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An Old Suit

(Continued from last week.)

After Gladys Aylward had been back in England a short while she became concerned about all the Chinese who had practically nothing to wear. Hundreds had been driven from their homes. They were herded together in far worse conditions than animals. Even in organized refugee camps the food was meager and there were few extra clothes to be doled out when the rags that had been worn for months dropped off.

Gladyslooked at the English people, wrapped up in their warm winter clothes. She saw no one in desperate need of either food or clothing. As she traveled around, she told of the desperate plight of many of the Chinese Christians. Before long, parcels of outgrown or discarded clothing came pouring in.

Gladys was sharing a home in London with her friend, Rosemary. They had no car so the garage was the storeroom for the secondhand garments they received. Just before the big Christmas postal rush, they sent off fifteen packages weighing twenty-five pounds each to a Norwegian lady missionary who was working in a huge refugee camp just outside the Communist territory. As always, when the consignment of packages arrived and before they were opened, the missionary arranged a special prayer meeting.

so that they might pray for guidance in the distribution of these clothes.

That evening the missionary met a Christian Chinese merchant who told her he traveled between Hong Kong and Macao with his goods.

"Are there many refugees in Macao?" she inquired.

"The place is absolutely packed with them," was the reply.

"Is there any Christian work being done among them?"

"No one is allowed to do anything because Macao belongs to the Portuguese."

"Will you take one of these packages and pray that you will be guided to give the clothes to those most in need?"

So, with one of the unopened bundles, the merchant set off for Macao. He had a room in the town, and he went straight to it to leave his belongings. Then he decided to go out to buy some food. Coming down the street he met a man who looked ill and starved. Yet he carried himself proudly in spite of the fact that all he wore on his emaciated body were a sleeveless waist-coat and a pair of ladies' panties!

The merchant stared, then gasped. This man had once been one of China's most prominent men.

"Sir, areyou looking for lodgings?" the merchant asked. The stranger shook his head.

"Would you come and eat with me?" the merchant went on.



Our Guide

John 16:13

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guideyou into all truth....

Acts 13:2-4, 16:6-7, 9-10, 12-15

- **2** As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.
- **3** And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.
- 4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia:...
- **6** And when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,
- **7** After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.
- **9** And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying. Come over into Macedonia, and help us.
- 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.
- 12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

 13 And on the sabbath we went out

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

14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

The Message: The Holy Spirit will guide you as a wise father leads his child by the hand.

Questions:

- What will the Spirit of truth do for us?
- 2. Who called Paul and Barnabas to a special work?
- 3. What did they do before they sent them away?
- 4. Who forbade them to preach in Asia?
- 5. They thought they would go to Bithynia, but Who did not allow it?
- 6. What appeared to Paul in the night?
- 7. What did the man of Macedonia ask?
- 8. Why did they go to the river side on the Sabbath?
- 9. Who was baptized with all her household?

Verse to Memorize

...How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? Luke 11:13.



In 1804 President Thomas Jefferson commissioned two army officers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to lead an expedition to explore the Pacific Northwest. He believed that there were rivers that connected with each other extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. If they could find this route it would be much easier and safer than traveling by land.

Since Lewis and Clark needed a guide they were glad when they met Sacajawea and her husband who agreed to go with them. Having Sacajawea in the party represented peace because women did not travel with war parties. Without the support and help of the Indians the expedition could not have survived the difficult trip.

Sacajawea was the only one who spoke the Shoshone language. When they met the Shoshone tribe she was delighted to see that the leader of the tribe was her own brother. He was just as happy to see her and gladly gave them food, horses and guides. This allowed the explorers to continue their journey west.

Through her success in guiding this expedition, Sacajawea became the most famous American Indian woman in our history. She no doubt saved the entire party on a number of occasions. When their food was gone she saved them from starvation by digging up roots to feed them. Once a great gust of wind capsized their boat. While the others struggled to get to shore Sacajawea gathered the pre-

cious journals of Lewis & Clark and saved them from being lost.

Our life is like an "expedition". It is much more important than that of Lewis and Clark because it determines where we will spend eternity. We are going through life only once. Since we can never call back the years and retrace our steps we need a guide even more than they did. We must have help or we can never reach heaven.

Jesus said it was good that He should go back to His Father because then the Holy Spirit would come to be our guide. (John 16:7.) As we get to know the Holy Spirit we realize what an excellent Guide our heavenly Father has given us. He knows how weakanddependent we are and knows the safest route to heaven. Following His directions we can escape the traps and snares Satan has set up to destroy us. He has fought many battles against the devil and never lost one.

Of course it is most important to talk with our Guide. We must be able to understand His instructions in order to follow them. The Word of God is the language of the Holy Spirit. In fact He was the one who told those who wrote the Bible what to say. God's Word, the Bible, is a powerful weapon against the enemy. By memorizing it we store it in our hearts. Then it is there so our faithful Guide can bring it to our mind just when we need to use it against the devil.

Through prayer the Holy Spirit uses our lips to talk with God. Romans 8:26 assures us that we don't know what we should pray for, as we ought. It is like a foreign language to us. But, likeSacajawea, theHolySpirit understands God's will and how to pray. It is His native language and He actually prays for us!

Best of all, our Guide, the Holy Spirit, will never leave us. Hewill take us safely to heaven where we will be there with Him forever!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Thank you, I accept," was the dignified reply. Together they went to a small eating house and the merchant ordered a simple meal.

"I recognized you asyou came down the street," the merchant remarked. "Is there anything I can do to help you?"

"I believe you are a Christian. Will you pray with me?" The merchant bowed his head, and very simply the nobleman said, "O Lord, thank You for answering the first two parts of my prayer. You have brought me to safety; You have given me something to eat. Now please answer the third part and give me something to wear so that I can get employment and so keep my self-respect."

"I believe God has answered that prayer already," the merchant said eagerly. "Come home with me now." Together they opened the bundlewhich Gladys and the others had sent from London with their loving prayers. And there, right on top, lay a man's complete suit! They often got odd jackets or odd trousers, but practically never a matching suit.

Weeks later Gladys received a letter from Macao. It was from this man. He had been one of China's wealthiest and most influential men before the Communists came into power and robbed him of home, money and family. In that letter were many grateful thanks for the clothes he had received. He had been able to find employment and now was hoping to save a little money so he could help his wife and family escape and join him once more.

He told how he, a prominent Buddhist, had been stripped of all he possessed, then thrown into prison. But it was there he had come to know Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord. He had lost all in this world, but he had peace and joy in his heart because he was a Christian, and nothing the enemy could do could take that from him.

It was letters such as this one and the deep longing to see some of her children again that made Gladys go once more to share the hazards of the people she loved so much. She had traveled far and wide in England telling of the sufferings of the Chinese Christians. Now she wanted to tell the gospel story once more in places where it was no easy thing to be a Christian. When she arrived, she was given a wonderful welcome. What a joy it was to see many of her children, now grownup and with families of their own, but still true to their Savior.

The conditions under which many of the Chinese were living horrified her. There was so much work to do, and she had so little with which to do it. With a handful of other Christians she began a mission and an orphanage but there was no money for even the necessities.

Frequent calls came from America to go and tell Christians there of the work. Eventually Gladys felt that this was what God would have her do. She preferred to stay with her loved ones and share their privations, but it seemed that by going to America she could help in a more practical way. So once more she set out for a strange country.

Again God proved that if we trust Him. He will provide. Gladys' heart filled with praise to think that He would use one so insignificant, uneducated and ordinary as she was to His glory and for the blessing of His people in poor persecuted China.

(The end.)

—Adapted from GLADYS AYLWARD, The Little Woman by Gladys Aylward with Christine Hunter.

(Answers: 1. Guide us into all truth. 2. The Holy Ghost. 3. Fasted, prayed and laid hands on them. 4. The Holy Ghost. 5. The Holy Ghost. 6. A vision. 7. "Come and help us." 8. To pray. 9. Lydia.)



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The Jungle Prince— A Pawn of War

Kaboo, an African prince, was born in 1872 on the Ivory Coast of West Africa. He was the eldest son of a Kru tribal chieftain. While he was still a small child, his father had twice been defeated in wars with neighboring tribes. Each time Kaboo had been put in pawn with the victorious chieftain. In those regions it was the custom for a chief who was defeated in war to give his eldest son as a pawn or hostage to insure the payment of the war debt. If payment lagged, the unfortunate hostage was tortured brutally.

The first time occurred when Kaboo was too young to remember. His father was able to pay the debt promptly, and his son was soon restored to him. The second time Kaboo was held captive for several years before his father could complete his ransom. This had been an experience so dreadful that Kaboo would never speak of it.

He had been home only a short time when his tribe again became involved in a disastrous war. A coalition of enemies led by a cruel and depraved chief defeated Kaboo's people, destroyed their crops, and burned their village. His father was forced to surrender and to promise to pay much more than his wasted territory could afford to pay. Kaboo, who was now about fifteen years old, was put in pawn for the third time to insure that the war debt would be paid.

Kaboo's anxious father came on the payment date with all the ivory, rubber, kola nuts, and other articles of trade his people had been able to gather together. The victorious chief took all that he brought and, after setting his own price upon it, declared that it did not fulfill the pledge. He refused to give up the pawn.

Kaboo's father was almost in despair. Yet he resolved to make one more effort. He induced his tribe to sacrifice their last belongings. When he came loaded with goods upon his second visit, his offerings were again taken but again declared to be insufficient to pay the balance due. For some years this enemy chief had been carrying on a thriving business exchanging his war booty for salt, trinkets, and rum-mostly rum. As his appetite for strong drink grew his idea of the exchange value of native currency diminished. No ransom payment was sufficient which did not keep him well supplied with liquor!

Knowing in advance the injustice of this drink-crazed chief, and fearing



God Frees His People

Exodus 14:10; 13-16, 19-28

10 ...the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD...

14 The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

15 And the LORD said unto Moses...

16 ... Stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

19 And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel. removed and went behind them: and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

21 And Mosesstretched outhishand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea...

24 ...The LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians...

25 And took off their chariot wheels...

26 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea...

28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

The Message: The Israelites had no power to escape slavery but God delivered them through a great miracle!

Questions:

- Who marched after the children of Israel?
- 2. Who would fight for them?
- 3. How were the Israelites to go across the Red Sea?
- 4. Who went before the camp of Israel?
- 5. What came between the camp of the Egyptians and that of the Israel?
- 6. How did the sea become dry land?
- 7. What made walls on both sides as the Israelites crossed the Sea?
- 8. How did the Lord trouble the Egyptians?
- 9. How many of the Egyptians escaped?

Verse to Memorize

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

Exodus 14:30.



It is easy to take our right to live happy, independent lives for granted. Kaboo was not so blessed. Though he was the son of a king, when his father lost in a battle and could not paywhat the conquerors demanded, Kaboo was taken as a pawn of war. He lost all his rights. Until his father could pay the demands he would be treated worse than a slave. He was savagely beaten and tortured. Then a boy who saw his cruel treatment was sent to tell Kaboo's father about his awful suffering.

His father's heart ached for Kaboo. He deprived his entire tribe of anything they had of value and brought it to Kaboo's captors in hopes it would be enough to redeem him. But every offer was refused. Nothing but more torture and certain death awaited Kaboo.

But God, too, was touched by Kaboo's awful suffering. Just when it seemed that all hope was gone God miraculously appeared in a flash of light, gave Kaboo strength, and commanded him to get up and run for his life!

Kaboo never forgot that day. He called it his Deliverance Day and as long as he lived he always celebrated that day, Friday, by fasting, eating no food and drinking no water.

Jacob, his sons and their families moved to Goshen in the land of Egypt because there was no food in their own land. Joseph invited them to come where he could make sure they had plenty to eat. For many years they were a free people and

enjoyed the favor of one Pharaoh after another.

But, with the passing of time a Pharaohcame into power that feared the Israelites. God had prospered them. Instead of the small group of people who had first come, they had become a great nation with large flocks of sheep and cattle. This new Pharaoh thought, "There will soon be more Israelites than Egyptians. We would be no match against them if they ever decided to fight against us. And what if they join our enemies? I must not let them leave Goshen. I will keep them for my slaves!"

He made their lives so miserable that the Israelites cried to God for help. God heard their prayers and sent Moses to deliver them. When Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, God worked many miracles, even bringing heavy plagues upon the Egyptians. With the last plague, the death of every firstborn son, Pharaoh demanded that the children of Israel leave Egypt at once and take everything they owned with them.

But in a few days Pharaoh was sorry he had lost his slaves. He decided to recapture the Israelites. So he gathered all the chariots of Egypt and the captains over them and went after them. He was confident of an easy victory over the unarmed Israelites. When he saw them crossing the Red Sea he foolishly drove his chariots in after them. As the walls of water crashed over him and his army Pharaoh realized that God Himself was defending His people, the Israelites. Pharaoh and all his great army were destroyed. God had saved the Israelites by a great miracle!

Like Kaboo's Deliverance Day, the Israelites observed the Passover every year. This was to celebrate their miraculous deliverance from the Egyptians. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell that his son could not survive the torture much longer, Kaboo's father brought with him on his second visit one of his attractive daughters to put in the boy's place as a pawn.

Kaboo objected: "I can bear the punishment better than my sister. Let me remain." His father realized that further payment was impossible. He could do nothing but return home with his daughter, leaving Kaboo to meet his certain fate.

When the father of Kaboo failed to come again, the infuriated chief ordered Kaboo to be whipped every day. Each beating was more prolonged and severe than the one before. A thorny poison vine was used as a whip. At each stroke it tore the flesh and implanted a fiery virus. The agonized victim felt as if his whole body was on fire.

The cruel enemy chieftain made sure Kaboo's father knew how much his son was suffering. Each time the chieftain's executioner tormented Kaboo, a Kru slave, who was an eyewitness of the beating, was sent to tell him the horrible details of each torture. He warned that worse would follow if he did not redouble his efforts to meet the full demands of his conqueror.

Kaboo's wounds did not have time to heal. The flesh of his back hung in shreds. Soon he became so exhausted from loss of blood and the fever induced by the poison vine that he could no longer stand or even sit up. A cross-tree was then erected and he was carried out and thrown over it while he was again beaten over his raw back.

Kaboo hoped that death would release him before he met the awful fate of an unredeemed pawn. A number of Kaboo's tribesmen had been taken as ordinary slaves by this brutal chief. Several of them had been accused as bewitchers. Kaboo had seen them literally torn to pieces by drunken and frenzied men. But he was now faced by an even worse fate.

Apit had already been dugin case his father did not return. If he did not bring further payment after his final beating. Kaboo was to be buried up to the neck. His mouth would then be propped open and smeared with a sweet mixture to attract the ants from a nearby ant-hill. The resulting torment would merely prepare for the final act when another type of insect—the dreaded driver ants—would be permitted to devour his living flesh bit by bit. After the ants had cleaned his bones of every particle of flesh, his white skeleton would then be placed in front of his execution hut as a gentle reminder to all future debtors.

As Kaboo was flung upon the cross-tree for his final beating, all hope as well as physical strength left him. It seemed death was his only hope; he longed for that relief.

Then; suddenly, something very strange happened. A great light like a flash of lightning broke over him. The light blinded everyone around him. An audible voice that seemed to come from above commanded him to get up and run! Everyone heard the voice and saw the light but they could not tell where it came from.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The Egyptians. 2. The Lord. 3. On dry land through the middle of the sea. 4. The angel of God. 5. The pillar of the cloud. 6. The Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong wind. 7. The waters. 8. He took off their chariot wheels. 9. Not one.)





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The Miraculous Escape

(Continued from last week.)

As Kaboo was flung upon the cross-tree for his final beating, a bright light suddenly blinded his tormentors. They heard a voice that seemed to come from above but they saw no one. At the same time Kaboo was instantly healed! In the twinkling of an eye Kaboo found his strength restored. He had had nothing to eat or drink all that day. Yet he felt neither hunger northirst norweakness. Leaping up, he obeyed the mysterious voice and ran from the astonished natives with the speed of a deer.

What was the source of the mysterious light that had brought him new strength and freedom? Kaboo did not know or suspect—he had never heard of the Christian God. He knew nothing of special acts of Divine Providence. He had never heard of a Saviour who had once been put in pawn, a ransom for many. The earthly prince who had just hung over a cross-tree of torture did not dream of a heavenly Prince who had been mocked and beaten as a prisoner and had suffered a degraded death by slow torture upon a tree.

But Kaboo did know that some strange and invisible power had come to his rescue. At one moment he had been too ill to siterect and now he was running away at top speed!

It was on a Friday that he made his escape. Kaboo never forgot that day. He called it his Deliverance Day and as long as he lived he always celebrated that day of the week by fasting, taking neither food nor water.

The Kindly Light

Kaboo hid in the hollow of a tree until nightfall to elude his pursuers. When night came Kaboo realized that he had escaped one kind of death only to face another deadly hazard. He was alone in the jungle where no unaided man could hope to survive for long. He was not only without friends and weapons, but worst of all, he was also without home or any place to go!

He dared not return to his own tribe and family. The enraged enemy chieftain would soon find him. This would bring the bitter revenge of this cruel conqueror on his loved ones. He dared not be seen by a native of another tribe. They would surely return him to his former captor for the large reward usually paid for an escaped pawn.

In those regions the dense forests are dark even during the day; at night they are impossible to penetrate. As Kaboo thought about his desperate



A Light From Heaven

Acts 9:1-15

- 1 And Saul...went unto the high priest,
- 2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
- **3** And as he journeyed...suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:
- 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?
- **5** And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.
- 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.
- **7** And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.
- 8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.
- 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.
 10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision,

Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

- 11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and put-
- named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. 13 Then Ananias answered, Lord,
- I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:
- 14 And here he hathauthority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.
- **15** But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me...

The Message: Saul was changed from a persecutor to a preacher through the vision he saw on the road to Damascus.

Quest ons:

- 1. To whom did Saul go?
- 2. What did he want from him?
- 3. What did he intend to do to the believers?
- 4. What caused him to suddenly fall to the ground?
- 5. What did the voice ask him?
- 6. Who was it that spoke to Saul?
- 7. How long was Saul blind?
- 8. Whom did the Lord send to Saul?
- 9. Why was Ananias afraid to go to Saul?

Verse to Memorize

...I am the light of the world....
John 8:12.



Saul, later called Paul, was changed instantly. At one moment he was planning how he could best stop the spread of Jesus' teachings. In the next moment, suddenly struck to the ground by a great light from heaven, he was talking to Jesus, asking Him what He wanted him to do!

The change was as complete as it was sudden. All the pride of being a strict Pharisee was gone. All the dignity that he claimed because of his high education suddenly seemed worthless. All his zeal in defending the Law of Moses melted away as he heard the voice of Jesus speaking to him. He was convinced that Jesus. the very One he had been persecuting, was indeed the Son of God! He was struck blind physically, but at once his soul could see. Trembling and astonished, he asked, "Lord, what will You have me do?" Now he plainly saw that Jesus was indeed the Son of God.

Kaboo was surprised to hear the missionary telling about what he had experienced. She was telling them about Saul's conversion; how a light from heaven suddenly shone upon him and a mysterious voice spoke from above.

"That's just what I saw!" Kaboo blurted out. "I have seen that light! That is the same light that saved me and brought me here!" Kaboo had been wondering all the time why he had been so marvelously saved from death and guided through the forest. Now, in a flash he began to understand. God had explained to Saul that

He had a work for him to do. Surely God had a purpose for his life also!

There is another instance of similar mercy. A missionary to China told about a boy named Ging-Hua who was also his father's eldest son. He too was carried off and held for ransom by a band of men who frequently tortured their captives in order to force their families to pay whatever they demanded for their release. Ging-Hua was lying bound with ropes and surrounded by his captors one night when suddenly a golden light shone around him. He recognized that it was of heavenly origin. By its illumination he was able to untie his ropes and escape from the camp.

But he had no idea where he was or which direction to take. It was dark and his captors had taken him far away from home following secret paths. Then suddenly thelight formed itself into a long beam pointing from heaven right on the path ahead. Ging-Hua walked toward it and, step by step, the light led him straight to his family and safety.

In John 8:12 Jesus says, "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Jesus came into the world for one purpose, and that was to make a way for all men to escape the devil's cruel bondage and the torments of sin. He wants to lead us back to our heavenly Father; to His tender care and protection.

Jesus rarely comes to us as a flash of lightning as he did to Saul and Kaboo. More often He comes gently and, through the Holy Spirit, shows us our sins and offers us salvation. He shines light into our heart and helps us understand what He wants us to do. If we will follow that light, believe and obey His words, we will be changed just as completely and quickly as Saul from a life of sin to one of service and obedience to God! —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

situation another marvel appeared. He saw a light! It seemed to be the same friendly light that had flashed about him as he was about to be executed.

And he desperately needed such a light to guide him! Poisonous cobras, puffadders, and vipers lay in wait along Kaboo's pathway. The great python hung overhead. But more than the glaring eyes of leopards and the stings of poisonous serpents he had to fear being captured by men. In the forests of this vast region lived some of themost savage people in the world. These cannibals would not he sitate to eat anyone they took captive!

But the light did not fail Kaboo. It led him safely through all these obstacles and dangers. By it he could see to gather fruits and roots for nourishment at night. It enabled him to cross lakes and rivers safely even in the darkness.

During the daytime he continued to hide in tree trunks to avoid being seen. After traveling many nights Kaboo arrived at a plantation on the outskirts of a town beside a river. Up to this time he had not met a single human being. No human guide had directed him through the wilderness to this spot.

At his first glance he saw that this was not a native village. It was some kind of foreign settlement; probably that of the white man. He would have been afraid to approach their buildings if he had not seen a boy about his own age working in a field. When he recognized him as a boy from his own tribe Kaboo came up and spoke to him. The boy assured him that he had been led to a place of safety; these people were not slave-traders but slave-liberators! The mysterious light had led him to a settlement near Monrovia, the capital of Liberia.

At that time almost all of Liberia was still a wilderness ruled by jungle law. Even as late as 1934 a League of Nations Committee reported that in Liberia many children were still given as pawns for sums which their parents could not redeem. When Kaboo reached Monrovia it was the only important stronghold of civilized law. This wonderful light had led Kaboo to the one community out of thousands where he was really safe!

It was on a Friday that Kaboo emerged from the forest to safety, weeks after making his escape from death on Friday, his original Deliverance Day.

His friend, the other Kru boy, introduced Kaboo. He asked for a job. He was hired by the coffee plantation where his friend worked. His pay was food, a place to sleep and the cheap clothes worn by the native laborers.

Kaboo soon noticed something different about his friend. He would often see him on his knees, both hands lifted up and face upturned. When Kaboo asked him what he was doing, he replied, "I am talking to God."

"Who is your God," asked Kaboo.
"He is my Father," answered the boy.

"Then you are talking to your Father," said Kaboo. Ever afterward he called praying, "talking to my Father." To his child-like faith, prayer was as simple and as sure as conversing with an earthly parent.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To the high priest. 2. Letters to go to Damascus to search for believers. 3. Bring them bound to Jerusalem. 4. A bright light. 5. "Why do you persecute Me?" 6. Jesus. 7. Three days. 8. Ananias. 9. He had heard about the evil he had done in Jerusalem.



Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 22, 2008

A New Name

(Continued from last week.)

Kaboo was curious when he saw his new friend kneeling on the floor. When he asked what he was doing the boy explained that he was talking to God, his Father. The next Sunday he invited Kaboo to go to church with him. There Kaboo saw a crowd gathered around a woman who was speaking through an interpreter. She was telling them about the conversion of Saul; how a light from heaven suddenly shone upon him and a mysterious voice spoke from above.

"That's just what I saw!" Kaboo cried out. "I have seen that light! That is the same light that saved me and brought me here!" Kaboo had been wondering all the time why he had been so marvelously saved from death and guided through the forest. Now, in a flash he began to understand.

But Kaboo still did not understand the meaning of salvation. God had sent Ananias to tell Saul what He wanted him to do. God also had someone who could teach Kaboo how to be saved. She was Miss Knolls, the missionary who Kaboo heard telling about Saul's wonderful conversion. She had recently come to Liberia from the United States. Many others later helped to instruct Kaboo, but it was Miss Knolls who taught him how to be

saved and helped him realize his true mission in life.

Kaboo longed to learn more about the God who had so miraculously rescued him from certain death. He became a regular attendant at the religious services and classes conducted by Miss Knolls. She gave him his first elementary lessons in reading and writing the English language. Little by little, he learned the beautiful story of how Jesus had come to earth as a tiny baby. He loved to hear how He ministered to everyone, rich and poor alike; how He forgave their sins and healed their diseases. He listened in awe as he heard that Jesus, too, was tormented, finally crucified on a cruel cross, and then laid in a tomb. The story of His resurrection was the most beautiful of all! Kaboo was convinced that his newfound Savior, Jesus, was the same "Unknown God" who appeared to him in the bright light and freed him from his tormentors.

Each day Kaboo searched for more understanding about Jesus. Each day his life was changed more and more into the likeness of Jesus, the One he worshipped and admired.

But Kaboo was not satisfied. He wished that he could be like the saintly missionary. He longed to be able to preach to his own Kru people in their own language and tell them the same good news of God's love which had



The Guiding Light

Matthew 2:1-12

- 1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
- 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
- **3** When Herod the kinghad heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
- 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
- **5** And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
- 6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
- 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
- 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
- **9** When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went

oerore tnem, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

- **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
- 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

The Message: God will guide those who want to find Jesus.

Questions:

- 1. Where was Jesus born?
- 2. Who came from the east looking for the new King of the Jews?
- 3. Who was troubled by the news of a new King?
- 4. How did the chief priests and scribes know where Jesus was to be born?
- 5. What did Herod ask the wise men privily?
- 6. When he sent them to Bethlehem, what did he tell them to do?
- 7. How did the star guide the wise men?
- 8. What did they do when they saw Jesus and Mary, His mother?
- 9. Why didn't the wise men return to Herod?

Verse to Memorize

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...

John 16:13.



Among the ancients the appearance of a new star or comet was regarded as a sign of some remarkable event. Far to the east of Judea there were certain Wise Men who studied the stars. One night these men saw a new and extraordinary star. They had never seen anything like it before.

Somehow these men knew the prophecy of Jesus' birth and felt the time was near for its fulfillment. They considered the evidence and concluded that the long-expected King of the Jews was born.

These Wise Men feared God. They were anxious to see the Child who was to be the Savior of the world! The king's palace in Jerusalem seemed the logical place to find the newborn King. They traveled across the desert to Judea. When they reached Jerusalem, they hurried to the palace of King Herod and asked where they could find the baby that had been born king of the Jews.

Herod, the king, knew nothing about any new king. In fact, he was obviously troubled by their questions. After consulting with the chief priests and scribes, Herod told the wise men that, according to prophecy, a Savior would be born in Bethlehem.

So, leaving the palace, the wise men turned toward Bethlehem. Then they saw it! The star, which they had seen in the east, was shining down on them brightly. How happy they were to see it! They followed as the star went before them, till it came and stood overwhere the young child was.

Similarly, after the Israelites finally escaped from Pharaoh's bondage, God led them, not by a star, but with a cloud. "And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:" Exodus 13:21.

Kaboo escaped immediate death when he ran from his captors. But he was still in a deadly hazard. Without friends or weapons, he was alone in the jungle where no unaided man could hope to survive long. But God did not leave him to die in the jungle. Suddenly the darkness was penetrated by light. Each night the same friendly light enabled him to avoid the many dangers and find food until, finally, he was led to safety.

The Holy Spirit is like the light that guided the Wise Men, the Israelites and Kaboo. When we are saved we are brought out of the darkness of sin; we begin a new life for Jesus. Then, as we look to Him through prayer and reading the Bible, He guides us step-by-step, day-by-day by His Holy Spirit. We are never left to face temptation and the enemy alone!

Kaboo was desperate to escape his tormentors and never once thought about returning to them. Sin is just as deadly as the fate intended for Kaboo. Kaboo's worst enemies were men who would gladly return him to his captors for a reward. The devil, our enemy, tries his best to keep us bound by sin. He makes sin look harmless and inviting to entice us while making the way of salvation look hard and dangerous.

Like Kaboo, we must run for our lives, following the light of the Holy Spirit. Neverthink about turning back to a life of sin. Unless we escape, eternal death and torment will be our fate!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

brought peace to his own soul. But he knew that he was not properly fit to speak to others with any authority. He felt a lack in his own experience; he needed something more, a still greater change.

Although Kaboo knew he had been forgiven for his past sins, the dark scenes of his childhood were still vivid in his mind. He hated those who had tortured him. He had many scars from his cruel treatment as a pawn. His mind was filled with fear and hatred during those years of severe suffering. The degradation he had undergone gave him a hopeless feeling of inferiority. Ignorant and outcast, he could see no future for himself short of another miracle.

Kaboo did not know that God has provided just such another miracle for every believer through the work of the Holy Spirit. He did not yet understand that he needed the power of the Holy Spirit to purify his heart of all bitterness and give him power to share the gospel story with others effectively.

But Kaboo was convinced that the God who had so wonderfully rescued him could help him now. He was encouraged to keep "talking to his Father" so he spent hours praying. Night after night when his work was done he wrestled in prayer. He prayed with such an agonized voice and made so much disturbance in the bunk-house that his fellow-workers finally reached the end of their patience. They warned him that he would have to keep still or look for another place to sleep. So, to keep peace, Kaboo wentinto the woods to pray.

One night he remained in the forest until after midnight. Finally he went back to his room but his heart was still lifted up to God in prayer. Later he related what happened: "I went to my bunk, weary and heavy-hearted, and lay down to rest. My tongue was still, but my heart went on

praying. All at once my room grew light! At first I thought the sun was rising, but the others all around me were sound asleep. The room grew lighter till it was full of glory. The burden of my heart suddenly disappeared and I was filled with a sense of inner joy.

"My body felt as light as a feather. I was filled with a power that made me feel that I could almost fly. I could not contain my joy but shouted until everyone in the barracks was awake. There was no more sleep there that night!

"Some thought I had gone crazy; others, that a devil had gotten into me. But I knew my own heart. This was my adoption. I was now a son of the heavenly King. I knew then that my Father had saved me for a purpose, and that He would work with me."

So, in response to his deep longings after God, his simple faith and complete commitment to Him, the Holy Spirit came into Kaboo's heart with great power. Kaboo was baptized under the name of Samuel Morris. This name was chosen by Miss Knolls in a gesture of gratitude to an American banker of that name who, during her missionary training years, had assisted her financially. At that time she could not know what an honor this dark namesake would bring to the name of the banker.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In Bethlehem. 2. Wise men. 3. Herod. 4. It was written by the prophet. 5. What time the star appeared. 6. To find the Child, then come and tell him where he was. 7. It went before them until it came and stood over where the Child was. 8. They worshiped Him and gave Him gifts. 9. They were warned of God to not return to Herod.)



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Spiritual Leadership

(Continued from last week.)

Kaboo, whose new name was Samuel Morris, lived in Liberia for about two years after his baptism. When he left the plantation he went to work in Monrovia at odd jobs such as painting houses. His earnings were barely enough to meet his basic needs, but Sammy was happy. He was interested in learning all he could about God.

Whenever Sammy heard about a missionary, he went to talk with them. While he worked for them, he learned many of their religious songs by heart. He could sing them with deep feeling even though he did not know the meaning of some of the words. Before long he was known as the most consecrated and zealous Christian in that part of Liberia.

Not long after his own conversion he led another young boy to accept Christ as his Savior. By a remarkable coincidence this young African boy had escaped from the same cruel chieftain who had held Samuel as a pawn. He had been present at the final torture of Kaboo. He saw the mysterious flash of light and even heard the voice commanding Kaboo to run for his life!

This boy was an ordinary slave so he was of little value compared to Kaboo who was a chief's pawn. It had been comparatively easy for him to escape. He could travel safely by day along a conventional route without fear. He was baptized under the name of Henry O'Neil. Henry could confirm Kaboo's testimony of his miraculous escape from pawn since he witnessed it. Their joint testimony made a great impression upon the people of Monrovia.

Already Samuel Morris began to show that he had been given an amazing power of spiritual leadership for which he was well known later. The following incident shows his unique method of influencing others, not by sermons or arguments or by any human force, but simply by invoking the Holy Spirit to act for him.

Three women in Monrovia agreed to conduct prayer-meetings lasting from midnight to daylight. Their purpose was to bring a spiritual awakening to their entire community. But they lacked a convert whose example might encourage others to be saved. One night a boy came where they were praying. He prayed for hours, lying face down in front of the pulpit. The women supposed that he was praying to be saved. This was their first new convert! They hurried out to bring the good news to others. When they returned they found that the boy was Samuel Morris. He was praying, not for himself, but for others. His prayers



Spiritual Leadership

Acts 2:38-39

38 When Peter said unto them. Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ve shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Acts 3:2, 6-8

- 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:
- 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 ancle bones received strength.
- 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

Acts 4:1, 3-4, 18-19, 21

- 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: for it was now eventide.

- 4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.
- 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
- 21 Sowhentheyhad furtherthreatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people; for all men glorified God for that which was done.

The Message: After receiving the Holy Spirit, Peter preached boldly that Jesus was the Christ.

Questions:

- 1. What must we first do to be saved?
- 2. What gift will God give those who believe and obey?
- 3. To who is the gift promised?
- 4. What was wrong with the man who lay at the gate of the temple?
- 5. What did he ask for?
- 6. What was it that Peter did not have?
- 7. In whose name did Peter command him to rise up and walk?
- 8. How many believed because of this miracle?
- 9. What did the rulers and leaders command them?'

Verse to Memorize

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John....they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13.



Just before Jesus returned to heaven He told His disciples, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49. Obediently one hundred and twenty believers gathered into an upstairs room. Here they waited and prayed expectantly for the gift of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised.

Ten days after Jesus ascended to heaven was the day the Jews celebrated Pentecost. Strangers from all over the world came to Jerusalem for this important feast. People who spoke many different languages gathered at the temple to thank God for their good harvest.

Meanwhile, as they waited in the upper room, the followers of Jesus suddenly heard a sound from heaven like a strong wind blowing. The sound filled the whole house where they were gathered. Then, as they looked at each other, they saw something like a tongue of fire over each one's head. They were all filled with the precious gift of the Holy Spirit and every one of them began to speak boldly in various languages, telling the story of Jesus. People from many nations and different languages heard the gospel in words that they could understand. "What does this mean?" the amazed people asked.

Then Peter, the one who had denied that he even knew Jesus, though it was only a girl who asked him, spoke boldly. Standing where everyone could see him, he preached to them about Jesus. As a result three thousand people accepted Jesus as their Savior.

One day as Peter and John were going into the temple to pray they saw a crippled beggar lying by the gate. When the man asked for some money, the two apostles stopped and looked at him. The lame man looked at them, expecting to receive a coin. "Silver and gold have I none." Peter told the man, "but what I have I give toyou." Then he commanded, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

Peter then reached down, took the surprised man by the hand and lifted him up. At oncestrength came into his feet and ankles that had never walked before. The man jumped up, walking and praising God as he went into the temple with Peter and John!

Soon a crowd gathered. They recognized the lame man and wondered how Peter and John had made him able to walk and jump as he was doing now. They decided Peter and John must be gods.

"Why do you look at us as though by our own power or holiness we made this man walk?" Peterasked the people. Then he again boldly preached to them about Jesus and His power to save them if they would repent and believe. Many who heard his message believed. Of those who heard his words, five thousand people gave their hearts to Jesus.

The priests and Sadducees were angrywhen they found Peter and John preaching to the people. They were determined to stop them so they had them put in jail until they could decide what to do with them.

The next day Peter and John were brought out for questioning. Peter boldly answered their questions. Beside him were John and the man who had been crippled, perfectly well and beaming with joy and happiness. They could see that a great miracle had been done and many people had seen it. All they could downs threaten them and demand that they stop teaching about Jesus.

—Sis Nelda Sorrell

were heard. Soon fifty young people accepted Christ at the following meetings.

One missionary told Sammy that he needed an education in order to become an effective minister to his own people. To get such an education he would have to go to America. Although Sammy did not possess a cent of money he hoped that the Lord would somehow provide the hundred dollars needed to take him across the ocean. But his final determination to go to America was caused by a desire for something far more important than book learning.

The sermons of the missionaries to people like him had been very simple. They stressed salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. but said little about the Holy Spirit. One day a Spirit-filled missionary read the 14th chapter of St. John to Sammy. He heard them read where Jesus first announced to His disciples the coming of a new and powerful Helper, the Holy Spirit. Sammy had already experienced the blessing of this divine Spirit in his own heart. But this was the first time his head had been introduced to the name and full significance of the Holy Spirit.

When he first understood that this Spirit works here on earth, and is an actual, living Person, he had no words adequate to express his amazement and happiness. He found it easy to attribute the mysterious voice that had led to his escape from pawn to God's Spirit who spoke to him, just as God spoke to young Samuel of old, before he knew the voice of the Lord. He made long journeys to talk to missionaries about the Holy Ghost. The 14th chapter of St. John became Sammy's constant study.

He came so often to visit the missionaries and asked so many hard questions about the Spirit that one finally confessed: "I have told you

everything I know about the Holy Ghost." But he persisted, "Who told you what you know about the Holy Ghost?" She replied that she owed most of her understanding of this subject to Stephen Merritt.

Samuel then asked, "Where is Stephen Merritt?"

The missionary replied: "In New York."

Samuel Morris promptly declared, "I will go to see him!"

Without further ceremony he started on his way, running directly to the sea coast. He no longer bothered his head about getting the hundred dollars for the passage money. The Holy Spirit was more important than money; He would provide the way. When he arrived, a sailing ship was anchored in the bay. He was filled with joy. He was sure his Father had answered his prayers!

A small boat put out from the ship and came ashore carrying the captain and some of the crew. When the captain stepped ashore to attend to the loading of the cargo, he was confronted by an unattractive black boy, who said: "My Father told me you would take me to New York to see Stephen Merritt."

The captain said, "Where is your father?"

Samuel Morris replied simply, "In heaven."

The captain was a very gruff man. He said, with an oath, "My ship does not carry passengers. You must be crazy."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Repent. 2. The Holy Ghost. 3. To everyone. 4. He was lame. 5. Alms (money). 6. Silver and gold. 7. Jesus Christ of Nazareth. 8. Five thousand. 9. To not speak nor teach in the name of Jesus.)



Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 5, 2006

A Columbus Of The Spirit

(Continued from last week.)

Samuel Morris knew God would make a way for him to go to New York so he could learn more about the Holy Spirit. When he saw a ship at anchor he felt sure this was the way he was to go. But the captain of the ship told him gruffly that he did not carry passengers.

Sammy would not give up. He stood guard near the small boat all day. That night, when the captain returned to the boat, Samuel Morris again begged him to take him to New York. The captain threatened to kick him if he did not leave. The boat returned to the ship without him but Samuel continued to believe his Father's promise to take him to New York.

He slept on the sand where the small boat had landed and prayed again most of the night. The next day he was again refused, but he still had faith that this ship was the one he was supposed to sail on. He would not leave the beach although he had had nothing to eat for two days. The next morning was Sunday. The captain and crew came to shore again. When the captain stepped ashore this time, the Kru boy hurried up to him,

saying: "My Father told me last night that you would take me this time."

The captain looked at Sammy in amazement. Two of the crew had deserted the ship the previous night, leaving him short-handed. He recognized that Sammy was a Kru and assumed that he was an experienced sailor, as were so many of his countrymen. "How much pay doyouwant?" he asked. "Just take me to New York to see Stephen Merritt," replied Sammy. The captain turned to the boat crew and told them to take the boy out to the ship. Samuel Morris was delighted. His prayers were heard! Samuel Morris was possibly the first explorer to sail the Atlantic in quest of the riches of the Holy Spirit. The New World was discovered by Columbus but he gained only perishable, physical things. Samuel Morris adventured forth to find the New World of the Spirit which would never end.

Sammy's own voyage was as dangerous and thrilling as that of Columbus. He spent nearly six months on board that vessel. The ship was a tramp vessel owned by its captain. The captain was not sailing straight to America. He would make many stops along the coast to trade until he had a full cargo.

When Sammy boarded the ship hesawayoung man lying helpless on the deck. He had been serving as



The Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-8, 11-14, 16-18

- 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
- 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.
- 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
- 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?
- 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.
- 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another. What meaneth this?
- 13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

- 14 But 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:
- **16** But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
- 17 ...I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
- 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

The Message: The disciples received power to witness and work for Jesus after they received the Holy Spirit.

Questions:

- 1. On what day did the disciples receive the Holy Ghost?
- 2. Whatkind of noisedid they hear?
- 3. What sat upon each of them?
- 4. What did they do as soon as they were filled with the Holy Ghost?
- 5. Why were the people amazed?
- 6. What did they hear them speak about in their own tongues?
- 7. Who stood up and preached?
- 8. What prophet told of the coming of the Holy Ghost?
- 9. Whatdidhe say the peoplewould do when the Spirit was poured out on them?

Verse to Memorize

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:...

Acts 1:8.



Christopher Columbus was willing to risk his life and the lives of his crew members in an attempt to find a shorter route to India. The spices from India were in great demand. Columbus knew that if he could find a shorter route he could become a wealthy man. He believed that he could reach India by sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean.

Samuel Morris was just as willing to risk his life to cross the Atlantic Ocean. But he was not interested in becoming wealthy. He was eager to find out more about the Holy Spirit. He had no idea where New York was nor how far, but he believed that God would make a way for him to get there. He was told that Stephen Merritt, who lived in New York, could tell him more about the Holy Spirit. He was determined to get there. His faith was strong and he had only this one purpose in mind. He was not discouraged even though the captain refused to take him on his ship. He would sail to New York and he was confident this was the ship he would sail on! He slept on the sand, did without food and spent much of the time in prayer waiting for God to open the way for him to board the ship.

What Sammy had heard about the Holy Spirit convinced him that this was the greatest treasure a man could possess—God's gift from heaven. He was willing to make any sacrifice and pay any price to obtain it!

Can you think of anything more wonderful than having Jesus with you every day? The disciples couldn't.

They enjoyed watching Jesus working miracles and blessing the people. They listened carefully when He spoke and were amazed at His wisdom. While He was with them, they felt safe and happy.

But then Jesus began telling them that He was going back to His Father. He saw the sadness come over them. He quickly explained that it was much better for them if He did go away because then He would send the Holy Spirit to them. He began to explain to them how this would be a great benefit to them.

Jesus told the disciples that He must die. Though they could not understand now, He tried to explain that it was necessary because the power of sin and the devil over their hearts could only be broken by the shedding of His righteous blood.

Then the Holy Spirit would actually come into their hearts. His great power would destroy the seed of sin that was planted in every heart when Adam disobeyed God. Instead He would make the clean heart His home! Then the devil would have no claim to their heart. He would give them power to say, "NO!" when the devil tempted them to sin.

When you read the book of Acts you will see how the disciples were transformed after they received the Holy Spirit. Peter was changed from a coward who denied that he even knew Jesus to a man who was not afraid to tell about Him even when he was threatened and thrown in prison.

We must have this same power. Through the blood of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. But we must have the Holy Spirit to keep us saved and free from sin. Our lives will also be transformed when we invite the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and possess us completely. He will actually come into our clean, consecrated heart to live there forever!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

cabin-boy for the captain when he was severely injured. Now he was unable to walk. The black boy knelt down beside him and prayed for him. God answered Sammy's prayer and healed him! The young man immediately got up and walked.

The young man learned that Samuel had not eaten since Thursday evening and this was Sunday noon. He led Sammy to the dining room but the cook refused to serve him because the captain had not given orders to feed him. So, Sammy's newfound friend managed to get food for himself. This he gladly shared.

When the captain came out to the ship that night, he questioned Samuel and soon found that he had never been on a ship and knew nothing about sailing. He told Sammy that he would have to be put ashore at once because he would probably be seasick all the time and unable to work. The ship was a very rough-riding vessel.

Sammy assured the captain that he would not get sick and would work for him every day until he reached New York. The young man who had been healed came up and begged: "Please take him, captain. Look what he has done for me!" That night they weighed anchor. Sammy was on his way to a New World.

Life aboard this ship was a continuous round of cruelty. Almost every word was accompanied by an oath, a kick, or a slap. The captain was a hard bargainer and a harsh master. He had been hardened by many ruthless encounters. At his command any one aboard his ship could be put to death. Everyone lived in dread of him.

The crew was a mixed group of men from different parts of the world. Sammy was the only one of his race aboard ship and the whole crew resented his presence and began to plan how they could do away with him. They showed their hatred every chance they got.

On their third night out to sea Sammy was lashed to a spar in the ship's rigging where he could help man the sails. That night a tropical storm came up suddenly. There was no time to pull in the sails so all they could do was to ride out the storm. Sammy prayed: "Father, I am not afraid, for I know that You will take care of me. But, I don't like to be on the mast. Won't you please make it so that I won't have to come up here?" He felt assured that his prayer would be answered, but his faith was sorely tried.

The spar to which he was tied was often under water or drenched with spray. Sammy swallowed so much seawater that he became deathly ill. When he was at last untied and brought down to the foot of the mast. he fell in a heap. The captain came up to him and kicked him. The deck was still awash and the ship was rolling and pitching heavily. Sammy got to his knees, sick as he was, and with uplifted hands prayed: "Father, you know I promised to work for this man every day till I got to America. I cannot work when I am sick like this. Please take away this sickness." Then he rose to his feet and went back to his work. He was never sick again on that ship!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Pentecost. 2. Like a mighty rushing wind. 3. Cloven tongues like fire. 4. They began to speak in other languages. 5. Because every man heard the message in his own language. 6. The wonderful works of God.

7. Peter. 8. Joel. 9. Prophesy.)





Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 12, 2006

Mastering A Brutal Seaman

(Continued from last week.)

The next day after Sammy was healed of seasickness, he was about to go back up on the mast when the cabin boy came up to him, saying, "Sam, I heard you praying during that storm that you would not have to go back up on the mast. I don't like it below the decks, and you are not trained to work in rigging. Let's trade places." God had answered another prayer for him!

When Sammy reported to the captain for duty, the latter was drunk. He showed his hatred for Sammy by knocking him to the floor unconscious. By the time Sammy regained consciousness the captain was more sober. Sammy got up and started about his work as cheerfully as if nothing had happened. When Sammy asked the captain if he knew about Jesus, vague memories of his mother and childhood days stirred in his mind. Sammy knelt down and prayed for the captain with such sincerity and fervor that he was moved to bow his head in spite of himself. It was the beginning of a period of conviction.

The severe storm that had just passed had badly wrenched the superstructure of the ship. The hull had opened many seams and was leaking badly. A small island was sighted nearby, and they anchored there to make repairs.

While the carpenters and caulkers were busy, the rest of the crew had to man the pumps to keep the ship afloat. Sammy was posted at one of the pumps which must be kept going night and day. The task was a hard one for an able-bodied, seasoned sailor. Sammy was a small, frail boy in his teens. Yet he was forced to pump along with the strongest. He pumped and prayed, and prayed and pumped.

The crew was furnished rum to keep up their courage and deaden the pains of fatigue. Sammy was offered rum also, but he said that his Father in heaven would give him strength. For two weeks they pumped. Sammy's strength was tried to the fainting point, but the Holy Spirit gave him the strength and endurance he lacked by nature.

Everyone was overjoyed when they hoisted anchor again for the open sea. The captain issued an extra ration of rum to the crew. They were so filled and fired up with the crude liquor that late that afternoon a free-for-all fight started. It was a meaningless brawl caused by racial prejudices. Abig Malay, who thought someone had insulted him, seized a cutlass and rushed at some of his ship-



Conquering A Giant

I Samuel 17:4, 10-11, 32, 40-41, 44-46, 48-51

4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were...greatly afraid.

32 And David said to Saul....thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones...and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David....

44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air. and to the beasts of the field.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head

from thee;...that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

48 ...David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philis-

ine.

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 ... But there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith....

The Message: The Lord will fight for us if we will put our battles in His hand!

Questions:

- What was the name of the Philistine champion?
- 2. Who did the giant defy?
- 3. Who was afraid when they heard the champion?
- 4. Who volunteered to fight the giant?
- 5. What weapons did he carry?
- 6. What did the giant threaten to do with him?
- 7. In whose name did David fight?
- 8. How many stones did it take to knock the giant down?
- 9. How did David cut off the giant's head?

Verse to Memorize

...If God be for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:31.



When we put our trust in God, He will watch over us and protect us. David faced the giant in the name of God, the Lord of hosts. When we have given our hearts to Jesus and have the Holy Spirit living in us we can face all the evil powers of the devil safely in the name of Jesus.

Sammy boldly stood up to the brutal killer, stepping between him and his intended victims. He didn't flinch even when the killer raised his sword to cut him in pieces. As Sammy looked him straight in the eye without making a move to defend himself, he recognized that he was facing a power stronger than him and his weapon.

Years after he killed the giant David wrote, "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalm 118:6.) With the Lord on our side we can be as bold and confident as Sammy was.

Enemies can do nothing to us except what God allows them to do. They have no weapon nor power that can separate us from God and God can make anything they do work out for our good even though they intended to harm us.

A Would-Be Murderer's Arm Paralyzed

A prominent minister in Canada told the following remarkable incident that shows how God miraculously cares for His people. He said, "I am frequently impressed by the Holy Spirit to do things that, at the time, made no sense. These impressions are so vivid that I don't dare to disobey them.

Sometime ago, on a stormy night, I was suddenly impressed to go to the home of an elderly couple who lived a distance from me. I was instructed to go there and pray. The call was so forceful that I harnessed the horse immediately and drove to their home. When I got there I tied the horse up under the shed and, finding a door open. I went into the house without disturbing anyone. Then, kneeling down. I began to pour out my petitions to God in an audible voice. I prayed for divine protection over the elderly couple. Then I got up, got on my horse and rode home.

"Months after this I visited one of the main prisons in Canada. As I was moving among the prisoners one of them approached me claiming that he knew me. I could not remember ever meeting theman and was startled when he said, 'Do you remember going to the elderly couples' home one night and offering prayer for them in the dark?' I told him I did and asked how he could know anything about it.

"He said, 'I had gone to that house to steal some money that I knew the old manhad. When you drove into the yard I thought you were he and intended to kill you while you were hitching up your horse. But I realized when you spoke to the horse that you were a stranger.

"I followed you into the house and heard your prayer. You prayed God to protect the old people from violence of any kind, and especially from murder. You prayed that if there was any hand uplifted to strike them, that it might be paralyzed."

"Then the prisoner pointed to his right arm which hung lifeless by his side saying, 'Do you see that arm? It was paralyzed on the spot and I have never moved it since. Of course I left the place without doing any harm! I am in prison now for other crimes I committed."

-Taken from Touching Incidents

mates with murder in his heart. Sammy stepped between the Malay and his intended victims and said in his quiet way: "Don't kill, don't kill."

This very Malay had boasted to the crew that he intended to kill Sammy. He had a special hatred for all blacks. He had killed many Africans in previous encounters. He was a killer of the most dangerous type. Even the captain stayed clear of him.

As Sammy advanced to meet him, he raised his weapon and scowled at the boy as if he would cut him to pieces. Here was his opportunity to make good his threat. But Sammy looked him straight in the eye, and made no movement to defend himself. The Malay slowly lowered his weapon and went back to his bunk. This Godless ruffian recognized that he was face to face with a power stronger than man.

Atthat moment the captain, hearing the turmoil, came on deck with a pistol in each hand ready to shoot down the troublemakers. When he saw that the crew had suddenly stopped fighting because Sammy had interceded, he recognized that this African boy possessed a mysterious power that was stronger than the animal passions of the most brutal of men. He went below deckwith Sammy who dropped to his knees and prayed for the entire crew. For the first time the captain joined in prayer, a prayer of thanksgiving that the Lord had sent such an ambassador of peace among them. In that moment he repented of his sins and found newness of life. He was the first of many Christian converts Sammy made aboard that ship.

Sammy found the captain's cabin a dark and dismal den. Sammy gave that cabin a baptism of soap and water. One of Sammy's sayings was, "The Spirit will not dwell where filth abides." The captain was pleased,

and showed his "new quarters" to the ship's officers.

Gradually, Sammy won the captain's heart completely. At first he had been annoyed by Sammy's frequent prayers; now, he stood silently. cap in hand, while Sammy prayed. Under this new influence, the captain no longer paid his crew with rum. Serious fights among the crew stopped. Now, the captain would call his crew to quarters for prayers. On such occasions Sammy's clear, strong voice and the songs he had learned by heart, played a great part in winning the good will of the crew. When off duty captain and crew would sit for hours and listen to him sing those soul-stirring songs which never lost their power and charm. As Sammy would sing, voice after voice would catch up the melody of the chorus until everyone would come under the spell of the gracious words.

The cutthroat Malay, who had threatened Samuel Morris, took dangerously ill. He sank so low that it seemed there was no hope for his recovery. Sammy did not know his language and had nothing in common with him. But when he heard of his illness, he went to his bunk and prayed for him. He was healed. This burly rufflan had known no God and had lived only for the lusts of the flesh. He had hated the African race and never lost an opportunity to show it. All that was now changed. The Malay would have given his life for this black boy!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Goliath. 2. Thearmies of Israel. 3. Saul and all Israel. 4. David. 5. A staff, a sling and five stones. 6. Give his flesh to the birds and wild animals. 7. The Lord of hosts. 8. One. 9. With the giant's sword.)





Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 19, 2006

A Bloody Battle

(Continued from last week.)

The captain's tradewith the people on the mainland and islands had been unusually profitable. A few more stops and the captain would be ready to steer straight for New York!

Late one evening they sighted a large island. The next morning the captain decided to go ashore with a stock of merchandise to trade. He loaded the ship's boat heavily and took along a larger boat crew than usual. Something seemed to tell him that all was not well. He had armed his men and instructed the lookout in the crow's nest to scan the shore carefully at all times, and to wigwag him if anything unusual took place. When the boat was about halfway between the ship and shore, the lookout sawhundreds of people approaching the beach carrying long, light, narrow boats, which they shot out into the sea like so many arrows. The lookout signaled the captain to return to the ship.

The captain started back but his loaded craft was no match for the long, light boats. Soon they were close astern and some, shooting close alongside, prevented the crew from using their oars. The natives expected to capture the boat, the ship, and its

entire cargo without a struggle. Their leaderwas a wicked white man. Some weeks before this time he had led his followers in a successful mass attack upon an outbound trading ship loaded with rum and other goods.

Emboldened by that success, they now hoped to repeat their maneuver. But Sammy's captain was shrewd enough to take advantage of their overconfidence. As they swarmed around, he and his crew opened fire on them at such close range that every shot took its toll. This threw them into a panic so the boat crew was able to fight its way back within gunshot of the ship. The crew on the ship then poured a withering fire into the attackers. The captain and crew managed to climb aboard, though they could not hoist the boat.

But while the ship's crew was engaged in the rescue of the captain and his boat crew, another group headed by their white leader began to board the ship on the farther side. The vessel was heavily laden and riding low. They had made boarding ladders of ropes, and were soon fastening them to the rail of the ship on every side. Their leader was among the first to reach the deck. He spoke English. Approaching the captain he shouted a demand for the surrender of the ship. But the ship's crew had



The Battle Is The Lord's

II Chronicles 20:2, 3-4, 12-13, 15, 17, 20-25

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee...

3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD:...

12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

15 And he said...Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD...fear not, nor be dismayed; to-morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

20 ...Jehoshaphat stood and said...Believeinthe LORD your God, so shall ye be established:...

21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD....

22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children

of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

24 ...And. behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 ...And they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

The Message: God has all power and might. He will fight our battles if we trust and obey Him.

Questions:

- What did Jehoshaphat do when he heard a great army was coming against him?
- 2. Why did all the people of Judah gather together?
- 3. Who did they ask to judge their enemies?
- 4. Who stood before the Lord?
- 5. Why didn't Jehoshaphat need to fear the great enemy?
- 6. What did the Lord do when the people began to sing and praise Him?
- 7. How many of the enemy army escaped?
- 8. How was the enemy army destroyed?
- 9. Why did it take three days to gather the spoil?

Verse to Memorize

...The battle is not yours, but God's.

II Chronicles 20:15.



The captain and his crew were greatly outnumbered by the islanders who were intent on capturing the ship on which Sammy was a passenger. They pulled alongside the ship in their fast canoes and were soon swarmingontothe deckfromall sides. Then, when it looked like hope was lost, the wind began to blow so hard that the ship rolled from side to side. lifting the sides high out of the water. This made it impossible for more of their enemies to come on board. Finally they got rid of those who had already boarded the ship. The battle was finally over!

The captain told Sammy that it was his prayers that saved them. They had been outnumbered ten to one by their vicious enemies who were armed with knives and clubs. If the wind had not sprung up just when it did they would surely have lost the ship and their lives too.

Jehoshaphat, too, was greatly outnumbered by the great army that was coming against him. His army was no match for the great numbers marching against him. He could never drive back this host of invaders. But He trusted in God. He knew that God could intervene for them in an extraordinary way and deliver them by His strong arm of power.

The need was urgent; he did not have long to prepare for the attack! He did not waste time gathering his army and getting them in order. Instead he called all his subjects, men, women and even little children, to come to Jerusalem. Together they

called on God through fasting and prayer. They must know that God was on their side because He was the only one who could save them.

In his prayer Jehoshaphat reminded the Lord that He had commanded the Israelites to not invade the land of these enemies. "Now look how they reward us!" Jehoshaphat continued. "They have come to cast us out of the possession which You gave us. O our God, won't You judge them? We have no might against this great company that comes against us, nor do we know what to do! But our eves are upon You."

God heard that prayer and spoke to them through Jahaziel, a prophet. "Don't be afraid or alarmed because of this great multitude," he assured them. "The battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow gooutagainst them. The Lord will be with you!"

Obediently Jehoshaphat and the people got up early to meet the enemy. They were so firmly convinced that God would fight for them that singers went before the army praising God for His holiness and mercy.

When they reached the watchtower in the wilderness they looked out over the enemy. Imagine their amazement when they saw that instead of a great army prepared to fight, they were all dead bodies! No one had escaped! As the people were singing and praising Him, God had caused the enemy to fight among themselves until every one helped destroy the other.

This was very different from the bloody hand-to-hand battle Sammy's captain and crew had to fight! All Jehoshaphat and his people had to do was gather the spoil. There was such an abundance of riches and precious jewels it took them three days to gather it. They spent the fourth day thanking the Lord for His great deliverance. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

had time to make preparations for the expected battle. Armed men had been posted high up in the rigging. One of them shot the leader and he was thrown overboard. Some of his followers however dashed for the hatch and reached the hold of the ship, expecting to loot it.

Sammy was standing by the captain's side when the renegade white man was shot. When the captain saw the natives going into the hold of the ship, he ordered Sammy to go to his cabin, lock and bolt the door on the inside, and guard the ship's valuables. He hoped this plan would also keep Sammy out of harm's way.

The crew fastened down the hatches so that those already in the hold could not get out. Then the crew turned their attention to the others who, by this time, were swarming onto the deck from all sides. Sammy could see no more of the fighting, but he could hear the crack of the guns, the thud of men falling to the deck. and the cries and groans of the wounded. It was a fight to the death. About midday a stiff breeze sprang up, and the ship began to roll so that it could no longer be boarded. The gunfire ceased. Soon Sammy could hear the click, click of the anchor chains as they wound round the capstan. The ship began to move. For hours afterward, he could hear the tramp of heavy, booted feet on the deck, and then the splash of bodies falling into the sea. It was nightfall before Sammy heard the hatches opening and the crew coming down into the hold of the ship to seize looters who had imbibed their fill of rum and were easily overcome.

The captain then went to his cabin and signaled Sammy to unlock the door. When the door swung open, the captain staggered into the room. He was completely exhausted from loss of blood and the long, terrific struggle. He sank to the floor in a faint. Sammy pulled him into his bunk, and bathed and dressed his wounds as best he could. Then he knelt down beside the bed and poured out his very soul in prayer for his friend.

The captain revived while Sammy was praying. "Sammy!" he said, "Your prayers have saved us. We were outnumbered ten to one. Few of the enemy had firearms but they all had knives or war clubs. If the wind had not sprung up so that the ship rolled and dragged her anchors, they would have swarmed over us like ants."

The next morning was a sad one for all aboard the ship. Many of the crew had been severely wounded, and several had been killed. Sammy's grief was heavy when he saw the bodies of friends whom he had learned to love dropped into the sea. But he was soon too busy for sorrow. To the living he became physician, nurse and comforter throughout the remainder of the voyage. His cheerfulness and his complete faith in God's Providence soon transformed the spirit of the ship. All went about their tasks willingly without the usual oaths and slaps.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. He set himself to seek the Lord and proclaimed a fast. 2. To ask help of the Lord. 3. God. 4. All Israel. 5. The battle was the Lord's; He would fight for them. 6. He set ambushes against the enemy. 7. None. 8. Each killed the other. 9. There was more than they could carry at one time.)





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New York At Last!

(Continued from last week.)

At last the tramp ship reached New York. Sammy had been aboard for about five months. He had come on board wearing only a jumper and overalls; he had no shoes. He had worked for his passage. The crew took up a collection of clothing and pieced together a suit for him with cap and shoes so that he could go ashore decently dressed. They had come to love Sammy and wanted to show him their appreciation.

Sammy was all excitement as the harbor came in sight. The hardships and suffering were all forgotten. Everyone aboard that ship, even the once bloodthirsty Malay, was now his friend. As they all shook hands with Sammy for the last time many of these hardened men wept like children. God's ambassador had been with them. Through him they had come to realize that there is a personal, prayeranswering God.

Itwas again Friday, Sammy's original Deliverance Day, when the ship sailed into the dock at the foot of Pike Street on the East River. He was the first to go down the gangplank when it was lowered. A man was just passing as he reached the dock. Sammy at once hailed the stranger with the ques-

tion, "Where can I find Stephen Merritt?"

The passer-by had met Stephen Merritt at his mission. He promptly answered, "I know him; he lives away over on Eighth Avenue—on the other side of town. I'll take you to him for a dollar."

The ship had docked more than three miles from the mission, in a district where no one knew Stephen Merritt. Yet the Holy Spirit had just the right man there when Sammy set foot on land. Mr. Merritt would have been very difficult to find otherwise.

Sammy did not have a penny to his name, but he accepted the tramp's offer. He was confident that God was leading him; somehow the dollar would be produced! The tramp led Sammy along many streets and through great crowds of busy, hurrying people. It was getting dark when they reached Mr. Merritt. He had closed the office and was just locking the door when they came up. The guide said, "There is Stephen Merritt, that man who is putting the key in the door."

Samuel ran forward, exclaiming: "I am Samuel Morris. I have just come from Africa to talk with you about the Holy Ghost."

Merritt was both amazed and amused at this odd greeting. He asked Sammy if he had any letters of introduction.



Paul's Journey Toward Rome

Acts 27:1-13

- 1 And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one namedJulius, a centurion of Augustus' band.
- **2** And entering into a ship...we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia;...
- **3** And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself.
- **4** And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary.
- **5** And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia.
- 6 And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us therein.
- 7 And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone;
- 8 And, hardly passing it, cameunto a place which is called The fair havens;...
- 9 Nowwhen much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them, 10 And said unto them, Sirs, I per-

10 And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of

the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

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

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

13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had ob-

tained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete. The Message: Soon after his arrest, God told Paul that he must

bear witness of Him in Rome, also.

Questions:

1. It was determined that they should

- sail to what country?
- 2. Towhom did they deliver Paul and other prisoners?
- 3. What courtesy did Julius show Paul?
- 4. Why were they forced to sail so slowly?
- 5. What was the name of the place they came to?
- 6. Who warned that the trip would be dangerous and with much damage?
- 7. Who did the centurion believe more than Paul?
- 8. Where did they hope to spend the winter?
- 9. Why did they decide it was safe to sail?

Verse to Memorize

...The Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of mein Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

Acts 23:11.



"This man has done nothing to deserve death or even imprisonment," King Agrippa and Festus concluded. "He could be set free if he had not appealed to Caesar!"

But Paul knew he had done the right thing. The Jews were trying to get him back to Jerusalem under any pretense. They were still determined to kill him.

While Paul was in the prison at Jerusalem, the Lord appeared to him one night just after he had been arrested. "Be of good cheer, Paul," He had said, "as you have testified of me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness of me in Rome also." This was good news to Paul. He had wanted to go to Rome for a long time so he could preach there also.

The authorities began making preparations to send Paul to Rome to stand trial. He, along with other prisoners, was turned over to a Roman centurion named Julius. Festus ordered Julius and his soldiers to take the prisoners safely to Rome and deliver them to Caesar. So, finding a ship sailing toward Italy, Julius put the prisoners on board. As the ship sailed out into the open sea, Paul knew that he would never see his beloved homeland again. It was a great comfort to have Luke and Aristarchus sailing with him.

The next day the ship stopped at Sidon. Paul had already won the respect of Julius. He knew he could be trusted so he gave Paul permission to go ashore with his friends, Luke and Aristarchus, along with a

soldier guard. They had time for a short visit with the Christians there. This greatly refreshed them and gave Paul new courage.

The ship docked at Myra. This was its last stop so everyone had to get off. Julius found another ship ready to sail for Italy so he had the soldiers and their prisoners board this ship. It set sail and soon they were back in the great Mediterranean Sea.

But sailing was not good. There were strong winds but they were coming from the wrong direction. So they made very little progress because the wind was against them. It was late in the season. It would soon be too dangerous for any ship to be at sea because of the boisterous winds. They must get to a safe port soon!

Finally they were able to make their way into a place called Fair Havens and anchor in the bay. This was not a good place to spend the winter but anyone who knew the sea was aware of the dangers. It was almost impossible to reach Rome now. They must choose some sheltered harbor and winter there.

Paul's advice was to stay right where they were, in Fair Havens. He toldJulius and the owner of the ship, "Sirs, this will be a dangerous voyage. If you sail now there will be injury and much damage."

But the owner of the ship thought they could make it further. Julius was anxious to get closer to Rome and the other men wanted a better place to spend the winter so they ignored Paul's advice. They agreed that they would risk it as far as Phenice.

A sudden shift in the wind decided the matter. The strong north wind switched to a soft south breeze. It was all they needed, they took this as a good sign they could sail. The ship glided out of the harbor and into the calm sea. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"No, I had no time to wait," replied Sammy.

Stephen Merrittkindly told Sammy that he had to rush to an appointment. He did not have a minute to spare to talk to him right now. But he told him to step into the mission next door and wait; he would come back and find a place for him to spend the night.

Sammy started for the mission when the tramp who had guided him called out, "Where is my dollar?" Sammy, who never doubted the Providence of his heavenly Father, merely waved his hand in the direction of Stephen Merritt, saying, "Stephen Merritt pays all my bills now." Merritt smilingly handed the dollar to the tramp and got into his coach.

Stephen Merritt kept his appointment and then went home. As he was leaving his coach, he suddenly remembered the African boy and had his coachman drive him back to the mission. He was surprised to find Sammy surroundedby seventeen men who were kneeling. He had just told them about Jesus and they had accepted Him as their Savior. They were all rejoicing in His pardon. On his first night in America this young African, who could scarcely speak English, had brought over a dozen souls to Christi

Stephen Merritt, who was deeply moved by this extraordinary sight, took Sammy home with him in his coach after the group had been dismissed. It was his first ride in a coach behind a fine team of prancing horses. He was thrilled. Such a team of wellmatched and finely gaited horses is a beautiful sight for any eyes. But to this Kru boy, reared in the jungle and gifted with a keen appreciation for the natural beauty of living things, these spirited horses were wonderful beyond words. Merritt could hardly coax him away from them after they got to his home.

It was one o'clock in the morning when they reached his residence. Merritt showed Sammy to his room and then, since he had never slept in a real bed, showed him how to open and get into one, how to light the gas and to turn it out. As he started to leave. Sammy extended his hand to him and asked him to kneel with him in prayer. The soul of Samuel Morris was on fire. The light that had led him so far from home was to be shared with his host that night. This man. who had been preaching the Gospel for years, received a new visitation of the Holy Spirit. In those few moments of prayer by this simple boy. Stephen Merritt had a revelation of the reality and power of the Comforter such as he had never known before.

When Sammy awoke the next morning he hurriedly made up his bed, tidied the room, and then found his way down to the stables. There he immediately went to work, helping the groom care for the horses. Stephen Merritt got up late. He went to Sammy's room, but he was not there. Finally he found him in the stable. He brought him into the house and introduced him to his family just as they sat down to breakfast.

It was Sammy's first meal in America. He had to be shown how to eat the strange food. Mr. Merritt kindly directed him and he thoroughly enjoyed the fine meal. He was hungry enough; he had not eaten since Thursday evening and this was late that Saturday morning!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Italy. 2. To Julius. 3. He gave him liberty to go to his friends and refresh himself. 4. The winds were contrary. 5. The fair havens. 6. Paul. 7. The master and owner of the ship. 8. Phenice. 9. The south wind blew softly)





Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 5, 2006

A Funeral Becomes A Revival!

(Continued from last week.) Samuel Morris soon saw that Stephen Merrittwas a very busy man. His time was taken up with his work for the church. That Saturday morning, the day after Sammy's arrival, he had to conduct the funeral of a prominent man. He took Sammy along with him in the coach. On his way he stopped to pick up two distinguished ministers who were to assist him with the funeral services. When the first of these doctors of divinity looked into the coach and saw a black boy sitting there, the minister started to draw back. He waited a moment, expecting the shabby youth to get out. Finally the ministers did get in but they were plainly shocked to have to ride with this humble African. They said nothing but their looks showed their dis-

It was embarrassing to Stephen Merritt. As a diversion he tried to entertain Sammy by pointing out all the interesting places they were passing such as Central Park, the Grand Opera House, and other notable sights. But Sammy was interested in something even more wondrous than the wonders of this great city. Putting his black hand on Merritt's knee, he said, "Did you ever pray while riding in a

approval.

coach?" Merritt answered that he had frequently had blessed times while riding about in a coach, but that he had never prayed formally.

Sammy said, "We will pray." And they did. It was the first time that Stephen Merritt had ever knelt down in a coach to pray. Sammy began at once: "Father. I have been months coming to see Stephen Merritt so that I could talk to him about the Holy Spirit. Now that I am here, he shows me the harbor, the churches, the banks and other buildings, but does not say a word about this Spirit I am so anxious to know more about. Fill him with Thyself so that he will not think, or talk, or write, or preach about anything but Thee and the Holy Spirit."

God answered prayer in a mighty way. Stephen Merritt had participated in the consecration of many missionaries, the ordination of many ministers, the installation of pastors, and the laying on of hands by holy people. But he had never experienced the burning presence of the Holy Spirit as he did while he was kneeling in that coach beside Sammy Morris who was penniless and dressed in tattered clothes. Merritt's whole life was changed in that amazing moment.

When they began their ride the two ministers had been a little ashamed to be seen riding with such



A Storm At Sea

Acts 27:14-28

14 But not long after there arose againstita tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon.

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

16 And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat:

17 Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fallinto the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven.

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

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

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

21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hear-kened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

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

23 For there stood by me this night

the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

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

25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

27 But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country;

28 And sounded, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms.

The Message: For Paul's sake the lives of all two hundred seventysix persons would be saved.

Questions:

- 1. What was Euroclydon?
- 2. Why did they let the ship drift?
- 3. Why did they lose all hope of being saved?
- 4. What did Paul tell them they should have done?
- 5. How many lives would be lost in this storm?
- 6. What would be lost?
- 7. Whohad stood by Paulthatnight?
- 8. How would they be saved, according to Paul?
- 9. On what night did the shipmen discover they were near land?

Verse to Memorize

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

Acts 27:24.



A gentle south wind was blowing when the ship carrying Paul toward Rome left the harbor at Fair Havens. They did not aim to go far, but only to another port of the same island, called Phenice, to spend the winter there. So, against Paul's advice, the captain of the ship set sail. But they had scarcely left the harbor when a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon, swept down upon them. Now there was no turning back. Nor could they make any headway against the hurricane-force wind. The ship was tossed like a cork by the angry waves. It seemed it would be torn to pieces at any minute! The owner of the ship could not help remembering Paul's advice and warning.

Since the sailors could not make it back to shore, it was safest to keep as far away from it as possible. So, heading out into the open sea, the ship was left to sail in whatever direction it was driven by the fierce wind. They did everything they could to save the ship. They strengthened it by passing four or five turns of a heavy cable round its frame. This, they hoped, would enable the ship to resist the violence of the seas.

Then they began throwing the cargo overboard. On the third day the tackling of the ship was thrown out. Now there seemed nothing else that they could do. They could only wait anxiously for the storm to pass.

Day after day the storm still howled around them. They did not see either sun or stars for many days. This dense darkness made the tempest all the more terrible. When they could see neither sun nor stars the sailors had nothing to guide them, making their situation all the more dangerous. They lost all hope of being saved from certain death!

But God was still in control and right through the storm He had His eye on Paul and those with him. One morning Paul called everyone to him. Above the roar of the storm he told them, "Sirs, if you had listened to me. this would not have happened. But be of good cheer; even though we shall lose the ship, no one will lose his life. Last night an angel of God, whose I am and whom I serve, stood by me saying, 'Fear not, Paul. You must be brought before Caesar. And God has given you all them that are with you. I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me!"

The angel's message assured Paul that he would come safely to Rome. The rage of the most stormy sea could not prevail against God's purpose. Paul's work was not finished. His life will be preserved in this danger.

Paul's words were comforting but still the storm raged on. Two weeks passed. Then one night, about midnight, the sailors discovered they were nearing land. No one knew where they were, since they had drifted on the waves for many days. They had no idea what latitude they were in, much less how to steer their course. They did not even know whether they were nearing a rocky coast or a sandy beach. Yet God, for Paul's sake, had undertaken to bring them to an island where they would find safety and refuge.

They could not see in the darkness so the sailors threw anchors overboard. They feared they would be wrecked on a rocky shoreline in the darkness. Anxiously they waited for morning to come.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

a ragged black boy. After Sammy's prayer service, it was they who felt ashamed of their own spiritual shabbiness. They decided that Sammy's ragged clothes should be changed to some more in harmony with his inner grace and power. So, at Merritt's suggestion, they stopped at a clothing store to buy a new outfit for their guest.

Stephen Merritt told the store-keeper that "nothing was too good" for this boy. He then stepped aside to send a message. When he came back he saw Sammy trying to recognize himself in a mirror. Here was a native from the heart of Africa dressed in the fashion of New York's Fifth Avenuel Merritt smilingly paid for the expensive clothes. Sammy's ragged clothes seemed too special to just be thrown away. Merritt saved them. He exhibited them in his office for many years after this.

After Sammy had been clothed more appropriately, they drove directly to the funeral. A great many people came to honor the dead. Stephen Merritt had expected a large gathering and had carefully prepared his funeral sermon. But that prayer in the coach had given him a new spirit. He forgot his prepared sermon and let the Holy Spirit speak through him. People marveled at the sermon he preached that day.

The very heavens seemed to open as he poured forth a message of tender sympathy inspired by the Comforter Himself. The other two ministers felt the same divine inspiration. In their shorter tributes they spoke with such power that, as they remarked afterward, they were surprised at their own eloquence.

The people were moved by the inspired words. They did not know that it was through this poor black boy that the power of the Holy Spirit had come on the speakers. Samuel

said nothing during the services even though it was his faith that had brought the unction from on high. He simply sat there, so filled with the Spirit that in a vision he seemed to see all the way to the threshold of heaven. He could feel the touch of angelic wings.

This solemn Christian ceremony contrast was beautiful to him. He remembered the many scenes of savage brutality that he witnessed as a child among his own tribe. He had seen his own people slaughtered like cattle and left without any kind of burial. He remembered the depraved rites of the Leopard Worshippers. He had seen other pawns and slaves tortured and killed. Not a word of comfort was spoken even if they were given a burial. He had seen sailors who died of violence dropped overboard with no more ceremony than if they had been so many stones. How different this Christian funeral was!

Then, as Samuel prayerfully watched the ceremony, man after man came forward and kneeled beside the casket though there had not been a spoken invitation to do so. They came, not to mourn the dead, but to repent of their own sins and ask forgiveness. They seemed to be drawn by the divine Light that radiated from the soul of Samuel Morris. This was one of the many unusual manifestations which so often proved that Samuel Morris possessed the superhuman power conferred only by God's own Spirit.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A tempestuous wind. 2. They could not bear up into the wind. 3. They had seen neither sun nor stars for many days and there was still a great tempest. 4. Listened to him and stayed in Crete. 5. Not one. 6. The ship. 7. An angel. 8. By being cast onto a certain island. 9. The fourteenth.)





Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 12, 2006

Sammy Goes To College

(Continued from last week.)

After the funeral, Stephen Merritt took Sammy with him in the coach to his office. On the way Sammy asked so many searching questions about the Holy Spirit that Merritt soon discovered that he was the one taught rather than being the teacher. Samuel Morr is' religious experience came from hours of "talking to his Father" in prayer. His understanding of the Holy Spirit was deeper than Merritt's studied knowledge. At the office Merritt dictated a letter to the president of Taylor University. He said that he was sending Sammy to them to get the education he needed.

The next day was Sunday. Mr. Merritt said to Sammy, "I would like you to accompany me to Sunday school today. I am the superintendent and I may ask you to speak."

Sammy answered, "I never was in a Sunday school, but all right!"

Stephen Merritt smilingly introduced him as Samuel Morris who had come from Africa to talk to their superintendent about the Holy Spirit. The school laughed. After this introduction, Merritt was called from the platform to attend to another matter. A short time later, when he returned, he was amazed to see the altar full of

young people, weeping and sobbing. Sammy was standing by the railing, praying.

Sammy himself was perfectly calm. He was unusually quiet by nature. When he prayed he always used the same matter-of-fact tone that one would use in speaking to a human friend. He just "talked to his Father"—earnestly but calmly. It was not Sammy's exact words or manner that seemed to move the people. It was the presence of the power of the Holy Spirit that was so clearly felt. The entire place was filled with His glory!

It had been decided that Sammy should have an education. So by the middle of the week he was ready to take to Taylor University. He arrived there on Friday, his Deliverance Day, his day of fasting and prayer. At the time of his arrival he was little better off than he had been when he walked down the plank from the ship as a stranger in a strange land. He had some books which he could not read, some clothing, and a few gifts of small value. He appeared to be just a poor black boy whose preparatory training had been sadly neglected.

Nevertheless, this young man soon revealed a spirit all too rare among Christians. When the college president asked him what room he wanted.



Shipwrecked!

Acts 27:30-44

30 And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship,...

31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.

32 Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off.
33 ... Paul besought them all to take meat, saying, This day is the four-teenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.

34 Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat.

36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat.

37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

38 And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.
39 And when it was day, they knew not the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.

40 And when they had taken up the anchors, they...made toward shore.

41 And falling into a place where two seas met,...the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

42 And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.
43 But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land:

44 And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

The Message: God has not promised a trouble-free life. But He has promised to always be with us and make a way for us as we follow Him.

Questions:

- 1. What were the shipmen about to do?
- 2. What did Paul tell the centurion?
- 3. What action did the soldiers take?
- 4. While they waited for daylight, what did Paul beg them to do?
- 5. How many people were on board the ship?
- 6. What happened to the ship when they came to a place where two seas met?
- 7. What was the soldiers' counsel?
- 8. Why did the centurion keep them from their purpose?

Verse to Memorize

...Forhe hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Hebrews 13:5.



The ship taking Paul to Rome was caught in a fierce storm. They had not seen the sun or the stars for many days. Since they used these to determine their direction the sailors had no idea where they were. They had lost all hope of being saved.

Then, in the night, an angel appeared to Paul and said, "Fear not, Paul. You must be brought before Caesar. And God has given you all them that are with you."

Paul was anxious to share this good news. Calling everyone together he told them the angel's message, adding, "I believe God that it shall be even as it was told me! However we will be shipwrecked onto a certain island."

God did not stop the storm. It continued to rage furiously. But finally, about midnight one night, the sailors sensed that they were getting close to land. They were afraid they would crash into rocks in the darkness so they threw out the anchors and waited for daylight.

As day began to dawn the sailors saw that there was very little chance of getting closer to land safely. They knew they would have a much better chance to escape in the small life boat. So they planned to lower the boat and board it while pretending to be casting anchors out. Paul somehow learned about their plan. Quickly he called the centurion and his soldiers and warned them, "Unless these men stay in the ship, we cannot be saved."

Julius sprang into action. Quickly he commanded one of his soldiers to

cut the rope holding the life boat. The soldier brought his sword down sharply on the rope, cutting it in two. The little boat disappeared in the darkness.

The captain of the ship thought it might be possible to steer the ship into the mouth of the creek and beach it. He gave orders to make the ship ready to sail. The battered ship lumbered toward the shore. But they did not get very far. The captain did not know the coast and in a place where two currents met, the vessel grounded on a sandbar. With a grinding noise her bow stuck fast.

The breakers beat fiercely on the stern of the boat. They could all see that there was no hope of getting it off the sandbar. The waves were still rolling in fury, and the planks of the ship were loosening.

Up in the bow of the ship the Roman soldiers were getting anxious. They knew that if their prisoners escaped they would lose their own life. So they went to Julius and said, "Sir, we cannot be responsible for our prisoners any longer. No man can swim through these angry waters chained to another. Would it not be wise to kill them all now?"

But Julius had come to know and love Paul. So, for his sake, he ordered that the prisoners' chains be taken off and everyone who could swim should make for the shore. Those who could not swim grabbed planks and broken pieces of wood. Clinging to these they were carried by the waves to shore.

As they came on shore they were a miserable band of men, weak and exhausted. But they were safe—just as the angel had told Pauli They gathered on the beach and watched the ship breaking up by the pounding of the mighty waves. They were bruised, tattered, half-drowned, and shivering in the rain; but they were safe at last!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Sammy replied, "If there is a room nobody wants, give that to me."

The man later wrote: "I turned away for my eyes were full of tears. I was asking myself whether I was willing to take what nobody else wanted. In my experience as a teacher, I have had occasion to assign rooms to more than a thousand students. Most of them were noble Christian young ladies and gentlemen, but Sammy Morris was the only one of them who ever said, 'If there is a room that nobody wants, give that to me."

However, when the president enrolled him, it was with a heavy heart. He could see no talent in this unattractive black boy; he could see only another weight added to the financial burden which was already too great to be borne. Making a strong appeal for aid, he told them about the Sammy who had arrived on Friday from Africa without a dollar to his name: how he had accepted him as a student in the faith that some would come forward to help support and educate him. The financial response to this appeal was discouraging in the extreme. It was almost a flat failure. A Mr. Thomas handed him fifty cents. But that was all!

As the president was leaving the next day, a butcher, a poor man, called to him. "I heard your appeal for help for that poor boy from Africa," he told the president. "The Spirit tells me to give to your Faith Fund." He handed him a five-dollar bill.

But he gave something even more valuable. That five-dollar bill gave him a new idea that pierced the gloom hanging over the University. The president used the butcher's phrase, and started the Samuel Morris "Faith Fund" with that five-dollar bill.

Other donors soon began to contribute to this Fund. When Sammy was informed of the increasing amounts coming in for him, hesaid to the president: "No, that money is not mine. That is God's money. I want you to use it for others more worthy than I." Samuel Morris never put a pennyof this Fund in his own pocket. He never bought anything for himself. The president paid for his meagernecessities. Hewould accept nothing else.

At one time he even came to the president and asked him if he could leave the school for a while to go out and earn money. The president was taken by surprise. Sammy explained: "I do not want to leave school. But I want to earn money enough to bring Henry O'Neil over here to be educated. He is a much better boy than I. He worked with me for Jesus in Liberia.""

The president told Sammy to pray over it and, if it was God's will, a way would be provided to bring Henry to America. Next morning, Sammy, all smiles, came to him, saying, "Henry O'Neil is coming over soon. My Father has just told me."

The president wrote Stephen Merritt about it. He learned that one of the missionaries who had been in Liberia when Sammy and Henry were doing such valuable work had just returned to St. Louis. They were making arrangement at that very time to have Henry brought over and educated. Eventually hewas brought from Africa.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Leave the ship. 2. "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved." 3. They cut the ropes and let the boat fall off. 4. To eat. 5. Two hundred seventy-six. 6. It was broken in pieces. 7. To kill all the prisoners. 8. To save Paul's life.)





Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 19, 2006

A Minister Ordained By Heaven

(Continued from last week.)

The Apostle Paul often affirmed that, unlike the other apostles, his license to preach came directly from heaven; not from men. That was true of Samuel Morris.

On the Sunday following his arrival at Taylor University, Sammy asked if there were a Negro church nearby and was told that there was. He started out to find it but it was so far from the college building that he was late in getting there. The service was already started and the minister who was in the pulpit had announced his text and was ready to preach. Sammy walked straight down the aisle through the church to the platform and went up a step or two toward the pulpit.

The minister was a very strict disciplinarian and set in his ways. Sammy's boldness was very disturbing to him. Sammy said, "I am Samuel Morris. I just came from Africa. I have a message for your people."

The minister's first impulse was to refuse him. But when he looked into Sammy's radiant face and flashing eyes, he sensed that he might truly have a message for the congregation. He asked Sammy if he had his

sermon prepared, thinking he was an ordained minister. Sammy said, "No, but I have a message."

Sammy was given the pulpit. The pastor had hardly sat down by the collection table when he heard a commotion and looked up to see the whole body of the congregation on their knees, weeping, praying, and shouting for joy. Sammy was in the pulpit, not preaching, but praying—"talking to his Father." Afterward the minister said, speaking of this occasion, "I was seized with an overpowering desire to pray. I do not remember what I said or what Sammy said, but I know my soul was on fire as never before. The light that had brought Samuel Morris out of bondage in Africa was surely shining into the hearts of our brethren there. No such visitation of the Holy Spirit had ever been witnessed by that congregation."

The meeting lasted long after the regular time. When the people finally left for their homes, they realized they had witnessed a living revelation of the Holy Ghost. Samuel Morris had spoken the language of the human soul. He had appealed to their heavenly Father from the depths of his own soul. His intercession had been uttered in absolute faith, and the Spirit was there in answer to that childlike faith. They all went home rejoicing.



Bitten By A Viper

Acts 28:1-11

- 1 And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita.
- 2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.
- 3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.
- 4 And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.
- **5** And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.
- 6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.
- 7 In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.
- 8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.

- **9** So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:
- 10 Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.
- **11** And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria...

Mark 16:17-18

- 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe....
- 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

The Message: God led Paul through the terrors of shipwreck and the bite of a deadly viper to show His power and bring the Gospel to the people of Melita.

Questions:

- 1. They made their escape to what island?
- 2. How did the island people show them kindness?
- 3. How did Paul help?
- 4. What fastened itself to his hand?
- 5. What did the people then think about Paul?
- 6. How did Paul react when he was bitten?
- 7. What did the people finally decide about Paul?
- 8. Who was Publius?
- 9. What did Paul do for Publius' father?

Verse to Memorize

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28.



Clinging desperately to pieces of wood and other debris Paul and those with him struggled toward the shore of the strange island. The natives watched anxiously from the shore. As soon as they were near enough many of the natives ran to help the strangers, lighting fires so that they could warm themselves. It was then that the shipwrecked men learned where they were. They had landed on the island of Melita, only sixty miles from Sicily, a Roman possession.

As soon as Paul got to shore, he joined the others in bringing sticks for the fire. With an armful of brushwood, he approached one of the fires and laid his burden in the flames. Paul did not realize that a deadly viper was clinging to the wood. As it felt the sting of the fire the viper suddenly jumped for safety, fastening itself upon Paul's hand. For a second it clung there. A cry of fear went up from the horror-stricken islanders. With one quick motion Paul shook it off, and it dropped back into the fire.

The islanders quickly reasoned, "Here is a prisoner who has escaped the sea. But the vengeance of the gods has followed him, and his hour has come." They knew the deadly poison of the viper and the speed with which it acts. They expected to see Paul fall dead in a matter of minutes. They were sure he had committed some terrible crime to meet death by so sudden a stroke. They watched in horror.

But Paul was not afraid. He believed God and was confident that he would preach the gospel in Rome, as God had said. The minutes sped by. Paul calmly prodded the fire, moving closer to it to dry his clothing and to warm his body. The islanders watched him closely. As each moment passed they were more and more astonished. He did not seem pale, nor did he look like a dying man!

Finally the superstitious islanders concluded that he must be a god in disguise. This made the people look on Paul with wonder and gave him an opportunity to preach the gospel of the one true God, who can protect His servants from every evil.

The islanders took the ship-wrecked people to the governor, Publius. His house and outbuildings were large and he was very kind. He made provision for them all for three days. Publius had an aged father in his home who was sick with a fever. When Paul heard of this he asked to see him and, receiving permission, he laid his hands on the old man. Lifting his eyes to God in heaven, the apostle prayed fervently that a miracle would be done and that this man might be healed as a testimony to the power of God and the truth of the gospel.

The Lord heard that prayer, and the governor's father was made well. Publius heard the good news, and so did many of the sick. Many came to Paul, hoping to be healed. And so for three winter months, while Julius and his prisoners waited for the sea to become navigable again, Paul and his friends, Luke and Aristarchus, preached the gospel of Christ. God confirmed their words by healing and working miracles.

Special honors were given to Paul and his friends when they left. They had won the love and confidence of many people. Those of high degree and low had seen the mighty power of God, and some believed.

-Sis, Nelda Sorrell

After that service the entire town knew about the new African student at Taylor University before he had been there a week. However, Sammy's education presented a serious problem. He could not enter any of the regular classes. He would require several years of continuous training before he could be enrolled as a college student. He was about eighteen years of age, but in book learning he was like a child of seven or eight years. The only solution was to arrange for a long period of private instruction through tutors. At chapel, Dr. Reade explained Sammy's difficulty, and called for volunteers to teach this boy. It would be no light task. Several young women agreed to assist him.

Samuel Morris was a diligent student. Every word, every thought, every principle taught him was indelibly fixed in his mind. He learned to imitate the refined expressions and the musical accents of his teachers' voices. Yet he remained original in his thinking. His grouping of words into sentences was a wonder to all. His sentences were short, but every word in them had meaning. Idle talk was unknown to him. High ideals and noble purposes were his very existence. His teachers soon learned that the burden they had volunteered to carry was a well-rewarded labor of love. Every day brought new blessings to his consecrated teachers.

But Samuel continued to regard the divine Spirit of Truth as his chief instructor. Often in solving a difficult arithmetical problem, he would say in low, audible tones, "Lord, help!" He spent more time "talking to his Father" than he did with his teachers. The Holy Spirit brought God as close to him as any earthly teacher could be, and made Him equally real.

Many came from a distance to see Samuel Morris and to talk to him but he had no time for mere gossip. After the customary greeting Sammy would hand the Bible to the visitor opened at the chapter he wished to study and would ask him to read it aloud. Sammy managed to have the entire Bible read to him in this way.

It was not always easy to get an immediate audience with Sammy. He was a child of prayer and he would not admit anyone when he was engaged in prayer. Many times those walking down the hall where he roomed would hear him "talking to his Father." He was as calm and matter-of-fact about it as though talking to any person. He was literally talking with God. He could be heard praying early in the morning before the other students were up and late at night after all others were sound asleep. His power was felt in the school; everyone felt it and were made better by it.

One of his fellow students, Thomas Newburn, said he often went to Sammy's room and found him praying out loud. He would pay no attention whatever to the knock at the door, but would continue his talk with God until his soul was satisfied. Then he would come to the door, smiling, and say: "Now come in; we done talking for this time."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Melita. 2. They built a fire. 3. By gathering sticks for the fire. 4. A viper. 5. That he must be a murderer. 6. He shook the viper off into the fire. 7. That he was a god. 8. The chief man of the island. 9. He healed him.)



Vol. 57, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 26, 2006

The Student Leader

(Continued from last week.)

There was a young man at the University, which Samuel Morris attended, who was an aggressive atheist. He was not satisfied to let others believe as they pleased. He was well versed in all the arguments of the atheistic cult and never lost an opportunity to argue with believing students. This atheist prevailed upon some of the students to take him to Sammy's room and introduce him. The atheist was all wound up for an argument, and expected an easy victory. As usual Sammy handed him the open Bible and asked him to read a chapter. The atheist threw the Bible on the table, and said, "I do not read that book anymore. It is full of love affairs, wars, and a lot of big 'fish stories.' I don't believe a word of it."

Sammy had never talked with an atheist before; even the African pagans believe in a deity. He sat still and eyed the atheist until he had run down. Then Sammy arose to his feet and said, "My dear brother, your Father speaks to you and you do not believe Him? Your Brother speaks, and you do not believe Him? The Sun shines and you do not believe it? God is your Father; Christ your Brother; the Holy Ghost your Sun."

Then, putting his hand on his visitor's shoulder he said: "Kneel down and I will pray for you." A soul was at stake; the divine Spirit taught him how to speak in the language of this brother's heart. He touched the tenderest cords. The atheist resisted until he was leaving the room. Then he felt the dart of the convicting Spirit in his heart. At the end of that term, he left the university a praying, working Christian. Later this one-time scoffer became a minister!

Samuel Morris' leadership was recognized by the majority of the student body and the skeptics among them as well. While most of the students were sincere Christians, this was a period in which there was a weakening of faith and a growing worldliness among churches and church colleges. The Darwinian theory of evolution then seemed to strike at the foundation of Biblical authority. The increase of wealth through scientific inventions had turned minds to material instead of spiritual interests.

Samuel Morris electrified the entire university from the president down to the newest freshman by demonstrating the simplicity and power with which the Holy Spirit can confer all the graces of leadership upon the humblest human being. The whole



Paul, The Pattern

I Timothy 1:12-16

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry:

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

16 Howbeitfor this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

Titus 2:7-15

7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

9 Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again;

10 Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

The Message: God wants our lives to be a good pattern for others to follow.

Questions:

- 1. What is a pattern?
- 2. What did Paul do before God made him a good pattern?
- 3. Who came into the world to save sinners?
- 4. What kind of sinner did Paul say he was?
- 5. If Jesus could save Paul, can he save us?
- We are to be patterns of _____ works.
- 7. Servants should obey whom?

8.	We	should	li	ve	_	,	
			_,	an	d	5-100	

9. Who gave Himself to redeem us from iniquity?

Verse to Memorize

Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. I Corinthians 11:1.



In his letter to Timothy Paul tells him about his past life in order to showwhatgreatmercy God hadwhen He saved him. He had persecuted those who believed that Jesus was God's Son whom He sent to save sinners. He did all he could to cause trouble for those who loved Jesus and did many things to injure them—he really was a chief of the sinners!

But then one day God stopped him by the sudden appearance of a light that was brighter than the sun at noon. He was on his way to Damascus carrying letters that gave him the authority to arrest any Christians he found and to bring them back as prisoners to Jerusalem.

Paul actually believed that he was pleasing God by trying to stamp out the name of Jesus. He did not believe that Jesus was God's Sonand thought His followers were disobeying the laws of Moses. God saw that Paul really wanted to serve Him.

When the light suddenly shone from heaven around him, Paul fell to the ground. He was afraid! As he lay there, he heard a voice which said, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" (Paul's name was Saul at that time. Later it was changed to Paul.)

Paul was surprised to be asked a question like that. He didn't understand so he asked, "Who are you, Lord?"

Then Jesus spoke to him and said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting: it is hard for you to kick against the pricks." Sticks with sharp points were sometimes used to prick the hind legs of cattle in order to make

them move. When a cow kicked back against it they only injured themselves. Jesus used this illustration to show Paul what he was doing. It was hard for Paul to go on in sin like he had been. Jesus wanted him to know that hewas actually persecuting Him. When a person does something evil to one of those who love Jesus, they are doing it to Jesus.

Paul was astonished but he was a humble man. He saw that he was wrong. Now he was convinced that Jesus truly was the Saviour. He knew in his heart that he had been wrong all this time; he must change his way. Oh, how sorry he was that he had been sinning. He asked Jesus to forgive him. Jesus was glad to do that and Paul was a changed man. Now he would not harm anyone anymore. In fact, he was anxious to tell everyone that Jesus was the Savior.

God had a great work for Paul to do. Those who witnessed the great and immediate change in his life could easily see the power of God to save even the worst of sinners. He became a pattern that others could follow with faith and confidence knowing that they too could receive forgiveness and salvation. Paul's conversion proved that the greatest sinners can receive pardon.

Samuel Morris lived a life that demonstrated the power of the Holy Spirit to fill even the most humble human being with the grace of God. He became a leader because others, seeing this power, wanted what he had. Following his example they, too, received the Holy Spirit.

God wants each of us to live in such a way that anyone who follows our example will be led to Jesus as their Savior. That is what salvation will do for every boy and girl. Paul is a pattern for us to follow. If we will confess our sins and forsake them we, too, can be saved.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

school was lifted to a higher plane. The students were not merely "saved," but spiritually strengthened to reach out and save others.

There was nothing abnormal about Samuel Morris. He was a child of the wilderness and all his life he loved nature. He found God not only in the Spirit within his heart but also in all the beauties of nature, the handiwork of the Creator.

He often compared the beauty of America with that of his homeland. In Africa they had beautiful flowers but they had no fragrance. He loved to take long walks in our woods, inhaling the odor of our wild flowers and listening to the enchanting songs of the robins, meadowlarks, and mocking birds. When fall began to tint the leaves of the trees with many hues and colors, Sammy, accustomed only to the green of the tropics, marveled at their beauty. He would fairly shout his thanks to his heavenly Father that his eyes had seen such wonders. He would often say, "God is surely good to you folks in Americal"

On Thanksgiving evening, after the usual dinner, someone asked Sammywhich country he liked best— Africa or America. He laughed and replied: "Which is better, roast turkey or raw monkey?"

"Why Sammy," the person asked, "you did not eat monkeys, did you?" "O yes, sir," he answered, "I ate many monkeys and ate them raw!"

Yet Sammy yearned to return to his own land in order to share his newfound blessings with those of his own kind and color. One time when he hurt the back of his hand so that the outer skin was removed, he put ink on the lighter tissue that was exposed. He explained to his teacher that he was afraid that it would turn white. That would be a disgrace and hindrance to him when he returned

to Africa to preach. Because he was God's child, he was never ashamed of his color.

The first snow after Sammy came to the University fell in large white flakes. It began in the night and was still falling when Sammy awoke in the morning. When he looked out of the window and saw everything covered with a sparkling white blanket hewas filled with surprise and wonder. There was no word in his language for snow because it was unknown in his native region. He had never seen or even heard of it. He rushed out into the snow and gathered up a handful, saving. "Thesemust be messages from Heaven to us. If I could only read them, what a wonderful story they would tell us! Earth has nothing half so beautiful. God alone has such a pattern."

As he spoke, his warmhand melted the snow in it. He asked, "Where did it go? It has left only a few drops of water!" His black face was a picture of adoration. His eyes filled with tears. He raised his hand, and prayed to his Father to teach him how to read these beautiful messages from Heaven. As he finished his prayer he said, "Ayear here is worth a lifetime in Africa."

That winter an evangelist conducted a series of joint revival services. A great throng attended nightly. Samuel Morris especially enjoyed the singing. His very soul seemed set to music. When the congregation sang, his voice could be heard in every corner of the big building.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Something or someonewe imitate or copy. 2. He was a blasphemer and a persecutor. 3. Christ Jesus. 4. The chief (the worst). 5. Yes. 6. Good. 7. Their own masters. 8. Soberly, righteously and godly. 9. Jesus.)





Vol. 57, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 2, 2006

The Last Adventure

(Continued from last week.)

The tortures Sammy had endured in Africa while serving as a pawn and the severe hardships he had suffered aboard the tramp ship had greatly weakened his frail constitution. The rigorous northern climate with its long, cold winters was an unnatural environment for one reared in the tropics. Nevertheless, Samuel Morris continued to be a regular attendant at religious meetings during the exceptionally severe winter of 1892-93.

He caught a severe cold but he kept silent about it and bore his illness as if nothing were amiss. It did not matter to him that the night was dark and stormy with a temperature of twenty degrees below zero. He felt it was his duty as well as pleasure to be in services. His honest, black face and his simple, steadfast faith were an inspiration to the minister to give his best to his congregation.

Samuel Morris sacrificed his health to the service of God. Though he lacked the resistance to shake off the cold he had contracted he continued to attend his classes as usual. But his strength waned. He developed the symptoms of dropsy and could no longer hide the fact that he was gravely ill. When Dr. Stemen observed his condition, he was taken

to the St. Joseph Hospital. Had he been the president's own son, he could not have had kinder and better care. Many who had learned to love him and whose souls he had blessed came to visit him.

At first Sammy could not comprehend why he should be ill. He said, "When I froze my ears last winter, they hurt me very much. I asked my Father about it, and they quit hurting me right away. Now, I cannot get well. I cannot understand it."

But one day when the students came to pay him their daily visit, Sammy told them with quiet joy that he now understood it all. He said: "I am so happy. I have seen the angels. They are coming for me soon. The light my Father in heaven sent to save me when I was hanging helpless on that cross in Africa was for a purpose. Now I have fulfilled that purpose. My work here on earth has been finished."

Dr. Reade questioned him about the great work he had planned to do among his own people in Africa. Sammy answered, "It is not my work'. It is Christ's work. He must choose His own workers. Others can do it better."

Dr. Stemen lived directly across the street from the hospital. In the forenoon of May 12, Dr. Stemen was mowing his lawn. He heard a voice



Jesus' Trial

Matthew 27:11-16, 19-26

- 11 And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest.
- 12 And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.
- 13 Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?
- **14** And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.
- 15 Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would.
- **16** And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas.
- 19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying. Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.
- **20** But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.
- 21 The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas.
- 22 Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified.

23 And the governor said. Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified.

24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.

26 Thenreleased he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

The Message: Would you stand up boldly and defend Jesus? Are you doing that now by the life you live?

Questions:

- 1. When the chief priests accused Jesus, what did He answer?
- 2. Who was Barabbas?
- 3. Who warned Pilate to have nothing to do with convicting Jesus?
- 4. Which prisoner did the people want released, Jesus or Barabbas?
- 5. What did they all say to do to Jesus?
- 6. What did Pilate do to show he did not want to be responsible for Jesus' death?
- 7. Who said, "His blood be on us, and on our children?"
- 8. Whatdid Pilate dowith Barabbas?
- 9. What did Pilate do with Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

...What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?...

Matthew 27:22.



The Advocate

Bennie was a farmer boy in the state of Vermont. When a call came for volunteer soldiers to fight in the Civil War, Bennie enlisted along with Jemmie, a neighbor's son.

Then one morning Bennie's father received a telegram saying his son was found asleep at his post while on picket duty the night before. "The court-martial has sentenced him to be shot in twenty-four hours as the offense occurred at a critical time," it stated.

Blossom, Bennie's little sister, listened, too shocked to speak. Hearing a tap at the kitchen door she quickly opened it. A neighbor handed her a letter. "It is from him," was all she said.

It was like a message from the dead! Bennie wrote:

"Dear Father: When this reaches you I shall be in eternity. You know I promised Jemmie's mother I would look after her boy, and when he fell sick, I did all I could for him. He was not strong and I was all tired out when we went into camp, and then it was Jemmie's turn to be sentry. I had to take his place—he was too weak; but I was too tired, father. I could not have kept awake if a gun had been pointed at my head; but I did not know it until—well, until it was too late."

"I can't bear to think of mother and Blossom. Comfort them, father! Tell them I die as a brave boy should and that, when the war is over, they will not be ashamed of me, as they must be now."

Late that night little Blossom stole silently out the back door. She must

reach President Lincoln and beg for her brother's life! She had brought Bennie's letter with her. Taking the night train she reached New York very early the next morning. The conductor, knowing her purpose, hurried her on to Washington. Every minute now might be the means of saving her brother's life. In a very short time Blossom was standing, unannounced, in front of the President.

PresidentLincoln asked, "Well, my child what do you want this morning?"

"Bennie's life, please, sir," faltered Blossom.

"Bennie? Who is Bennie?"

"My brother, sir. They are going to shoot him for sleeping at his post."

"Oh, yes;" and Mr. Lincoln ran his eye over the papers before him. "I remember. It was a fatal sleep. You see, child, it was a time of special danger. Thousands of lives might have been lost."

"So my father said, sir," replied Blossom, gravely, "but poor Bennie was so tired, sir, and Jemmie so weak. He did the work of two, and it was Jemmie's night, not his; but Jemmie was too tired, and Bennie never thought about himself, that he was tired, too."

"What is this you say, child? Come here, I do not understand," he said.

Blossom went to him and handed Mr. Lincoln Bennie's letter.

He read it carefully; then, taking up his pen, wrote a few hasty lines and rang his bell. "Send this dispatch at once," he ordered. Two days later Blossom returned home with Bennie by her side.

Bennie's sentence was quick and cruel but he was convicted for his own offense. Jesus committed no offense, yet He was condemned to die. Blossom was Bennie's advocate, she pled for his life and it was granted her. There was no one to speak for Jesus; even His disciples forsook Him.

-Selected

calling, "Don't work too hard, Dr. Stemen." He glanced up and saw Sammy looking out of the window of his hospital room. They waved greetings. Sammy left the window and reclined once more in his chair. Dr. Stemen returned to his work.

A few minutes later Sister Helen of the hospital came down and notified Dr. Stemen and his family that Sammy seemed helpless. When Dr. Stemen reached him, the young African was sitting peacefully in his chair. He was dead. His face wore an expression of solemn joy. He had gone to meet his heavenly Father as calmly as he would have greeted one of his beloved teachers. His departure from this life led immediately to a great increase and spread of missionary effort.

At the first prayer meeting held after Sammy's death, a young man arose and said: "I feel impressed that I must go to Africa in Sammy's place." He was at once followed by two other volunteers for the African field.

Also, as we have already learned, the Lord had used Sammy to convert an aggressive atheist. After this same atheist became a preacher, he met one of his old friends who was an outspoken atheist just as he had once been. It was not long before they were in a hot argument. The preacher said something that angered this man so much that he hit the minister; he fell to the ground unconscious. When he became conscious and saw the atheist standing over him he was angry!

Suddenly, the minister thought of Samuel Morris when he was lying on the cabin floor of the tramp ship, felled by a blow of the captain's fist. He said to himself: "If Samuel Morris could forgive that cruel captain and save him, why can't I do the same for this man?" His anger left him; he got to his knees and began praying for his enemy. As he prayed, the atheist knelt

down by his side, put his arm around him, wiped the blood from his face and begged his forgiveness. Soon he was crying to the Lord-for forgiveness of his sins. His surrender was complete. So through Samuel Morris' godly example another leader was raised up; and he, in turn, had communicated the same Christian spirit to yet another soul who became a leader also.

The new spirit which Sammy infused into the ship's crew of rough seamen during his voyage to America was no temporary change. Several years after Samuel Morris came to New York on the tramp ship, the old captain returned to New York and looked up Stephen Merritt. When Merritt told him that Samuel Morris had gone to glory before he was twenty-one years old, the old captain was so overcome that he could not talk for some time.

He stated that most of the old crew was still with him. In fact they were anxiously waiting for him to come back with news from Sammy, their hero and minister. He said that Sammy had offered the first audible prayer ever heard aboard his ship. He testified to the wonderful influence Sammy exercised over such a motley crew of hardened men. That crew had become like one family. Sammy's teachings had worked lasting benefits!

(The end.)

—Taken from the book Samuel

Morris

(Answers: 1. Nothing. 2. A notable prisoner. 3. His wife. 4. Barabbas. 5. "Let Him be crucified." 6. He washed his hands in front of the people. 7. All the people. 8. Released him. 9. Scourged Him and delivered Him to be crucified.)





Vol. 57. No. 2 (USPS549-000) **Juniors** Part 2 April 9, 2006

Early Training

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stewart looked down lovingly at their beautiful newborn baby girl. It was Valentine's Day in the year 1878. They named their tiny blue-eyed daughter Etta Faith Stewart.

These good Scotch parents may have wondered, as many do, what lav in the future for this sweet innocent baby. It seemed almost providential that she became known as 'Faith'. From early childhood she had a mind to please God. This obedience and total surrender to the will of God gave her great faith in His power. The proud parents had no way to know the great miracles God would some day perform through this tiny baby they held in their arms. How could they even dream that she would cross continents to rescue children both in India and Cuba?

Faith's parents were taught the Presbyterian doctrine from childhood. They lived as good nominal Christians and taught their children to do the same. Faithwas an obedient child and accepted these teachings. But when she was twelve years old the family moved. There was no place of worship in the new community except a Methodist church so Faith began to attend services there.

The Methodists often had meet-

ings that would last for days or weeks. Faith was glad when a series of special revival services was announced. She attended faithfully, listening night after night to the old-time messages. The preacher spoke often of conviction and repentance for sin. Faith loved God but knew in her heart that she did not have the experience the preacher described. When God convicted her heart she gladly responded and repented of her sins. God forgave her. She knew that now she was saved.

Faith's mother was a semi-invalid for many years, unable to care for the duties of the home. When Faith was eight years old she had to do much of the housework and by the age of twelve she did practically all of it herself. She was never strong, yet she managed the heavy burden of washing, ironing and cooking for the family.

One day her mother called her to her bedside. "Faith," she said, "I want you to go out into the kitchen, take all the dishes out of the cupboard, take out the papers, wipe the shelf with a damp cloth, put in clean papers and then put the dishes back."

Obediently Faith went into the kitchen and took all the dishes out of the cupboard. But the paper underneath looked so clean she merely dusted it off and put the dishes back in place. This way she had the job done quickly.



Jesus' Death

Mark 15:15, 17-19

15 And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them. and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

17 And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thoms, and put it about his head,

18 And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!

19 And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him.

Luke 23:27, 33-34

27 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.

33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Matthew 27:39, 41-42, 45, 50-52, 54

39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,

41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

42 He saved others: himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

45 Now from the sixth hour there

was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice; yielded up the ghost.

51 And, behold, theveil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose.

54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, sawthe earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

The Message: Jesus willingly suffered cruel mocking and death on the cross to save us from sin and its torment.

Questions:

- Did wicked men really take Jesus' life? (Read the Verse to Remember)
- 2. Why did Pilate release Barabbas and deliver Jesus to be crucified?
- 3. At what place did they crucify Jesus?
- 4. What did Jesus say while He hung on the cross?
- 5. What did the mockers say to Jesus while He was on the cross?
- 6. What happened between the sixth and ninth hour?
- 7. After Jesus died, what unusual things happened?
- 8. What did the centurion and those with him say about Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

...I lay down my life,... No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself.... John 10:17-18.



The Birdcage (Why Jesus Died)

There once was a man named George Thomas, a pastor in a small New England town. One Easter Sunday morning he came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old birdcage, and set it by the pulpit. Several eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, Pastor Thomas began to speak. "I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright.

I stopped the lad and asked, "What you got there son?"

"Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you gonna do with them?" I
asked.

"Take 'em home and have fea with 'em," he answered. "I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time."

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?"

"Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh??!!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing - they ain't even pretty!"

"How much?" the pastor asked again.
The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten-dollar bill. He placed it in the

boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone. The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free.

Well, that explained the empty birdcage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story. One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught the world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?"
Jesus asked. Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you get done with them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'llkill'em," Satan glared proudly.
"How much do you want for them?"
Jesus asked.

"Oh, youdon't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you!! You don't want those people!!"

"How much?" He asked again. Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your tears, and all your blood."

Jesus said, "DONE!" Then He paid the price.

The pastor picked up the cage and walked from the pulpit.

—Selected

God's great love for us compelled Him to try to save us no matter what the cost. He paid for our release from the devil and sin's torments. But we can never be free until we accept His free gift of salvation.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Realizing she was finished much too soon, her mother questioned her asking if she did everything exactly as she was told. Faith had to admit that she had merely dusted the paper instead of replacing it because it looked so clean. Her mother told her to go back in the kitchen and do exactly as she had been instructed. So, at an early age, Faith learned the lesson of complete honesty and obedience.

Faith always had a deep interest in children and their welfare even at an early age. One day atschoolher teacher asked what she wanted to be when she grew up. "I want to be the mother of twenty children," she answered seriously. The answer was more accurate than anyone could guess. Eventually Faith Stewart became the 'mother' of two hundred children in India and about that many more in Cuba!

About two years after Faith was saved an evangelist held a special series of meetings at the Chapel. Quoting Romans 12:1, the evangelist explained that after we are cleansed from sin, we owe it to God to present ourselves to Him to be filled with the Holy Spirit. This then sets us apart from the world and gives us power over sin. Faith knew that God had truly saved her. As the minister assured the listeners that God would give the gracious experience to all who would surrender their lives to Him, her young heart responded readily to the call. At the invitation she got up from her seat and walked up the aisle to the altar. There she humbly knelt with others.

The chapel was crowded so there were many standing outside. They stood quietly looking in on the service and watching as many seekers lined the altar. Faith's father stood outside among the other men. Suddenly he saw his own daughter walk up the aisle and kneel at the altar! His heart and mind were filled with resentment. The Presbyterian Church had no such

teaching as this. It sounded fanatical and dangerous. He would not permit his daughter to be involved in such fanaticism!

Leaving the group standing outside the window Mr. Stewart went through the open door and walked right up the aisle in front of the entire congregation. He laid his hand on Faith's shoulder and commanded her to get up and go straight home. She immediately got up and obediently followed him home.

But the longing for more of God was not satisfied. She prayed secretly in her room for the blessing she could not seek for publicly. The desire grew deeper and she prayed earnestly, with faith in her heart, until God answered and sent definite peace. Thus God sent His Holy Spirit and set His seal upon her life though she was still so young.

Faith's brother did not believe that anyone could live free from sin. He was sure he could break down her determination to live holy and Christ-like. So he decided to watch for a chance to annoy her until she became angry. He would prove that she could not live without sin.

The opportunity soon came. Faith had an appointment that required catching an early train. The weather was bitterly cold because it was the middle of winter. This, he decided, was his chance to put her to a hard test!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. No, He laid His life down so others could be saved. 2. To please the people. 3. Calvary. 4. "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." 5. "Come down and we will believe." 6. Darkness was over all the land. 7. The veil of the temple was torn apart, there was an earthquake, graves were opened and many saints arose. 8. "Truly this was the Son of God.")





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A Most Memorable Year

(Continued from last week.)

Faith's brother decided to prove she could not keep from sinning when the test was too hard. He knew it was important that she catch the early train. Yet he purposely dragged his feet and lagged behind.

They had gotten up in plenty of time and she reminded him that she would be late if they did not hurry. But it made no difference. Finally, at the last minute, the heated bricks were placed in the sleigh and the blankets brought out. At last they were on their way to the railway station!

But just as they came in sight of the station they saw the train already pulling out. They were too late! Faith's brother just knew what she would do. He was sure she would promptly tell him in plain language what she thought of him for making her miss the train. But there was no angry outburst. He waited, surprised, but still she said nothing. Finally she turned to him and said, "I feel so sorry for you. Now you will have to get up early tomorrow morning so we can get to the train in time."

But the next morning Faith was not able to make the trip. By the time they had driven back home through the biting cold, Faith was so stiff she had to be helped into the house. The next day she was sick. She grew progressively worse until she developed pneumonia from the exposure. Her brother never tested her sanctification again!

When Faith was sixteen she felt the Lord was calling her to become a missionary. Her burden was so strong she would often tell her parents about it. Her mother was still so frail she spent most of her time in bed. As she watched Faith do the housework she would remind her, "Faith, if you are going to be a missionary, you must learn not to sweep all around the rug. You should pick it up, shake it well and put it back down on the clean floor. Missionaries need to be thorough in their work for God."

Faith honored and respected her mother. She never forgot the lessons she taught her from her bedside.

After all the many tasks were done for the day, Faith spent her time reading her Bible. She began to understand better how to please the Lord, and, as she learned she readily measured her life to the Bible's teachings. One day she read how Jesus came to John to be baptized. She wanted to follow His example. In order to obey her convictions on this point she joined the Baptist Church in her community.



He Is Risen!

Mark 16:1-12

- 1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
- 2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.
- **3** And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
- **4** And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
- 5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.
- 6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.
- 7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.
- **8** And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.
- 9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.

11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.

12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.

I Corinthians 15:20-21

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

21 Forsinceby man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

The Message: Because Jesus arose we have the assurance that we, too, will arise at the resurrection day!

Questions:

- 1. Who brought sweet spices to anoint the body of Jesus?
- 2. What time was it when they came to the sepulchre?
- 3. What was the problem they discussed among themselves?
- 4. What did they see in the sepulchre?
- 5. What did the man clothed in a white garment tell them?
- 6. Did he give them a message to deliver? To whom?
- 7. To whom did Jesus first appear?
- 8. What had Jesus done for Mary Magdalene?
- 9. Did the disciples believe that Jesus was alive?

Verse to Memorize

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 1 Corinthians 15:55.



The same sun that arose upon the earth that you saw today arose upon Jerusalem over two thousand years ago on that first Eastermorning. Those were sad days. The disciples were very afraid. They did not understand how Jesus, who had done so many wonderful miracles, could have been put to death by wicked rulers on that cruel cross.

Therulers told Pilate-Jesus'words saying He would rise the third day. They did not believe His words but feared that the disciples would remove His body and then claim that He had risen from the dead. Because of this, soldiers were ordered to stand guard at Jesus' tomb.

But all the power of man could not keep Jesus in that grave. While the soldiers faithfully kept watch the ground began shaking so violently under their feet that they could not even stand up. Suddenly an angel descended from heaven and rolled the stone away that had sealed the tomb. The soldiers were so frightened that they fell down as dead men.

That same morning, when the sunfirst broke through the darkness, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome were already on their way to the tomb. Their hearts were broken. The One they loved dearly had been cruelly mistreated. All they could downshelplessly stand by while He died on the cross.

They wanted to do something to show their love for Him. The Sabbath was over, now they could go and anoint Jesus' body for a proper burial. As they got closer they wondered who would roll away the stone that sealed the tomb. But when they looked, they saw it was already rolled away! Going into the tomb, they were startled to see an angel dressed in a long white robe sitting there! They were terribly frightened but the angel told them, "Don't be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He is risen; He is not here! Look, you can see where they laid His body."

The women looked and saw only the napkins that they used to wrap His body in, lying in the tomb. Then the angel continued, "Go and tell His disciples and Peter that He will see them in Galilee."

How happy they were now. Jesus had risen! Jesus was alive! They quickly turned and left the tomb. Yet they were puzzled about it all. How could Jesus be alive when they saw Him die? But they did as they were told and went to tell the good news to the disciples.

Only Mary Magdalene lingered close to the tomb weeping. She thought that perhaps someone had stolen Jesus' body; she had to know where He was. When she turned from the tomb she saw a man and supposed that he was the gardener. He asked, "Why areyou crying? Who are you looking for?"

"Sir," she answered, "If you have taken His body away tell me where you laid Him and I will care for the body."

Then Jesus spoke her name. The moment He said, "Mary," she knew that it was Jesus! Now she was happy. He truly was alive! (John 20:11-18.) Later all of the disciples and about five hundred brethren also saw Jesus.

How wonderful to know that because Jesus arose from the dead, we, too, will arise at the resurrection day. We must live like Jesus so we can live with Him through eternity!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

A young man from Cornell College, Iowa came to the town of Morning Sun about this time, where the Stewart family lived. He was looking for young people who would be interested in attending that college. Faith's older brother had graduated from high school so they directed the young man to the Stewart home. The stranger was a Christian, and he also needed a place to stay while he was in the town. The Stewart's gladly offered him a room.

This young man could not help but notice Faith as she diligently cared for the home. He admired her loyalty to the church services. The evening before he left he asked if he might talk alone with Faith. He was given permission so Faith timidly sat across the room from him listening to what he had to say. He could see that she was pure and timid. Once that evening he spoke to her kindly, saying, "You do not need to be afraid of me, Faith."

It was not long after this that the Stewart family moved to Cornell. Iowa so the son could attend the University there. Here Faith, though still a quiet and timid girl found love and happiness. The brief acquaintance with the young man who visited their home developed into a deep friendship and mutual admiration. He was a true gentleman, worthy of the girl he so admired. She, modest and trusting, was finally persuaded to accept his special affection for her and become his life companion sometime in the future. They became engaged to be married.

The young man knew he had chosen wisely. He saw Faith daily ministering to her sick mother and faithfully caring for the home. He felt any young man would be blessed to have such a companion by his side. Faith, though very young, returned his love from the very depths of her heart. She was happy and contented as she continued to care for the duties of her home. She was willing towait through the years while he completed his education, knowing he was preparing for the life work that would support their future home.

Somehow the fact that he was a Methodist while she had joined the Baptistchurch made no difference to them. They were both Christians and they loved each other. They were sure a life of happiness lay ahead of them. The future had never seemed brighter!

So, Faith's sixteenth year was unforgettable. So many big things happened during that year, some bringing happiness and others grief. Her dear invalid mother, who always comforted and guided her, died. Now all the household responsibilities fell squarely on Faith's young shoulders. It was about this time that she began to teach Bible School and to take part in the mid-week prayer services. She continued active in these and other church activities until her twentyfirst year. She received a definite call to the mission field during her sixteenth year and met the only man she would ever love. It truly was a memorable year for Faith!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome. 2. Veryearly in the morning. 3. Who would roll away the stone from the sepulchre. 4. A young man in a long white garment. 5. "Ye seek Jesus. He is risen; he is not here." 6. Yes. To Peter and the disciples. 7. Mary Magdalene. 8. Cast seven devils out of her. 9. No.)





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The Church of God

(Continued from last week.)
Faith hadnever been a very strong girl. The year she turned twenty-one, she became very ill. Pneumonia developed quickly and settled in her lungs, resulting in tuberculosis. Soon she was so sick her loved ones wondered what they could do just to save her life. Marriage was out of the question. The wedding date had to be put off indefinitely until she was well again.

The family hired a middle-aged woman as a companion to live with Faith and care for her. Then they decided to send her to Denver, Colorado. They hoped the pure air would benefit her diseased lungs and perhaps save her life. Every day Faith and her companion made the trip to the City Park. In spite of long hours spent sitting or half-reclining in canvas chairs in the sunshine, she grew rapidly worse. A council of physicians, studying her condition, came to the decision that there was no hope for her recovery.

Faith's one wish was to go home once more. But home was too far away—such a trip was out of the question. They were sure she could never stand the trip across the Rocky Mountains to her home state and loved ones in her weakened condi-

tion. All she could do now was to wait patiently for the end. At this time her right lung was no more than a shell and there were three holes in the left one.

To pass the time, every day she and her companion would fix a lunch. take a pillow and canvas chairs and lie in the sunshine most of the day at the park. They noticed a small mission building as they rode past it day after day on their way to the park. One day as they stood in front of this building waiting for their bus to take them home, a group of people were holding a street service before going inside for the regular meeting. Special revival services were going on, and a young Christian woman came and urged them to come inside and enjoy the singing. They hesitated a moment, then went inside to hear the singing of the hymns. Faith had never heard such singing. It seemed they were singing from their very hearts! Faith and her companion sat near the rear of the building. Suddenly she began to hemorrhage. Quickly some of the men left the building and brought in bedding; others pulled two pews together, adding pads and pillows. Faith lay down on this improvised bed, too weak and sick to even move.

Sister May Addams, the pastor, came to her and prayed earnestly,



Getting Our Attention

Exodus 3:1-6

- 1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethrohis father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.
- 2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.
- 3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.
- 4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.
- **5** And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.
- 6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moseshid his face: for he was afraid to look upon God.

John 1:45-51

- **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.
- **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.

The Message: God wants to get our attention so that He can talk to us.

Questions:

- 1. Whose flock was Moses keeping?
- 2. Which mountain is called the mountain of God?
- 3. Who appeared to Moses in a flame of fire?
- 4. Why did Moses turn aside when he saw a bush on fire?
- 5. Who called to him out of the bush?
- 6. Why was he commanded to take his shoes of!?
- 7. Why did Moses hide his face?
- 8. Who brought Nathanael to see Jesus?
- 9. What great things did Jesus say Nathanael would see?

Verse to Memorize

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

Exodus 3:3.



When Moses was young he lived as a prince in Pharaoh's palace. But he was troubled when he saw his own people, the Israelites, in slavery. He wanted to help them so one day he killed an Egyptian who was hurting an Israelite. The next day he tried to stop a fight between two Israelites. One of them asked, "Are you going to kill me like you did the Egyptian yesterday?"

Realizing that Pharaoh would soon hear what he had done Moses ran away and ended up in the desert herding sheep. So, from being a wealthy prince he became a poor shepherd.

God needed to get Moses' attention. He had a special work for him. So one day while herding his sheep Moses saw a bush on fire. He could not figure out why the bush didn't burn up! As he got closer God spoke to him right out of that bush and warned him that he was on holy ground. He must take his shoes offl

God used the burning bush to get Moses in a place where He could talk to him. Then He was able to tell him His plans; the things He wanted him to do and how He would strengthen him to do them. But all this happened after He got his attention. Wouldn't such a sight attract your interest also?

God has ways of turning our thoughts to Him. If you are not following Him, what is it going to take for Him to get your attention? Will it take something drastic and bad? The first thing people do when they are involved in a bad car wreck or see that the plane is about to crash is to start praying and pleading, "Lord, have mercy!"

It is possible to put off giving your heart to God until it is too late for Him to save you. Too late!

Remember the story of the rich man and Lazarus? The rich man had more than enough while Lazarus lay at his door begging for even some crumbs. Every day the rich man passed him as he went in and out. He had no time for him. God was not able to get the rich man's attention during his lifetime. But in hell he lifted up his eyes and called on God for mercy. He was in torment then and God had his full attention but it was too late to change his life.

How serious! God wants us to know and trust Him and uses various means to show us the value of giving our lives to Him. Our story tells how God led Faith to the true people of God through her terrible sickness. Such biographies show us the result of decisions these people made and how God blessed those who chose to follow Him. This is God teaching you through the lives of others. The ministers give us God's Word and instructions in their messages to us. The Bible is God's own letter to us personally—His way of speaking to us and guiding us.

God commands us to cast all our cares on Him. This is because He cannot get our attention when our mind is absorbed with troubles. While we are trying to work out our own problems He can't show us His plan and solution. Sometimes in His love and mercy He takes drastic means to wake people up.

Whatever concerns one of God's children concerns Him. If we trust in Him He will provide and take care of us. He has made provision for us throughout our lives and eternity as well!

—Uncle Dale

asking God to strengthen Faith and make it possible for her to stay on through the evening service. God did answer prayer and gave her strength. She was able to stay through the rest of the day.

Between services other ministers and saints gathered around Faith and talked with her about God's power to heal her body. They read God's promises to her, proving by the Bible that it was God's will to heal her body. Faith honestly believed the Word of God and knew He had power to heal her. When she was asked, "Do you want to obey God's word and be healed?" she quickly answered, "I am willing!"

Those who gathered around were strangers to Faith but she could feel the love of God through their loving concern for her. These humble servants of God anointed and laid hands on her in obedience to the scripture James 5:14-15, which says: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up;..."

All of this was new to Faith. She knew so little at this time about trusting God for her health but she sensed that God had definitely touched her. She felt stronger and was able to sit up on the edge of the bed. Those around her insisted she stay for the evening service so she agreed to do

Faith's companion did not agree with the teaching of divine healing. Instead of accepting the truth she became very angry. She had no intention of staying for the evening service. "If you are going to worship with these people, I refuse to stay with you or be responsible for you any longer!" she raged. Saying this she left Faith alone with her new found friends and re-

turned home to their room in the city. But God had answered the saint's prayers. Faith was able to stay through the entireday. After services she went home with one of the Christian women instead of returning to her room. The meeting lasted three more days and Faith was able to attend all the remaining services. How eagerly she listened to the truth!

Every day Faith grew stronger. She could feel health returning as she improved steadily. By the time the meeting ended she knew that God had healed her. More importantly, she had found the true people of God who had left the world and its ways to follow Jesus. They brought truth and light to her soul that she had never heard before in her life.

This is how Sis. Faith Stewart first came in contact with the Church of God. She began a new life of service, enjoying the fellowship of God's true people.

Meanwhile Faith's companion packed her belongings and left for home. She stood by Faith through the dark hours of despair and suffering. Now, she had witnessed a miracle and saw the power of God bring healing when the doctors said there was no hope for her. Instead of being glad and thankful, giving honor to God, she became bitter and opposed the truth. She had no intention of staying among these people. If Faith stayed, she would stay alone. Her companion deserted her because she obeyed the word of God and was healed.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. His father-in-law's. 2. Horeb. 3. The angel of the Lord. 4. To see why the bush did not burn up. 5. God. 6. Because he was standing on holy ground. 7. He was afraid to look at God. 8. Philip. 9. Heaven open and angels ascending and descending.)





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New Friends

(Continued from last week.)

Faith's companion returned home leaving her among people who were just a short time earlier, complete strangers to her. Yet, they seemed like old friends and even family. They showed her great love and care. Seeing her situation, the pastor wrote to her uncle who lived in Woodburn, Oregon. This uncle, Bro. J. L. Green, was a pioneer minister of the Church of God. He was the first to preach the truth in its purity and simplicity in that area.

In that day it was not popular to live by all the truth of the Bible. Even professing Christians often persecuted the saints because they taught that we are born into the Kingdom of God and will not join any man-made organization. This very simple Bible truth was in direct opposition to the rules set up by men in the various sectarian churches.

Bro. Green knew that Faith needed a protective environment in which to regain her health and get better established in the truth. He sent her and the pastor, May Addams, tickets with an invitation for the two young women to come at once.

Living in this Christian home, surrounded by loving Christian friends, and receiving encouragement and knowledge day by day, Faith grew stronger in body and better established in the great Bible truths so new and vital to her soul There was a miraculous change in her body but the change in her spiritual life was no less miraculous.

Faith studied her Bible day by day with new insight into its precious truths. This brought a joy and peace that she had never known before. This home was a haven for her and she took good advantage of the opportunity to learn more about God and how to please and serve Him. She learned that when God forgives the sins of a penitent sinner, that person is born into the Church of God by the spiritual birth. She learned more perfectly that when we humble ourselves and present our bodies on an altar of complete consecration God accepts us and sets us apart for Himself. He then fills us with the Holy Spirit and the love of God, which makes us able to live clean and holy every day of our life.

Steadily Faith's health improved until she was completely strong and well. The time came when she felt she owed it to her family to return home. It was hard to leave her new friends. They had themselves become like family to her. She had been away from home two full years when she finally



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, whomalso 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 Healthesick, 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, howmany did He choose to be apostles?
- 3. Against what did Jesus give the apostles power?
- 4. What kind of sickness and dis ease 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?
- 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.



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 every one.

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 true 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? Willyou let Jesus live in you so others can see the power of the gospel in your life? This was Faith's one desire. She loved Jesus so much she wanted to share Him with everyone she met. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

(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. To tell others how to be saved.)

made the trip back from Oregon to Iowa. Faith's father was glad to have her home again. He knew God alone had saved her life and he was very thankful to see her healthy and happy. But Faith was not the same as when she left her father. The truth had made a drastic change. One day she said, "Father, I cannot join one of the denominational churches as I once did. I now know that according to the Bible we are spiritually born into the Church, the body of Christ, when our sins are forgiven. Merely joining a church cannot save a person's soul.

"The Bible does not teach that we should join a church set up by man. This is a plan made by men to take men into the church. I would have to act against my honest convictions of what the will of God is to do this."

"What has come over you, Faith?" her father asked in surprise. "Is the church of your parents not good enough for you? This group you have been with is fanatical. They have led you away from your own childhood teaching. This separates you from your parents!"

"Father, let me explain, please." Faith pleaded. "When we are born into a family here on earth, do we not automatically belong to that family? Do we have to join it after we are born into it? Are we voted in as members in any certain family? Or does the fact of our physical birth make us a member? Becoming a member of the spiritual family is the same as becoming a member of our natural family."

Herfather was not convinced. "You have become a fanatic in this new teaching you have accepted," he replied bitterly.

Not long after this an epidemic of extreme sore throat broke out in the community. Many children and adults were sick with it. Among these was Faith herself. Seeing how she was suffering, her father insisted that she call the family doctor.

This was a hard test for Faith. God healed her when four doctors gave her up to die. She resolved then to always trust God with her body, knowing He could heal anything. This caused another conflict with her father. It seemed like new trials and tests were coming from every side that required a definite stand for God. Her family had been church-going people all her life but she could no longer agree with them.

As kindly as she could, Faith did her best to explain that when Christ was on earth, He went about healing all the sick that were brought to Him, and that "He is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8.) She told her father that Jesus faithfully promised to supply allourneeds, and He is the great Physician to all who will believe.

"That," her father retorted, "was back in the early history when science had not been able to help men so much, and theydidn't have theknowledge to take care of the ills of mankind. But now," he continued, "God, in His mercy, has provided other means and expects us to use them."

"I too believe that God has provided, through His mercy, science for those who do not know His Word and even for those who are weak in faith, but I also believe that He expects His true children to believe and trust Him. Psalms 103:3 says, 'Who forgiveth all thine iniquities (sins); who healeth all thy diseases.' Father, I must trust God for my healing and leave the case in His hands. If He can heal tuberculosis when four physicians have given up, can't He heal this lighter affliction?"

(To be continued next week.)

(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)





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Leaving All For Jesus

(Continued from last week.)

"There is only one solution," Faith's father stormed. "You must make your choice as soon as possible! If you will not call a doctor when you need one as other people in this community do; if you refuse to dress in more fashionable clothes instead of the plain, unattractive things you have been wearing; and if you will not give up the fanatical teachings you have learned and accepted from those peculiar people, you must leave home. If you refuse to change these things you are not welcome under this roof!"

Faith sat in stunned silence. The demand was so harsh—so unexpected! She thought of her childhood. of her good mother lying day by day on her bed of suffering. Yet she was always there to teach, counsel, help and encourage her. How she wished for that counsel and encouragement now! But that would never be; she died when Faith was only sixteen. She could not look to her mother to beg mercy for her from her father.

Then, as she looked around she realized how dear home was to her! Every piece of furniture was a part of her childhood days, like old friends. Each seemed to bind her heart to the comfort and security of home and to

beg her to stay. Now she was under an awful ultimatum. She must leave, not for a day or a season, but for a lifetime the love, shelter, and all that home could mean. The only alternative was to give up her wonderful experience with the Lord. To stay she would be forced to give up the very convictions of her heart.

She was far away from the dear friends who so faithfully instructed her in the truth. They might have offered her some word of comfort and strength to help her in this awful decision. She was being asked to sacrifice the very truths that brought her back as it were, from the grave. These truths had made the pathway to heaven bright; they were a part of her very life. She alone must make the decision.

"What shall I do? What would Jesus do?" Faith agonized.

Calling on God to help her put down the longing to hold on to the dear things of home, she made her choice. Shedare not for sake the truth. Although she was sick in body and heart, she had great confidence in the love of God. She knew He still would always be with her to protect, lead and comfort. She got up and began to gather her clothes and the few possessions she would be able to take with her.



Prayer

Acts 16:9, 16-18, 20, 22-30

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us,...
17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which

servants of the mosthigh God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

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

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rentoff their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and im-

mediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

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

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

The Message: Paul and Silas prayed for guidance and God sent them to Macedonia. They could sing at midnight even in prison, with their backs bleeding, because they knew God had sent them there.

Questions:

- 1. What appeared to Paul in the night?
- 2. What did the man of Macedonia ask them to do?
- 3. Where were they going when the damsel met them?
- 4. What did she say as she followed them?
- 5. What did Paul command the spirit to do?
- 6. Where did the jailer put them?
- 7. What were Paul and Silas doing at midnight?
- 8. What opened the prison doors?
- 9. What did the jailer ask?

Verse to Memorize

...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

James 5:16.



I have been thinking about the power of prayer and how God led Paul and Silas. They had been visiting the various churches, encouraging the saints in each congregation. But what they really wanted to do was to go to the people that had never heard the gospel before. With this in mind they made plans to go to Bithynia. They were surprised when God let them know that they were not to go there.

So, after talking things over, Paul and Silas decided to go to Asia, preaching along the way. But the Spirit of God spoke to them very plainly saying they should not preach in Asia. Now they were puzzled! They wondered just where God would finally lead them. Finally one night God spoke to Paul in a vision. He saw a man from Macedonia who begged him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Doyou remember ever having God answer prayer for you? When I was little my parents had each of us children pray in family worship. My prayers usually went like this, "Dear Lord, Help Daddy and Mommy, help me be good, help my brothers and sisters...."

But later I learned that I could ask God for what I needed and actually believe that He would answer my prayer. I learned that, just like I trusted my parents when they told me they would give me something, I could have the same confidence in God.

Sometimes I had to wait but I knew my parents would do what they said. It is the same way when we pray.

The Lord gives the answer to our prayer as He sees we need it. Sometimes He gives us something other than what we prayed for because He knows our need better than we do. And what He gives will always be better.

Paul and Silas obeyed God and went to Macedonia. They found where the people met for prayer and joined them. Everything went well until a girl possessed with an evil spirit began following them. Each day she would call after them, "These men are the servants of the most high God!"

One day Paul turned to her and commanded the evil spirit to come out of her. The girl immediately knew that she was at last free. But her masters were furious! They seized Paul and Silas and threw them into prison after giving them a brutal beating.

With their backs bleeding and their feet held fast in the stocks Paul and Silas could have wondered just where they went wrong to get into so much trouble. But they knew God had sent them there in answer to their prayer. And since they were right where God wanted them to be they were so happy they sang praises right there in jail even though it was midnight!

The other prisoners heard them. They were used to hearing moaning and curses, but not singing! Then a great earthquake opened the prison doors. The jailer was sure all the prisoners had escaped but before he could kill himself Paul assured him that they were all there.

The jailer's first response was "Sirs. what must I do to be saved?"

Look at the great deliverance that came from Paul and Silas praying for God to lead them. There is wonderful power in prayer. Though it may not look like the answer will come keep looking to God expecting the answer. He still answers prayer! —Uncle Dale

The experience was especially painful because it was the second great sacrifice Faith was forced to make for the truth. The young man to whom she was engaged waited faithfully for her to recover from the disease that threatened her life. Now she was well. He had finished his education and, as a professor of mathematics and oratory, he was ready to claim his bride and establish their home. Faith kept in touch with him by letters while she was in Denver. When the Lord healed her she wrote him all about the wonderful experience of feeling God's divine healing touch to her body. She shared with him the wonderful truths she had learned. After all, these truths came from the same Bible they both loved and believed.

Her fiancé was an ambitious young man who held high principles for his life. He was determined to make good in life. Any young girl might be proud to have such a man to walk by her side through life. While Faith was a Baptist and he a Methodist, there had been no discord between them. But when Faith explained to him that there was only one true church into which every saved person is born, he could not accept it. In fact he was so offended by the truth that he firmly declared he was not willing to leave the form and ritual of his own church. not now nor in the future. And, although she was the girl he had hoped one day would be his wife, he would not change his belief even for her. To be his wife she must give up her strange notions.

It was a painful decision for Faith. She felt keenly the loss of the one she loved. It was a great sacrifice to give up her dreams of a home and family of her own. She was in her early twenties with the natural desire for love and security. As she looked ahead she saw only uncertainty. But she

could not, would not, turn her back on the truth. That decision shut out of her life forever the only man she ever loved.

Looking back many, many years later, Faith commented on the saying, "Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." With a gentle smile she remarked. "Yes. many people have asked me if I never had a sweetheart, and if I ever saw anyone I could have loved. I can truly say that my life has been fuller and richer for the love that came into it in my earlier years. Also, I feel it has enabled me to sympathize with those about me in my work through the many years as I could not have done had I not gone through the sorrow and loss that came in my girlhood through the love of a good man."

It seemed she was all alone in the world. Every loved tie in her life had been torn from her, one by one. Home, loved ones and sweetheart had turned their backs on her because of her decision to follow Jesus and live by all the truth He revealed to her.

Many have had to pay a high price to stand true to the Lord. Faith realized this more fully as she sadly gathered her few belongings. The truth, she knew, was more precious than anything the world had to offer. Walking out the door she left her home and loved ones behind.

Faith had no where to go, no one to turn to. Slowly she walked to the railway station in Cornell, carrying her suitcase.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A vision. 2. Come and help them. 3. To pray. 4. "These men are the servants of the most high God." 5. Come out of her. 6. In the inner prison. 7. Praying and singing praises. 8. A great earthquake. 9. "What must I do to be saved?")





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Marvelously Healed Again!

(Continued from last week.)

With nowhere to go and no one to turn to. Faith walked slowly toward the railway station. She had only the few possessions she could carry in her suitcase. Her stand for the truth cost her dearly. Driven from her own home and rejected even by the one she intended to marry, she found herself alone and homeless.

Faith set her suitcase down and got a newspaper. Spreading it out she carefully scanned the local advertisements for help wanted. She knew she must find a way to support herself. At last she found an ad for work in the kitchen of a local hotel. When she applied for the job she was accepted. She knew the Lord was with her and would supply all her needs.

There was no place to worship in Cornell where she could hear the full gospel. She longed to be with the saints where she could learn the truth more perfectly. She saved all she could to buy a ticket to Denver, Colorado where she first met the saints and where God had so wonderfully healed her. Meanwhile, she spent the long evenings alone.

Finally she had saved the amount

was to be in Denver once more among friends who understood her. For four vears she worked in the mission there. waiting for God to open another door. She was more convinced than ever that God had chosen her to work in some mission field. He would lead her. Meanwhile she enjoyed working with those who had led her to the truth.

Faith would often ride a bicycle out along the country roads when she had some leisure time. One day while out riding, she accidentally fell. Her ankle bone was bruised but it seemed to be a minor injury. She paid no attention to it.

But before long the bruise became dark and her whole leg swelled up. It gotworse rapidly and became so swollen and painful she was forced to stay in bed for weeks. Her friends insisted she have her ankle examined to find out what was wrong. At last she consented.

After examining the injury one doctor said the bone would have to be scraped because infection had set in. Two others insisted that the leg be amputated because she had tuberculosis of the bone. Faith refused all treatment and was taken back home.

The ministers and saints were faithful to come to anoint and pray for needed for a ticket. How happy she I Faith. In spite of all they could do, she



Hannah's Gift

I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24, 26-28

11 And she (Hannah) vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and...wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life....

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come...that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

24 And when she had weaned him, she took him . . . unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26 And shesaid, Ohmy lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

I Samuel 2:1, 11, 18-21

1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house....

18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she...bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

The Message: Hannah's longing for a son was not a selfish desire. She asked this gift from the Lord so that she could offer him back to God.

Questions:

- 1. What did Hannah pray for?
- 2. What did she vow if God answered her prayer?
- 3. What did she name her son?
- 4. Where did she take him after he was weaned?
- 5. For how long did she lend him to the Lord?
- 6. What did Samuel's mother make him every year?
- 7. Who blessed Hannah and her husband, Elkanah?
- 8. How many more children did Hanna have?

Verse to Memorize

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30.



Hannah has been called the prayerful mother. She lived at a time when the people of Israel in general had turned from serving God. In her own home there was trouble. Elkanah, her husband, loved her and treated her kindly but he had another wife. Her name was Peninnah. Peninnah had children, while Hannah had none.

Peninnah did not let Hannah forget that she was childless. She often provoked Hannah by reminding her that the Lord had kept her from having a child.

But Hannah worshipped God with all her heart. She knew He could grant her greatest desire—to have a son. Every year she went from her home at Ramah to the temple at Shiloh to worship with her husband. Every year her most fervent prayer was for a child.

This yearly journey became difficult for Hannah as she saw parents and children coming together. As her husband made his sacrifices in the tabernacle, he would give portions to his other wife, Peninnah and to her sons and daughters. Though he gave Hannah, a "worthy portion," it was much smaller because she had no children.

Finally one trip Hannah was so troubled that she wept and would not eat. Her husband asked her kindly, "Why are you crying and why won't you eat? Why are you so grieved? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

Hannah did not want to trouble her husband. Though she had no appetite, she ate and drank to please him. Then, as quickly as she could getaway, she got up and wentinto the tabernacle to pour out her heart to God. She was crying so much she could hardly pray but she vowed that if God would give her a son she would give him to the Lord and he would be dedicated to the Lord's service all his life. Hannah prayed from the depths of her heart but made no sound; only her lips moved.

Eli, the priest, sat nearby. Seeing her lips move, but not understanding her silence, he decided she was drunk. "No, my lord," she answered Eli respectfully; "Iama woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord."

When Eli saw her sincerity he told her, "Go in peace and the God of Israel grant you your petition."

Hanna went her way. She was sure that God would answer her prayer for a son.

And God did give her a son. Hannah named him Samuel, meaning "asked of God". Hannah was a loving devoted mother. She carefully taught little Samuel, preparing him for his service to God.

Finally, when Samuel was weaned, Hannah dressed him for his first trip to the tabernacle, where she was to leave him. Hannah's strong faith in God helped her. She confidently placed her small son in His great hands. It was a great sacrifice for her to return to her home in Ramah without him, but she had dedicated him to the Lord. She would prove true to her promise.

Each year when Hannah returned to worship she brought a little coat for Samuel. She was pleased to see that her young son joyfully performed many small duties in the tabernacle. Wise, godly mothers are a gift from God. Those who have their mother's prayers to guide them are truly blessed!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

steadily got worse. Finally they gave up hope that she would live. Then groups of friends would take turns sitting by her bedside. It seemed all they could do was to make her last days as pleasant as possible. Then gangrene set in. It seemed her time was short.

One night those who watched by her bedside were sure this was Faith's last night on earth. They extended their love and pity, did all they could for her, and waited. Finally one of them leaned over and asked compassionately, "Is there anything we can do for you, Faith?"

"Yes," she answered weakly, "anoint me and pray for me."

They all knew that during her illness she had been anointed time and again—twenty-seven times, to be exact! Of course they would not deny her request, though it seemed futile. Once more they anointed her and prayed. It seemed their faith could scarcely take in what they were praying for. But Faith had never given up, even in the awful suffering. And, as they prayed once more, she felt the power of God, His healing power, touch her body. Quietly she said, "I am healed. Let everyone go to bed and I will sleep and rest."

Scarcely daring to believe her statement, they were reluctant to leave her. Finally all of them went to bed except one friend who insisted on lying down in Faith's room until morning. That night she slept soundly and rested all night. When she woke up she looked and felt perfectly normal. She got up, dressed and went into the kitchen where her hostess was fixing breakfast. She had just picked up a skillet of fried meat from the stove when she looked up and saw Faith standing in the doorway. She was so surprised she dropped the skillet, meat and all!

Then suddenly, after three days of being perfectly healed, God allowed Satan to try her faith. Her foot swelled again and the awful pain came back. It was almost impossible for her to go to church when friends came to take her. But she went, claiming her healing.

That night she returned home in terrible pain. The suggestion came to her, "Take off your stocking and look at the place on your ankle and see if it is not as bad as it ever was." But Faith had been healed before and knew Satan always tries to make us doubt God's healing power. She knew the devil had power to send the symptoms of the sickness back but not the actual sickness unless she weakened and accepted the doubt and yielded to his suggestions. God would be grieved if she believed the enemy more than His divine healing touch.

Faith was very careful to not yield to Satan's suggestion. Instead of examining her ankle, she just slipped into bed, taking her stocking off under the covers. "I know in spite of this that God has healed me!" she declared. "I will take my stand on the promises of God. I know that he that 'trusteth in Him shall not be confounded." Then she promptly fell asleep, leavingherself in God'shands.

From that day on her ankle was perfectly normal. God was honored and Satan rebuked. Everyone who knew about her healing rejoiced over the goodness of God.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A son. 2. That she would give her son to the Lord. 3. Samuel. 4. To the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 5. For as long as he lived. 6. A little coat. 7. Eli. 8. Three sons and two daughters.)





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Working And Waiting

(Continued from last week.)

From childhood Faith Stewart felt clearly that God had His hand on her for some special work. During her early years she had no clear leading as to just where He wanted her to go nor what line of work He wanted her to do. But the deep conviction of God's call upon her life caused her to consecrate herself wholly to His servicewhile still very young. She left her future entirely in His hands.

Faith often prayed that the Lord would hinder her from making any plans for her life that could interfere with His own plan for her in the least way. She begged God to lead her in such a way that she would not be hindered from doing His will when the time came that He made that will known to her. She was willing to make any sacrifice to obey God and He was faithful to lead her.

Certainly the most difficult work in the ministry is to go out in a new field and raise up a congregation. Faith worked in the mission in Colorado for four years. She was in her late twenties when she was called to Los Angeles, California to help a congregation there. She worked faithfully until she was able to raise up a growing and prosperous work for the Lord. While she was pastoring in Los

Angeles, an evangelist came to hold a special meeting. After the meeting he expressed to Faith that he would like to pastor that congregation.

So Faith turned the work in Los Angeles over to the evangelist and moved on to Long Beach, California. She had to have some means of supporting herself but her first interest was in working for the Lord. She thought about teaching music, as she was qualified to do so, but she feared this would hinder her spiritual work. Finally she took a job as a sales lady and shared a home with an older couple.

Saving her money. Faith was able to buy chairs to set in the front of the house so they could have worship services there. But the sales job kept her from working for the Lord as she felt she should. She began to watch the ads in the newspaper and one day found an ad for a laundress for two days a week. She decided to apply for the job.

Only very rich people lived in the area. Faith found the lovely home and went around to the side entrance for servants. She rang the doorbell and told them she had come to apply for the job of laundress. The lady of the house came to interview her. After introducing herself, Faith said, "I saw your advertisement for a worker and I have come to inquire about it."



God Speaks To Samuel

I Samuel 3:1-13, 15

- 1 And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli....
- **2** And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place,...
- 3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;
- 4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.
- **5** And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.
- 6 And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.
- 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD,...
- 8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.
- **9** Therefore Elisaid unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- 10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel,

Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

- 11 And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.
- 12 In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house:...
- 13 For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.
- 15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

The Message: God calls and uses those who are busy serving Him, even young children!

Questions:

- 1. What child ministered to the Lord?
- 2. What old prophet did he serve?
- 3. Who called him one night?
- 4. What did he reply?
- 5. To whom did he run?
- 6. Who did not know the Lord yet?
- 7. How many times did he run to Eli?
- 8. What did Eli tell him to answer if God called again?
- 9. What did Samuel fear to do?

Verse to Memorize

Even a chiid is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

Proverbs 20:11.



Hannah wanted a baby boy more than anything else. Her desire was so strong she even prayed, "O Lord, if You will give me a son I will give him back to You to serve You the rest of his life." God heard Hannah's prayer. Before another year passed God gave her and her husband a baby boy. Hannah named him Samuel, which means, "asked of God."

When Samuel was old enough to help serve in the tabernacle she knew the time had come to fulfil her promise to give Samuel to God. Bringing him to Eli, the high priest, Hannah said, "One year when I came up to the tabernacle with my husband, I prayed for a son. I promised that if He would grant my desire I would give him to serve God here in the tabernacle. As long as he lives, he shall belong to the Lord."

Eli was old and could hardly see. He was glad to have Samuel's help.

One night Samuel was lying in bed after a busy day. Suddenly he heard a voice calling him. Immediately he answered, "Here I am." Thinking that it was Eli who called he ran to him, and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Eli was surprised. "I didn't call you," he answered. "Go back and lie down again." Samuel went back and lay down.

Soon the voice spoke again, "Samuel!" The boy rubbed his sleepy eyes and hurried to Eli's bedside. "Here I am," he said, "for I heard you call."

Again Eli told him, "I did not call. You may go back to bed."

The voice called Samuel the third time. When Samuel ran to Eli, the old

man knew that God wanted to speak to the boy. Eli said, "Go and lie down. If the voice calls you again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant listens."

Samuel went back and lay down again. Soon he heard the voice of God calling, "Samuel, Samuel!"

"Speak; for your servant is listening," the boy answered.

God talked with Samuel that night. He told him that Eli's sons would soon be punished for the evil things they were doing. Eli, too, would be punished because he let them serve as priests even though he knew they were evil.

When it was morning Samuel got up early to do his work. He was glad to be busy—he didn't want to face Eli. How could he break such bad news to the kind old priest? Eli waited. When Samuel did not come he called to him and asked, "What did the Lord tell you? Do not hide it from me."

Obediently Samuel told him all the words of the Lord. Eli bowed his head and said, "Let the Lord do what He sees is best."

Just as Samuel began serving God when he was a very young child, you are never too young to give your heart and life to God. As you carefully live for Him, He will make you wise and strong in faith. Samuel became a great prophet and was a blessing to his entire nation. God will also bless you and make you a great blessing to others.

In our story we see how God was leading Faith. He had a great mission for her to fill. There were many hard lessons she must learn to be prepared to do His great work. God had led her to the truth. She must follow God's way even when it separated her from the ones she loved most.

God had spoken to Faith; she would obey Him and let Him lead wherever He chose. Because of her obedience many helpless children were saved. God made her life a great blessing to many people.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"But I want a laundress," the lady answered, "and you are not a laundress."

Faith persisted, "Just try me for a week and if you are not satisfied you won't need to pay me."

The lady agreed to this arrangement. At the end of the first day she came in to inspect the ironed clothing. Faith's work was satisfactory, even to this rich woman. She had learned well under the strict supervision of her invalid mother.

So Faith, though knowing she had been called to some special mission, settled down to work in the laundry room of this rich woman while she waited for God to guide her further. Her pay was two dollars a day plus her carfare.

This gave her the spare time she needed to call in the homes of her neighbors. She worked faithfully to raise up a new congregation for the truth. The Lord again blessed her efforts and the congregation began to grow.

In her visits, Faith often found people in deep need. One day she spoke to one of the servants on her job about a suffering family and their awful poverty. The lady of the house happened to overhear her.

"Are they very poor?" she asked.

"They are destitute and have no way to help themselves," Faith answered.

"Here is a check for fifty dollars," the lady offered. "Take this and buy what they really need."

Faith gladly accepted the check and used it to help the needy family. After this the lady would often give her a check for ten dollars to help in the work.

One day Faith was busy with the laundry when the lady called for her to come to the dining room at noon. She and her daughter were eating lunch and insisted she eat with them.

From that day she was always sent to the lovely dining room for the noon day meal.

After some time the lady came to her and said, "I have found out that you are a laundress and more than a laundress. Here is one hundred dollars for you. You should be free to do the work that you are fitted for. When you have need come to me for more." Of course Faith could not do this. She trusted God to supply her needs and did not beg for donations. Through her prayers and faithful labors, God blessed the little group and they prospered spiritually.

One day she decided to visit a certain congregation that had the sign "Church of God" over the door. Somehow she did not feel the right spirit in the services but, out of courtesy, she stayed. Then two people began to speak in a strange language.

The leader of the group said, "What a pity we have no interpreter. We have been praying for a long time that these brethren might have this gift and now we have no one to interpret. Is there anyone here that can interpret for us?"

Finally a young man got up and said, "I am Chinese and I am not a Christian. I know what these people are saying. I can and I cannot interpret, for they are speaking pure Chinese."

When asked what he meant, he explained. "I can understand the language but, although I am not a Christian, I cannot repeat what these men said. Satan has deceived these men and they are blaspheming God and do not know it!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Samuel. 2. Eli. 3. God. 4. "Here am I." 5. Eli. 6. Samuel. 7. Three times. 8. "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth." 9. Tell Eli what the Lord showed him.)





Vol. 57, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 28, 2006

God's Definite Call

(Continued from last week.)

While Faith Stewart worked to build up a congregation in Long Beach, California, the longing to go to the mission field became so keen that no amount of labor and sacrifice seemed to satisfy. We will let her tell us, in her own words, how the Lord revealed His will to her.

"In the year of 1903 it was made clear to me by the Spirit of God that my work lay in a foreign field. For some months following that revelation I was very happy in the thought of some day helping to carry the gospel message to a people who were without any knowledge of Christ and His Power to save the souls of men from sin.

"However, as I received but little encouragement from God's children, I began to doubt my call. As a result of this, the sweet rest that had filled my soul was somewhat disturbed. Following this was a short season in which I felt myself shrinking and drawing back. I truly had a deep longing in my heart to fill perfectly my place in the body of Christ, and to let God's full purpose for me be worked out in my life. But I felt the weight of the responsibility that would be mine if I took up a work in a foreign land

and felt entirely unable for it. This, so keenly feeling my lack of ability, together with the fact that others gave almost no encouragement, made it indeed hard.

"Nevertheless, feeling sure the hand of God was upon me, I felt I must get the matter so definitely settled that I would not be moved from my call or purpose to fill my place in life, by any opposition or discouragement that might come my way. I therefore decided to make this matter a subject of special prayer. Having made this decision. I purposed to spend the following Sunday in fasting and waiting on the Lord, thus seeking definitely for a clearer understanding of His will concerning me and also for the needed grace to carry out fully His plans.

"During that day the dear Lord was very near and seemed to hourly deepen the conviction in my soul that I had not been mistaken in this matter but that the divine call of God to foreign missionary work was on my heart. I must obey if I expected to keep His sweet approval on my life. As this conviction deepened, the struggle within my bosom became harder.

"At last I left the room where I had been in prayer and started walking to the seaside, a distance of about half a mile from there. I thought I might, by



Giving Yourself To God

Romans 12:1-2, 9-21; 6:13

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
- **2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
- **9** Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.
- **10** Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
- 11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;
- 12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
- **13** Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.
- **14** Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
- 15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.
- 16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.
- 17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.
- 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
 19 Dearly beloved, avenge notyourselves, but rather give place unto

wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

- 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.
- **21** Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 6:13

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

The Message: It is only reasonable that we give ourselves to God. He created us and, through Jesus, bought us back from sin. We belong to Him!

Questions:

- 1. What are we to present as a living sacrifice to God?
- This is our _____ service.
- 3. We must not be conformed to this
- 4. We are to be transformed by having what renewed?
- 5. Then we can prove what is that ____, and _____, and _____, and _____
- 6. Abhor (hate) that which is ____; cleave to that which is ____.
- 7. What should you do to those who persecute you?
- 8. If your enemy is hungry or thirsty, what should you do?
- 9. How can we overcome evil?

Verse to Memorize

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

I Corinthians 6:20.



In the first verse of our Bible lesson Paul begs us to give ourselves to God. Then he tells us this is only reasonable. God created us for Himself, therefore we belong to Him. Sin separated us from God but He loved us too much to leave it that way—He redeemed us. To redeem means to rescue by paying a price. It cost God the dearest thing He had—Jesus, His only Son. Therefore we also belong to Him because He bought us.

God made us in His own likeness and He has a plan and purpose for each one of us. Paul wrote: "...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit:..." (I Corinthians 2:9-10.)

God wants us to know Him so well that we will speak to Him often. He inspired men to write the Bible so we could learn how much He loves us and how we can live to please Him. Once we see God as He really is and see His great plan for our life we will realize it is not only reasonable to give Him our life, it is also our greatest privilege!

It is especially important that you young children give your lives to God. He will then keep you from the awful traps the devil has set for you. He can guide you through the decisions that determine the course of your lives and that will eventually determine where you will spend eternity! God can accomplish great things through young, dedicated lives.

Last week we studied about Samuel. Hannah, Samuel's mother, gave him to the Lord even before he was born. While he was still very young Hannah brought Samuel to Eli the priest. There in the temple Samuel ministered before the Lord. Soon the Lord was speaking directly to young Samuel. As he grew older God spokethrough him to the people. Samuel was a great prophet and accomplished much for God during his long life.

Daniel and his friends were young when they were taken as captives into Babylon. There they were taught another language. They saw strange gods being worshipped all around them. But Daniel and the others knew God personally. Ever since they were very young they had been careful to always obey His commands. They knew God would stand by them if they were faithful. God used them in that wicked country to prove that the God they served was the one true God!

Moses was taken from his godly parents to live in Pharaoh's house when he was very young. But his mother had carefully taught him about the true God. Moses believed in God. When he was grown he chose to serve God rather than live as a prince in Egypt. God used him to deliver the Israelites from slavery.

Have you given yourself to God so you know He is guiding your life? Do you know Him so personally you can tell Him all your troubles? Do you let Him make all the important decisions for you? Are you reading your Bible, God's letter, that He had written to you?

The wisest decision you can ever make is to give yourself to God. Let Him work out His beautiful purpose for your life. He will always be with you to bless you and make you a blessing to many others!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

getting out with nature, be able to shake off some of my feelings. But I was soon aware of the fact that this could not easily be done. Although a struggle was going on within, my deepest desire truly was to know the mind of Christ in this matter. So as I sat alone at the water's edge, I cried out from the deep of my soul that God would come to my aid and help me once for allto settle the great question of my life's work.

"Up to that time I had not had the slightest idea as to which field the Lord was calling me. Nor was my mind settled as to the exact line of work I should take up. By the time I reached the seaside, darkness had closed in, shutting out the day. As I sat thus in the darkness and quietness of late evening, my heart cried out that all confusion would be cleared away. I must have such a clear revelation of my future responsibilities and of God's will for me that I would have something to stand on in the future.

"As I sat thus in earnest prayer. suddenly out over the waters, and directly in front of me, appeared a great mass of little brown facesfaces that clearly spoke of deepest sorrow and suffering. From beneath each little face were two little arms stretched out to me. I threw up my hands and covered my face to shut out this picture, but that was not possible. What stood before me was a clear vision from God and human power could not shut it out. But rather, as I gazed upon the scene before me, it was burned indelibly into my very soul.

"The pleading look in each pair of eyes, the sorrow portrayed in each little face, and the little brown arms so piteously outstretched towards me, spoke volumes to my heart. I knew that somewhere in God's great har-

vest-field was a mass of helpless little ones pleading for someone to save them. And in that solemn hour God by His Spirit, made me to know that He was calling me to go forth to rescuethem, and bring them into the fold of Christ that He might be their loving Shepherd too.

"Siting thus, gazing at the Godgiven vision before me and wondering where the call came from, I cried out from the deep of my soul, 'Oh God, where are these little ones?' Then just above the little faces, in clear blazing letters, appeared these words: 'India's helpless little ones are calling you.' This swept away every doubt as to the certainty of my call, and also the line of work God had especially called me for. It was then that I cried out from a melted heart, 'Amen, Lord, here am I; send me.'"

"I returned to my room that night with a heavily burdened but peaceful heart and a clear consciousness that God had put this special work on my heart. I knew I was called to rescue and care for some of India's depressed little daughters.

"Accordingly I offered myself to the Church for that field. Again I met with nothing butdiscouragement. The only children's work we had in India was an orphanage located at Lahore, in the northern part of India. Knowing my call was to children's work, I fully expected to be sent there to help in that work. However, to my great disappointment, that institution closed down very soon after this.

(To be continued from last week.)

(Answers: 1. Our bodies. 2. Reasonable. 3. World. 4. Our mind. 5. Good, acceptable and perfect. 6. Evil; good. 7. Bless them. 8. Feed him and give him a drink. 9. With good.)





Vol. 57, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 4, 2006

Years Of Waiting

(Continued from last week.)

God answered Faith's prayers for guidance concerning His will for her. Through the vision at the seaside He told her He wanted her to rescue the precious children in India. Her call, from that hour, was definitely settled. Her whole life centered on fulfilling this mission.

Faith watched expectantly for doors to open that would make the way for her to go to India. The vision was so emphatic and the call so urgent, it seemed she must go at once. But nine long years passed after that night alone with God at the seaside before she actually set sail for India. She spent those years seeking, serving and waiting on God to make a way. The vision of little faces and outstretched arms over the sea was always on her heart and mind. She did everything possible to prepare for her calling.

Her first hope was to work in the orphanage in India. When it closed down, Faith was greatly disappointed. The brethren to whom she had confided her call told her, "Can't you see that you are mistaken? The only children's work we had in India is now closed." They told her she was not prepared for such a work. They

had no money to open a work for children and besides she was too frail in health to survive the hardship of a foreign mission field.

Faith knew the brethren were sincere but they were speaking only from the human standpoint. God's call had been made so clear to her that she could not doubt it. From that time on she kept herself in readiness to go to India for any kind of work. She knew God could and would work out His plan for her in His own time. He had called, He must make the way.

From Long Beach, California, Faith went to Anderson, Indiana where she was asked to pastor the congregation. One day she became very sick and steadily got worse. Pneumonia set in and soon all hope for her life was again given up. Friends faithfully attended to her, trying to relieve her suffering. They told her she was sick unto death but God's call for her to go to India was so vivid Faith knew she would not die. The Lord gave her the scripture found in Psalm 91:15-16 that says, "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble: I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

"That is God's promise to me," Faith said weakly. "He will heal me



Almost Persuaded!

Acts 24:10, 24-25

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

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

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

Acts 25:13-14, 22-23

13 And after certain days king Agrippa and Bernice came unto Caesarea to salute Festus.

14 And when they had been there many days. Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king, saying. There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix:
22 Then Agrippa said unto Festus, I would also hear the man myself. Tomorrow, said he, thou shalt hear him.

23 And on the morrow, when Agrippa was come, and Bernice,...at Festus' commandment Paul was brought forth.

Acts 26:1, 24-29

1 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself....

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

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

26 For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him;...

27 King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

29 And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.

The Message: Felix trembled when he heard the gospel and Agrippa was "almost persuaded" but so far as we know neither ever repented of their sins.

Questions:

- 1. Who beckoned for Paul to speak?
- 2. Of what nationality was Felix' wife?
- 3. Concerning what did Paul speak to Felix and Drusilla?
- 4. What did Felix do as Paul spoke of judgment to come?
- 5. What did Felix tell Paul?
- 6. Who told Festus that he would like to hear Paul's testimony?
- 7. Who told Paul that he was mad?
- 8. What did Agrippa tell Paul?

Verse to Memorize

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

Acts 26:28.



After Paul's nephew told the chief captain about the Jew's plot to kill Paul, he sent him to Caesarea that very night. There he was turned over to Felix, the Roman governor.

Five days later the high priest, Ananias, and the elders of Jerusalem came to accuse him. They brought Tertullus, a skillful lawyer, with them. At the trial Tertullus was first to speak. He flattered Felix, telling him how thankful they were to have him as their governor. Then, pointing an accusing finger at Paul, his tone changed as he lashed out, "We have found this man Paul to be a terrible troublemaker. We captured him to judge him according to our law but the chief captain came and took him away from us by force."

Turning to those who had hired him with a sweep of his hand, Tertullus asked them if these facts were not so. One by one they nodded their assent.

Now Felix wanted to hear Paul's side of the case. He motioned Paul to speak.

Paul said, "I speak for myself most cheerfully, Honorable Felix, because you have been a judge of this nation for many years." Then he explained that just twelve days before he had come to Jerusalem to bring his offerings and was in the temple when Jews from Asia started the riot. "The real issue," Paul explained, "is my teaching that Christ was resurrected from the dead."

Felix understood. "We will hear you further when the chief captain has come." he said.

A few days after this Felix came with his wife Drusilla and sent for Paul. He wanted to hear more about his faith in Christ. Paul was glad to testify for his Lord. He spoke with such persuasion about righteousness, temperance and the coming judgment that Felix was deeply convicted of his sins. He trembled with fear at his words.

But he didn't repent! Instead Felix shook off conviction, saying, "Go away for now. When I have a more convenient time I will send for you." So far as we know he never found that 'convenient time' and was lost!

After two years Festus replaced Felix as governor. The Jews asked him to bring Paul to Jerusalem for trial but Paul appealed to Caesar, knowing the Jews would kill him if he went to Jerusalem.

While he waited to be sent to Rome, King Agrippa came to visit Festus and asked to hear Paul's testimony. Gladly Paul told Agrippa how he had been changed when Jesus appeared to him on the way to Damascus. Paul's words were earnest and convincing. Deeply moved, Agrippa said, "Paul, you almost persuade me to be a Christian!"

Paul's heart went out to this poor man who needed to be saved. If only he would yield while God was inviting. 'Almost' was not enough!

Have you ever 'almost' got to the bus in time or to the store before it closed? As you watched the bus leave without you or saw the store manager lock the door for the night it really didn't matter whether you were just one minute too late or an hour. You missed it!

How much worse to neglect salvation and to be lost eternally! The devil is expert at convincing people that there will be a better time to give up their sins and be saved. No doubt millions have been lost who had the best intentions of getting right with God before they died.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

and raise me up again." In a short time she was completely well.

Not long after this a call came from Houston, Texas for someone to come and plant the truth in that city. Faith obediently answered the call. One day while pastoring there, a woman stood in front of her home waiting for the bus. Her little girl, who was playing while they waited, fell and cut an artery in her wrist. The blood spurted out with each heartbeat. Desperate to find help, the mother snatched the little girl up and rushed to Faith's door and asked her to call a doctor.

"I do not know the name of any doctor in this town, because I have not lived here long. But do you believe that God can heal this arm?" Faith asked.

The question was unexpected. The woman hesitated for a moment, then answered, "I do believe He can!"

While Faith prayed earnestly the bleeding stopped. The great Physician had healed the wound. From that time on the woman attended services regularly. Soon she accepted the truth and was saved. Her husband had been away from home for several months, living in sin. When he returned home he found that God had made a great change in his family. Soon he too turned to God and was saved.

Again Faith became restless. She felt an urgency to fulfill her call but there was no way open. She wondered what more she could do. The burden was so heavy she decided to fast and pray until God answered by opening the door for her to go to India.

During this fast she got a letter from the secretary of the Missionary Boardin Anderson, Indiana. He wrote, "There is something here very difficult for me to understand. The finances here are low, and we are in dire need of funds for other things.

But a check of one hundred dollars has been sent to the office with the request that it be used to get Faith Stewart to the mission field. The writer says that although he is not a believer in God, he believes in Faith Stewart. Also, he asked that his name is not to be disclosed, nor the fact that he has sent the money to a Christian. Do you know anything about this?" Faith wrote back telling him the man lived right next door to her. She spent three days in fasting and prayer and God answered prayer through her infidel neighbor. Later this neighbor accepted the truth and was saved.

The very next Sunday Faith received a call from Anderson, Indiana asking her if she could be ready by the following Saturday to come through Anderson on her way to India! It seemed a load was lifted from her heart. At last she was going to India to fulfill her mission for God.

Faith announced the wonderful news to the faithful group who worshipped in Houston. They bought the extra clothing for her that she would need and also took up an offering. Enough was given to buy her ticket on the ship to India but there was nothing left over to pay for food on the road.

On herway to Anderson she would pass right through Cornell, where her father still lived. She quickly notified him and asked if she might come homejustlongenough to say goodbye. His answer came back, "NO!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The governor. 2. A Jewess. 3. The faith of Christ. 4. He trembled. 5. "When I have a convenient season I will call for you." 6. Agrippa. 7. Festus. 8. "You almost persuade me to be a Christian.")





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Leaving For India

(Continued from last week.)

Faith boarded the train headed for Anderson, Indiana. Her joy knew no bounds. Finally her prayers had been answered. She was actually on her way to India! But as the train rumbled into Cornell, her old hometown, sadness overwhelmed her. She was so near she could actually see the corner of the roof on the barn at her old homeplace. Her heart ached to see her dear father one more time but he refused to see her or allow her to visit home one more time.

Her eyes were fixed in the direction of the old home all the while they were stopped at Cornell. Memories of her childhood and loved ones flooded her mind. Then, after some time, the train slowly began moving. She was leaving Cornell, perhaps for the last time, and had been denied even a glimpse of her dear father.

During the years of waiting, God was working in India, preparing for the work Faithwas to do. Some of the brethren in India learned about the terrible traffic in young girls that was being carried on. They heard about hundreds of innocent little ones who were sold into dens of vice and the mostdreadfulimmoral slavery. Other precious little ones were being dedi-

cated into Hindu Temples to be victims of the most awful life of sin. Their hearts were deeply stirred. They knew something must be done!

By the time Faith arrived at Anderson, a letter had come from A. D. Kahn, a native preacher in India. He asked that a missionary be sent to rescue the little temple girls of his country. Those serving on the Missionary Board at that time knew nothing of Faith's particular call to work with children in India. After so many denials, she had quit mentioning it to anyone but the Lord. The Board knew she was the only one ready to go immediately so they asked if she would consider going to India to take up that special line of work. Of course Faith's response was an enthusiastic "YES!" She was fully persuaded that this was directly ordered of God.

Joyfully Faith accepted the offer. God had chosen this way to show not only that He had called her to India but also to verify the specific work she was to do. "What A Mighty God We Serve!"

Even after the Board gave their full consent to her going to India, they yet had their doubts. "You only weigh ninety-eight pounds now and probably have just three months to last in a land like India," they warned her.



Pray Always

Luke 18:1-14

- 1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
- **2** Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:
- 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.
- 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself. Though 1 fear not God, nor regard man;
- **5** Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
- **6** And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.
- 7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
- 8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?
- **9** And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:
- 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
- 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men

are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that-I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: foreveryone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

The Message: God tells us to pray always. This assures us that He is always near us, always listening for our prayers.

Questions:

- 1. What is a parable?
- 2. How often should we pray?
- 3. Who did not fear God or man?
- 4. What did the widow want the judge to do?
- 5. Why did the judge finally do as the widow asked?
- 6. What will God do for His own elect who cry day and night to Him?
- 7. What two men went up to pray in Jesus' second parable?
- 8. Which thought he was better than the other?
- 9. Every one that exalteth himself shall be _____ and he that ____ himself shall be exalted.

Verse to Memorize

...Men ought always to pray, and not to faint;... Luke 18:1.



Before telling the story of the unjust judge. Jesus first tells us the meaning of this parable—we ought to pray always. It is both a privilege and a duty to pray. What an honor it is to be invited to speak with God Almighty. the Creator and Ruler of the universel Very few people are admitted to the presence of truly great people. If they are given this opportunity they must do so at the convenience of the dignitary. But God invites us into His immediate presence at any time, day or night. He knows how weak and helpless we are. He knows that as long as we are in the world we will face trouble. heartache and danger. For these reasons He tells us we should always pray. I Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to "Pray without ceasing".

Wisdomand humility teach us that we are dependent on God for everything. Without Him we can do nothing. This puts us into an attitude of complete dependence on God at all times and a spirit of prayer—of continually lifting our hearts to God in petition for help, guidance and, also, thanks giving for His many blessings to us. In this way we are always praying.

Prayer strengthens us spiritually. In mythology there is a story about a giant named Antaeus. In order to keep alive, Antaeus must touch the earth as often as every five minutes. With each and every touch he became twice as strong as before. This illustrates the power and nature of prayer. Every timewe truly touch God through prayer we receive real strength and increased faith.

When we have a need we should bring it to God in prayer. Our prayer

may not be answered immediately. We are taught then to continue to pray until the need is met. God cannot be compared to an unjust judge. He loves us far more than we can realize. He wants to give us the very best. The Bible tells us that all things work together for our good if we love God. (Romans 8:28.) So, if our prayers are not answered at once we must continue to pray, knowing God has a purpose in the delay.

The prayer of faith waits on God. A minister was once holding a revival. An infidel came to the meeting to ridicule and hinder others from accepting God. Seeing his intent, the minister stepped up to him and asked,

"Are you a Christian?"

"No," the infidel answered emphatically.

"Well, doyouwant to be one?" With a sneer the infidel answered, "I should say not!"

"Then shall we kneel and pray together?" asked the minister

"I do not believe in prayer, " answered the infidel.

"Well, then, will you allow me to kneel and pray for you?"

"Yes, butit will do no good," replied the infidel sarcastically.

The minister knelt and poured out his heart in prayer for the infidel's salvation. When he got up the infidel remarked, "I don't feel any different at all."

"Wait." the minister answered, "wait awhile. God works in His own time."

Two years later the minister met the infidel again. "See, your prayers were not answered," the infidel told him.

"Just don't get uneasy," the minister assured him, "We must not rush God."

After a few more years this same infidel went to another service. God had been dealing with him. This time heyielded to God and was wonderfully saved in answer to years of continued prayer.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"I would rather live three months in the will of God in India than ten years in the homeland," Faith answered firmly.

There was no special way set up to send missionaries out or means to support them when they reached their foreign mission. The donations that came in were divided among all the needs as carefully as possible. Calling Faith to her, the secretary pulled out a small drawer and poured out all the money in it. With what she already had there was just enough to buy her ticket to New York. There was nothing to meet her extra expenses.

When she reached New York she went to the Grand Avenue Mission. All the arrangements for her sailing had been made. Her ship, the Mauretania, was to sail at one a. m. the very next morning. That evening there was a prayer meeting held upstairs. As Faith was coming down the stairs to go to the entrance, a young man who had just received his first pay for working one month, rushed to her saying, "I want to give you something." He handed her a fivedollar gold piece. This was the only money she had to take with her to go to a foreign land alone. But she was content.

On that same evening before her departure, a sister minister told her, "SisterStewart, I am truly glad someone is going to take up that needy work, but I am certainly glad it is not me. I would not want to be the one to go out there alone as you are, to pass through the things you must certainly pass through to open up a work like that!"

Faith had great confidence in the one who said this. She wondered if she really was undertaking too much. Her heart became greatly troubled.

The devil tried to fill her with fears, telling her she would never be able to bear what she must face.

Faith did not like this heavy burden just when it was time to start her long journey. She must have a fresh assurance! Quietly she slipped out of the room and went into a large closet for a few moments of prayer alone before going. Just as she fell on her knees, the Lordspoke to her troubled heart. "Fear thou not;" He assured her, "for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10)

"Oh bless the dear Lord!" Faith exclaimed in writing of the experience. "I was not going alone, neither would I have to labor alone. Just as He thus spoke to me, all fears were swept away and a deep calm filled my soul. I knew that I was going at His command, and now in a very definite way He had assured me of His presence going with me. The power and glory of the Divine Being filled me as I said the last farewells and left the shores of the homeland."

At last Faith Stewart sailed for India in October of 1913. It had been many years since she first felt the call to serve across the seas. Shewas now thirty-four years old.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A story that teaches a lesson. 2. Always. 3. The judge. 4. Avenge her of her enemy. 5. So she would quit bothering him. 6. Avenge them speedily. 7. A Pharisee and a publican. 8. The Pharisee. 9. Abased, humbleth.)





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A Storm At Sea

(Continued from last week.)

From New York the Mauretania, the ship carrying Faith Stewart toward India, sailed to Liverpool, England. The trip, which took about a week, was pleasant and uneventful, as the weather was good.

The Missionary Board had asked Faith to stop over in England and visit the mission there. They felt she could be an encouragement to the workers there. Here she saw many needs that greatly burdened her. She saw work to do and felt she could help lift the load. So, in Berkinhead, England, Faith worked day after day to build the work there as she had done many times in the United States. After three months she began to feel restless and eager to be on her way to her new work in India.

Telling her new friends in England goodbye, Faith set sail, again headed for India. All went well for the first three or four weeks at sea. She was never seasick so she could enjoy the wonder and beauty of the vast expanse of ocean and sky each day.

Shewas looking forward to reaching India as they drew nearer day by day. Thenone evening as night settled down everyone retired as usual, little

expecting danger. Suddenly, out of the stillness of night the passengers heard a warning call for everyone to get up immediately. They were in a terrible storm. Dark clouds covered the sky, blotting out the light of moon and stars. The ship seemed suddenly to be shut in an awful deep and dreadful cave of black and surging waters.

Lightning began to dart across the angry skies while thunder rolled and rumbled in the dense darkness. Rain fell in torrents; winds swept the water into mighty waves. The ship seemed like a plaything as the storm tossed it to and fro. Riding the crest of a giant wave the ship was suddenly plunged into the depths. Water began to pour into the portholes and fill the rooms inside.

When the alarm first sounded, Faith woke up and put her feet on the floor. Water covered the floor! She could tell the water was rising rapidly and was soon up to the springs of her bed. Hurriedly shetied a robe around her and stood up. Just then the stewardess of that section came into her room greatly agitated. Seeing Faith standing calmly in her room she cried out, "Oh, I don't know what to do. There are so many calls for help I cannot answer them all. Will you help me?"



A Godly Father

Genesis 21:3, 5

- **3** And Abraham called the name of his son...lsaac.
- **5** And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

Genesis 22:1-5, 7-13

- 1 ...God...said unto him, Abraham: and hesaid, Behold, here I am.
- 2 And he said, Take...lsaac...and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.
- 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning,...and took,...Isaac his son,...and went unto the place of which God had told him.
- **4** Then on the third day Abraham...saw the place afar off.
- **5** And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you,
- 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?
- **8** And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.
- 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and

laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

- 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.
- 11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven,...
- 12 And hesaid, Lay not thine hand upon the lad,...for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.
- 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

The Message: Agodly father must be an example in obedience and great faith!

Questions:

- What was Abraham's son's name?
- 2. How old was Abraham when his son was born?
- 3. What did God tell Abraham to do with Isaac?
- 4. How soon did Abraham obey?
- 5. What did Isaac ask his father?
- 6. What did Abraham answer?
- 7. After he built the altar what did Abraham do to Isaac?
- 8. Who called to Abraham out of heaven?
- 9. What did he offer instead of Isaac?

Verse to Memorize

He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

Psalm 89:26.



Today is Father's Day!

What comes to your mind when you think of a father? Do you picture someone that is strong and always ready to protect you? Do you think of someone who tries to always provide his family with everything they need? Do you think of someone you can go to when you are in trouble? True godly fathers, such as Abraham, have all these qualities. Those who have such a father should truly thank God! I read a story about a father whose little son was extremely sick with diphtheria. The disease is so highly contagious that the little boy had to be kept away from other people.

One day the boy asked his father, "Daddy, am I going to die?"

The father had taught his boy to always tell the truth. Now he must do as he had taught. So, even though it was painful, he told the little boy that it looked like he would soon die.

After watching anxiously to see what effect his words had on his little son, the father finally asked, "Son, you are not afraid are you?"

Looking up at his father trustingly the little boy replied, "Daddy, if God is like you are, I won't be afraid."

Every child should have a father who shows them what God is like. But many children do not have a father or they may have a father who has hurt, disappointed or even deserted them. Yet everyone has a heavenly Father!

God is that Father. He is always ready to help us when we call on Him. Even the most caring, earthly father cannot always be there when his child is in need or in grave danger. Many times a natural father cannot help, though he longs to. The father we mentioned above would have done anything to save his son from the dreadful disease of diphtheria but he was powerless to help.

But nothing is too hard for your heavenly Father! The prophet Jeremiah was so well acquainted with God he said, "Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee." (Jeremiah 32:17.) When God spoke to Abraham, He told him, "I am the Almighty God." He wants us, also, to know that we can bring every problem to Him. There is nothing He cannot do!

It would not help to have a strong, powerful Father if He was not concerned about us or our needs. But God wants us to know that He loves us deeply and cares about everything that we face. He inspired David to write, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him." (Psalm 103:13)

So, as the very best Father, God is always ready to do good things for His obedient children when they ask. He knows that we do not understand many things so He loves to instruct us. When we do wrong, He is anxious to forgive us and draw us back to Himself in love.

When great trouble came to Job one of his visitors wisely advised him, "Acquaintnow thyself with him (God), and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee." This is sound advice. Talk to God often in prayer. Confide your deepest secrets to Him. Tell Him your needs and desires. Read the letter He wrote, the Bible, to learn how to please and serve Him. Make Him your dearest Friend and you will always have unspeakable peace and happiness. What an honor and privilege to have such a Father!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

So, Faith left her room to help others any way she could. Fear had its grip on most everyone on the ship. The lifeboats were lowered. At first everyone thought the ship had sprung a leak and was slowly sinking. As they boarded, everyone had been assigned to a certain lifeboat before they set sail. Families were not allowed to be together in one boat as there was always danger that the boat would never make it to shore. Families were divided so there would be some survivors if one boat were lost.

No one was allowed on deck for fear of the awful waves sweeping them away in the darkness and fury of the storm. Families began to realize that they must separate and what it could mean. Some became hysterical with fear. Women fainted and had to be helped. Others had to be controlled from doing something rash in their awful fear and anguish.

All through these trying hours, Faith Stewart moved calmly among the people, helping all she could. She knew God still had His guiding hand over her life, even in the storm. He had called her to India, and she had no doubt that He would bring her safely to port in His own time. This gave her courage and strength to help her fellow men in their time of distress and need.

Among the passengers was a bold worldly woman who made a habit of staying up late with two of the men at the bar. They would drink till late at night. Twice the porter warned them to go to their rooms and go to bed. But they still sat at the bar becoming more intoxicated and helpless all the time.

Then the storm hit without warning. The woman was still awake because she had never gone to bed. Suddenly she realized the great dan-

ger. As instructions were being given on how to leave the ship in the lifeboats, great fear seized her. She saw she was practically face to face with death and would soon stand before God in her awful condition.

There seemed to be no time or place to repent in this scene of chaos and horror. Before the storm she had not seemed to need a friend. Now she had no one to turn to as everyone else was gripped with fear and anguish also. She heard the terrified cries of those who feared to be sent out on the angry sea in the little lifeboats. She saw others fainting. One single thought prevailed in her distraught mind. The end had no doubt come. She was living in sin. She was not ready to die. There was no time to repent. She was lost, lost!

In that awful hour her reason left her completely. She became insane. From that time she was kept under guard. Later she was placed in an insane asylum in some foreign country, as ship companies cannot care for an unattended insane passenger.

What an awful end! What a warning it should be to everyone. Matthew 24:44 says, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

There was never a need to use the lifeboats. The ship slowly plowed on its way until the waters became quiet and calm. The storm was over.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Isaac. 2. One hundred years old. 3. Offer him for a burnt offering. 4. He arose early the next morning to obey. 5. "Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 6. "God will provide." 7. Bound him and laid him on the altar. 8. The angel of the Lord. 9. A ram.)





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At Last, India!

(Continued from last week.)

It was February of the year 1914 when Faith arrived at her destination of Calcutta, India. It had been four months since she left the United States. It seemed like a wonderful dream that at last she was permitted to enter the mission field to which she hadbeen called. Afteryears of prayers, fasting, tears, trials and longing she was anxious to finally be about her appointed work.

The wife of a native minister met her at the docks. Accompanying her was a young woman named Sonat Mundul. She was a Christian, the daughter of a high caste Indian. Faith went to the home of this family for the weekend. There she found true fellowship. They in turn were glad that she had come to help their needy land. They knew she came to perform a labor of love.

Faith then traveled on to Cuttack. She would work here many years for the Lord. Sonat Mundul accompanied her. She too had felt the call to help the girls of India. But because of the deep prejudice against women in India, this native girl could not do the work alone. She gladly came to the side of the new missionary, sharing her sacrifices and victories for many years.

Throughout the history of India, customs and prejudices have made the lives of Indian girls miserable. Child marriage was the most common and cruel practice. At that time little girls, frequently as young as eight years old, were married to husbands who might be thirty, forty or even sixty years old. They were sent from the love and security of their parent's home to a strange home. Often the mother-in-law or husband was cruel to the little child-bride.

Enforced widowhood was another cruel custom. If her husband died while she was still practically a child and left no children, or rather, any sons, she became a veritable slave. She could never marry and have a home of her own. If she lived to be sixteen years old her head would be shaved. She would never be allowed to wear pretty clothes or ornaments and was allowed only one meal a day. Faith especially dedicated her work to save the little temple girls. These young girls were dedicated while they were extremely young, even in their infancy, to serve in the Hindu temples. They became the common property of the priests and slaves to their evil passions.

Often Faith saw women go weeping down the road with either an infant or a child to dedicate it to this sad life. These mothers were not cruel



A Brass Serpent

Numbers 21:4-9

- 4 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.
- 5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Early to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.
- **6** And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.
- 7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.
- 8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.
- **9** And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

II Kings 18:1, 3-4

1 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of

Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

- 3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.
- 4 He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cutdown the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

The Message: As the Israelites looked up at the brass serpent to be healed, so we look up to Jesus who is our Savior and Healer.

Questions:

- Why were the people discouraged?
- 2. Who did they speak against?
- 3. Why did they think they would die in the wilderness?
- 4. What did the Lord send among the people?
- 5. Who prayed for the people?
- 6. What did the Lord tell Moses to make?
- 7. What was he to do with what he made?
- 8. If a snake bit someone, how could he be healed?'
- 9. Why was the brazen serpent finally broken in pieces?

Verse to Memorize

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:14-15.



The children of Israel were on their way to Canaan, the land God had promised them. When they came near the kingdom of Arad, he came out and fought against Israel and took some of the people prisoners.

The people prayed and vowed to God that if He would deliver these enemies into their hands they would utterly destroy all the cities of king Arad. God heard their prayer and delivered their enemies into their hand. The Israelites destroyed all the cities of king Arad, as they had vowed.

This great victory and God's mercy to them should have still been fresh in their minds. But soon the people became discouraged because the way they had to go was rough. They began to speak against God and Moses, showing no gratitude for God's many mercies to them.

The people complained that they had no bread or water and accused Moses of bringing them into the wilderness to die. "We hate this light bread," they said, referring to the manna God daily provided for them.

While they were complaining, snakes crawled into the camp and bit many people. These snakes looked like fire, and the poison from their bite felt like fire. Those who were bitten died. The wilderness through which they had passed was, no doubt, infested with these fiery serpents all along. Up to this time God had wonderfully preserved His people from receiving hurt by them. But to chastise them for their murmuring, the snakes, which before had stayed out of the camp, now invaded it.

At once the people realized they were being punished for complaining against God and Moses. They knew they had done wrong, and they were sorry. Quickly they came to Moses and said. "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord and ask Him to take these snakes away."

Instead of taking the snakes away God provided a means by which those who were bitten could be healed if they obeyed His command. God told Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and put it on a pole. Then whenever anyone is bitten, he can look at the pole and he will be healed."

So Moses made a serpent of brass and put it on a tall pole in the middle of the camp. From then on whenever anyone was bitten by a snake, the person looked up at this and the snake bite was made well.

The serpent of brass had no power to heal. The people were healed by faith when they believed God and obeyed by looking up to the brass serpent. If they refused to look up they would die from the snake's bite.

John 3:14 says, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." The snake was lifted high up on a pole. Jesus was lifted up on a cruel cross. As looking at the brass serpent with faith healed the Israelites, sowe must look up to Jesus to be healed from sin and all its evil effects. An Israelite who refused this method of cure would die.

Sinners who despise Christ's righteousness and refuse to accept Him as their Savior will perish in their sins. But God wants every one to be saved. One of our favorite verses tells us: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16-17. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

but they had been taught that this was the very highest sacrifice. Being anxious to please the gods for fear of their displeasure and revenge, these sad mothers had the highest motives in sacrificing their tender little ones.

On September 1, 1914, the doors of "The Shelter" in Cuttack, India were opened. This was a small home that Faith rented. She was glad to have Sonat Mundul as her capable helper. Together they began a diligent search for the little victims of such abuse.

The first child they rescued was a tiny girl, just ten days old, who had already been dedicated to the priests. She had soft brown eyes and was a beautiful baby. Using a rocking chair brought from the homeland, the new foster mothers placed a pillow on the seat and used it as a cradle by day and a bed at night. Tenderly they watched over this little one, thankful to know she had escaped a life of pain and sorrow and sin.

Faith says, "Although the work was hard and slow in the beginning, still we were conscious that God was working with us as one by one we gathered them in." She realized that they could accomplish very little unless they had the Government working with them. They prayed earnestly that God would give favor with them. It was four years later that she received a letter asking if it would be possible for her to work in the capacity of Honorary Inspectress of Police in the cities of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore. This would give her full authority to save the little ones from the dens of sin!

This was obviously the hand of God moving in answer to prayer. She gladly accepted. At last the doors to these dens were unlocked and Faith had the privilege and authority to enter in and rescue the precious little ones. From that time, the work moved forward more rapidly.

The first one they rescued from a brothel was little Rangbati. She was sold by her mother to the keeper of the brothel for two dollars and fifty cents and a piece of cloth when she was only two years and four months old. After locating this child. Faith appealed to the Commissioner of the Division for assistance in rescuing her. Then, in company with the Government Water Inspector, shevisited the brothel, looking around here and there while he worked in another room. Suddenly he led her where a child was sleeping on the floor. She was a dear little Indian girl pitiful in her baby innocence as she quietly slept there.

Faith stooped down as if she was looking at the child. Just then the nurse left the room with the Inspector. This was her chance! Quickly she lifted the little one in her arms and ran for the vehicle, which in India was a closed car. Ladies were not allowed to travel in an open car in India for fear that men would see their faces. Just then, the Inspector came hurrying out to drive her to the station where she would board a train for Cuttack.

As she climbed into the car the nurseran to the door screaming loudly after them. They ignored her cries and sped on their way to catch the train. In this way dear little Rangbatiwas saved from a life of horror and shame and brought into the shelter of a Christian home and all that it means.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Because of the difficult way they had to travel. 2. God and Moses. 3. There was no bread or water in the wilderness. 4. Fiery serpents. 5. Moses. 6. A fiery serpent of brass. 7. Put it on a pole. 8. By looking at the serpent of brass. 9. Because the people were worshiping it.)