around their knees because there was no room to lay down.

"I am Ahn Ei Sook!" Ahn announced loudly. "I have moved here from Soon Chon."

Heads popped up and a clatter was heard among the Christian prisoners. The jailer struggled in vain to quiet them. "Hallelu jah!" Ahn's heart sang. "Now the believers know I am here to suffer with them."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The princes. 2. They thought Jeremiah was not seeking the welfare of the people. 3. They put him in a dungeon of mire. 4. Ebed-melech, the Ethiopian. 5. Ebed-melech. 6. He pulled him up with cords. 7. In the court of the prison. 8. He promised not to put Jeremiah to death nor give him into the hands of those who wanted to kill him. 9. To deliver him out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem him out of the hand of the terrible.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 5, 1997

Courage!

(Continued from last week.)

In the dim prison light Ahn could see a man waving to her from the cell across the hall. "I'm Elder Joo," he wrote in the air. Elder Joo had been in prison several times and suffered much for Jesus. She had heard him speak once before she went to Japan.

"Praise God!" Ahn wrote back. "I'm Ahn Ei Shook. I've come here to help the Christians."

She watched while he wrote. "All hell is fighting against the Christians, be brave!"

"God will give us courage," Ahn wrote back.

The following day Ahn was taken to a special office and told to translate a Korean book into Japanese. "Thank You Jesus, for letting me work here among the officials," she said. "Please give me chances to help Your saints."

While translating, Ahn was guarded by a boy just out of junior high school. He roamed over the jail picking up news here and there which he shared with Ahn. One day he said, "There are plans to wipe out Christianity. In September, all police stations in Korea were ordered to arrest every Christian leader in their area."

Ahn shared the grim news with Elder Joo. "We must pray more fer-

vently," he said. One by one the Christians in the jail heard the sad news and began begging God for help.

One day an oversized detective came waddling into the office where Ahn worked. After everyone had gone he whispered, "Saito and Che are good jailers. Ask them and they will help you. I will, too."

When the guards were out and the other prisoners were asleep, Ahn told Elder Joo what the detective had said.

"Yes, they are kind and will help," Elder Joo said.

Ahn thought this was her chance to begin helping the Christians. When Che came on duty Ahn asked for a paper and pencil. Then she wrote, "The Christians are very, very hungry, will you please take money from my purse and buy meat buns for them?"

Che took the note. Later Ahn saw him read it and then burn it. She waited and waited. Finally she fell asleep.

The next morning, while in the office, she heard groans, angry voices and what sounded like someone being whipped. The sounds were coming from the interrogation room. Very quietly Ahn listened at the door. "Who is in there?" she asked the janitor who was sweeping the hall.



Brave Abigail

**I Samuel 25:18-21, 23-25,
27-28, 30-33**

18 ...Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves,...five sheep, ready dressed,...five measures of parched corn,...an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses [donkeys].

19 And she said unto her servants, Go on....I come after you....

20 And it was so,...that she came down by...the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

21 Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow [Nabal] hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed...and he hath requited me evil for good.

23 And when Abigail saw David, she...lighted off the ass [donkey]....

24 And fell at his feet, and said,...my lord, upon me let this iniquity be:...and hear the words of thine handmaid.

25 Let not my lord,...regard this man of Belial, even Nabal: for...folly is with him:...

27 And now this blessing which thine handmaid hath brought...let it...be given unto the young men that follow my lord.

28 ...The Lord will certainly make my lord a sure house; because...evil hath not been found in thee all thy days.

30 And it shall come to pass, when the Lord...shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel;

31 That this shall be no grief unto thee,...that thou hast shed blood causeless....but when the Lord shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember [me] thine handmaid.

32 And David said to Abigail, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me:

33 And...blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood,...

**The Message: Abigail
risked her life to do
what was right.**

Questions:

1. Who was Abigail going to meet?
2. Was David angry?
3. Why was David angry?
4. What present did Abigail take for David and his men?
5. What did Abigail do when she met David?
6. Of what grief was Abigail saving David?
7. Abigail believed David would become _____. _____.
8. Why would God choose David as ruler?
9. Did David appreciate what Abigail had done?

Verse to Memorize

**The Lord is on my side; I will
not fear: what can man do
unto me?**

Psalms 118:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

King Saul wanted to kill David, so David was living in a cave in the wilderness near Carmel. Thousands of sheep grazed on the nearby pastures. David and his men made friends with the shepherds. Often they killed or chased away wild animals that came to steal the sheep. At other times, they chased away robbers. "You are like a wall that protects us," the shepherds told David.

When spring came, Nabal, the owner of the sheep came with a crew to shear his sheep. Some of the crew made shepherd's bread and baked it in large stone crocks buried in the ground under hot coals. Others killed sheep and roasted the meat over campfires. Nabal had brought plenty of fig cakes, raisins and drink made from grapes. The men and the shepherds gorged themselves on the good food. It was like a Thanksgiving Feast out in the mountains.

David and his men were very hungry. When they saw Nabal and his workers feasting themselves, David said to ten of his men, "Go down to Nabal. Greet him in my name, then tell him to ask any of his shepherds and they will say that we have been protecting them day and night. After that, tell him that we are

very hungry, and whatever he could give us to eat would be greatly appreciated."

When David's men told Nabal what David had said, Nabal answered, "David may be one of the many servants who has run away from his master. I will not take food from my servants and give to men that I do not know."

A good servant heard what Nabal had said to David. He thought it was terrible to treat good men so cruelly, and knowing that hunger can drive men to do things they would not usually do, he feared his master might be in trouble. He ran to Nabal's wife, Abigail, and told her about David and what had happened. She said nothing to her angry husband but began loading donkeys with baskets of food.

David's men returned and told him what Nabal had said. David became very angry, "Let's go show him who we are," he said. "In a very few minutes Nabal and all his men will be dead and then we can eat their food."

"Let's go!" the hungry men shouted.

They started down the mountain and met the men leading the donkeys loaded with food. Abigail was following them. She talked with David. David was very grateful and promised to remember Abigail when he became ruler.

The next day when Abigail told Nabal what she had done, he suddenly became as stone. After ten days he died.

Later, David married Abigail.

—Charlotte Huskey

"Kuga, Detective Bak and a police inspector are questioning Pastor Che."

"What? Pastor Che? He is so old and weak. They are sure to kill him!" Ahn listened until her breathing became short. All the while her fists were tightly clenched.

She could stand it no longer. Quick as lightning she burst into the room. Pastor Che hovered in the corner, his bare back was bleeding. Bak held the whip, at his feet were pieces of fire wood. "Those will soon be used as clubs on Pastor Che," Ahn thought. She quickly threw them out the open window.

"How could you do such a thing?" Bak asked, as if he were speaking to his superior.

Ahn whirled to face him, "Beat me if you must beat someone. Go ahead! Beat me! But leave *him* alone! You could beat him to death and he wouldn't tell anything that might get someone else into trouble...."

The men acted like whipped puppies. Neither spoke until Ahn had finished talking. Then Kuga took control. "That's all," he said to Bak. "Take the old man back to his cell."

When Ahn was taken back to her cell that night, Elder Joo had already heard what Ahn had done.

"Praise God for your courage!" he said.

A few days later when Ahn returned from her work she said to Elder Joo, "Superintendent Kuga, who is in charge of our persecution, and six policemen have the flu. They say people all over Korea are dying from this flu."

"It must be the Manchurian flu. It is savage," Elder Joo answered.

Two weeks later, Ahn reported to Elder Joo that four of the most cruel officers had died with the flu, and that all the officers in the jail were afraid to hurt a Christian.

"God is answering our prayers," he said.

When Kuga returned to work, Ahn went to him. After the usual respectful greeting, she said, "May I ask of you a favor?"

"How bold you are to ask a favor after all you have done?" he said jokingly.

Ahn was trembling, but she kept her voice strong. "The food we are served won't half fill a body as small as mine," she said. "Please allow the Christians to have food brought from their families."

"The food is okay," he answered.

"Eat my lunch in place of yours and see how it is," Ahn said politely.

Early in the morning a few days later Elder Joo and three other pastors were taken out of their cells. When Ahn went to her work, she saw them. They were dressed in clean clothes and eating at a table. Elder Joo was eating a big dish of greens!

The following week Ahn's young, nosy guard said, "A new regulation has been made permitting the Christian prisoners to receive food, clothing and visits from their families." Ahn shared the news with Elder Joo. "You came here to help the Christians and you have helped," he answered.

"God gave me courage to do it," Ahn answered.

(To be continued next week.)

Answers: 1. David. 2. Yes. 3. Because Nabal had done evil to David after David had done much good to Nabal. 4. She took 200 loaves of bread, five sheep, five measures of corn, 100 clusters of raisins, and 200 cakes of figs. 5. Fell at his feet. 6. The grief of remembering that he had carelessly killed people. 7. Ruler of Israel. 8. David had done no evil. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 12, 1997

Worship And Respect

(Continued from last week.)

"You may be executed for that statement," Kuga shouted.

"I know."

"Then why are you so careless with your words? You seem to have no fear."

"I fear God more than men, for this reason I will not disobey His laws."

Superintendent Kuga had come to the Pyongyang police station to examine Ahn. First he joked about her not suffocating in the stinky jail, then staring coldly at her, he asked, "So you want to become leader of the Korean Independence Movement and lead the Christians to rebel against Japan?"

"I have nothing to do with the Korean Independence Movement," Ahn answered.

"You are planting anti-Japanese thoughts in the minds of many people," he said more sternly.

"I teach only that God must be obeyed." Ahn tried to convince him that she was not a political leader but he continued to accuse her. Finally she said, "Believe what you want. But we Christians are not rebels, but good citizens."

"Then why do they not obey Japan's law and bow to the shrine?"

"Bowing to an image of any kind is breaking one of God's commandments. All who break God's commandments will perish."

"Are you saying that the Japanese will perish for worshiping the shrine and their emperor?"

"Yes, unless they ask Jesus to forgive them."

"Will our emperor, who is a living god, also perish unless he believes in Jesus? And will you not bow to our emperor?"

"I will bow in respect to your emperor just as I bow in respect to my mother. If I am commanded to bow to him as a living god, I will not bow."

Kuga's face reddened. His lips trembled. Ahn felt herself trembling. Silently she prayed, "God, help me not fear death." Then she said, "Please don't be angry with my answer, but have it written down and take it to court when I am tried. If I am killed for it, then I have died for the Truth."

"Can't you see the inspector is writing? And you must know what that decision will cost you."

"The God I serve is able to protect me, but if He does not I will die obeying Him."

"You're crazy," he stormed and ordered that Ahn be taken back to the dirty, damp cell.



Helping Others

Acts 23:12, 14-22

12 ...Certain of the Jews banded together,...

14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.

15 Now therefore...signify to the chief captain that he bring him [Paul] down unto you to-morrow, as though ye would inquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we,...are ready to kill him.

16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

17 Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain:...

18 So he took him,...to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.

19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?

20 And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to-morrow into the council, as though

they would inquire somewhat of him more perfectly.

21 But do not thou yield unto them: for...more than forty men,...have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

22 So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.

The Message: Paul's nephew was willing to get involved and help his prisoner uncle even if it meant trouble or imprisonment for him.

Questions:

1. What did forty men plan to do?
2. Why did they tell the chief priest about their plans?
3. Who told Paul about the men's plan?
4. How did the chief captain protect Paul?
5. Is Jesus pleased when we help others?
6. Should we be willing to help others in very small ways?
7. Name some ways we can help others?
8. Is helping others always easy?
9. Should we help others even if doing so may cause trouble for us?

Verse to Memorize

**And I entreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel.
Philippians 4:3.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Many people are afraid to get involved with problems of others for fear they may create problems for themselves. God is pleased, however, when His children are willing to help others even though they may suffer for it. Ahn helped Pastor Che although she could have been hanged or tortured for doing what she did.

It was dangerous for Paul's nephew to go to him in jail. The boy could have been accused of trying to help Paul escape and been kept in jail. Under the law in those times, accused persons were kept in custody until they could prove that they were innocent. This boy acted bravely to alert Paul of the plan to kill him.

We are thankful that God allowed Paul to hear about this plan and that God caused the chief captain to believe the information. Acting on what he heard, the chief captain ordered two hundred soldiers and seventy horsemen to take Paul by night to Governor Felix. There Paul was to be tried. Do you wonder what happened to the men who promised to not eat until they had killed Paul? I do, but it must not be very important because the Bible doesn't say.

It is, however, important for us to know that the boy helped Paul so that we can follow his example and also help others. It is also

encouraging to our faith to read how God protected Paul. Therefore, it is recorded in the Bible so people may read it.

Have you helped someone? I am sure every reader has. Jesus is very happy when we help others. We must not wait to help someone in a spectacular way. Help others in little ways. Perhaps you know someone who is in trouble. Would something you know about the situation help that person? Is there a student in your class that is shunned by the other students? You can help that boy or girl by being a friend. Be brave and let others think and say whatever they wish. You just do your part by helping the one who needs help. You might help smaller children get a drink from a high drinking fountain. Do you know a handicapped person? There are many ways to help him or her. Every person can pick up things that need to be picked up, and speak cheerful words. Everyone can smile. There are many, many ways that boys and girls can help others.

Jesus says that if we give a drink of water in the name of a disciple, we will get a reward. Giving a glass of water is such a little thing, yet Jesus gives a reward for it. Don't you think He gives rewards for other things we do? I know He does. He has rewarded me many times for little things I have done for others. Think of someone you can help. Then be sure and help them, even if it isn't spectacular like what Paul's nephew or Ahn did. Jesus will give you a reward. —Charlotte Huskey

The next morning the questioning was resumed. "I thought you might regret what you said yesterday, but you look like a rose that has blossomed after a refreshing rain. Why do you look so happy?"

"I am happy," Ahn answered.

"So you think Japan can be destroyed?" he asked.

Ahn told him about many nations which had rejected God and were destroyed. She told him about the flood that destroyed everyone except Noah and his family. She told him that Jesus died on the cross to save all people, that He would save Japan if the leaders would repent. "There are many Christians in Japan who will be saved when Japan is destroyed," she said.

"Do you know that you will suffer for what you have said?"

"Yes, but I can't lie, for Jesus didn't."

"I give up," he sighed. The examination ended. Ahn was ordered to continue translating the Korean book into Japanese.

The next thing Ahn heard about Kuga was that his only daughter had such high fever with the flu that her bones became like jelly. She was put in a body cast and had to be cared for more carefully than a newborn baby. His son-in-law had been shot in the head and was also being cared for at Kuga's home. He jumped up and down, groaned and screamed with pain day and night until no one in the home could rest.

When Ahn told Elder Joo, he said, "God is doing all He can to save Superintendent Kuga. We must pray that he and the other officials will repent."

Ahn often joked with the boy guard that she might escape when he was not watching her. "Escape,"

he said. "Major General Hibiki will give me a gold medal if you do."

Ahn laughed. Then her mouth dropped open. How did this Korean boy know Major General Hibiki who lived in Japan? "What do you know about Major Hibiki?" Ahn asked.

"I know he and Congressman Matsuyama are your friends. On their way to a conference in Yanking they came to visit you, but you had been sent to Soon Coon."

"I can hardly believe such famous men came to visit me."

"You're the most famous prisoner in Korea," he said.

"Famous?" Ahn asked. "For what?"

"For your courage," he answered. "They say you are afraid of nothing."

That night Ahn didn't talk much to Elder Joo, she worshiped God. She worshiped Him for making her fearless when she needed to be, and asked Jesus to forgive her of the many times she had been fearful. She thanked God for the strong, Japanese Christians who, she believed were praying for the persecuted church in Korea."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. They promised each other that they would not eat until they had killed Paul. 2. So he would ask the chief captain to allow Paul to come and talk with him. 3. Paul's nephew. 4. He sent Paul to Felix surrounded by 200 soldiers and 70 horsemen. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Answers will vary. 8. No. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 19, 1997

Prison Life

(Continued from last week.)

"March rapidly!" shouted the jailer, with a whip in his hand. He was ready to lash whoever didn't. The head official marched alongside the prisoners with his hand on the sword hanging at his side.

It was September 20, 1940. Thirty-four Christians were being transported from the detention ward of the Pyongyang police department to the Pyongyang prison. There they would be falsely convicted, and executed (hanged). Outside the building many Christian families were waiting to get a glimpse of their loved ones. Ahn's mother was there. Her wrinkled forehead and sad eyes told Ahn that she was grieving for her and the other Christians. Against prison rules, Ahn blurted loudly, "I'm all right, Mother."

"You are going to die, for sure," Mother called back. "Keep your eyes on heaven. We will meet at it's gate."

"I will," Ahn promised, then said to herself, "And regardless of what I suffer, I will not become bitter. I will forgive as Jesus did."

A long delay held them at the station. This gave their families time to arrive at the prison before the prisoners. The guards at the prison

were unusually tender and allowed the prisoners to say good-bye to their families. Trying to keep her mother from worrying, Ahn said, "I'm entering an advanced course in the school of faith. Isn't that wonderful? Jesus is the Principal, so I'm in great hands."

Mother forced a smile, then said, "To learn from Jesus you must follow Him carefully. That means dying to yourself every day, every hour and every minute, so that He can live in you. Remember, we'll meet at heaven's gate."

"I'll wait for you," Ahn said and bowed deeply.

"Or I'll wait for you," Mother called as Ahn hurried away so Mother would not see her tears.

That night Ahn dreamed she was swinging on a swing. Devils were looking everywhere for her. Teasing the devils, she called, "I'm up here." The devils heard her voice but could not lift their heads to see her. When Ahn awoke, she prayed, "Thank You God for showing me that You have me above the devil's control."

The women's section of the Pyongyang prison was much different than the city jail. There was a ward for men and one for women, so Elder Joo would not be near to talk



Obeying God Rather Than Man

Daniel 6:7-16

7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors,...the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute,...that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

8 Now, O king,...sign the writing, that it be not changed,...

9 Wherefore king Darius signed...the decree.

10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

11 ...These men...found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

12 Then they...spake before the king...Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered... The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which... [changes] not.

13 Then answered they and said...Daniel,...regardeth not thee,

O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

14 Then the king,...was sore displeased with himself,...and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

15 Then these men...said unto the king,...no decree...which the king establisheth may be changed.

16 Then...they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king...said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

The Message: Daniel obeyed God and worshiped as God had commanded although he knew it was against the law of the king.

Questions:

1. What was the law that the presidents and princes made?
2. Who signed the law that made it official?
3. Did Daniel know about the new law?
4. What did Daniel do after the law was official?
5. Who told the king that Daniel had disobeyed the law?
6. What did the king do after he was told about Daniel?
7. Did King Darius have Daniel put in the den of lions?
8. What did the king believe would happen to Daniel?
9. Do you know what happened to Daniel?

Verse to Memorize

...We ought to obey God rather than men.

Acts 5:29.

Let's



Talk . . .

Ahn Ei Shook was in jail because she obeyed God rather than the laws of man. Everyone in Korea had been commanded to bow in worship of Shinto. Ahn would not bow to this god because God said, "Thou shalt not bow down to any graven image."

Daniel also obeyed God rather than the law of his country. God had filled the temple in Jerusalem with His spirit and commanded the people of Israel to turn their faces toward Jerusalem when they prayed to Him. Daniel was a captive in Babylon, a country far away from Jerusalem, but he continued obeying God and facing Jerusalem every day when he prayed.

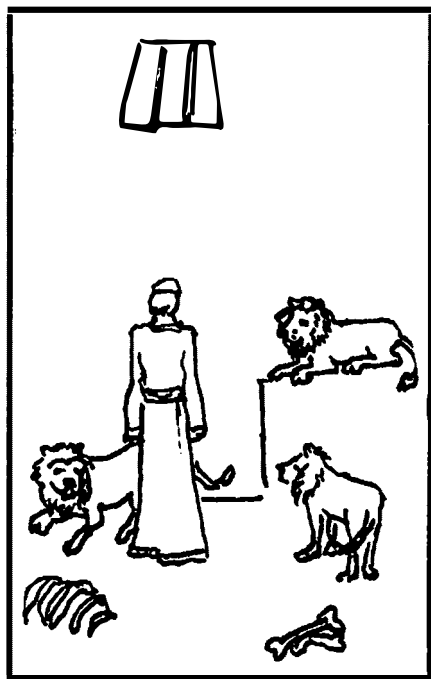
Daniel was now an old man. Every king of Babylon had loved him because he was just and loyal. Recently Babylon had been captured by the Persians. Quickly the new Persian king, Darius realized what a valuable person Daniel would be, so he put Daniel in a leading position in his kingdom.

The presidents and other leaders of Babylon were already jealous of Daniel and had tried many times to make trouble for Daniel. This time they tried to destroy him by tricking the new king into signing a law that allowed no one

in his kingdom to pray to any god.

Daniel continued to pray three times a day with his window open toward Jerusalem. Of course, they heard him praying and reported it to the king. Daniel was put into the den of lions just as they hoped, and he stayed in the den with the lions all night. The following morning he was taken out and the men who tried to destroy him were then thrown into the den and were eaten by the lions.

Peter and John were also put into prison because they obeyed God instead of obeying the law. God saved them also. God has more power than any authority in this world. We must always remember to obey God rather than man. —Charlotte Huskey



with Ahn when the guards were out. Ahn was put in with all kinds of criminals; murderers, robbers, lunatics, maniacs, thieves, drug peddlers and prostitutes.

The head female jailer seemed jealous of Ahn from the start. "All the men who have worked in the Pyongyang police department are in love with Miss Ahn," she remarked as Ahn was being booked in. "In this prison, she will be called number 57, not Miss Ahn Ei Shook."

Ahn put on the uniform marked "57."

"Oh, God," Ahn prayed. "Help me die every hour of every day, as Mother said. Give me strength to stand for the truth and help me love and serve others prisoners. And Father, I don't want to stay in prison twelve years like John Bunyan. Because I am a woman and a weakling, let me meet you and Mother at heaven's gate six years from now. Okay, God? And thank You that this prison is a little cleaner than the jail."

All through the day Ahn heard the jailer shouting threats to the prisoners, but when she came to Ahn's cell, she spoke kindly. "I prepared this cell especially for you," she told Ahn. "Every prisoner who has been in the city jail says you are a brave Christian, pretty and educated, but kind to the meanest jailers and the worst criminals. The men jailers are asking every day if you have arrived. I'll have news for them now."

She stepped out of the cell and hollered loudly. The prisoners were quiet for a few minutes. "The prisoners are rowdy when I'm on duty because they know I will not hurt them," she complained. "The other jailers torture the prisoners. Be very

careful, Miss Ahn, some will report you to the head jailer for the slightest thing."

When the jailer left, Ahn quoted Isaiah 54. The last verse says, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord." Ahn worshiped God. "You are head of the school that I'm in."

When the new jailer took over, the noise stopped immediately. Ahn sat very straight and remained silent.

She drank her supper gruel and continued quoting chapters of the Bible in a low whisper. Her mind drifted to her Father, who had refused Christ as his Savior. She was praying earnestly for him when the new jailer snapped, "Go to sleep! Don't you hear the trumpet sounding?" Ahn listened. She heard the trumpet and the heavy iron prison gate closing for the night. "I'm locked in a prison," Ahn cried.

The devils seemed to be laughing.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. That no one should ask anything of anyone except King Darius for 30 days. 2. King Darius. 3. Yes. 4. Daniel prayed to God just as he always did. 5. The men who had made the law. 6. He tried to prevent Daniel from being thrown into the den of lions. 7. Yes. 8. That Daniel's God would save him. 9. Answers will vary. God did save Daniel from the lions.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 26, 1997

The Trial

(Continued from last week.)

The two kind jailers were off duty that January morning when Ahn was ordered to follow two male jailers. Ahn limped behind, her feet half frozen from the cold of the unheated cell. "Where are you taking me?" Ahn asked when they entered the men's ward.

"Today the Christians will be tried," the jailer answered coldly. "We shall see if it pays to serve your God."

Ahn raised her pleading eyes toward heaven and prayed, "Jesus help me." Snow covered the ground and the icy wind was blowing, but Ahn felt her body growing warm and knew God was answering, "I will."

"Put these on," the jailers said, throwing a pair of straw sandals to the floor. He then put a straw hat over Ahn's head. It was so big it covered her face and fell to her shoulders. Through two tiny holes she saw Pastor Che and Elder Joo being brought in. She waved her hand but neither of them recognized her. When the guard turned away she raised her hat and smiled. "Oh," Pastor Che exclaimed. Quickly she replaced the hat and bowed to them. They both bowed to her. Soon the room was crowded with Christian leaders. Each were handcuffed and wearing sandals, and hats which covered their faces. Ahn recognized many of them, but she could not see them all. To her they looked like

sheep in a corral waiting to be slaughtered.

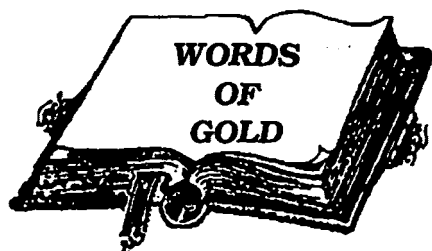
Ahn watched as the jailers tied them all together with a heavy rope. None should fear that these brave soldiers would run from their cross. They would gladly carry it, just as Christ did. When they filed one by one out onto the street, Ahn noticed that she was the only woman. People clicked their tongues at the Christians and remarked that the woman must have committed a terrible crime.

The snow was packed and slick as glass. Elderly Pastor Che slipped down, causing his nose and mouth to bleed. The jailer lashed him quickly with his whip. "Oh, Lord, take a picture of this quickly," Ahn prayed. Later he was whipped again because he fell behind. "God, Your camera," Ahn prayed again.

Ahn thought she heard angels singing, but when they were near the courthouse she saw there an hundred Christians singing "God is My Refuge and Strength." Mother, hugging herself against the bitter wind, was standing in the front! How did they know? Some Korean official must have secretly notified them. Praise God!

One of the jailers threw water on the Christians. It froze on their clothes but they kept on singing.

The prisoners were hurried inside the courthouse. Ahn was exhausted and wheezing so hard she could barely stand.



Steven Gives His Life

Acts 6:5-15

5 ...They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost,...

6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue,...disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes,...and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus...shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Psalm 112:1, 3-4

1 ...Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

The message: Stephen was brave and told the truth when he was accused although it made those in authority very angry.

Questions:

1. What kind of person was Stephen?
2. On whom did the apostles lay hands and pray?
3. What multiplied in Jerusalem?
4. How did God use Stephen?
5. Who could not resist the wisdom and spirit of Stephen?
6. Of what did they accuse Stephen?
7. Stephen's face was like the face of an _____.
8. With what will the upright person be blessed?
9. What are the characteristics of the upright person?

Verse to Memorize

...Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles....

Acts 6:8.

Let's



Talk . . .

Stephen lived in Jerusalem. When he heard that Jesus was the Savior, he believed in Jesus and was saved. After that he asked God to fill him with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gave him power to do right. He was able to say "No" to the devil, always. People were able to trust him to do right, so when people were needed to help in the church, Stephen was one of the men chosen for the job.

Food needed to be distributed among the poor widows in the great city of Jerusalem. The leaders of the church knew that Stephen would be fair. He would not give more to one and less to another. The leaders of the church prayed and laid hands on Stephen and the others before they started their work.

Every day Stephen did his job carefully. Sometimes when he took food into a home he would find someone sick. At these times he obeyed the voice of the Holy Spirit that told him what he should do. If he thought the Holy Spirit was saying that God would heal that person, then he would pray for them to be healed and God would heal. In this way, as Stephen went about his duties, God was working many miracles through him. Every day more and more people were becoming Christians. Even many of the priests became believers.

One day some men in the synagogue became disgruntled at Stephen. They began arguing with him, but were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spoke. In each argument Stephen was able to show them their error. This made them more angry.

These men hurried away to the temple and stirred up the elders and the scribes. They said that Stephen was speaking blasphemous words against Moses and God. For this the people caught Stephen and took him before the council. These disgruntled men got others to go into the council and testify falsely against Stephen.

"Stephen is always speaking blasphemy against this holy temple of God," one said.

Another affirmed, "We have heard him say that Jesus will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses gave to us." When the man finished speaking, everyone in the council turned to look at Stephen to hear what he would say.

Before Stephen answered, they began whispering to each other, "Look, his face is like the face of an angel." Stephen then spoke. He told them that Abraham walked by faith as he followed God, and that God blessed all nations through Abraham and his children. He also told them about God sending Moses and other prophets to bless the people. He ended by telling them that they were like their fathers who had persecuted all those prophets that God had sent.

Stephen was very bold and spoke only the truth, because the Holy Spirit gave him power and wisdom to do so.

—Charlotte Huskey

"She can't run away," the jail inspector said. "Take her handcuffs off." The young jailer removed the handcuffs, and Ahn collapsed on the floor. How good it felt to rest.

"Jesus, give me strength to speak Your truth clearly so the judge and all who listen will know today that You are the God they should worship. I am ready to die for You and I want to die without any regrets," Ahn prayed while she waited her turn to testify before the judge.

When she was called up, the Christians outside were singing so loudly she could hardly hear what the judge was saying. The judge acted as if it disturbed him. "Shall I ask the Christians to stop singing?" Ahn asked.

"Please," he answered.

Ahn dashed out, followed by two jailers and the two secretaries. She raised her hands and the singing stopped. "It is my turn to testify for God, but the judge cannot hear because of your singing. Please pray for me instead."

"Jesus is with you," Mother called out. "Don't be afraid of what man can do. Be brave and speak the truth!"

"Amen!" shouted the crowd as they bowed.

Ahn hurried back to the courtroom. The secretaries and jailers walked behind talking about the amazing way the people cooperated with Ahn.

The judge spoke, "Miss Ahn Ei Shook, you seem to have great ability to lead others, why don't you use it to help your nation?"

Ahn didn't answer. She knew she was helping her nation by letting them know about Jesus, but that he wouldn't understand.

"Our record shows that you have broken the law of Imperial Japan making you an unpardonable criminal. Is that right?"

"I believe what is written is true."

"You have had many opportunities to be a great person. Why have you been allured to ruin yourself, disrupt

society and bring shame to your nation?"

"Mr. Judge, perhaps you would not warn people who were drinking sewer water if it caused you disgrace or imprisonment, but I must warn them even if I am killed for doing so. Jesus died to save people from future destruction, I am willing to die warning them not to drink sewer water."

"Who is drinking sewer water?" he demanded.

"The people who worship idols, human gods and persecute the Christians."

"History always speaks the truth. It shows that every nation which rebelled against God has been destroyed. God loves Japan and that is why He sent me, a young Korean, to warn the leaders. However, if they keep rejecting God, they will be destroyed." Ahn talked a while longer, then sat down.

A brief discussion followed and Ahn was taken out. One by one all the others were taken before the judge. Each returned quickly. Again they were bound together with a rope and led outside.

The Christians were still waiting. "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," they began singing when they saw the Christian prisoners. They were loaded quickly on a bus and returned to the prison.

"You must have closed their mouths tightly so I could speak," Ahn told God. "I can hardly believe I am me. I acted so unafraid today. It's unbelievable that fearful Miss Ahn could speak so boldly. Thank You, Jesus. Good-night."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He was full of faith and the Holy Spirit. 2. On Stephen. 3. The number of believers. 4. To do great wonders and miracles. 5. Certain men of the synagogue. 6. Of blasphemy. 7. Angel. 8. With wealth and riches. 9. He is gracious, full of compassion and righteous.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Nov. 2, 1997

A Narrow Escape

(Continued from last week.)

December 7, 1941 (Dec. 8 in Korea), Ahn was ordered into the inspector's office. Jailer Jue unlocked Ahn's cell and took her to the office.

"We are going to court today," he said as he led Ahn and other prisoners out into the street. He looked up. "The sky looks very strange, like something terrible is about to happen. You suppose God is angry?"

"Why would God be angry?" Ahn asked.

The court was in an uproar. "We did it! We did it!" a Japanese was shouting. "We destroyed the entire American fleet in Pearl Harbor."

"Japan declared war on America. It's our turn to rule!"

There were no trials that day.

Just two weeks later the chief jailer came into the ward. "Today everyone in the prison must worship the Emperor of Japan. He is our living god! We must worship him so Japan can win the war. Today the whole nation is worshipping him. Bow with your face to the east in holy homage to our emperor."

All over the prison Ahn could hear feet shuffling as prisoners turned toward the east. The prisoners in Ahn's cell worshiped him. She was sure

every prisoner in every cell had done the same.

Ahn remembered what she had told Kuga, "I will bow in respect to your emperor just as I bow in respect to any important person. If I am commanded to bow to him as a living god, I will not bow."

"Aren't you going to worship the emperor?" a prisoner asked Ahn.

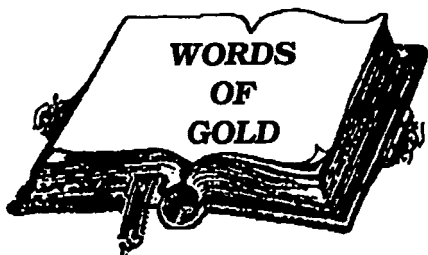
Ahn did not answer.

"It will be bad for you, if you don't. The chief jailer wants an excuse to hurt you."

Ahn said nothing. She did not turn her face toward the east. She did not bow.

Ahn heard the footsteps of the chief jailer as she went from cell to cell checking to see if the prisoners were worshipping the emperor. She heard the footsteps nearing her cell. Her body became rigid. It wanted to turn and bow, but her mind said, "No. Obey God rather than man." Sweat popped out on Ahn's face as she struggled to hold her body in a standing position.

"Okay, number 57, you will see what I can do to you for disobeying," the jailer threatened. She disappeared down the hall. Moments later she was back with a male jailer, a torture instrument, and handcuffs with a long iron chain and knots. "Follow me," she said to the other prisoners in



Steven Tells the Truth

**Acts 7:1-4, 44, 47-54,
57, 59-60**

1 Then said the high priest [unto Stephen], Are these things so?

2 And he [Stephen] said,...The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham,...

3 And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.

4 Then came he out of the land...and...removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.

44 Our fathers [also] had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness,...

47 But Solomon built him an house.

48 Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands;...

49 Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord:...

50 Hath not my hand made all these things?

51 Ye stiffnecked...ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted?...

53 Who [ye] have received the

law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

57 Then they...stopped their ears, and ran upon him...

59 And they stoned Stephen,...

60 And he kneeled down, and cried...Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.

The Message: Stephen told the truth although it made others angry at him.

Questions:

1. To whom did God appear?
2. What did God tell Abraham to do?
3. Does God dwell in temples made with hands?
4. What had their fathers done to the prophets?
5. What had been given by angels?
6. Had the law given by angels been kept?
7. Why did Stephen's accusers gnash on him with their teeth?
8. What did the men do to Stephen?
9. What were Stephen's last words?

Verse to Memorize

**Yea, and all that will live
godly in Christ Jesus shall
suffer persecution.**

II Timothy 3:12.

Let's



Talk . . .

Have you ever been afraid to tell the truth? I'm sure you have. I have, and I think most everyone has sometimes felt afraid to speak what they really believed. In most occasions it is all right to avoid saying what you believe if it will make another person feel badly. However, we must tell the truth even if it makes someone angry, if the truth will help that person be what God expects them to be.

Steven spoke the truth so his listeners would know their sinful condition. Many people were in the courtroom that day in Jerusalem. A few were there to tell lies on Stephen. Others were angry and wanting Stephen to suffer because Stephen's wisdom had embarrassed them. But the majority of the listeners were just curious people. All who had come needed to know about Jesus.

Stephen saw his trial as an opportunity to help people be saved. He saw it as a chance to tell them about Jesus. Stephen was accused of being against the system of worship and the laws which God had given to the Jews, so he started preaching about Abraham to explain how he was not against God's plan. He told about Abraham being called away from his people so God could teach him the truth, and that Abraham was faithful to God. Then he explained how God, through Moses, had given them holy laws to obey. He talked about how care-

fully Moses followed God in giving the law and in building the tabernacle. He spoke about Solomon's great dedication when he built the beautiful temple for God. Then Stephen said, "God cannot live in a temple made by men. God wants to live in temples that only He can make. These temples are our bodies. But God is holy and cannot live in an unclean temple. Are you clean? Those wonderful laws which God sent by angels, you have not obeyed. You have persecuted all the prophets which God has sent. From these prophets you learned about the Savior to come, and when He came you crucified Him. Are you not murderers of Jesus?" The truth that Stephen spoke showed the people just how unclean they were in God's eyes. It made them very angry to have their sins exposed.

Suddenly the courtroom erupted like a volcano. Men began shouting and holding their hands over their ears. The most angry ones attacked Stephen and gnashed on him with their teeth. Stephen looked up and said, "I see heaven, and Jesus is standing at the right hand of God." When the angry men heard these words, they went wild. They dragged Stephen out of the city and threw stones at him until he died.

Those who were willing to accept the truth that Stephen spoke, went to their homes and other places to pray for their sins to be forgiven. Because Stephen told the truth, many people believed in Jesus and were saved. The apostle Paul was one of those who helped with Stephen's death. Afterwards he was saved and became a great missionary for the Church.

—Charlotte Huskey

Ahn's cell." They filed out one by one, each looking pitifully at Ahn.

While the chief jailer was gone, the male jailer handcuffed Ahn's hands behind her back. "Why try to rebel against these mad dogs?" he whispered to Ahn. "Just do what they say."

Ahn shook her head, "I can't worship anything but God."

The heavy balls on the end of the chain that was wrapped around Ahn's waist caused the knots to dig into her torso each time she moved. Ahn lay on the floor. "This must be the snake I dreamed about last night," she said to herself. *Under a large old tree a dark blue, poisonous snake was coiled, ready to strike. His eyes followed Ahn's every move and his forked tongue lapped at her. She cried out in fear, "Jesus help me!" Then with her sword, she cut the snake into. Instead of dying, it became two snakes spitting out poison at her. "Savior help me, help me!" she cried again. Using her sword again, she cut those two snakes into. Now she was fighting four snakes. Each was shooting out venom.*

When Ahn had awakened, she had prayed, "Father, I am in Your school. Please teach me how to die. Protect me from the poison of self-pity, bitterness, hatred, and vengeance that is trying to creep into my heart. I know the outside enemy can hurt my body, but not my soul. Your Word, my sword, and Your power is all that can save me."

The jailer brought in Ahn's food. "Here, Rebel, eat your food like a dog." With hands locked behind her back that was the only possible way to eat. Ahn could not eat.

When Jailer Jue came on duty, she massaged Ahn's back. Neither would she eat, because Ahn couldn't eat. But the night jailer seemed to enjoy seeing Ahn lying alone on the cold floor. The winter cold was almost unbearable even when sleeping

hugged together with other prisoners. Alone, it was like lying in the bottom of a refrigerator.

Jailer Kariyama also suffered with Ahn. She fasted with Jue and Ahn. "Your being handcuffed is causing quite a stir among the jailers and the prisoners," she told Ahn.

A few days later Jailer Jue told Ahn that an important guest was coming. Later that day a man came into Ahn's cell. While he was there, Ahn lay very still with her eyes closed. That was about all she could do in her weakened condition.

The following morning a male jailer unlocked Ahn's handcuffs. She shouted, then fainted. "If I were God," the jailer blurted angrily, "I would send the chief jailer to hell."

"She deserves just that!" Jailer Jue answered, who was bending over Ahn massaging her back, arms and legs.

The doctor came and examined Ahn. "That witch really hates you," he said. "She almost killed you. Your breathing and pulse is as weak as someone dying."

"She was furious when the judge ordered the handcuffs taken off Ahn," Jailer Jue told him. "And when you ordered special food for Ahn, she stormed, 'That doctor should mind his own business.'"

"She may try again. But don't be afraid Ahn, for there are many spies watching out for you."

December, 1941 was a terrible month!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To their father Abraham. 2. To leave his country and kinsmen. 3. No. 4. Persecuted them. 5. The law of God. 6. No. 7. Because he told them they were not obeying God. 8. They stoned him. 9. "Lay not this sin to their charge.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Nov. 9, 1997

A Wonderful Job

(Continued from last week.)

Thrust into the cell one day was a thin, nervous woman and her skinny little boy. The frightened child clung trembling to his distressed mother, who nervously pushed him away.

A child, among a world of adult criminals, was like an angel sent from heaven. The women wanted to pat him, to touch his hair, to hug him. This frightened the boy even more. Ahn knelt beside him and said, "You are a very good boy, and we love you. Don't be afraid." "What is his name?" she asked the mother.

"We call him, Stone," the mother answered.

"That is a hard name," remarked Ahn. "Could we call him Un Suk (Stone of Grace)?" The other prisoners agreed.

"Whatever you please," she answered.

Ahn gently pulled the boy into her lap, and sang softly to him until he fell asleep. He slept so long they began to wonder if their angel was slipping away. "Wake him up," they demanded. "Wake him up."

"He needs rest," Ahn said. "The fight, the fire and the arrest has been very traumatic."

"Say, why are you here?" one woman questioned the mother.

"My husband and a neighbor had a little disagreement which grew into a fight. Then my husband secretly set fire to the neighbors cornfield. It destroyed all his corn and we had no money to pay for it."

"But you didn't do it."

"No. I'm accused of conspiracy because I stood watch while he started the fire."

"Your husband forced you to do it? Right?"

The mother didn't answer.

In a few days the mother was sentenced to three years work in the prison factory. Un Suk was sent to the factory with her.

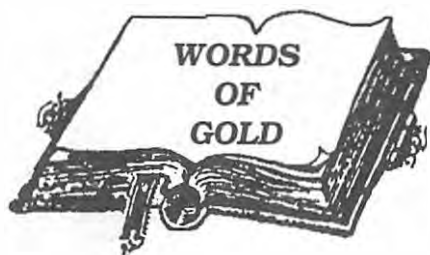
Three days later, Jailer Jue told Ahn that the factory guard said the little boy cried all the time. She had tried everything, even hitting him, but he would not stop crying. The mother thinks the boy might stop if he was brought back here.

"Bring him back to us," a prisoner interrupted.

"Sure," Ahn said, "I'll be glad to take care of him."

The little boy was not brought back until he became sick with a fever. When he saw Ahn he threw himself into her arms. She held him on her lap until the doctor came.

"This child must not be confined to a cell. He is not a convict," the



Jesus Loves the Children

Matthew 18:1-6

1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

2 And Jesus called a little child unto him,...

3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

6 But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Mark 9:35-37

35 And he sat down, and called the twelve,...

36 And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them,

37 Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me:...

Mark 10:13-16

13 And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

14 But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto

me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

16 And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

The Message: Receiving a little child is receiving Jesus. Whoever helps them will be blessed by God.

Questions:

1. Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
2. Who are we receiving when we receive a little child?
3. What is worse than being in a sea with a stone around your neck?
4. For what did the disciples rebuke the people?
5. Why were children brought to Jesus?
6. What did Jesus say about the children?
7. Who did Jesus say should become as little children?
8. Who did Jesus take up into His arms?
9. Do you take little children in your arms and receive them as if you were receiving Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

...Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

Mark 10:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus loves children. When He was on the earth, He took the children in His arms and blessed them. "Blessing them" means that He spoke comforting words to them and talked to God about each child, asking His father to help each one. The disciples thought Jesus was too busy to have time for the children, but Jesus said, "Let them come to me." Then He added, "Never, never offend a little child. It would be better for you to have a stone tied around your neck and be thrown into a deep sea than to offend a little child."

What would happen if you or I were thrown into a lake with a big rock tied around our neck? We would not come out alive unless someone quickly rescued us. When a person offends a little child, he is condemned before God. He will die a spiritual death unless Jesus saves him from the sin that he has just committed. Jesus is like a lifeguard watching at the water's edge to rescue anyone about to drown. He is always ready to forgive. If you have offended a little child, ask Jesus to forgive you of that sin, then you will not die a spiritual death.

Sometimes little brothers and sisters can be very troublesome. Whatever they do, be careful to not offend them. It is easy for

older children to scorn and criticize younger siblings. If this is done, often it can offend the little child. If you are an older child in your family, be very careful. Love and help your little brother or sister in every way you can. Take them in your arms and comfort them. That is how Jesus treated the little children. We must be like Jesus if we expect His blessings in life and to live with Him in heaven. —Charlotte Huskey



Jesus Loves the Children

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world,
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight.
Jesus loves the little children of
the world.

Jesus loves the little children.
All the children of the world.
Short or tall, fat or thin,
They must all come to Him,
Jesus loves the little children of
the world.



doctor said. "Let him go out into the yard and play."

"But he can't be alone in the yard."

"Number 57 (Ahn) will watch him," the doctor answered. "Let them both stay in the sunshine as much as they wish."

"Is this to help the child or someone else?" the chief jailer questioned. "Before pretty women, most men become weak. Number 57 is a convict...."

"This order is from the doctor," he said sternly. The chief jailer knew she had to obey him. Reluctantly she allowed Ahn to go outside with Un Suk.

"Thank You, Jesus, thank You, that I can be out in the warm spring sun," Ahn said. She lifted her arm and stood looking into the clear, blue sky. It was so different from the gray ceiling of the cell she had looked at for so long.

Seeing Ahn and Un Suk in the yard, the new jailer Nakamura brought her little girl to play with them. "Yoko's been staying in the office while I work, but she is afraid of the chief jailer," Nakamura said.

Ahn noticed the wicked gleam in the chief jailer's eyes when she saw Yoko playing happily with Ahn. The doctor had said, "Be careful!"

A few weeks later the chief jailer lined up all the prisoners in the hall. "The prison warden is coming for inspection," she barked. "Everyone must work hard to clean this ward." She looked straight at Ahn. "Will I lose my privilege to be outside?" Ahn wondered. The factory workers also helped. Floors were scrubbed, windows polished, the yard cleaned and swept. Then the prisoners all put on clean prison uniforms.

The warden came. He acted like a king ruling rebellious subjects. The uniformed group that accompanied him held swords tightly in hand. When

he saw Un Suk, he asked, "Is this the boy who cried himself sick. Take good care of him and never treat him cruelly."

The prison doctor smiled at Ahn then whispered, "How is your prison life?"

Ahn smiled back. At that moment Yoko came racing down the hall crying, "Auntie, Auntie, come out and play with me!" She dashed around the officers and stopped in front of Ahn's cell. Ahn's heart began racing. What would the warden say?

Suddenly his rigid face softened. "Open the cell," he commanded. Yoko flew into Ahn's arms and immediately stopped crying. "Let the young woman and the children go outside to play," he said.

As he walked on, Ahn heard him say, "How strange. They say a person whom children love is never wicked." Both Yoko and Un Suk climbed on Ahn's back and she carried them out into the fresh summer air. When Ahn first started taking the children out, she could hardly carry Un Suk, who was very small. But months of fresh air and exercise had strengthened Ahn. She had run, jumped and done calisthenics with the children. She sang, teaching them both songs and hymns. She even prayed aloud with the children. "Thank You, God, for sending Un Suk. His coming has made my life delightful!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A little child. 2. Jesus. 3. Offending a little child. 4. For bringing their children to Jesus. 5. That he would bless them. 6. "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." 7. Everyone who comes into the kingdom of God. 8. The little children. 9. Answers will vary.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Nov. 16, 1997

The Escape!

(Continued from last week.)

"Our new jailer is a strange breed," a prisoner remarked.

"She acts like a woman from a royal family," said another.

"She's a spy! Why else would she work in a dungeon like this?"

"We better be careful. She may report us to someone worse than the chief jailer."

"Who could be worse than her?" Ahn thought. She'd caused Ahn more trouble in a few months than all the jailers she'd had since being in prison.

The next time the new jailer passed Ahn's cell, Ahn said, "Madame, you are too beautiful to be working in this grim prison."

Smiling she answered, "I'm not beautiful." In soft whispers she added, "I'm Higashi's wife. Just call me, Madame. We are friends to Kuga and other high officials. My husband is section head of Korea's fuel department. Did you know you are a distinguished prisoner?"

"Why? Because I won't disobey God?"

"Many think you are being treated unfairly and that you are important for our country. Since the war broke out, my husband's had to leave home. Before he left I asked permission to work here so I could help you."

In surprise Ahn gasped, "Is that true?"

"Yes." Ahn looked straight into Madame Higashi's face to see if her eyes also spoke the truth.

Before Madame Higashi left that evening, she brought Ahn a bag of crackers. Ahn worshiped the Lord. The other prisoners in her cell stood in reverence. Then, very quietly, they munched salty, crunchy crackers.

The next evening Madame Higashi brought delicious rice balls for everyone in the cell. A few days before, the starving prisoners had eaten a leather belt which someone smuggled into the jail.

Every day Madame Higashi brought food for Ahn and the prisoners in her cell. They ate quietly and quickly so no one would smell the food. She brought rice, meat, fish, pickles, cake, candy, vegetables, potatoes, sweet potatoes and pumpkins. "It's against prison rules for prisoners to have good food. How do you keep from getting caught?" Ahn questioned.

"Every day I give something delicious to the chief jailer and I slip food to the other jailers on duty. No one will tell because every person is so hungry. Our country's food is being sent to the soldiers."

"How are you getting food?"

"Men who want a little extra fuel give food in exchange for it. At first my husband would not accept the food nor give extra fuel. Now he does, so I can help you."



Manna From Heaven

Exodus 16:2-4, 8, 13-15, 32-35

2 ...The whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:

3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh [meat] pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

4 Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day,...

8 ...The Lord shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full;...

13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said... It is manna: ... And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.

32 And Moses said, ... Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations;

that they may see the bread where-with I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.

33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations.

34 As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up... to be kept.

35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, ... until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

The Message: God fed the children of Israel when they were in the wilderness where they could not obtain food from other sources.

Questions:

1. Who murmured against Moses and Aaron?
2. Of what did they murmur?
3. What did the Lord promise in the morning?
4. What did God promise to send in the evening?
5. Did God send the bread and meat?
6. What was to be put in a pot?
7. Why were they to save the manna?
8. How long did the people eat manna?
9. Has God promised to always supply our needs?

Verse to Memorize

...My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory...

Philippians 4:19.

Let's



Talk . . .

Tramp, tramp, tramp went the feet of thousands of Israelite boys and girls as they hurried with their parents out of Egypt. "Come on," called a father to a son who was lagging behind.

"I'm sleepy," answered the boy as he stumbled along in the darkness.

"We've got to get far away before Pharaoh awakes. He may send his army after us. I'm sure he'll be unhappy when he finds a million of his slaves have escaped!"

The escaped slaves were traveling across a desert wilderness on their way to the country God had promised to them. It was a land so productive that people said it "flowed with milk and honey." They had eaten every bit of the food brought from Egypt and every edible nut and berry from the wild plants. They had eaten the grass and leaves from the trees. Nothing was left and they were very, very hungry. Children were crying and parents were so discouraged that some said, "We wish we were back in Egypt. At least we had food."

God heard their grumbling and sent food from heaven. A white grain-like food fell during the night. In the morning the

ground was covered with what they thought was dew. But when the dew evaporated they saw it was food. Hurriedly they gathered it up and ate.

Then Moses called them together and said, "This is manna. Each family is to gather just enough for his family to eat that day. This manna will not be good tomorrow. God will send more tomorrow. Only on the Sabbath will the manna kept overnight be good to eat." The people thanked God for the manna.

After a few weeks of eating nothing but manna, they complained that they needed meat. At evening a huge flock of quail came flying into their camp. Fathers, mothers and children ran out and caught the birds while the birds were asleep.

The following day they had a feast. Maybe it was like the Thanksgiving dinner many Americans have. They ate so much that many became sick. Have you ever eaten so much that you made yourself sick? If you have, you know how the Israelites felt.

What a great God we serve, who supplied so much food for one million Israelites. He supplied food for Ahn in prison, when people all over Korea were starving. He has supplied many times for those who trust Him. Trust the Lord and He will supply whatever you need.

—Charlotte Huskey



"Surely this is the hand of God," Ahn said.

After many weeks of eating more food, Ahn looked stronger, her hair was shining again and she wasn't so skinny. Ahn heard the chief jailer remark, "I can't believe that Number 57 (Ahn) looks so well. I thought she would be dead by now." Ahn noticed the angry gleam in her eyes as she spoke.

Ahn trembled.

A few days later, Ahn said to Madame Higashi, "I believe I must confess to the chief jailer. What can I say when we are caught? Anyway I'm condemned to die, I just as well die empty as full."

"You must not weaken. Think of all the others who might suffer."

"I don't want to get you in trouble."

"Then don't!" she said rather sharply.

The following week the women in Ahn's cell were munching happily on cakes when Jailer Aoki burst into the ward and shouted, "Shift change!"

"It isn't time to change shifts," Ahn heard Madame Higashi say.

"Does it matter that I came a little early?" Jailer Aoki said with a sneer.

Madame Higashi mumbled and gave her the keys. At the same instant the department head, a male jailer and female inspector came through the door.

"Cell inspection!" the inspector called loudly.

The smell of food filled Ahn's cell. Each prisoner was numb. No one moved or said a word, but each was asking themselves, "What shall we do?"

Ahn's lips formed, "God help us." Quickly she sat on her food and rubbed her throat as a sign to swallow. Each one copied Ahn.

Jailer Aoki came quickly to Ahn's cell and opened the door. The inspector was checking the list. The male

jailer stepped into the cell and sniffed the air. At that very moment someone shouted to the department head, "Five model prisoners have escaped. You are ordered to report to the office immediately."

The department head started for the door, the male jailer and inspector running behind him. Jailer Aoki heaved a big sigh as she watched them go.

"My Lord and Father, You are living," Ahn said, bowing her face to the floor. The others bowed also.

Madame Higashi said to unhappy Jailer Aoki, "I have nothing else to do, so I will stay and help you."

"Never mind," Jailer Aoki said.

"I will stay until it is time for me to leave," Madame Higashi insisted.

Jailer Aoki slammed the keys into Madame Higashi's hand and stalked out.

"Only God could have done this," Madame Higashi said. "I'm sure God told those prisoners to escape," she added.

Later that evening Ahn heard Jailer Aoki say to Madame Higashi, "Those prisoners must be crazy to escape when they were so close to getting released. They may have to stay another three years if they are caught."

"Perhaps they feared being bombed by one of the B-29's and they'd be killed without saying good-bye to their families," answered Madame Higashi.

"It's all very strange and has the prison in an uproar," said Jailer Aoki.

As Ahn listened she quoted from memory, Ps. 124:7, "Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The children of Israel. 2. Hunger. 3. Bread (manna). 4. Quail (meat). 5. Yes. 6. An omer of manna. 7. To show the later generations what God had supplied. 8. 40 years. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 23, 1997

Number 92

(Continued from last week.)

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

"Don't let her loose, or she will bite us all," called the prisoners in Ahn's cell, as Ahn wrestled with prisoner Number 92.

"She's a stinky maniac."

"And a murderer!"

"Get her out of here!"

"Help me, God!" Ahn prayed silently as she struggled desperately. Hatred gleamed from Number 92's wild, red eyes. She was much stronger than Ahn, but Ahn held her from the back where the girl's hands were handcuffed. The girl lunged this way and that all over the cell. Ahn held tightly and followed. Each time they came near another prisoner, the prisoner shouted, "Get away from me."

At last they fell hard on the floor. Number 92 lay still but glared fiercely at Ahn. Ahn held her tightly until she fell asleep.

The other women gathered around. "The fight made enough sweat to clean the crust from her eyes," one prisoners remarked.

"And it cleaned a layer of dirt from her face, so we can see her skin is not leather."

"The jailer said she killed her husband."

"She looks awfully young to have done that," said another.

Ahn lay down beside Number 92, and held her icy, stinky feet close to her body to keep them warm. For three days and nights the girl slept and snored so loudly that the other prisoners complained constantly about it.

When she finally awoke and discovered that Ahn was holding her feet she jerked then away angrily, and said something that sounded like cursing, although Ahn did not know what she had said.

Before long, Number 92 went to sleep again, and Ahn again warmed her feet. "I think she must like to warm feet," one woman said.

"Being so cold may be why she has not slept for weeks," Ahn answered.

Another prisoner chided, "Is she worth all your effort? Why do you help her?"

"It's because I think Jesus would help her if He was here," Ahn answered.

"If she doesn't clean up, I'm demanding that she be taken out of here. I can't stand her smell much longer."

"I'll ask the jailer for some clean clothes and we'll change her when she wakes up," Ahn promised.

She did just that.



Jesus Delivers From Evil Spirits

Matthew 15:21-28

21 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me,...my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came...saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Mark 1:23-27

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

27 And they were all amazed,...

Matthew 4:23-24

23 ...Jesus went about all Galilee,... healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

24 ...And they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

The Message: Jesus healed the sick and delivered people from evil spirits that were controlling them.

Questions:

1. Why did the woman from Canaan come to Jesus?
2. What problem did her daughter have?
3. How many times did Jesus test her faith?
4. When was the daughter healed?
5. What caused the man to cry out in the temple?
6. What did the spirit do to the man it possessed?
7. Was the man delivered of the evil spirit?
8. What happened to those possessed with devils?
9. Were the lunatics healed?

Verse to Memorize

...And they brought unto him...those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic,...and he healed them.

Matthew 4:24.

Let's



Talk . . .

In the land of Canaan lived a woman whose daughter was severely tormented by the devil. The poor girl had no peace and neither did her mother. When the mother heard that Jesus was healing people possessed by the devil, she thought hopefully that her daughter, too, could be healed. "I am going to see if Jesus will heal you," she told her daughter.

She found the crowd of people following after Jesus, but not knowing where Jesus was in the crowd, she cried out, "O Lord, have mercy on me, and heal my daughter who is tormented by the devil."

Jesus did not answer her, so she kept shouting, "I need help. I need help. Please heal my daughter. Please, Jesus." She kept crying until the disciples were annoyed.

"She is disturbing Your work. Send her away," they said to Jesus.

A while later Jesus turned to the pleading woman and said, "God sent me to help the people of Israel. He did not send me to your people."

Quickly she pushed her way through the crowd and fell at Jesus' feet and worshiped Him.

Then looking into His compassionate eyes, she said, "Lord, help me."

Jesus answered, "Is it wise to take the children's food before they have eaten and give it to the dogs?"

"No it isn't," she agreed, "but Jesus, the dogs get a few crumbs that the children drop."

"You have great faith," Jesus told her. "I haven't found your kind of faith in all the land of Israel. Be it unto you even as you ask."

When the woman returned to her home, her daughter was well. The tormenting devils went away as Jesus spoke those words to the mother.

Another day when Jesus was in Capernaum He went into the synagogue. A man with an unclean spirit cried out, "Get out of here and leave us alone. We don't want anything to do with You, Jesus. Have You come to destroy us? I know You are from God and have the power of God."

"Be quiet, and come out of that man," Jesus commanded the evil spirit.

The evil spirit gave a loud, horrible sound, then tore the man as he was coming out.

Throughout the country of Galilee and the region around, Jesus healed the sick, those who were tormented with devils and the lunatic. His fame spread to Syria, and from Syria, sick people, the devil possessed and the insane were brought and He healed them.

—Charlotte Huskey

A new prisoner was pushed into the cell. Curiously she watched Ahn caring for Number 92. When she heard her curse Ahn, the new prisoner shouted, "That dirty Chinese. I'll kill her!" She reached for her hair but Ahn separated them and sent the new prisoner to the far corner of the room. "She's cursing you," the new prisoner said. "I know the Manchurian's language."

The next time Number 92 was asleep, Ahn again held her feet and from the new prisoner she learned how to say, "That's right," "I love you," and "I like you." In a few weeks Ahn could say many things to the girl.

Ahn often said, "I love you" to Number 92. Sometimes she thought she noticed just a little spark of happiness in the girl's eyes, but she never smiled or laughed.

"Have you ever laughed?"

"No!"

"Have you ever cried?"

She shook her head, "No."

That night the prisoners were homesick and talking of their families. Suddenly Number 92 cried out, "Where is my baby? My baby boy? I gave birth just before I was arrested. The detective took my baby. Where is he now?" She began sobbing.

Ahn held the girl lovingly until she could control herself. Then she asked, "Do you suppose he died?"

"Listen," Ahn said, "Someone is calling you."

"My baby?" she asked.

"No, your Creator."

"You love your baby because he is yours."

"God loves you because you are His."

"Nobody wants me. I'm too mean."

"I hated my parents and they hated me. They sold me to an old man. He wasn't as mean as my parents, but I hated him, too. I killed him," she said

as she began to tremble all over. "Now I hate myself. Can I make it right?" She began pulling her hair and beating herself.

"What can I do? What can I do?" She fell, sobbing, to the floor.

"Jesus will forgive," Ahn assured her.

Long after the others were asleep, Ahn could hear the girl still sobbing.

The following morning her face looked peaceful and her eyes shone brightly. "Will Jesus forgive someone as bad as me?" she asked.

"Jesus says, 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'"

"Did my husband go to hell?" she asked.

"Perhaps."

"If I go there and apologize to him, will Jesus forgive me?"

"He will forgive when you are truly sorry."

From that day on, Number 92 listened carefully when Ahn recited the Bible or sang hymns.

When the day of her departure came, she saluted Ahn with both hands on her forehead. "Thank you, thank you," she said. Then she held out her hands to be handcuffed and walked ahead of the two officers as if hurrying to meet Jesus.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. She believed that Jesus could heal her daughter. 2. Her daughter was tormented with an evil spirit. 3. Three times. (She was ignored, told that He was not sent to her people, and hinted that she was as unimportant as a dog.) 4. The hour that the mother was speaking to Jesus. 5. He had an unclean spirit. 6. The unclean spirit tore the man and cried out. 7. Yes. 8. They were all healed. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Nov. 30, 1997

New Believers!

(Continued from last week.)

"Bring me something to stop this itching," cried a prisoner from down the hall. "I've not slept a wink for three weeks." The sound of her voice was that of despair.

"Bring me something, too," shouted another. "My body is one solid scab."

"Take me out and hang me," cried another. "This itch is worse than being hanged."

"Thank God we haven't gotten itch in our cell," Ahn said.

"Thank God? I don't believe there is a God," said the new prisoner in Ahn's cell.

"Miss Ahn's prayers have kept the itch out of our cell," remarked another prisoner.

Before the day was over the women noticed the new prisoner scratching herself. "Get her out of here!" they shouted in one voice, crowding together to keep from touching her.

"You're not sleeping by me," demanded the prisoner who was supposed to sleep beside her.

"I'll sleep beside her," Ahn said. Then she reproved the others for being so cruel although she understood, for there were so many in the cell that they had to sleep tightly together like crayons in a box.

Ahn couldn't sleep that night because the woman moved and scratched all through the night. The next day, while she dozed, she heard another prisoner ask, "Why did you have to come here? You don't even look like a criminal. Did you really break the law?"

"I've been so starved during this pregnancy that I often faint. My husband hated to see me suffering, so he stole a cow and sold it to buy grain. I'm accused of conspiring with him." Ahn looked up and saw her wiping tears from her bony face.

"Well, they need to let you go free so we won't get the itch."

Two mornings later a tiny girl was born. Ahn called the jailer and they brought clean clothes and some blue rags. Ahn wrapped the baby in the rags and laid her snuggled closely to the mother. The day was extremely cold and the mother's body was cold. Ahn put the baby inside her clothes against her own warm chest. That is when Ahn noticed the baby's head was a solid scab. "Born with the itch," Ahn gasped. The cell was in such a commotion that no one heard what Ahn said.

As Ahn warmed the baby she remembered her own birth; very tiny and unwanted by her father's mother. But her father had prophesied that



Jesus Heals the Sick

Mark 1:29-44

29 ...When they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him.

37 And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

38 And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

43 And he straightly charged him, and forthwith sent him away;

44 And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

The Message: Jesus healed all the sick that were brought to Him.

Questions:

1. Who was sick at Simon's house?
2. Of what was she suffering?
3. Did Jesus heal Simon's mother-in-law?
4. Who was brought to Jesus in the evening?
5. What did Jesus do in the evening?
6. Who came to Jesus in Galilee?
7. What did the leper want?
8. Was Jesus afraid to touch the man afflicted with leprosy?
9. When was the leprosy healed?

Verse to Memorize

And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils;...

Mark 1:34.

Let's



Talk . . .

Many years before Jesus was born, prophets told about Him. One of the things they said was that Jesus would come with healing. This prophecy is found in the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi 4:2, "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing..." Another one is in Isaiah 61:1, "The...Lord...hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." "Liberty to the captives" and "opening the prison" does not mean that Jesus was going to open jails and prisons and let the criminals go free. It means that He would have power to heal any who are captive to a disease and any who are in prison, by evil spirits, can be set FREE! Isn't that exciting?

While on earth, Jesus went about healing the sick. Some had been captive to diseases for many years. One woman had an issue of blood for twelve years and had spent much money on many physicians but was still suffering. Jesus healed her! Wherever Jesus went, sick men, women and children were brought to Jesus and He healed them.

Jesus also freed those who were in prison by the spirit of the devil. One boy was controlled by an evil spirit from his birth. This spirit sometimes threw him into the fire and sometimes into the water. The father and mother were very weary of protecting their son from this spirit. They brought their son to Jesus' disciples, but the disciples could not bring the spirit out of the boy, so the father brought the son to Jesus and Jesus set the boy FREE!

Jesus has the same healing power today that He had when He was here on the earth.

—Charlotte Huskey



O Lord, Thou Healest Me!

Where shall we look for help in affliction?

Or whither shall we send?

*"The prayer of faith will save," it is written,
'Tis truth till time shall end.*

Thy love, O God, abideth forever,

Thy mighty power the same;

*And all Thy Word declares Thou art willing
To heal the sick and lame.*

Thy heart, dear Lord, is full of compassion,

And touched with sympathy;

*Why then should I continue to suffer?
I know Thou healest me.*

O Christ, Thou art my perfect Physician,

Thy faith now makes me whole;

*Thy healing touch pervadeth my body,
And thrills with joy my soul.*

Number 304 in Evening Light Songs.

she would be great, and had seen that she had excellent care in her childhood and youth. She smiled when she thought of the news her sister had brought. "Father was saved in the hospital two weeks before he died. He had read the Bible you gave him through several times."

Because of her starved body, the mother never had milk for the baby whom Ahn named, Okja. At times Okja could swallow a few drops of gruel that was sent from the prison kitchen. This seemed to take all her strength. Eight days later Okja died. Ahn showed the peaceful baby to its mother. She turned her face toward the wall and sighed. Perhaps she was relieved that Okja would not have to suffer in this world.

Now Ahn's chest was covered with a large red place that itched constantly. Within a few days there were cracks in between her fingers and around her wrists. Within weeks almost everyone in the cell was groaning and itching both day and night. Some cursed the poor women. Others cursed God.

"God is very powerful. He can heal us," Ahn told the women.

"Then why doesn't He?" questioned one woman.

"Please pray that He will," another said.

"We must humble ourselves and tell Him we are sorry for cursing Him and this poor woman, Ahn said. God is to be praised, not cursed."

"We will," they promised.

"God says, 'Be not afraid of the terror by night...nor for the pestilence...it shall not come nigh thee.' 'Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.'" Ahn encouraged the women to

put their trust in God. Then they decided to pray together.

Ahn led in prayer. "Father in heaven, look down in mercy upon us. Forgive these women for cursing You and for their other sins. You have promised to supply all our needs. We need healing. This plague is almost unbearable, and getting worse every day. Manifest Your power in this cell, that others may see and believe that You are real. Amen."

From that moment healing started. In a few days, one said, "Look, the bloody, scaly place on my leg is dry and doesn't itch."

Another said, "I can sleep all night and not itch one bit."

Soon they were showing their healed hands and bodies to the jailers and other prisoners when they went for baths.

"I thought I would never believe in Jesus," a very hardened criminal said, "But this healing has made me a believer."

"And are you going to do what is right?" questioned her friend.

"I fear to displease a God that would show so much love to a sinner like me," she said.

Now the women sat reverently when Ahn quoted scriptures to them. They agreed with her when she prayed.

The moaning, groaning and itching had stopped.

Ahn's cell was full of joy!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Simon's mother-in-law. 2. A fever. 3. Yes. 4. All that were diseased and those possessed with devils. 5. He healed many that were sick and cast out many devils. 6. A leper. 7. To be healed. 8. No. 9. At the same moment that Jesus said, "Be thou clean.")

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Dec. 7, 1997

Ready To Die

(Continued from last week.)

"Stop hitting her!" Ahn demanded.

"She keeps whining and crowding me, and she is supposed to be sleeping over there by the toilet. She's the newest one here."

"She's probably cold. Icy wind is blowing in through that toilet and the window."

"I'll sleep over there with you," Ahn said to Wha Choon. "Come on."

"I'm afraid," she whined. Ahn took hold of her hand. Wha Choon was trembling. "Last night my husband watched me through the window. Tonight he's standing in that corner."

"Don't be afraid, no one is there. Let's ask God to help. God will chase away any ghost or evil spirit."

"Okay," she said, "Whatever you say."

Ahn prayed. "Now you can sleep. Jesus is protecting us."

Ahn lay down. Wha Choon curled up and wrapped her arms around her legs. Ahn could feel the tenseness of her body. "Why do you sleep like that?" Ahn asked.

"I've never had a quilt, so I learned to keep warm this way."

Long after Wha Choon was asleep Ahn was praising God for His good-

ness to her and for the good family she had. And she praised God for Wha Choon, whose warm body had warmed her cold one.

The following night, about midnight, Wha Choon started whimpering and crying again. "Quit crying for your mommy," shouted one of the women who had awakened. "Prisoners have to be tough."

"I'll pray again," Ahn said. After prayer she asked, "Was your husband mean?"

"Very mean."

"But he cannot reach you here."

"He's dead," she sobbed.

"Jesus will keep his ghost away. I suppose he made the scar on your pretty face?"

"No, my daddy accidentally dropped scissors on me when I was first born. People said it was the sign I was a murderer so no one wanted me, not even my parents."

"My husband took me because he could find no other."

"Chun Soo was kind to me. No one has ever loved me."

"I love you and Jesus loves you," Ahn said.

"Oh, no! I'm so bad. God will surely throw me into hell." She buried her face between her knees and cried. Ahn hugged her, but she cried



An Angel's Visit

Luke 1:26-35, 37-38

26 ...The angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

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

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

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

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

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

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I

know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

The Message: Mary was a pure girl who did all she knew to please God.

Questions:

1. Who came to visit Mary?
2. What did the angel tell Mary?
3. What would the baby be named?
4. What would Mary's baby become?
5. How long would Jesus' kingdom last?
6. Would Mary's baby be holy from birth?
7. Whose son is Jesus?
8. Are all things possible with God?
9. Was Mary willing to do what God planned for her?

Verse to Memorize

...The power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:35.

Let's



Talk . . .

Each year, in December we read again the marvelous story of Jesus' birth. It is an old story, about 2000 years old, but its beauty never becomes old. Mary was a pure girl who did all she knew to please God. She was careful to obey every commandment of God. Not only did she obey them, but she was happy to do so.

After Jesus became a man and began his ministry, a rich, young man came to Him and asked, "Master, what shall I do to have eternal life?"

"Keep God's commandments," Jesus told him.

"I have obeyed the commandments since I was a boy," the man answered. "But I think I still lack something."

"Yes, you do," Jesus answered. "Sell what you have and give it to the poor. Then you will have treasures in heaven."

The rich, young man looked at Jesus very sadly, then turned and went away.

Jesus' mother, Mary, was not like the rich, young man. She gladly gave to the poor and to those who were working for God. Mary's greatest desire was to serve God in whatever way she could. When the angel said, "You

shall have a child by the Holy Spirit," Mary answered, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. I will serve God in the way that He has chosen for me." What beautiful character Mary had. She was completely submissive to the will of God, although she knew it would cause her to be misunderstood and rejected by many religious people. Even Joseph, the man that she planned to marry, began doubting that he wanted to marry her because she was expecting a child.

Are you completely willing to do whatever God wants for you? Are you willing to do for God something that will cause you to be rejected by your friends or family? Are you willing to do His will if He should ask you to do something out of the ordinary? When we become willing to please God rather than please ourselves or others, then God can do something wonderful with us, just as He did with Mary.

—Charlotte Huskey



until she was exhausted and fell asleep.

"You must love her, to show My love," Jesus said to Ahn.

Ahn thought of ways to show God's love. She decided to give Wha Choon her meals. When the scanty meal was served, however, Ahn gobbled it down herself. Ahn promised to give the next meal, but when it came, she could not resist eating it. For three days she battled. On the fourth day she gave her food to Wha Choon. "This is from Jesus," Ahn said.

"I cannot eat your food," Wha Choon said.

"It is not mine. It belongs to Jesus." Finally Wha Choon ate the food.

On the fourth day when Ahn gave her food away, Wha Choon said, "I know you love me." From that time Wha Choon listened carefully as Ahn told her Bible stories. One day she asked, "Do you think that God will forgive my sins?"

"He will," Ahn assured her.

"But I told Chun Soo I wanted the poison for mice and I gave it to my husband. Then I blamed it on Chun Soo and he may be executed." Her body trembled and agony showed on her face.

"Remember the verses you memorized? 'For God so loved the world...' 'Jesus came that the world might be justified.' 'If we confess our sins... God will forgive our sins.'"

"Oh, but I am so bad."

For a long time Ahn quoted promises from the Bible that God would forgive. "I shall fast until I know God has forgiven me," she said.

Although only sixteen years old, she fasted four days. At the end of the fourth day, her face was radiant.

"Now how can I make things right with my friend Chun Soo?" she asked.

"You will be called to testify before a judge. Tell him you deceived Chun

Soo, that only you are to blame for the death."

"I will tell the truth, then I will have no regrets when I die," she said.

Wha Choon often prayed before dawn while the prison was quiet. Several times she fasted for three days. The inside change brought outside beauty to her. Even the ugly scar seemed to shrink. The prisoners talked about it. One said, "I wish I could change like she has. I would love to be happy just once."

Another said, "After such a terrible childhood, she can laugh and talk about the pleasant times." Even the jailers remarked about her change.

It was months before Wha Choon was taken to court. Her pretty face was beaming when she returned. "I told the judge that I had deceived Chun Soo. God helped me to talk plain and not lie. A lie is sin, and I hate sin more than death. Now I feel clean."

Not long after that Wha Choon dreamed she was flying through the sky in a long white dress. That very day the jailer came for her.

Ahn and Wha Choon fell into each other's arms and cried. "Who is Jesus?" Ahn asked.

"He is my Savior." With tears in her eyes she said, "My troubles are over, but you must continue to suffer. I am so sorry for you. Thank you, thank you, for all you did for me." She bowed deeply to Ahn, then followed the jailer like an obedient dog going to his supper.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. An angel. 2. That she would have a baby. 3. Jesus. 4. He was born a King. 5. It would have no end. 6. Yes. 7. God's son. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Dec. 14, 1997

Glad to be in Jail

(Continued from last week.)

"How long are you going to keep me in this pig house?" Sun Wha demanded of the jailer.

The surprised jailer looked at her sternly. "I'm not afraid of you, you fool!" she lashed back.

Beautiful Sun Wha, who had lived in luxury and had been loved by many high officials, found it hard to adjust to a prison cell. All day she paced back and forth like a wild animal in a cage, pushing and growling at whoever was in her way. She spoke terrible words and cried for a cigarette. This angered the others and they soon began abusing her.

The evening of the second day Ahn began singing hymns, hoping it would help to calm Sun. "That song is beautiful and so is your voice," she told Ahn.

"I taught music in a Christian high school," Ahn said. "I have memorized 150 hymns." She then sang another song.

"I like them, although I have never heard that kind of song," she said. "Would you sing it again?"

Ahn sang five verses of a hymn. "Please teach it to me," she begged. Ahn repeated the words over and

over again until Sun could say them perfectly. Then she sang the melody over and over. Together they sang the song. After that, Sun sang the hymn alone.

Every day Sun asked Ahn to teach her another hymn. These she sang often. But when she was not singing or talking with Ahn, she talked and laughed about her sinful life.

"Will you please not talk about such things?" Ahn asked when she thought she couldn't stand another word of such filth.

"What else is there to do?" Sun questioned.

"I will tell you a story," Ahn promised.

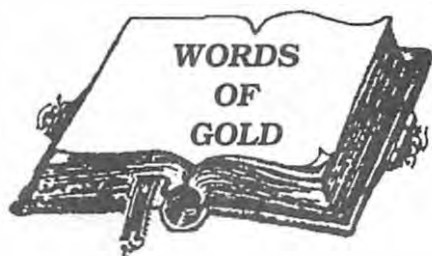
She listened while Ahn told about the rich man and Lazarus.

"Is that story true?"

"It is from the Bible and it is true."

"Hell is real?"

"Hell is real, but Jesus came to earth and died on the cross that every sinner who believes in Him can be saved and not go to hell. After a person believes in Jesus, they must obey God's rules. God tells us not to worship an image. I am in prison because I would not bow to



Joseph's Dream

Matthew 1:18-25

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

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just [fair] man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the

Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Isaiah 7:14

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

The Message: Joseph obeyed the angel and was privileged to care for baby Jesus.

Questions:

1. To whom was Mary engaged?
2. Why did Joseph not want to marry her?
3. Who was the father of the child Mary was expecting?
4. Why did Joseph not want to make Mary a public example?
5. Why did Joseph change his mind?
6. What did the angel say the baby should be named?
7. What great work would this baby do?
8. What had the prophet said about Mary?
9. Did Joseph and Mary go ahead with their wedding?

Verse to Memorize

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Matthew 1:23.

Let's



Talk . . .

In the land of Israel it was a very serious matter to accuse a girl of not being a virgin. A girl who was expecting a child before she was married was considered just as bad as a murderer. A murderer was killed for his sin. A virgin was killed for her sin. If a girl was found with child before she was married, the elders of the city had to take action. They would take the girl to her own home, and in front of her home, the parents had to watch their daughter being stoned to death.

This law may seem very strange to us, for in our country fornication and adultery are not considered as bad as murder. However, these two sins cause much, much trouble to those involved. I believe that most murders are connected with them. They also cause much suffering to innocent children. If we consider all the troubles and other sins that are connected to fornication and adultery, then we can see that it is a terrible sin, just as terrible as murder.

Joseph must have believed that Mary was carrying a child of the Holy Ghost, for he thought it would be unfair to Mary to accuse her of fornication. He knew it would cause her much shame and sorrow. He also knew the consequences of Mary's condition—she would be stoned to death. He did

not want that to happen to the girl he loved.

God solved the big problem that Mary and Joseph had. He sent an angel to Joseph in a dream. This angel told Joseph to go ahead with the marriage. Joseph did.

Joseph obeyed the angel and was privileged to care for baby Jesus. Many men would have loved to have been able to do what Joseph got to do. He was there the night the angels sang praises to announce Jesus' birth. He was there when the three kings from the East came with gifts for baby Jesus. He was the great hero that escaped with Jesus in the night, which kept Herod's soldiers from killing the baby. He got to hear Jesus cooing and calling him "dada." He got to hold Jesus and feel Jesus' soft touch on his bearded face, and to watch Jesus take His first steps. He enjoyed watching Jesus as He played in the wood shavings under his carpenter's table and to teach Jesus how to do many things. Joseph was happy he had obeyed the angel and had taken Mary as his wife.

—Charlotte Huskey



the Japanese Shrine. Jesus told us to do good and live pure lives."

"I am truly a sinner," she said. "The husband I now have, I stole from his wife. I know I must return him, although it makes my heart ache. I will be so lonely without him. Oh, how can I do it? How can I?"

"God will help you," Ahn assured her.

"Yes, if I cling to Him."

Almost every day Sun talked about her friend—the husband that was not really hers. One day she cheerfully said, "As soon as I am freed, I am going to my friend's home to apologize to his mother and wife. I think God will truly forgive me if I do that. Afterwards, I want to go into the mountains, build a church and teach the children about Jesus. If I had known Jesus, I would have enjoyed life instead of being so unhappy."

"You weren't happy?"

"Only for short moments at a time, when I could forget my friend's wife. My heart burned with jealousy. Almost every day I dreamed of killing him and myself."

"Are you happy now?"

"Yes, it is the first time in my life that I am at peace and truly happy."

Several times Ahn heard Sun telling another prisoner, "If you return to God. He will forgive your sins, then you, too, will be happy. Having your sins forgiven is the greatest gift anyone could receive. You will lose nothing by believing in Jesus. But you will lose much if you do not."

One morning Ahn noticed Sun looked very troubled. "Are you sick?" Ahn asked.

"I had a very disturbing dream," she answered. She pointed to the

window and said, "I dreamed that my friend peeked in that window and said, 'Good-bye. I'm going to a far away country.'"

"Did you want to follow him?"

"Of course, but even in my dream I remembered that I was giving him back to his wife."

"I praise God for your determination," Ahn said.

That afternoon the jailer opened the cell door and said, "A message for Sun Wha." Handing her a note, he went away.

Sun Wha read the note, then exclaimed, "My friend, my husband, he's, he's dead."

Ahn held Sun tightly. Sun laid her head on Ahn's shoulder and wept bitterly. After awhile she raised her tear-stained face and said, "He's gone to a far away country, just like in my dream. I hope someone in his ward told him about Jesus, as you did me."

Sun was sentenced to one year of work in the prison factory. She changed into the red uniform and turning to Ahn she said, "You won't forget me? I want to be beside you when we meet in heaven." She lingered in the cell as if hating to leave, then said, "This 'pig house' is sacred to me. It's where I found my Savior and happiness."

She went smiling into the prison factory.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Joseph. 2. Because she was expecting a baby. 3. The Holy Ghost. 4. Joseph thought it was unfair to Mary. 5. God gave him a dream. 6. Jesus. 7. He would save people from sin. 8. A virgin would have a child called Immanuel. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Dec. 21, 1997

God Takes Charge!

(Continued from last week.)

"Love divine, all love excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down! Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; All thy faithful mercies crown,..." sang Mrs. Choi.

"Quiet! Quiet!" demanded Jailer Fujita as she raced down the corridor to cell number five.

"Breathe, oh, breathe, Thy loving Spirit, Into every troubled breast, Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find the promised rest..." continued Mrs. Choi. Quickly Jailer Fujita hit Mrs. Choi on the head with her heavy ring of keys. "It is against prison rules to sing. Have you gone mad?" she shouted.

"No. I'm only worshiping God."

"I'm not afraid of your God. What can He do to me?" Jailer Fujita asked. She hit Mrs. Choi again.

"Oh, how that must have hurt!" thought Ahn.

That night before going to bed, Ahn could hear Mrs. Choi praying. "Oh my Jesus, feed the 400,000 Christians who cannot go to church and hear Your Word. Bless these holy sheep and open the 3,000 Christian churches which have been closed for refusing to worship a shrine. Comfort the brethren suffering in prisons and supply for their families."

"Bless the women in prison, too," Ahn added, "and protect Mrs. Choi who's heading into some terrible trouble. Take charge of all this," Ahn prayed very quietly. She hadn't the courage to pray aloud and wondered what she would do if Mrs. Choi worshiped so loudly tomorrow. Jailer Yagi was as cruel as Jailer Fujita and stronger.

The next morning, when the jailers changed shifts, Ahn was surprised to have a new jailer. Amazed, Ahn stared at her. "She looks kind. Thank You, God," Ahn said. But why hadn't Yagi come?

The jailer noticed Ahn looking and came to her cell. "You must be that famous lady who is in jail for not bowing to a shrine."

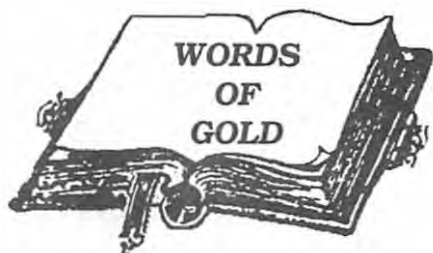
"I'm Number 57," Ahn retorted, thinking the jailer was making fun of her.

"I think it's foolish to keep people in prison for that."

"You could get in trouble for such talk," Ahn cautioned.

"I can quit anytime," she said.

Later, while she was serving Ahn's lunch of watery cabbage soup, Mrs. Choi began singing, "Savior lead me, lest I stray, Gently lead me all the way..." The jailer ran to Mrs. Choi's cell and stared.



The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:4-5, 7-16, 20

4 ...Joseph went...unto...Bethlehem;...

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

7 And she brought forth her first-born 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 Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And 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 to-

ward 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.

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.

The Message: Mary was thankful that God could use her to be the mother of Jesus.

Questions:

1. Where did Joseph and Mary go?
2. What happened to Mary at Bethlehem?
3. Why was Jesus laid in a manger?
4. In what did Mary wrap Jesus?
5. Who appeared to the shepherds?
6. What did the angels do?
7. Where did the shepherds go?
8. How did the shepherds know that Jesus was the baby they were hunting?
9. The shepherds hurried to see Jesus. Are you trying to see Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

...She brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7.

Let's



Talk . . .

Mary held her baby close to her body and breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank You, God," she whispered, "At last I can see and touch the baby that You promised. I often wondered if He would look different from other babies because You are His Father, but He looks much like any other baby. Thank You God, for this sweet baby."

Most of the last year had been hard for Mary. She had almost lost her fiance'. She had been misunderstood by others and reproached by many. She was often tired and sick. Some days she felt afraid and trembled at the thought of being a mother for Jesus. Would she be a good mother? Would she be able to do what was expected of the Savior's mother? She was happy that all those things were in the past. Now she would prove what a good mother she could be.

While Mary lay with the baby cuddled against her, some shepherds outside the city were watching a light that had suddenly appeared far away in the sky. As it drew near, they saw an angel appear in the light. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I've come with great news! The Savior of the world has just been born! He's in Bethlehem." In that instant the sky was filled with angels. Each one was praising God and singing, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men."

As soon as the angels disappeared, the shepherds set out in search of the Savior. They had often

heard that God was sending a Savior. They believed He would become a great king and free their people from the tyrant rulers who had ruled them for many years. (God's plan, however, was different. God had already told the Jews that their country would be destroyed because they had rejected Him, but they had forgotten that. What God had promised was freedom from the bondage of sin that had gotten them into this rejected state.) Excited to be the first ones to see the new King, the shepherd hurried into Bethlehem and searched until they found the new baby.

"This is the Savior," they cried, "for He is wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger just as the angel said."

"An angel told us about the Savior's birth and how He would be dressed," another shepherd explained to Mary and Joseph.

"And a great host of angels came into the sky and sang praises to God," the third shepherd added excitedly.

The shepherds were so excited that they left the stable and told everyone they saw about the angels' visit and the new King that had just been born.

Mary kissed Jesus and gave Him a gentle squeeze. "Thank You, God, thank You, for choosing me to be the mother of this great King," Mary said.

—Charlotte Huskey



"She's singing with her eyes closed and her hands clasped," the new jailer reported to Ahn. "Why is she doing that?"

"She is worshipping God for her food."

Looking at Ahn's empty cup she asked, "Why don't you?"

"I thanked God quietly."

"I was told to report anything unusual. Isn't that unusual?"

"Not for Mrs. Choi. She always worships in that way. If you report her, she will be tortured."

"Then I will not. I can say I didn't know it was unusual."

That night Ahn thanked God for sending a good jailer that did not trouble Mrs. Choi. The next day cruel Jailer Fujita was on duty again. Ahn trembled when she heard Mrs. Choi singing, "I have a Friend so precious, so very dear to me, He loves me with a tender love, He loves me faithfully, I could not live a part from Him..."

"But you will," Jailer Fujita yelled. "I will see to that." She rushed to the chief jailer's office. Soon they were back with handcuffs, a piece of wood, a rope and rags. They dragged Mrs. Choi out into the corridor and handcuffed her hands behind her back. Ahn cover her face and cried, "Oh Lord, please take charge, don't let Mrs. Choi be tormented like I was." When she opened her eyes again, she saw they had blocked Mrs. Choi's mouth open and stuffed it full of rags.

Jailer Yagi came on duty the next shift. She was cruel like Jailer Fujita and the chief jailer, so she did not help Mrs. Choi. Ahn fasted and prayed for Mrs. Choi that day and most of the night.

The next morning Jailer Fujita came back on duty. A look of pleasure lit her face when she went to cell number five. Ahn could hear her say-

ing, "There you lie, just like we left you yesterday. Why didn't the God you worship come and help you? I guess I proved that God couldn't do anything to me."

That evening, when the next jailer came on duty, she found Jailer Fujita sitting on the floor just outside of cell number five. "What has happened?" she asked.

"I lost all my strength," she said. "My legs are like cotton."

"I'll help you." She tried, but could not hold Jailer Fujita up, so she went for help. It took one on each side of Jailer Fujita to get her up and out of the ward. The prison doctor was called. He said, "Jailer Fujita, your life may be about over. You are in the last stages of tuberculosis. You will have to stay in bed the rest of your life."

Promptly the chief jailer gave orders to unlock Mrs. Choi's handcuffs and remove the wood and rags from her mouth. She also had a nice meal sent. Before Mrs. Choi ate, she thanked God for her food. Then she sang, "Sometimes I'm faint and weary, He knows that I am weak, And as He bids me lean on Him, His help I'll gladly seek." The jailer and guard stood in silent awe until Mrs. Choi finished worshipping God.

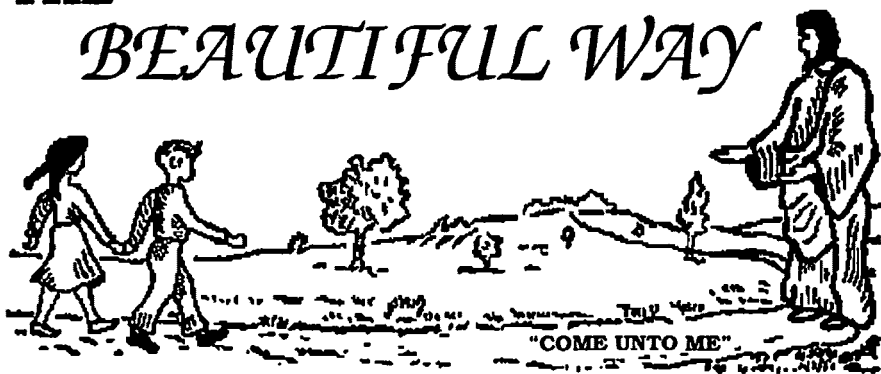
Jailer Fujita never came again to the prison.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To Bethlehem. 2. She gave birth to Jesus. 3. There was no room for them in any other place. 4. In swaddling clothes. 5. Angels. 6. They sang praises to God and told that Jesus was born. 7. To find baby Jesus. 8. Because He was wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger just as the angels had said. 9. Either yes, or no is the correct answer.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 48, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Dec. 28, 1997

A Missing Plane

(Continued from last week.)

"Read this," Jailer Jue said as she handed a newspaper through the bars of Ahn's cell.

"Has Japan lost another battle?" she asked hopefully as she opened the paper.

"Yes," Jailer Jue answered. Ahn's heart sang. She had told the Japanese officials that their country would be destroyed because they had rejected Christ and were persecuting the Christians. She was secretly hoping that Japan would be destroyed in the war so Korea and the Christians could be free. "Read the article at the bottom of the page," Jailer Jue continued.

Ahn read. Her light, happy heart turned as heavy as lead and began skipping beats. As she wiped tears, she felt the burning stares of the other prisoners.

At 9:00 o'clock in the morning, on the eighth day of every month every person in Korea and Japan is commanded to worship Amateras Omikami and the Shinto gods. This includes children and adults, the sick and prisoners.

"Oh, God," Ahn prayed silently, "They will torture me again." Drops of

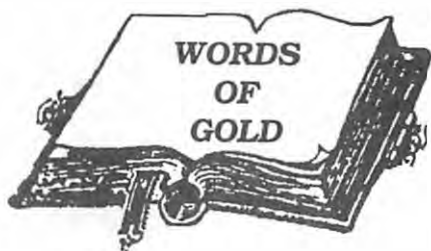
cold sweat fell from her face. She felt it trickling down her back. She could hardly breathe.

Remembering that Hezekiah took his letter to God, she spread the tormenting newspaper out on the cell floor and bowed over it. "Read this," she cried. The other prisoners crowded around, thinking that she was talking to them. Quickly, however, they saw that Ahn was talking with her God. They stood in silent awe. Some stretched their necks, trying to read what had so disturbed Ahn.

When Jailer Kuriyama came on duty she told Ahn that the chief jailer had called all the jailers together and told them about the new law. "She said to watch the prisoners closely for some will try to escape. This is very serious for you," Kuriyamawhispered to Ahn. "I have orders to remove all prisoners from your cell." Ahn felt faint. Prisoners were moved from the cells of those to be tortured.

As the prisoners were being removed, some looked sadly at Ahn. Others whispered, "Good-bye Miss Stubborn." When they were all gone, Ahn bowed on the floor and prayed.

"Oh, Lord, I am too weak. This rushing fear makes me want to give in. But I don't want to disobey You, and I've already told the judge I would never bow to another god." Ahn was trembling so hard that she had to



God Delivers

**II Kings 19:14-15, 17-23,
27-28, 35-37**

14 And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord.

15 And Hezekiah prayed...O Lord God of Israel, which...made heaven and earth.

17 Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

19 Now therefore,...save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the Lord God,...

20 Then Isaiah...sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, *That* which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.

21 This is the word that the Lord hath spoken concerning him;...

22 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.

23 By the messengers thou hast reproached the Lord,...

27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

28 ...Therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed,...

37 And it came to pass, as he was worshiping...his god, that...his sons smote him with the sword [and he died]:...

The Message: Hezekiah praised God for the message that Isaiah brought, and trusted patiently until God decided to work.

Questions:

1. What did Hezekiah receive?
2. Where did Hezekiah take the letter?
3. What had the kings of Assyria destroyed?
4. For what did Hezekiah pray?
5. Why did Hezekiah want God to save his country?
6. How had the wicked king reproached God?
7. What did God say He would do to the wicked king?
8. What happened to the Assyrian army?
9. What happened to the king of Assyria?

Verse to Memorize

...I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in,..."

II Kings 19:27.

Let's



Talk . . .

Hezekiah was in great trouble. The Assyrian king, Sennacherib, had come to take his country. Hezekiah had made a bargain with King Sennacherib and given him 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold. In order to find enough gold, Hezekiah had to take the gold off the doors and pillars of the temple. That had only satisfied King Sennacherib for a while.

Now King Sennacherib, with one hundred and eighty-five thousand Assyrian soldiers and much ammunition, was camped outside the walls of Jerusalem. Hezekiah's army was small and poorly equipped. Added to this disadvantage, Hezekiah knew that the Assyrian army had conquered all the other nations. Hezekiah believed they had conquered the other nations because the other nations trusted in gods of wood and stone, which were not real gods. Israel was, at this time, also worshiping such gods and the Assyrians had taken it. Judah was the only country that was trusting in God.

The Assyrian captains spoke scary threats in the city gates in a language that all the common people could understand. Then they sent a letter to Hezekiah. When Hezekiah received the threatening letter, he took it into the temple and spread the letter out as if to say, "Read this, God." Then He bowed and said, "God, You see how Sennacherib has reproached Your name and power. Will You please save us out of his hands so that all people will know that You are not like their gods?"

A few days later God sent His servant, Isaiah, who said to Hezekiah, "God has heard your prayer. He has said, 'The people of Jerusalem shall laugh and shake their heads at the Assyrians who have reproached Me by their messages. They say, 'We have conquered by drying up rivers, by making cities heaps of debris? The inhabitants of other nations have been as grass under our feet,' they bragged. But God says that He knows where the king is at all times and He will put a hook in his nose and turn him around and send him back from where he came.'" Hezekiah praised God for the message that Isaiah brought, and trusted patiently until God decided to work.

One night while the Assyrian soldiers were sleeping in their camp outside the wall of Jerusalem, the death angel visited them. The following morning when King Sennacherib awoke, all was silent. "Why aren't the cooks making breakfast, or the men getting ready for the day?" he thought. "See what has happened to these lazy soldiers!" he commanded his servant.

Minutes later the servant reappeared in the king's tent door. He was white as a ghost and trembling all over. "Master, Master," he said in a grim voice, "every soldier is lying dead in his tent."

"What? What did you say?" the king asked in an astonished voice.

"The camp is full of dead men."

"A hundred and eighty-five thousand soldiers, dead? Impossible!" he stormed as he jumped to his feet. "I'll see for myself what's going on."

The king started quickly through the camp, checking tent after tent. After checking a few tents, he began trembling, then mounting his horse, he sped away on the same road by which he had come.

—Charlotte Huskey

clinch her teeth to keep from biting her tongue.

That day Ahn quoted part of Psalm 91: "...He is my refuge and my fortress:...Thou shalt not be afraid..."

"But I am afraid," Ahn sobbed. She cried for a long time. When she finally gained control of herself, she tried to again quote God's promises. "There shall no evil befall thee...he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." How could God keep this evil from befalling her? The words seemed empty and without meaning.

The bedtime bugle sounded loudly on the seventh. It seemed that all hell was laughing at Ahn

When the rising bugle sounded on the eighth day, kind Madame Higashi was the jailer on duty that day. Ahn could tell she was worried about her. Ahn washed her face and hands. At least she could meet God with clean hands and face. "I am still too weak," she told Him. "Take me under Your control and make me do right. God, I'm ashamed that I am so afraid after all the miracles You have done."

On her next round checking the prisoners, Madame Higashi whispered, "It is five minutes till nine."

"I'm ready," Ahn answered, trembling like a leaf in a storm. Madame Higashi stood at attention in front of Ahn's cell. She placed her watch so Ahn could read it.

At one minute till nine Ahn's heart was pounding so hard she feared she would not hear the siren. "Anyway, Lord, I don't plan to bow, but God I am so frightened, I just might if You don't hold me upright."

The next time Ahn looked at the watch it was 9:05. "The governor must be a little late," Madame remarked. "He's to lead in the worship."

At 9:08 Ahn whispered, "Is your watch correct?"

"I think so," she answered.

At 9:15, Madame went to the office. When she returned she said, "My watch is correct."

"Then why all the silence?"

"They are checking out the siren."

"The whole town was gathered at the square waiting for the governor. The ceremony had just begun when the commander was called away to answer the telephone. He never returned. At 9:30 the crowd was dismissed so I came on to work."

"Madame Higashi can you please find out?" Ahn begged.

"I'll phone my husband," she said and hurried away. About 10:30 she returned. "He says the plane in which the governor was riding is missing."

"Then that is why the law was not obeyed," Kuriyama said.

"No, it wasn't," Madame answered. "It's because Ahn fasted and prayed."

Ahn knelt in prayer, "Oh, heavenly Father, You are my Savior. You have again shut the lion's mouths. I adore You! I praise You!"

Later Madame Higashi told Ahn that the plane carrying the Korean governors was shot down over the Sea of Japan.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A letter. 2. He took it to the temple and spread it out before God. 3. All the other nations. 4. To save his country from the Assyrians. 5. So all the kingdoms of the earth might know that God is the only god. 6. By his messengers. 7. God would put His hook in the king's nose and turn him back the way he had come. 8. The angel of the Lord killed all the soldiers. 9. He returned to his country and his sons killed him while he was worshipping his god.)