

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 7, 2002

The Alpine Nightingale

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Listta who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion, even in song. In her letter Paula's godmother mentioned the beautiful songs Paula used to sing. One day Catalina asked Paula to sing a song for her. As she is singing Listta is sure she heard a man's footsteps outside the door.

Paula's voice trembled as she began to sing. Then presently the sadness in her tones disappeared and they seemed to swell out like an echo of radiant happiness. Catalina listened, hardly breathing. Involuntarily, I asked myself if Paula in heaven would be any different from the little country girl I saw seated near the window at this moment.

I had an instant's impression that a man was standing behind the door, but I felt this could not be, for I knew that my father would be at his office. A special light came over the expressive face of Paula as she continued:

*There they need no sunshine bright,
In the city four-square,
For the Lamb is all the light,
And there is no night there."*

And then again the wonderful refrain:

*God shall wipe away all tears;
There's no death, no pain, nor fears;
And they count not time by years,
For there is no night there."*

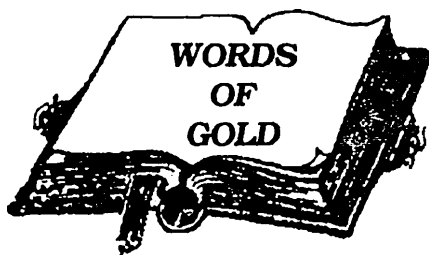
The sweet sounds died away, and Paula looked smilingly at Catalina as if asking her opinion of the song.

"What a marvelous song!" exclaimed the poor sick girl. "And, Paula, you have a voice like an angel!"

I did not hear my little companion's reply. This time I knew that I was not mistaken. There was someone behind that door! Impelled by curiosity I ran to open it. At first I saw no one in the darkened passage, but finally I could make out my father moving off down the hall. When he saw that I had discovered him, he stopped and put a finger to his lips, and made signs to me to keep silent, but in my surprise I cried, "Is it you, father?"

"Yes," he answered, "I came home earlier than I expected. Was that Paula who was singing in Catalina's room?"

"I, I don't know," I hesitated, not knowing what to say.



The Handwriting On The Wall

Daniel 5:1-9

1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation

thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.

The Message: When God's judgment fell in the form of the fingers of a man's hand writing on the wall, Belshazzar was instantly changed from a model of confidence into a trembling, fearful weakling.

Questions:

1. In our lesson, who was king?
2. What did he make for a thousand of his lords?
3. Where had the gold and silver vessels come from?
4. What did they do as they drank from them?
5. What wrote on the wall?
6. How did the king react to what he saw?
7. Who did he call for?
8. What honor did he offer to give anyone who could read the writing?
9. How many of his wise men could read the message?

Verse to Memorize

**It is a fearful thing to fall into
the hands of the living God.
Hebrews 10:31.**

Let's



Talk . . .

In the last several lessons we have been studying about Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel. God showed great mercy to Nebuchadnezzar. He revealed the future to him in dreams, and delivered the three Hebrew children from the deadly flames of the overheated fiery furnace. The king had to admit that there was only one true God. Nebuchadnezzar learned an important lesson when he became insane and lived like an animal in the open fields. He learned that God is supreme in authority and allows men to rule as it pleases Him.

But it seems that this was soon forgotten. In our lesson Belshazzar is king of Babylon. According to one historian, Belshazzar may have been the most secure ruler ever to have confidently sat on a king's throne. Babylon was surrounded by two sets of double walls. From the inside, the inner set consisted of a 12-foot thick wall, a moat (a deep, wide trench, usually filled with water) and then a 22-foot thick wall. The outer set consisted of a wall 24 feet thick, a moat, and then a wall 26 feet thick. Towers were situated every 55 yards along the wall, with a total of 250 towers.

Inside the city the Babylonians had a 20-year supply of food. A river flowed under the walls, right through the middle of the city so there would always be a good water supply. It seemed nothing could conquer such a city! Belshazzar felt safe and secure in his well-fortified city.

Surely Belshazzar had not forgotten how God dealt with his father, Nebuchadnezzar. How could he ever

forget the years when his father was driven out into the open fields and ate grass with the cattle? In my imagination I can just see Belshazzar one day as he looked out the window. Suddenly he yells, "Hey Mom! There's Dad out in the pasture—can I go give him a carrot?"

Seeing his father in that condition and then to see how God restored him to being king again had to make an impression on the boy. And yet in our lesson today King Belshazzar gave a great dinner party for a thousand of his nobles. While they were drinking wine he remembered the golden cups that had been taken from the temple when Nebuchadnezzar's armies had invaded Jerusalem. Thinking that it was a shame to let such exquisite goblets go unused and wanting to impress his guests, he ordered his servants to bring them.

In defiance against God, Belshazzar's wives, concubines and his nobles drank from the golden goblets and praised their gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone instead of the one true God. Then suddenly, in the middle of the party, the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote three simple messages on the plaster of the palace wall.

The writing was near the lampstand in the royal palace where everyone could see it clearly. The king watched in shock and horror as the fingers wrote out words that he couldn't read. He was pale with fright and his knees shook so bad that they knocked together.

"Call in the enchanters, astrologers and diviners!" he cried. "So that they can read what is written on the wall!"

But when the wise men of Babylon were brought in no one could tell the meaning of the words, though King Belshazzar had promised to make whoever was able to interpret the writing the third highest ruler in his kingdom.

—Bro. Dale Doolittle

There was an instant of terrible silence like a calm before the storm. "You don't know," my father slowly repeated. "You dare to look at me and say you don't know when you have just this moment come out of your sister's room?"

"Oh, father, please forgive me," I exclaimed penitently. "It was indeed Paula that sang. But don't punish her. She didn't know that you had forbidden our singing hymns."

"Who said I was going to punish her?" my father questioned. And I could see that his anger had cooled. "Come here!"

Taking me by the hand, we went back together to my sister's room.

"Would it tire you, Catalina, to hear Paula sing again?" he asked.

"Why, no, father," Catalina answered, surprised.

"Then, Paula," said my father, "sing that same song again."

And once more we heard, "There's No Night There."

"Who taught you to sing?" my father asked.

"I think it was my father. But in our valley, everybody sings—on the roads, climbing the hills, caring for the animals, in the meetings; in fact, everywhere."

Catalina looked at my father fur- tively and noticed that his face re- mained serene, almost tender, and so she hastened to profit by the occa- sion. "Dear father," she said in a low voice, "let her sing to us once in a while, will you? It's such a joy to hear her."

"Doesn't it tire you?"

"On the contrary, I think it does me good." And Catalina looked at her father appealingly.

"Let her sing," he said; and em- bracing all three of us, he bid us goodnight. He disappeared, but not without turning for a moment to Paula

with the remark, "Good-night, my little Alpine nightingale."

And Paula, who did not seem to comprehend a single word of this conversation, answered gravely, "Good-night, uncle."

Once a year we were accustomed to visit our grandparents and this generally became a real family re- union. There we met with all our uncles and aunts and cousins. It was also a joyful occasion for Teresa who was very fond of Justina, grandmother's faithful old servant.

Grandfather had been a very suc- cessful farmer; intelligent, hard work- ing and economical without being stingy. After many years' work he had amassed a considerable fortune. The big farm which to Catalina and Rosa was but a dim memory, but whose glories Teresa had often re- counted to us, had sold quite a num- ber of years before. My grandfather had then bought a beautiful house nearby, with a few acres surround- ing it just to remind him of his former activities. The garden itself was large and imposing and well cared for un- der the critical eyes of both of our grandparents, who specialized in new and rare plants. The flowers, appear- ing in profusion in all seasons of the year (even in winter in the great hot- houses), filled the air with their deli- cious perfumes.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Belshazzar. 2. A great feast. 3. The temple of the house of God in Jerusa- lem. 4. Praised their gods. 5. The fingers of a man's hand. 6. He was troubled and trembled. 7. His wise men. 8. To be third ruler of the kingdom. 9. Not one.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 14, 2002

In The Country

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Llista who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion, even in song. As this story begins the family is preparing to visit their father's parents as they did once each year. Llista is describing her grandparents and their beautiful country home.

Our grandparents reigned over this domain and it was here that they loved to welcome us. Our father was their especial pride and joy as he was the oldest son. Our grandfather had a gruff enormous voice and possessed a pair of great square shoulders; in fact, he was a real "countryman." But beneath his rude exterior he had a heart of gold, and no one could gain the confidence of a little child quicker than he could.

Grandmother was of a different type with her long black dress and her beautiful white hair, of which she was justly proud. She could easily have been mistaken for a noblewoman. She was a strong character

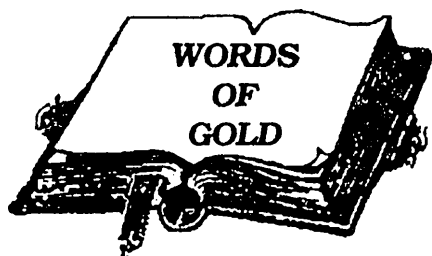
and had had the advantage of considerable schooling. She was every inch the fine lady, with her firm step and resolute voice and her brilliant black eyes. Nevertheless, we all loved her dearly, for there was a simple loving heart hidden away beneath all her magnificence.

Justina, who had been her faithful servant for forty years, never tired of singing the praises of her "Madame." If during our short stay at "Las Lilas" we showed ourselves unduly boisterous, or when we disobeyed orders, Justina would say to us after we had been properly reprimanded, "You never, never will be like your grandmother!"

Grandfather always met us at the little railway station. On our arrival he embraced everybody, including our father whom he would kiss on both cheeks as if he had been a child. Catalina would first be hoisted up into the great carriage and we would follow one after the other.

Louis took unto himself the honor of holding the reins and after everybody was well-seated, except my father and grandfather who marched on ahead of the horses, the slow procession to the house would begin.

In half an hour we could see the great house where Grandma and Justina, decked out in their Sunday



Daniel Is Called

Daniel 5:10-16

10 Now the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:

11 There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

12 Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

13 Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

14 I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

15 And now the wise men, the as-

trologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing:

16 And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom.

The Message: Live so others will know you are in contact with God. The queen could testify that the spirit of God was in Daniel.

Questions:

1. Who came into the banquet house?
2. Of whom was the queen speaking when she said they had the spirit of the holy gods?
3. Who made him master of the magicians?
4. What did the king name Daniel?
5. What did the queen say Daniel would do if the king called him?
6. What did Belshazzar say he had heard about Daniel?
7. Who had already been brought before him?
8. Why had he called for them?
9. What must Daniel do to become the third ruler in the kingdom?

Verse to Memorize

I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

Daniel 5:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

Belshazzar believed that Babylon could never be conquered. The city walls were so thick and high no army, no matter how powerful, could break them down. From those walls the king and his nobles had laughed scornfully at powerful, but helpless armies that had encompassed the city hoping to find a way to destroy her.

In this state of mind Belshazzar invited the rulers of his kingdom to a great banquet one fateful night. He even called for the Holy vessels of gold and silver, which his father had confiscated from the Temple in Jerusalem, and let his guests drink from them as they praised their idol gods. This proved to be the final act of defiance. God would no longer tolerate his pride and mockery!

Suddenly, all of his self-confidence and arrogance vanished with one supernatural act of God. A finger appeared and wrote some mysterious words on the plaster of his palace walls. The king knew the words carried some message for him and his guilty conscience made him afraid. He was so distressed that he nearly fainted and his knees knocked together violently with fear.

He called all the wise men of his court in to interpret the writing on the wall and nervously waited as they studied the strange words. But not one of them was able to shed any light on the word's meaning. This only increased the king's anxiety. He must know what the strange words meant!

The queen, who had heard the commotion and learned what had taken place, came into the banquet hall. "O king, live forever," she said in the accustomed greeting. "Don't be so frightened. There is a man in your kingdom that has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. King Nebuchadnezzar, the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. This man, Daniel, whom the king called Belteshazzar, was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means."

Daniel was quickly fetched and when he was ushered into the banquet hall the king asked hopefully, "Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard that the spirit of the gods is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom. The wise men and enchanters were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they couldn't explain it. Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

But Daniel was not interested in the king's gifts. He was committed to do what was right no matter if he was honored for it or thrown into the den of lions. It made no difference to Daniel whether the Babylonians or the Persians ruled the world. He knew that above them all God reigned supreme.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

gowns, awaited our arrival. There, after various comments on our growths and states of health, Catalina would be conducted by her grandmother to her room to rest after the tiresome journey, while Justina would carry off Teresa to the kitchen, and the rest of us would hurry to the orchard where grandfather with a vigorous hand would shake down the apples and pears into our outstretched aprons. Those were ecstatic moments when we could bury our teeth in the newly fallen fruit. Soon Father would cry, "That's enough! That's enough! There'll be nothing left for anybody else!" But Grandfather continuing to shake down more fruit would answer with his great gruff voice, "First come, first served! Besides, look over there to the right! There are thousands of apples that we haven't even touched!"

Soon after this there would appear in a cloud of dust, the carriages of our uncles August and Edward with their families from Havre and Paris, carrying all sorts of bundles mixed up with the children and nurses. In the doorway of the garden would be our grandmother waiting to welcome everybody, her numerous grandchildren clambering about her and embracing her affectionately, each one fighting for the first kiss, "Me, me, Grandma; I'm the smallest." "No, me, me, Grandma; I'm the biggest." When they had been all finally satisfied, she would embrace with great tenderness all her sons, inquiring of each in turn as to his health.

Sometimes in the conversation there would come a cloud of sadness, as some relative would be mentioned who had departed since the last family reunion. Then finally, after having returned to the garden to play for a while under the great trees, the bell

of the nearby church would strike the hour of noon, and Justina would appear at the grape arbor entrance crying, "Come one, come all! The soup is getting cold!"

Then there would be a wild race on the part of all the cousins to see who would be first at the long table placed in the cool shade under the great spreading vines, that wonderful table with its wide damask covering which only appeared on stately occasions. Grandma's loving hospitality was shown in the minutest details of that elaborate feast; for she had remembered the favorite dish of each one of her three sons and each found himself confronted with the delight of his childhood. When under the maternal eye in bygone days, he was not allowed to overeat; but now each was left to his own discretion to satisfy the most ample appetite.

And then came those delicious desserts followed by fruits and nuts which had been especially kept for this very particular occasion as the crown of the feast. Again the afternoon was spent in the garden, while the babies slept in the shade under the eye of the respective mothers.

The most solemn moment of our visit was when we had to make our report to our grandparents as to our progress in school. Oh, with what shame I presented my report card. My grandmother read it. "Lisita Dumas—last place!" and I hid my face in my hands.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The queen. 2. Daniel. 3. Nebuchadnezzar. 4. Belteshazzar. 5. Show the interpretation. 6. That the spirit of the gods was in him. 7. The wise men and astrologers. 8. To read and interpret the writing. 9. Read the writing and interpret it.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 21, 2002

A Change In Catalina

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion. As this story begins the family is preparing to visit their father's parents as they did once each year. Lisita is describing the happy visits they had enjoyed at their grandparents home.

We would play happily in the garden until supertime and even the grown folks joined us in some of our games. Sometimes father would gather all of us children around him, and we would never tire of hearing the stories of his adventures when, as a young man, he had gone far beyond the boundaries of France. These wonderful stories seemed so strange to us as we looked upon our father's sad and severe countenance; but our uncles August and Edward informed us that at one time he was the happiest and gayest of them all.

After supper came the problem of housing us all. The boys always slept in the hay barn. "A good preparation,"

said Uncle August, "for their future training in the army."

The rest of us found resting places somehow here and there in the great house. On the following day we would gather at breakfast. After a good time in the garden in the morning, the two carriages to Paris and Havre would be loaded up again, and we would take the train once more, generally leaving Catalina to pass an additional week in the invigorating air of "Las Lilas." This short visit in the country was the great event of the year in my young life. I talked about it six months beforehand and for six months afterward. The other scholars made fun of me in school, and dubbed me "Las Lilas" because I talked so much about my grandfather's home in the country. But Paula was a most sympathetic listener. She never tired of hearing me repeat over and over our experiences at "Las Lilas." It must be confessed that I exaggerated in describing many things about my grandfather's place, until my country cousin came to believe that my grandfather's house was a palace and that the garden was a veritable Eden.

"You shall see, you shall see!" I exclaimed as I ended my description. The cow appeared to be the most interesting thing to Paula. "If your grandfather has a cow, it must be

Daniel 5:18-30

18 Thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom...

19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him:...

20 But when his heart was lifted up,
and his mind hardened in pride, he
was deposed from his kingly throne,
and they took his glory from him:

21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar,
hast not humbled thine heart, though
thou knewest all this;

23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

25 And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided,
and given to the Medes and Persians.

29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

The Message: That very night Belshazzar was killed and his kingdom destroyed. Our life is in God's hands, no matter if we are a king or a child.

Questions:

1. Who gave Nebuchadnezzar a kingdom?
2. What happened when his heart was lifted up?
3. From whom was he driven?
4. His heart was made like what?
5. What did they feed him?
6. Who knew all this yet did not humble his heart?
7. Who did they praise as they drank from the vessels from God's temple?
8. Your breath is in whose hand?
9. When was Belshazzar killed?

Verse to Memorize

**...And the God in whose hand
thy breath is, and whose are
all thy ways, hast thou not
glorified:...**

Daniel 5:23.

Let's



Talk . . .

Do you realize how dependent you are upon God? Your very breath is in God's hand. If God did not choose to give you another breath how long could you live—5 minutes?

Last year about this time I was very sick. My lungs were not working right and I could not get all the air I needed. Day after day it got worse. It was then that I realized the great value of air. My lungs were hurting so badly! They just needed to rest but I could not let them rest—I had to keep struggling for air.

I had committed my life to God and was ready to die; I expected that this was the end. But after awhile God gave me a special healing touch! This experience proved to me that our life is in God's hand.

Belshazzar and his kingdom seemed very secure. But when the fingers of a man's hand began writing on the palace wall all of the proud king's certainty dissolved. Belshazzar had not considered one thing; his very life was in God's hand. He learned too late that those who mock God are never secure; one day all will face God, their Maker.

The wise men could not read the words on the wall so the king sent for Daniel who boldly told Belshazzar, "O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor. All the peoples and nations and men of every language dreaded and feared him. But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was put off of his throne and stripped of his glory. He was driven

away from people and given the mind of an animal. He lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like cattle until he acknowledged that God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone He wishes.

"But you his son, O Belshazzar, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from His temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. And worse than that, you praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand.

"You did not honor the God who holds your life and all your ways in His hand. Because of this He sent the hand that wrote: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN."

Daniel read the words off of the wall before turning to face the king and solemnly announce, "This is what these words mean: MENE: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end. TEKEL: You have been weighed in the scales and found wanting. PERES: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

Belshazzar was greatly shaken by this grim prophecy but he gave the promised gifts to Daniel and proclaimed him to be the third highest ruler in the kingdom.

In that very night Belshazzar was slain and his kingdom fell. The Medes and Persians had rerouted the Euphrates River and bribed someone inside the city to open one of the iron gates at the mouth of the river. While the king and his rulers were in the banquet hall enemy soldiers were walking down the dry riverbed into Babylon. Once inside, the army fanned out around the city and killed the defenseless people, including the king and his family. —Bro. Dale Doolittle

that he really lives in the country," she said.

"Of course he lives in the country," I said. "It is so beautiful there. But don't you think that we also are living in the country here in 'The Convent?'" Paula laughed heartily at this but made no further comment. At last the annual letter of invitation arrived. I recognized it on account of the beautiful handwriting of my grandmother. "It is for next Saturday," announced my father, "and we are all invited to stay until Monday. And now listen, Paula, this concerns you. Grandmother writes, It would delight me very much to embrace our new little relative. I hope that from now on she will keep a warm place in her heart for her old grandmother who loves her without having ever met her."

Teresa, who was indeed tired out with the care of Catalina, and who was very sensitive to warm weather, was no less happy than we were, for she, too, was to go with us. Only Catalina manifested no enthusiasm over the coming visit. My father observing this said to her anxiously, "You have nothing to say, daughter mine?"

"I'm not going, father."

What's that you say? You've been much better these last days and are well able to stand the trip. You weren't very well last year, and yet you went to 'Las Lilas' and found it so beneficial to your health."

"Yes, I know, father," answered poor Catalina, "but I know also that I've always been a source of great trouble for you, and Teresa would never have a minute's peace because of me. I shall go a little later, Father, when I'm stronger, if Grandmother will have me. She knows very well how I long to go to 'Las Lilas' but I fear that the trip would only bring on an

especial spell of weariness and that would spoil the fun of everybody. Maria, who works in the garden here, can look after me for a day or two. She is very kind and thoughtful, and I know she'll care for me very well."

We all stared at Catalina! It was the first time in all her history that I had ever seen her forget herself. It was a great struggle, for she had become so accustomed to think only of her own comfort. Tears welled up in her eyes as she smilingly awaited father's decision. "But this is going to be a great disappointment to you," he said, passing his hand over the feverish forehead of the invalid.

"No, father it will give me great pleasure this time," came Catalina's brave answer.

"Be it therefore as you wish," he said.

Pleasure? I couldn't understand what pleasure there would be for Catalina to stay behind alone with Maria, especially at this time of the great event of the year.

My father looked at Catalina tenderly as if he read her very heart, and saw there something he had never seen before. "Thou hast changed much, daughter mine, since your last sickness."

"For better or worse?" asked Catalina with a mischievous smile. "For better, my daughter. Indeed, far better!"

"It's because I'm older than I was, perhaps, father. No, no, it's more than that. I wonder if I could dare tell you the truth."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers; 1. God. 2. He was removed from his throne. 3. From among men. 4. Like a beast's. 5. Grass. 6. Belshazzar. 7. The idol gods. 8. God's. 9. That very night.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 28, 2002

Paula's Sacrifice

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion. As this story begins the family is preparing to visit their grandparent's country home. When Catalina unselfishly agrees to stay at home, her father tells her that he can see a great change in her. Catalina is explaining what has made the difference in her life.

"Never fear. Tell me what's on your mind, Catalina," father said.

"Well, it's this, father dear. God has spoken to me and I have answered Him."

"How has He spoken to thee?" said my father, and there was no sternness in his look either.

Catalina pointed furtively at Paula.

"And how hast thou answered Him?"

"I've asked Him that He might save me and that He might make me a real Christian."

There was a strange look in my poor father's face as he answered quietly, "If I could believe that there was a God, I would say that He had heard thee."

Catalina wrote a long letter to grandmother, the contents of which she did not care to show us. So it was as Catalina wished, and Maria promised to take good care of the invalid.

At last the great day arrived. Paula and I, up at sunrise, scurried to the window to look at the weather, and oh joy! It was a magnificent day without a cloud in the sky!

A little later when Teresa arrived to call us, she was greatly surprised to find us all ready to start.

"What a wonderful thing," she remarked dryly, "you'd never be late to school if you did this every morning."

After the first moment of enthusiasm, Paula strangely enough began to lose little by little the happy atmosphere that usually surrounded her. I soon discovered the cause. She was thinking of Catalina.

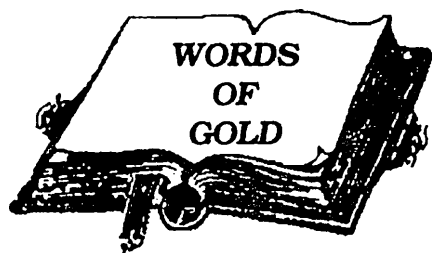
"It's going to be terribly lonely for her," she said.

"Never fear," I said, "she can go another time."

But she shook her head as if trying to throw off something painful that seemed to be on her mind.

"Oh, Lisita, if you could but know how lonely Catalina will feel as she sees us go without her. When I took her breakfast to her yesterday and saw that she had been crying I simply could not bear the thought of leaving her at home alone."

"But if papa says it is all right, it



The King's Decree

Daniel 6:1-10

1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

2 And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

4 When the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

6 When these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, 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, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and 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.

The Message: Daniel's faith and trust in God was stronger than his fear of death. So he kept right on praying!

Questions:

1. How many princes did King Darius set over his kingdom?
2. Who did he set over these princes?
3. Who was preferred over all the princes and presidents?
4. Why did the king decide to set him over his whole kingdom?
5. Who tried to find fault with Daniel?
6. Why couldn't they find anything wrong in Daniel?
7. Why did they ask the King to make it illegal to pray to God?
8. How long was prayer banished?
9. What did Daniel do after he knew the law was passed?

Verse to Memorize

**Pray without ceasing.
I Thessalonians 5:17.**

Let's



Talk . . .

In the United States a new president usually replaces all the government officials when he takes office. With the change of administration there is often a complete change of workers. When Darius became king of Babylon he was wise enough to see that Daniel was a man whom he could trust. With his wisdom and years of faithful service Daniel could greatly assist him in his new role as king of Babylon.

Darius divided the kingdom into 120 provinces and over each province he placed a governor. Over the governors Darius placed three presidents, who were accountable to him. God gave Daniel such special favor in the eyes of the new king that Darius appointed him to be the first above all the other presidents. Only Darius had more governmental power than Daniel did!

As was his habit, Daniel performed his tasks well. Now, although they were not the top man, all the other presidents and princes had very high and honorable positions. They should have been happy to be considered worthy of such high rank. You would think that they would have been looking for anything good that they could do to serve the people and please their new king!

Instead they became jealous. Rather than following Daniel's example of hard work and faithful service these princes and presidents began watching Daniel! They searched for some fault in the way he was handling his duties, hoping

that they could bring a bad report to Darius. But Daniel was faithful and honest and made no mistakes. They could find nothing to condemn.

Finally they decided that the only way to trap him would be to devise some law that would conflict with Daniel's devotion to God. "Our only chance is his religion," they reasoned, knowing that Daniel was zealous in his worship of God. With evil in their hearts they devised a plan that they felt would rid them of Daniel once and for all.

Then they met before the king to carry out their wicked plot. "King Darius, live forever!" they greeted. "We presidents, governors, counselors and deputies have all decided that you should make a law, unchangeable under any circumstances. This law will state that for the next thirty days anyone who asks a favor of a god or man—except from you, Your Majesty—will be thrown to the lions. Your signature on this law, Your Majesty, is all we need to make it so that the law cannot be canceled or changed. Once you sign it, it will become the law of the Medes and Persians."

This appealed to the king's pride and the officials pretended that they were doing him a great honor. Darius assumed that all his assistants had agreed and wanted such a law. If all the people had to look to him as their authority it would enhance his position as king. Darius signed the document and placed his royal seal upon it.

When Daniel heard of the law he went home and, as was his custom since childhood, knelt down with his face toward Jerusalem and prayed. Three times each day he always knelt to give thanks to God and ask for His assistance. Even the king's decree could not keep Daniel from serving his God! —Bro. Dale Doolittle

can't be so bad. Besides, father loves her as much as you do."

Paula didn't answer me.

Soon the time came to start. Teresa started calling to one and another. One had lost this thing, another had misplaced something else. At last we were ready. The only thing that remained was to say good-bye to Catalina. Louis, impatient to be off, performed that ceremony quickly. Rosa, who had reserved a surprise for the invalid, put a new book into her hand as she kissed her. Teresa, as she embraced her in her turn, left many instructions. Then, as Paula came forward, we heard a sob as she buried her face on my oldest sister's shoulder.

"What's the matter now?" said my father. An unintelligible sound was heard; but Catalina understood and her eyes moistened with happiness. "Oh, father," she said, "I know; she's crying on my account, she doesn't want to leave me alone here."

"Is that it, Paula?" questioned my father.

"Yes, please leave me here, uncle, I shall be so happy to be at Catalina's side while you are gone."

But Catalina refused this sacrifice, saying, "No, no, my dear little Paula. I'll not be lonely. You have too tender a heart. Now go, things will be all right here. Everything has been arranged for me, and it will make me happy to know of the good time you are all to have with our grandmother."

My father didn't know what to do. The time was passing. "Come, Paula, come," he said. It's time to go."

Paula raised her head. "If you order me to go, I'll go, for I must obey you, and I know they are waiting for us. But if you will permit me to stay..." and she put emphasis on the word permit in her peculiarly irresistible manner, "I would be a whole lot happier here than in 'Las Lilas.'"

"Stay then," said my father, as he added with a smile, "You certainly are

a little despot, for you seem to twist me to your will in everything."

Paula laughed at this, as happy as if she had received the most valuable of gifts, as she kissed him.

"Oh, yes; kisses are all very well," said father, pretending to be angry, "but what will the grandparents say?"

"Where's Paula?" everybody cried, as we went through the door downstairs.

"Look," said my father, pointing to the upper window.

There was Paula, with a radiant face, waving her handkerchief to say goodbye to all of us!

"Come, come, hurry up; stop your fooling!" cried Louis.

"I'm staying here."

"How is that?"

"Oh, I'm just staying with Catalina."

"That's too much!" cried Louis, "to stay here while the rest of us go on a holiday. Papa, you won't permit such a silly thing; will you?"

"Well, she begged me with tears to let her stay and there she is," said father.

"She isn't a bit like the rest of us," said Louis, "she never seems to seek her own pleasure, and yet the funny thing about it is, she's always happy. I can't understand a nature like that."

"It's because she finds her happiness in making other people happy," said Teresa.

This was also what our grandmother said when we explained Paula's absence.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. 120. 2. Three presidents. 3. Daniel. 4. Because he had an excellent spirit. 5. The presidents and princes. 6. Because he was faithful and there was no fault in him. 7. This was the only way they could condemn Daniel. 8. For thirty days. 9. He kneeled down and prayed three times a day as he always had.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Aug. 4, 2002

School Days

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion.

It was the month of October. I was sure that my father would permit Paula to go to school with me after the summer vacation, but not so. Catalina herself wished to teach her at home. This decision caused me many tears and complaining.

Teresa tried to console me. "Don't worry," she said, "just wait a little. I know Catalina, she'll soon tire of teaching, and then she'll let Paula go to school with you."

Teresa was right. In the beginning Catalina was enchanted with the task. Paula was obedient, and she did the best she could; but she didn't learn very quickly, therefore Catalina soon tired, and Paula, with a teacher so inexperienced, became sleepy and inattentive.

So it was that the teacher tired the pupil and the pupil tired the teacher. Catalina was the first to complain.

"Paula doesn't care much for study," she said to her father. "I'm afraid I am wasting my time trying to teach her."

"Well, then," said my father, "perhaps the best thing will be to send her along to school with Lisita."

Catalina hesitated a moment. She wished to do something for others, but she was slow to learn how.

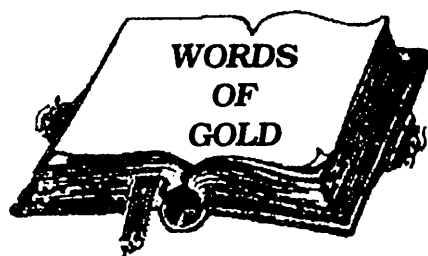
"I think it would be better to let her go," she said resignedly.

So it was that the following Monday my father accompanied us both to school and duly inscribed her as a student. Paula immediately became the center of great interest on the part of my school companions. They remarked upon the beauty of her eyes and hair, the latter reaching almost to her knees.

Coming out of class at noontime all forty-five pupils surrounded her affectionately, and at the end of the week Paula was the best-known pupil in the entire school.

Catalina was right, however, for Paula was not really a student, but she applied herself because, as she said, she did not wish to cause pain to Mademoiselle, the teacher.

As she left the school in the afternoon, the teacher would kiss Paula with tenderness not seen toward others. At times Paula would bring her a few flowers, which caused Mademoiselle's eyes to sparkle with such happiness that she almost



They Found Him Praying

Daniel 6:11-19

11 Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; 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 and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

17 And a stone was brought and

laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

The Message: Daniel faced the hungry lions with calm composure because he knew God was with him and would protect him. Faith in God keeps each Christian safe.

Questions:

1. What was Daniel doing when the men went to his home?
2. To whom did they go to tell what Daniel was doing?
3. For how long must the people ask only the king for what they needed?
4. What was to become of those who disobeyed this law?
5. How often did Daniel make his petition (pray) to God?
6. What did the king tell Daniel as he was being thrown to the lions?
7. What did they put over the mouth of the den?
8. How well did the king sleep that night?
9. What did the king do first thing the next morning?

Verse to Memorize

...Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

Daniel 6:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

Daniel knew that the king had signed a decree that no one must pray to any god or ask a favor of anyone but him for thirty days. But to watch him one would think he hadn't heard a thing about it. At his regular time Daniel went home, opened his window that looked toward Jerusalem, got down on his knees and prayed, just as he did every day.

His enemies knew him well. They were quite certain that he would continue to pray to his God and they watched him very closely. Now they were not at all interested in learning more about Daniel's God or finding out what made him so determined to worship Him. They were jealous of Daniel and their only thought was to destroy him.

When they found Daniel praying they were sure that everything was going according to their plan. They rushed to the palace and asked to speak to the king immediately. When they gained audience with him they demanded, "Haven't you signed a decree that every man who asks any god or man for anything within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?"

"That's true," the king agreed. "I signed such a decree, and by the law of the Medes and Persians it can not be changed."

"Well, that Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, doesn't show any respect for you or your law," they told Darius. "O king, he makes petition to his God three times a day. He completely disregards the command

which you, yourself have signed into law."

When the king heard these words he was sorry that he had signed such a law into effect. Now he saw through the wicked scheme—these men only wanted to destroy Daniel. And, because of his own pride he had signed the very law that would do that! The king tried for the rest of the day to think of any way that he might deliver Daniel. But at the end of the day the men came before him once more.

"Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute that the king establishes may be changed," they reminded him. So Darius commanded that Daniel be arrested and brought before him. Then the king sentenced him to be thrown into the den of lions. He had no other choice.

Before the sentence was carried out Darius spoke with Daniel. "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you!" the king assured him. Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den. The king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet of his lords so that no one could remove the stone and rescue Daniel.

Sadly Darius returned to his palace. He was not interested in eating or hearing soothing music. He could not sleep—all he could think about was Daniel down in that den with hungry lions pacing all around him. Or had they already eaten him?

Now Daniel's enemies probably thought they were rid of him forever. No one ever had escaped from a den full of hungry lions! But it does seem they would have been uneasy seeing how anxious the king was to save Daniel. And then the last thing he said to Daniel was, "Your God will deliver you!" If they really thought about all this, these evil men probably did not sleep much either.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

seemed beautiful to us.

"Have you a garden?" she said to us one day.

"Yes, Mademoiselle."

"How happy I should be to have one. When you have an over-abundance of flowers don't forget me."

"Poor Mademoiselle Virtud," said Paula one day, "I am sure she has some secret burden."

"Nobody likes her," I said. (I remembered that I had twenty-five lines to copy because I had talked all the afternoon.)

"God loves her!"

"And you?" I questioned.

"Oh, certainly," said Paula.

"Notwithstanding why is she is so disagreeable?"

"I do not know. We don't know her outside of school."

"And I don't want to know her. As for you, you love everybody that nobody else loves." And that was true: Paula was always the friend of the poor and the despised. In that great school which was a world in miniature, there were many unfortunate little ones who suffered neglect from their drunken parents; others were cruelly treated at home, and in the case of still others, their timidity or physical weakness exposed them to the ridicule of their comrades. In Paula, however, they all found a friend and a companion who loved them and defended them.

The capacity to love and to make others happy, extended itself also to the animals, but not to those small boys who destroyed the birds' nests or threw stones at the horses or dogs—these she attacked without mercy. In the neighborhood of "The Convent" where we lived, there were quite a number of this type of boy whose greatest pleasure was to torture the dogs and cats. One of these especially, the son of the "Breton," was a veritable executioner. He never attended school, for his father never bothered with him,

and his mother, poor woman, accustomed to misery and the blows of her drunken husband, had apparently lost all semblance of human feeling. This boy spent his time tormenting anything or anybody who was unable to resist him—old men, sick people, little children, and especially dumb animals.

One cold day in December Paula and I were walking slowly along the street, studying our lessons as we walked. Suddenly we heard the piercing cries of a cat in distress. Paula, always touched by suffering of any kind, stopped to listen. Louder came the cries of the cat.

"Mee-ow, mee-ow."

Paula threw her grammar on a roadside bench. "Poor little thing," I cried, "we can't help him, for I can't see where he can possibly be."

"Well, I can't stop here," said Paula.

"Come along, we'll soon find him."

We ran over to the canal that ran along a few feet below the avenue. Suddenly I was afraid!

"Perhaps Joseph, the Breton's son, is mixed up in this!" I said trembling.

"Come along anyway, unless you want me to go alone," Paula said quietly. So I followed her.

Sure enough, it was the Breton's son surrounded by a dozen ragamuffins of his own set. They took no notice of us. He had a beautiful black cat that had a string tied to its hind legs. The boy was swinging it around his head and at times ducking it in the canal while his companions danced around him with delight.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Praying. 2. The king. 3. For thirty days. 4. They were to be thrown into the den of lions. 5. Three times each day. 6. "Thy God will deliver thee." 7. A stone. 8. He didn't sleep—his sleep went from him. 9. He hurried to the den of lions.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 11, 2002

The Cat Mother

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion. Paula's love for God extends to everyone she meets and to all of God's creatures. Following a cat's distressed cries she risks great danger to rescue it. The boy torturing the cat says:

"Now that he's good and wet, let's bury him," suggested Joseph.

"Alive?" said his comrades.

"Of course alive! And the old dame, his owner can—"

But here Paula suddenly lunged forward, seizing the wicked youngster by the wrists with a surprising strength for one of her age.

"You'll do nothing of the kind," she cried. "Let him go; do you hear me?"

"Let me alone!" said the young bully as he tried to bite her. Not being able to accomplish this, he gave her a ferocious kick, which caused Paula to let go with a cry of pain. She now saw that her efforts were useless.

"See here," she said to him, after a few seconds thought, "If you give me

the cat, I'll give you four cents."

"Ah, you haven't got four cents."

"Yes, I have; I have it here in my pocket."

"All right, let me have the money."

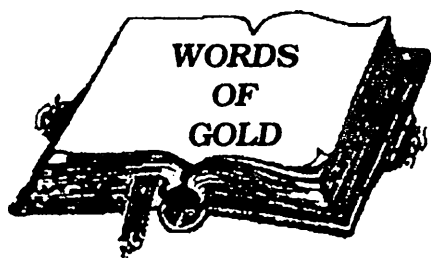
"No, no," said Paula, "if I give you my four cents first, I know you will never let me have the cat. Come, give him to me," she said beseechingly; "he's never done you any harm and you have made him suffer so much." But Joseph refused this appeal. With a diabolical grin he raised the cat again to swing it over his head. There was a meow of agony, but it was the last one! In spite of her former lack of success, Paula made one supreme effort to rescue the cat. Somehow the string got loose, the cat escaped, and was soon lost to view.

Then the rage of the young ruffian knew no bounds as he turned to Paula.

"Run, run!" I cried; but Joseph and his companions cut off the only path of escape.

Crazy with terror, I began to yell, "Help! Help!" with all my strength; but the boys drowned my cries with their own shouts. This very circumstance saved us. I saw someone coming to our help.

We soon recognized with joy that it was Dr. Lebon. On seeing him the boys ran away with the exception of Joseph, who was a little too late. The



God Sent His Angel

Daniel 6:20-28

20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

25 Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men

tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

The Message: We reap what we sow. When we do evil to others, sooner or later evil will come back to us.

Questions:

1. What did the king ask Daniel when he came to the lion's den?
2. Who sent an angel to protect Daniel?
3. What did the angel do?
4. Who was innocent?
5. What did the king command them to do to Daniel?
6. How badly was Daniel hurt?
7. What happened to Daniel's enemies and their families?
8. King Darius made a decree that everyone should tremble and fear before Whom?
9. Who prospered in the reigns of Darius and Cyrus?

Verse to Memorize

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me:...

Daniel 6:22.

Let's



Talk . . .

When Daniel landed in the middle of those hungry lions he was in a serious predicament! As he looked around he could see lions staring at him from every direction! These lions were used to getting their dinner thrown down to them. With so many hungry mouths the food was seized immediately and devoured by the lions close enough or strong enough to snatch it first.

But something was different about this meal. Even if it did look appetizing the lions found that they could not open their jaws! Daniel did not have to try to hide from the lions or outwit them to save his life. He faced them calmly because he knew God was with him. He served God faithfully and it was because of his faithfulness that he faced this situation. Now God honored his faithfulness and sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions.

As Daniel was being thrown to the lions King Darius assured him, "The God whom thou servest continually, He will deliver thee!" In spite of this hope, the king was so anxious about Daniel's safety that he could not sleep a wink. Early the next morning he raced to the mouth of the lions' den. Scarcely daring to hope that Daniel had survived the night the king cried out in distress, "Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God, whom you serve continually, able to deliver you from the lions?"

Daniel's voice came back from that dark stinking den loud and confident, "O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lion's

mouths, so that they have not hurt me. For I was innocent before God and also O king, I did no wrong to you by continuing to worship God." The king was overjoyed to find that God had protected Daniel from the lions. He commanded that his friend be taken up out of the den.

And when Daniel was lifted from the den, there was not a scratch on him, because he had trusted in God. Daniel had such confidence in God he knew that if the Lord had willed it then not one lion would harm him. He believed that God could change even the instincts of these wild beasts and make them like playful kittens. So he went into the den with the calm assurance that he was not going alone; God, his Protector was with him.

Someone said that during that evening all the angels of heaven gathered together to receive their night duties from their Lord. One of them was given this extraordinary task, "Go to Babylon. There my beloved servant Daniel is to be thrown into a den of lions. Keep the mouth of every lion closed." That angel came at the speed of divinity and did just as God commanded.

Darius then commanded that those men who had tricked him into signing the decree be brought before him. Because they had accused Daniel of wrong unjustly Darius had them and their entire families thrown into the lions' den. The lions leaped up and tore their bodies to pieces before they even reached the bottom of the pit.

Then Darius wrote: "To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you. I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Doctor, who knew him, suspected he was the guilty one, and succeeded in getting him by the ear. Then the doctor said to me, "What has happened, Lisita?" And I told him the whole story.

"Well, he won't do it again; that's one thing certain," said the doctor.

"Oh, let him go!" said Paula generously.

"Paula," said the doctor with a severity we had never seen in him before, "Go back to the house with Lisita!"

We had nothing to do but obey. On the way back we could tell by Joseph's cries that he was having a bad time of it!

Teresa was frightened when she saw the condition of Paula's leg, as the result of the terrible kick she had received. The doctor soon arrived at the house, and Paula could scarcely help crying as the doctor examined her; but he said as he left us, "If I am not mistaken, Joseph will never trouble you any more."

This was true. Joseph avoided us for a long time; but he took revenge on us through the other boys, who would cry after Paula as she walked up the street, "Cat mother! Cat mother!" This incident won us a friend. Shortly afterwards, returning from school, an elderly woman that lived in one of the most miserable huts among the "Red Cottages," stopped us and asked if one of us was called Paula.

"This is she," said I, pointing to my cousin.

"Then you are the one that saved my cat," she said.

"How can I thank you enough, Mademoiselle? For that cat is my one consolation. If you would be kind enough to visit me sometime, I would be so pleased to see you."

Paula looked at her in surprise, and said, "I will ask Teresa if we may come to see you." Which permission Teresa readily gave.

"It's Louisa. I know her well. She has lived in that little hut for fifteen years. True, she is a bit weak in her head but she would never hurt a fly. Speak to her of the Lord Jesus, Paula! It will do her good."

On the following Thursday, therefore, we went to visit her. As we left the house, Teresa handed us a jar of preserves, saying, "Give Louisa this. Poor thing! Not many good things have come into her life."

Louisa herself answered our knock. "Ah," she said, "please excuse the disorder. If I had known you were coming today I would have straightened things a bit. Sit down here, on this box, Mesdemoiselles. I am sorry that I have no chairs to offer you. Ah, here comes Cordero!" she continued, and we could hardly recognize the beautiful black cat that jumped purring into Paula's lap as the same animal that was swinging around Joseph's head a few days before.

"It's my one friend," said the poor old woman, sitting down on another box.

"Do you believe that?" said Paula. "Can you not call us your friends? And there's another friend who has sent you a present. Our Teresa sent this for you." She placed the preserves in the eager hands of the old woman.

"Is it for me? How can I thank you? For years everybody has made fun of me, for I never speak to anyone, preferring the company of animals to that of people."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: "Is your God able to deliver you from the lions?" 2. God. 3. Shut the lions' mouths. 4. Daniel. 5. Take him up out of the den of lions. 6. He was not hurt at all. 7. They were all thrown to the hungry lions. 8. God. 9. Daniel.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 18, 2002

Louisa

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion. Paula's love for God extends to everyone she meets and to all of God's creatures. Louisa was so thankful that Paula rescued her cat she asked Paula to come for a visit. Paula found Louisa's only friend was her cat, Cordero.

Paula had such a sympathetic way of getting at people's hearts, that instinctively she understood how lonely Louisa had been.

"By the way," said Paula, "this is for your cat," and she put two cents on the table.

The old woman did not seem to understand.

"It's for him, you know," said Paula, "you can buy some liver with this. Surely Cordero likes liver!"

The pleasure in Louisa's eyes was almost childlike. She addressed her cat saying, "You must thank this good mademoiselle," and Cordero jumped down and rubbed against Paula in a most affectionate manner.

It was time to leave as the short day was ending and we had to be in the house before dark.

"How can I thank you, mademoiselle?" said Louisa.

"Do come to see me soon again, even though I am a poor old woman who nobody loves."

"Oh, Louisa," exclaimed Paula, "there is One who loves you: don't you know Him?"

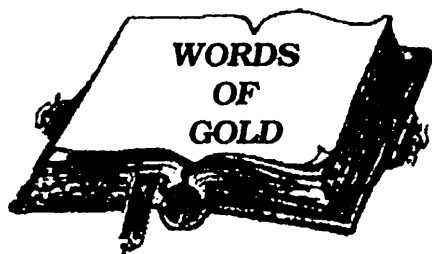
Louisa shook her head sadly.

"No, nobody loves me. And to tell you the truth, I don't love anyone else either."

"The Lord Jesus loves you, Louisa."

"The Lord Jesus? Tell me about Him, mademoiselle; I have heard the name; who is He?"

"The Lord Jesus is He who died on the cross, that you might go to heaven. He suffered much before He died. They despised Him. They beat Him. They spat in His face. Even His own friends deserted Him and He was so poor that He didn't have any place at night to lay His head. Yet, He was God Himself. He died for our sins, and He rose from the dead. He is now in heaven and He waits to receive you there, Louisa. None of us deserve to go to heaven, but He who was so perfect suffered in our stead. He died for all of us sinners that we might be pardoned. I wish I could explain it better, much better, but Jesus loves you,



Examples of Christ

Luke 10:25-37

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 And went to him, and bound up

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

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

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

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

Ephesians 5:1-2

1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us...

The Message: When Jesus lives in our heart others will see Him in our words and actions.

Questions:

1. What did the lawyer ask Jesus?
2. Why did he ask?
3. Who should we love with all our heart?
4. Who should we love as ourselves?
5. Who stripped the man of his clothes?
6. What did the priest do when he saw the wounded man?
7. Who helped him?
8. Where did he take him?
9. Who should we follow as dear children?

Verse to Memorize

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

John 13:15.

Let's



Talk . . .

As she was dying Louisa told Paula, "Now I understand the love of God, for when you kissed me and embraced me, it was that kiss that made me understand that God loves even me. I will soon be far from the living, but I shall die in the arms of the Lord Jesus."

When we ask God to forgive us for our sins and make our heart pure and clean He is faithful to do that. John assures us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. But He does not leave our heart empty. He knows the devil is just waiting to take advantage and get his old home back.

Jesus Himself said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." John 14:23. Paula loved God with all her heart. Her father had taught her to love the Word of God (her Bible) so much that she read it and memorized many of its verses. It broke her heart when her uncle took her precious Bible but she had much of it written in her heart through the verses she had memorized.

Her uncle and others could not help but notice God in Paula's life. She did good works naturally. Because God lived in her heart she had His very nature—her touch was His hand working through her.

In II Corinthians 5:20 Paul says, "We are ambassadors for Christ." An ambassador is a person who is sent to represent the person who sent him. Jesus came to tell us how to please and serve God. Now that Jesus has gone back to be with His Father, we are His representatives. We are to act and speak

just as He would. This is possible when He lives in our hearts as He did in Paula's. He will work through our hands as we allow Him; He will speak through us and His love will touch those we contact. A God-filled life is a beautiful, rewarding life!

Our lesson teaches us that we should love God with all our heart, soul, strength and mind. Then it instructs us to love our neighbor just as we love our own selves! This is only possible when we have the power and love of God in our heart.

Jesus used the story of the man who was attacked by thieves and left on the roadside to die to teach what it meant to love others as ourselves. This poor man's only hope was that someone would come along and help him. And, sure enough, it was not long before a priest came that way. If anyone could be expected to stop and help it would be a priest. But wait. The priest is not coming over to help—he is passing by on the other side! Maybe he couldn't stand the sight of the poor man all beaten up and bloody. Whatever his reason, the priest did not stop to help the man.

Soon another man comes along the road. This time it is a Levite, one who served God in the temple. Surely he will have mercy and help this poor man, giving him the care he would hope for if he were in his situation. Jesus said he came and looked at the wounded man. If the man hoped for help from him he was sadly disappointed. After seeing the man's awful wounds the Levite did nothing; he passed by on the other side.

Finally a Samaritan saw the man. His heart was touched at the sight and he took pity on him. After he had done all he could to relieve his suffering he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and watched over him that night. The next day he took out two silver coins [two days' wages] and gave them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have." —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Louisa. I know He loves you more than you could ever dream."

Louisa's wrinkled face lighted with a smile; but she did not seem able to believe or comprehend this good news, which came to her, oh, so late in life.

"Oh, if it were only true," she murmured, as she clasped her hands together and her eyes filled with tears.

"But it is true, Louisa; don't you believe it? See here, He knows very well you live here alone with your cat, and that you are so sad, and that you have nobody else to care for you. He wishes to be your Friend, and He will be if you will ask Him. Why not ask Him now, Louisa?"

"Oh, perhaps so, some day, mademoiselle."

"Do it now, Louisa."

"No, no; not now."

"Oh, why not now, Louisa?"

"Because I don't understand very well, mademoiselle. How could God love me, a poor, forlorn, useless old woman, who never loved Him, nor served Him? You come back again. Perhaps I'll end up by understanding better. And now, goodbye, mesdemoiselles. I have delayed you both too long."

We shook hands with her. Oh, what a cold hand it was! The touch of it sent a shiver through me!

"Goodbye, Louisa," said Paula, and suddenly kissing her, she gave her a hearty embrace as well and added, "I am going to pray for you, dear Louisa." One could see that the poor old woman was greatly touched as she said simply: "Thank you, mademoiselle, thank you."

I had almost forgotten Louisa and her cat when a few days later a neighbor came in with a worried look asking for Teresa. When she appeared, the woman blurted out the news that Louisa was dying.

"Louisa dying? Nonsense, I saw her on the street yesterday."

"Perhaps so, for she dragged herself around until the last minute. But I knew she was ill, so I took her a cup of hot soup this morning. I found her in bed with a terrible cough, and now she can scarcely breathe. She keeps calling for Mademoiselle Paula."

"Have you sent for the doctor?"

"No; she's afraid he'll send her to the hospital and they'll take away her cat."

Teresa shrugged her shoulders.

"I'll go at once, and I'll take Paula with me."

Murmuring her thanks, the woman left. "Can't I go?" I said. "Oh, Teresa, please let me go too."

Teresa hesitated. "All right come along!" she said at last.

Louisa's neighbor had not exaggerated her condition. The poor woman was sitting up in her bed. Its thin covers could not protect her from the cold, and a terrible cough racked her thin frame. When, at times, the cough left her she would fall back on her pillow completely exhausted. It needed all Teresa's efforts to restore her.

"My poor Louisa!" said Teresa tenderly.

"You were very good to come," said the neighbor who was staying as nurse. "And Mademoiselle Paula?"

"Here she is. Come here, Paula."

And as Paula came near the bed Louisa said with a weak voice, "Now I understand the love of God, for when you kissed me and embraced me, it was that kiss that made me understand that God loves even me. I will soon be far from the living, but I shall die in the arms of the Lord Jesus."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" 2. To tempt Jesus. 3. God. 4. Our neighbor. 5. Thieves. 6. He passed by on the other side. 7. A Samaritan. 8. To an inn. 9. God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 25, 2002

A Treasure Restored

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louls, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In fact her uncle would not allow any mention of religion. Paula's love for God extends to everyone she meets and to all of God's creatures. After rescuing Louisa's cat, Louisa asked Paula to come for a visit. Paula found Louisa was poor and lonely. Telling her how much God loved her, Paula begged her to open her heart to Him. A few days later Paula is told that Louisa is dying.

"Now, don't cry," continued Louisa weakly, as she saw us all weeping. "My misfortunes have been my own fault. I was selfish, I wished to live alone without God and without hope. I have been abandoned. I have known what it was to be cold and hungry for many years; but the happiest time of my life has been these last three days. They began with your visit, Mademoiselle Paula. That afternoon I prayed, and I believe God had pity on me. I am sure of that."

Here Paula broke in: "You had better not talk any more now, Louisa. Your cough will come back and you are already too tired."

"Perhaps so," Louisa said, "but I must speak while I have strength for it. Oh, Mademoiselle Paula, I did want to thank you before I die!"

"But Louisa dear," said Paula in the midst of her tears, "I have done nothing for you; I didn't even know you were ill."

The poor sick one took Paula's soft hand between her thin ones, and raised it to her lips, "You have been like God's angel to me."

"No, no, Louisa, Louisa!"

"Yes, and you loved me, mademoiselle, and your love revealed to me God's love! May He bless you richly!"

"Amen," sighed Teresa.

Then again came that terrible cough which seemed to tear the poor weak body in two.

"I can do no more," she murmured, as soon as she was able to speak.

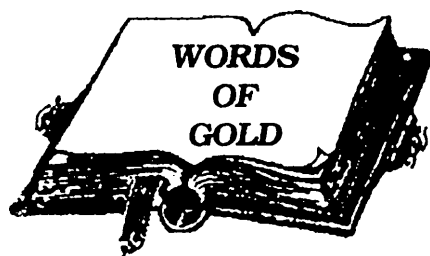
"Well," said Teresa, "you will soon be with the Lord Jesus in heaven."

A contented sigh came from the bed as we caught the words, "Oh, what happiness!"

Is there nothing you would like us to do for you? No word to send to some friend or relative?"

"I have no other friend but Cordero, the cat. What will become of him?"

Teresa hated cats, and we never dared bring one into the home, but now we saw a struggle going on within her, and finally she said, "Would you be happy if we took him home with us?"



Twelve Ordinary Men

Luke 6:12-13

12 And it came to pass in those days, that he (Jesus) went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

13 And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;

Matthew 10:1-10

1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely

ye have received, freely give.

9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses,

10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.

Mark 16:14-15

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

The Message: Jesus' ministry lasted only three years. He chose twelve apostles who would continue to preach the gospel after He returned to heaven.

Questions:

1. What did Jesus do all night before He called His disciples to Him?
2. Of all His disciples, how many did He choose to be apostles?
3. Against what did Jesus give the apostles power?
4. What kind of sickness and disease were they given power to heal?
5. Name the twelve apostles.
6. To whom did Jesus first send His apostles?
7. What did He tell them to preach?
8. After Jesus rose from the dead, to whom did He tell them to preach?
9. Does the Lord still need disciples today? Why?

Verse to Memorize

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Mark 16:15.

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus worked in an obscure little carpenter's shop until He was thirty years old. Three and a half years later He died on the cross. During this brief span of time Jesus went out among the people preaching the gospel. Jesus knew from the beginning how soon He must return to His Father in heaven.

Jesus felt the urgency of choosing special messengers whom He could train to carry the important gospel message after He was gone. The choice of these men was crucial; Jesus did not attempt it without being sure that He knew His Father's will. He went up into a mountain and spent all night in prayer.

The matter was so critical that Jesus took no time for sleep until it was accomplished. As soon as it was day, He called His disciples. From them He chose twelve men to be His special ambassadors. These men would be His constant companions. They would be eyewitnesses of His miracles and would hear every word He preached to the people. He called these twelve disciples apostles, which means, "the sent ones." These He would send to work in His name; healing the sick, casting out devils, preaching and writing the good news of the gospel.

Twelve apostles were chosen; the same number as the tribes of Israel which were named after the twelve sons of Jacob. In Old Testament times God chose the Israelites (Jews) to be His special people. They represented those who would accept the

gospel message and become His chosen people, the church of the New Testament. For this reason Jesus instructed His apostles to preach the gospel to the Jews only. But Jesus died to save everyone from their sins. After His resurrection He told them to go everywhere and preach the gospel to everyone.

In choosing the twelve, Jesus picked men from different walks of life. Yet they had one thing in common; they were all ordinary people like you and me. These preachers were not educated or wealthy men. Jesus did not choose the great people of the world because they could claim credit for their own abilities. Instead Jesus chose the weak and ignorant who would depend on His strength and wisdom. Nothing of themselves would make men want to listen to what they had to say. Yet they carried a message that everyone needed; words powerful enough to change the life of everyone who would hear.

Jesus also gave the apostles great power over unclean spirits, and over all manner of sickness. They were to do good everywhere they went proving they were servants of God who is good and does only good. This power was to tear down the works of the devil and show that his awful hold on the people was broken. This was the very reason Jesus came to earth; to conquer the devil and to cure the world of sin and its awful effects. Jesus still needs messengers to tell the people the good news that they can be saved from sin and from all the power of the devil. Will you be an ambassador for Him? Will you let Jesus live in you so others can see the power of the gospel in your life? This was Paula's secret. She loved Jesus so much she wanted to share Him with everyone she met.

—Sis Nelda Sorrell

"Oh, indeed, yes," said the poor dying woman, "but please don't take him yet. Leave him with me until the end. He has been my only comfort and the nights are so long."

Louisa, however, did not remain alone any longer, for Teresa and several kind neighbors took their turns night and day to care for the poor invalid. Teresa brought pillows and blankets from home and had a good hot fire always going in the grate. A few days later she died in Teresa's arms. A beautiful smile on the yellow wrinkled face gave it a happy expression that had never been seen there before.

* * * * *

Our birthdays generally passed without celebration, either in the form of presents or parties, mainly because my father disliked holiday festivities. They seemed to bring back to him more bitterly the loss of her who could no longer share their joy with him. On New Year's Day, however, he always gave a little gift to each one of us. It was our custom to write him in turn "A Happy New Year" letter.

"You know, Paula, father always gives us a New Year's present," as I saw tears come into Paula's eyes as she thought of her old home. "What would you like to have if you could choose?"

"There's just one thing I want," said Paula, "and that's my little Bible."

"But that wouldn't be a present," I said.

"No, but it would give me more pleasure than any present," sighed Paula.

New Year's Day dawned with splendid weather. It had snowed during the night and the whole countryside was dressed in white. In the dining room a huge fire burned and Teresa with Rosa's help prepared the New Year's breakfast. Paula helped Catalina to dress, for Catalina, contrary to her custom, decided to breakfast with us, although against Teresa's advice, for she feared such early rising would tire her too

much for the rest of the day.

Yes, but I wish to be on hand when father distributes his New Year gifts," our invalid said. So Teresa had to yield.

Our father was late in coming so Paula ran to tell him that breakfast was ready, and soon back she came with her hand in his, with that affecting grace that was so habitual to her.

When he had received our "Happy New Years" father asked us if we wanted the presents before or after breakfast.

"Before! Before!" we all cried.

"Very well," he said. "Here, Paula, this little package is for you. Catalina assured me that this would give you more pleasure than anything else."

Paula took the package and turned it over and over.

"Hurry up," cried Louis, handing her his jack-knife. "Cut the string and open the package. We want to see what it is."

She obeyed, a bit confused to see all eyes fixed upon her. Inside she found a little black book with a much-used cover. She raised her eyes in gratitude to father and tried to thank him, but could not find a word to say. Eagerly her fingers turned the precious pages. Suddenly out fell a five-franc-piece.

"There, there," said my father, as she tried to express her thanks, "I am more than satisfied, if I have made you happy."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He prayed. 2. Twelve. 3. Unclean spirits. 4. All kinds. 5. Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Labbaeus, Simon and Judas. 6. To Israel (the Jews). 7. That the kingdom of heaven was at hand. 8. To everyone. 9. Yes. We each tell others how to be saved.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Sept. 1, 2002

The Love Of God In Paula's Life

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula thought she could not stand it when her uncle took her own Bible away. She had promised her father to read it every day. Now, as a New Year's gift, her uncle returns her Bible.

"Happy!" said Paula, "I am more than happy!" She took her beloved Book, and as she turned its pages she found still other treasures—a few faded flowers that seemed to call up once more the precious memories of her past life in that far-off Waldensian Valley.

"Dear uncle," said Paula, "Did you read the Book?"

"Yes, I read part of it, but if I have returned it to you today, it is not because I have finished reading it, nor is it because Catalina has begged me to return it to you. It is because you have obliged me to read another book."

"I, uncle? What book can that be?"

"Yes, it may seem strange to you, but you see, you have lived among us

in such a way that I confess that I wish that my three daughters would imitate your manner of living. You have made me comprehend the love that your Bible speaks of, and of which Christ gave us an example, and which He apparently has put into your life. I give back your Bible to you with all my heart."

One can imagine our feelings as we listened to this strange discourse from the lips of him who only a short time before had been so opposed to such things!

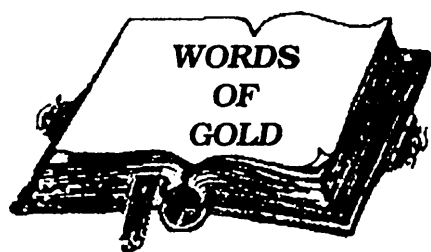
"And then, Paula, I have something more to say," said my father. "Do you remember the day when I hit you on the head with your Bible as I took it away from you? I wish to say that I am sorry beyond expression for what I did that day! And now have you pardoned me, little daughter?"

For reply Paula took my father's hands in hers, then in a flood of generosity and forgetfulness of self she gave her Bible back to him, simply saying, "I give it back to you, dearest uncle!"

"You give it back to me!" said my father, stupefied, "You give me back the Bible you loved so much!" "Yes," answered Paula, "because Teresa has promised to give me another."

"But do you mean to tell me that you would care for a new Bible as much as this one?"

"Oh, no," she said, "Father gave me that one, and it's full of his markings,



James And John

Matthew 4:21-22

21 Going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them.

22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

Mark 10:35, 37-40

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying,...

37 ...Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory.

38 But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?

39 And they said unto him, We can. And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized:

40 But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared.

Luke 9:53-55

53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and con-

sume them, even as Elias did?

55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

John 19:26-27

26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple (John) standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!

27 Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother!

Acts 12:1-2

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.

The Message: Two brothers, James and John left their jobs and their father immediately when Jesus called them.

Questions:

1. Who were the two sons of Zebedee?
2. What were they doing when Jesus called them?
3. As soon as Jesus called them, what did they do?
4. What did they ask Jesus to grant them?
5. What did Jesus ask them?
6. When the people did not receive Jesus what did James and John want to do?
7. Who, in the Old Testament, had done this?
8. Who took Jesus' mother into his own home after Jesus' death?
9. How did James die?

Verse to Memorize

...They immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

Matthew 4:22.

Let's



Talk . . .

One morning John the Baptist was talking with two of his disciples, Andrew and John. Seeing Jesus walking by he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" Hearing this, Andrew and John decided to follow Jesus to learn more about Him. After spending time with Him both were convinced that He was indeed the Son of God. They hurried to tell their own brothers the good news! Andrew first told his brother, Peter, and John told his brother, James.

James and John were apparently from a higher social level than the average fisherman. Their father could afford hired servants and John knew the high priest personally. It was while the two brothers were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee mending nets with their father and the servants that Jesus called them to be His disciples. They immediately left the ship, their occupation and their father to become true fishermen. They would catch men for Jesus! Later Jesus selected them to be two of the twelve apostles.

Jesus had good reason to give James and John the "Boanerges" which means the sons of thunder. They were zealous and impetuous in their devotion to Jesus. They once asked Jesus if they could bring down fire and burn up the Samaritans who refused to receive Him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "You don't know what kind of spirit you have!" It was certainly not the spirit of Christ. He assured them, "I have not come to destroy men's lives but

to save them." Then Jesus peacefully went to another village that would receive Him.

At another time James and John saw a man casting out devils in the name of Jesus. He was not one of their own group so they stopped him and later told Jesus what they had done. But Jesus was not pleased. "Forbid him not," He told them. "He that is not against us is for us."

Jesus tried to teach all His disciples that they were not to strive to be greatest but rather should serve one another. But the two brothers, still ignorant of the spiritual nature of Jesus' kingdom, came to Him asking for a special favor. They wanted to sit on thrones of honor in His kingdom, one on His right hand and the other on His left. Jesus told them such positions were not His to give.

Yet Jesus did give them special privileges because of their intense devotion to Him. Peter, James and John were the only three apostles that Jesus called to be with Him when He raised Jairus' daughter from the dead. Of all the apostles they alone were taken up to the mountain where Jesus was transfigured and also given a special place to witness His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

When James and John asked to sit on each side of Jesus' throne in heaven Jesus asked them if they were able to suffer with Him. They assured Him they were able. Only fourteen years later Herod beheaded James. He was the first apostle to suffer martyrdom and the only one of the Twelve whose death is recorded in the New Testament. In contrast, of all the twelve disciples, John has the distinction of probably being the youngest, as well as the one to live the longest.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

and it was in that Bible that I learned to love the Lord Jesus."

"And then?"

"Well, it's because it is the most precious thing that I have in all the world that I give it to you. Because you see I love you so, and I would wish... Oh, how I do wish that you could learn to know Him too."

"My poor dear child," said my father, "I cannot accept your sacrifice, but I shall always remember your thought of me; and in the meantime, if you like, we can go and buy another Bible like yours that I, too, may read it. How will that do?" At this Paula clapped her hands in delight, as she said, "Indeed, that will be wonderful!"

"Lisita," said Paula to me one day on returning from school, "Mlle. Virtud was not in class this morning."

"That's all the same to me," I said with indifference, "except that if I had known that, I would have gone to school anyway in spite of feeling bad."

"I think that Mlle. Virtud is sick," continued Paula.

"You're always thinking of that woman. I tell you, it doesn't make any difference to me what happens to her," I said impatiently.

"Oh, Lisita, aren't you ashamed to say such a thing?"

"No," I said, "How do you expect me to like her? No matter what I do in the class she punishes me for the slightest thing; and not only do I suffer in class, but I get twenty-five lines to copy after school, so that I have no time to play with the rest of them. How I do detest that woman!"

"Of whom were you speaking?" asked Teresa, who appeared at that moment.

"Of the school teacher, Mlle. Virtud."

"I have a good mind to box your ears," cried Teresa indignantly. "You detest such a fine young lady who works in your behalf."

"Oh, Teresa, don't be angry," I said.

"You have no idea how she makes me suffer. When you were little you never went to school, so you do not understand. Now, listen, instead of keeping the bad children after school, she sends us all home with twenty to fifty lines to copy, while she goes calmly back to her house. The other teachers keep the bad ones there for ten minutes or so, and that's all there is to it, which is a whole lot more agreeable."

"Mlle. Virtud is absolutely right, for she makes the punishment fit the crime."

"No, it isn't that," I answered in a rage; "It's because she doesn't want to stay in school like the other teachers, the selfish thing! Here I am right now with lines that were given last Monday, and I'm not going to do them. She can say what she pleases!"

Paula, whose tender heart would have loved to have been on my side and also on that of Mlle. Virtud at the same time, suggested that perhaps she had someone who was ill in the house.

"She," I cried, "Mlle. Virtud! Who do you think would ever have such a disagreeable thing in the house with them! Besides, she has told us that her family lives far away in the country."

"I don't know," said Paula; "but do you remember the day when we saw her carrying flowers back home with her. I dare say it was for somebody."

"Perhaps," I answered indifferently. (To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. James and John. 2. Mending their nets. 3. Left their father and followed Him. 4. To sit, one on His right hand and the other on His left. 5. "Can you drink of the cup that I drink of and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" 6. Command fire from heaven to burn them up. 7. Elias. 8. John. 9. Herod killed him.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 8, 2002

The Sick School Teacher

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louls, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula thought she could not stand it when her uncle took her own Bible away. As a New Year's gift, her uncle returns her Bible, telling her that watching her life is like reading the Bible. Lisita dislikes her teacher. When she hears she is sick she shows no remorse but is glad to have a substitute in her place.

That afternoon Teresa permitted me to go to school, and there I found the teacher of the Third Year in charge of our class. She was a beautiful woman with lovely golden hair and blue eyes, and pink and white cheeks that reminded one of a wax doll. "Ah," said I to myself, "how I wish I was in the Third Year to have such a beautiful teacher always in front of me!" She read to us and told us stories almost all afternoon, and never punished anybody.

"My! How beautiful she is," I murmured to myself. "How I do love her! Mlle. Virtud would never be so gentle." Then suddenly I stopped, for it seemed

to me that I heard Paula saying to me sadly, "Are you not ashamed of yourself, Lisita?" And I looked up to see Paula exchanging a few words with a poorly dressed child just before she joined me. "Lisita, it is true," Paula said, "Mademoiselle Virtud is quite ill; she tried to get up this morning and wasn't able to raise her head. Victoria, the little girl who was speaking to me just now, knows her very well; in fact, she lives in the same courtyard."

"Who is taking care of her?" I said.

"No one, as far as I can find out. Do you think Teresa would let us go to see her?"

"No, I am sure she wouldn't, and for one thing, I'd never go. I haven't done my fifty lines."

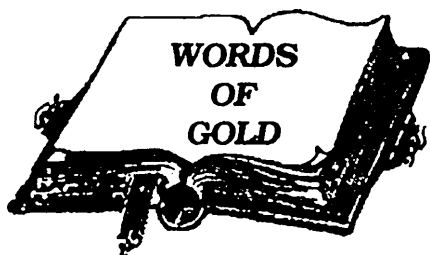
"Oh, but see; I'll help you do your fifty lines right now."

"Oh, but that wouldn't be square."

Paula laughed, "You generally haven't such a delicate conscience. You know very well that half of the time Rosa does your lines for you."

"Oh, Paula, I swear to you."

"No, don't do anything of the kind. It's useless, for I've seen it myself, and I'm sure teacher would say nothing if I were to help you in order that we should both be able to see her. I'm sure she would be so delighted, Lisita. When my father was so ill, all his pupils came to see him, and he was so happy."



Philip

John 1:43-45; 12:20-22

43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

44 Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

20 And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast:

21 The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.

22 Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.

John 6:5-13

5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,

9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so

many?

10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

The Message: Let us be like Philip and lead others to Christ.

Questions

1. What did Jesus say to Philip when He found him?
2. Who lived in the same city as Philip?
3. Who did Philip first find to tell about Jesus?
4. According to Philip, who wrote about Jesus?
5. Who did the Greeks wish to see?
6. When Jesus saw the crowd of people what did He ask Philip?
7. Who told Jesus about the boy's lunch of bread and fish?
8. What did Jesus do with the food?
9. How much food was left over?

Verse to Memorize

The day following Jesus... findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

John 1:43.

Let's



Talk . . .

Philip was one of the very first of Jesus' disciples. He was one of the twelve apostles and came from Bethsaida, the town where Peter and Andrew also lived. Philip yearned to know more about God. When he heard about John the Baptist he soon joined the multitude that gathered to hear his words. He was always searching for the truth so he listened eagerly to every word John spoke.

Jesus recognized Philip's sincere desire to know God and was drawn to him. He called him to follow Him. Philip's honest heart immediately responded. Having studied the Scriptures thoroughly Philip knew this was the Messiah that Moses and the prophets had said would come. He could not keep the good news to himself. Running to find Nathanael, he shouted, "We have found the One Moses and the prophets wrote about, Jesus of Nazareth!"

Since Philip was one of the first to walk with Jesus he would have been present at the wedding at Cana where Jesus turned water into wine. No doubt he saw the servants fill the water pots to the brim with clear water. He probably wondered why Jesus would tell them to pour some of this water in a cup and take it to the governor of the feast to taste. He watched carefully to see the surprised look on the governor's face; wouldn't he be shocked when he tasted water instead of the customary wine! Instead he was the one who was shocked. The governor declared

this was the best wine of the feast! How could this experienced man think that water tasted like the best of wines? Observing closely as each water pot was poured out Philip was convinced that he was seeing a miracle. That water had been changed to wine right before his very eyes!

Of course this was just the first of many miracles Philip would see as he followed Jesus. Another miracle took place in a desert place outside of Bethsaida, Philip's hometown. A great crowd of people had followed Jesus to hear the wonderful words He spoke. After looking out over the multitude, Jesus turned to Philip and asked, "Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?"

Well Philip had already been observing the vast number of people surrounding them. He had a precise and logical mind that quickly calculated the minimum cost to feed such a crowd. And even if they had the money there was no place nearby to buy so much food! He knew this area well.

Now Jesus had purposely asked Philip this question. He knew how He was going to feed these people but it would not be in an ordinary manner. He wanted to show Philip that you can't always figure out how God is going to work. There would be hard trials ahead. Philip must have strong faith. He must learn to trust God instead of his own sharp mind.

After Jesus blessed the bread and fish from the boy's lunch Philip again watched in amazement as basket after basket of food was passed to the people. Soon everyone had eaten their fill! Jesus said, "Gather up what is left over so that no food is wasted." When they did there were twelve baskets full! Philip knew he had just witnessed another miracle!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Your father wasn't like Mlle. Virtud though. Never! Never! I'll never go to see her."

"The Lord Jesus said that when we go to see the sick it is as if we visited Him. Wouldn't you care to go for love of Him, Lisita?"

"Well, we'll talk about that tomorrow," I answered, not daring to refuse on such grounds, and not caring to promise anything either.

Teresa gave her permission, and promised herself to visit the sick one at the very first opportunity. Paula wrote exactly half of my fifty lines, and in order to do so she sacrificed her playtime that afternoon because she wrote so slowly. I performed my twenty-five without further murmuring, and, exacting a promise from Paula that she would go in first, I decided to accompany my cousin on her visit to the teacher.

"Take this," Teresa said to us at the last moment. "It's just a little chocolate for the sick one, for there is nothing better to fortify her strength."

"Oh, many thanks," said Paula.

"You think of everything. By the way I've got four cents. What do you think we could buy with them?" Teresa reflected a minute.

"Get some oranges, and see that they are good and ripe. Don't stay late, for the days are getting short, and it gets terribly cold when the sun goes down."

Paula herself suddenly became very timid as we asked a young girl where Mlle. Virtud lived.

"Ah, you are looking for Mademoiselle," said a childish voice

"It's you Victoria," Paula cried, "I'm so glad to find you here. Yes, we are looking for Mlle. Virtud."

"Come along, then," said Victoria as she blew on her hands that were purple with the cold, "I'll take you to her door." She took us up four flights of stairs when at last we came to Mlle.

Virtud's apartment. "Here you are," said our little guide, and downstairs she went. I started to follow her on down. "Oh, Lisita," cried Paula, "remember your promise."

"Well, why don't you knock?" I said rather wickedly, as I saw that Paula was having trouble mustering up her courage.

"I don't know what's the matter with me; I can't seem to do it."

In a sudden spirit of mischief I suddenly ran to the door and gave it three tremendous knocks, and then ran into the far corner of the hall.

"Oh, Lisita, how could you!" cried poor dismayed Paula.

Pretty soon we heard someone coming slowly to the door, as if he were dragging something behind him with each step. Then the door opened noiselessly and there stood a forlorn twisted little figure, a lad of about ten years. As we looked at his face with its halo of golden hair we forgot all about his deformities.

"Have you come to see my sister?" he said.

"Yes," said Paula, "that is, we have come to see Mademoiselle Virtud."

"She is very, very sick," he said, and we saw that it was with difficulty that he restrained his tears. "Elena," called the boy softly; "here are some visitors to see you."

"For me?" said a voice from the darkness—a voice that we recognized at once.

"Oh," she said, "so it's you! It's very kind of you, dear children to come and see me!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. "Follow me." 2. Andrew and Peter. 3. Nathanael. 4. Moses. 5. Jesus. 6. "Where will we buy bread?" 7. Andrew. 8. Blessed it then gave it to the disciples to give to the people. 9. Twelve baskets.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Sept. 15, 2002

The Teacher And Her Brother

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Lisita dislikes her teacher. Paula had a hard time persuading her to come with her to visit their teacher when they heard she was sick. When they knock on the teacher's door it is opened by her little brother who is crippled.

We stood near the door transfixed as we looked on the face of our poor sick teacher and we saw what a terrible change a few days had made. The little boy came and stood near his elder sister with a mixed air of concern and deep affection.

"And how is everybody at the school?" asked the invalid. And Paula told her a bit about the small happenings in the class.

"And so Mademoiselle Virginia has taken the class. I am sure you must love her very much."

"Not as much as we do you, dear teacher," said Paula.

"Oh, Paula, you just say that to make me feel good, do you not?" and

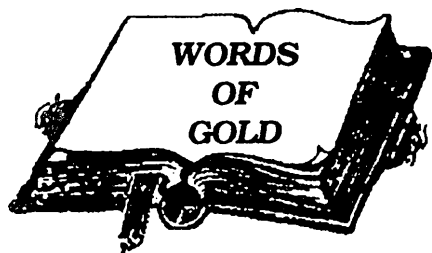
poor Mlle. Virtud looked from one to the other of us a bit sadly I thought.

At this, Paula came over to the bed and placed her warm hand on the thin cheek of the sick one, as she said, "No, Mademoiselle. It is because it is true, that I said it. You are our dear teacher, and we know that you have sacrificed so much and worked so hard to give us knowledge, and so that is why we love you."

"I did my fifty lines!" I burst out—that is to say, Paula did twenty-five, and I did the rest."

"What's that you say?" and a smile of amusement passed over the thin features of the teacher, and yet a certain tender look came into her eyes as she said. You poor little thing! I'd forgotten all about it!"

"Gabriel," she said, turning to the boy who had been examining us minutely, "these are the young ladies who have been sending you such beautiful flowers. You see, he loves flowers so!" explained Mademoiselle. "Poor child, he cannot walk, and so he has to stay here in this stuffy room all day long. Before I was ill, I was able to take him out in his little carriage, and sometimes we would go as far as the open fields where he could see all the flowers he wanted to. But now that I'm confined to my bed with this heart attack, those little excursions



Andrew **John 1:29-42**

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

30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.

31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;

36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said

unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Jesus. ...And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

The Message: After Andrew found Jesus he was anxious to bring others to Him.

Questions:

1. In what form did John see the Spirit descending from heaven?
2. What did John say when he saw Jesus walking by?
3. Who heard what he said?
4. What did they do?
5. What did Jesus ask them?
6. Who was one of the two?
7. Who did he bring to Jesus?
8. What did Jesus tell him?
9. What does "Cephas" mean?

Verse to Memorize

He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

John 1:41.

Let's



Talk . . .

John the Baptist told the people, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand. You must repent!" There had been no great prophet in Israel for more than four hundred years. People came from every part of the land to hear his message.

Dressed in rough clothing made of camel's hair, John the Baptist did not go from city to city preaching to the people. Instead he stayed in the country near the Jordan river. Hearing his warning many people did repent and were baptized by John.

Jesus, too, came to him to be baptized. John did not feel worthy. "I need to be baptized by You," he protested. "Why have You come to me?" Jesus assured him that it was God's will that He be baptized to be an example for others to follow so John did as He said.

As the two came up out of the water a strange thing happened. In that moment the heavens suddenly opened and the Spirit of God flew down in the form of a dove, alighting on Jesus. Then a voice spoke from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

One day not long after Jesus was baptized, John the Baptist and two of those who believed his message stood talking. When John looked up he recognized Jesus coming toward them. He turned to the two men with him and said, "Look! Here comes the Son of God!"

The disciples of John were anxious to know more about this Person. Could He really be the Son of God—the Messiah they were waiting for?

They left John and followed Jesus. After spending the day with Him and hearing His wonderful words they were sure that He was God's own Son, the Savior they were waiting for.

One of the men who visited with Jesus that day was Andrew. He was overjoyed that he had actually found the Christ! He hurried to find his brother, Simon (Peter). "We have found the Christ!" he told him excitedly.

Together Andrew and Simon went to find Jesus again. Before Andrew even had time to introduce Simon, Jesus said to him, "You are Simon the son of Jona. From now on you will be called Cephas which means a stone."

So Andrew was Jesus' first disciple and, by bringing his own brother to Jesus, he became the first Christian evangelist in history! Not only did he bring his brother Peter to the Lord; it was Andrew that brought the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus. When some Greeks wished to see Jesus, Andrew gladly brought them to Him. He was anxious for everyone to meet Jesus. Then they would know for themselves that He truly was Christ.

When Jesus asked Andrew to be one of His twelve apostles, he gladly left everything to follow Him. The Bible doesn't tell us of any miracles Andrew performed or any great sermon he preached. Unlike Peter, his bold and outspoken brother, Andrew was willing to take a secondary place, just as John the Baptist was willing to take a lesser place to Jesus. He lived in the shadow of his more famous brother and was often referred to as Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

Andrew was quiet, working behind the scenes rather than taking the public eye. He was content working with individuals to bring them to Jesus. He was sure they would find in Him the fulfillment of all their hopes, just as he had! —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

have become impossible."

"Are you very sick, Mademoiselle?" Paula asked.

"Oh, I feel very much better today. I have suffered greatly. I must get better quickly, Madame Boudre, the principal, wrote me yesterday that she hoped I would be back very soon in my place in the class. Madame Boudre doesn't care to have sick people," and our teacher looked toward the window with its little white curtains and sighed deeply. Gabriel came near the bed, "Don't worry about that, sister; when I get big I will work for you and become rich, and then you won't need to go to school at all."

How many things I was discovering, I who thought that the life of the schoolteacher was a bed of roses.

"No, never any more," continued the little boy, "I know why you're sick. It's because the school children trouble you, and as you told me it gave you so much pain to punish them, but when I get big you shall see, as I said before."

Mlle, Virtud looked at the little face with its great earnest eyes.

"I'm afraid you will have to wait a long, long time," she said tenderly. "I don't think I ever told you young ladies that I had a little brother at home. He is the youngest of our family, and I am the oldest."

"How is it that Gabriel is not at home with his parents?" questioned Paula.

"Because, you see, he needed certain special treatment which my parents could not give him in the small village where we live; but here in Rouen there are fine doctors and big hospitals. Of course, I doubt if he can be restored completely, but we are doing all we can. That is my one consolation. I didn't expect that he would be with me so long a time. The first time Gabriel came to Rouen, he

went into the big hospital. But after staying there for many months his hip seemed to be no better and they could not keep him any longer. Then he stayed with me here so that I could take him to the doctor once in a while."

"You'll tire yourself, Mademoiselle, talking to us," broke in Paula, who had learned this much, taking care of Catalina.

"Do you think so," said Mademoiselle, "I know I'm not very well yet, but it isn't very often that I have the pleasure of a visit from my pupils, and so I'm profiting by it. You see, I took Gabriel home once, but when I started to return the poor boy begged so hard to come back with me that finally my parents agreed. So he's been with me now for several years. We are very happy, are we not, Gabriel? When I'm in school he's able to tidy up the house and wash the dishes. What would I do without my little Gabriel?" she said, as she playfully pulled the little boy's hair.

"And I," said Gabriel, "What would I do without you? In fact, what would everybody do around this whole court without you? Wasn't it you who..."

"There, that will do," said Mlle. Virtud. "You mustn't tell all the family secrets. We are here in this world to help others; are we not, Lisita?"

"Yes Mademoiselle," I answered, and I was filled with fear that there might be another sermon coming.

(To be continued next week.)

- (Answers: 1. Like a dove.
2. "Behold the Lamb of God"
3. John's two disciples.
4. They followed Jesus.
5. "What seek ye?" 6. Andrew.
7. His brother, Simon.
8. "Thou shalt be called Cephas."
9. A stone.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 22, 2002

Lisita Repents

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula had a hard time persuading Lisita to visit their teacher when they heard she was sick. When they knock on the teacher's door it is opened by her little brother who is crippled.

"Poor little girl," my teacher said as she saw I was shivering. Taking my two hands in her two hot ones, burning with fever.

Was it this little touch of tenderness on the part of Mademoiselle, or remorse for all the wicked feelings I had so long held against my teacher? Anyway, a flood of tears came as I kneeled beside the bed and hid my face on the white cover. "Oh, Mademoiselle...forgive me." I murmured between my sobs.

All my pride had broken and I saw myself for what I was, guilty, unjust and cruel toward this young woman whom I had accused of living solely for herself. I felt a hand passing slowly over my head.

"I forgive you with all my heart,

poor child," and the invalid's voice was both sincere and kindly. I rose and embraced her with a repentant heart, and with a hearty kiss I buried our old war then and there. I felt the warmth of the beginning of a new life for me. Suddenly we heard a knock on the door.

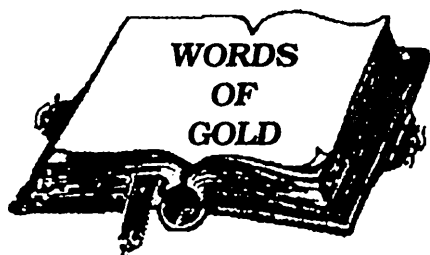
"Ah, that will be Madame Bertin," said Gabriel, as he hitched himself to the door and opened it. A gray-haired woman came in on tiptoe.

"Ah, you have visitors, Mademoiselle," as she stopped a moment near the door.

"Only two of my pupils who have come to see me. Come in, come in, it's all right," insisted our teacher.

"Ah" said the new arrival with great interest, "so you are my Victoria's schoolmates. How proud you ought to be to have such a wonderful teacher!" Here she advanced to the bed. "I will go and bring back a little something to make a fire. I'm sure Gabriel must be hungry by this time." Without waiting for a reply the good woman went rapidly down the four flights of stairs. Paula then gave Mademoiselle the small package Teresa had sent, as well as the little bag of oranges.

"See, Gabriell!" said Mademoiselle as she opened the packages with delight, "Oranges! And chocolate! What a treat! You are very good to remember me in such a lovely way. Please



Jesus Calls Matthew

Luke 5:27-32;19:1-10

27 And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me.

28 And he left all, rose up, and followed him.

29 And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them.

30 But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?

31 And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.

32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.

5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.

6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

The Message: Jesus is the friend of sinners. Publicans (tax collectors) were despised by the Jews but Jesus reached out to them with the message of hope and salvation.

Questions:

1. What was the publican's name?
2. What did Jesus say to him?
3. What did he do?
4. Who made a great feast for Jesus?
5. Why did the scribes and Pharisees murmur at Jesus?
6. Who was chief among the publicans?
7. Who did he want to see?
8. Why did he have to climb a tree?
9. Whose house did Jesus go to that day?

Verse to Memorize

I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Luke 5:32.

Let's



Talk . . .

Matthew (also known as Levi) was a publican or tax collector for the Romans. Other Jews considered any one who collected taxes for any Roman authority to be disloyal to their nation. The Jews were vigorous haters of taxes, as they considered that tribute should only be paid to God. Publicans were regarded as outcasts of society. They were disqualified from courts of law, and were refused entrance to the synagogue.

It seemed very strange then that as Jesus walked along a street in the city of Capernaum one day that He should stop at the customs office. But there He stood watching as the despised publicans collected their taxes from the merchants. Then, looking directly at Matthew He said to him, "Follow me."

Having his office in Capernaum, Matthew had much opportunity to hear about and see Jesus. Many of Jesus' mighty miracles had been done at Capernaum. It was there that Jesus first cast out a devil. His fame spread abroad throughout the region round about Galilee. The whole town gathered around Jesus and many were healed of their sicknesses and set free from evil spirits. Before He called Matthew Jesus had healed the paralytic that had been let down through the roof declaring that just as He could heal a man's body, so could He forgive sin.

Matthew witnessed four fishermen leave their nets to follow Jesus. He had seen Jesus in the town and heard of His fame. Besides the miracles, Matthew had seen lives changed by the power of God. Observing all this Matthew became keenly aware of his own

sins. Could it be that Jesus could change his life also? He would give all his wealth to have his heart set free!

Then on that day Jesus stopped and invited him to follow Him. Matthew's response was immediate—he gladly left his worldly occupation to be a disciple of Christ. Though he lost his employment and income he gained salvation and forgiveness of sins. He also received an honour that has endured through the ages. Matthew's account of the Gospel is the first of the four, which tells the story of the good news of Jesus' coming into the world. His name has been immortalized more than the names of kings, scientists, or men of wealth. Through the Gospel account that he wrote, he has led many souls to Christ. His life proves that whoever denies this world to follow and serve Jesus will be richly rewarded.

There was no doubt about Matthew's life being changed. He immediately began thinking of giving rather than taking. Matthew quickly prepared a banquet and invited all his friends. This feast was to introduce all the publicans in Capernaum to Jesus. He wanted his associates to come to know Jesus too. It was to be a testimony. It was saying goodbye to his former friends, and to celebrate his new life as well as to express his gratitude to Jesus who had graciously condescended to include a tax collector as one of His disciples.

Jesus accepted the invitation of Matthew and ate in his home. By doing this He showed that God accepts people from all nations who fear Him and do what is right. The scribes and the Pharisees grumbled because Jesus attended Matthew's banquet. They did not object to tax collectors eating with their own kind, but they were disgusted with Christ for mingling with such sinners. Jesus explained, "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

thank your Teresa too."

"She said she was coming to see you," said Paula.

At this the poor young woman looked disturbed.

"I'm afraid she'll find things in a very bad state here," and she colored slightly.

But as we started to go away Paula assured her that Teresa wouldn't mind a bit.

"Just a moment," said the invalid, "Would you mind reading me a chapter out of this book? I have not been able to read it today, as my head ached too badly. It's a book that I love very much."

"The Bible!" cried Paula, "Oh, I didn't know that you read it too."

The young lady shook her head sadly, "I used to read it when I was a child, Paula. It was and is the beloved Book of my mother, but for many, many years I never opened it. When your uncle came to inscribe you as a pupil, he told me how much you loved your father's Bible, and that started me thinking of my own, hidden in the bottom of my trunk. I began to read many chapters that I remember having read with my mother, and now I believe that Gabriel would never tire if I read it to him all day. "Tell her to read the story of Jesus healing the sick people," came the eager voice of Gabriel.

Mademoiselle smiled, "Gabriel is right. When people are sick they love to hear of the greatest doctor of all. Read about the ten lepers, Paula."

At this point the old lady returned, and she too stood and listened as Paula began to read the wonderful story.

"And as Jesus came to Jerusalem, He went through Galilee, and entering into a village, behold, ten lepers stood afar off, and cried, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us, and He said to them, Go show yourselves to the priest.

And as they went their way, they were healed, and one of them seeing that he was healed, returned and glorified God in a loud voice, and cast himself at the feet of Jesus, giving thanks to Him, and behold, he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, Were there not ten healed? Where are the nine? Only this foreigner has returned to give glory to God. And He said to him, Rise, therefore; thy faith hath made thee whole." (Luke 17:11-19.) Here Paula stopped, not knowing whether to go on to the end of the chapter.

Mlle. Virtud then closed her eyes, but one could see she was not sleeping. Paula waited in silence, and so did the old lady as she stood there with her rough, toil-worn hands clasped beneath her apron.

"Read some more," said Gabriel, "No," said Mlle. Virtud. "It's time the children returned, for they must reach home before dark." She drew us to her, giving us both a long embrace. "May God bless you both, my dear young friends! Come back soon to see me." Then Victoria's mother embraced us also, saying at the same time, "I have a poor blind daughter. I would be very grateful if you would stop in to see her the next time and read her the same story you have just read to Mademoiselle."

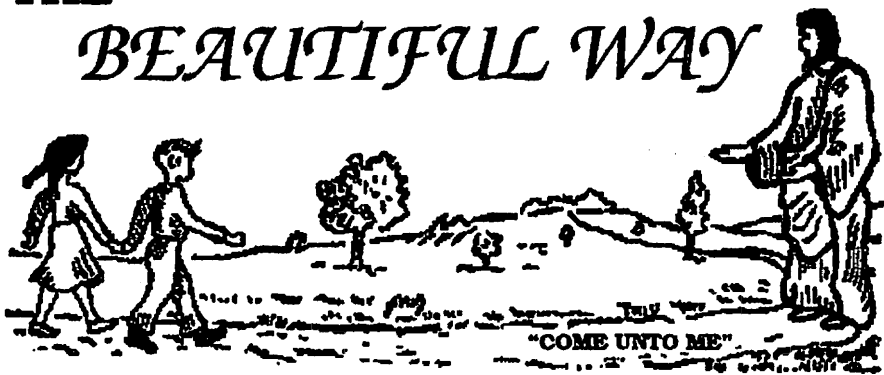
"I don't know how to read," she continued. "I have such a poor stupid head, and Victoria doesn't seem to have learned to read very well. She can show you where we live, and now, goodbye until the next time."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Levi. 2. "Follow Me." 3. He got up and followed Him. 4. Levi. 5. Because He ate with publicans and sinners. 6. Zacchaeus. 7. Jesus. 8. Because he was short. 9. Zacchaeus'.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 29, 2002

Jesus Makes The Difference

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula had a hard time persuading Lisita to visit their teacher when they heard she was sick. But during the visit Lisita learns that her teacher is kindhearted and loving.

On our return home Teresa prepared supper. She listened with great interest to the story of our afternoon's visit. "I'm going to see her tomorrow, poor child," she said.

That night Teresa came to tuck us in and kiss us good-night which was her habit. I whispered in her ear, "Teresa, I've come to love Mademoiselle Virtud."

"Good! Good!" exclaimed the old servant; "that's something new indeed! And why has the wind so suddenly changed in her direction?"

"It's because I know her now!" I said.

Teresa seated herself on my bed, and in spite of the cold she talked to me a long time, telling me that my

heart's coldness and my selfishness had caused her much grief. I could see how happy I had made her to have confessed my faults and thus show the beginning of a great change. She told me how my mother died with a prayer on her lips for me. Then she spoke of Paula who thought of nothing except making other people happy. "Wouldn't you like to be like Paula?" Teresa questioned me. "Of course dear Teresa," I said, "but that's impossible, I'm too bad for that!"

"Who is it, Lisita, that makes Paula so good?" and Teresa's voice took on a new and most tender note.

"It's the Lord Jesus! I answered in a low whisper.

"That's well answered, Lisita! And the same Lord Jesus would do the like for you. Let me ask you something. Do you not find me changed since I began to pray to Him?"

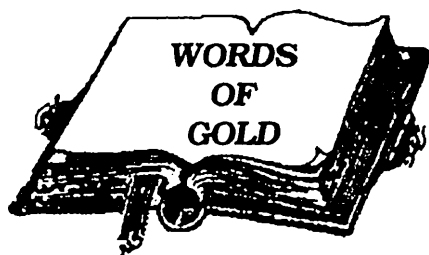
"Yes, Teresa."

"In what way have you noticed the change?"

"Well, for one thing, wash day doesn't make you irritable as it used to do," I said.

"That's something, now isn't it? Oh, when one has the peace of God in the heart anger doesn't have a chance to get inside as it used to do."

I looked at her furtively. By the lamplight I could see in those dark blue eyes such a new, such a tender,



Nathaniel

John 1:45-51; 21:2-4, 6-7

45 Philip findeth Nathanael (Bartholemew), and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!

48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

50 Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these.

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

2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We

also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord...

The Message: Jesus knew Nathanael's heart. When He saw him coming He stated that he was an Israelite indeed meaning that he had a heart that was right and pure before God.

Questions:

1. Who did Philip find?
2. Who did Philip tell him they had found?
3. What did Jesus say when he saw Nathanael coming?
4. Who asked, "Whence knowest thou me?"
5. Where was Nathanael when Jesus saw him?
6. Who did Nathanael say Jesus was?
7. After the disciples had fished all night how many fish had they caught?
8. Who was standing on the shore the next morning?
9. What happened when they cast the net where Jesus said?

Verse to Memorize

The Lord knoweth them that are his.

II Timothy 2:19.

Let's



Talk . . .

In the lists of the disciples given in Matthew, Mark and Luke, Bartholomew is mentioned but Nathanael is not. John, however, does not mention the name Bartholomew. Instead he speaks of Nathanael as being one of the twelve apostles. Bartholomew is really a surname, so we see that Nathanael and Bartholomew are the two names of one apostle.

Philip was a true friend to Nathanael. When he found Jesus he lost no time finding Nathanael to tell him the good news. "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph!" he almost shouted.

In spite of his friend's enthusiasm Nathanael was not convinced that he had really found Jesus. He knew the scriptures well. They said that the king of the Jews would be born in Bethlehem not Nazareth. So he questioned his friend. "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" he asked.

Philip's heart burned with sheer joy at having found Jesus. He had spent enough time with Him to see the wonderful works He did. When Jesus spoke His words were full of truth and wisdom. Philip did not waste a minute trying to convince his friend. He must meet Him for himself. Then he would know! "Come and see," he insisted.

Philip's enthusiasm was enough to arouse Nathanael's curiosity and wonder. He got up and followed him.

As the pair approached the place where Jesus stood Jesus looked up. Looking directly at Nathanael He said, "Look! Here is an Israelite indeed in whom there is no deceit."

Nathanael was astonished at Jesus' words. "How do you know me?" he asked.

"Before Philip called you," Jesus said, "I saw you under the fig tree."

Nathanael was even more amazed. How could Jesus know that he had been under the fig tree praying? How could he know that he had an honest heart when he had never met Him before? No one but God knows a man's heart. Only God could see everyone no matter where they were!

At once Nathanael was convinced. He believed that Jesus came from God. Joyfully he exclaimed, "Master, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

"Do you believe just because I said I saw you under the fig tree?" Jesus asked. "You will see greater things than these." After this Nathanael was a faithful follower of Jesus and saw the many miracles and great works that He did.

One day after Jesus' resurrection Nathanael and six other disciples decided to go fishing at Peter's suggestion. They were all expert fisherman; that is the way they earned their living before they left it to follow Jesus. But all night long they did not catch a single fish.

As they pulled near shore the next morning they saw a man standing by the seaside. "Have you caught any fish?" the stranger asked.

"No!" they shouted back.

"Then cast your nets on the right side of the ship and you will find fish," the man called.

Now after fishing this area all night long the disciples knew there were no fish around. What did this stranger know about fishing? But out of courtesy they lowered their nets as he indicated. To their amazement their nets were suddenly filled with fish! This was a miracle!

Looking again toward shore John told Peter and the other disciples, "It is the Lord!"

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

confident look, that in spite of the wrinkled cheeks and her white hair I saw a startling likeness to Paula herself. I couldn't explain it at the time, but later I understood. Teresa and Paula were just part of the family of God and it was His likeness of Jesus, His dear Son, I had seen in both of them.

The years passed swiftly without bringing any great changes in our quiet life. Rosa, who was now eighteen years old, was studying in the city. She was still the same studious person—faithful and sincere in all that she did. Her quiet reserved manner caused some people to call her proud, but those who knew her better loved her, and knew she could be depended on in time of trouble.

Catalina still suffered somewhat, but now was able to walk around a bit without crutches. In spite of her delicate health and poor twisted body she had come bravely to take her true place among us as our big sister, so loving and solicitous for everybody's welfare that she came to be known in the neighborhood as "The little mother."

Paula was now fourteen years of age. In the house, at school, in the village, everywhere, everybody loved her, and I can say with all honesty that never a shadow of envy ever disturbed the tender friendship that had united us to her from the beginning. One could not possibly be jealous of Paula. All that she possessed was ours. Our joys were hers. Our sorrows were her sorrows. She had grown in body and mind, and yet kept the same characteristics. Always bright and happy and full of fun, she had the same simple, humble ways as when at ten years of age she had come among us. Her special summer delight was to run through the fields, always returning to the house with a big bunch of wild flowers for Catalina.

In one thing only she always seemed to fail. Teresa had a fearful task in teaching her to sew and to knit.

"What are you going to do in the future if you don't know how to do these things?"

"I'm sure I don't know," Paula would say sadly, and would take up the work once more with such sweet resignation that Teresa, moved with compassion, would take the work from her hands saying, "There! There! Run outdoors now for a bit of fresh air."

Then away Paula would go into the garden or under the trees that lined the village street. Soon she was back with such a happy smile that Teresa forgave her completely.

Once however Teresa lost all patience with her, exclaiming, as she saw the strange ragged ends she had left in her sewing, "Drop that work, and go where you please; but remember this, never will you be called a 'Dorcas.' Never will you be able to sew and provide garments for the poor. Its not enough to tell them you love them, you must show it by your works, and the best way to do that would be to learn to be useful to them."

Paula sat back stiff and straight in consternation. "Oh, Teresa, I never, never thought of that!" she said in a tone of greatest remorse. Please let me go on! I will try to do better!"

But Teresa had taken away the work, and was not inclined to be easily persuaded. "No, not now! Another time perhaps you may show what you can do."

[To be continued next week.]

(Answers: 1. Nathanael. 2. Jesus. 3. "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" 4. Nathanael. 5. Under a fig tree. 6. The Son of God. 7. None. 8. Jesus. 9. They caught a multitude of fish.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 6, 2002

The Blind Girl

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. While visiting their teacher a neighbor asked Paula and Lisita to visit her daughter who was blind. They promised to do so when they visited Gabriel, their teacher's little crippled brother.

Gabriel was so glad to see us that it was always a joy to go and play with him on our Thursday half-holidays. Paula always told him Bible stories, for that seemed to be his chief pleasure, and I taught him to read. Victoria's mother used to bring her work over to Mlle. Virtud's room and heard the stories with great delight.

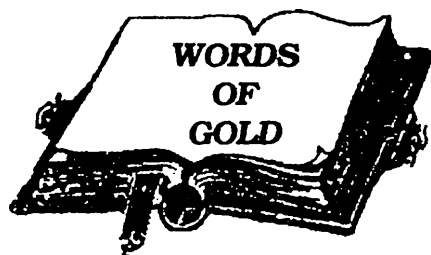
One afternoon we said good-bye to Gabriel and mounted the stairs to visit the blind girl. Left alone for most of the day, she passed the long hours knitting. She was about the same age as Catalina, but she appeared to be much older. The first time we had visited her, she had hardly raised her head from her work, and showed but little interest in the stories that her mother had asked us to read to her. It

was not so much indifference as an apparent incapacity to comprehend the meaning of what she heard. But on this particular afternoon Paula started singing a hymn. The poor girl suddenly dropped her work in her lap and listened with rapt attention. When Paula had finished she exclaimed, "Oh, Mama! Mama! Tell her to please sing again."

Mme. Bertin could not suppress a cry of delight as she said, "Dear Mademoiselle Paula, please sing another song! Never have I seen my Marguerite so happy." And so Paula sang hymn after hymn. As Paula at last stopped singing, for the time had come to go home, poor Marguerite stretched out her arms as if groping for something.

"Please do not be offended, Mademoiselle Paula," implored Madame Bertin; she wants you to come nearer that she may feel your face. The blind have no other eyes." Paula kneeled at Marguerite's side and the blind girl passed her hands gently over the upturned face, pausing an instant, at the broad forehead, then on over the beautiful arched brows and long eyelashes and the delicately fashioned nose and lips that smiled as she touched them.

"You have not seen her hair," said the mother, as she guided the girl's



The Disciple Thomas

John 14:1-6; 20:19, 24-29

1 [Jesus taught His disciples saying,] Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

19 Then [after Jesus' resurrection] the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas

with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

The Message: Thomas' doubts were removed when he saw Jesus for himself. Jesus wants us to believe in Him although we do not see Him with our natural eyes.

Questions:

1. Jesus told His disciples He was going away to do what?
2. Who asked how they could know the way?
3. What was Jesus' answer?
4. Why did the disciples meet behind closed doors?
5. Who suddenly stood with them?
6. Which disciple was not there?
7. Who did not believe when the other disciples told him they had seen Jesus?
8. How many days later was it when Jesus appeared to them again?
9. Who did Jesus say was blessed?

Verse to Memorize

...Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

John 20:29.

Let's



Talk . . .

The disciple Thomas is best known as being a doubter because he demanded proof of Jesus' resurrection. He wanted to physically touch His wounds before he would believe. Because of this he is often referred to as "Doubting Thomas."

Have you ever heard something and wondered, "Now how could that be possible?" The Bible tells us that the Lord prepared a great fish that swallowed Jonah and that he was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. (Jonah 1:17.) If you hear someone say, "That is impossible because science has proved that whales cannot swallow a man," does that make you doubt the Bible? Or do you seek God and ask Him to show you the truth so that your faith will be increased?

Or maybe you wondered when you read about the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea on dry land. To human thinking that is impossible! How could water pile up so you could walk on dry land with a wall of water beside you? But when we ask the Lord He will help us understand that He created the earth and the heavens and there is nothing impossible for Him. He will show us that He is all-powerful and that nothing we face in life is too hard for Him to handle.

Even when Jesus chose Thomas as one of His disciples He knew he was one who would want positive proof before he would believe something. The first time we read of his doubts was when Lazarus was sick and died. Jesus waited a few days

then told His disciples that they were going to Bethany, the place where Lazarus lived. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem the disciples were afraid the Jewish rulers might kill them as they had threatened.

Thomas' doubts caused him to forget the power of Christ and to expect the worst to happen. He told the other disciples, "Let us also go to Bethany. If they kill Him we will die with Him!" Instead Lazarus was raised from the dead at Jesus' command! Nor did the Jews bother them. This greatly increased the disciples' faith.

When Christ first appeared to the disciples after His resurrection, Thomas was not with them. Later they were rejoicing and telling Thomas all about it. But Thomas' faith just couldn't take it in. He said, "Except I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe!"

Eight days later the disciples were together when Jesus suddenly appeared to them. This time Thomas was with them. Turning to Thomas, He said, "Put your finger into the nailprint in My hands. Reach out your hand, and thrust it into My side. Don't be faithless, but believe!" Immediately all doubts were erased. Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" Thomas was a much stronger and faithful follower after that!

A good thing for us to remember from this is to never doubt God's Word (the Bible) or God. If we truly believe and repent of our sins God will save us and come to live in our hearts. This will bring true joy and is the happiest life possible. God will work out all our problems, heal all our sickness and make us happy here. Then when we die we'll have a home in heaven to enjoy for all eternity!

—Bro. Dale Doolittle

hands upward and over the waves of light brown hair that seemed like an aurora fit for such a face, and then finally down the long braids that extended below Paula's waist. Then with one of those sudden movements characteristic of the blind, she carried the shining braids to her lips and kissed them as in an ecstasy. Then, just as suddenly, in confusion, she dropped them and buried her own face in her hands.

At this Paula sprang to her feet and put her arms about the poor girl, and murmured in her ear, "We do love you so, Marguerite!"

After that visit, little by little Marguerite began to love to hear us speak of the Saviour. Her indifference and sadness disappeared, giving place to a quiet peace and joy that was contagious for all who came in contact with her. Mme. Bertin no longer called her "My poor daughter," only "My Marguerite." For the next two years she became our constant delight. Teresa at times gave us clothes but slightly worn to take to her, which gave us almost as much joy as we carried them to Marguerite as she herself felt on receiving them.

One day Gabriel came running to tell us that Marguerite was quite ill and we lost no time in going to see her. With painful feelings of presentiment we mounted the steep stairs to her room.

As we entered, Madame Bertin came toward us with her apron to her eyes and Mlle. Virtud made signs for us to come over to the bed, as she slightly raised the sick girl's head.

"Dearest Marguerite," said our teacher, "Here are Paula and Lisita."

"May God bless them both," and Marguerite spread out her arms toward us, adding, "Oh, Paula, please sing again, *There's No Night There!*" And Paula sang once more the old hymn.

"Oh, how beautiful!" And it seemed as if the poor blind girl were straining those sightless orbs for a glimpse of the Beautiful City. "Don't cry, Mother," she said as she caught a low sob from the other end of the room. "I am so happy now to go to be with Jesus in His City." The poor mother put her face close to her daughter's lips so that she might not lose a word.

"One regret only I have, Mama," Marguerite said; "and that is that I have never seen your face. Oh, that I might have seen it just once."

"In heaven," interrupted our teacher, "your eyes will be open forever."

"Oh, yes," said the dying girl. "There perhaps I will see Mama and Victoria. Will you please give Victoria a kiss for me when she comes home from the factory tonight. Tell her I'm so grateful she has worked so hard for us!" Then suddenly—"Paula!" she called, "Paula!"

"Here I am, Marguerite," and Paula came closer, taking her hand.

"Ah, you are here. Thanks, dear Paula," she gasped. "Many thanks for telling me about Jesus and His love for me. Sing..." The sentence was never finished, but Paula's sweet voice rose, as once again she sang the sublime words:

"There is no night there."

"Is she dead?" I said, as we looked down on the still white face.

"Her eyes are open now," said Mlle. Virtud tenderly, "in the City where there is no night!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To prepare a place for them. 2. Thomas. 3. "I am the way, the truth, and the life." 4. They were afraid of the Jews. 5. Jesus. 6. Thomas. 7. Thomas. 8. Eight. 9. Those who have not seen, yet believe.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 13, 2002

A Dress For Celestina

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. While visiting their teacher a neighbor asked Paula and Lisita to visit her daughter who was blind. At first the blind girl showed no interest in the stories that were read to her from the Bible. But when Paula sang she paid close attention. Through these visits, Marguerite gave her heart to Jesus before she died.

It was a snowy, blustery day. It is always a source of pleasure to see the drifts beginning to bank against the houses across the street. On this afternoon the bushes and roofs were already crowned in white and all the trees were festooned as if for a holiday. The smaller objects in the garden had disappeared under this grand upholstery of nature and the rattle of the carts and other ordinary sounds of the village were muffled in the mantle of snow. To be sure Paula dampened my pleasure a bit by reminding me that there were many people who were in great suffering on account of the storm, without proper food, warm

clothing, or fire in their houses.

It had been a hard winter. Many of the factories in town had had to discharge their workers on account of lack of orders. Happily Teresa, with Catalina's help, had done all she could to aid the poor folks in our neighborhood. Paula had sewn incessantly. Her stitches were pretty uneven and the thread frequently knotted in her nervous hands, but Teresa said that the mistakes she made were more than made up by the love that she put into her work.

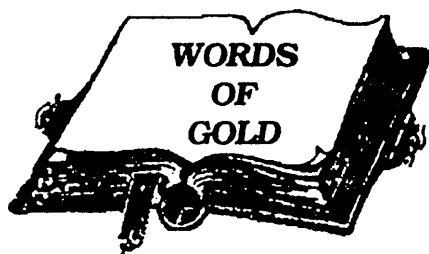
I read to Paula while she sewed, and we were certainly happy when at last the mountain of old clothes which had been gathered for the poor had been made over and finally distributed to the needy ones.

I remember especially one poor woman to whom Teresa had sent us with a package of clothes, who received us with tears of gratitude.

And now, as I sat looking out at the gathering drifts, I heard Catalina remark in a relieved tone, "At last that's finished!"

"What's finished?" I asked. "My old dress," she said.

Who would have thought I could do a job like this! But there it is turned and darned and lengthened. Happily, I don't believe that poor Celestina Dubois will be very difficult to please"—and Catalina pulled a comic smile.



Judas Iscariot, The Betrayer

**John 12:3-6; Matthew 26:14-15;
47-50; 27:3-6**

3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,

5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

14 Then...Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,

15 And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

47 And...Judas...came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people.

48 Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.

49 And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him.

50 And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.

5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.

The Message: Each of us must make the choice between good and evil. Judas Iscariot was once a worthy disciple of Jesus but when he chose the love of money over a love for the truth he became a treacherous traitor!

Questions:

1. Who anointed Jesus' feet with a costly ointment?
2. How did she dry His feet?
3. Which disciple objected to her sacrifice?
4. What did he say should have been done with the ointment?
5. To whom did Judas betray Jesus?
6. How much money did they give him?
7. With what sign did Judas betray Jesus?
8. What did Judas finally do with the money?
9. How did Judas end his life?

Verse to Memorize

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Proverbs 4:23.

Let's



Talk . . .

We may wonder why Jesus chose Judas to be His disciple. But remember, he was a faithful disciple, not a betrayer, when he was first chosen.

Because Judas was skillful at handling money Jesus gave him the job of carrying the bag. But somewhere along the way he let wicked thoughts come into his mind. He became more and more interested in the money and lost interest in spiritual things.

When Mary came and anointed Jesus' feet with the costly ointment Judas found fault saying, "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence and given to the poor?" He wasn't really worried about the poor; he was thinking about the money! Later he actually started taking money from the bag for himself.

There is a lesson in this. We must be very careful to guard our heart or Satan will take over. First he will try to slip in evil thoughts. If this succeeds he will then get you to do things that you know are not right. He gets you to do more and more bad things until finally you feel there is no hope for you—you have gone too far.

Some people think that Judas was chosen to be the traitor but that is not right. He did not have to do evil but this was his choice. Judas' thefts were so sly that the other disciples did not know about his evil thoughts and deeds. But Jesus could see what was going on in Judas' heart and at different times He tried to warn him of the danger ahead. This is why it is so important to not let evil thoughts

stay in your mind. Satan will bring them to you. But when you recognize they are from the devil you must refuse them. Ask God to help you and He will.

We read about students being killed at school by young gunmen. These evil deeds started out as thoughts, then plans were made before the crime was actually committed. In the end there is always bitter disappointment and awful sorrow.

In the beginning Judas didn't dream he would betray Christ. But as he let different things come into his heart the plan started forming. Not only did he betray him but also he got money for doing so! He probably thought that Jesus would somehow use His power to escape the Jews. The awful reality of what he had done crashed in on him when he saw Jesus actually being led away by the soldiers! Then, too late, he realized that he had betrayed innocent blood. He tried to return the money but the priests would not accept it. Throwing the coins on the floor Judas rushed out and ended his own life by hanging himself!

See the awful end of going your own way and rejecting God! Judas probably had great plans to start out but without God they came to a bad end. You are young and you may think, "I would never do a thing like that!" But remember evil deeds begin as some "small" sin. It could start with a lie, by stealing a little money or doing something else wrong. Step by step the devil leads us deeper until he gets us to do the very evil that we thought we would never do.

Always guard against temptation to do wrong even if it is seemingly a small thing. If you do sin be sure to straighten it up immediately. Otherwise it will develop into greater evil and in the end you will be eternally lost!

—Bro. Dale Doolittle

As one looked at that peaceful beautiful face it was hard to realize that it could belong to the poor miserable complaining invalid of a short time before!

"What a shame that it's still snowing so hard," she said, "I would have liked to have sent it over to Celestina today. Teresa says the poor woman needs it badly. But I suppose we'll have to wait till morning."

"That won't be at all necessary," said Paula, "We're not afraid of a little snow; are we, Lisita? If you only knew how I love to go out into a snowstorm like this!"

"You must be like the mountain goats of your own country," said Catalina with a laugh. "To think of getting any pleasure in going out in a snowstorm!"

"Oh, no!" said Paula. "The goats don't like the cold."

"Well, I declare!" said Catalina, "I wouldn't have believed that! Well, run and ask permission of Teresa."

And Teresa dressed us up as if we were going on a voyage to the North Pole and gave us a thousand instructions. "Above all things don't 'dilly-dally' on the way," she said. "The Breton was released from jail today and you may depend on it he will not be in a very good humor. What a shame that Celestina should have such a terrible neighbor. You can never tell what a man like that may do. If my rheumatism would only let me, I would gladly go with you."

"What on earth would we do if we happened to meet the Breton?" I questioned Paula, and terror began to grip my heart as we drew near the drunkard's house.

"Don't you be afraid, Lisita," said Paula, taking my trembling hand in hers.

Celestina received us with exclamations of surprise and delight.

Overcome with emotion, she said,

"To think of your coming to see me through all this terrible storm! I never would have expected you on such a day!"

We noticed a shade of sadness in her tone, and Paula questioned her as to the reason.

The old lady shook her head. "No, there's nothing particular," she said, "the Lord seems to heap good things upon me; but at times on nearing the end of the journey the pilgrim gets a bit tired and longs for the blessed final rest." Then she paused and turned to us once more with a smile. "And you, young people, how goes the journey with you?"

"I too find," said Paula gravely, "that at times the way is difficult, but as we put our hand in that of Jesus, He helps and strengthens us."

The old lady's eyes were full of amusement as she answered, "My, oh, me! You talk as wisely as a traveler who is about to finish his long journey instead of being still at the bottom of the hill. And your uncle! Has he begun to go with you yet?"

"My uncle," and Paula hesitated, "at least he permits us to serve the Lord."

"But he doesn't let you attend church yet?"

"No, but I think he will some day."

"Courage, Paula," said the old woman, "the Lord Jesus has said, 'Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life!' How happy I shall be when your uncle permits you to attend with us."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Mary. 2. With her hair. 3. Judas Iscariot. 4. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor. 5. To the chief priests. 6. Thirty pieces of silver. 7. With a kiss. 8. Threw it down in the temple. 9. He hanged himself.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 20, 2002

The Unwelcome Guest

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. In this story Catalina sent a dress by Paula and Lisita to a poor woman named Celestina Breton, Celestina's neighbor, is a cruel bully whom the girls do not want to meet. Lisita tells the story.

"It is difficult to understand why God gave me the Breton and his children for neighbors. Do you know the family?" Celestina asked us.

"Oh, yes, indeed," said I, "I should say we do!" The long conversation had made me sleepy, but the mention of the Breton had brought me wide awake again.

"If I had known," continued the old lady, "that on the other side of the partition I was to hear nothing but quarrels and fighting and cursing, I would never have moved in here. But more than that, he is not content with disturbing the peace in his own apartment, he even comes over to my side to torment me here in my small room. The Breton indeed is a terrible man when he's drunk. I have tried to talk to him to see if I could do something to

change his evil ways, but so far all my efforts have been useless."

I interrupted her to ask if she knew he had been liberated from the jail that very day.

"Oh, yes," she said; "he made a terrible scene this morning bullying his poor wife around. The poor soul is certainly worthy of our pity. But here I am talking on and on without inquiring once as to Catalina's health."

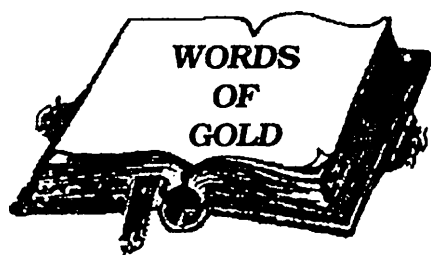
"It was Catalina herself who sent us with this package for you," said Paula. "For me!" cried the old lady. "What's all this?" and she nervously untied the strings. Then as she saw the good warm dress, her eyes filled with tears. "May the Lord bless the dear girl! He surely must have revealed my need to her!"

"Would you mind, please, putting it on? Catalina wanted us to find out if it fits you," I said.

The good woman tried on the dress as she exclaimed, "My, oh me, how handsome I am for once in my life, at least," and a merry twinkle danced in old Celestina's eyes, "I'll have to keep this for Sunday wear only."

"No," said Paula, "Catalina said to be sure to tell you it was for everyday wear, for you see how it keeps out the cold."

"Well, then," said the old lady, "I suppose I must obey orders. But my, how beautiful it is, too beautiful for



Jesus Calls Peter

John 1:40-42

40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Simon,...

42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

Luke 5:1-11

1 And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,

2 And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

6 And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.

7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help

them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken:

10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

11 And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

The Message: Peter obeyed Jesus and let down his nets, though it seemed futile. Great blessings come from immediately obeying all God's commands.

Questions:

1. Who did Jesus see as He walked by the Sea of Galilee?
2. What were they doing?
3. What did Jesus tell them to do?
4. Why did the people press upon Jesus?
5. Why had the fishermen left the two ships?
6. Whose ship did Jesus get into?
7. What did He tell Peter to do after He got through speaking?
8. Why did Peter fall down at Jesus' knees?
9. What did they do when they got their ships to land?

Verse to Memorize

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Revelation 22:14

Let's



Talk . . .

Andrew was first a disciple of John the Baptist. One day John the Baptist saw Jesus walking by. Interrupting his conversation with Andrew and another one of his disciples John exclaimed, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

Andrew had deep respect for John the Baptist and listened carefully as he spoke of the coming of the Savior Who would soon come to teach men the ways of God. When John called Jesus the Lamb of God Andrew was so impressed he decided to follow Jesus and see just what John meant.

Jesus saw Andrew and the other disciple following. Turning to them He asked, "What are you looking for?"

The disciples answered, "Master, where do You live?"

"Come and see!" Jesus invited them.

So they went with Jesus and listened intently to every word He spoke. Andrew was soon convinced that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. He could not wait to find his brother, Simon, to tell him the good news.

Now Simon Peter was also known as Simon Bar-jona, which meant the son of Jona. Both Peter and Andrew were fishermen by trade, and worked together with James and John. Peter was married and lived in Capernaum.

As soon as Jesus met Peter He gave him a new name, Cephas. By interpretation Cephas means "a stone." Jesus gave him this name because He could foresee the future. Although Peter was far from being settled now He knew that one day

Peter would become as stable as a rock. Peter was quick to speak his mind; constantly struggling between his own strong will and his desire to please and obey Jesus.

Some time passed from the day that Peter first met Jesus and was renamed Cephas until Jesus gave him a more definite call to follow Him. It happened while Jesus was preaching by the lake of Gennesaret. The eager crowd pressed closer and closer to catch every word Jesus spoke. Jesus saw that He was in danger of being thronged. Two ships lay anchored nearby so He got into the one that belonged to Peter. From the ship Jesus finished teaching the multitude.

Then Jesus told Peter to launch out into the deep and put down his nets for a large catch of fish. Now Peter was a fisherman by trade. He knew there were no fish in that area of the lake because he had been fishing all the previous night and had caught nothing. Though he argued at first with Jesus about the uselessness of such an idea, he respected Jesus too much to not obey.

Imagine Peter's amazement when so many fish filled the nets that they began to break! There were so many fish that Peter called for his partner to bring his ship. Both were filled until they were in danger of sinking.

Peter was greatly astonished at this miracle. He realized that this was the Son of God! Immediately he sensed his own unworthiness and sinfulness in the presence of such a holy One and begged Him to leave him. But instead of departing as Peter requested, the Lord invited him to be a disciple, with the promise that he would "catch men." Peter obeyed instantly. He, along with Andrew, James and John, forsook everything and followed Jesus.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

the likes of me!" And Celestina stroked the lovely cloth with her gnarled and withered fingers. "How very good the dear Lord is! And now if you don't mind, let us pray together here to thank Him for all His mercies." Celestina, who could not kneel, placed her hands on our bowed heads, and after a heartfelt prayer of thanks asked the Lord to bless us each one and each member of our family, her neighbors, and lastly herself.

Hardly had she finished when uncertain steps were heard coming down the passage. The door suddenly burst open and a man staggered into the room.

"What's this you're doing?" he shouted.

"We're praying," the old woman answered tranquilly.

"No more praying then! Do you hear me? I forbid you!" he shouted again in such a terrible voice that it was all I could do to keep from screaming with fright.

"You know very well," said Celestina calmly, "that you cannot prohibit my doing the thing that pleases me in my own house."

"And what pleasure do you get out of praying? Tell me you pious old hypocrite!"

"Well, if you'll sit down calmly in that chair yonder I'll answer your questions."

"And suppose I don't care to sit down! Do I look as if I were tired?"

"Perhaps not, but when you visit your friends you should try to please them, shouldn't you?"

"What! Do you count me as one of your friends?"

"And why not?"

"This is why!" and the Breton shook his great fist in the old lady's face. "Oh, I'm a bad one, I am! I could kill all three of you in a jiffy! Why, I just finished a month in the jail for 'regulating' a fellow-worker at the factory and I don't mind doing another month for regu-

lating people!" And the poor fellow's face was more terrible than his words, and I thought our "time had come," as the saying is.

"Now, don't you be afraid," whispered Celestina, as she drew me close. "God is with us; don't forget that!"

"Why do you wish to harm us?" she said aloud, fixing her eyes on the poor drunken brute, in such a calm, loving and compassionate way that it seemed to calm him a bit.

"We've done nothing against you, and I can't for the life of me see how we could have offended you. I am glad they let you go free. Now if you care to accept our hospitality I will make you something hot to drink. It might not be much but you're welcome to what I have."

The Breton looked at the old lady in an astonished sort of way. "You're certainly different from the rest of 'em. Here I threaten to kill you, and you offer me something to drink! That's not what I deserve," and here he broke out laughing immoderately, and sat down by the stove where a fire was briskly burning.

"Well, this is a whole lot better than the prison anyway," said the Breton coolly, as he settled himself to enjoy the warmth.

"I should say so," said Celestina, "and there's no reason for you to go back there either."

"Now none of your sermons, you know, for if you come on with anything like that I'll be leaving at once," and it was clear that the Breton's bad humor was returning.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Peter and Andrew. 2. Washing their nets. 3. Follow Him. 4. To hear the Word of God. 5. To wash their nets. 6. Peter's. 7. Launch out into the deep and put the nets down to catch fish. 8. He was astonished at the great number of fish they caught. 9. They left their ships and followed Jesus.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 27, 2002

The Breton

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louls, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Lisita is telling about Paula and her visit to a poor woman named Celestina. Breton, Celestina's cruel neighbor, burst into Celestina's tiny apartment. She offered him a hot drink even though he had just threatened to harm her.

"Brr! What weather!" the Breton said and the poor drunkard drew closer to the fire. "Aren't you two afraid to go out in such a snowstorm?" he asked, turning to Paula and me.

Celestina answered for us that we lived in the big house at "The Convent," and that we had come to deliver a good warm dress for her to wear. With that the good woman poured three cups of hot drink, which she set before the Breton, Paula and myself.

"And where's yours?" said the Breton as he swallowed his in one great gulp.

"Oh, some other time I'll have a cup myself."

"Well, just as you please," said our unwelcome guest.

"My! But that warms one up though! My wife never so much as thought to make me anything hot to drink," the

Breton said after swallowing his drink in one huge gulp.

"And do you know why?" questioned Celestina severely.

"I suppose you're going to tell me it's because I don't give her enough money; is that it?"

"Precisely! And that's the truth, isn't it?"

"Now none of your sermons, as I told you in the beginning, didn't I? Don't I know? Of course it troubles me to see the children with their pale faces that used to be so rosy and fat like these two here. By the way, what's your names?"

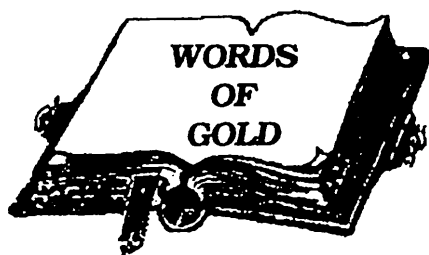
Again Celestina answered for us. "The smaller girl is the daughter of Monsieur Dumas, and the other is her cousin, Mademoiselle Paula Javanell."

"Paula Javanell! Paula Javanell!" repeated the Breton as if trying to remember something. "I think I've heard that name before," and he looked fixedly at Paula for some seconds, and then suddenly he laughed immoderately. "Yes, yes, now I remember! Ha! Ha! I know! You're the Cat Mother!"

"Cat Mother!" and Celestina looked much puzzled. "What on earth do you mean?"

I had completely forgotten the ridiculous nickname that the Breton's son had given her, for the boy had run away from home several years ago.

"They called me that," explained Paula, "because I saved a cat's life."



Peter Walks On Water!

Matthew 14:14, 19-20, 22-33

14 And Jesus...saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

19 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

20 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23 And...he went up into a mountain apart to pray:...

24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

28 And Peter answered him and

said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

The Message: Jesus can enable us to do great things as long as our eyes and faith are fixed on Him!

Questions:

1. What did Jesus constrain His disciples to do?
2. Where were they to go?
3. Where did Jesus go after He sent the multitude away?
4. Why did He go there?
5. What happened to the ship in the middle of the sea?
6. How did Jesus go to the disciples?
7. Why did His disciples cry out for fear when they saw Him?
8. What did Peter say after Jesus said it was He?
9. Why did Peter begin to sink?

Verse to Memorize

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:13.

Let's



Talk . . .

It had been a long stressful day. Jesus Himself felt the need of getting away from the crowd and bustle, so He told His disciples, "Come away. We will go to a desert place and rest awhile."

As secretly as possible they all got into a ship and set sail for a quiet retreat. But the people recognized Jesus in the ship. They seemed to know just where He was going. People from all the cities ran to that place so when Jesus and His disciples pulled to shore there was a whole multitude of people waiting anxiously for Him.

Jesus seemed to forget His tiredness. He felt sorry for these people who were so eager to hear the truth. As He looked out over them they reminded Him of sheep who had no shepherd. His heart was touched and He taught them all day long.

Finally the disciples became concerned. Coming to Jesus they told Him, "This is a desert place and it is getting late. Send the people away so they can go to the villages and buy food. They have nothing to eat."

Jesus answered simply, "Give them something to eat."

The disciples could hardly believe that He meant what He said; where could they get enough money to buy food for such a crowd?

"How much bread do you have?" Jesus asked.

Andrew, Peter's brother, reported, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two small fishes. But what good will they do for so many people?"

"Bring them to Me," Jesus commanded. Then He told the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the loaves and fish in His hands He looked up to heaven and blessed the food. Breaking it into pieces He gave some to each of the disciples who then gave it to the people.

Everyone ate until they were full and still there was food! At Jesus' command they gathered up the scraps and found that they had twelve baskets full of leftovers!

Jesus could see the disciples were totally exhausted so He insisted that they get in the ship and sail to the other side. He would send the multitude away to their homes.

It felt good to the disciples to finally get a chance to sit down and relax! For awhile they had smooth sailing. Then suddenly a strong wind hit the ship. Soon they were being tossed about like a cork on the terrible waves. Even those who were experienced fishermen saw the danger. They all watched anxiously as the water heaved up in threatening waves all about them.

Then they saw something even more frightening! It looked like a man walking toward them—it must be a ghost! They were so scared that they cried out with fear.

Jesus saw that they were terrified and called out to them, "Don't be afraid. It is I!"

Peter, always quick to speak, immediately answered, "Lord, if it is You, bid me to come to You on the water." Now Peter knew Jesus could do anything. Hadn't He just fed a multitude with only a boy's lunch? So Peter quickly stepped out of the ship onto the water and walked toward Jesus as easily as if he had been on solid ground.

But then a strong gust of wind hit him and he looked at the sea boiling up in treacherous waves all around him. He was so scared he started to sink. "Lord, save me!" he cried desperately.

Jesus reached out and caught him. Holding him up, they both made it back to the ship. As soon as they were in the ship, the wind stopped blowing and all was calm.

Our verse to remember says, "I can do all things," and that statement is qualified by the words, "through Christ which strengtheneth me." Do you want to see and experience great things in your life? Then get real well acquainted with Jesus until you know that He can do anything!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

But the hot drink had quite restored the warmth to the Breton and he hastened to add, "Yes, she hasn't told the whole story! She's the only person in the whole village that was ever brave enough to stand up to that big brat of mine. She wrenched the cat out of his hands, and the boy came back to the house, I remember well, with a pair of ears well pulled and the air of a whipped dog."

"But I didn't pull his ears," said Paula, reddening.

"Well, if you didn't, who did then?"

But Paula shook her head and would say nothing further.

"Well, anyway, I remember that the boy was made fun of by the whole neighborhood, and to revenge himself he gave her 'Cat Mother' for a nickname. He, too, is a bad one like his father. To tell the truth he never obeyed anybody, and dear knows where he is or what he's doing now. At least he's not like you two who came here to learn how to pray with Celestina."

"Paula doesn't need to learn how to pray, Monsieur Breton," said Celestina, "she's known how to pray for years, not only for herself, but also for others."

"For years, you say! And who then taught her to pray?" said the Breton surprised.

"It was my father," said Paula quietly.

"Your father! Well, he wasn't much like me then, was he?"

"No, he wasn't," and Paula without a sign of either fear or abhorrence looked compassionately at the brutalized face that confronted her.

"And you don't live with him any more?"

"No," said Paula, "Father is in heaven"

"And whatever would you do if you had a father like me?" and the poor Breton looked at her keenly.

Paula sat a moment with closed eyes. She recalled the strong noble face and figure of her dear father and asked God to give her a reply to the poor

drunkard's question.

"I think," she said at last, "I would ask God Himself to make him a man of God like my father."

"And do you believe He could do it?" The Breton looked very doubtful.

"I'm sure of it!"

"Yes, but you don't know how bad I am."

"Yes, I know," said Paula; "everybody in town knows you're a bad man, but you're no worse than the bandit who was crucified with the Lord Jesus. And yet Christ saved him, didn't He?"

"That's more or less what I am—a bandit, I suppose. I remember that story. When I was a little boy my mother told it to me. I never thought at that time that I'd ever become the thing I am today. What would my poor mother do if she could see what has become of me?"

"Perhaps she'd pray for you," Paula said simply.

"She! Yes, I think she would have prayed for me," he said. "But why talk about my mother! I, who have just come out of prison—hated, despised, and made a laughingstock by everybody in our neighborhood, even pointed at by the little street-urchins! My children fear me! My poor wife trembles when I appear! Who would ever think of praying for a brute like me?"

"I," said Paula with a voice vibrant with emotion.

"You? Why you scarcely know me!"

"But I do know you, and I've prayed many times for you, Monsieur Breton."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To get into a ship.
2. To the other side of the sea.
3. Up into a mountain. 4. To pray.
5. It was tossed with waves.
6. Walking on the sea. 7. They thought He was a Spirit. 8. "Bid me come to thee on the water."
9. He took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the stormy wind.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Nov. 3, 2002

Pray For Me!

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Lisita is telling about Paula and her visit to a poor woman named Celestina. The Breton, Celestina's cruel neighbor, burst into Celestina's tiny apartment, threatening to harm them. He becomes calmer after Celestina speaks kindly to him. He can hardly believe it and is visibly moved when Paula tells him she has been praying for him.

"Do you think it didn't distress me when they told me you had been put in the prison where people say it's so cold and dark inside, and where many die from the exposure, and what is the greater calamity—die without hope of salvation."

"And so, while I was in prison you prayed for me?"

"Well, from the time I heard about it," said Paula, "We've prayed for you every night, Monsieur Breton."

The poor fellow bowed his head. This young girl, so beautiful, so pure, so innocent, had taken him and his shame, and misery and wickedness, to the throne of grace in her prayers

each night during his recent stay in the jail!

"You! You've been praying for me!" The Breton remained silent, overcome with a greater remorse than he had ever felt in a court of justice.

"If I could believe," he said in a low voice, "that a man like me could really change, but no! That's impossible! It's too late!"

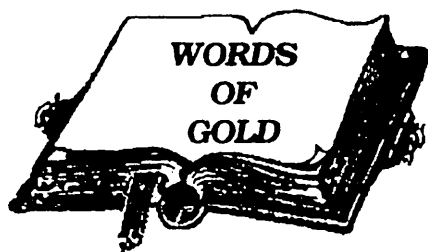
"It's not too late," Celestina said, "God pardons sinners always if they truly repent. Now you listen to what He says: 'Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.'"

"Do you really believe," said the Breton, as if in a daze "that there's hope for such as me?"

"Yes, I do, indeed!" And here Celestina quoted, "The Lord is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (II Pet. 3:9.)

But the poor Breton shook his head as if to say, "It's impossible!"

Here Paula broke in, "Ask pardon now, and Jesus will pardon you! Ask it now! Surely you don't want to go on as you have done. The Lord loves you, and is waiting to save you. He shed His blood on Calvary's cross to take away the guilt of your sin. Then also, would it not be wonderful to always have



Great Change

John 13:37-38

37 Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.

38 Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

**Acts 2:4,14, 22-23,
32-33, 37-38, 41**

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

14 ...Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

22 ...Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed

forth this, which ye now see and hear.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

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

The Message: Jesus said they would receive power after the Holy Ghost came upon them. Peter's great change demonstrates this truth.

Questions:

1. What did Peter say he would do for Jesus' sake?
2. What did Jesus answer him?
3. What did the people do after they were filled with the Holy Ghost?
4. Who stood up and preached to the people?
5. Who did God raise up (from the dead)?
6. What did the listeners ask Peter and the other apostles?
7. What did Peter tell them to do?
8. What gift would they then receive?
9. How many gladly accepted the truth and were baptized?

Verse to Memorize

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...

Acts 1:8.

Let's



Talk . . .

Peter was a natural leader. When a question was asked or a decision needed to be made among the disciples, Peter was usually the spokesman. Jesus asked the disciples who they believed He was. It was Peter who boldly answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

But fear gripped Peter when he saw the soldiers and mob that had come to arrest Jesus. He grabbed his sword and came so close to cutting a man's head off that he did cut off his ear. As they led Jesus away, Peter feared he too would be arrested. Yet he must see what would become of Him so he followed, staying far enough behind that no one would see him.

Then when a mere girl asked him if he was one of Jesus' disciples, this big, bold fisherman was afraid. "I am not!" he declared. Two others asked the same question and each time Peter denied he even knew Jesus. Then he heard the cock crow and he remembered what Jesus told him. He rushed out and cried bitterly, realizing what he had done.

But after Jesus returned to heaven, there was a great change in Peter! Jesus told them they would receive power after they received the Holy Ghost. That power was immediately evident in Peter. Again he was spokesman for the group. When some mocked saying the one hundred twenty were speaking in other languages because they were drunk, Peter boldly stood up where everyone could see him. With a loud voice he announced, "Men of Jerusalem and all Judea, we are not drunk as you

suppose. We have received a great blessing from God." The prophet Joel said, "In those days I will pour out my Spirit on my servants and on my handmaidens and they shall preach." God has given us this Holy Spirit as He promised. This is what you are seeing and hearing today.

So Peter spoke as the Holy Spirit gave him the words to say. The multitude listened intently as he told them about Jesus, the many signs and wonders He worked and how God allowed Him to be delivered into the hands of His wicked enemies. He spoke of Jesus' crucifixion, assuring them that God had raised Him from the dead.

The words touched the hearts of the audience. They knew Peter spoke the truth. They felt so condemned they cried out, "What shall we do?" Peter instructed them to repent and be baptized. Then they too could receive the greatest blessing of all—the gift of the Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit made Peter a solid, courageous apostle for Jesus. As we study his life we will see what great miracles and wonders the Holy Spirit worked through him. But best of all, he could now live a steady, consistent, holy life just as Jesus did.

This good news is also for us! The Holy Spirit will make a steady Christian out of anyone who will receive Him into their heart and obey His leading. You may sometimes do things you know Jesus does not approve of even though you want to please Him. You repent, but then find you are not strong enough to resist temptation the next time it comes. Jesus has provided something much better for you! Just surrender your whole life to Jesus and ask the Holy Spirit to come into your heart. As you yield to the Holy Spirit, He will guide you every moment and give you power to say, "No!" to the tempter.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

bread in the house—to see that your poor wife no longer fears you, but instead, welcomes your homecoming? Ask Him now, Monsieur Breton, and He'll work the miracle in you just as He did when He made the paralyzed man to walk. You would be so much happier than you are now."

She had drawn very close to him, and now she took his great gnarled hands—those hands that so many times had worn the handcuffs. Taking them in her own beautiful ones, she raised those wonderful eyes to the brutal, bloated face, and said simply, "We will help you, Monsieur Breton!"

"And what are you going to do, Mademoiselle?"

"I don't know yet, but we'll do what we can!"

The poor fellow tried to thank her, but could not utter a word. Something in his throat seemed to be in the way, and in spite of all his efforts at self-control, great tears began to run down his cheeks.

Suddenly he turned exclaiming, "Let me alone! Don't you see you're tearing my very heart out! For thirty long years I've never shed a tear." With that the Breton headed for the door.

"You're surely not going out yet!" said the old lady sadly.

"Celestina, I must go! If I stay one minute more I know I must yield, and I'm not going to do anything foolish. No! No! I've served the devil too long. But look here! If you wish to help me, then you can do one thing anyway. You can pray for me!" Saying this, the poor Breton opened the door and was gone.

That night on our return we poured into Teresa's sympathetic ears all that had occurred during our eventful visit that afternoon at Celestina's house. Then somewhat later as I was helping her with the dishes in the kitchen, Teresa said, "Do you know, Lisita, it wouldn't surprise me in the least to see the Breton converted and changed

by God's power into a decent, respectable man. No one seems to be able to resist Paula when she begins to speak of God's love. She seems truly inspired by His Holy Spirit. Child though she is, she surely is His messenger to all with whom she comes in contact. But there's just one thing," and Teresa seemed to hesitate to express herself, then finally she continued, "I cannot seem to shake off the feeling that she will not be with us much longer. I believe somehow, I know it sounds absurd in one way, but I have a feeling that God will call her to His side some day soon."

"Oh, Teresa!" I cried, "how can you say such a thing. Why, she's never sick! She's much bigger and stronger and more vigorous than even I am. And besides, I never, never could bear it to have Paula taken from me!"

"Hush! Hush, child! Don't shout that way. Paula will hear you! Besides it's just a foolish idea of mine, maybe. But if God should wish it, but there, as you say, what would we do without the dear girl?"

Later when we were alone in our bedroom I said to Paula in an anxious tone, "You don't feel sick do you, Paula?"

She looked at me surprised, "I should say not!" she laughed, "What put such a notion in your head? Do I look as if I was sick?"

I was so relieved! Teresa was quite mistaken!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Lay down his life. 2. He would deny Him three times before the cock crowed. 3. Began to speak in other tongues (languages). 4. Peter. 5. Jesus. 6. "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 7. Repent and be baptized. 8. The Holy Ghost. 9. Three thousand.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Nov. 10, 2002

Saved!

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula met the Breton when she visited a poor woman named Celestina. The Breton was a cruel drunkard. Even his own family was afraid of him. Paula told the Breton she was praying for him and would do anything she could to help him. They heard no more from him for several days.

Paula went to the window and looked out. "Oh, Lisita!" she exclaimed, "how wonderful! Come and see."

The storm had stopped in the late afternoon, and now the moon shone in all its splendor, touching the snow with silver and making millions of its crystals sparkle like diamonds in the moonlight.

"How white and pure and beautiful everything is!" said Paula. "Do you remember, Lisita, how only yesterday we remarked how squalid and dirty the whole village looked? And now, what a lovely change!" She hesitated a moment, and then continued in her quiet, simple way, "It's God that has

done it! It's quite a bit like when one gives their heart to Jesus Christ. He takes it stained and scarred with sin, and then He makes it white like the snow. Don't you see, Lisita?"

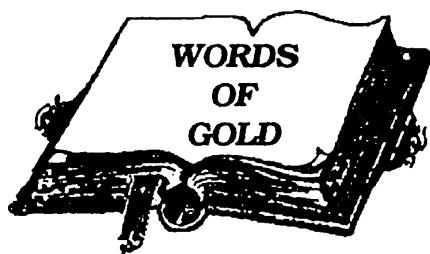
"Yes, I see," I said.

"Do you really see, dear Lisita?" And Paula drew me quite close to her. "Then why don't you give your heart to Him? I do love you so! You see, I don't wish to seem to be any better than you, but when I get thinking of the fact that you never really have given your heart to Him, and if one of us should die—"

I could not bear another word. The very idea of death either for Paula or myself was simply unbearable. "Stop!" I cried. "You mustn't die! I cannot live, and I won't live without you!"

I dreamed of Paula the whole night long. I saw her either dying or dead, or in heaven with the angels; but in the morning all my fears had disappeared and a few days later I even forgot the whole thing.

A week passed, and we had seen nothing of the Breton. Paula mentioned him several times, and I know she was praying for him. Teresa had gone to see Celestina but she hadn't seen anything of him either. Apparently he had gone out early each day, and had returned very late. He had been the principal subject of our conversation as each night we



The Lame Man

Acts 3:1-12, 16

1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

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

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

The Message: Peter and John had something far better than silver or gold to give the lame man.

Questions:

1. Where were Peter and John going?
2. What was the name of the gate where they laid the lame man?
3. How long had the man been lame?
4. Why did they carry him to the temple every day?
5. What did the lame man do when he saw Peter and John?
6. What did Peter say he did not have?
7. In whose name did Peter command him to rise and walk?
8. When Peter took him by the hand and lifted him up, what happened?
9. What did all the people see the lame man doing?

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 3:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

It started as just another dreary day for the lame man. It would be the same routine as the day before and the many days before that one. He waited patiently knowing someone would come soon to carry him to the temple where he would sit by the wayside and ask alms of anyone going into the temple.

From the day that he was born, over forty years ago now, he had never taken a step or even stood on his feet! His ankles and feet had never grown strong as the other children's did.

How vividly he remembered sitting where he could watch as the children laughed and ran and played nearby. If only he could be like them!

Then, as he grew older, he saw other boys his age working hard, lifting and carrying loads to help about the home. All he could do was to sit and watch. He knew he was a burden to his family and it made his heart ache. What a joy it would be to have strong legs; to work hard and make life easier for his dear parents!

Since he could not work the only way he could get a little money for food was by begging. Each morning his family or friends would carry him to a gate of the temple that was called "Beautiful." This had been the daily routine for so many years that the people expected to see him there. Each evening he would be carried back to his home.

Then one day Peter and John were going into the temple to pray. They saw the beggar sitting on the ground. He held out his cup and

asked for alms as he did from everyone who walked by. Suddenly Peter felt powerfully drawn to this beggar. He realized that God wanted to do something very special for him.

Looking at him intently Peter said, "I have no silver or gold. But I do have something to give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk!"

As he spoke Peter reached out and took the man by the hand and lifted him up. Instantly his feet and ankles were made strong. He leaped to his feet and began to walk. He went into the temple with Peter and John walking and leaping and praising God.

This made such a commotion that the people looked to see what was happening. They could not believe their eyes—it was the lame beggar who always sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. But he wasn't lame anymore! In fact he kept jumping for sheer joy of being able to walk and stand.

More and more people gathered, amazed and wondering at what they were witnessing. The lame man held Peter and John as if he could not let them go. These two strangers had given him what he had dreamed of all his life—he could walk! As the crowd grew, Peter spoke to the people telling them it was Jesus who had healed the man. It was not by any power of their own.

When we know Jesus and have Him living in our heart we have a greater treasure than all the diamonds, silver, gold or other riches of earth! God wants to work through us just as He did through Peter. He will use us to be a blessing to everyone we contact.

Perhaps you have hard circumstances in your life. Trust in Jesus. Then you can face each new day expectantly knowing He will work it all out in the best way possible.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

came together in the big warm kitchen on those long winter evenings. Finally one evening just as we were finishing the dishes, there came two hesitating knocks on the outer door.

"I wonder who can be calling at this hour," said Rosa. "It sounds like some child that can't knock very well," said Catalina. "Open the door, Lisita!"

Only too glad to abandon my towel, I ran to open the door, but hardly had I done so when I remained petrified and dumb with surprise, hardly able to believe my own eyes. There stood the Breton twisting his battered cap nervously between his bony fingers. The little oil lamp that we always kept lighted at night in the passageway illuminated his pale face and gaunt figure.

"Good evening, mademoiselle," he finally managed to say, and then he stopped, apparently as embarrassed as I was.

"Who is it?" said Teresa, as she started to come to my rescue.

"It's the Breton," I said.

"Well, tell him to come in," said the old woman kindly.

As timidly as a child the Breton advanced over the threshold a few paces, looking about him in a "lost" way until his eyes encountered Paula, and then he seemed to recover his ease of mind.

"I wish to speak with the Master," he said, directing his words to Teresa.

She led him into the study where my father sat and left them together and then joined us in the kitchen once more.

"I declare!" said Rosa. "Think of the Breton calling on us! I thought he hated father since that day he discharged him from the factory two or three years ago."

"The Breton knows very well that when your father got rid of him he well deserved it," said Teresa, as she adjusted her spectacles and settled down

to her knitting.

My father did not keep him long. From the kitchen we could hear the door open and my father's voice bidding the Breton a kindly "good night." Evidently the interview, although short, had been quite a cordial one.

"Go, tell the Breton to come into the kitchen, Lisita," said Teresa.

I wondered as I saw him enter with such a humble frank air, and with a new look of peace that seemed almost to beautify the brutalized face.

"Mademoiselle Paula," he said as he stopped in the middle of our kitchen, "I wish to say a word or two."

"To me alone?" said Paula rising.

He hesitated a moment. "No," he said finally, "I think it's better to say it to you before everybody here. Do you remember how you spoke to me on the afternoon of the great snow? I don't remember very well what you said. My head wasn't in very good condition as I'd left my wits behind at the liquor shop. But I know you spoke to me of my mother and you also said that God would change me if I really desired. I didn't dare believe such a thing Mademoiselle—it seemed just a bit too good to believe. That night I simply couldn't sleep. I seemed to feel my hands in yours and to hear your voice saying, 'I'll do what I can to help you.' At last I couldn't stand it any longer. I got out on the floor and kneeled there before God, and I asked Him to have mercy on me, and change my wicked old heart if it were possible."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Into the temple. 2. Beautiful. 3. From birth. 4. To ask for alms. 5. Asked for alms. 6. Silver and gold. 7. In the name of Jesus Christ. 8. His feet and ankle bones received strength. 9. Walking and praising God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Nov. 17, 2002

The Goodness Of God

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. Paula met the Breton when she visited a poor woman named Celestina. The Breton was a cruel drunkard. Even his own family was afraid of him. After Paula told the Breton she was praying for him they did not hear from him for several days. Then, one evening he knocked on the door and asked to speak with Lisita's father. Before leaving the house he told how he had prayed asking God to have mercy on him.

Here he stopped to wipe away the great tears that were rolling down his cheeks. Then pretty soon he continued, "God did indeed have mercy on me. I deserved to be refused, but apparently He doesn't treat people as they deserve to be treated, and now, Mademoiselle, will you continue to help me as you promised to do?"

"Yes, of course," said Paula. "What can we do for you?"

"Just one thing. Pray for me! That's what I need more than anything else. I want to be faithful to Him and serve

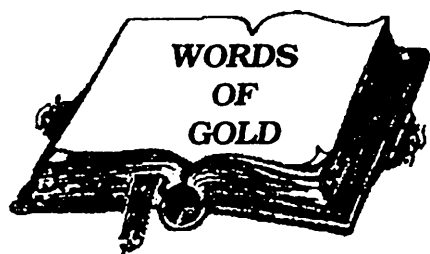
Him, but I don't know how to begin. When one has served the devil as many years as I have it's hard to change masters."

"The Lord Jesus will help you," answered Paula.

"He's already done it, Mademoiselle," said the Breton. "If not, how could I have endured these last days. At first I had a raging thirst for more drink until I nearly went crazy. Then my old companions called me out and urged me to go and drink with them. I had almost yielded when suddenly I cried to the Lord Jesus to help me. Then a wonderful thing happened! All desire for the drink went away, and I've been free ever since!

Then too, I had no work, and my wife taunted me with that, and I wandered up and down looking everywhere for something to do. Unfortunately everybody knew me and knew too much about me, so there was no work for such as me." Then suddenly the poor, thin face was illuminated with a smile as the Breton triumphantly said, "I came to this door tonight as the very last resort, never dreamed that my old master really would employ me, but just see the goodness of God! I can face the world again, for I'm going back to my old bench at the master's factory!"

"My! How glad I am!" exclaimed Paula.



Peter And John In Prison

**Acts 4:1, 3, 7-10,
13-14, 18-19, 21, 23, 31**

1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day:...

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said...

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent 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 Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

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.

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The Message: Jesus makes all the difference in our lives. When we spend time with Him others will notice, just as they could tell Peter and John had been with Jesus.

Questions:

1. What did the chief priests and others do to Peter and John?
2. What did they ask the apostles?
3. With whom was Peter filled?
4. By Whose name was the lame man healed?
5. What kind of men were Peter and John?
6. What did they command them not to do?
7. What did they do before they let them go?
8. What did they tell their own company?
9. What happened when they had prayed?

Verse to Memorize

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13.

Let's



Talk . . .

As the lame man who had been healed clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them. Everybody knew this poor man. They had seen him begging at the Temple gate for years—since he was a boy. For more than forty years he had been lame. Yet here he was walking and leaping about in the most amazing way. What a miracle!

When a great crowd had gathered, Peter saw another opportunity to tell them about Jesus. "Men of Israel," he cried in a voice that could be heard above the hubbub, "why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"

Then he pleaded with the people to repent of their sins and give their hearts to Jesus.

As he spoke, more and more people joined the crowd, until almost everybody in the Temple was there. Many of the priests came to listen too, and they were anything but pleased—the disciples of Jesus were claiming that their Leader had been raised from the dead! This must be stopped at once!

They called the Temple guard who forced his way through the crowd and arrested both Peter and John and led them away to prison. But he was too late. The people had heard the message. As they went to their homes that night many more decided that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Next morning there was a big meeting of the Temple leaders. Annas

and Calaphas were there, the very ones who had presided at the trial of Jesus. Presently Peter and John were called before them. "By what power, or by what name, did you do this?" asked the high priest.

Without a trace of fear Peter replied, "By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man is standing before you well."

"And there is salvation in no one else," he added, "for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

As Peter told about Jesus, he spoke so boldly that the priests and rulers were astonished. They couldn't understand how a poor, uneducated fisherman could talk like this. Nor could they deny that there had been a great miracle. Not only was the man who had been healed known to every one of them, but here he stood near the two apostles, ready to speak up for them if need be.

The chief priests and rulers did not know what to do so they sent Peter and John out while they discussed the matter. Finally the prisoners were led back and commanded to teach no more in the name of Jesus, but Peter and John would not promise to obey.

They said, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right for us to obey you rather than God. We cannot keep from telling about the wonderful things we have seen and heard."

Before letting the two go, the rulers threatened to punish them severely if they were caught teaching in Jesus' name.

At once Peter and John went to their friends and told them what had happened. As they prayed God to give them boldness to preach about Jesus, the place where they met was shaken. Again the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke the word of God boldly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Yes, Mademoiselle, but I have you to thank for your great kindness to me."

"I," said Paula surprised, "why what have I done?"

"You, Mademoiselle! You made me feel that you really loved me. Also, you persuaded me that God loved me, miserable sinner that I am. But if tonight, in this district you find one more honorable man and one criminal less, let us first thank God, and then you, Mademoiselle!"

"Do you own a New Testament?" said Paula as the Breton started to leave.

"A New Testament; what's that?"

"It's a book, a part of the Bible that tells us about the Lord Jesus, how He saves us from the guilt and power of sin and how we can serve Him."

"Well, Mademoiselle," replied the Breton, "if it's a book, it's of no use to me. I don't know how to read!"

Paula looked at him with a mixture of surprise and pity.

"I might have been able to read," continued the poor fellow. "My mother sent me to school, but I scarcely ever actually appeared in the schoolroom. The street in those days were too attractive a playground."

"But you could begin to learn even now!"

"No, Mademoiselle," and the Breton shook his head sadly, "It's too late now to get anything of that sort in this dull head."

Paula said nothing more at the time, but I could see that she had something in her mind relative to this new problem.

The following day Paula had a word with Father regarding the matter.

"Now don't worry any more about the Breton, Paula," he answered. "He knows enough to do what's necessary to gain his living and if he wants to work faithfully and not spend all his

money on drink, he can do that without knowing how to read. However, if it bothers you because he cannot read, why don't you advise him to go to night school? I can't imagine what could have happened to him, but he's changed mightily, and for the better. I only hope the change in him will last!"

The days grew longer, the snow disappeared and the trees and fields began to put on their spring clothes. Week by week the Breton's home also began to show a marvelous transformation. The pigs, who formerly found the garden a sort of happy rooting ground, now found themselves confronted with a neat fence that resisted all their antics, and the garden itself with its well-raked beds, showed substantial promise of a harvest of onions, potatoes and cabbage in the near future. Spotless white curtains and shiny panes of window glass began to show in place of the dirty rags and paper which used to stop part of the winter winds from entering. Shingles on the roof shut out the rain. A certain air of neatness and order so pervaded the whole place that it became the talk of the little town.

"That's all very well, but it's not going to last long," said some.

"Well, we shall soon see," said others.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Put them in hold (prison). 2. "By what power have you done this?" 3. The Holy Ghost. 4. By the name of Jesus Christ. 5. Ignorant and unlearned. 6. To not teach in the name of Jesus. 7. Threatened them. 8. What the chief priests had said to them. 9. The place was shaken.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 24, 2002

The Young School Mistress

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. The Breton was a cruel drunkard before he prayed and asked God to have mercy on him. There was such a great change in him it was the talk of the town.

The Breton had to stand a good many jests and taunts from his former companions but he took it all without either complaint or abatement of his courage.

"I don't blame you one bit," he said to one of his tormentors, "for I was once exactly the same, only I hope some day you'll be different too. In the meantime, comrade, I'll be praying for you."

"You must admit I'm a changed man, anyway," he said one day to a group who made sport of him.

"That's true, right enough," said one of them.

"Well, who changed me?"

Various opinions were offered to this question.

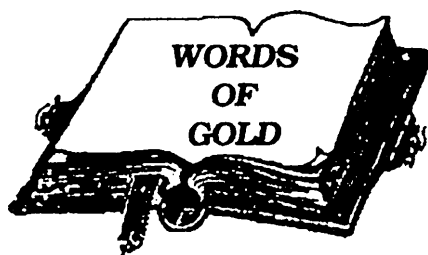
"Well, I'll tell you!" he thundered,

and that booming voice which always used to dominate every assembly in which he mingled, held them spell-bound!

"It was the Lord Jesus Christ.

"He died for me—yes and He died for every one of you. He shed His blood on Calvary's cross to keep every man from hell who surrenders to Him in true repentance. Then He does another thing! His Holy Spirit takes away the bad habits of every man who surrenders to Him. He said once, 'If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!' Now you look well at me! You know what a terrible temper I had. You've tried your best in these past weeks to make me angry but you haven't succeeded. That's a miracle in itself. You can say what you like to me now, but you won't make me lose my temper. That's not to my credit, let me tell you! It's God Himself Who's done something that I don't yet clearly understand.

"The money I earn, I dump it all in the wife's lap, for I know she can handle it better than I can! Then there's another thing! When I get up in the morning now, I ask God to help, and He does it. When I go to bed at night, I pray again. Let me tell you, if I should die I'll go to heaven, and there I'll meet my dear old mother, for it's not what I've done, it's what He's done! It isn't that I'm any better than any of you. No! There isn't one of you as bad as I



The Great Escape

Acts 5:12, 15-23, 25-29

12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people;...

15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

16 There came also a multitude... 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,...

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 when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, ...and sent to the prison to have them brought.

22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told,

23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, 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, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name?...

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

The Message: We need to have our hearts settled, as Peter did, to always obey God even if it means persecution from people.

Questions:

1. What were worked by the apostles' hands?
2. Who did they bring into the streets?
3. What did they hope might overshadow some of them?
4. How many of them were healed?
5. After their arrest where were the apostles taken?
6. Who came and opened the prison doors?
7. What did he tell the apostles to do?
8. Where did the officers find the apostles?
9. Who should we obey?

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 . . .

The threats of the chief priest and rulers did not keep the disciples from preaching about Jesus. Meeting with other believers they prayed God to give them more boldness to preach the gospel and more power to work miracles. God answered prayer in a mighty way. The apostles were filled with the power of God. Each day more believers were added to the church until it numbered many thousands.

The people were much impressed by the miracles that the apostles did in the name of Jesus. They even brought their sick and laid them in the streets where Peter walked. They believed in his power so much that they knew that even his shadow passing over them would make the sick well. The sick were brought from many cities and towns round about as well as from Jerusalem. And God worked so mightily that everyone that came was healed! It was just like the days when Jesus had been there!

This was too much for the priests and rulers. They became very angry. They could not bear to see these followers of Jesus more popular than themselves. So once more they had them arrested and put in the common prison.

Night came and the rulers went home to rest. They thought their worries were over since the apostles were behind bars. But these men couldn't be imprisoned. No sooner were they in, than they were out again!

While the rulers slept, an angel opened the iron doors of the prison and went inside to speak to the apostles. The angel told them, "Go

back to the Temple and teach the people all the words of life."

Then the angel led the apostles out of the prison into the cool night air of the quiet street. There he left them, and they went on to their homes. Early in the morning they went to the Temple to teach the people. And there in the Temple they went on witnessing for Jesus just as though nothing had happened.

Now the priests knew nothing about the apostles' great escape. They sent officers to bring the apostles from prison, but the officers returned alone. "We found the keepers standing guard outside the locked doors," they said, "but when we went in, we could find no one."

What could this mean? While they were trying to find out what had happened, someone came from the Temple with more news. The man said, "The men you put in prison are in the Temple teaching the people."

Now what could the Jewish rulers do? The people would stone them if they tried to seize the apostles in the Temple. Finally the rulers ordered their officers to take the apostles quietly and bring them to the council room.

When the apostles were brought in, the rulers asked angrily, "Did we not order you not to teach about Jesus? Then why have you filled this city with your teaching? Why have you told the people that we are guilty of Jesus' death?"

Peter and the other apostles stood up boldly and answered, "We should obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up this Jesus Whom you killed. And God has made this same Jesus a Prince and a Savior, to give forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

When the rulers heard this, they were furious. They even wanted to kill the apostles. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

was," he continued, "but if God was able to change and pardon a beast like me, He can surely do the same with all of you. So what I say is, why don't you all do just the same as I've done? Surrender yourselves into Christ's hands!"

Little by little, seeing it was useless to try to bring the Breton back into his old ways, his tormentors were silenced at least, and a life of new activities commenced for the former drunkard.

"You certainly appear to be quite happy," said Paula, as we passed the Breton's garden one evening where he was whistling merrily at his work.

"I certainly am that," said he, raising his head. "There's just one weight on my heart yet, however."

"And what's that?" Paula's voice was sympathetic.

"It's that I cannot read."

"But I didn't think that that fact interested you very much."

"Yes, I know, Mademoiselle, but I didn't comprehend what I had lost, but now I'd give my left hand if I could only read."

"Poor Breton," I said. It seemed to me that we were a bit helpless before such a problem.

"It isn't that I want to become a fine gentleman and all that," and the Breton turned to address me also—"It's simply that I want to be able to read the Great Book that tells about God and His Son, Jesus Christ. Also I would like to help my children that they might have a better chance than hitherto I have given them. But there you are! I'm just a poor, ignorant man, and I suppose I always shall be."

"Well," said Paula, "why don't you attend the night school?"

"No, Mademoiselle," and the Breton shook his head, "that's all very well for the young fellows who have learned a little something and wish to learn a bit more. But me!—at my age!—and I don't even know the letter A from B,

and I have such a dull head that I would soon tire out the best of teachers."

"Well, supposing I tried teaching you?" said Paula timidly.

"You, Mademoiselle!" cried the Breton stupefied, "you to try such a thing as to teach me!"

"And why not, if my uncle should let me?"

"Well, Mademoiselle, that would be different. I believe that with you to teach me I might be able to learn," and the Breton leaned on his spade for a moment.

"You are so good and kind and patient, I would not be afraid of your making fun of my stupid efforts. But there, there's no use thinking about such a thing, for I'm sure the master would never permit it."

In fact, it did take a good deal to persuade my father but Paula won his permission at last.

The Breton came every Saturday night. Teresa complained a bit at first, seeing her kitchen turned into a night school for such a rough ignorant workman, but "for Jesus Christ's sake," as Paula said, she had finally become resigned to it.

It was both pathetic and comical to see the efforts which the poor Breton made as he tried to follow with one great finger the letters which his young teacher pointed out to him. He stumbled on, making many mistakes but never discouraged. Sometimes the sweat poured from him when the task appeared too great for him. At such times he would put his head in his hands for a moment, and then with a great sigh he would start again.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Signs and wonders. 2. The sick. 3. Peter's shadow. 4. Every one. 5. To prison. 6. An angel. 7. Go to the temple and teach the people. 8. In the temple teaching the people. 9. God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Dec. 1, 2002

Paula's Student

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. The Breton was a cruel drunkard before he prayed and asked God to have mercy on him. There was such a great change in him it was the talk of the town. His only regret was that he could not read a Bible, so Paula decided to teach him how to read.

At the end of a month he had learned the alphabet and nothing more, and even then he would make mistakes in naming some of the letters.

"Oh, let him go!" said Teresa; "He's like myself. He'll never, never learn." But Paula's great eyes opened wide.

"Why! I simply can't abandon him unless he should give it up himself. Besides, have you forgotten, Teresa, what it cost me to learn to sew? But in the end I did learn; didn't I?"

So Teresa was silenced. But once the Breton had conquered this first barrier to learning his progress was truly surprising. In the factory his "primer" was always with him. At lunch hours he would either study alone, or he'd persuade a fellow-worker more

advanced than him to help him with his lesson. Paula was astonished to see how quickly she could teach him a verse in the New Testament or a Waldensian hymn she had learned in the valley back home.

Nevertheless a week or two later she noticed that he seemed to be a bit distraught, and she feared he was getting weary of his task.

"What's the matter?" she finally asked him.

"Oh, nothing," and the Breton grinned rather sheepishly.

"Tell me, Breton, what's on your mind?"

He "guffawed" loudly as he replied. "You'd make fun of me sure, if I told you—and with good reason!"

"I never make fun of anybody," said Paula reproachfully.

"No, Mademoiselle, I ought to know that better than anybody else! Well, perhaps it might be well to tell you, if you must know it, it's this. There are many I find that wish they could be in my place tonight."

"In your place tonight! I'm afraid I don't understand," said Paula.

"Well, you see, I've got four or five of my old comrades who also want to learn to read."

"What's that you say?" Teresa said, leaving her knitting to stand in front of the Breton.

"It's true enough, Mademoiselle Teresa, and when you come to think of



Acts 9:32-43

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

1. Who came to the saints who lived at Lydda?
2. How long had Aeneas been confined to bed?
3. What was wrong with him?
4. Who did Peter tell him had healed him?
5. Where did Tabitha live?
6. What happened to her?
7. Who did the men send for?
8. What happened when Peter told Tabitha to get up?
9. What did Jesus send His disciples to do?

Luke 9:2.

Let's



Talk . . .

In cities and villages throughout the land, there were many disciples or saints who met to worship the Lord. The apostles went from city to city. At each place they met with the disciples, preached to them, and encouraged them to serve the Lord.

On one trip Peter came to Lydda, a city near the Great Sea, to visit with the saints. Here he saw a man named Aeneas who was sick with palsy. For eight years Aeneas had not been able to leave his bed.

Peter looked at the poor man with pity. Then he said, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ makes you well! Get up and make your bed."

In glad surprise Aeneas heard these words. Because he believed, he was healed. He tried to rise up. At once strength filled his body and he was perfectly well!

Throughout the city and round about, it was told how Aeneas had been healed. Many people came to see Peter and hear him preach the gospel. And many turned to the Lord.

In the city of Joppa was another company of believers. Among them was a woman named Tabitha, whose nickname was Dorcas. This wonderful woman was always thinking up new ways of showing kindness to others. The Bible says she was "full of good works," meaning that she spent all her time caring for the sick, the poor and the needy. No wonder she was loved dearly! No wonder the whole church was plunged into sorrow when she suddenly got sick and died. How could they get along without her?

It was the custom in those days to bury a dead person right away, but the

people of Joppa couldn't bear to part with their beloved Tabitha. Lovingly they washed and dressed her, then laid her in an upper room.

Somebody said, "If only Peter were here!"

Then someone remembered hearing that Peter was at Lydda which was just a few miles away. They had heard how he healed Aeneas there. Immediately they sent men to find Peter. When they found him they told him about Tabitha and begged him to come at once. He agreed, so they hurried back to Joppa as fast as they could.

Coming into the room where the body of Tabitha was lying, Peter found it full of weeping widows whom Tabitha had helped during her lifetime. They showed Peter coats and other garments she had made for them.

Peter knew what Jesus would have done in a time like this. He knew how Jesus was touched with the sorrow of others. Gently he asked them all to leave the room. Then he knelt beside the bed and prayed. As he rose from his knees he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, rise!"

The woman opened her eyes and when she saw Peter, she sat up. How surprised she was to see Peter standing by her! Then she saw him hold out his hand to her to help her get up. I am sure she never forgot the smile of joy and thankfulness she saw on Peter's noble, friendly face when she took his hand and stood up.

Now calling the saints and widows who had been waiting anxiously outside, Peter presented Tabitha to them, very much alive! They could hardly believe their eyes and their happiness knew no bounds.

News of this miracle spread throughout all Joppa very quickly. Many people came to see and hear Peter. And many believed in the Lord. For a long time Peter stayed in Joppa at the home of Simon, the tanner.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

it, it's not a bit strange.

"Down at the factory they all know how different and how happy I am. And how they did make fun of me when I started to learn to read; just as they jeered at me when Jesus Christ first saved me and I learned to pray. But now some of them, seeing how happy I am, also want to learn to read, and who knows but some day they will want to know how to pray to the Lord Jesus also."

Paula's face took on a serious expression—finally, however, she slowly shook her head.

"You know, with all my heart, I'd just love to see it done, but it's perfectly useless, I suppose, even to think of it," she said sadly.

"That's what I thought too," said the Breton; "I'm sorry I spoke about it."

"Well, I don't know," continued Paula. "Perhaps uncle could arrange somehow—I remember when I was quite small, back there before I left the valley, my dear godmother had a night-school for laboring men. It was just lovely. They learned to read and to write and to calculate. Then afterwards, each night before they went home, they would sing hymns and read the Bible and pray."

"Yes, that's all very well," said Teresa, "but your godmother was a whole lot older than you are."

Then turning to the Breton she said, "Why don't you tell your friends to go to the night school in town?"

"Well," said the Breton, "I know that they learn many things there, but they don't teach them about God. However, as I said before, I'm sorry I mentioned the thing. Let's not speak any more about it."

"Well," said Paula, "I know what I'm going to do. I'll speak to the Lord Jesus about it."

And Paula kept her promise.

One morning, Teresa, usually not at all inquisitive, could not seem to keep her eyes off a certain little group

who were engaged in moving out of one of the "Red Cottages" across the road. More than once she paused in her work of tidying up the house to peer out of one window or another.

"That's the very best of all the Red Cottages, and they're moving out of it," remarked Teresa finally.

"Of what importance is that?" I said to her rather sharply. I was washing windows, and that task always made me irritable.

"I've got a certain idea!" Teresa said.

"Tell me your big idea," I said.

"No! You go ahead and wash your windows. I'll tell you tomorrow."

The next day I had forgotten Teresa and her "idea."

As I started for school she called after me, "Tell Mademoiselle Virtud, your teacher, that I want to see her just as soon as possible. I have to speak to her about something."

In a flash I remembered what had happened the day before, and I guessed at once her secret.

"Teresa!" I cried, "I've got it now! You want Mademoiselle Virtud to occupy the house across the road. Oh, that will be just wonderful!"

Teresa tried to put on her most severe air, but failed completely.

"Well, supposing that's not so!" she said, as with a grin she pushed me out of the door.

Mademoiselle Virtud came over that very afternoon. I hadn't been mistaken. She and Teresa went immediately across the road to see the empty house, the owner having left the key with us. At the end of a half-hour they returned.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Peter. 2. Eight years. 3. He was sick with palsy. 4. Jesus Christ. 5. In Joppa. 6. She got sick and died. 7. Peter. 8. She opened her eyes and sat up. 9. To preach and to heal the sick.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Dec. 8, 2002

New Neighbors

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisla who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. One day Teresa noticed a neighbor moving. At once she thought of the schoolteacher, Mlle. Virtud and her little crippled brother. This would be a much better place for them to live than in their stuffy little apartment!

"It's all arranged," and Teresa beamed. "She's coming to live here right across the road. I've thought of the thing for a long time, and now at last the house I wanted is empty. Monsieur Bouche has promised to fix the fence and put a new coat of paint on the house, and with some of our plants placed in the front garden, it will be a fitting place for your dear teacher and her Gabriel to live in."

"You'll certainly spoil us!" said Mlle. Virtud. "What a joy it will be to leave that stuffy apartment in town. And Gabriel is so pale and weak! This lovely air of the open country will make a new boy of him!"

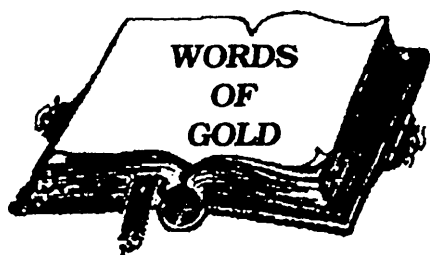
It was a wonderful time we had arranging things before our new neighbors moved in. Teresa bought some

neat linen curtains for the windows of the little house. Paula and I gathered quantities of flowers from our garden and placed them over the chimney and on the bedroom shelves and in the window-seats. And how the floors and windows did shine after we had finished polishing them!

When our teacher arrived in a coach with Gabriel packed in among the usual quantity of small household things of all kinds, great was her gratitude and surprise to find, in the transformed house, such signs of our care and affection for her. It was indeed the happiest moving day that could possibly be imagined. There wasn't a great quantity of furniture, and in an hour or so after our new neighbors' arrival we had everything installed in its proper place, to say nothing of the bright fire burning in the tiny grate and the kettle singing merrily above it. One would hardly have dreamed that it had been an empty house that very morning. Even Louis, who had come home for a week-end holiday, had sailed in and worked with us in putting the little cottage in order.

That night the newly arrived tenants ate with us, after which Louis carried Gabriel piggy-back to his new home across the road.

Our teacher's prophecy regarding Gabriel was a correct one. Day by day



The Baby Everybody Wanted

Genesis 3:15

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

Deuteronomy 18:15

15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken.

Numbers 24:15,17

15 ...Balaam the son of Beor hath said,...

17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel,...

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.

Jeremiah 23:5-6

5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Daniel 9:25

25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build

Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Micah 5:2

2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

The Message: Although Adam and Eve were driven from the beautiful Garden because of sin, God did not leave them without hope. He promised that someday He would send a Savior.

Questions:

1. In Deuteronomy, what kind of prophet did Moses say God would raise up?
2. Who is speaking in our text from Numbers?
3. What did he say would come out of Jacob?
4. What did Isaiah say the Savior would be called?
5. Which prophet said His name would be called THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS?
6. Which prophet said it would be seven weeks from the commandment to restore Jerusalem to the Messiah?
7. What town did the prophet Micah say would be the place of the Savior's birth?

Verse to Memorize

**For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given: and the
government shall be upon his
shoulder:...**

Isaiah 9:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

For hundreds of years, all over the world, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, hoped that a very special Baby would come to their home. You see this Baby was part of a promise made by God in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve had sinned. After God told them that they must leave their beautiful home He said to the serpent who had caused all the trouble, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

This meant that some day a Child, or grandchild, or great grandchild of Eve's would "bruise," or crush the head of the wicked serpent and undo all the evil he had done. Someday a wonderful Baby would be born who would break the power of Satan and regain all that man had lost because of sin.

Eve may have thought that she would be the mother of this Baby, but she was mistaken. However, the promise was passed down through the years. In this way the hope of a coming Saviour and Deliverer was kept alive from century to century.

Moses certainly knew about the promise. He told the children of Israel that the Lord would raise up a Prophet like him. He told them they must accept Him and live as He directed them.

Balaam knew about it too, for instead of cursing Israel, as Balak wanted him to, he said that Someone was coming who would be both a Light and a King. This made people wonder even more when the promised Child would come.

The prophet Isaiah was more definite. He told them what the sign would be of the Child's coming and even what His name would be. He renewed their hopes with the joyful words, "Unto us a child is born!"

After this, many that had lost hope hoped again. Then the prophet Micah revealed the very place where the Child was to be born. From home to home, and especially from mother to mother, the news spread like wild-fire. All eyes turned toward Bethlehem.

But nothing happened. And as the years rolled by, Micah's prophecy was forgotten. The few who remembered it thought he must have been mistaken.

Then, after the Jews had been taken away into captivity and everybody was discouraged, another prophet brought thrilling news about the Baby. Daniel proclaimed that the angel Gabriel had told him the exact time when the great Deliverer would appear.

Gabriel, he said, had told him that "from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks."

This was the most definite word yet. Sixty-nine weeks! That's no time at all, people said. He'll be here in less than two years! But others said the weeks must be "prophetic weeks," with each day reckoned as a year.

They were right. And this meant the world had to wait almost another 500 years.

That is a long, long time, and as the years passed, Daniel's words were forgotten and people came to think that the wonderful Baby would never come.

Then, when many had given up hope altogether, something happened. The angel Gabriel came again, this time not to a prophet but to a girl. He brought great news from heaven!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

he grew stronger. Teresa looked out for him during school hours, and with his bright, happy ways he soon became a great favorite with the neighborhood boys.

"Tell me, Paula," said my father one evening, "how is the new pupil coming on?"

"Which new pupil?" our cousin said as she came and stood by my father's chair, where he sat reading his paper.

"The Breton, of course. Surely you haven't more than one pupil?"

"For the present, no!" she answered, with a queer little smile on her quiet face.

"For the present, no," repeated my father, "and what may that mean?"

Paula rested her cheek against the top of my father's head.

"Dearest uncle," she said. "Will you please grant me a great favor?"

"Now, what?" said my father—and the stern, serious face lighted up with a smile.

"You see, the Breton has almost learned to read, and it would be just splendid if some of his old comrades and his two sons could learn too."

"Oh, Paula, Paula!" said my father, "where is all this going to end?"

But Paula was not easily daunted, especially when the thing asked for was for the benefit of other people.

"Now, why won't you let me teach them, dear uncle?"

She came and kneeled at my father's feet, and took both his hands in hers.

"But you're only a very young and very little student, Paula. You must be taught yourself before you can teach others." My father's voice was very tender, but firm as well, and it didn't look to me as if Paula would win. She said nothing in reply, but stayed kneeling there at his feet with those great appealing eyes of hers fixed on his face.

"We shall see, we shall see," said my father gently, "when you've finished your own studies. Besides I think you're reasonable enough to see that such a task along with your studies would be too big a burden for a child like you. I could not let you take this up."

"I suppose you're right, dear uncle," said Paula humbly, as she rose and rested her head against my father's shoulder, "and yet if you could only know how happy it would make the Breton and his comrades. And besides," she added, "I had fondly hoped that if I could have taught them, they would learn much about the Lord Jesus and take Him as their Saviour, as the Breton has done."

"You seem to think of nothing but how to serve your 'Lord Jesus,'" and there was a wistful sort of tone in my father's voice.

"Well, am I not His servant?"

"No!" said my father, "I'd call you a soldier of His, and one that's always under arms!"

"That's because I have such a wonderful, such a kind, and such a powerful Captain. I wish everybody might come to know Him! And to know Him is to love Him!"

There followed a moment of silence, so solemn, so sweet that it seemed as if a Presence had suddenly entered, and I personally felt my soul in that moment suddenly lifted toward God as it had never been before. And as I looked at Paula standing so humbly there, her eyes seemed to say: "Oh, my uncle; my cousin, would that you, too, might love Him and receive Him as the Saviour of your soul."

(To be continued next week.)

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|---|
| (Answers: 1. One like him.
2. Balaam. 3. A Star.
4. Immanuel. 5. Jeremiah.
6. Daniel. 7. Bethlehem.) |
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THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Dec. 15, 2002

The Birthday Surprise

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. When God saved the Breton his one desire was to learn to read his Bible. Some of his friends also expressed a great desire to learn to read. Paula saw this was an opportunity to teach them about Jesus as they learned to read.

"Listen, Paula," my father said, "will you leave the Breton and his friends and his sons in my hands for the present?"

Paula looked at him searchingly for a moment, as if trying to find out what was in his mind.

"Of course!" she finally said.

"Well, then, just rest content. I'll try to see the thing through somehow. If I'm not very much mistaken, these proteges of yours will have very little to complain of."

"Oh, uncle dear!" shouted Paula, delighted, "what are you planning to do?"

"I don't know yet exactly, but I've thought of something. No! No! Don't try to thank me for anything, for I don't know how it will come out. But,"

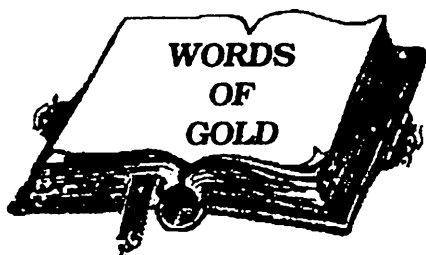
he smiled as he laid his hand on Paula's head, "you certainly have a method of asking for things that I don't seem to find a way to refuse you."

For the first time in my life a great secret had been confided to me. Of course, I felt quite proud that they had considered me important enough to be a sharer of the secret. But my! What a struggle it was not to tell Paula!

In a few days it would be Paula's fifteenth birthday, and the whole family seemed endued with the same idea, to make it an especially happy and unforgettable occasion.

Paula must have suspected something with all the coming and going; the whispering and smothered giggles in corners, etc. But she wasn't the kind to pry into other people's affairs, and so, no matter what she may have thought, she kept her own counsel. On the morning of the great day, which to our great satisfaction, came on a Sunday, Paula was quite a bit surprised to find that Mlle. Virtud and Gabriel had been invited over to breakfast. Aside from that occurrence there was nothing unusual as yet to indicate that we were celebrating Paula's birthday.

When the meal was finished, however, my father folded up his napkin



Great News From Heaven

Luke 1:26-40

26 And in the sixth month 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 favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

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.

39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah;

40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

The Message: God's promise of a Savior was fulfilled. We can always rely on His promises!

Questions:

1. Who was sent from God?
2. To what city was he sent?
3. To whom was the virgin espoused (engaged)?
4. What was the virgin's name?
5. With Whom had she found favour?
6. What was she to call her Son?
7. How long will His kingdom last?
8. Who else was expecting a son?
9. With Whom is nothing impossible?

Verse to Memorize

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Luke 1:37.

Let's



Talk . . .

As the time drew near for the birth of Jesus there must have been great excitement among the angels in heaven. To them this was the most important event of the ages. The Lord, whom they adored, was about to leave the realms of glory to go and live on one of the smallest planets He had created. To show how much He loved all His creatures, even those who had rebelled against Him, He was going to wrap Himself up in a little bundle of human flesh and live as a man among men.

How much the angels understood about this miracle of miracles we do not know, but it must have seemed to them the sublimest proof that God is love. They were so touched by this most gracious act that they wanted to tell everybody the wonderful news. How they must have marveled that the people on the earth, except for a very few, did not give a thought to His coming. Nobody was preparing a welcome for Him!

Eagerly they watched as the years of Daniel's prophecy gradually came to a close. Then, at exactly the right time, not a moment too soon, not a moment too late, God called upon Gabriel to fly swiftly to the earth and find a girl called Mary.

Just why God chose Mary the Bible does not say. But we do know that "the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." No doubt Mary was the best girl He could find in all the world just then. He had been watching her all her life and knew that her heart was "perfect toward Him." He believed He could trust her with

this very great honor.

Of course He knew exactly where she was so when Gabriel went to Nazareth he made no mistake. A moment later he was beside her. "Hail, thou that art highly favoured," he said kindly.

Mary wondered who her visitor might be and what he meant by these strange words. Seeing how frightened she was, Gabriel spoke more gently still. "Fear not, Mary," he said, "for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus."

To Mary this didn't seem possible. Her son to be a king! To sit on David's throne! To reign forever! Oh, no! She must be dreaming. Anyway, it couldn't happen, because she wasn't married. She was just betrothed to Joseph, that was all, and she told Gabriel so, in case he didn't know it.

Of course Gabriel knew it, and he was ready with his answer. If Mary were willing, he said, something very wonderful would happen to her. In perhaps the most beautiful words to be found in all the Bible, he said to 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."

Seeing that Mary still doubted, he told her a secret that must have surprised her very much: "Behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren."

"Elisabeth having a baby!" Mary must have whispered to herself. "Not Elisabeth! And how does this stranger know that it's going to be a boy?"

Gabriel smiled. "With God nothing shall be impossible," he said.

Mary bowed her head. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," she said. "Be it unto me according to thy word."

A moment later Gabriel vanished, and Mary was left alone wondering what it all meant. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

and with an air of mock gravity said, "Why, let me see, this is Paula's birthday, isn't it? I suppose Paula's been wondering why there were no gifts piled up on her plate. You see, Paula, we've all combined on the one gift, but it's too big to put on the dining table. However, it's not far away. Let's all go and have a look at it together."

He led the way out of the house and across the road, and we all followed.

I presume the neighborhood received quite a shock of surprise to see such a procession of folks coming out of the big house. Many came and stood in their front yards to view the unusual sight. For instance, of Louis with his arm linked in that of our old servant, Teresa, and Paula herself on our father's arm, and the rest strung out behind.

We finally stopped in front of Mlle. Virtud's newly painted little house, with its tiny garden in all the splendor of its spring dress.

"Come in, Paula," said our teacher of former days.

"Your present is in here in this front room."

We all followed after Paula, eager to see her inspection of the "present."

Paula took one step, and then stopped on the present threshold.

"What do you think of your birthday present?" said my father. "Do you think the Breton and his comrades will be content to come here to study and learn, to sing, etc., in this room?"

"Oh, uncle dear!" and that was all she could say as she embraced and kissed him with a gratitude we all knew well was too deep for mere words to express.

Suddenly Louis pulled her hair a bit, saying, "Well, how about the rest of us. Aren't you going to thank us too? There are a lot of folks here that have had a share in this business."

Paula gave him a smile in which she included all of us in her thankful joy and gratitude.

"Why!" said Paula, "this was the room everybody thought was useless, and which was in such bad condition that the landlord didn't think it worthwhile to fix up!"

"Yes," said my father; "it's the very room. I confess one would hardly recognize it, but when Monsieur Bouche understood what it was to be used for, he went to unusual trouble to fix it properly. You'll have to thank him especially, Paula. He has a reputation of being not so amiable."

"I will take him a lovely bunch of flowers," said Paula.

"Humph!" said Louis, "I'm sure I don't know what he'd do with them. He doesn't often get flowers from tenants."

Paula walked about the room as in a dream, examining everything.

Dr. Lebon had loaned the table in the center. The lovely red curtains were a present from Mlle. Virtud. Rosa and Louis had given the two long benches on each side of the table. My father had given the schoolbooks, and I had bought pencils and copybooks from my monthly allowance. It was all very simple and severe, but to Paula's eyes these gifts brought together in the little white-washed room seemed to her quite wonderful.

"Look up there," said Louis, "you haven't seen that yet." A fine new lamp hung from the ceiling. A note attached to it read, "In great gratitude from the Breton."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Gabriel. 2. Nazareth. 3. Joseph. 4. Mary. 5. God. 6. Jesus. 7. It will never end. 8. Elisabeth. 9. God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Dec. 22, 2002

The Night School

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. When God saved the Breton his one desire was to learn to read his Bible. Some of his friends also expressed a great desire to learn to read. Paula was anxious to teach them all. For her fifteenth birthday everyone surprised her by fixing up a room for her "night school." Tears came to her eyes when she saw a new lamp from the Breton.

"Now, look here," said Louis, "you don't need to weep over it! The Breton is only grateful for all you've done for him. Thanks to you, he's been able to save up a little money lately instead of spending it all on drink."

Through her unbidden tears, Paula's eyes next went to an elaborately embroidered motto on the wall containing the Lord's words to the weary ones of earth. "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

"Oh, it's all too much!" said Paula completely overcome. "How can I thank you all for what you've done?"

"Your gratitude and happiness is sufficient reward for us," said my father. "I don't know what put the idea in our heads. I suppose you will say it was God, and perhaps you are right. All I know is that I spoke to Mlle. Virtud of your desire to have a night school for the Breton and his friends, and then spoke to others about it and—well, now you've seen the result. You owe most of your thanks to Mlle. Virtud who brought the thing about and gave us the use of the room."

"Which room," said Mlle. Virtud, with a dry little smile, "had no value whatsoever, you'll remember."

"And another thing," said my father, "she is the one who has taken over the responsibility of the night school. Otherwise I could not have permitted you to take up such a task. Then Rosa is going to help when she can, and Lisita has an idea she can do something also."

"And I," said Louis, "where do I come into the picture?"

With a grin my father turned to his son, "That's where you're only in the background for once."

It was decided, in accord with Mlle. Virtud, to have classes twice a week. Thursdays would be for reading, writing and arithmetic, and Sundays would be a time for learning songs and for putting their studies

Let's



Talk . . .

Had the innkeeper known that the Messiah Himself was to be born that night, he would surely have found a place for Mary somewhere, even if he had to give up his own room. What a story he would have had to tell for the rest of his life! But in the hurry and bustle of the moment the innkeeper did not think of all this. Instead, he offered his stable.

"The stable!" said Joseph in great disappointment. "Is that all you have?"

The stable! As Mary heard the word her heart sank. All day she had longed for a comfortable place to rest. Now there was nothing but a stable! Surely "the Son of the Highest" should not be born in a smelly old stable!

"This way," said Joseph. "There's some clean straw over here." Peering through the gloom, Mary saw an empty manger, half filled with hay for the cows to eat.

"This will do for the Baby," she said.

A manger! Yes, it would do. But what a strange place for the "Son of the Highest" to lie. He could not have chosen a humbler place for His coming into the world. Perhaps it was because He wanted the humblest and the poorest to know that He loved them and that He was willing to share their lot.

Then, suddenly, it happened. The wonderful baby was born. And they called Him Jesus.

Imagine for a moment that you are there in Bethlehem that night. It is a warm night so you are lying on a bed on the roof of a flat-topped house. The rest of the family is asleep, but

you are awake, looking up at the sky, trying to count the stars.

You think of all the people who have crowded into Bethlehem. Then your mind wanders to what your father has been saying lately about the Messiah's coming. He said the time is nearly up and that He would be born soon right here in Bethlehem!

Suddenly you see a great light in the sky that looks like a brilliant star. It seems to hover just over the inn! Quietly you creep down the stairs and start in that direction. But then you stop. The light seems to have moved over the fields where the shepherds keep their sheep at night.

Following the light you see a group of men standing open-mouthed as a glorious being talks to them. It must be an angel! You hear him saying, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

"He has said that the Messiah is here, that He has just been born!" you think, scarcely believing your own ears.

"And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger," the angel continued.

Suddenly you see a multitude of shining angels, thousands upon thousands of them, all singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Then as suddenly as they came, the angels disappear.

The shepherds talk among themselves excitedly, "Let us now go to Bethlehem, and see this thing that is come to pass."

You follow them as they hurry toward Bethlehem. Entering the dimly lit stable you see Him! There in the manger is the promised Savior. You bow reverently with the shepherds in adoration.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

into practice by reading in the Bible, and, for what several had been asking, namely, to learn how to pray.

If the Breton was a model scholar, this could not be said of his two younger sons. These boys appeared to be much below the average in natural intelligence, besides the fact that their ordinary educational opportunities had, as in the case of Joseph, their older brother, been decidedly neglected. Their father had compelled them to attend the "night school," but apparently they didn't seem to grasp what it was all about. Without any apparent cause they both would suddenly duck down below the table to hide their merriment. Whatever story, no matter how interesting, was read aloud, they didn't seem to comprehend a word of it, and if a chapter from the Bible was read they either showed elaborate signs of boredom or else they would doze in their seats. Paula would gaze at them sadly—her young heart was grieved at such colossal indifference.

The three comrades of the Breton, however, were decidedly different, taking up their studies with great eagerness and listening well to everything that was read aloud.

"It's a whole lot better here than spending our money at the liquor shop," they would say with a smile of satisfaction.

"I'll say so," the Breton would chime in. "I'll tell you what, comrades, if I'd only known before all that one gains in Christ's service, I would have started long ago on this new life with Him."

The happiest and most beloved of all in the school was Gabriel. He was so happy that he was able to come in and study with the others; and when it came to singing, his marvelously fresh and clear tones outclassed them all—that is, all but one.

I seem to hear yet those lovely hymns that were sung with such

sincerity and heartiness. But the voice that rang clear and true above all others is now mingling its notes with the choirs of heaven.

* * * * *

It was vacation time in August. Teresa said she had never seen a dryer or a hotter summer in her whole existence. Gabriel and his sister had gone to visit their family in the country and we had our usual "red letter" time at Grandmother Dumas' house. We had returned from our visit greatly refreshed—all except Paula, who seemed to have lost somewhat of that perpetual happiness which, when she appeared on the scene had always been such a tonic to us all. She had tried her best not to show it, but she gave us all the impression that she tired very quickly.

"I think the reason you tire so soon is because you're growing so quickly," said Teresa. Paula laughed and said that that wasn't her fault.

One morning my father seemed to be looking at her more intently than usual. He finally said, "You're not feeling well, are you, Paula?"

"I'm all right, dear uncle," she said. "Sometimes I get a bit tired. I think it must be the heat."

"But, my dear child, you hardly eat anything at all and you've lost those roses in your cheeks."

He still continued looking at her, then suddenly he said, "I'll tell you one thing that I think would please you very much. Do you know what that would be?"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Swaddling clothes. 2. In a manger. 3. There was no room in the inn. 4. Keeping watch over their flocks. 5. An angel. 6. A Savior, Christ the Lord. 7. He would be wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 8. To see the Baby.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 53, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Dec. 29, 2002

The House Of God

(Continued from last week.)

The story to this point: Paula, a young orphan, was sent to live with her uncle and his family which consisted of Catalina, Rosa, Louis, Lisita who tells this story, and Teresa, the faithful old servant. Paula loves her new family but she is shocked to learn they never pray or read the Bible. As he observes her unselfish and loving ways, Paula's uncle becomes more caring and appreciative of her. He has never allowed her to attend church. The following conversation takes place one hot summer when her uncle observes that Paula has been pale and listless. He told her he knew one thing that he was sure would please her very much. After asking if she knew what that would be Paula replies:

"What, sir?" and Paula seemed to regain all her usual animation.

"I think," said my father slowly in a low voice as if talking to himself, "I think you"—and he paused a moment—"What would you say if you were to go to church with Celestina on Sundays?"

"Oh, dear uncle, could I really go?" Paula jumped to her feet excitedly.

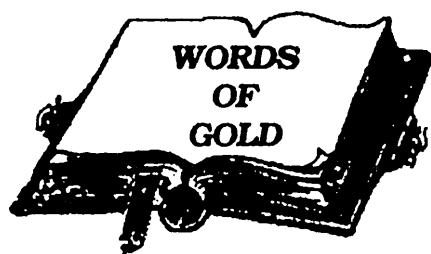
"Yes, I think I'll let you go—and"—again he hesitated a bit—"if Teresa, Rosa and Lisita wish to, they may go along too."

"And you, dear uncle, will you not come with us?" questioned Paula, as she looked into the sad, stern face that had softened considerably of late. "We shall see, we shall see. But you'd better not count on me. My, oh, me! Just see! Those roses have all come back again!"

"Well, but you don't know how happy you've made me!" said Paula as she fairly danced out of the house with me to tell the news to Celestina.

"Well," said Celestina, "all I can say is that the Lord heard my prayers and yours, dear Paula. It's the great weapon of the weak and needy, and in fact can be the power to serve all and anyone who will surrender themselves and all they are into the hands of the Saviour."

We had seated ourselves near the door of her little cottage. Something in the deep tones of the old lady's voice seemed to search my very heart. We always enjoyed listening to this old saint who, like Enoch and Noah, walked with God. We seemed to be drawn closer to God in her humble little cottage than in any other place. "You see," she continued, "I'm old and quite feeble, and besides I'm poor, and can't do very much for other folks. But there's one thing I can do and that is pray. And I do pray for everybody—and especially for you and your family, my dear young friends.



This Is The One!

Luke 2:21-22, 25-34, 36-38

21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22 And...they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

33 And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess,...she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

The Message: God will reveal Himself and His Son to those who wait on Him!

Questions

1. Who had said Mary's baby should be called Jesus?
2. Where did they take Jesus?
3. To Whom did they present Him?
4. What kind of man was Simeon?
5. What was he waiting for?
6. Who told him he would not die until he had seen Christ?
7. Who was Anna?
8. How did she serve God?
9. To whom did she give thanks?

Verse to Memorize

**Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.
Matthew 5:8.**

Let's



Talk . . .

For years now old Simeon had eagerly looked at each baby boy brought into the temple for dedication. Simeon had been interested in babies for a long time now. Mothers thought he was a kindhearted old man, and he was. But he was more than that. He was a scholar, and knew the Holy Scriptures from Genesis to Malachi. For years and years he had been looking for "the consolation of Israel." He had studied all the prophecies about the Messiah and was sure in his heart that the time had come for Him to appear. What's more, the Lord had told him by the Holy Ghost that he would not die until he had seen the Child of promise.

That's why he looked so keenly at every baby boy brought to the Temple. Day after day he searched for the One he longed to see.

One day as he entered the Temple he noticed two poorly dressed people who had come to dedicate their little son. That they were Galileans, he could see by their garments. That they were poor was clear from the fact that they were carrying two birds in a cage as their offering. "A pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons" was the gift that only the poorest people were supposed to bring.

Simeon had never seen these people before, but felt drawn to them. Then he looked down at their child and suddenly his heart stirred. It was as though the voice of God spoke to him saying, "This is the Messiah! This is the One for whom you have been looking so long!"

Tears of happiness rolled down

the old man's cheeks. Taking the precious baby and holding Him close, he said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Joseph and Mary looked on, amazed. Then Simeon turned to Joseph and Mary and blessed them. Looking into Mary's eager, upturned face, he spoke directly to her, saying, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Mary wondered what he meant. What strange destiny was ahead of her precious little Jesus? How would He cause people to fall and rise again? And what was this about a sword piercing her soul? Was not her child to become King of Israel? How then could there be any suffering? Some day she would understand, but not now.

Hardly had she time to think about Simeon's strange words before an elderly woman came hurrying over to them. Her name was Anna. She was eighty-four years old, and a prophetess. All excited, she took one look at Mary and her baby and began to thank God aloud that He had sent the Messiah at last. People around heard her and came to see what was going on. Eagerly Anna told her story and "spoke of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem."

Some believed her; others doubted; but most just said, "What a lovely baby!" and went on their way without giving the matter another thought.

But to Mary the words of Simeon and Anna meant a great deal. Now she was more sure than ever that her baby was indeed the Messiah, the Child of promise and prophecy.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

God doesn't let me see many results of my prayers, but that doesn't discourage me. I just keep everlastingly at it, and I can leave the results to Him.

"I remember once hearing a certain hymn about prayer. I never could remember all the verses, but most of it has remained deeply engraved in my memory although I only heard it once. A young missionary from Africa sang it that happened to be passing through Paris. It was at a meeting which I attended as a young girl many years ago."

"Please sing it to us, dear Celestina," said Paula, "even though you may not remember it all."

As those quavering notes sounded we seemed lifted toward that heavenly Throne of which she sang.
*On heavenly heights an Angel stands.
He takes our prayer in heavenly hands,*

*And with celestial incense rare,
He mingles every heartfelt prayer
Of those who trust His precious blood
To reconcile their souls to God.*

"Well," said Paula softly as the last note died away, "I've prayed much for my dear uncle that he might be saved."

"And God will hear and answer you, my dear, according to the scripture I've just quoted. Let me tell you something. Your uncle came here to see me a few days ago, and I believe he is not far from the Kingdom of God!"

"Oh," cried Paula, "I would give everything to see him truly saved!"

Never had I seen Paula so happy as when we entered the little old evangelical church.

We had had the natural timidity of newcomers, and had feared more than anything else that battery of eyes that would surely be turned on us at our entrance. It was therefore a great relief to find that the meeting had

already begun, and an empty pew well toward the back that held us all, seemed to beckon to us with a sort of mute welcome.

Hardly were we seated when I noticed Paula (who had of course been accustomed to church going at her old home in the valley) had kneeled, and with her eyes closed seemed to be offering a prayer. This was soon ended and she resumed her seat. It was all so new to me that I could not at first take in much of the details of the service.

The preacher had a fine noble face that seemed to light up especially as the hymns were heartily sung by the whole congregation.

Perhaps it was my imagination, but it seemed to me that a quiet smile of approval passed over his face as his eyes rested on Paula who so fervently joined in the songs—all of which seemed quite familiar to her.

It was an affecting thing, that vision of my girl companion. In her white dress with its blue sash at the waist, and with her wide white straw hat, she made a lovely picture. In that frank, open countenance I think I read her thoughts. Here in God's house she had entered once more the Promised Land from which she had been exiled for four long years!

As we came through the door on our way out, I caught a glimpse of my father's tall form just disappearing around a bend. I think he must have stolen up to the door and had been listening outside!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The angel. 2. To Jerusalem. 3. The Lord. 4. Just and devout. 5. The consolation of Israel. 6. The Holy Ghost. 7. A prophetess. 8. With fasting and prayers day and night. 9. To the Lord.)