

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 January 6, 2008

THE NEW MANAGER

(Continued from last week)

"All the records of the orphanage money are ready for the government inspector," Mena told Lily.

"Wonderful! I am very thankful for your help," Lily answered. "You are very accurate. The inspectors are always impressed."

"Maybe being impressed is what causes so many of them to send back gifts to help."

"Yes, I think it is," Lily said. Then with a far away look on her face she said, "Mena, I was just remembering when you first started watching me keep records. One day you came in quietly and watched me for a long time. The next day you came, then again and again. You really seemed to like numbers."

"I guess I did. I always enjoyed math better than any other subject. But I think what I liked most was just being close to you. However, I do like working numbers and taking care of the orphanage business," he replied.

"I'm glad you like it. Mr. Nashib did a lot of the managing around here forty-eight years, but I always had to take care of the money. I'm seventy years old now, you know, and somebody must keep the orphanage going when I leave for good."

"I'm sure I can't do as well as you, but I will do my best. It's the work I think God wants me to do. I wonder where we'd all be today if you would have sent us away that time?"

"That was a terrible time, however, it worked for our good. It started you children to earnestly praying; and God answering those prayers was what saved the orphanage."

"I'll never forget how you looked when you received that \$1,000 check from Kansas, nor will I forget the bolts of cloth, and sacks of flour, rice and beans you bought with it. I thought we had enough food for years, but in a couple of weeks you were worrying about where you'd get bread for the next day. At that time I didn't realize how much it took to feed and clothe 1,000 children."

"Those were hard years, very hard," she said slowly, "but things have been better since. I am grateful we always have extra food and clothes on hand now, and I am glad, too, that those children learned to trust God. I hope the children we have today will also trust God. Some do, I am sure. Yesterday, when the children were eating lamb stew at your house, Jane, no, Betty, no, Ened, no.... Well, isn't this terrible when you can't remember your own children's names?" She leaned her head into her hands and tried to think.

"Oh, Mama, don't feel bad that you can't remember. How could anyone remember the names of all your children? How many have you had anyway?"

"A couple thousand, I guess! We have dozens of weddings each year. Some of the brides I've kissed goodbye were my best helpers, too. I hate to lose them, but of course I was happy for the girls."



SET FREE ON THE SABBATH!

Luke 13:10-22

10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.

11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.

12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity.

13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.

15 The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering?

16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?

17 And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

18 Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it?

19 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.

20 And again he said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God?

21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

The Message: In spite of her great infirmity, the woman went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day. There she met Jesus who saw her great need and healed her!

Questions:

1. What was Jesus doing in the synagogue on the Sabbath day?
2. How long had the woman had the spirit of infirmity?
3. How did it affect her?
4. Who called her?
5. What did He say to her?
6. What happened after He laid His hands on her?
7. Who was greatly displeased?
8. What did Jesus call him?
9. All his adversaries were _____ and all the people _____.

Verse to Memorize

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
Matthew 6:33

Let's



Talk . . .

It was the Sabbath, the day especially set apart to worship God. One woman began making preparations to go to the synagogue that morning. For her, getting ready to go was a slow process. It took special effort just to get dressed but much greater effort to walk the distance from her home to the synagogue.

Our lesson tells us that this woman was bowed together and that she could not straighten her back. It was impossible for her to stand up straight and tall! Have you ever tried to walk while you were bent over? Every step took special effort. This poor woman had been in this pitiful condition for eighteen years!

People would naturally stare at her because she was so deformed. It would have been much easier to have just stayed at home that morning. But this woman's thoughts were not on herself; she was intent on doing whatever it took to worship God.

No doubt she had been to the synagogue many Sabbath mornings. This particular Sabbath would have seemed no different; she had no way of knowing the wonderful change that would soon take place in her life.

Jesus was teaching in the synagogue that morning. The woman may have heard of Him and the many people He had healed but she did not approach Him asking for healing. She came to hear the word of God, to be taught and to get good to her soul. She stayed in the back of the synagogue, the place designated for

women worshipers. Bent over and crowded in with the other women who stood tall all around her, she could not expect to even be seen by Jesus.

But Jesus did see her. He was filled with pity for this poor woman. To everyone's surprise He called her to come to Him! She did not hesitate. The crowd watched closely as she slowly made her way to Jesus. They waited to see what He would do.

Watching her struggling to come to Him, Jesus said compassionately, "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity!" He spoke with great authority yet with love and compassion.

Then as she got closer Jesus gently laid His hands on her. Instantly she stood erect; all her deformity was gone! In that instant she was transformed. She began to praise and glorify God for her deliverance. Everyone could see that she had been instantly healed. It was a wonderful miracle!

But not everyone was pleased. The ruler of the synagogue was indignant—Jesus had dared heal this woman on the Sabbath day! He ignored Jesus, but turning to the people, he told them, "There are six days in which men ought to work; in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day."

"You are a hypocrite!" Jesus told him boldly. "Everyone takes his animals out of the stall on the Sabbath and leads them to get water. Satan has bound this woman, who is a daughter of Abraham, for eighteen long years. Shouldn't she be set free on the Sabbath?"

The ruler of the synagogue and others who opposed Jesus could say nothing. His words had put them to shame. But the people rejoiced and praised God. They had witnessed a glorious miracle at the synagogue that day!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Anyway, back to what happened at your home yesterday, one little girl who was eating lamb stew said to me, 'Do you know that this is a blessing of the Lord?' It was mighty nice of you to invite 250 children to the engagement party. They had the largest piece of meat that they had ever eaten!"

"Well, you know it is the custom in Egypt to make a less fortunate person happy when something makes you very happy. Mary and I are Egyptians, you know, even though we are both your children. Of course we are happy that our oldest daughter is engaged to a good man. He paused a moment and continued, "Being raised here, we also understand how good an orphan feels when he is invited out to dinner."

"Yes, because there are so many of us, there are things in normal family life that my children miss," Lily said. Mena noticed the pain in the tone of her voice.

"But Mama, you must remember that the children you take in have no family. The few that have a relative or single parent would have been clothed in rags, almost starved, and never been able to go to school, or learn a trade, had they not come here. When I see beggars, the poor peasants, and the cruel poverty on every side, I realize, more than ever, how fortunate Mama Lillian's children are."

"Yes, the children who have found the orphanage have found the blessings of God," Lily said as she sat back in her rocker and relaxed.

"The boys have had a chance to learn woodworking, carpentry, leather-work, (including shoemaking), he looked down at Lily's orphanage-made shoes, "farming, mechanics, teaching, and clerical skills. Your girls, too, have been able to prepare themselves to be good mothers and housekeepers, and also have a trade in case they should ever need to work for money. However, Mama," he said, looking at Lily's contented face framed in snowy white hair, "the most important tool we have for life is knowing how to trust Jesus."

"I am glad you understand the most important thing this orphanage

has to offer. It makes me happy to see young people establishing Christian homes as you and Mary have. What a mighty impact all these Christian families will have on Egypt. I've always told the folks back home that if they want the gospel to spread, they should have more children."

They both laughed. Then Mena corrected her, "They need to raise more children. Raising children can be very profitable for the Kingdom of God."

"It surely can be, but some people think it's just too much work. It is a lot of work—fifteen years of hard work to help boys and girls develop a strong godly character so they can do their duty toward God and man. Then it's another five years before a young man is prepared to take his place in the world as a Christian witness and provider for his family, or a girl dressed in white is ready to say, "I do," at the altar and be the wife and mother she should be. Oh, those long hard years of nursing through sickness, schooling, clothing, feeding, correcting, praying and tears—those years full of the joys and sorrows of parenting. I wouldn't trade them—even if I could be a Lady in Scotland, or a queen." She wiped tears from her eyes and noticed Mena's eyes were wet, also.

"The inspector should be here some time today," he told her after a brief moment of silence. "Would you like me to call you when he comes?"

"No, I will be leaving tomorrow to stay with Jeanie at her villa in Alexandria, and I have several things to check on before leaving. When it gets a little cooler this evening, I would like to walk around a bit and see progress on the new school building and water project. I'll meet you here at the office at 6:30, okay?"

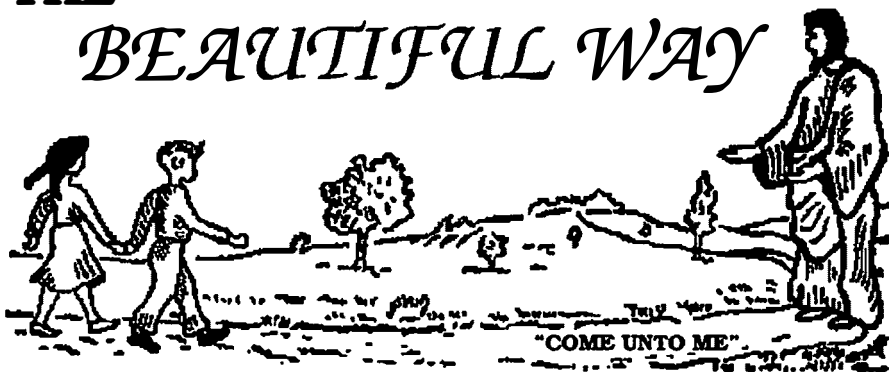
"Okay."

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Teaching. 2. Eighteen years. 3. She was bowed together and couldn't straighten up. 4. Jesus. 5. "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." 6. She was immediately made straight. 7. The ruler of the synagogue. 8. An hypocrite. 9. Ashamed, rejoiced.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 13, 2008

GOOD-BYE, I LOVE YOU!

(Continued from last week)

When Lily arrived at the orphanage office at 6:30, Mena was talking on the telephone. He rose from his chair and greeted her. She sat down in her rocker to wait and rest a moment, for she knew walking around the orphanage was a long walk. She had bought adjoining land from the farmers and erected more and bigger buildings as the need for new ones arose. There were now 13 buildings.

They had talked just long enough for Mena to get comfortably leaned back in his office chair with his feet on the desk, when Lily suggested, "Let's walk out and see things." She liked everything in its place, . . . including feet!

They left the main office, walked across the courtyard and past the small boy's dormitory that had been rebuilt since the fire nine years ago. They passed the older girls dormitory (once used for the boys) and Mama's old two story house. Passing the old house brought back many memories. Some were sad ones, but most were happy, like the September she returned from a trip to America when the children greeted her crying, "Mama jet, Mama jet," which means, "Mama has come," not "Mama has come on a jet." She recalled the many hours seated in her chair by the big window upstairs, watching the happy children playing in the courtyard, the times the girls had gathered there to sew, and those long talks with the older girls about life's choices, planning their

weddings, and the times she had taught the older boys the Scriptures. Oh, there were so many happy times in that old house!

On past the sewing house and to the left was the new nursery with 40 small beds. Close to the new nursery was Lily's new cottage which Jeanie had given her. Flowers, vines, and exotic plants surrounded the house, fruit and shade trees grew on two and one-half acres of land that were reserved for Mama so she could have rest and quietness when she needed it.

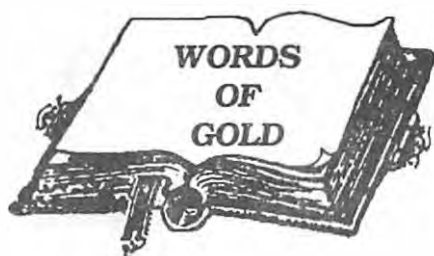
They walked on quietly. Lily was thinking of her conversation with a visitor last week. He had asked, "How much will it cost to run your new school for boys?"

"I don't know," she had answered. "What?" he said, "have you built a school and not counted the cost for books, teachers, equipment, etc.?"

"I never count cost. I just know there is a need, so I get things prepared to meet the need. God supplies the money as we go along. He promised me almost fifty years ago that He would supply for my children, and He always has."

"Do you have a banker friend who loans you money while building?" another woman once asked Lily.

Lily was happy to say that she had never borrowed a dollar for building. "I have borrowed many times to buy food, but buildings are paid for in cash." She was lost in thought until they were close to the boy's new dormitory. She looked up at the magnificent white



THE PRODIGAL SON

**Luke 15:11-14; 16, 17;
20-22; 25-32**

11 . . . A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said. . . Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me . . .

13 . . . the younger son gathered all together, and . . . wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 . . . there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And . . . he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

25 Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing.

26 And he . . . asked what these things meant.

27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf . . .

28 And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and entreated him.

29 And he . . . said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee . . . and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:

30 But as soon as this thy son was come. . . thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

31 And he said unto him, Son. . . all that I have is thine.

32 It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad, for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

The Message: God is waiting and always ready to receive every one who repents of his sins and comes to Him.

Questions:

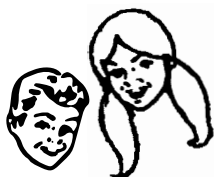
1. Which son asked for his portion of his father's goods?
2. What did he do with his substance?
3. What arose in that land?
4. He was so hungry he was tempted to fill his belly with what?
5. Who saw him while he was still a long way off?
6. He told his father he was no longer worthy to be called what?
7. Who came in from the field?
8. Why wouldn't he go in and welcome his brother?
9. The father told him his brother was lost, and is ____.

Verse to Memorize

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Luke 15:10

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is one of the best parables in the Bible to illustrate God's love for sinners. The father represents God and His great compassion for sinners who repent. The younger son represents any and all people who have drifted away from God's love and protection. The older son represents anyone who might let pride or resentment stand in their way of rejoicing with God and His angels on the return of someone who has been lost.

He said, "A man had two grown sons. The younger one came to him and said, 'Father, give me my share of the inheritance now.' So his father divided all his wealth and gave the younger son his share.

"Soon after this the younger son took everything his father had given him and went on a long trip to a distant country. He felt like he had plenty of money so he spent it freely and wasted most of it on just having a good time. Before long he realized his money was about gone. When he lost his money, he lost his "friends;" those who had helped him waste it.

"Just as he became destitute a great famine spread over that country. He had no money to buy food, so he hired himself out to a farmer who gave him the job of feeding his pigs. He was so hungry he was tempted to eat the husks that the pigs ate.

"His troubles caused him to think seriously about home and all that he had lost by leaving his father. 'My father's slowliest servants have food in abundance, and here I am starving to death,' he thought. 'I will go back to

my father and tell him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Please make me as one of your hired servants."

"So he started toward home. He was still far down the road when his father, who must have been watching, saw him coming. His heart was full of compassion and mercy. Running to meet him, the father threw his arms around him and hugged and kissed his son.

"His son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But his father told his servants, "Go and fetch the best robe and sandals and a ring for his finger and clothe him. Go and prepare a banquet; we will have a feast and celebrate, for this my son who was dead is alive again—he was lost but now is found.'

"The elder son had been working in the fields, and as he came home, he heard the music. He asked one of the servants, 'What has happened?'

"The servant told him, 'Your brother has returned home and your father has killed the fatted calf and is celebrating his safe return.'

"The elder son became angry and would not join in the celebration. His father came out and begged him to come. But he said, 'I have served you faithfully for many years and have done everything you ever asked me to do, but you have never even given me a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. Now this son of yours, who has spent all his money on wicked living, returns and you kill the fatted calf for him!'

"His father answered him, 'Son, you are always with me and everything I own is yours. It is right for us to make merry and be glad. Your brother was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.'

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

building. It almost took her breath away; it did every time she saw it!

"What?" Mena asked.

"I was gasping," she said. "It is hard for me to believe that we have a building with over 20,800 square feet of living space in it."

"It's like a hotel," Mena added, "and it's for the poor outcast child to call home. Isn't God good to provide this fine home for them?"

They sat in lawn chairs in front of the big dormitory and rested before going on. From where they sat, they could see the brick fence that walled the swimming pool, and hear the laughter as the middle aged girls took their turn swimming. Some Egyptian friends, the Maurice Bey Doss family, had given it to them.

The roof of the beautiful chapel could be seen from here, also. It was big enough to seat the 1,300 from the orphanage and few visitors from Assiout.

"We must go on," Lily said, "I want to go through the newschool building and see the water system before it gets too dark."

"All this room lacks is paint around the doors and windows," Mena said as they went into the school.

"I am so glad the boys will have an opportunity to study," Lily said lovingly.

The next building they passed was the regular school building. The new one was for higher education and vocational courses for the boys. The old school had many rooms and a special play yard for the blind girls. Egypt had schools to teach blind boys, but there was none for blind girls, so Lily saw the need and through faith made this provision for them.

Many of the children who came to her were older, but had never been to school. These were not humiliated and put in classes with small children; there was a room especially for them. Lily seemed to be endowed with wisdom from God to handle these things right. Now they were passing the storage building. It held cotton, grain, dry milk, pasta, cooking oil, canned meat, etc. Much of this was U.S. surplus food donated by the government and another organization

which was established to send food, clothing, tools, books, etc. overseas to needy people.

The new building for the electric (dynamo) engine had just been finished. "How nice all this is!" Lily exclaimed

"Look around here," Mena said. "The workers are starting to dig the new reservoir."

"It surely is big!"

"And over there," Mena pointed to where an old building had been. The boys have cleared away that old tumbled down building, and bricks are baked and ready to start a new one. I have the lumber ordered and paid for, too.

"And all this was possible from money sent by Americans who have shown a love for the dear ones here in Egypt. I praise God every day for the loyal brethren who cannot be missionaries themselves, but help by giving. And the young people, too, are generous. Have you heard what's on the way?"

"No, what?"

"A new car, paid for by only young people!"

"Yes, I knew about the car, but how will you ever pay the customs fees?"

"I got a letter from the President today saying I can have the car free. Jeanie and I will pick it up on the way to Alexandria tomorrow!"

"Great!" he shouted. "I was sure you would get it."

They went into the kitchen. Everything was spotless and the workers were out for the evening.

"I won't be seeing you until the cooler weather in the fall," Lily told Mena as they parted. "You're my new manager. I know you will take good care of things while I am gone. Goodbye, I love you."

"Goodbye, I love you, too," Mena called back.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The younger. 2. He wasted it. 3. A mighty famine. 4. The husks that the pigs ate. 5. His father. 6. His son. 7. The elder son. 8. He was angry. 9. Found.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 20, 2008

A TRIP TO ALEXANDRIA

(Continued from last week)

It was very hot, but the five little girls sat as still as statues in the back seat of Jeanie's car. It was their first car ride and their first trip away from Assiout. Each time Mama went away for a vacation, if at all possible, she took some orphans with her so they could experience life outside the orphanage. This time they were headed to Alexandria to spend the summer in the cool breeze of the Mediterranean Sea. The children would play on the seashore, investigate a large city, see wild unusual animals in the zoo, ride the elevators and escalators, shop in the big department stores, buy an ice cream cone, and many other things. While riding along, Lily told the girls about one time when she took a new infant on the airplane. When she got off the plane, the stewardess asked, "Whose is the baby? Where did you get it?"

"She's an orphan. I got her from an orphanage," Lily answered.

The stewardess took the baby in her arms and said, "How darling! Did you get her from Miss Lillian's orphanage?"

Lily wrote in her diary most of the morning while Jeanie pointed out things along the way to the girls. For lunch they stopped in Cairo so the girls could eat in a restaurant for the first time. "It is so good to be able to leave the orphanage and feel an assurance that things will be well taken care of while I am away," Lily said to

Jeanie after they left the restaurant. "Mena will take care of the business needs, and Assad, the spiritual needs."

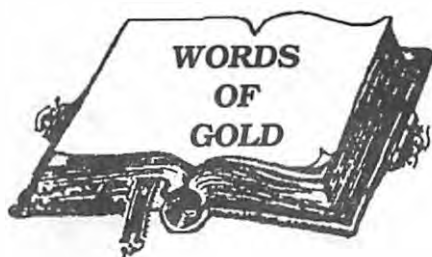
"I'm happy you could get away. You need this time of rest. After all, you're 73 years old. The hard years of work and worry for the children have overworked your heart."

"Well, maybe so, but I love the time I have with them. For years I had to be away getting food or was busy sewing clothing, but now God is supplying our needs without my effort. I am using every day to pass on all the knowledge I can to the children while I am able; that is what will help them even after they have left the orphanage, or we are not around to help. Somehow, I feel I may not be around much longer," Lily said rather sadly, "so I'll do what I can while I can."

"Everyday I have devotions with the girls before school time. I teach two English classes and, from 3:30 to 5:30, teach French. Friday evening is Bible study, and the other four evenings I teach the girls who are teachers. As you know, each Sunday afternoon I lead the worship service, and. . ."

"Lily," Jeanie scolded. "you are doing too much."

"Maybe—but I love it, and it's hard to stop," Lily explained. "Say, there's the port where we came to meet Lord Maclay!" she exclaimed as they passed the port. "That day he laid more money in my hand than I had spent in two full years for all the orphanage expenses." She paused for a few minutes then said, "Things were so cheap in those days. I could keep a child for



LAZARUS AND THE RICH MAN

Luke 16:19-31

19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried:

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send

him to my father's house:

28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

The Message: Nothing is more important than making very sure we are ready to meet the Lord when He calls us from this life!

Questions:

1. Who fared sumptuously every day?
2. What was the beggar's name?
3. What did he want from the rich man's table?
4. What did the dogs do?
5. What happened to the beggar when he died?
6. Where did the rich man go after he died?
7. What did the rich man want Lazarus to do?
8. How many brothers did the rich man have?
9. Who did the rich man want Abraham to send to warn them?

Verse to Memorize

... Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? James 2:5

Let's



Talk . . .

There once was a rich man who lived in a beautiful house. He always wore expensive clothes and ate the very best food. This man thought only of himself. He had many servants who were quick to do whatever he asked and to make sure he was comfortable. It seemed that this man had everything a person could ever wish for!

A poor man named Lazarus had been laid just outside this rich man's gate. He was covered with sores; too sick to work. He had no money to buy food, but he knew the rich man had more than enough to eat. All he wanted was a meal from the scraps off the rich man's table.

Dogs that passed by him stopped and licked Lazarus' sores. But the rich man passed by him every day without offering to help him in any way. He didn't offer him any food from his table. He never offered to give Lazarus anything to wear. He passed by Lazarus as if he wasn't even there.

If you were the rich man, would you trade places with Lazarus? As we will see, it would be a wise choice!

Even though he didn't have very much when he was on earth, Lazarus trusted in God to take care of him. That is what God did. When Lazarus finally died, He sent His angels to take him to Heaven. Here he was no longer a beggar. He could live in peace and happiness with Abraham and other good people who had left the world. Here he enjoyed all of the comforts that he never knew when he was on earth. He was happier than you can imagine!

The rich man, on the other hand, didn't think he needed anyone. He

sure didn't need God. He had everything that he needed. At least, that is what he thought. When the rich man died, his friends mourned for him and gave him a grand burial. But, instead of going to a place of peace and happiness, the rich man was taken to a place of torment! In his lifetime he took no time to pray and make sure he was ready to die. He was only thinking of enjoying his riches. Now they could bring him no help or comfort. He was miserable!

From this place of torment, he lifted up his eyes. Far, far away he saw Lazarus with Abraham! He still thought only of his own needs. The rich man cried out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me! Send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my burning tongue."

But Abraham reminded him, "Remember the good things you enjoyed in your lifetime while Lazarus had only trouble and suffering. Now he is comforted, and you are tormented. I can send nothing to you, because no one can pass from this place to your place of torment."

The rich man remembered his brothers who were still living on the earth. He did not want them to come to this place. He knew they were living in pleasure just as he had when he was alive. He said, "Please send Lazarus back to my father's house. He must warn my five brothers about this dreadful place."

Abraham answered, "They have the words of Moses and the prophets. Let them obey those words."

The rich man knew his brothers would never do that. He pleaded, "No, but if someone were to be sent from the dead, they would repent."

Finally Abraham said, "If they will not pay any attention to the words in God's book, they would not pay any attention to one who rose from the dead."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

ten cents a day. And just think, the tourists who went on that luxury excursion from Cairo to Luxor paid \$350.00! That was enough to keep an orphan for nine years!

"How can people be so selfish as to spend that much money on a few days of fun when the money could take care of an orphan for years?" Lily questioned.

"They just aren't Christians or don't understand the need. Christ helped the needy," Jeanie answered. "God's work would prosper if all Christians were like the poor 94-year-old brother that sends you most of his social security check. How much did he send last month?"

"Four hundred dollars," Lily answered. "It's nearly that much every month. God needs people who can give only a little, as well as those who give great amounts like Lord Maclay. Jeanie, did you know that the orphanages in Scotland, that Lord Maclay is trustee of, are taking in infants since he has seen how we do. I'm so glad that what I have done has influenced him. It makes me feel like I have helped him just a little bit, too. They have 30 babies now, and I think around 1,200 children."

"I suppose, though, that they haven't had the financial struggles you've had," Jeanie mused.

"No, but we do have so many nice things now—plenty of clothing that I haven't had to make, hot and cold running water, washing machines, and much, much, more. This year, when Leo took sick with the measles, I quickly moved him into isolation and only a few more caught the disease. Remember years ago when I wrote you about the many children being sick with measles and 18 of them dying?"

Jeanie nodded her head to show she remembered.

"It might have happened again if God hadn't supplied a building in which to isolate the sick ones."

"And too," Lily continued. "God was good to me by letting you be here to nurse me when I took sick with the rheumatic fever. I was so-so-so sick. I thought I might die."

"I, too, can be thankful I was here.

If I had been home, I might have been killed in the earthquake. . . ."

The girls, who usually never interrupted adults when they were talking, cried together, "An earthquake!"

"Yes," Jeanie answered, "An earthquake completely destroyed my home several years ago."

"So, you're at the orphanage because you don't have a home either?" one little girl asked.

Jeanie laughed. "Not really," she answered. "I'm here because I think it is a great privilege to work with you children. And I'm here to stay."

The girls giggled. They were glad Auntie Jeanie was staying. She gave treats to the children.

"Children are priceless," Lily said. "Jesus took a little child and said to those standing by, 'Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me.' I feel I am receiving Jesus into the orphanage each time I receive a little dirty ragged child. A child is the most important thing in the world. These children will carry on when we are gone. They will lead the world in whatever direction they think is best, be it good or bad. Today is our opportunity to mold the future by helping the children to learn that living for God has much value, and doing evil has none."

"In every child there is a soul that will someday awaken to its need for God. By teaching them God's standards and His Word, we are equipping them with the ability to find God."

"And think of all the dormant possibilities in each of these children you are helping," Jeanie added. "Someday they will feel the desire to do something with their lives."

The sun was setting when they arrived at Jeanie's home in Alexandria. They had talked most of the afternoon about the great blessings they were receiving by helping the poor and needy of Egypt.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The rich man. 2. Lazarus. 3. Crumbs. 4. Licked his sores. 5. He was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom. 6. To hell where he was tormented. 7. Dip his finger in water and cool his tongue. 8. Five. 9. Lazarus.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 27, 2008

MAMA'S PICTURE ALBUM

(Continued from last week)

Each evening at seven o'clock, the girls who were teaching met in Lily's office for studying and lesson preparation. After class was over one evening, Ruela said, "Mama, tell us about yourself. Did you ask God to make you a missionary?"

"I always wanted to do something for God. A lot of young people back in those days wanted to be missionaries; I may have asked God to make me one."

"Did you know God was sending you to Egypt to be a mama to orphans?"

"No, but I loved children and wanted to have twelve. When I left America for Egypt, I was young and full of wonderful anticipation for whatever life held for me. Here I am, 50 years later, an old gray-headed woman, with not twelve children, but almost 1,400!"

"How many children did you have when you moved out of Assiout?"

"I had 50. The neighbors were complaining that my children were too noisy. Of course I didn't think so!"

"Do you have some pictures of those children?" Ida asked.

"Yes, a few. Get the old brown picture album out of the closet and I will show them to you."

"This picture of 50 children was taken in 1915. This one of 300 was taken in 1923."

"Of whom is this picture?" Ruela asked.

"That is Miss Clayton. She came to help in 1928 and worked for 17 years. She was the most faithful of all

the missionaries who have come. She arose early each morning and took care of all the sick children before going to teach school. Besides doing this, she supervised the little girls.

"The pictures on this page were taken in 1939. There were 670 children. Here is one taken of a baptizing, when," she paused to think, "it seems like maybe 250 or 275 were baptized. This one is of 25 men who were saved and dedicated their lives to the Lord during the great orphanage revival of 1927. Each one grew up here."

"Look, here's one of the girls sewing," Ida said, pointing to the album. "For many years all the clothes we had were sewn by the girls. This picture shows the 60 girls who did the sewing for 700 children in 1935. Each one had to finish one garment a day, pin her name on it and bring it to my office so I could inspect it. If it wasn't sewn right, it had to be done again. We also had 60 small girls learning to sew who had classes twice a week."

"Will you tell us about this newspaper clipping?" Ida asked.

Lily took the paper in her hands and read, "A supreme committee of prominent Muslims has been appointed whose object will be to oppress the activities of the missionaries."

"Why did they want to oppress the missionaries?" Fouzeah asked.

"The trouble started when a girl in a Swedish orphanage in Port Said was spanked for misbehavior," Lily said. She ran to the police station and told them she had been beaten



PRAYERS THAT PLEASE GOD

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 I fear not God, nor regard man:

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

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*, extor-

tioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as *his* eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other: for everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

1 Peter 5:6

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

The Message: God honors and answers the prayers of those who humble themselves before Him.

Questions:

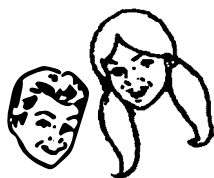
1. What should men do always?
2. Who neither feared God nor regarded man?
3. Who came to him?
4. What did she ask him to do?
5. Why did he finally grant her request?
6. What two men went up to pray?
7. Which one told God all the good he did?
8. What did the publican say in his prayer?
9. Which one went back to his house justified?

Verse to Memorize

Pray without ceasing.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus often taught important lessons by speaking to the people in parables. He plainly told the people the point of this lesson before even telling the parable. He told them that everyone should always pray. They should never get tired of talking to their heavenly Father. They must not neglect prayer!

Prayer is a great privilege. God has provided prayer as a way for us to talk to Him personally. He tells us to always pray, not just when we are in trouble or something suddenly goes wrong, but always. He is always available, waiting and anxious to hear our prayers!

Although God always hears our prayers, He does not always answer them right away. Sometimes we are not ready to receive the answer. Through continued prayer, He helps prepare us. He wants us to have such an intense desire for the answer to our prayer that we keep our request before Him constantly. This is called importunity.

Jesus told the people a story about an unjust judge, to teach the people to keep on praying until their prayers are answered. He said there was a certain widow who went to a judge. Someone had taken advantage of this widow and done her wrong. She had no power to punish her enemy or get back what he had taken, but she knew the judge could make her enemy correct the wrong.

But this judge was not interested in helping the widow. At first, he paid her no attention, thinking she would leave him alone if he ignored her. But she kept coming. There was no one else who could help her out of her troubles. He must help her!

This annoyed the judge. Finally he said, "Though I don't fear God nor regard man, I will do what this widow wants just so she will stop bothering me!"

Jesus told the people to learn this lesson from the parable: If the unjust judge gave the widow what she wanted, how much more reason we have to expect that God, who is infinitely good and merciful, will meet our needs if we diligently seek Him.

As Jesus spoke to the people, He knew there were those in the crowd who were proud of their righteousness. They looked down on those who they thought were sinners. He told them a story about a Pharisee and a publican to teach them a lesson.

He told them that the Pharisee and publican went up into the temple to pray. The Pharisee would not stand near the publican but stood by himself. Looking up toward Heaven he prayed, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice each week and give tithes of all that I possess."

But the publican would not even lift up his eyes. Humbly bowing his head he beat on his chest and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"

Then Jesus declared, "I tell you, this publican went back to his home with God's blessing. But God did not accept the Pharisee's prayer, because he exalted himself rather than asking for God's blessing and mercy.

Jesus concluded the parable by saying, "Every one that exalts himself shall be abased; and he that humbles himself shall be exalted." The publican acknowledged that he was a great sinner. God forgave him and blessed him with salvation. The Pharisee, however, felt his good deeds bought him God's favor. He saw no need to change his heart. He did not ask for salvation nor did he receive it.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

because she would not become a Christian. The tale stirred up all of Egypt, for 90% of the Egyptians are not Christians, but Muslims. Their religion is called Islam.

"Well, the missionary was sent out of the country at once! All of the Muslim girls were taken out of the orphanage and placed in a Muslim orphanage many miles away in Cairo."

"Did they take any children from you?" the girls asked in surprise.

Mama Lillian wiped tears from her cheeks as she said, "About three weeks after that happened, they took 70 children. Pauline and Malazama were both over 21 years of age. They were the only Muslims who stayed, except little Brestine. They didn't want her. She was blind, had a crooked leg and a twisted arm. I was so thankful they left her, for she needed me so badly."

"I was still crying at midnight when the telephone rang. 'Please Miss Trasher,' a police official begged, 'will you please come over here and try to quiet these children? They won't stop calling for Mama.' I went over not only that night but many nights until they were adjusted to the change."

"Here's the front page of the El Ahram and there is an article about you." Ida began reading.

Fouzeah interrupted her by asking, "What is this picture of all these women with arms full of clothing?"

"The Egyptian Charity Society gave out a lot of old army clothes because of the shortage of cloth. For two winters they gave us some. I was thankful because it could be used to make very warm clothing. The material was wool. The suits had to be taken apart and cut to fit the children, then sewn together again using the reverse side of the material, as it looked nice and new. It was a big job!"

"This is Farid the day he left for Souhag to help Mr. Makiel with his 70 orphans," she said, pointing to a boy waving goodbye. "Mr. Makiel was once our teacher, and he is the only Egyptian in all of Egypt, that I know about, who has a faith orphanage."

"This is Miss Leteefa when she first came to us."

"She is so skinny and ragged," Ida exclaimed

"Quite different, all right," Lily said "And even though she is blind, she is the best English teacher of all, right?" The girls agreed.

"This is William and Robert Nis. Their mother died with a disease called T.B. They came here with their little sister after their blind father died. The sister died later. Robert didn't like to study, but he loved to work with wood. He became an excellent cabinetmaker. William liked to study. After graduation from the American University, the private college in Egypt, he taught several years then went to Sudan and opened his own school. His school in Sudan has brought him national recognition."

"This picture was taken in the nursery when it was filled to overflowing with 50 babies. The nine older girls in the picture cared for the babies in the daytime; another group came for the night."

"What happened to the boy in the wagon?"

"He was run over by a train. The little fellow beside him had a shriveled arm and hand and could never walk properly. He was made fun of so much in the public school that he was brought here. No one here ever thought of laughing at him. The man behind him is also crippled but went through college. Henanna Leas, your teacher, came to me with only stubs for hands. As you all know, she had fallen into a fire when only a baby. But what you didn't know is that she was always top of her class and that she could not hold a spoon to feed herself for many years."

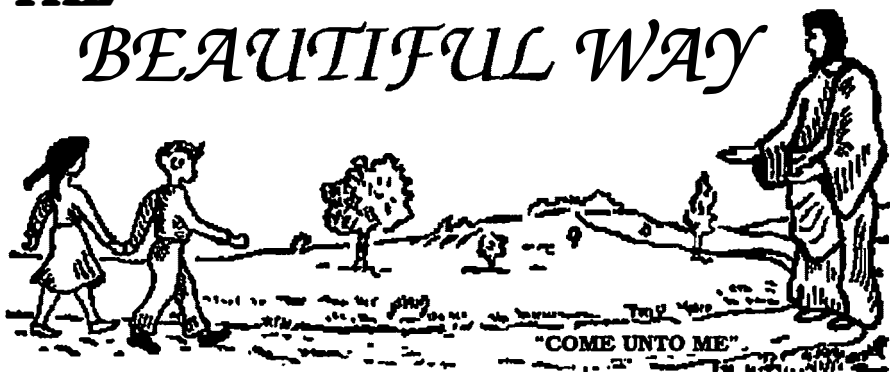
Ida threw her arms around Lily and said, "Oh, Mama, no one loves children like you do. What would Egypt have done without you!"

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Pray. 2. The judge. 3. A widow. 4. To avenge her of her adversary. 5. He got tired of her coming to him. 6. A Pharisee and a publican. 7. The Pharisee. 8. "God be merciful to me a sinner." 9. The publican.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Feb. 3, 2008

THE LAST DAYS

(Continued from last week)

Just thought I would drop in and visit you a moment," Philip said as he placed a chair beside Miss Trasher's and sat down. "How are you feeling today?"

I feel very tired, very tired indeed, but happy. My work reminds me of the fable about a little boy who walked across a hot desert. To preserve his own life, he had to dig a well. He dug into the sand until his hands were bleeding, but finally he found water. He drank and saved his own life.

"He went wearily on his way until he was again obliged to seek water by digging with bleeding fingers in the sand to make another well. Each time he dug for water his hands became more and more wounded. Finally after much suffering, exhausted and fainting, he reached the other side and lay down to rest.

"Months later he was sitting at the edge of the desert when he saw a happy little boy coming across the desert carrying freshly picked flowers. He was puzzled. He had traveled that way and had struggled just to keep alive. Now this boy had come the same way and yet he looked as if he was not even tired!

"How did you come across the desert so easily?" he asked the boy.

"The way is very easy. There are small wells all along the way that provide fresh cool water. Bushes, flowers and green grass grow around each well providing a good place to rest."

"The first boy looked down at his scarred hands. He knew that he had made the way easy for others through his suffering.

"I trust that what I have done will be like 'wells in the desert' to help girls and boys face the problems of life. Their healthy bodies, educated minds, the knowledge of the Word of God, and their experience of seeing God work to provide for the needs of the orphanage should be a deep source of strength to them."

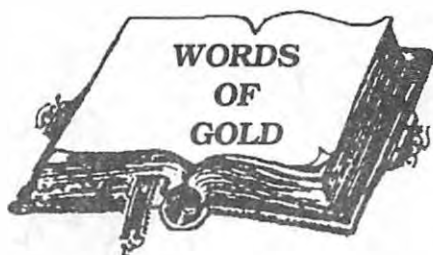
"Yes, Miss Trasher, you have made life easier for at least 10,000 children: Eight thousand have lived here at the orphanage. Besides these you have helped many who live with their parents," Philip assured her as he opened the door and greeted Assad.

"I hear that you are glad to be back in Egypt," Assad said teasing her. He was the orphanage pastor and an Egyptian orphan she had taken in when he was 6 years old. He hated for her to be away.

"I really am happy to be back! I was so sick in Detroit, I was afraid I would die in America. I want to die right here at home in Egypt, busy for the Lord, caring for the 1,400 children He has given me."

"Hello," Jeanie greeted them, as she brought a glass of cold lemonade for each one.

"Don't talk about dying, you may live to be 100," Philip said. "Thirteen years ago I came to work here because you were ordered to stay in bed or die. You stayed in bed a few days, then came out of the bed saying, 'If I'm going to die, I'm going to die



BLIND BARTIMEUS

Matthew 20:20-21; 23-28

20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children . . .

21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

23 And he saith unto them . . . to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren.

25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said . . .

26 . . . whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:46

46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

Luke 18:36-43

36 And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.

37 And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by.

38 And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me.

39 And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.

40 And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him,

41 Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight.

42 And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.

43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

The Message: Thronged on every side by a multitude of people, Jesus still heard Bartimeus' cry for help.

Questions:

1. What mother came to Jesus?
2. What did she want?
3. Who were moved with indignation against the two brothers?
4. Jesus said anyone wanting to be great should be the _____.
5. Who came to minister to others?
6. Who sat by the highway begging?
7. What was wrong with him?
8. What did he do when he heard Jesus was passing by?
9. What happened when Jesus told him to receive his sight?

Verse to Memorize

Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find; knock,
and it shall be opened unto you:
Matthew 7:7

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus knew He would soon be betrayed, mocked and crucified. He tried to prepare His disciples so they would not be offended when He was taken from them. It would soon be time for the feast of the Passover. So as Jesus and His disciples walked toward Jerusalem He told them plainly, "I will be betrayed to the chief priests and scribes. They will condemn Me to death. They will deliver Me to the Gentiles who will mock, scourge, and crucify Me. But the third day I shall rise again."

The disciples were certain that Jesus would set up a kingdom and rule over the Jews on earth. They could not understand what Jesus was trying to tell them.

Then one day the mother of two of the disciples, James and John, came to ask a favor. She asked Jesus to give her two sons the honor of sitting one on one side and the other on the other side of Him in His kingdom. She also thought that Jesus would set up an earthly kingdom and she wanted her sons to have special honor and power in this kingdom.

When the other disciples heard about this, they were angry! Why should James and John be honored above them?

So Jesus told them, "You know the rulers of the Gentiles have great authority. That is not the way it is to be among you. Whoever wants to be great, let him be your minister. Whoever wants to be chief among you, let him be your servant. Even the Son of man did not come to be ministered to. I came to minister and to even give my life so that many will be saved!"

Many other people were also on their way to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of the Passover. Jesus and His disciples traveled along with the crowd. Many of these people had heard Jesus teach and even seen Him heal the sick. The news that Jesus was coming spread quickly. Some stood by the roadside just to get a glimpse of Him as He passed by.

Just outside the city of Jericho a blind man sat by the roadside, begging for alms from the people who passed. Then he heard the sound of a multitude of people passing by. He asked why such a crowd was walking on the road. Someone told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

Bartimaeus had heard about Jesus and the many wonderful works He did. He may have heard how He had healed the man who had been born blind. Bartimaeus wished more than anything that he could see. He must not miss this opportunity to ask Jesus to heal him.

He called out loudly, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Those around him wanted him to be quiet. Instead he called out even louder, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus heard that cry for help. He stopped and commanded that someone should bring the blind man to Him. Someone rushed to tell Bartimaeus that Jesus was calling for him!

Quickly Bartimaeus got up and made his way to Jesus. When he was near Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

"Oh Lord," he answered, "if only I could receive my sight!"

Jesus answered, "Receive your sight! Your faith has made you well."

Immediately Bartimaeus' blind eyes received sight. He could see clearly! He could not contain his joy. He followed Jesus praising and glorifying God. Those who saw what had happened also rejoiced and praised God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

working.' How many times have you almost died?"

"Four times. A lot of people thought I would die young. They used to say, 'Poor Lillian, suffering through the summer heat on a desert with no money and all those children; spending her life in the dirty villages! Oh, what she is missing!' Poor dears, they don't know what *they* have missed. They have missed a chance to make over broken lives and to build up the most wonderful memories any youth could have. Here is the joy of repairing crushed hearts, of loving dying babies back to life, of spending youth and strength for God. My life has been so wonderful! The 51 years I spent here in Egypt have been the best. I would never trade it! I have been chosen of God!

"It's like I told the children the other day, 'You children are chosen children. Of all of the thousands of orphans in Egypt, God has chosen you to have the privilege to be reared in this home which He built for you years before you were born.' I do not know why the Lord chooses these children, nor what they will be when they grow up, but I know He has. And I know He has chosen me to plant the seed of God's Word in each heart and water it so it will grow."

"The seed of your labor is yielding fruit all over Egypt. There are thousands, yes, I would say around 6,000 to 8,000 Christian homes established in Egypt. Then count all the churches and Christian schools that have been established in the villages around here and the hundreds of people who have been brought to the Lord through their efforts.

"Some folks say we get a star in our crown for every soul we bring into the kingdom. There won't be room on your crown for the stars, you will have stars plastered all over your white robes."

"Now, Philip," she said modestly, "I haven't done anything great. The only reason I would get a special reward, if there is any such thing, is because I haven't run from any kind of hardship. I have stayed and have tried to be faithful to the task that God has given me. Perhaps the Lord will

remember that and say, 'Well done.'"

"You have also shown mercy and helped all who have come to you, so you shall receive plenty of mercy," Assad assured her, "for Jesus says, 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.'"

"I knew that the conditions from which the needy have come are so bad that even the least amount of care is better than anything they would have otherwise. More than that, we give them love and concern; that is something they would not get in their villages."

"Say, did I ever tell you about the Moslem government official who came while you were away?" Philip questioned.

"No," she answered.

"He sat in the office and talked awhile. When he got up to leave, he reached into the folds of his long flowing robe and pulled out a bank note. I was surprised to see a \$500.00 bill. 'It's very unusual for a Moslem to give to a Christian institution,' I said.

"His quick response was, 'Not so! not so!' Then, almost whispering, he added, 'We here in Egypt know what this great lady has done for our poor children. And I believe that when she dies, in spite of the fact she is a woman and a Christian, God will take her directly to paradise.'"

"I trust that God will do that, not because of anything I have done, but because Jesus made the way for me when He died on the cross," Lily said.

They talked about preparations for Christmas and about the wedding which was soon to be. Before leaving, they knelt in prayer. That was to be their last visit with her.

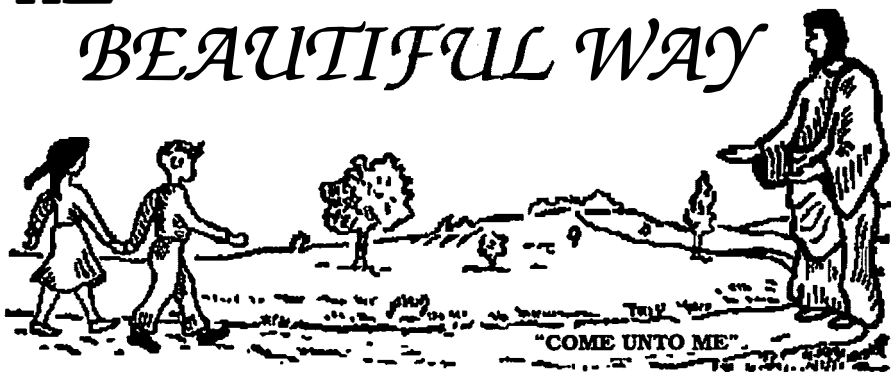
On December 17, 1961, she slipped away into the other world. She was 74 years old. Her new life for eternity had just begun.

The End

Answers: 1. The mother of Zebedee's children. 2. For her two sons to sit on either side of Jesus' throne in His kingdom. 3. The other ten disciples. 4. Minister. 5. Jesus. 6. Bartimaeus. 7. He was blind. 8. Cried out for mercy. 9. He immediately received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 10, 2008

THE SECRET BOX

Peter raced across the large potato field and ran, breathless, into the thatch roof hut that was his home. "Mother!" he said excitedly, "there is a fire, and an awful smell in town. Soldiers and priests are everywhere. What's it all about?"

"A terrible thing is happening in England this day," she whispered.

"Terrible? Everyone seems happy. Why is it terrible?" Peter asked.

"Speak softly; someone might report us," Mother cautioned.

"For what? We've done nothing wrong."

"The authorities are angry at John Wycliffe. We will be persecuted and our home will be searched if anyone hears us saying just one good word about him. The Council of Constance has ordered that in every country his writings and translation of the Holy Scriptures be burned."

"It doesn't smell like paper burning," Peter whispered loudly into Mother's ear.

Mother wiped tears from her eyes, and said, "Wycliffe's dry bones have been dug up and are being burned today. His ashes will be thrown into the Swift River."

"What a strange thing to do!"

"It is strange, but maybe it is an omen that the translated Scriptures

will spread all over the world. The river will carry his ashes into the sea. The sea runs into the ocean and the currents of the ocean could carry his ashes all around the world.

"It is wonderful that Wycliffe has translated scriptures so that we can read them! People all over Europe have longed for many years to have Bibles written in their own language. The church fathers have made it impossible for us common people to read God's Word."

"Wycliffe must be a good man. Why is he so hated?"

"Ask your papa when he comes home. I've got to get this washing on the line or the clothes won't get dry." That night Papa bolted the door and locked the shutters. Then he sat close to Peter and told him all he knew about John Wycliffe. "John Wycliffe was a very brilliant priest of the Roman Catholic church. He was also a professor at Oxford University and was respected as the greatest philosopher, not only in England, but throughout the world," he told Peter.

"What a great man!" Peter exclaimed.

"Yes, a great man indeed! He studied the Bible diligently and taught its true meaning to his students. In the beginning he hoped this would bring changes in the church, which were greatly needed."



ZACCHAEUS

Luke 19:2-6, 8-9, 11-13, 15-22, 24

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

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

4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him ...

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

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

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

9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house ...

11 ... he added and spake a parable, because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.

12 ... A certain noble man went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

15 ... when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin:

21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man:...

22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant....

24 ...Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.

The Message: Zacchaeus' whole life was changed after he met Jesus!

Questions:

1. Who was chief among the publicans?
2. Who did he want to see?
3. Why couldn't he see above the crowd?
4. How did he solve his problem?
5. What did Jesus do when He got to the place where Zacchaeus was?
6. What did Zacchaeus tell Jesus?
7. What did the first servant gain with his pound?
8. How many pounds did the second gain?
9. Why did the servant lay his pound up in a napkin?

Verse to Memorize

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10

Let's



Talk . . .

Zacchaeus was a publican, a tax collector. He had become very rich by making people pay lots of taxes. The more he charged them, the more he could keep for himself. The publicans were hated by the Jews who considered them to be terrible sinners.

News reached Zacchaeus that Jesus was passing through Jericho, the town where he lived. Zacchaeus wanted to see Him. He had heard so many wonderful things about Jesus!

So Zacchaeus stood with the crowd gathered along the road where Jesus would be passing. But he couldn't see for all the people, because he was so short; he couldn't see over their heads! He looked down the road and saw a tall sycamore tree. That could solve his problem!

Quickly he ran to the tree and climbed up onto one of the branches overhanging the road. Now he was taller than anyone in the crowd. He watched silently as the mob of people came closer. Finally he could see Him—he knew that must be Jesus!

As he watched from his perch in the tree, Jesus and His disciples came closer and closer. Then, when He was right under the tree Jesus stopped and looked right up at Zacchaeus!

Zacchaeus was shocked when Jesus called him by name and then said, "Come down. Today I must visit your home!"

It didn't take Zacchaeus long to slide down that tree! Joyfully he led Jesus to his home. He told Jesus that he would give half of his wealth to the poor and give back four times as much as anything he had taken wrongfully!

Some of those looking on found fault with Jesus for going into the home of a despised tax collector. The Pharisees would not enter such a house. They hated sinners!

But Jesus saw that Zacchaeus had repented of his sins. "Today salvation has come to this house!" He pronounced. Jesus' mission in life was to save sinners, not reject them.

Jesus then told the people a parable about a certain nobleman who went to a far country. Before he left, he gave an amount of money, called a pound, to each of his ten servants.

When the nobleman came back he called the ten servants and asked them how they had used the money.

The first told him, "I traded with the pound you gave me and gained ten pounds more. This pleased the nobleman. "Because you have done this," he said, "I will give you ten cities to rule over."

The second servant told the nobleman that he had gained five pounds by investing it wisely. The nobleman told him that he would have five cities to rule over.

Then a third servant came bringing the pound the nobleman gave him. "Here's your pound," he said. "I kept it wrapped in a napkin while you were away. I was afraid I might lose it, and I knew you were a harsh master."

This angered the nobleman. "If you knew I was a harsh master, why didn't you put my money into a bank so I would have it plus the interest it earned when I returned?"

Turning to his other servants he said, "Take the one pound from him and give it to the one who has ten. He has been an unfaithful servant."

The servants protested, "Lord, he has ten pounds; why give him more?"

Jesus answered, "To every one who uses what he has, more will be given, but he who does not use what he has shall have it taken away."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Then why do the church authorities hate him?"

"It's this way, son. John Wycliffe loved and respected poor men. The church owns about one-third of all the land in England. Wycliffe said some land needed to be given to the poor. He accused the church of abusing the common people. He said the poor men should have a right to public and church offices; that the offices should be given to the person best qualified for the job. This angered the men in position, for they were giving vacant offices to their sons and best friends.

"They knew Wycliffe was so smart that his students would believe what he taught and that could cause them trouble. So they wanted Wycliffe out. Needing something to accuse Wycliffe of, they began reading his writings and listening to his lectures. How surprised they were to find that he taught the Bible truths which were against purgatory and the sale of indulgences. They taught that the bread and wine at communion is not the real flesh and blood of Jesus."

"Papa," Peter interrupted again, "Is there no purgatory?"

"No, son, there is none. No amount of money can buy forgiveness for a bad boy."

"No chance for a bad boy to be forgiven after he dies?"

"No, my son, everyone who will be saved must trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of his sins before he dies. That is the only way to be accepted into heaven."

Peter twitched his mouth a bit, as if thinking seriously, then he said, "Go ahead. Tell me more about Wycliffe."

"Immediately Wycliffe was accused of teaching doctrines against the Church. That is called heresy. He was soon deserted by his political friends, and banished from his teaching job.

"He escaped to Lutterworth. It was quite an adjustment to lose his home, friends, job, and his books which he loved so well. God strengthened him and gave him courage. He was soon working again. He obtained a complete

Latin Bible. It was 1,000 years old and had to be handled with utmost care. Some student who believed the truth joined him there. Secretly they translated the Bible from the Latin language into English. That old Bible and their manuscripts were guarded at all times."

"Were some of his manuscripts burned today?"

"Hopefully they were just copies of his writings. I, too, have a copy of something he wrote about the Bible." Saying this, Papa began prying a plank loose in the floor,

"What, a secret chamber?" Peter exclaimed.

Papa said nothing. He just took out a paper and replaced the board, then began reading. "God's Word...overpowers strong men in arms, softens hard hearts, and renews and changes...men who have been brutalized by sins. Such miraculous power could never be worked by...a priest if the Spirit of...the Eternal Word did not...work with it."

"Did you know Wycliffe?"

"No Peter, Wycliffe has been dead for thirty years. I learned about him from other poor men who studied the blessed Scriptures with him at Lutterworth."

While Papa was carefully replacing the paper, Peter peeked in. "What else do you have in there?"

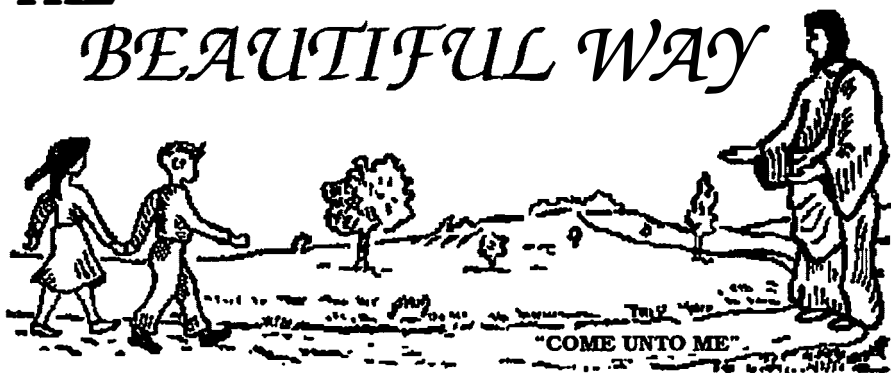
"Portions of the blessed Bible that were copied from Wycliffe's translations. They are priceless, Peter. Don't ever touch them until you are a man, and don't tell anyone about them or this secret box."

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Zacchaeus. 2. Jesus. 3. He was too short. 4. He climbed up in a tree. 5. He stopped and looked up. 6. "Half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold." 7. Ten pounds. 8. Five. 9. He feared his master.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 17, 2008

WHERE IS JOHN?

Emperor Charles V. was determined to assassinate John Brenz. He was a Christian reformer and friend of Martin Luther. Hearing of the plot, Brenz immediately found a quiet place and began to pray. While he was praying, he heard what seemed like a voice saying: "Take a loaf of bread and go into the upper end of town; and where thou findest a door open, enter and hide thyself in the loft under the roof."

Brenz got up from prayer and taking a loaf of bread with him he carefully hid behind trees or buildings as he worked his way to the far end of town. No one must see him! There he found an old barn. The door was open so he thought that must be where God intended for him to hide.

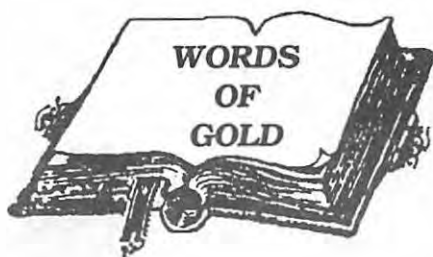
He looked around carefully to see that no one was watching. When he was sure that all was safe, he crept in, and quietly climbed the ladder up to the loft. Clutching his loaf of bread, he crawled behind a stack of lumber and sat down on a pile of straw. This would be his hiding place!

The very next day the emperor's troops entered the town. He could

hear the horses' neighing and the sound of their heavy hooves on the cobblestone streets. Sometimes he could hear the captain shouting orders to the soldiers. He was sure that guards were set on each road leading away from the city and that soldiers were entering every house. Beds and straw lofts were being stabbed with their swords and spears. Trunks and chests were being opened. Everything in every room was being searched carefully.

The first day John ate only a few bites of bread; he wasn't sure how long he might have to stay hidden. Toward evening a hen came up to the loft. She scratched awhile, then settled herself on a nest of straw and laid an egg. Then, without the usual cackling, she went out again. John was so hungry he picked one end of the shell off and sucked the egg into his mouth. The second day the hen came again and laid another egg, which John thankfully ate. The third day she did the same.

Each day John prayed for God's protection. Each evening when the town was quiet and he thought the soldiers must be sleeping, he thanked God for protecting him another day. He also thanked God for his bread and another egg. Then he ate.



MARY'S GIFT TO JESUS

Matthew 26:3-5

3 Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,

4 And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtlety, and kill him.

5 But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.

John 12:1-5

1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

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

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

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

Mark 14:6-9

6 And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me.

7 For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always.

8 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

9 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

John 12:9, 11

9 Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead.

11 Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.

The Message: Mary gave the most precious thing she owned to show her great love for Jesus.

Questions:

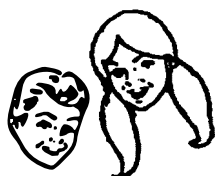
1. Why did the chief priests and others assemble?
2. Why couldn't they take Jesus on the feast day?
3. What had Jesus done for Lazarus?
4. What did Mary do with the ointment?
5. With what was the house filled?
6. Who said the ointment should have been sold?
7. What did Jesus tell them to do to Mary?
8. Jesus said that what Mary had done would be told as a _____ of her.
9. Who else did the Jews come to see besides Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

She hath done what she could:
she is come aforehand to
anoint my body to the burying.

Mark 14:8

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus was well aware that He would soon be put to death by His enemies. The intensity of their hatred toward Him increased. For many days they had planned how they might capture Him. Many believed on Jesus after He raised Lazarus from the dead. When His enemies saw that He was gaining more followers, they were desperate to get rid of Him! The chief priests and scribes had even threatened to put Lazarus to death.

Mary and Martha were courageous women. They lived in Judea very close to Jerusalem. Many people feared to even speak openly about Jesus but these women were willing to risk the danger and to openly declare their devotion to Him.

When the news reached them that Jesus was coming through Bethany on His way to Jerusalem, they were overjoyed. Despite the danger, Mary, Martha, and their brother decided to give a dinner for their Friend.

Martha began planning the meal at once. She was very thankful to Jesus for raising her brother from the dead. This dinner must be a special expression of her gratitude. Lazarus and Mary also eagerly waited for Jesus to come.

When Jesus and His disciples finally arrived they were given a warm welcome. The guests were brought into the dining hall and the food was served.

Curious onlookers crowded in because they had heard that Lazarus would be at this dinner. They wanted to see him. Was it really true that he had been raised

from the dead? What did he look like? They would see for themselves. Although they were not invited, they had decided to go and stand around the room to watch.

Mary, too, wanted to show her love and gratitude to Jesus. Now women were invited to eat this dinner with Jesus and His disciples, but that would not keep Mary away.

So while the guests ate, Mary brought a container of expensive perfume. It had taken a whole year's wages to buy it, but she wanted to give Jesus her very best. Mary made her way to the couch where Jesus reclined. She poured the rare perfume on His feet. Then she knelt and wiped His feet with her hair.

As soon as the container was broken, the scent of sweet perfume filled the room. Everyone knew at once that this perfume was expensive.

The disciples began to whisper among themselves, "Why has she done this?"

Judas Iscariot, who was treasurer for the disciples, said, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor?"

Jesus knew what His disciples were thinking. He told them, "Let this woman alone. Why should you trouble her? She has done a good work. She has anointed my body for burial. You will always have the poor with you, but I shall not be with you much longer. By this anointing Mary has shown her love for me. I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, it will be told that Mary did this for her Lord."

Judas Iscariot did not like Jesus' words, for he loved money. He hoped to be a rich ruler in the kingdom he expected Jesus to set up. After the supper was over Judas went to see the chief priests and scribes. He had decided to turn Jesus over to them!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

After twelve days of searching, the soldiers reached the upper part of town where Brenz was hiding. Now he could hear the heavy breathing of the horses. He could hear what the soldiers were saying to each other and hear them sharpening their swords and spears. All day he lay smothering under the great pile of straw, expecting any minute to hear soldiers entering the barn. He passed another day the same way. On the fourteenth day, he heard the loud crash as the soldiers broke open the door.

His heart pounded so loudly he was sure they could hear it! His body broke out in a cold sweat. Stiff and silent, he waited for death. He heard heavy footsteps coming up the ladder. Others were searching below. He could hear it all.

"Nothing's up here," muttered one soldier. "Hasn't been a human here since—"

"Don't be so sure," interrupted another gruffly. "That John Brenz can outwit the wisest. Search this place well." John could hear their footsteps as they climbed over the stack of lumber. Now they stood right over where he was hidden deep in the straw. Afraid that they might hear him breathing, John held his breath as long as he could. Suddenly he realized that spears were being thrust into the straw that covered him! One slid down through the straw, just missing his cheek, another barely missed his left shoulder. He could feel another near his leg, then one near his foot. Like a petrified log he lay motionless. Stab, stab, stab, went the spears as the soldiers worked their way to the other end of the loft. Not one spear touched him!

"Guess you were right," the gruff soldier said. He could hear the soldiers climbing back down the ladder. He took a deep breath and thanked God. Yet he trembled in fear that any minute another might come up and do another search. He dared not stretch an arm or leg.

He thought he heard them leave. But it might be a trick. He lay still for what seemed a long, long time.

Then at last he heard the commander's order, "March! He is not here."

"Tomorrow I can go down," he told himself. Then suddenly he felt weak and hungry—so hungry!

"The hen?" he questioned. Had she come today? Then he heard a little noise. Peeking through the straw, he saw the hen. She laid one more egg. John had his daily ration of food!

The fifteenth day Brenz heard people walking in the street below. A man said, "They are gone at last!"

"Now we shall have peace," the other answered.

John Brenz was free. God had protected him although the emperor and his troops had tried very carefully to obey the pope's command to kill him.

"...Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Psalm 54:15.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. To plan how they could take Jesus and kill Him. 2. It would cause an uproar among the people. 3. Raised him from the dead. 4. Anointed Jesus' feet. 5. The odor of the ointment. 6. Judas. 7. Let her alone. 8. Memorial. 9. Lazarus.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 24, 2008

THE SEARCH

(Based on a true story)

Lela was an orphan who lived with a stingy uncle. Had it not been the custom in India that orphans be taken by the nearest kin, she might have been left to live on the streets. She was forbidden to tell anyone, but her uncle expected her to pay rent for the tiny room where she slept, to buy her own food, and a new sari or sandals when she needed them. All this had to be done with the few rupees she earned each day cleaning a clothing shop.

Besides all these problems, Lela also had emotional needs. She lived in a country of 750 million people (1980 census), yet she had no one to love her. She often felt lonely. At night she feared evil spirits. Sometimes she feared that robbers (her uncle or his children) might take the money she had hidden.

These problems were severe. But Lela had another problem which troubled her more than any other. The problem was sin. Although she knew very little about God, and had never heard of Jesus, she felt condemned by her sins. The more she worried about them, the heavier they became.

"You must go to a Hindu temple where Vishnu is worshipped," the owner of the shop told her. "Vishnu is the ruler of the world. She will solve your problems."

"I do hope so. I've been praying three times a day to Krishna and Shiva at the shrine in my uncle's home. It hasn't helped."

The nearest temple of Vishnu was many miles away. Lela lost a day's earnings when she took off work and walked over the mountain to the temple. On the way she used her last rupees to buy some marigolds. These she gave as an offering to Vishnu. She was given a prayer and told to murmur the prayer every day for a month. Every day for a month she murmured the prayer. She tried hard to believe her sins were forgiven, but her heart still felt so heavy.

A wealthy woman who often bought clothing in the shop said to Lela, "Go to the temple in Maduria to rid yourself of sin."

"I could never go so far," Lela answered.

"Then go to the temple in Patna, it's only across the Ganges River." Lela took her daily food money and hired a boatman to take her across. When she arrived at the temple, she was very hungry. The Brahmin told her she must eat nothing for two days and gave her a prayer that she was to repeat. As she was returning home, Lela felt tired, hungry and discouraged. It seemed her sins were heavy enough to sink the boat.

She fasted. She prayed. But the burden of sin was just as heavy.



JESUS' ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Matthew 21:1-3; 6-15

1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,

2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.

3 And if any man say aught unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.

6 And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them.

7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon.

8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way.

9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?

11 And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.

12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and

overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

13 And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

15 And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased,

The Message: The crowds joyfully welcomed Jesus as the Messiah by crying, "Hosanna!" In a few days the mob would cry, "Crucify Him!"

Questions:

1. What did Jesus tell the two disciples they would find?
2. What were they to do with them?
3. Who did they set on the colt?
4. What did the multitude spread in the way?
5. What did the multitudes cry?
6. What did the people in Jerusalem ask?
7. Jesus said the temple should be called the house of _____.
8. Those who bought and sold in the temple had made it what?
9. What happened to the blind and lame who came to Jesus in the temple?

Verse to Memorize

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee . . .

Zechariah 9:9

Let's



Talk . . .

Six days before the Jewish Passover, Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a king while the people shouted praises to Him. This was a fulfillment of prophecy and proof that He was truly Christ the King. Before the week was out some who were now praising Him would shout, "Crucify Him!" He was a king and could have called angels to defend Himself, yet He went to His death voluntarily that He might be our Savior.

As Jesus and His disciples came near to Jerusalem, He said to two of them, "Go to the village nearby. As you enter the village, you will see a donkey tied and a colt with her on which no one has ever sat. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks, 'Why do you do this?' say, 'The Lord has need of them.'"

The two disciples went to the village, found the donkey and the colt, and untied them. Someone asked, "Why are you untying them?" When they heard that Jesus needed them, they let them go.

The disciples brought the donkey and colt to Jesus and spread their coats on their backs. Then Jesus sat on the colt.

In the meantime the people in Jerusalem learned that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. Crowds of people, gathered from everywhere for the feast of the Passover, went to meet Him. Many took off their outer garments and spread them on the road before Him. Others cut palm branches, carried them in their hands and spread them on the road. And all the people, who went before and who followed, cried out with joy, "Hosanna

to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."

As they drew near to Jerusalem, Jesus looked out over the city with sorrow and wept over it. He knew that the people would reject Him, their Saviour, and that Jerusalem would be destroyed.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the entire city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?"

The crowds answered, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee," and told about how He had called Lazarus forth from the tomb and raised him from the dead.

When they reached Jerusalem, Jesus and His disciples went to the temple. Here Jesus saw men buying and selling animals for sacrifices. Others were changing money into temple coins. Jesus knew they cheated the people. Once before, He had driven these men out of the temple.

Again he drove them out saying to them "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of robbers!"

Then those who were blind and lame came to Him in the Temple, and He healed them. The people, seeing the wonderful things Jesus did, began to praise Him even more. Even the little children who were in the Temple cried out, "*Hosanna to the Son of David.*"

The chief priests and the scribes were indignant! They said to Him, "Do you hear what they are saying?"

Jesus said to them, "Yes, have you never read: '*Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou perfected praise?*'" (Matt. 21:16.)

Jesus taught daily in the Temple, but when evening came, He went out of the city. He knew that the chief priests, scribes and the principal men of the people were waiting for a chance to destroy Him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Two months later, as she was working, she heard a man telling about the ancient city of Varanasi. "It's the holiest place on earth!" he said. "Thousands go there each year and wash their sins away in the Ganges River."

"That surely must be the place to get free from sin," Lela thought. She asked her boss for permission to go. She took all her money and bought a round trip ticket on the train to Varanasi.

A jumble of temples lined the steep banks of the Ganges in Varanasi. She wondered which temple she should go in. Then she remembered that not all classes of Indians could go into the temples, so she followed a crowd through a narrow alley and found herself on top of an enormous flight of stone stairs that led down to the river. Out in the river was a young man, with eyes closed and hands folded as if in prayer. A sacred thread worn over his left shoulder signified he was of high class. Nearby were more men dripping wet, their eyes shut tight in meditation. Not far away women were washing themselves. A lady on the bottom step was laying an offering of flowers in the water. "All these people are seeking relief from their sins," Lela thought. "Surely this will be the answer to my sin problem."

A priest under the shade of an umbrella was selling flowers. Lela bought one, then went slowly down the stairs and lowered it into the water as an offering. She then bathed in the river. The offering and this trip would mean many days of hunger for Lela, but she felt it was a small sacrifice.

At the river she met many others who had come from distant cities and villages. They were camping on the streets. An elderly woman in one group had been there many times. "Why do you come so often?" Lela asked.

"Do you not know that when people die in this city their souls go straight to heaven? I'm hoping to die here."

"They will not have to live another life on this earth?" Lela asked.

"That is right."

"But if our sins are washed away and we live good, we'll be born into a high caste."

"Yes, but who can live good enough for that? I'd rather die here and go straight to heaven."

The woman was right, who could live sinless? Lela seemed unable to do it. She got angry so easily, and she often stole from the rich women who came into the shop. She also felt bitter towards God because she had no family that loved her. She knew these things were sins.

"How did you come?" the woman asked.

"On the train."

"Didn't you know that all immoral sins will be forgiven if you joyfully endure the long walk?"

"Really? But I didn't have time to walk. I'll lose my job if I take off too many days." Lela slept in the camp near the old woman that night.

The next day she bathed again in the Ganges River near the camp. This time she saw people sprinkling ashes of their deceased loved ones in the river. They were trusting that the act would enable those souls to enter into bliss.

Lela started home weak and hungry. She went to sleep on the train hoping she would feel better when she awoke. She awoke with the same heavy feeling; however she did not feel so discouraged. "So many people couldn't be wrong," she told herself. "I must be patient. Perhaps the gods are busy and will get to my case soon."

(To be continued next week)

- Answers:** 1. An ass and a colt. 2. Bring them to Him. 3. Jesus. 4. Their garments and branches from the trees. 5. "Hosanna in the Highest." 6. "Who is this?" 7. Prayer. 8. A den of thieves. 9. He healed them.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 March 2, 2008

THE SEARCH

(Continued from last week.)

Day after day, Lela waited for the burden of sin to lift. Weeks passed, then one month, then another month. "So the trip to Varanasi didn't relieve my burden of sin," Lela told herself. "Then I'll try something else."

In Varanasi she had seen men standing for hours with arms outstretched to the sun in adoration to the gods. Others with horizontal white ash lines painted across their foreheads performed rituals to their gods, while others repeated prayers, counting with a string of beads. Lela knew these acts were to bring God's approval. She chose to sit in the hot sun to rid herself of sin. When winter came she went to the river and sat in the cold water.

Lela's employer was a zealous worshipper of Lakshmi, the giver of wealth. In autumn a five day celebration was dedicated to this goddess. Lela sacrificed the fun of this five day festival to go again to Varanasi. This time she joyfully walked the long distance. She spent all her money on offerings and did acts of penance on the way.

She returned home sick from the exposure. Everything she had done had failed to help.

Then one day a Christian came into the shop. India is a deeply religious

country, so religion is a topic of everyday conversation. "What God do you worship?" the shop owner asked. "You seem like a holy man, but your dress is different, and you have no marks painted on your face."

"I worship Christ," the Christian answered. "Christ is the Lord over all gods. He is the Creator of the universe."

"Another Brahma?"

No, Christ is greater even than Brahma. He created all men. Then He allowed the men whom He had created to kill Him. In this way, He proved His divine love for all."

"What can your God do that India's gods can't do?" the shopkeeper questioned.

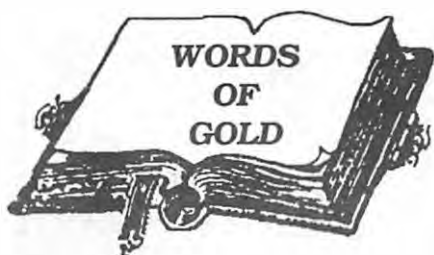
"He can save people from sin and keep them from sinning," the Christian answered.

That was just what Lela wanted to hear. She kept an eye on the Christian. When he left the shop, she followed him out.

"Please sir," she called as he started away, "may I ask you a question?" He stopped and turned to Lela. "Why, yes."

Lela twisted her hands shyly. "What must I do to get your God to forgive my sins?"

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved from sin," he answered. "Do you believe in Jesus?"



TWO DISCIPLES BETRAY JESUS

Matthew 26:14-15; 47-54; 69-75

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

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

47 . . . Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords . . .

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

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

50 And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? . . .

51 And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear.

52 Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place. . .

53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

54 But how then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?

69 Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee.

70 But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.

71 And when he was gone out into

the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth.

72 And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man.

73 And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.

74 Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.

75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crew, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

The Message: Both Judas and Peter denied Jesus. Peter repented and Jesus freely forgave him. Instead of repenting, Judas went out and hung himself.

Questions:

1. Who did Judas go to?
2. What did he agree to do?
3. How much did they offer to pay him?
4. What sign did Judas give the soldiers to show which one was Jesus?
5. Whose ear did Peter cut off?
6. What did Jesus say His Father would give him if He prayed for it?
7. How many times did Peter deny that He knew Jesus?
8. What happened as soon as he had denied Him the last time?
9. What did Peter do?

Verse to Memorize

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Let's



Talk . . .

Judas Iscariot asked the chief priests, "What will you give me if I turn Jesus over to you?" Quickly they offered him thirty pieces of silver. Judas did not ask for more. He began watching for a convenient time to betray Jesus to His enemies.

When the feast of the Passover was ended, Jesus and His disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane. There He told eight disciples, "Stay here while I go and pray." Then, taking Peter, James, and John, He went on into the garden.

Again He left the three. He went a little farther and fell to His knees. Jesus knew the suffering He must endure for our salvation. He dreaded to suffer the pain of such a death. He dreaded to be left alone by those He loved. He prayed earnestly, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." He was in such great agony God sent an angel to strengthen and comfort Him.

While He prayed, the disciples fell asleep. He had brought the three so they would be near to pray with Him. Twice Jesus came and found them asleep. Each time He woke them up and told them to pray. He knew they would also need special help from God.

The third time He came and found them asleep. Jesus roused them, saying, "Rise, let us be going; my betrayer is near." Then they heard a mob of people and soon saw a great multitude carrying torches, swords and staves. They had been sent by the chief priests, the scribes and the elders to capture Jesus.

Judas was with them. Stepping forward he said, "Hail, Master!" and kissed Jesus on the cheek.

Jesus looked sadly at this disciple and asked, "Judas, do you betray the Son of man with a kiss?"

When the soldiers took hold of Jesus, Peter sprang into action. He drew a short sword, struck one of the soldiers, and cut off his ear. But Jesus told Peter, "Put up your sword." Then He healed the soldier's ear.

Peter felt confused and defenseless. He drifted into the shadows with the other frightened disciples.

The soldiers bound their prisoner and started for the assembly room where Jesus' enemies were waiting. Peter followed far behind, wondering what he should do and fearing that the soldiers might take him prisoner too.

The soldiers brought Jesus to the house of Annas, and here the trial began.

As Peter stood in the courtyard, a young girl said, "Aren't you also one of His disciples?"

Peter was so afraid he said, "No, I do not know the man!"

Then, as Peter stood by the fire to warm himself, other men, the high priest's servants and some soldiers came up. One turned to Peter and asked, "Aren't you one of this man's disciples?" Again fear filled Peter's heart, and he replied, "No, I am not!"

A soldier standing by who had seen Peter use his sword said, "I saw you in the garden with Him!" Peter cursed and said, "I know not the man!"

Meanwhile, the high priest and others had been questioning Jesus and treating Him shamefully. Then, as they led Him away, He passed by Peter and looked at him sadly.

Instantly Peter remembered Jesus' words, "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter was overwhelmed with grief. He rushed out, and wept bitterly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"I believe in all gods," she answered. "And I've tried ever so many ways to rid myself of sin, but nothing has helped."

"Is there any sin you are not willing to quit?"

"Oh, no, I'd be glad to stop sinning, if I could."

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," he explained.

"How do I confess my sins?"

"By talking to God about them just as you are talking to me. Tell Him you are sorry for all the evil things you have done. 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."

"I do believe!" Lela said. "My heart tells me this is the Saviour I have been looking for so long."

"Here is a book for you to read. It will be a light to your pathway in this darkened country." He handed her a New Testament. They exchanged names and addresses. Lela watched as he disappeared into the crowd. She longed to run after him. She wanted to never let the man go who had shown her the way to peace.

Lela went home that night with a hopeful heart. She prayed a long time, until she felt all the burden of sin lift. She had never felt like this before! She loved her uncle and his naughty children. Her attitude toward God was one of thankfulness. Her tiny room seemed like a palace. She looked out the door, even the trees looked different.

A month later the Christian, Mr. Carey, and his wife, Dorothy, visited Lela. "I don't feel lonely now," Lela told them.

"Jesus said, 'I will be with you always, even to the end of the world.'" Mr. Carey said.

Dorothy added, "Christ is always near because you have become part

of His family on earth. He has a special love for all saved people. The Bible calls them His bride."

Lela was baptized in the Ganges River, not to wash away her sins, but as a testimony that her sins were already gone, and that she was a part of God's church which He loves so dearly.

Though Christians are a small minority in India, the government does honor a Christian missionary, William Carey. In 1793, William Carey agreed to go to India as a missionary. He sailed over, settling near Calcutta. During his early years there, he mastered the main languages of India. In addition to this, Carey translated the Bible and wrote dictionaries in many Indian languages. He spent a long time doing this because he knew that it would make it easier for Indian people to understand Christian belief.

Carey introduced the Christian faith to the people in India and also fought to abolish some of the unfair customs of Indian culture. One such custom was the Suttee, which demanded that widows be cremated at their husband's funerals. He was determined to change the many customs that meant some people weren't as important as others and therefore were treated unfairly (people of different importance couldn't marry each other, live with each other and in some cases, couldn't look at or speak to each other). William Carey had set out to change all that. Things are slowly starting to get better. Carey's work hasn't been in vain.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. The chief priests. 2. Deliver Jesus to them. 3. Thirty pieces of silver. 4. A kiss. 5. A servant of the high priest's. 6. Twelve legions of angels. 7. Three times. 8. The rooster crowed. 9. Went out and wept bitterly.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 March 9, 2008

GOD HEARS PRAYER

(Based on a true story.)

Everything seemed fine when Bob entered the *Queen Elizabeth*, a coastal submarine. Routine procedures of letting in sea water were followed for lowering her into the Atlantic, off the coast of Great Britain. The submarine was full of students eager to study ocean life at different depths. It wasn't to be a long excursion like some Bob had been on.

In those days studying ocean life was very dangerous though most people considered it only an excuse for adventure. The last two days of this excursion, they were to set the submarine down on the sand at the very bottom of the ocean. Those would be the most exciting days of all!

When the day finally came, valves in the bottom of the tank were opened to let in more sea water. The sub tilted, lowered to the ocean floor and leveled as expected. The students examined and recorded information about plant and animal life and rock formations at depths they had never seen before.

Two days later everyone was excitedly talking of getting up out of the darkness and into fresh air again. Bob and his friends anxiously waited for the tremor and the tilt that always accompanied the lift. By evening the

students were worried and hungry. They had only eaten emergency rations that day. The more tasty food they had brought had already been eaten. Some were very restless, some seemed fearful, others were aggravated. All wanted to get out of the darkness and home to see their families, their sweethearts, and their friends.

The following morning Bob went to the captain. "Weren't we to be home last night?" he asked.

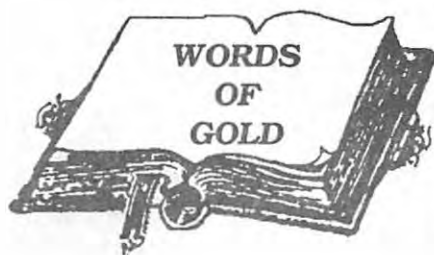
"We were, but something has gone haywire. This craft won't rise!"

"What? Are we stuck forever in this darkness? Are we being buried alive in water? Can't we signal for help?"

"At this depth? Impossible! But don't worry, the crew's been working all night. They will soon have her going."

"It's too gloomy in here. I want to see the sky again," Bob said and went back to tell his friends what was happening.

Another day and night passed. The *Queen Elizabeth* wouldn't budge. Panic was gripping the men. Unless changes were made, death wasn't many days ahead. The oxygen in the sub was almost gone. It was all so sickening. The captain knew that such mental pressure had driven men insane. Fearing such things, he called



UNDER ARREST!

John 18:1, 3-8

1 . . . Jesus . . . went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden. . .

3 Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons.

4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?

5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he . . .

6 . . . they went backward, and fell to the ground.

7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth.

8 Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he . . .

John 19:1-4, 6-11

1 Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him.

2 And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe.

3 And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands.

4 Pilate . . . saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.

6 When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.

7 The Jews answered him, We have

a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.

8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;

9 And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?

11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

The Message: Jesus gladly suffered the agonies of the cross so that we can be saved from sin and someday be with Him in Heaven.

Questions:

1. Who was with the band of men and officers?
2. What did they carry?
3. What did Jesus ask them?
4. What happened when He told them who He was?
5. Who scourged Jesus?
6. Who put a crown on Jesus and of what was it made?
7. Who found no fault in Jesus?
8. What did the chief priests and officers do when they saw Jesus?
9. What saying made Pilate more afraid?

Verse to Memorize

. . . I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
John 10:10

Let's



Talk . . .

The Jewish leaders felt threatened by Jesus because people followed Him by the multitudes, anxious to hear every word He said. Their power over the people was slipping away from them. They must find some way to kill Jesus.

They knew they could not take Him by force in broad daylight. That would cause an uprising of the common people and they would likely be stoned to death themselves. They wondered how they would ever capture Jesus.

Then, to their amazement, Judas, Jesus' own disciple, came to them asking, "What will you give me, and I will deliver Jesus to you?"

Gladly they offered him thirty pieces of silver to lead them to Jesus by night. Judas did not bargain for more. He seemed glad to take what they offered.

The chief priests could hardly believe their good fortune! They did not even send for Judas; they would never have thought that Jesus' own disciple would ever betray Him.

Judas knew where to find Jesus. He had often gone with the other disciples and Jesus into this garden to pray. Judas led the band of armed soldiers straight to this place. Jesus knew what was taking place. He knew the awful persecution, and finally death, that He must soon endure.

When Judas and the band of men came, Jesus went out to meet them. Jesus was grieved that Judas would turn from Him and betray Him to His enemies. He must have looked at Judas with great sadness as He asked,

"Do you betray the Son of man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:48.)

The soldiers came prepared to fight, but they did not need their weapons to capture Jesus. He had prayed through. He knew He was about to fulfill His purpose for coming to the world: He would soon die for the sins of the people. He was ready to suffer so we might be saved.

"I am He," Jesus boldly volunteered. He answered with such power and courage the soldiers stumbled over each other backing away from Jesus instead of immediately seizing Him!

Regaining their composure the soldiers roughly took hold of Jesus and led Him away to the place where His enemies were waiting. There the high priest and others arrogantly questioned Jesus and put Him to shame. Then soldiers led Him before Pilate, the Roman governor.

Pilate knew nothing about Jesus. He took Him into the judgment hall to question Him. He could find no fault with Him. He realized that the Jewish leaders were intent on killing Him because of their own hatred and jealousy; Jesus had done nothing wrong.

In spite of this, Pilate treated Jesus as a common criminal. His soldiers scourged Him, lashing His body with their cruel whips. Then they took thorns and wove a crown and put it on His head, causing it to pierce Him painfully. When they had put a purple robe on Him and mocked, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" they hit Him with their hands.

Perhaps Pilate thought the hard hearts of the Jewish leaders would be touched by seeing Jesus' awful suffering. But he was wrong. As he told them, "I find no fault in Him," the mob began to shout, "Crucify Him, crucify Him! We have a law, and by our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

the crew together. "Men," he said in a trembling voice. "Our destiny is in God's hands. It is best then that we call upon Him. Although I do not know how to say prayers, I do have in my hand a copy of the hymn "Abide With Me." I'll read it to you, then we can sing it as a prayer." He read it. The men sang:

*"Abide with me;
fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens;
Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail,
and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless,
Oh abide with me!*

*"Swift to its close
ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim,
its glories pass away;*

"Swift to its close . . ." Bob could sing no more. His life was swiftly coming to a close, maybe today, maybe tomorrow. He shuddered. What kind of death would it be? Would he suffocate, starve, or be butchered by a crazy crewman gone wild.

Then Bob heard the men singing, "Where is death's sting?"

He hadn't thought about it before, but death did have a sting. He wasn't ready to die, nor prepared to stand before God. What would he say to God? He could only hang his head in shame, knowing he had rejected a Saviour who had died for him, for he had never sought Jesus to save him from the death penalty that is on all men. It hurt too, to think of how his mother and his sister Betty would cry should he never return.

Then he heard the men singing: "I triumph still if thou abide with me." From the depths of his heart he prayed, "Oh God, save us! Cause this submarine to go up."

The men finished the song. Bob looked over the crew. Every face was solemn, as if each was seeing the open "jaws of death" ready to devour him. Some looked angry, others had tears in their eyes. He wondered how many were praying.

As the men began moving away, one of them stumbled against a part of the submarine's equipment. Immediately a tremor was felt. It was the old familiar tremor before a sub tilts and starts rising. The captain rushed into the cabin and looked at the instruments. "It's working!" he shouted.

Everyone cheered. They clasped hands in triumphant hand shakes. One student danced a happy little jig.

That night they were all safe on England's shore.

Bob wouldn't deny that there was a connection between the singing of the hymn and the circumstance that caused the rising of the sub. He knew God was down there in the darkness of the ocean floor, and he thanked Him for His mercy to the crew.

God had delivered him from physical death but not from spiritual death. He was yet under death as the penalty of sin. Could he believe that Jesus became a man in order to be men's Saviour, that He bore everyone's sin in His own body when He died on the cross?

Then he remembered the scripture: "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...." Acts 16:31.

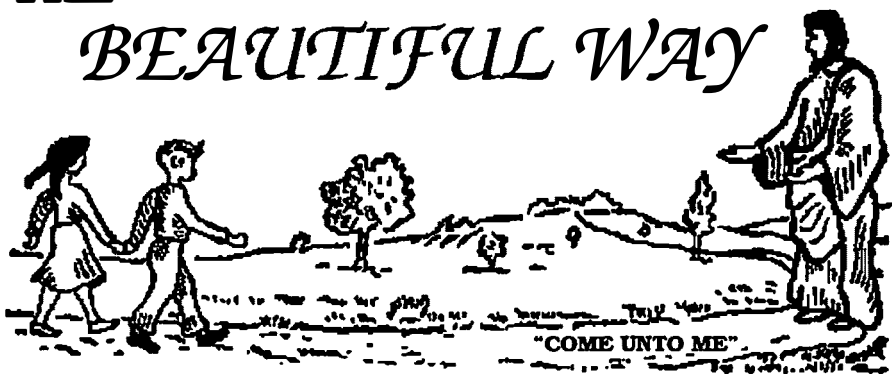
Yes, He could believe!

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Judas. 2. Lanterns, torches and weapons. 3. "Whom seek ye?" 4. They went backward and fell to the ground. 5. Pilate. 6. The soldiers, thorns. 7. Pilate. 8. They cried, "Crucify Him, crucify Him." 9. That Jesus was the Son of God.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 March 16, 2008

MARY ELIZABETH

Sarah Bird was nearly eighty-six, but her eyes were bright and her mind alert. She loved to tell the story of her life.

She had been born on a farm. She married the boy next door, and the young couple moved into a home given them by her parents. "Come joy or sorrow, we know that God is head of this home," her husband declared.

At first there was mostly sorrow. Their first baby, a boy, died before he was two. Then little Mary Elizabeth was born and brought much joy. She was a strong and healthy child, until she developed heart trouble after a siege of pneumonia at the age of five. For the last few years of her life, Mary Elizabeth lay in her little brass bed in her own brightly furnished room at the head of the stairs.

The child spent much time reading. Once, when a picture of four little orphaned sisters appeared in the local paper, Mary Elizabeth asked a special favor of her father. "Would you please go to the orphanage and buy them for me? I have eight dollars. Please, Daddy. That one little girl has the same name as me—Mary Elizabeth." But the father had to say no, explaining that with the cooking for the two hired men, the care of her blind grand-

mother and all the other work, it would be too much for her mother.

Time passed. When she was nine, life slowly ebbed away. Somehow Mary Elizabeth knew what was happening. But she showed no fear. Instead, she had one final request. Would her father please buy a baby girl at the orphanage because her mommy would be so lonesome when she left? The baby was to have blue eyes like the sky outside her window.

With heavy heart, her father gave her his solemn promise. Mary Elizabeth died on Thursday, and on Easter Sunday was laid to rest in the little cemetery nearby. Weeks later, her father at last told his wife of his promise.

"It would be too much to care for an infant," Mrs. Bird said, still grief-stricken. "I'm busy from dawn until far into the evening."

"But I gave Mary Elizabeth my word," her husband said. "We could hire someone to help you."

They visited the orphanage, made an application for adoption and went home to wait for their baby. Two months later the call came; the baby was ready to be taken home. It was a beautiful infant, just six weeks old, but it had brown eyes! The man remembered his promise that it be a blue-eyed baby. Was there one?+

The orphanage director admitted there was another child, a blue-eyed



THE AGONY ON THE CROSS

**John 19:12, 15-18, 29, 30,
32-34, 36-39, 41-42**

12 . . . Pilate sought to release him (Jesus) . . .

15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him . . .

16 Then delivered he him . . . to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away.

17 And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull . . .

18 Where they crucified him, and two others with him. . . and Jesus in the midst.

29 Now . . . they filled a sponge with vinegar . . . and put it to his mouth.

30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him.

33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs:

34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

37 And again another scripture saith. They shall look on him whom they pierced.

38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus,

but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus.

39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes. . .

41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.

42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

The Message: Jesus' great love for us caused Him to endure the shame and agony of the cross. Our love for Him should compel us to gladly bear our cross and follow His example.

Questions:

1. Who wanted to release Jesus?
2. What did the mob cry out?
3. What did Jesus bear?
4. How many others were crucified with Jesus?
5. What three words did Jesus say just before He died?
6. Why didn't the soldiers break Jesus' legs?
7. Who pierced Jesus' side with a spear?
8. Who took the body of Jesus?
9. Who brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes?

Verse to Memorize

For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled . . . John 19:36

Let's



Talk . . .

God created man in His own image. He yearned to be near His people. This was the very reason He had created man. He wanted them to love Him in return. and, before they sinned, He loved to talk with Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden He made for them.

But when they sinned, Adam and Eve could not stand in God's presence. Their sin had separated them from their holy and just Father.

God was grieved to see His creation lost. He was moved with pity because He saw the awful misery that sin brought into the lives of men and women. Through Moses He gave laws for people to live by, but these laws could not give them power over sin. They must continually come and offer a sacrifice for their sins. The purpose of the law was to show man that he needed a Savior. He could never live above sin and escape its penalty in his own strength.

There was one way that man could be set free from sin. It required the shedding of blood—the righteous blood of God's only Son, Jesus!

Jesus' home was in Heaven—in paradise with God His Father. That home was more beautiful and peaceful than anything we have seen or can even imagine! Could He make such an awful sacrifice? Would Jesus be willing to leave the glory and splendor of heaven to live among sinful men and endure their abuse?

Yes, He was willing! And, because of God's great love for us He sent His

only Son from paradise to earth. Jesus knew from the beginning what it would cost Him.

Jesus' first mission was to teach men how to please God, and finally to give His very life so they could have power to live such a life. The shedding of His righteous blood paid the price necessary to give us this power over sin!

Every detail of Jesus' trial and crucifixion was a fulfillment of prophecy. When His clothes were divided among the soldiers, they cast lots to see who would get His coat. More than a thousand years before, David wrote in Psalms 22:18, "They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture (coat)."

When Jesus said, "I thirst!" they filled a sponge with vinegar and put it to His mouth. The scripture in Psalms 69:21, which says, "... and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink," was fulfilled!

The soldiers came to break the legs of those who had been crucified. They were surprised to see that Jesus was already dead. Instead, a soldier pierced His side. Again, David had written this would be so. In Psalms 34:20, he wrote, "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken." The prophet Zechariah wrote, "...they shall look upon me whom they have pierced ..." (Zechariah 12:10).

Jesus knew from the beginning the agony He must endure in order that we might be saved. His great love compelled Him to willingly suffer and die so that we could be saved from the horrors of sin and an eternity of suffering!

God commands us to have that same love for others. With the love of God in our hearts, we will have a great desire to see others saved and be willing to make any sacrifice to lead others to Him.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

girl, eighteen months old. "She is rather sickly, and screams whenever a man comes near her," she added.

The child was named Adelaide. The director would bring her down for Mrs. Bird to see, but asked Mr. Bird to stay in the back of the room.

He did so. But Adelaide saw him right away. Her thin arms stretched out to him, and when he held her, she smiled. They took her home that very day.

After a month, Adelaide looked like a different child. Sunshine and good country food put weight on the frail little body, and in six months she was healthy and happy. On several occasions, the orphanage director visited the farm to see how little Adelaide was getting along. During one of these calls, she asked Mrs. Bird if she would grant her a favor.

"There is a very unusual nine-year-old girl at the orphanage that has never been on a farm," she told Mrs. Bird. "Could you possibly take her for a weekend visit? Her name is Mary Elizabeth."

Remembering her own Mary Elizabeth, Mrs. Bird agreed to take the girl but only for the weekend. On Friday evening the little girl arrived, looking very forlorn in her somber orphanage clothes. Even though she was staying only two days, the couple decided to pretty her up. On Saturday they took her shopping and bought her an entire new outfit.

Over the weekend, Mary Elizabeth insisted on helping with the dusting, making the beds and playing with little Adelaide. Then Monday morning came, and the lady from the orphanage arrived to take her back to the home.

Mary Elizabeth stood at the door with the box of new clothing under her arm. She smiled at Mrs. Bird, thanked her and asked wistfully, "I didn't make good here either, did I?"

"We told you it was only for a weekend visit," the lady from the orphanage explained.

Mary Elizabeth didn't answer. As she turned to go, Mrs. Bird could see the tears trickling down her face. "It stabbed my heart," she related. "I couldn't let her go."

Within a few weeks Mary Elizabeth joined the family. In fact, she moved right into the room at the head of the stairs that had always been kept just as Mrs. Bird's own little Mary Elizabeth had left it.

One rainy Saturday afternoon Mrs. Bird was mixing cookies in the kitchen while the little girl looked at scrapbooks. Suddenly the child ran down the stairs shouting: "Mother, Mother, your Mary Elizabeth has my picture in her scrapbook!"

Mrs. Bird knew that it couldn't be. Her own little girl had passed away nearly four years before and had no way of knowing her. But the child insisted: "Yes, she did. She wanted me. She picked me out!"

She showed her the old scrapbook. There, pasted on one of the last pages, was the newspaper clipping with pictures of four little orphaned sisters. Circled in crayon was the oldest one—Mary Elizabeth.

Sarah Bird's face was radiant as she finished her story, saying, "I was convinced then that my own little girl had indeed sent me both the blue-eyed baby, Adelaide, and the second girl, Mary Elizabeth. They were both like gifts from Heaven."

—Adapted from

The Legacy of Mary Elizabeth
by Theresa Buidinger
HIS MYSTERIOUS WAYS

Answers: 1. Pilate. 2. Crucify Him!
3. A cross. 4. Two. 5. "It is finished." 6. He was already dead. 7. A soldier. 8. Joseph. 9. Nicodemus.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 March 23, 2008

EVERLASTING HAPPINESS

(A true story from history)

In Carthage, North Africa, a slave answered a knock at the door of her mistress, Perpetua. "It's your father," she called.

Felicitas, the slave, opened the massive hand carved door and let Perpetua's father come in. "What brings you here so early in the morning?" Perpetua asked.

"Emperor Septimus Severus is cracking down on traitors. He's ordered your arrest."

"Me? I'm not a traitor."

"But you've joined the Christians and they show a dangerous lack of loyalty to the Roman government. You know that refusing to sacrifice makes the authorities suspicious. I hear you refused to burn incense to the Roman gods."

"My beloved father, Jesus is my Lord. I cannot worship any other god."

"Perpetua, it's only a patriotic gesture. Worship the god of your choice, but you should comply to the laws of the land..."

Suddenly the door burst open! "Are you Perpetua?" demanded a burly soldier. He grasped Perpetua's delicate arm in his huge rough hand, whirled on his heels and stared at Felicitas who was crouching in a corner. "And you're Felicitas?" he

snarled. "Both of you come with me!"

"My baby!" cried Perpetua as she struggled to get loose. She felt the soldier's grip tighten as he dragged her on. Calling back to her father she begged, "Please take my dear baby home to Mother."

Perpetua looked back at Felicitas who was great with child. What would become of her beloved slave? They had always been best friends, but now they were real sisters in the family of God.

Thankfully they were both thrown into the same dark dungeon. There they prayed together and encouraged one another. Perpetua could endure joyfully being in prison for Christ, but being away from her son was almost more than she could bear. Felicitas soon gave birth to a son, also. Helping care for him only increased the longing Perpetua had for her only child.

Each time Perpetua's highly respected father visited her, he begged that she give up her faith. "Think of me, your aging father," he would say. "Do not the laws of Christianity teach respect for parents? You are bringing our noble family low. No decent daughter in this patriarchal society would deny her father's pleas and cause him public disgrace as you have done. The embarrassment is more than I can bear!"



HE AROSE!

John 20:1-2, 4, 10-20

1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark ... and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth...to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple...and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary...as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting...where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith... Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned...and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman... whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir... tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him...Master.

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not: for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father...

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19 Then the same day at evening... when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled...came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

The Message: Jesus comforted the disciples and proved that He was alive by appearing to them numerous times.

Questions:

1. Who came early and what did she see at the sepulchre?
2. To whom did she run to tell the news?
3. Who stooped down and looked into the sepulchre?
4. Who was sitting where Jesus' body had lain?
5. What did they ask?
6. Who did Mary think Jesus was?
7. What did Mary tell the disciples?
8. Who appeared to the disciples through closed doors?
9. What did Jesus show the disciples?

Verse to Memorize

But now is Christ risen from the dead . . .

1 Corinthians 15:20

Let's



Talk . . .

Today we celebrate Easter, the day set aside to commemorate Jesus' resurrection from the grave. We celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. This was a most wonderful event. But His resurrection was an even greater event. God raised Jesus from the dead after He had lain in the tomb three days. Jesus' death and resurrection broke the power of sin over our lives!

Mary Magdalene's life was never the same after she met Jesus. The Bible tells us that He cast seven devils out of her. What a change came over her after He set her free! After this Mary spent her days with the multitudes that followed Jesus. She was hungry to hear more about God and His wonderful kingdom. Jesus had shown her such compassion and given her such hope and happiness she loved to bring others to Him.

Mary Magdalene's heart ached with grief when she watched helplessly as the soldiers fastened Jesus to the cruel cross. Through her tears she saw Him hanging there between the two thieves. Then she heard His voice—the voice that once commanded the evil spirits to depart from her and set her free. "It is finished!" He had shouted.

As Mary turned toward home she determined to return as soon as the Sabbath was over. She would bring spices and the things necessary to give Jesus a proper burial.

The hours seemed to drag on endlessly. Saturday's sun finally dipped below the mountains; Sabbath was over. Now Mary could prepare the

spices. Then, long before sunup, she and two other women started for the tomb. Hurrying along, one of the women whispered, "Who will move the stone?"

"Oh, the stone!" Mary said. She had forgotten about it!

As they came in sight of the tomb, she gasped. The stone had already been pushed aside—the tomb was empty!

Mary ran to find Peter and John. "They've taken the Lord's body out of the tomb," she said breathlessly. "We don't know where they've put Him!"

Peter and John ran to see for themselves. When they came to the tomb they saw the grave clothes that Joseph had wrapped around Jesus' body. Mary, too tired to run any farther, trudged slowly back to the garden tomb. By the time she got there, Peter and John had come and gone. She stood by the empty grave and wept.

Finally, stooping down to peer into the tomb, Mary saw two angels! One was sitting at the head and another at the foot where Jesus' body had been.

"Woman, why are you weeping?" the angels asked.

She answered, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

Mary turned and saw a man whom she supposed was the gardener. He too asked, "Why do you weep?"

"Sir," she pleaded, "if you have carried away my Lord, tell me where you have laid Him."

"Mary!"

Instantly she knew it was Jesus! She fell at His feet and cried, "Rabboni! Master!" Jesus, her Lord, was alive!

"Go tell my disciples," Jesus instructed.

Overjoyed, Mary ran to share the good news with the disciples. "I have seen the Lord!" she exclaimed excitedly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Perpetua took her father's large wrinkled hands in her smooth dainty ones. "Father, listen to me," she said as tears trickled down her cheeks. "I love and respect you more than I did before I became a Christian."

He shook his head from side to side and went on talking. "Think, too, of your son, so sweet and small. He will be rejected and scorned by society, if you..."

"You must go now," the guard ordered.

Sometime later Perpetua's son was brought to stay with her in the prison. A few days after he came, she told Felicitas, "This prison has suddenly become a palace. Why, I would rather be here than anywhere else, should that separate me from my son! And I'm feeling better. My worrying about him was breaking me down." Felicitas smiled at the babies. Perpetua knew she understood.

Perpetua and Felicitas both had court trials. Both chose to follow Christ no matter what the cost. They felt that to deny Christ was worse than death.

One day while awaiting execution, Perpetua asked, "Have you ever thought about the meaning of our names? Felicitas means 'happiness', Perpetua means 'everlasting'; put them together—'everlasting happiness'! If things don't change, we shall soon enter into everlasting happiness."

"Oh, Perpetua," said Felicitas hugging her new baby, "think of leaving our sons to suffer in this evil world. What if they grow up thinking it more important to obey state laws than to obey God's laws? It almost takes away my joy."

"Remember the day we were taken out of prison and to the river and baptized? The brethren promised to care for our little ones. I know they will be in good hands. I feel sure they will diligently teach sound Christian principles to our boys."

The fatal day came. Perpetua and Felicitas were taken from the dungeon with two other Christians. As they were being led to their death, a prison guard commented, "They act as if they are on their way to paradise, not on their way to death."

The huge stone bleachers were almost filled with men, women and children waiting to see the Christians face their death. When the Christians were led into the arena, the crowd of spectators began shouting. "Turn the lions loose! Clean up the city of Carthage! We don't want Christians here! We don't want Christians!"

Instead of a hungry lion, a wild, mad, heifer with long horns was turned loose on Perpetua and Felicitas. It charged at Perpetua, and then the angry heifer attacked Felicitas. The crowd cheered the heifer as the beast charged again and again at the two young women.

"You must all stand fast in the faith and love one another. Do not be weakened by what we have gone through!" Perpetua called to the other Christians who would soon be martyred.

The beast did not kill either Perpetua or Felicitas. Instead, with hands trembling so violently they could hardly control their swords, the soldiers released their souls from their battered, suffering bodies.

Together Perpetua and Felicitas had accepted the Christian faith. Together they endured prison, and together they entered into "everlasting happiness."

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Mary Magdalene; that the stone was taken away. 2. Simon Peter. 3. Mary. 4. Two angels. 5. "Woman, why weepest thou?" 6. The gardener. 7. That she had seen Jesus and that He spoke to her. 8. Jesus. 9. His hands and His side.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 March 30, 2008

A TWENTY-FIVE MILE HIKE

"Careful there," a tall Welsh mother said to her six year old daughter as she stumbled on a tree root growing out across the path.

"It is so dark tonight," Mary answered. "I wish God was here."

"Why do you say that?" Mother asked.

"If God was here, we'd have light on our path."

Mother laughed. "You must be thinking of God's words that the preacher read in church tonight, 'God's Word is a lamp to my feet and a light unto my path.'"

"Oh, how I wish I had a Bible," Mary sighed. "Could we buy one? Teacher says I can read well."

"Bibles are expensive! I could never save that much money! These four years since your father died, I've barely kept food on the table and clothes on our backs."

"Is it really the most important book in the world? Teacher says it is."

"It is, and I do wish you could have one. I tell you what, Mary, if you keep doing well in reading, I'll ask Mrs. Evans if you may read her Bible."

Mary faithfully walked the two miles to school every day. She studied hard. Finally the day came when Mother took Mary to Mrs. Evan's home and asked if Mary could read her Bible.

"Yes, you may," she said. The big, beautiful Bible lay open on a table. "Sit on the chair beside the table and only turn the pages. Don't pick up the Bible," Mrs. Evans told Mary.

Mary began reading. After what seemed to Mary a very short time, Mrs. Evans said, "Mary, you've been reading an hour already. I am shocked that you find the Bible so interesting. You go home now, and next Saturday you can come again and read longer."

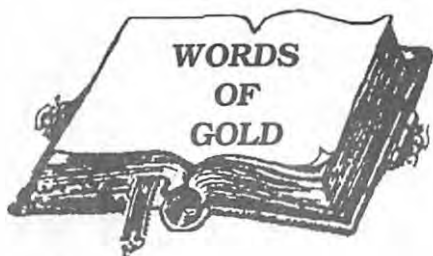
Every Saturday Mary arose early to finish her chores before hurrying to Mrs. Evans' to read the Bible. She read two hours each week. Soon she finished one book and started on another.

One Saturday morning while she was kneeling in the river, washing her clothes on a smooth rock, an idea popped into her mind. "I'm ten years old now. I can wash clothes and earn money to buy a Bible."

She excitedly told her plan. Soon she was earning money. When Mrs. Evans heard about it, she gave Mary some chickens to raise. "When they are grown, the hens will lay eggs which you can sell," she told Mary.

The chickens did lay and Mary sold the eggs. She also found other ways of making money; watching children, pulling weeds from gardens and knitting socks. Her pile of money grew.

At the end of the first year, she counted her money. She had only about one tenth of what she needed to



ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

Luke 24:13-33

13 ...two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus...

14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

15 ...Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another...

18 ...Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

19 ...Concerning Jesus of Nazareth ...

20 And how the chief priests and our rulers...have crucified him.

21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel:

22 ...certain women...were early at the sepulchre;

23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said; but him they saw not.

25 Then he said unto them...

26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto

them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 ...and he made as though he would have gone further.

29 But they constrained him... And he went in to tarry with them.

30 ...as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

32 And they said...Did not our heart burn within us...while he opened to us the scriptures?

33 And they...returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven...

The Message: Jesus appeared to His followers to prove to them that He had indeed risen from the dead.

Questions:

1. Two of Jesus' followers were walking to what city?
2. What were they doing as they walked along?
3. Who walked along with them?
4. Did they know who He was?
5. What did He expound to them?
6. Jesus made as though He would have gone _____.
7. What did He do as He sat at meat with them?
8. What did He do as soon as they knew Him?
9. Where did the two go?

Verse to Memorize

And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

Luke 24:31

Let's



Talk . . .

The same day that Jesus rose from the grave two of His followers were going to a village called Emmaus. This was about seven miles from Jerusalem, so as they walked along they were talking with each other about all the events of the past few days. So much had happened so quickly!

As they were sadly discussing Jesus' death, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing Him. Finally He asked, "What are you talking about that makes you so sad?"

One of them, named Cleopas, asked Him, "Are you a stranger in Jerusalem? Don't you know all that has happened there the past few days?"

"What things?" He asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified Him; but we had hoped that He was the one who was going to redeem Israel. This is the third day since all this took place.

"Then some of our women went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find His body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Him."

Jesus told them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.

When they got to Emmaus, it was getting late. Jesus acted as if He were going farther. But they insisted, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So He went in to stay with them. When He was at the table, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him. Immediately He vanished right out of their sight!

Then they asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

The two disciples were too excited to keep the news to themselves. They returned to Jerusalem that very evening, even though it was a seven mile walk. They had to find the eleven disciples and tell them they had seen Jesus!

They found the disciples assembled with others. They went in, closing the doors behind them for fear of the Jews. Then as the two related to the other disciples how Jesus had appeared to them on their way to Emmaus, Jesus suddenly stood in the middle of them!

"Peace be unto you," He told them lovingly. But they were terrified! They knew the doors were shut fast. This must be a spirit!

"Why are you troubled?" Jesus asked. "Look at the nail prints in my hands and my feet." As they looked they believed. Jesus was alive!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

buy a Bible. However, she never gave up. The following year she worked harder and earned more money. For six years she worked and saved her earnings. When she finally had enough money, she couldn't find a Bible to buy. She was told that only in Bala could she get a Welsh Bible.

"Where is Bala?" Mary asked Mother.

"Along ways from here, Mary. But maybe someone will be going to Bala and can buy it for you."

Time passed and no villager went to Bala. Mary could hardly wait.

"Please let me go," she begged her mother. "I'm sixteen now, old enough to care for myself."

You can't walk the distance in one day, and where would you stay at night?"

"God will care for me," Mary assured her mother.

Although Mother hated to see Mary go alone, she felt sure God would protect such a noble girl.

Mary bounced along the road like a happy puppy going for its food. When she noticed her shoes getting scuffed, she took them off and walked the rest of the way barefoot.

When she arrived in Bala, she inquired and found Thomas Charles, who sold Bibles. "I have come to buy a Bible," she said confidently laying her money on his table.

"I am sorry," he answered. "I have only one more Bible which I have already promised to a friend."

Mary fell into uncontrollable crying. "Come quick!" Mr. Charles called to his wife. "Something's happening to this girl."

"What is it my dear?" Mrs. Charles asked, as she helped Mary into a chair. She wiped the uncombed hair away from Mary's face. It was then she noticed Mary's parched lips. Hurrying away she brought back a glass of water for Mary.

Mary controlled herself and drank the water. Then she explained, "I live

in Llanfihangel. It's twenty-five miles away, and I've walked all the way. I was tired, hot and afraid, but the thought of having a Bible helped me to trudge on."

"Surely, my child, you are making up that story, why your shoes are not worn," interrupted Mr. Charles.

"I carried my shoes most of the way," Mary confessed.

"Let's look at her feet," Mrs. Charles suggested, "Then we will know the truth."

One look at Mary's scuffed, bruised feet convinced Mr. and Mrs. Charles that truly she had walked the twenty-five miles.

"You must take the Bible," Mr. Charles exclaimed. "You deserve it. I will get another Bible for my friend when I go to London."

"Thank you, thank you!" Mary said, hugging the Bible. "How nice you are. You see my mother is a widow, too poor to buy me a Bible. I have worked and saved my earnings for six years to buy this book."

Mr. Charles was very impressed with Mary's desire to have a Bible. He spoke to men in London about publishing Bibles in the Welsh language. Fifteen months later the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed. Similar Bible societies were later formed in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Russia, France, Greece and the U.S.A.

Mary never knew how many people were blessed by her sacrifice to have a Bible. God's Word is now a light to many feet and a lamp to the paths of people in many different countries.

(*American Bible Society,*

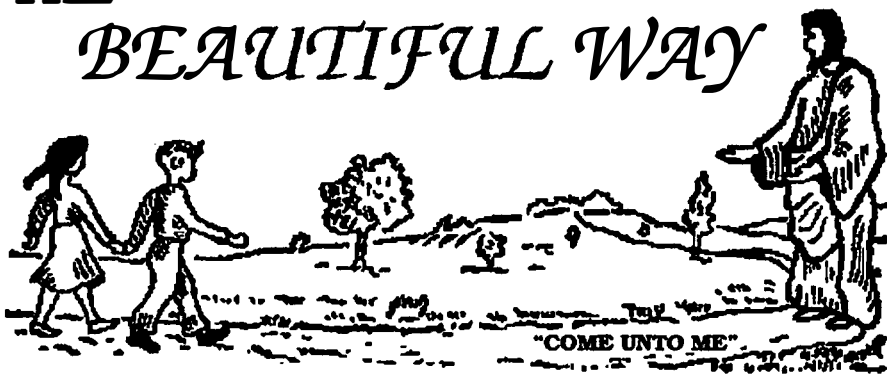
1865 Broadway, N.Y., NY 10023)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Emmaus. 2. Talking about all that had happened. 3. Jesus. 4. No. 5. The Scriptures about Himself. 6. Further. 7. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. 8. Vanished. 9. To Jerusalem.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 6, 2008

JOHN G. PATON MISSIONARY TO THE CANNIBALS

There are real heroes of history who were spiritual giants. In addition to those recorded in the Bible there are many others that, through a life fully consecrated to God, were used by Him to defy death and demons and overcame powerful enemies. Through their faithfulness, God was able to prove His mighty power and overthrow the powers of darkness and evil. They trusted God to fulfill His promises and He never failed them. One such man was John G. Paton.

John G. Paton was born in Scotland on May 24, 1824. He was the oldest of eleven children. When still less than twelve years of age he started learning his father's trade of making stockings. He worked from six in the morning till ten at night with an hour off at dinnertime and half an hour off for breakfast and again at supper. These spare moments he devoutly spent studying every day. Even at that young age he had given his life to God and purposed to become a missionary or a minister of the Gospel.

Operating a stocking frame was hard work for a boy so young but Paton himself said that what he learned making stockings was not wasted. The skill of using tools and of

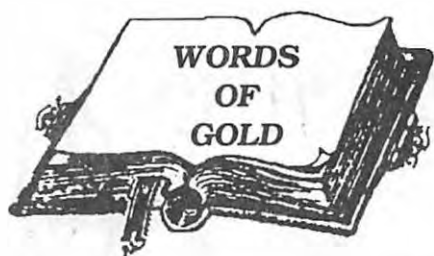
watching and keeping the machinery in order was of great value to him when he was on the foreign mission field.

Paton was blessed to have a godly father. From him he learned to love and trust God while he was still very young. When he was older he told how his father, James Paton, would go into his "prayer closet" three times a day. When he came out his face seemed to shine.

Family worship was a special time for Paton. His father would gather the family around him and read the Bible. Then they would kneel in prayer asking for God's protection and thanking Him for His many blessings. He wrote, "As we rose from our knees, I used to look at the light on my Father's face and wish I were like him in spirit."

Paton's mother also taught the children the power of a godly life. There was a time when the family, along with all their neighbors, was in deep need. The potato crop had failed and the other crops were poor. They had no food and no money to buy from others.

Their father had gone off with stockings to sell in a distant town. He planned to return by the next evening with money and supplies. But meanwhile there was no food. Their mother did not want to let any one know or



DOUBTING THOMAS

John 20:19

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

Luke 24:37-39

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? . . .

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

John 20:24-31

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

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

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace, be unto you.

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

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

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

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

The Message: Thomas missed the opportunity of seeing and talking with Jesus because he failed to meet with the other disciples.

Questions:

1. What day of the week did Jesus appear to the disciples?
2. Why were the doors shut?
3. What did Jesus say to the disciples?
4. Why were the disciples terrified?
5. Who was not there with the other disciples?
6. What did the disciples tell him?
7. Did he believe them?
8. How many days was it until Jesus again appeared to them?
9. Blessed are they that have not _____, and yet have _____.

Verse to Memorize

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
Matthew 18:20

Let's



Talk . . .

Jesus' disciples gathered together in a room and carefully locked the door. So much had happened the past few days! Just that morning, some of them had seen that Jesus' tomb was empty. Mary Magdalene even claimed to have seen and talked with Him!

As they talked about all these puzzling events, there was a knock on the door. When they knew who it was they opened the door, and the two men who had seen Jesus on the road to Emmaus rushed in. They began to excitedly tell that Jesus had walked and talked with them. Then, all of a sudden they saw Jesus standing right there with them!

"Peace be unto you," Jesus said calmly.

But the disciples were afraid! They knew they had closed and locked the door so no one could come in. This must be a spirit!

Jesus understood their confusion. He did not want them to be afraid; He wanted to prove to them that God had raised Him from the dead. "Why are you troubled? He asked compassionately. "Look at my hands and my feet and know that it is really Me. You may even touch Me. A spirit does not have skin and bones, as you can see that I have."

The disciples' fear turned to joy—it really was Jesus! When Jesus asked for something to eat they gladly brought Him broiled fish and honey.

Then Jesus explained Scriptures to them that told how He must suffer and die for the sins of the world. "You are witnesses of these things. You

must tell others," Jesus told them.

The disciples listened carefully to every word Jesus spoke. They were no longer troubled and afraid; Jesus was alive! Their hearts overflowed with joy and thankfulness.

But one disciple was not there. For some reason Thomas had not come with the other disciples. He missed Jesus' visit.

As soon as the other disciples saw Thomas they joyfully told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

Instead of sharing their joy at the good news, Thomas said stubbornly, "Except I see the print of the nails in His hands, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe."

Eight days later the disciples were together again, with the doors shut. Again, as suddenly as He had appeared to them before, Jesus stood right there in the middle of them! This time Thomas was with them.

"Peace be to you!" He said comfortingly. Then, turning to Thomas, He said "Put your finger on my hands and your hand in my side. Do not doubt but believe!"

Thomas was thoroughly convinced. "My Lord and my God!" he exclaimed humbly.

"You have believed because you have seen me, Thomas. But blessed are those who believe even though they have not seen me," Jesus said.

The Lord tells us in Hebrews 10:25 that we should not neglect to meet with others to worship God. In our memory verse Jesus tells us that when even two or three meet in His name He will be right there with them! Thomas missed seeing Jesus the first time He appeared. We always lose a blessing when we miss the opportunity of going to church to worship the Lord whenever it is service time. Go with the assurance that Jesus is right there in the service. He will meet you there.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

ask anyone for help. She insisted that the children go on to bed, assuring them that she had told God everything and that He would send them plenty in the morning.

And she was not disappointed. The next day a present came from her father who knew nothing of their need. God had impressed him to send a "love-offering" to his daughter and it came just in the nick of time. It was a bag of new potatoes, flour, and home-made cheese. Their need was well supplied!

When his mother saw the children's surprise at such an answer to her prayers she took them around her knees and thanked God for His goodness. Then she said to them: "O my children, love your Heavenly Father, tell Him in faith and prayer all your needs, and He will supply your wants so far as it shall be for your good and His glory."

So it was not some minister or evangelist or Sunday school teacher, but his own parents who led Paton to God. Most importantly they taught him the reality of the text, "Lo, I am with you always" by their own lives. Through his whole life and career Paton relied on that one promise. He proved its power and validity to the utmost.

Paton was still young when the Lord said to him, "Go across the seas as the messenger of My love," adding the precious promise "Lo, I am with you." Christ was leading him into a wider sphere of work and training, and he was determined to follow.

It was hard to leave the happy home but finally the day came that he must leave. It was about forty miles to the place where he would take a train to Glasgow. He could not afford to travel by stagecoach so he walked that forty miles. All his possessions were tied up in a large handkerchief, but he did not think of himself as

poor. He had his Bible and he knew that his Lord with him.

His father walked with him the first six miles. Paton never forgot his father's words of counsel, mingled with tears, that he gave as they walked along. At length they both lapsed into silence. The father carried his hat in his hand, praying silently while hot tears flowed freely. When they reached the appointed parting place, they clasped hands and the father said with deep emotion, "God bless you, my son! Your father's God prosper you and keep you from all evil!" Unable to say more, his lips kept moving in silent prayer. In tears they embraced then turned to go their separate ways.

Continuing down the road past a curve, Paton climbed the dyke for one last look at his dear father. His father had also climbed the dyke, hoping for one more glimpse of his boy. The old father's eyes were so dim they could not see his son so he climbed down and started for home, his head still bared and his heart offering up fervent supplications.

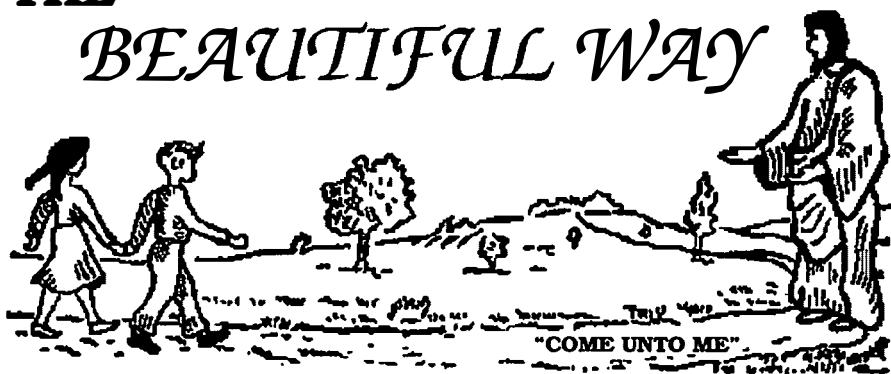
"I watched through blinding tears," Paton said in his autobiography, "till his form faded from my gaze; and then, hastening on my way, vowed deeply and oft, by the help of God, to live and act so as never to grieve or dishonor such a father and mother as He had given me." Even years later, when Paton was tempted to do wrong, just the thought of his godly father served as a guardian angel to keep him from evil.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The first. 2. For fear of the Jews. 3. "Peace be unto you." 4. They thought they were seeing a spirit. 5. Thomas. 6. "We have seen the Lord." 7. No. 8. Eight. 9. Seen, believed.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 13, 2008

JOHN G. PATON CALLED TO BE A MISSIONARY

(Continued from last week)

It was hard for John Paton to leave his home and family but he felt that God was calling him to work for Him. This meant that he needed special training, especially if he was called to go as a missionary to some foreign field.

So he left his home to study in Glasgow. Along with his studies during the following years he was also very busy distributing tracts, teaching school, and working as a city missionary in a degraded section of Glasgow. He realized that simply going to a foreign land would not turn him into a missionary. To be a missionary means, above all else, to be a soul-winner.

Paton was constantly seeking to win the lost around him. Among those he led to Christ, from the slums of Glasgow, were eight boys who later became ministers.

Young Paton kept hearing about the plight of the perishing heathen in the South Seas. For two years the church had been advertising for a missionary to go to the New Hebrides to join the missionary who was working in that needy field. He felt a deep desire to offer himself for that work and felt God was leading that way, so he made it the supreme subject of his

daily meditation and prayer.

The Lord kept impressing him, "Since no one better qualified has volunteered, rise and offer yourself!" He had an almost overpowering impulse to answer aloud, "Here am I, send me." But he was dreadfully afraid that he might be mistaking his mere human emotions for the will of God. He resolved to make it a subject of close deliberation and prayer for a few days longer—he must be very sure that God would be with him if he accepted such a dangerous mission!

Paton realized that his experience and studies had specially qualified him in some ways for the foreign field. Carefully considering all the facts, he was finally convinced that it was indeed the voice from God encouraging him to go as a missionary to help with the work in the New Hebrides Islands.

When Paton offered himself to go, Dr. Bates, secretary of the Heathen Missions Committee, cried for joy. He went back to his room with a lighter heart than he had enjoyed for some time. He said, "There is nothing that so clears the vision, and lifts up the life, as a decision to move forward in what you know to be entirely the will of the Lord."

When he saw his friend, Joseph Copeland, he told him, "I have offered myself as a Missionary for the New Hebrides."

After a long and silent meditation,



TAKEN UP IN A CLOUD!

John 20:30

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples. . .

Acts 1:2-14

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water: but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was

taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel:

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

The Message: While the disciples watched, Jesus began to rise until He disappeared in the clouds. He wanted His disciples to know that He had returned to Heaven.

Questions:

1. What did Jesus do in the presence of His disciples?
2. What did He give to the apostles whom He had chosen?
3. How many days did the disciples see Jesus after He was resurrected?
4. The disciples were not to depart from what city?
5. What were they to wait for?
6. What did John baptize with?
7. What were they to be baptized with?
8. What received Jesus out of their sight?
9. Who stood by them as Jesus disappeared out of sight?

Verse to Memorize

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him. 1 Peter 3:22

Let's



Talk . . .

The disciples got used to having Jesus suddenly appear among them. When they gathered to worship God they almost expected Him to join them. For forty days after His resurrection Jesus met with His disciples often. He still had many things to teach them. They seemed to think that He would set up a kingdom and always be with them right here on the earth.

So Jesus spent those forty days trying to teach the disciples that the kingdom of God is not an earthly kingdom; it is a spiritual kingdom. He showed them many miraculous signs so they would have no doubt that He was truly the Son of God. He knew they would need strong faith and belief in Him after He was no longer with them.

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." He declared to His disciples. "Now you are to go and teach all nations the truths that I have taught you. You will baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost and teach them to keep all the commandments I have given you." Then He assured them, "I will always be with you even unto the end of the world."

Jesus knew each disciple well. He knew how weak they were. Peter had denied he even knew Him when questioned by a girl! Thomas refused to believe that Jesus was resurrected from the grave even though all the other disciples had actually seen Him!

So Jesus instructed His disciples that they were not to leave Jerusalem until they had received the special gift His Father had promised them.

He explained that John had baptized the people with water after they confessed their sins. But they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit, God's gift to them. The Holy Spirit would give them power to do good and always please the Father, just as Jesus had. He told them again that, after they had received the Holy Spirit, they were to go throughout the entire world and tell the people about the kingdom of God and the wonderful plan of salvation.

Then one day Jesus led His disciples out as far as to Bethany to a mountain called Olivet. While He talked with them there He suddenly began to rise off the ground! They watched Him as He went higher and higher. Finally He was so high a cloud covered Him. They could no longer see Jesus.

The disciples continued to look in amazement in the direction Jesus had disappeared. As they stood gazing at the cloud, two angels dressed in white came to them. They asked, "You men of Galilee, why are you gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who is taken up from you, shall come again in the same way as you have seen Him go into heaven!"

The words of the angels gave the disciples great hope. Joyfully they left the mountain and turned toward Jerusalem to wait there as Jesus had told them. There in an upstairs room the eleven disciples and many more of Jesus' followers met to pray, worship and praise God as they waited for the great gift God had promised—the Holy Spirit.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

in which he seemed lost in far-wandering thoughts, his friend answered, "If they will accept of me, I am also resolved to go!"

This seemed too good to be true! Quickly they sat down together and wrote a letter stating that he was also willing to go to New Hebrides as a missionary.

Next morning Dr. Bates called on them early. After a long conversation, he commended them and their future work to the Lord God in fervent prayer. Then, at a meeting of the Foreign Missions Committee held immediately after this, they were both formally accepted, on condition that they successfully passed the usual examinations required of candidates for the Ministry.

Almost everyone else, however, thought it was very foolish for promising young men to go to live among the cruel and uncivilized natives of the islands of the South Pacific. One old man exclaimed, "The cannibals! You will be eaten by cannibals!"

"Mr. Dixon," John Paton answered boldly, "you are advanced in years now and your own prospect is soon to be laid in the grave, there to be eaten by worms. I confess to you that if I can but live and die serving and honoring the Lord Jesus, it will make no difference to me whether my body is eaten by cannibals or by worms."

On April 2, 1858 John Paton married Mary Ann Robson. Only 14 days later, accompanied by Mr. Joseph Copeland, they both said farewell to their home in Scotland and set sail for the South Pacific in spite of the news that the previous missionaries had been murdered and eaten by cannibals. In Paton's heart a song kept singing that included the precious words, "Lo, I am with you all the way."

"I committed my future to the Lord God of my father," he says,

"assured that in my very heart I was anxious to serve Him and to follow the blessed Saviour."

The new missionaries first landed on the island of Tanna in the southern part of the New Hebrides, on November 5, 1858 and built a small house at Port Resolution. In those days this was a purely cannibal island. Surrounded by painted savages whose lives were ruled by superstitions and the cruelties of heathenism at its worst, Paton's faith in his text was severely tried. But God had promised to always be with him—even on this island.

Soon after landing they saw scores of armed men rushing by in great excitement. They had feathers in their twisted hair and their faces were painted in the most grotesque manner. The discharge of muskets in the bush nearby and the horrible yells of the savages soon made it clear that they were engaged in deadly, bloody fighting. The next day the missionaries were informed that five men had been killed, cooked, and eaten by the victorious party!

These Tannese natives worshiped hosts of stone idols and sacred charms. Their worship was altogether a service of fear. Not knowing the true God, Who is love, they were constantly trying to appease some evil spirit. They felt they must do this in order to prevent calamity or else to get revenge on some enemy. They also offered frequent gifts to their sacred men, wizards, and witches, believing that these men were able to remove sickness or to cause it.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Many signs. 2. Commandments. 3. Forty days. 4. Jerusalem. 5. The promise of the Father. 6. Water. 7. The Holy Ghost. 8. A cloud. 9. Two men in white clothes.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 20, 2008

DANGER AND SORROW

(Continued from last week)

John Paton's heart was filled with both horror and pity as he saw the awful darkness and evil in these heathen people he hoped to teach about Jesus. Sometimes he was almost driven to despair. Had he done the right thing to give up the work in Glasgow that he loved so much and the people that were so dear to him to consecrate his life to these degraded creatures? He sometimes wondered if it was possible to teach them right and wrong, to Christianize or even to civilize them!

He was soon reminded, however, that he had not undertaken this work on his own. God had directed him and he had the vast resources of God's power with him. Later he wrote, "We were conscious that our Lord Jesus was near us and that through Him we were made strong for any assignment that He had given or might give."

This renewed his strength and courage. He began to tell the natives plainly of their wickedness. He faithfully pointed them to the Lamb of God who is able to save from sin. In every possible way, he showed them the contrast between their evil ways and the Christian way of living.

Whenever two parties were about

to go to war, he would run in between them and call upon them to stop. How was he enabled to face such dangers among these savages who thought nothing of killing a man? He explains, "My faith enabled me to grasp and realize the promise, 'Lo, I am with you alway.' In Jesus I felt invulnerable. These were the moments when I felt my Saviour to be most truly and sensibly near, inspiring and empowering me."

One morning, when Paton went out at daybreak, he found that armed men surrounded his house. These warriors were muttering fiercely that they had come to kill him at once!

These natives had one strange habit. They always made a speech before taking action. So the savage warriors would not kill Paton until their chief had made the following speech: "Missi (this was their name for missionary), we love the ways and practices of our fathers, which you and other missionaries oppose. We killed the last foreigner that lived in Tanna before you came here. We murdered the Aneityumese teachers and burned down their houses. Now we are determined to kill you, because you are changing our customs, and we hate the Jehovah worship."

"Seeing that I was entirely in their hands," says Paton, "I knelt down



GOD'S GREAT GIFT; 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 . . . 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. What kind of noise did 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. What did he say the people would 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

Let's



Talk . . .

God's gift from Heaven, the Holy Spirit, is the greatest treasure a man can ever possess! Jesus told His disciples that it was necessary for Him to leave them and return to Heaven. Only then could God send this great gift to them.

The disciples could not think of anything more wonderful than having Jesus with them every day. While He was with them they felt safe and happy.

But when Jesus began telling them that He was going back to His Father He saw the sadness come over them. Jesus told the disciples why He must die. Though they could not understand now, He tried to explain that the power of sin and the devil over their hearts could only be broken by the shedding of His own righteous blood.

Then, with their hearts cleansed from sin, the Holy Spirit would actually come into their hearts to live there forever! 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. The Holy Spirit would give them power to say, "NO!" when the devil tempted them to sin.

Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth. He would be an excellent guide because He knew the safest route to Heaven and how weak and dependent they were. Following His directions, they could escape the traps

and snares Satan had set up to destroy them. He would make them stronger than all their enemies!

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. All of the disciples, except John, bravely faced death rather than deny Jesus or stop preaching the good news of salvation.

God's great gift of the Holy Spirit is just as necessary for each of us. 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 alone can safely guide us to Heaven. 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 also 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 tells us that we don't know what we should pray for as we should. Prayer is like a foreign language to us. But the Holy Spirit understands God's will and how to pray. It is His native language and He will actually pray for us!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

and gave myself away body and soul to the Lord Jesus, for what seemed the last time on earth." The savages grew strangely quiet when they saw him kneel in prayer. When he got up off his knees he told them again about Jesus' great love for them. Then they turned and walked away, muttering that he would yet be killed if he did not leave the island at once!

Several days later, while a large number of natives were assembled, a man rushed furiously at Paton with his axe and attempted to take his life. The next day a fierce-looking chief followed him around for four hours, frequently pointing his loaded musket at him as if to shoot. Paton quietly went on with his work, silently praying for God's protection. What was the secret of his great courage? It was his faith in the promise of God's presence!

He tells us: "Life in such circumstances led me to cling very near to the Lord Jesus. With my trembling hand clasped in the hand once nailed on Calvary, and now swaying the scepter of the universe, calmness and peace abode in my soul. Trials and hairbreadth escapes strengthened my faith and seemed only to nerve me for more to follow. Without that abiding consciousness of the presence and power of my dear Lord and Saviour, nothing else in all the world could have preserved me from losing my reason and perishing miserably. His words, *'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world,'* became very real to me and I felt His supporting power. I had my nearest and dearest glimpses of the face and smile of my blessed Lord in those dread moments when musket, club, or spear was being leveled at my life."

When he and Mrs. Paton landed on Tanna they both were healthy and full of enthusiasm, as they anticipated a

happy life together teaching the poor savages about the love of God. Three months later when a little son was born to them it seemed that their joy was complete. But the happiness soon faded.

For two days or so both the mother and child seemed to do well. But then his wife was struck down with fever. She suffered with this about two weeks and then died suddenly. Paton was shocked and numb with grief and loneliness. When, only seventeen days later, his dear baby boy died, it seemed more than he could bear. The grief-stricken missionary had to dig a grave with his own hands for both his young wife and his baby boy.

"Let those," Paton wrote later, "who have ever passed through similar darkness, as of midnight, feel for me. I was stunned, and my reason seemed almost to give way. I built a wall of coral round the grave and covered the top with beautiful white coral, broken small as gravel; that spot became my sacred and much-frequented shrine during all the years that, amidst difficulties, dangers, and deaths, I labored for the salvation of these savage islanders."

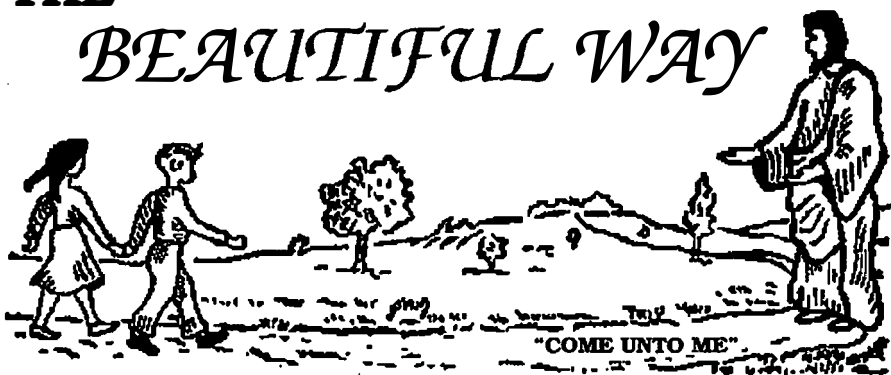
"I was never altogether forsaken," he added. "The ever-merciful Lord sustained me to lay the precious dust of my loved ones in the same quiet grave. But for Jesus, and the fellowship He vouchsafed me there, I must have gone mad and died beside that lonely grave!"

(To be continued)

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. Prophecy.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 27, 2008

DIVINE PROTECTION

(Continued from last week)

John Paton continued his work among the savages in spite of his awful grief from losing his wife and infant son. At times his work looked hopeless—these people seemed to love their evil ways!

On New Year's Day, 1861, the missionaries to Tanna realized their lives were in danger. Hundreds of the natives had become sick with a deadly type of measles. The missionaries had worked all day taking supplies, food, and water to the sick. But in spite of their kindness they realized the superstitious natives believed that they were the cause of their trouble.

Most of the natives who took care of themselves as the missionaries instructed recovered. But most of them preferred to try their own methods. Many of them, burning with fever, plunged into the ocean trying to get relief. The result was almost instant death. Others dug holes in the earth the length of their bodies and several feet deep. When they lay down in the deep holes the cool earth felt good to their fevered bodies. Hundreds of them died there, literally in their own graves. They were buried where they lay.

That evening the missionaries knelt in the mission house in fervent prayer. After reconsecrating their

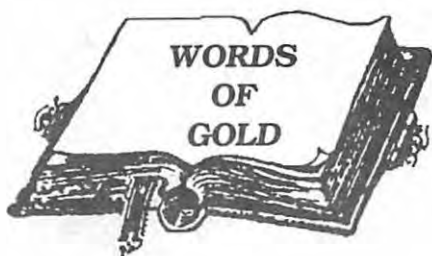
lives to Christ they pleaded for the salvation of the cannibals among whom they lived. Solemnly they begged God for His protection. They knew that fierce savages armed with clubs, killing-stones and muskets might be surrounding the house even then. The natives believed that the missionaries and their God had brought this disease, hurricanes, and other troubles on them. They vowed that they would kill and eat them!

After prayer a younger missionary stepped out of the door to go to his own house close by. Instantly he was attacked and fell to the ground screaming, "Look out! They are trying to kill us!"

Rushing to the door John Paton shouted at the savages, "Jehovah God sees you and will punish you for trying to murder His servants." Two black men swung their deadly clubs, barely missing him. Then the band of savages ran away.

The younger missionary was not injured badly but the shock of the attack affected him so that night after night he could not sleep. He was so afraid that he would be killed and eaten by the savages that his mind gave way under the strain. In three weeks he was dead!

John G. Paton had already survived many such attacks on his life. He was able to survive many more



PETER'S GREAT CHANGE

John 13:37-38

37 Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.

38 Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

Acts 2:4,14

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

14 . . . Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Acts 2:22-23

22 . . . Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Acts 2:32-33

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Acts 2:37-38, 41

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

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

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

The Message: Jesus said they would receive power after the Holy Ghost came upon them. Peter was proof of this!

Questions:

1. What did Peter say he would do for Jesus' sake?
2. What did Jesus answer him?
3. What did the people do after they were filled with the Holy Ghost?
4. Who stood up and preached to the people?
5. Who did God raise up (from the dead)?
6. What did the listeners ask Peter and the other apostles?
7. What did Peter tell them to do?
8. What gift would they receive?
9. How many gladly accepted the truth and were baptized?

Verse to Memorize

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . .

Acts 1:8

Let's



Talk . . .

Peter was a natural leader. When a question was asked or a decision needed to be made among the disciples, Peter was usually the spokesman. Jesus asked the disciples who they believed He was. It was Peter who boldly answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

But fear gripped Peter when he saw the soldiers and mob that had come to arrest Jesus. He grabbed his sword and came so close to cutting a man's head off that he did cut off his ear. As they led Jesus away, Peter feared he too would be arrested. Yet he must see what would become of Him so he followed, staying far enough behind that no one would see him.

Then, when a mere girl asked him if he was one of Jesus' disciples, this big bold fisherman was afraid. "I am not!" he declared. Two others asked the same question and each time Peter denied he even knew Jesus. Then he heard the cock crow and he remembered what Jesus told him. He rushed out and cried bitterly, realizing what he had done.

But after Jesus returned to Heaven, there was a great change in Peter! Jesus told them they would receive power after they received the Holy Ghost. That power was immediately evident in Peter. Again he was spokesman for the group. When some mocked, saying the one hundred twenty were speaking in other languages because they were drunk, Peter boldly stood up where everyone could see him. With a loud voice he announced, "Men of Jerusalem and all Judea, we are not drunk as you

suppose. We have received a great blessing from God. The prophet Joel said, 'In those days I will pour out my Spirit on my servants and on my handmaidens and they shall preach.' God has given us this Holy Spirit as He promised. This is what you are seeing and hearing today."

So Peter spoke as the Holy Spirit gave him the words to say. The multitude listened intently as he told them about Jesus, the many signs and wonders He had worked and how God allowed Him to be delivered into the hands of His wicked enemies. He spoke of Jesus' crucifixion, assuring them that God had raised Him from the dead.

The words touched the hearts of the audience. They knew Peter spoke the truth. They felt so condemned they cried out, "What shall we do?" Peter instructed them to repent and be baptized. Then they too could receive the greatest blessing of all—the gift of the Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit made Peter a solid courageous apostle for Jesus. As we study his life, we will see what great miracles and wonders the Holy Spirit worked through him. But best of all, he could now live a steady, consistent holy life just as Jesus did.

This good news is also for us! The Holy Spirit will make a steady Christian out of anyone who will receive Him into their heart and obey His leading. You may sometimes do things you know Jesus does not approve of even though you want to please Him. You repent but then find you are not strong enough to resist temptation the next time it comes. Jesus has provided something much better for you! Just surrender your whole life to Jesus and ask the Holy Spirit to come into your heart. As you yield to the Holy Spirit, He will guide you every moment and give you power to say, "No!" to the tempter.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

because he lived in the presence of his Lord. He knew he had nothing to fear because God was with him. He was convinced that nothing could destroy him until his work was accomplished and the Lord was through with him.

In the year 1862 a new crisis arose. Hundreds of frenzied natives vowed that they would kill the missionary without delay. Nowar, a friendly chief, urged him to run for his life. It was dark so the chief told him to run to a large chestnut tree. Paton took his advice, climbing the tree and hiding high up among the leafy branches. From his perch he could see and hear the savages below beating the bushes in their frantic search for him.

Later Paton wrote about this terrifying experience: "I heard the frequent discharging of muskets and the yells of the savages. Yet I sat there on one of the branches, safe in the arms of Jesus! Never, in all my sorrows, did my Lord draw nearer to me and speak more soothingly to my soul. Alone, yet not alone! Had I been a stranger to Jesus and to prayer, my reason would verily have given way, but my comfort and joy sprang from the promise, '*Lo, I am with you always.*'"

In writing about this experience Paton asked his readers, "If you were alone, all, all alone, in the midnight, in the bush, so very close to death, do you have a Friend who will not fail you then?" He had such a Friend and he proved that in His Presence there is divine protection as great as his need.

The savages of Aneityum had readily accepted Christianity. Many of them had become missionaries to the other islands to spread the gospel. They were true witnesses and suffered much for Christ's sake—some were even killed. Several of these Aneityumese Christians were helping

Paton in his efforts to evangelize the Tannese.

One day he received information that he and his Aneityumese teachers were destined to be the victims of a feast that the natives were planning. When they looked out of the window they saw a band of armed killers coming. They were cut off from all human hope but they knew where to go for help. They fell on their knees in prayer.

For many hours they heard the savages tramping around the house, threatening to break in or set the place on fire. As they prayed, their hearts were quieted with the assurance that He who was for them was greater than all their foes. Paton says: "Our safety lay in our appeal to the blessed Lord who had placed us there, to whom *all power had been given* in Heaven and on earth. This is strength, this is peace—to have sweet communion with Him. I can wish my readers nothing more precious than that."

It was the scripture found in Matthew 28:18-20 that again brought needed strength and comfort in the face of impossible odds. It told him: "*All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go, therefore ... and lo, I am with you...*" He accepted the promise as a message from God and proved that it was true.

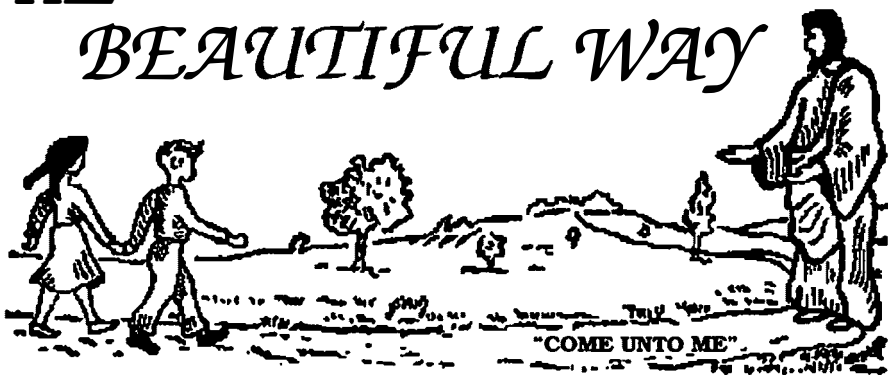
The Hand that *reassured* the missionary *restrained* the enemy! Finally the killers disappeared back into the forest. God had preserved the lives of His missionaries.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Lay down his life. 2. He would deny Him three times before the cock crowed. 3. Began to speak in other tongues (languages). 4. Peter. 5. Jesus. 6. "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 7. Repent and be baptized. 8. The Holy Ghost. 9. Three thousand.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 4, 2008

DIVINE DELIVERANCE

(Continued from last week)

John Paton, missionary to the South Sea Islands, kept several milk goats near the mission house. One day he heard an unusual bleating among the goats, as if they were being killed or tortured. He rushed out to their pen. Instantly he was surrounded by a band of armed men who sprang from the bush. He had fallen into their trap!

Each man carried a heavy club. Lifting them threateningly they said, "You have escaped from us many times but now we are going to kill you!"

Paton knew there was no hope of escape. Lifting his hands and eyes toward Heaven, he committed himself and the situation to his Lord. As he prayed he felt the Divine Presence of God overshadowing him. His heart was filled with a tender reassurance that all was well. The cannibals seemed to sense God's presence also—silently they slipped away one after another!

"Thus," affirms the missionary, "Jesus restrained them once again. His promise is a reality. He is with His servants, to support and bless them, even unto the end of the world!"

On another occasion when Paton was preaching in one of the villages three sacred men stood up. They declared to the people that they could kill the missionary by witchcraft. All they would need was any piece of fruit or food that he taken a bite of!

Paton accepted the challenge. He resolved, with his Lord's help, to strike a blow at the tremendous evil power of these witchdoctors. First he took a bite out of three plums. Then he handed one of them to each of the sacred men.

The natives were amazed at his action and expected to see him fall over dead any moment while the sorcerers went through their rituals and chants. They rolled the three plums up in leaves, muttering and gesturing wildly. Then they kindled a sacred fire and burned them.

"Stir up your gods to help you," urged Paton. "I am not killed. In fact I am perfectly well."

Finally the witchdoctors said that they would call all the sacred men together and that they would kill Missi (their name for missionary) before the next Sabbath. Paton told the people he would meet them at that same place the next Sabbath morning.

The next Sabbath morning he was there, in perfect health. He told the



THE LAME MAN

Acts 3:1-12, 16

1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the

people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

The Message: Peter and John had something far better than silver or gold to give the lame man.

Questions:

1. Where were Peter and John going?
2. What was the name of the gate where they laid the lame man?
3. How long had the man been lame?
4. Why did they carry him to the temple every day?
5. What did the lame man do when he saw Peter and John?
6. What did Peter say he did not have?
7. In whose name did Peter command him to rise and walk?
8. When Peter took him by the hand and lifted him up, what happened?
9. What did all the people see the lame man doing?

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. Acts 3:6

Let's



Talk . . .

It started as just another dreary day for the lame man. It would be the same routine as the day before and the many days before that one. He waited patiently knowing someone would come soon to carry him to the temple where he would sit by the wayside and ask alms of anyone going into the temple.

From the day that he was born—over forty years ago now—he had never taken a step or even stood on his feet! His ankles and feet had never grown strong like the other children's.

How vividly he remembered sitting where he could watch as the children laughed and ran and played nearby. If only he could be like them!

Then, as he grew older, he saw other boys his age working hard, lifting and carrying loads to help about the home. All he could do was sit and watch. He knew he was a burden to his family and it made his heart ache. What a joy it would be to have strong legs; to work hard and make life easier for his dear parents!

Since he could not work, the only way he could get a little money for food was by begging. Each morning his family or friends would carry him to a gate of the temple that was called "Beautiful." This had been the daily routine for so many years that the people expected to see him there. Each evening he would be carried back to his home.

Then one day Peter and John were going into the temple to pray. They saw the beggar sitting on the ground. He held out his cup and asked for alms as he did from everyone who

walked by. Suddenly Peter felt powerfully drawn to this beggar. He realized that God wanted to do something very special for him.

Looking at him intently Peter said, "I have no silver or gold. But I do have something to give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk!"

As he spoke Peter reached out and took the man by the hand and lifted him up. Instantly his feet and ankles were made strong. He leaped to his feet and began to walk. He went into the temple with Peter and John, walking and leaping and praising God.

This made such a commotion that the people looked to see what was happening. They could not believe their eyes—it was the lame beggar who always sat at the Beautiful gate of the temple. But he wasn't lame anymore! In fact he kept jumping for sheer joy of being able to walk and stand.

More and more people gathered, amazed and wondering at what they were witnessing. The lame man held Peter and John as if he could not let them go. These two strangers had given him what he had dreamed of all his life—he could walk! As the crowd grew, Peter spoke to the people telling them it was Jesus who had healed the man. It was not by any power of their own.

When we know Jesus and have Him living in our heart we have a greater treasure than all the diamonds, silver, gold or other riches of earth! God wants to work through us just as He did through Peter. He will use us to be a blessing to everyone we contact.

Perhaps you have hard conditions in your life. Trust in Jesus. Then you can face each new day expectantly. His mercies are new every morning! (Lamentations 3:23.)

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

people, "Now you must admit that your gods have no power over me and that I am protected by the true and living God. He is the only God who can hear and answer prayer. He loves all human beings, despite their great wickedness, and He sent His dear Son, Jesus, to save all who will believe from sin.

Paton was shocked to hear that the natives had killed a missionary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, who were serving on another island. When the Tannese heard this, they shouted to one another: "Our love to these brave men. They have killed their Missi (missionary) and his wife while we only talk about it."

Several native teachers from another island worked with Paton to bring the Gospel to the savages of Tanna. But after one of them was murdered they decided to return to their own island. Only one stayed. This was Abraham. This brave man had once been a bloodthirsty savage but now he was a true hero of the Cross. In spite of the danger and almost certain death he decided he would stay with Paton!

And soon they were in grave danger. As hundreds of furious cannibals shouted for their death, the two knelt in prayer. "O Lord," Abraham prayed, "make us two strong for Thee and Thy cause, and if they kill us, let us die together in Thy good work, like Thy servants, Missi Gordon the man and Missi Gordon the woman."

The savages encircled them in a deadly ring and kept urging each other to strike the first blow or fire the first shot. Presently a killing-stone, thrown with great force, grazed Abraham's cheek. The dear old saint looked toward Heaven and said, "Missi, I was nearly away to Jesus."

"In that awful hour," writes Paton, "I saw Christ's own words, as if carved in letters of fire upon the clouds of heaven: 'Whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.'" As he stood praying, he saw the Lord Jesus hovering close by, watching the scene. An assurance came to him, as if a voice from Heaven had spoken. He knew that not a musket would be fired, not a club would strike, no arrow shot, no killing-stone or spear would be thrown unless Jesus Christ permitted it. He rules over all—even the savages of the South Seas!

Somehow the savages were prevented from killing them. It was a miracle and an evident proof of the protecting presence of his Lord. Paton wrote, "If any reader wonders how they were restrained, much more would I, unless I believed that the same Hand that restrained the lions from touching Daniel held back these savages from hurting me."

On several occasions, when ships came into port, Paton was urged to sail away to safety. In each instance he refused, hoping that he might yet win the Tannese for Christ. But, finally, when the mission house was broken into and everything he had was either stolen or destroyed, he realized that if he stayed longer he would likely be killed and eaten by the cannibals or else die from slow starvation.

(To be continued)

<p>Answers: 1. Into the temple. 2. Beautiful. 3. From birth. 4. To ask for alms. 5. Asked for alms. 6. Silver and gold. 7. In the name of Jesus Christ. 8. His feet and ankle bones received strength. 9. Walking and praising God.</p>

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 11, 2008

DIVINE PROVISION

(Continued from last week)

Leaving Tanna for a while, Paton made his way across the island. It was a treacherous trip but finally he reached the mission station occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Mathieson.

He was completely worn out and soon fell into a deep sleep. About 10 o'clock his faithful little dog, Clutha, jumped on him and woke him up. Looking out, he saw that savages surrounded the house. Some had blazing torches; the rest were armed with various weapons.

In horror he watched them set fire to the church close by and then to the reed fence that connected the church and the mission house. In a few minutes the mission house, too, would be in flames! Meanwhile the infuriated men waited. They knew the missionaries would try to escape. As soon as they came out they would kill them!

Humanly speaking, the situation was hopeless. Kneeling in prayer, the missionaries committed themselves to the Lord Jesus. Then, in a desperate move, Paton opened the door and rushed outside to cut the reed fence. Instantly he was surrounded by a company of savages with raised clubs shouting, "Kill him! Kill him!"

"They yelled in rage," says Paton. "but the invisible Lord restrained them

and delivered me. I stood invulnerable beneath His invisible shield."

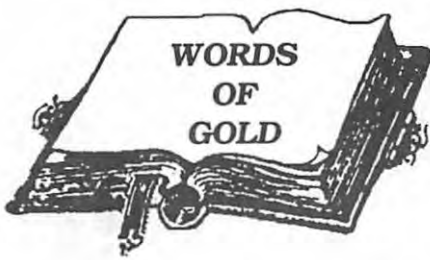
Just at that moment a rushing, roaring sound came from the south. An awful tornado of wind and rain was coming fast! If it had come from the north, the flames from the church would have quickly reached and burned the mission house. Instead, the wind blew the flames away from the house and soon a torrent of rain was falling. The natives were terror stricken! They ran away, shouting: "This is Jehovah's rain! Their God is fighting for them and helping them."

Their fright was short-lived, however. Early the next morning, they returned, determined to kill the missionaries this time. They came closer and closer, shrieking wildly.

There seemed no hope for escape. Then suddenly the shrieks turned to cries of, "Sail O! Sail O!" The missionaries were afraid to believe their ears. But it was true: a ship was sailing into the harbor just when all hope seemed lost!

The missionaries were soon rescued and taken to Aneityum. "In joy we united our praises," says Paton. "Truly our precious Jesus has all power. Often since have I wept over His love and mercy in that deliverance."

Jesus claimed, "All power is given unto Me" and promised, "Lo, I am with you." John Paton's life and miraculous experiences proved the truth of



PETER AND JOHN IN PRISON

Acts 4: 1, 3

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: . . .

Acts 4:7-10

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said . . .

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

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Acts 4:13-14

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled: and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

Acts 4:18-19

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

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in

the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye

Acts 4:21, 23, 31

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

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together: and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The Message: When Jesus lives in our hearts others will know it!

Questions:

1. What did the chief priests and others do to Peter and John?
2. What did they ask the apostles?
3. With whom was Peter filled?
4. By Whose name was the lame man healed?
5. What kind of men were Peter and John?
6. What did they command them not to do?
7. What did they do before they let them go?
8. What did they tell their own company?
9. What happened when they had prayed?

Verse to Memorize

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

Let's



Talk . . .

As the lame man who had been healed clung to Peter and John all the people ran together to them. Everybody knew this poor man. They had seen him begging at the Temple gate for years—since he was a boy. For more than forty years he had been lame. Yet here he was walking and leaping about in the most amazing way. What a miracle!

When a great crowd had gathered, Peter saw another opportunity to tell about Jesus. "Men of Israel," he cried in a voice that could be heard above the hubbub, "why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?" Then he pleaded with the people to repent of their sins and give their hearts to Jesus.

As he spoke, more and more people joined the crowd, until almost everybody in the Temple was there. Many of the priests came to listen too, and they were anything but pleased—the disciples of Jesus were claiming that their leader had been raised from the dead! This must be stopped at once!

They called the Temple guard who forced his way through the crowd and arrested both Peter and John and led them away to prison. But he was too late. The people had heard the message. As they went to their homes that night, many more decided that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Next morning there was a big meeting of the Temple leaders. Annas and Caiaphas were there, the very ones who had presided at the trial of Jesus. Presently Peter and John were

called before them. "By what power, or by what name, did you do this?" asked the high priest.

Without a trace of fear Peter replied, "By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man is standing before you well. And there is salvation in no one else," he added, "for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

As Peter told about Jesus, he spoke so boldly that the priests and rulers were astonished. They couldn't understand how a poor, uneducated fisherman could talk like this. Nor could they deny that there had been a great miracle. Not only was the man who had been healed known to every one of them, but here he stood near the two apostles, ready to speak up for them if he needed to!

The chief priests and rulers did not know what to do so they sent Peter and John out while they discussed the matter. Finally the prisoners were led back in. They commanded them that they must not teach in the name of Jesus, but Peter and John would not promise to obey their order.

They said, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right for us to obey you rather than God. We cannot keep from telling about the wonderful things we have seen and heard."

Before letting the two go, the rulers threatened to punish them severely if they were caught teaching in Jesus' name.

At once Peter and John went to their friends and told them what had happened. As they prayed for God to give them boldness to preach about Jesus, the place where they met was shaken. Again the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke the Word of God boldly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

this wonderful promise!

Paton intended to work on his translation of the Bible in Tannese while in Aneityum and then to return to Tanna as soon as possible. But after consultation with the other missionaries, he agreed to go first to Australia, then to Scotland, to arouse greater interest in the work of the New Hebrides. He hoped to recruit new missionaries and especially to raise a large sum of money for the building and upkeep of a sailing ship. This would be a great help to the missionaries in their work of evangelizing the Islands.

Paton remembered the time in his childhood when the potato crop failed and the other crops were poor. The Paton family, like other peasants, was in great want. They ran out of both food and money while his father was away on a business trip. The trusting mother took the matter to the Lord in prayer and assured the children that He would supply their needs in the morning.

Sure enough, a basket of food arrived from an unexpected source the very next day. Gathering the children around her, the mother said, "My dear children, love your Heavenly Father. Tell Him in faith and prayer all your needs, and He will surely supply them, so far as it shall be for your good and His glory."

Besides this experience in his childhood Paton knew the Lord had been with him during his days in Tanna. He had guided, protected, and miraculously delivered him with a mighty hand. He was confident that God would also supply the material needs of the Mission. And he was not disappointed. The gifts of money poured in after the people heard Paton's thrilling account of his experiences and the great need of the work.

While in Scotland, Paton was married to Margaret Whitecross. To-

gether they sailed back to the South Seas. They reached Aneityum in August, 1866.

Mr. and Mrs. Paton established a new Mission station on Aniwa, the nearest island to Tanna. By God's help they would lead the Aniwas to Christ while waiting for the day when they could return to Tanna. They built a house for themselves and two houses for orphan children. Later a church, a printing house, and other buildings were erected.

But the Aniwas were just as brutal and uncivilized as the Tannese. They were cannibals with the same superstitions and mentality. They often stole the missionaries' belongings and tried to kill them many times.

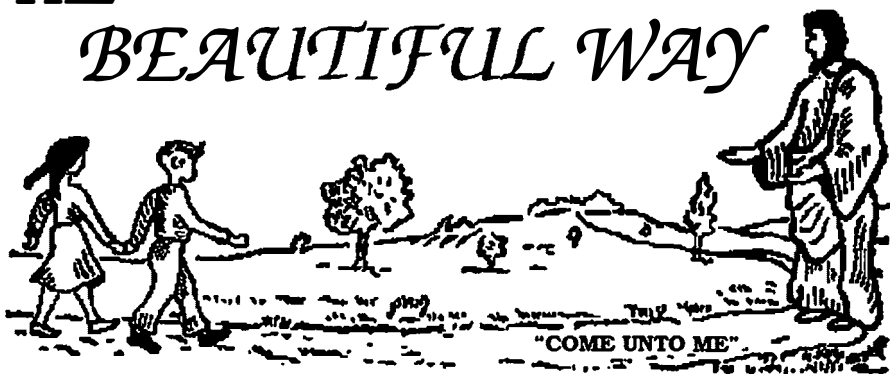
One day while Paton was working quite a distance from home his axe slipped and cut his ankle severely. He begged some of the native men to carry him to his hut. They demanded that he pay them something before they would help, so he gave several fishhooks to one of the men. This man took him a short distance, put him down and ran away. Paton begged a second man for help but he refused until he was paid. When Paton gave him some fishhooks he carried him only a few steps then put him down and ran away. This happened several times before he finally got back to his home. Meanwhile, the wound bled profusely and Paton suffered intensely.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Put them in hold (prison). 2. "By what power have you done this?" 3. The Holy Ghost. 4. By the name of Jesus Christ. 5. Ignorant and unlearned. 6. To not teach in the name of Jesus. 7. Threatened them. 8. What the chief priests had said to them. 9. The place was shaken.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 18, 2008

GOD'S POWER TO TRANSFORM

(Continued from last week)

One day while John Paton was serving as missionary on the island of Aniwa he needed some tools from his hut. He wrote a note on a piece of wood and handed it to a chief, named Namakei, asking him to take the piece of wood to Mrs. Paton.

"But what do you want?" the old chief asked.

"The wood will tell her," Paton replied.

Namakei thought this was some strange sort of joke but he did as Paton asked. He was amazed when Mrs. Paton sent just what her husband wanted.

The missionary took advantage of this opportunity to tell him about the Bible, through which he could hear God "speak" to him. The old chief seemed to understand.

This made Namakei wish to have the Word of God printed in his own language. He did everything he could to help Paton with the translation and was a great help. Meanwhile he saw that he needed to learn to read. When the first section of the Bible was finally printed, he asked eagerly: "Missi, can it speak? Does it speak my language?"

"Yes, it does."

"O Missi, make it speak to me!"

Paton read a few verses to him

and the chief exclaimed joyfully, "It does speak! It speaks my own words! Please give it to me." After pressing it to his heart, he handed it back disappointedly saying, "Missi, it will not speak to me!"

Paton explained that he must first learn to read, and then he could make the book speak. Noticing that the chief's sight was poor, he found a pair of glasses to fit him and Namakei cried with glee, "I have gotten back the sight I had when I was a boy. O Missi, make the book speak to me now!"

Namakei studied hard. As soon as he could read, he would say to the people: "Come and I will let you hear how God's book speaks our own Aniwan words. Listen to these beautiful words, telling why the Missi came to live among us wretched people and of his Friend Jesus who always goes with him, to make him strong in all his work."

Somewhat haltingly he read the words: "Go and make disciples of all nations. And lo, I am with you always." So little by little the savages learned that the missionary was not alone. They could see by his life that God was working through John Paton. And now God's precious promise could be read in their own language!

Paton wrote, "Among the heathens every true convert becomes at once a missionary. The changed life, shining out amid the surrounding darkness,



THE GREAT ESCAPE

Acts 5:12

12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; . . .

Acts 5:15-23

15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

16 There came also a multitude . . . bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him . . .

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

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

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

21 And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came . . . and sent to the prison to have them brought.

22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told,

23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within.

Acts 5:25-29

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

26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name...?

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

The Message: God is able to miraculously deliver those who are doing His work.

Questions:

1. What were worked by the apostles' hands?
2. Who did they bring into the streets?
3. What did they hope might overshadow some of them?
4. How many of them were healed?
5. After their arrest where were the apostles taken?
6. Who came and opened the prison doors?
7. What did he tell the apostles to do?
8. Where did the officers find the apostles?
9. Who should we obey?

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said,

We ought to obey God rather than men.

Acts 5:29

Let's



Talk . . .

The threats of the chief priest and rulers did not keep the disciples from preaching about Jesus. Meeting with other believers, they prayed God to give them more boldness to preach the Gospel and more power to work miracles. God answered prayer in a mighty way. The apostles were filled with the power of God. Each day more believers were added to the church until it numbered many thousands.

The people were much impressed by the miracles that the apostles did in the name of Jesus. They brought their sick and laid them in the streets where Peter walked. God gave him such power that even his shadow passing over them made the sick people well. The sick were brought from many cities and towns round about as well as from Jerusalem. And God worked so mightily that every one that came was healed! It was just like the days when Jesus had been there!

The priests and rulers were alarmed when they saw the multitudes coming to be healed and hear about Jesus. Somehow they must stop these men! Once more they had them arrested and put in the common prison.

Night came and the rulers went home to rest. They thought their worries were over since the apostles were behind bars. But while the rulers slept, an angel opened the iron doors of the prison and brought the apostles out. Then the angel told them, "Go back to the Temple and teach the people all the words of life."

Everything was quiet as they stepped into the street in the cool night air. They went to their homes. Early in the morning they went to the Temple to teach the people, as the angel said. They went on witnessing for Jesus just as though nothing had happened.

Now the priests knew nothing about the apostles' great escape. They sent officers to bring them from prison. But the officers returned alone! "We found the keepers standing guard outside the locked doors," they said, "but when we went in, we could find no one."

They wondered what this could mean! While they were trying to find out what had happened, someone came from the temple with more news. The man said, "The men you put in prison are in the temple teaching the people."

Now what could the Jewish rulers do? The people would stone them if they tried to seize the apostles in the Temple. Finally the rulers ordered their officers to take the apostles quietly and bring them to the council room.

When the apostles were brought in, the rulers asked angrily, "Didn't we strictly order you not to teach about Jesus? Then why do you continue to fill this city with your teaching? Why have you told the people that we are guilty of Jesus' death?"

Peter and the other apostles stood up boldly and answered, "We should obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up this Jesus whom you killed. And God has made this same Jesus a Prince and a Savior, to give forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

When the rulers heard this, they were furious. They planned how they could kill the apostles.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

is a Gospel in largest capitals which all can read."

Namakei turned out to be an excellent exhibit of "the new creature in Christ".

Water was very scarce on the island of Aniwa. The little water that was available caused terrible disease because it was not fresh. So Paton decided to dig a well. When he told Namakei, the old chief thought the Missi had lost his mind.

But Paton was determined. He worked hard for many days in spite of the severe heat. The well caved in one night but he cleared it out again.

Namakei tried to persuade him to stop this mad and stupid project. He informed him that water comes only from the sky. If he should strike water by digging in the ground he would surely drop through into the sea and be eaten by sharks! Paton listened to his reasoning but kept right on digging.

Eventually he came out of "Jehovah's well" with a jug full of water. Namakei hesitantly took the jug, tasted the water, and then cried: "Rain! It is rain! The world is turned upside down since Jehovah came to Aniwa!" Cautiously he and the others peered into the well to see "Jehovah's rain" springing up below.

"Is this well just for you and your family?" they asked.

"No, all of you may come and drink as much as you need." Paton assured them.

Namakei asked Paton, "Missi, may I help you in the service next Sabbath? I'd like to preach a sermon on the well." Paton readily agreed.

A large crowd was at church the next Sabbath because they had heard that their chief, Namakei, would be the preacher. He delivered a powerful and eloquent message, closing as follows: "Friends of Aniwa, something here in my heart tells me that the invisible God does exist and that I shall see Him some day when the

heaps of dust are removed which now blind my old eyes, just as we saw the water that had so long been invisible, when the dirt and the coral were removed in making the well. From this day, my people, I must worship the God who has opened for us the well. Let every man who thinks as I do go now and fetch the gods of Aniwa, that they may be destroyed. Let us stand up for Jehovah God who sent His Son Jesus to die for us and to bring us to Heaven."

After this message speech, many followed their chief's example. They turned from their heathen idols to serve the true God.

After many requests, Namakei finally got permission to go to Aneityum with Paton to attend the yearly meeting of the missionaries. He was now very old and feeble. At the meeting he was delighted to hear that people from various islands were accepting the Gospel and turning from their heathen ways. "Missi," he said, "I am lifting up my head like a tree. I am growing tall with joy."

After a few days on Aneityum the old chief became sick as he was resting under the shade of a Banyan tree. "O Missi," he whispered, "I am near to die! Tell my people to go on pleasing Jesus. O Missi, let me hear your words rising up in prayer. My dear Missi, I will meet you again in the home of Jesus."

So he died victoriously. Under the transforming power of the living Lord, this chief who had once been a cannibal became a new person!

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Signs and wonders. 2. The sick. 3. Peter's shadow. 4. Every one. 5. To prison. 6. An angel. 7. Go to the temple and teach the people. 8. In the temple teaching the people. 9. God.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 25, 2008

FAITHFUL UNTIL THE END

(Continued from last week)

John Paton knew that God was with him in his effort to bring the Gospel to the savages on the islands of New Hebrides. He was fearless in facing the dark forces of evil because he knew God's power was greater still!

Six of Paton's ten children were born while they continued in their missionary work on the island of Aniwa. Four of these died in early childhood or in infancy.

While Paton learned the language and reduced it to writing, his wife worked with the native women. She taught a class of about fifty women and girls who became experts at sewing, singing, plaiting hats and reading. Their lives were busy training teachers, translating the Scriptures, ministering to the sick and dying besides holding worship services every Lord's Day.

After enduring many years of hardships and dangers, Paton's efforts began to produce results. One after another accepted the Lord as their Savior until the entire island of Aniwa professed Christianity. In 1899 he saw his Aniwa New Testament printed. And there were missionaries on twenty-five of the thirty islands of the

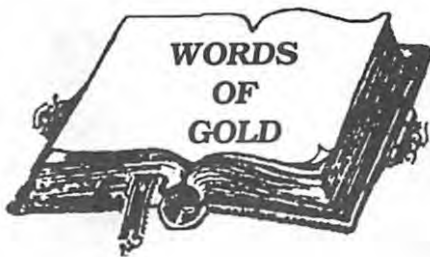
New Hebrides!

Paton felt it was worth all the hardships and sorrow just to see one life changed from the dark ways of heathens to the joyful happy life of a Christian! Naswai was one whose life was transformed. He was the teacher of the school in his village and a happy Christian.

One day some visitors came to see for themselves what the Gospel had accomplished on Aniwa. After showing them the mission and its school, Naswai told them, "When you return, tell your people how we of Aniwa have been changed. As heathens, we quarreled, killed, and ate each other. We had no peace, no joy in heart or house or land. Now Jehovah has changed all our black hearts and we live as brethren, in peace and happiness."

Namakei, the old chief who led his people to the Lord, had a daughter named Litsi. The missionaries had taught Litsi from the time she was a small child and she became a noble example of Christian womanhood. Since she was the daughter of the most important chief on the island she was called "the Queen of Aniwa." In time she married a man named Mungaw. One night Mungaw was shot and killed by Nasi, a chief from Tanna.

Some time after this Litsi went to Tanna. But she did not go to get



THE FIRST MARTYR

Acts 6:5, 8-10; 12-15

5. . . and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost. . .

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, . . . disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

12 And they stirred up the people . . . and caught him, and brought him to the council.

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:2

2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken: . . .

Acts 7:54-60

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Message: Stephen died praying God to forgive his murderers. Paul was saved in answer to this prayer.

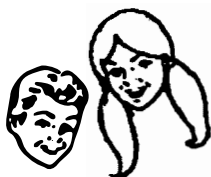
Questions:

1. Who was full of faith and the Holy Ghost?
2. What kind of works did he do among the people?
3. Why were those who disputed with him not able to resist his reasoning?
4. What kind of witnesses accused Stephen?
5. What did Stephen's face look like?
6. How were the listeners affected after Stephen's speech?
7. Who did Stephen see when he looked up to Heaven?
8. How did they kill Stephen?
9. Where did the murderers lay their clothes?

Verse to Memorize

And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.
Acts 7:60

Let's



Talk . . .

As the church grew rapidly the apostles were faced with the problem of taking care of the many widows. Calling the multitude of disciples together they explained, "It is not right for us to leave the Word of God and serve tables. Choose seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, which we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and preaching the Word."

The first man they chose was Stephen. Another was Philip. Both these men were preachers of the Gospel. Little is known about the other five. After prayer the apostles laid their hands on the seven, asking God's blessing upon their work.

Everywhere throughout Jerusalem people talked about Stephen. Because he was full of faith and power, he did many wonders and miracles. Then certain religious leaders argued with Stephen about his teachings. They tried to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. But God gave Stephen such wisdom to speak about Jesus that the leaders were left without a word to say.

They were enraged by Stephen's convincing proof that Jesus was indeed the Christ. Since they could not stop his teachings by disputing them, they hired men to go among the Jews and accuse Stephen. Wherever these men went, they lied, "We have heard Stephen speak against Moses and against God!"

The people were upset by these words; some believed they were true. As soon as the rulers and scribes heard it, they seized Stephen and brought him before the council.

The men who had been hired to tell lies about Stephen came to the council meeting too. They were called on to tell what they knew about Stephen. They said, "This man never stops saying terrible things about the temple and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the temple and change the customs that Moses gave us."

While the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. They were amazed at his countenance—he looked like an angel! Yet they continued to wrongly accuse him.

Bravely Stephen stood up and faced his accusers, telling them the familiar story of their people, beginning with Abraham. He reminded them that their fathers had also disobeyed God's laws.

Enraged by his words, the leaders were furious that Stephen would dare accuse them of doing wrong. To give him courage to face his enemies, God let him see into Heaven. Looking up, Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

At once the rulers cried out loudly. They held their hands over their ears so they would not have to hear another word Stephen said. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the city gate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at Saul's feet.

As the rocks beat him mercilessly, Stephen called upon God, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then kneeling down, he cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

revenge. She went to tell the very people whose chief had killed her husband about the love of Christ! Other Christians from Aniwa joined her to help spread the Gospel.

So even though Paton was driven away from Tanna, the prayer he prayed so often at that sacred spot where he buried his wife and baby was being answered. He said: "Whenever Tanna turns to the Lord and is won for Christ, men will find the memory of that spot still green. It was there that I claimed for God the land in which I had buried my dead with faith and hope."

What faith? What hope? Faith in the promise! Hope in the text! "*Lo, I am with you always.*" Assured of that sweet and abiding Presence, Paton knew that mighty transformations would take place—that savages would become saints, and murderers would become missionaries!

Tanna was finally reached by the mighty power of the Gospel and claimed for Christ. It was some of Paton's converts on Aniwa who accomplished this. God did not forget the blood of martyrs that was shed on the Island of Tanna. Through the Gospel He caused good to triumph over evil. The naked, murderous, brutal slaves of satan were set free to serve God joyfully and sing His praises!

Paton challenged the atheists and infidels to visit this island. He knew they would have to know there was a God when they saw the changed lives of these native people. They were not only civilized by the Gospel but truly converted like the Thessalonians who "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God" (1 Thessalonians 1:9.)

It was a happy day when Paton himself revisited Tanna. Old Nowar, the friendly chief, was overjoyed to see him and Mrs. Paton, and urged them to come back to the island to

live. He promised them food and protection though he realized that what he had to offer was both inadequate and unnecessary. He knew the missionaries had God as their Protector! He remembered many times that Paton was saved from certain death.

Telling of this visit Paton wrote, "Then he led us to that chestnut tree in the branches of which I had sheltered during that lonely and memorable night when all hope of earthly deliverance had perished, and said to Mrs. Paton with a manifest touch of genuine emotion, 'The God who protected Missi in the tree will always protect you!'"

John G. Paton was a true hero of faith, sent by God. Even savage eyes could see that the unfailing Presence of his omnipotent Lord was with him.

We salute such noble soldiers of the Cross. They leave us a challenge to trust in the unchangeable and faithful God. His son, F. H. Paton, wrote: "In his private conversation and in his public addresses, my father was constantly quoting the words, *Lo, I am with you always*, as the inspiration of his quietness and confidence in time of danger, and of his hope in the face of human impossibilities. So much was this realized by his family that we decided to inscribe that text on his tomb in the Boroondara Cemetery. It seemed to all of us to sum up the essential element in his faith and the supreme source of his courage and endurance."

John Paton passed away in Australia, January 28, 1907 at the age of 83.

Answers: 1. Stephen. 2. Great wonders and miracles. 3. He spoke by the Spirit with great wisdom. 4. False witnesses. 5. An angel's. 6. They were cut to the heart. 7. Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 8. By stoning him. 9. At Saul's feet.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 June 1, 2008

MARY SLESSOR MISSIONARY TO AFRICA

Mary Slessor was one of the most amazing missionary women ever. Her life seemed like one great adventure with God. From her earliest memories Mary longed to be a missionary in Africa. As a child, her mother taught her about Calabar, the deadly coast of Nigeria, known as "the white man's grave." Like other Scottish children, Mary donated her precious pennies to help the mission work.

Mary's father, Robert Slessor, was an alcoholic. He would spend his money for liquor then come home ready to abuse anyone who got in his way. The mother protected the children as best she could but they soon learned to stay out of his sight until he fell into a drunken sleep. This caused much suffering. Finally Mary's mother had to go to work to try to support the family.

At the age of only eleven Mary, too, went to work as a common mill hand, preparing jute and flax for the weavers. Because she was just a little girl the long hours of work left her exhausted. Yet in the evenings she attended school. She learned reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, sewing, knitting, and a little music. If she was too tired to follow the arithmetic

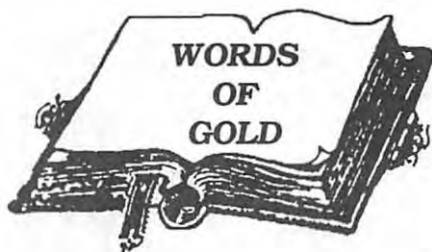
problems, the teacher punished her by making her stand during class.

The Slessor family lived in a rough and rundown area. In winter it would be dark when she left school. It was dangerous, as she dodged drunks and thieves, walking home alone to do her chores and face her father. And facing her father was not something to look forward to!

Mary described herself as a tomboy who loved to run barefoot, jump, and climb trees. But one day an old widow gathered Mary and some friends around her hearth. Pointing to the fire blazing in it, she warned them that unless they repented and believed in Christ, their souls would burn in the fire of Hell forever and ever!

The words went like arrows to Mary's heart; she could not get the vision of eternal torment out of her mind. Finally she decided that it would be best for her to make her peace with God. She "repented and believed." She would sometimes say that it was hell-fire that drove her to the Lord. But once she found the Lord, she found Him to be full of love and tenderness and mercy.

Mary enjoyed reading the Bible. She read it as a message addressed to her personally. She found it contained important news that was of



GOD'S GIFT CANNOT BE BOUGHT

Acts 8:4-6; 8-10; 12-15

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

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which before time in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

Acts 8:18, 20, 22, 24

18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

The Message: The gift of the Holy Spirit is worth more than all the wealth of the world. It cannot be purchased with money.

Questions:

1. Who went to the city of Samaria?
2. What did he do there?
3. Who had bewitched the people?
4. What did the people say about him?
5. After he was baptized, Simon continued with _____.
6. Simon wondered when he saw the _____ and _____ that were done.
7. Who did the apostles of Jerusalem send to Samaria?
8. What did Simon offer for the power to give the Holy Ghost as the apostles did?
9. Peter said, "Thy _____ perish with thee."

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none: but such as I have give I thee . . .
Acts 3:6

Let's



Talk . . .

After Stephen was stoned, the followers of Jesus were mistreated and even tormented in Jerusalem. Saul himself went from house to house searching for believers. He caused many to go to prison and others were even killed. Jerusalem was no longer a safe place for those who believed in Jesus. Except for the apostles, all the believers left Jerusalem and went to live in other towns and cities. They hoped to find safety outside Jerusalem.

When Philip left Jerusalem he went to Samaria. There he preached about Jesus and the wonderful plan of salvation. Philip was one of the seven chosen, along with Stephen, to care for the poor. He, like other believers who left Jerusalem, told about Jesus everywhere he went. So instead of stamping out the Gospel the persecutions in Jerusalem caused it to spread rapidly in all directions.

The Samaritans listened eagerly as Philip told them about Jesus. They had never heard the Gospel story before. When they saw Philip work miracles in the name of Jesus, they were amazed at the great power God had given him. Many men and women believed in Jesus Christ and were baptized.

There was a man named Simon who lived in Samaria. He was a magician and deceived the people by the tricks he performed. They were convinced that he was some great one, saying, "This man is the great power of God!"

When Simon heard about Philip he came to see him and hear what he

had to say. He watched in amazement as he saw the miracles and signs that God worked through Philip. He knew this was a greater power than what he had. Simon, too, believed and was baptized. He followed Philip everywhere he went, watching the wonderful works he did.

The apostles in Jerusalem soon heard that many Samaritans had accepted Jesus as their Savior after hearing the Gospel from Philip. They sent Peter and John to help. As soon as Peter and John met the new believers they laid their hands on them and prayed that God would give them the Holy Spirit. They too received the great gift of God's Spirit in their hearts.

Simon did not ask Peter and John to lay their hands on him so that he might receive the Holy Spirit himself. He wished to have their power so that he could lay his hands on people himself and they would receive the Holy Spirit. So Simon offered the apostles money, saying, "Give me this power so that whoever I lay my hands on will receive the Holy Spirit."

Peter was angry that anyone would try to buy the Holy Spirit. He told Simon, "May your money perish with you if you think God's gifts can be bought. You do not have any part in this Gospel because your heart is not right with God. Repent of your sins and pray for God's forgiveness; there is still sin in your heart!"

Peter's words frightened Simon. He begged Peter, "Pray to the Lord for me that none of these things happen to me."

After the apostles had testified and preached the Word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem. They preached the Gospel to everyone who would listen as they passed through each village. In all the cities around Jerusalem more believers were added to the kingdom of God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

great personal interest to her. It made God very real to her; One who was actually close to her at all times. He was overflowing with love and compassion and ready to listen to her, to heal and guide and strengthen her. It was wonderful! She diligently read her Bible to learn all God had to tell her so she could always do His will.

Mary loved the story of Christ most of all. It was His love, so strong, so tender, so pitiful, that won her heart and devotion and filled her with happiness and peace that suffused her inner life like sunshine. In return, she loved Him with intense love. She felt that she could not do enough for One who had done so much for her. As the years passed she surrendered herself more and more to His influence. Her great love for Christ made her ready to do anything she could for Him, no matter how humble or difficult it might be. It was this passion of love and gratitude, this abandonment of self, this longing for service that made Mary a successful soul winner in Africa.

After she became a Christian, Mary tried to help children whose lives were as bleak as her own. She held Bible classes to tell them of the friend she had found in Christ Jesus. She took her classes of boys into the countryside for picnics where they raced and played games.

Some toughs did not want to hear what Mary had to say. They jeered and slung mud at her. On one particular occasion, a gang of teenage boys got hold of her and forced her to stand still while one of them swung a piece of sharp metal on the end of a length of string around his head, gradually letting out the string so that the metal whizzed closer and closer to her face. He said "Tell me you'll go home and forget this foolishness, and I'll let you go."

Mary said, "Do what you want, but you'll not get me to give up my Bible teaching!" The boy kept swinging the string and asked her if she was ready to give up. Mary kept silent. The metal cut across her forehead and blood flowed down her face but she didn't take her eyes off the boy who stopped swinging the string and dropped the weight.

She said "Now you've had your fun, won't you come in and see what this is all about?" Confused by her reaction, the gang of boys followed her in and later that day gave their lives to Jesus. Years later, that same boy, now a man, sent Mary a framed photo of himself with his wife and family, telling her that her classes were the turning point in his life. Mary proudly hung that picture on the wall of her mud hut in Africa.

Another boy, a bully, used to stand outside the hall with a whip in hand, driving the young fellows into "Mary Slessor's meeting," but refusing to go in himself. One day Mary faced him. "If we changed places what would happen?" she asked.

"I would get this whip across my back," he replied.

She turned her back. "I'll bear it for you if you'll go in," she said.

"Would you really bear that for me?" he asked.

"Yes, and far more—go on, I mean it."

Instead he threw down the whip and followed her in to the meeting. That very day he gave himself to Christ.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Philip. 2. Preached Christ to the people. 3. Simon. 4. "This man is the great power of God." 5. Philip. 6. Miracles and signs. 7. Peter and John. 8. Money. 9. Money.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 8, 2008

AFRICA AT LAST!

(Continued from last week)

Mary Slessor knew that working for God in Africa would be much harder than her work among the rough boys at the mission. The poor people of Africa were frequently described by such words as: "bloody," "savage," "cruel," "cannibals," "murderers." Certainly this was not the kind of people you would naturally choose to work with!

But, Mary reasoned, such were we when God sent His Son to save us. Jesus looked down from Heaven and saw the awful wickedness, yet He was willing to leave His beautiful home and come down to work among such evil men.

Mary would never hesitate to do anything that she thought her Master would do. Instead she welcomed the hardest tasks, and considered it an honor and privilege to do them to please Him.

Mary knew from reading her New Testament that Christ meant for His disciples to spread His Gospel throughout the whole world. She knew, too, that this was a command to every one who loved Him. So with the assurance that this is what God wanted her to do, she quietly pursued her dream of becoming a missionary. She told no one but patiently prepared for the coming change. In the factory she took charge of two, 60-inch looms. This was hard

work for a young woman, but she needed the money. She felt it was worth all her effort in order to reach her goal.

Early in 1874 the news of David Livingstone's death created a wave of enthusiasm for missionary work. When the call for workers for Africa came, Mary was inspired into action. She told her mother of her hopes and plans. Her mother gave her glad consent even though she knew she might never see her beloved daughter again. She would gladly make any sacrifice for the Gospel to be taken to those who had never heard of Jesus.

Eventually Mary asked the Presbyterian Church to send her to Calabar. In 1875, her answer came in the mail. "Dear Miss Slessor, I take great pleasure in informing you that the Board of Foreign Missions accepts your offer to serve as a missionary, and you have been appointed teacher to Calabar." Mary, now twenty-seven years old, read the words joyfully.

Through the years she had given her hard earned wages to help support the family. Would her family be able to make it without her income from the factory? She reviewed the situation and decided that her sisters could now make it without her support.

In December the Board asked her to come to Edinburgh. There she would receive special preparation for the mission field at their expense. The night before she left Dundee, in



ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS

Acts 9:1-6

1 And Saul . . . went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters . . . that if he found any of this way . . . 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 . . .

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.

Acts 9:8-11, 13

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 . . . inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

Acts 9:15-18

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

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

17 And Ananias . . . said, Brother Saul, the Lord . . . hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18 And immediately . . . he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

The Message: Saul was changed from a murderous opponent of the truth into Paul, an apostle of the Gospel, by God's mighty power to save all who surrender their lives to Him!

Questions:

1. Who did Saul go to?
2. Why did he desire letters from him?
3. What happened as he journeyed?
4. When he fell to the ground, what did the voice ask?
5. Who was speaking to Saul?
6. How long was Saul blind?
7. Who prayed for Saul to receive his sight?
8. God said Saul was a _____ vessel to bear His name before the Gentiles.
9. What did Saul do as soon as he received his sight?

Verse to Memorize

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Let's



Talk . . .

Paul, who is introduced as Saul in the Scriptures, was born in Tarsus. As a boy, he left his home and went to Jerusalem to study the Law of Moses under Gamaliel, a great teacher. Then, when Saul was older, he became a strict Pharisee.

At that time more and more people in Jerusalem believed that Jesus was the Son of God. They did not keep the strict commandments as the Pharisees interpreted the Law. Saul was shocked. He felt that the followers of Jesus were disobeying the Law of God. He must stop them from spreading such a Gospel!

In Jerusalem Saul mistreated many believers by having them arrested. Some were even put to death for their loyalty to Jesus. While Stephen, the first martyr, was being stoned to death Saul stood watching with satisfaction. Life became so miserable for them in Jerusalem that many believers fled to other cities for safety. Wherever they went they taught the people about Jesus.

This infuriated Saul. When he heard that there were believers in Damascus, he went to the high priest for letters of permission to go to that city and search for followers of Jesus. He planned to kill them or bring them back to Jerusalem as prisoners.

So with the letters authorizing him to arrest any who believed in Jesus, Saul started towards Damascus with a few friends. It was about noon and they were so near the city that they could see the great wall surrounding Damascus. Suddenly a brilliant light brighter than the sun

shone round about them. Saul fell to the ground. Then he heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked fearfully.

"I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting," He answered.

Saul asked, "What do You want me to do?"

Then the Lord instructed him to go on to Damascus. There he would be told what he must do.

Meanwhile the men with him stood speechless, wondering what the voice and brilliant light could mean. When Saul got up he opened his eyes but he could not see anything. He was blind!

Three days passed and still Saul could not see. He sat alone in his darkness. He was so troubled that he could not eat or drink anything.

Then God instructed Ananias, a believer who lived in Damascus, to go to the house of Judas and ask for a man called Saul of Tarsus. "He is praying," God told him "and he has seen a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he will receive his sight!"

Ananias was shocked. Every believer knew and feared this man, Saul! "Lord," Ananias protested, "the chief priest has sent him here to capture all who believe in You."

But God told Ananias that Saul was a chosen vessel and that He had a great work for him to do. So when Ananias obeyed and prayed for him, Saul's sight returned. He repented of his sins, accepted Jesus as his Savior and was baptized. He gave his life so completely to God, He was able to use him in many wonderful ways to spread the Gospel.

Have you put your life in God's hands? He has a grand purpose and plan for you, just as He did for Paul. You will never regret letting God work out His plan in you.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

March 1876, she tearfully told a friend, "Good-bye." Then she added passionately, "Pray for me!"

Mary was a total stranger in Edinburgh but she made friends quickly. Some of the other students asked why she would go to a place so dangerous that it was known as 'the white man's grave.' Her ready reply was that since it was a post of danger, it was therefore also a post of honor. Since few would volunteer to serve there, this is where she wished to go, because the Master needed her there.

When Mary had any leisure time from her studies she helped at the mission. Her one desire was to always be busy for the Lord. Finally the Committee was satisfied that Mary was ready for the mission field and decided to send her to Calabar at once.

Mary was now twenty-eight years old. She was mature in mind and strong in body. Timidly, yet with high hopes and unshakeable faith in God, she faced the fulfillment of her life-long dream—she was going to Africa as a missionary!

Two of her friends went with her as far as to Liverpool. Then, on August 5, 1876, she sailed from Liverpool on the steamer *Ethiopia*. Seeing a large number of casks of whiskey being loaded on the same ship, she exclaimed ruefully: "Scores of casks of rum and only one missionary!" Mary's father had been a drunkard so she knew the suffering caused by whiskey. This made her more determined to tell the natives that they could escape a drunkard's life and have the peaceful Kingdom of God living in their hearts!

When she arrived in Calabar, Mary quickly learned about cruel gods carved of wood and stone. The natives sacrificed humans to these gods. A person suspected of doing wrong might be forced to eat poison beans, or boiling oil might be poured over

him. The gods were supposed to protect the innocent from harm, but of course they didn't. Every one tested by these methods was "guilty."

These savages enslaved and branded each other. Slaves were expendable, and when a chief died, dozens were killed. Other evils included throwing unwanted babies into the bush to be nibbled by insects or gobbled by leopards. Twins were believed to be a great evil. One had the devil as its father, said the natives, but since no one knew which one, both were buried alive or thrown into the forest. Their mother was driven away to die. The tribes fought and danced and got drunk. Sometimes they ate one another. Everyone lived in fear.

Mary could see why this was known as the White Man's Grave. Only a fool could come here without being afraid. The land just a few miles from shore was still unexplored. Killer elephants and lions, swarms of insects, witch doctors, and cannibals lived there. To enter that land would surely mean death!

Had she committed herself to an impossible work? What could one frail, timid woman do, confronted by such a frightful situation? Overwhelmed and depressed, she knelt and prayed, "Lord, the task is impossible for me but not for Thee. Lead the way and I will follow."

Rising, she said courageously, "Why should I fear? I am on a Royal Mission. I am in the service of the King of kings."

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The high priest. 2. So if he found any believers he could bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3. A light from Heaven shined around him. 4. "Why are you persecuting Me?" 5. Jesus. 6. Three days. 7. Ananias. 8. Chosen. 9. Arose and was baptized.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 15, 2008

CONQUERING CANNIBALS

(Continued from last week)

Mary Slessor was the only woman aboard the steamer that carried her to her mission field in Africa. A small boat from the mission came alongside the steamer and took her to shore.

It was immediately obvious to Mary that this strange, wild land was far different from her home in Scotland. She saw huge, hideous alligators sunning on the mud banks and swimming in the streams. She saw some of the natives who had been captured. They were kept in pens until the slave-ships arrived to take them far away from their homeland. Those who survived the treacherous journey would be sold as slaves.

Mary's first assignment was to Duke Town. Here the missionaries had built a school, hospital, orphanage, and chapel. On any Sunday there were several hundred natives in services. It was encouraging to see the effect of the Gospel on these natives as they stopped some of their heathen practices.

Mary was anxious to work directly with the natives, so she made up her mind to learn their language as quickly as possible. Soon she spoke their language so well that the natives admitted that she could speak it better than they could. Now Mary could go among the people without a translator. She was warned that it was dangerous to travel alone, but she found

that she could get to know the people better this way.

Sometimes at night Mary would lie awake on a dirt floor in some coastal village. "Oh Lord," she prayed, "I thank Thee that I can bring these people Thy Word. But Lord, there are other villages back in the jungle where no white man has gone. They need Jesus, too. Help me reach them!" Then, whenever she had an opportunity, she would ask another missionary or a native if she could go to these villages. The answer was always the same: "No. You would be killed. They cannot be reached."

Her worst enemy was the tropical disease that hit her so suddenly. Many times it looked like she would surely die. It would have been easy to just give up and leave this unhealthy mission field and go back home to the cool mists of Scotland. But Mary had come for a purpose; she was determined to reach as many as she could and teach them about Jesus.

But when she caught malaria she became extremely sick. As soon as she was able to travel she was sent back to Scotland for a yearlong furlough to get her strength back. When she did return Mary was overjoyed to find that she had been posted further upstream in a place called Old Town and could live in her very own mud hut. Her first view of the place was of a human skull swinging from a pole in front of the town meeting house!



SAUL ESCAPES IN A BASKET

Acts 9:20-32

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

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

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

26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Galatians 1:17

17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

The Message: When you truly serve Jesus, the world will hate you just as it did Him.

Questions:

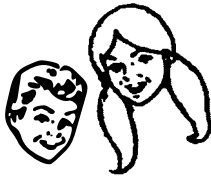
1. What did Saul do in the synagogues?
2. What did he preach?
3. How did his listeners react?
4. What did he prove to the Jews?
5. When the Jews took counsel, what did they decide to do?
6. What did they do to prevent Saul's escape?
7. How did he escape?
8. Where did Saul go next?
9. Who befriended Saul when others feared to?

Verse to Memorize

... but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

John 15:19

Let's



Talk . . .

The Jews of Damascus were amazed when they found Saul worshipping with the disciples of Jesus. They thought that he would rid Damascus of all believers. Instead he became one of them!

They were even more astonished when they saw him stand up before all the people in the synagogue and boldly preach that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God! The people listened and asked one another, "Isn't this the man who imprisoned and even killed many people in Jerusalem because they believed that Jesus was the Christ? Didn't we hear that he was coming to Damascus to arrest the believers and take them back to the high priest in Jerusalem?"

After some time Saul told the Christians of Damascus good-bye and disappeared into Arabia to be alone with God. He felt a deep need to know the truth for himself and be so thoroughly convinced that he could teach it to others with authority. Later Saul could write, "I have received of the Lord that which I also delivered unto you." (I Corinthians 11:23.)

There, out in the desert, shut off from the noise and confusion of life, Saul let God free him from a lifetime of wrong thoughts and the bondage of Jewish law and tradition. As he re-studied the Scriptures and meditated on the great doctrines, they became real and clear to him. Now he saw clearly that Jesus of Nazareth, Whom he had once despised, was indeed the Messiah! He learned the blessedness of communion with God. This is where

he became sensitive to the will of God for his life.

Now he longed to teach others, to establish churches and to strengthen them. He had killed others in his ignorance of Christ. Now with Christ in his heart he would offer his life in exchange. He would gladly face death for Jesus' sake. He felt calm and strengthened as he left the desert of Arabia to return to Damascus.

Once more in Damascus he preached in the synagogues with boldness and conviction. Even the Jewish teachers who did not believe in Jesus could not prove that Saul's teaching was wrong. Many of the Jews who listened came to believe in Jesus.

This enraged the Jewish rulers. Meeting in a secret council they made plans to kill Saul. They placed guards at each city gate with orders to kill him if he tried to leave the city. At any cost they must get rid of this traitor!

Saul soon heard about their plans. Believers urged him to run for his life. So, waiting for the dark of night, they took him to a building on top of the city wall. There they secured a strong rope to a large basket. Saul climbed into the basket and his friends slowly lowered him to the ground outside the city. This time he made his escape!

With a strong desire to tell how Jesus had changed his heart and life, Saul headed for Jerusalem. As soon as he reached the city he went to find the apostles and believers. But they remembered all too well his persecutions. They were afraid of him!

Finally Saul found a friend in kind-hearted Barnabas. Barnabas took him to the apostles and told them all that had happened to Saul on the road to Damascus, how that the Lord had spoken to him and changed his life completely. After this the church received Saul gladly.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Mary gradually won the trust of the local people by fearlessly living with them, speaking their own language, treating their sicknesses, teaching the children and giving advice and care to anyone who asked.

One morning she found a newborn baby on her doorstep. She suspected that it was either unwanted or one of a twin. Over time she raised many babies. She wove baskets for each of them. She would then hang these from the ceiling. Attached to each one was a length of string. At night, if she heard one of them crying she would pull the string and rock the baby back to sleep. Throughout her mission life she received and cared for hundreds of babies. Most of them died, but she cared for them and loved them, and tried to show the people that every life is important.

Mary soon became known throughout the area for her wise, fair counsel. There was a Christian chief, King Eyo Honesty the Sixth, who often asked Mary for advice in dealing with white men. She, in turn, asked him for help in working with the natives.

Mary wanted to leave the coast and live in the interior, in the midst of the head-hunters and cannibals. When one of the men missionaries went into this district to seek permission to settle, he was captured and narrowly escaped with his life. Nevertheless, Mary determined to go. "I must go forward and onward," she declared. King Eyo tried to discourage her but she was determined. She had already started going alone to villages on foot, singing loudly so as not to startle the leopards, lions, snakes and hippopotami on the way. By now she had a reputation among the natives. They called her the 'White Ma' whose head was on fire because of her red hair.

King Eyo offered her the use of his best royal canoe and paddlers to take her to the village of Ekenge. The parting words from her friends in Old

Town were "Be careful. Don't trust them. If they kill you we promise to avenge your murder!"

On the third of August 1888, she stepped into the canoe with five native orphans, children she had rescued from death. The oldest child was a boy of eleven, the youngest a baby in her arms. It was a miserable day because it rained all day long! Night had already fallen when the canoe was pulled up in the riverbank and it was still a four-mile walk through the forest to Ekenge!

Mary took the baby in her arms and bravely struck out along the forest path. The children were terrified! They knew deadly snakes, leopards and other vicious animals lurked all around them in the dark. She had to urge them to follow her.

It was understood that the men would follow her with the bundles of food and clothing. Soaking wet, hungry and exhausted Mary and the children waited for the loads to arrive. After awhile news reached her that the men were tired and had gone to sleep in the boat! Although she was exhausted she was forced to go back the way she had come, this time barefoot because she had pulled off her boots to rub her swollen feet and could not get them back on. When she got back to the canoe it was too far out on the river to reach from the bank, so she had to jump into the crocodile-infested river to get to it, wake the men and persuade them to bring the boxes to the village! Thoroughly exhausted, Mary again retraced the four miles through the forest and brought them all on to Ekenge by midnight.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Preached. 2. That Christ is the Son of God. 3. They were amazed. 4. That Jesus was Christ. 5. Kill Saul. 6. Watched the gates day and night. 7. At night the disciples let him down over the wall in a basket. 8. To Jerusalem. 9. Barnabas.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 59, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 22, 2008

ON TO OKOYONG!

(Continued from last week)

Mary Slessor was deeply burdened for the remote Okoyong tribe that had never heard the Gospel. How could she bring the love of Christ to these people as well? She knew God was leading her there. Mary was willing to trust God to show her how to win these savage people to Christ.

At last, in June 1888, she quietly announced that she would go upriver alone and find a place to settle. "You will die. You will die," her friends told her. They wept at the prospect of her leaving. Nobody expected Mary to survive for long.

The farther they went, the more her twenty paddlers wanted to turn back. They feared the Okoyong. But the Lord was with the group, and they arrived safely. The Lord had also prepared the heart of the chief of the first village they found.

The chief liked Mary's brave spirit and gave her permission to stay in the village. She soon made herself quite at home among the people. With her own hands she helped build a mud-walled house. It seems unbelievable but Mary walked barefoot, lived on native food, drank unfiltered water, slept on the ground, and did many other things that would have quickly brought death to any

ordinary person. She trusted God to protect her and He did!

This area was far more wicked than any Mary had seen. The people respected only vengeance and cruelty. To a people who did not know what love was, Mary brought the love of Christ.

In the first few days she was there, one of the local boys was put on trial by the tribe. He was charged with deserting the ancient customs because he helped Mary clean and arrange her hut rather than go on a raiding party to a neighbouring village. As a punishment, boiling oil was poured over his hands and arms. Mary was not able to stop it but she angrily challenged the chief. He finally agreed to let her take the boy and care for him.

On another occasion, Mary challenged a warrior who was about to carry out a similar punishment on a woman. He danced around her carrying a ladle full of boiling oil. Mary stepped forward to intervene and instead he began to dance towards her. They got closer and closer until their faces were almost touching. The whole tribe was watching and waiting for the warrior to pour the oil over Mary. But she didn't flinch.

Suddenly the warrior cried out in disgust, threw down the ladle and stepped back. The crowd gasped. A



TABITHA

Acts 9: 32-43

32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

35 And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber.

38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them.

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

41 And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

42 And it was known throughout all Joppa: and many believed in the Lord.

43 And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

Luke 9:2

2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

The Message: God worked mighty miracles through Peter.

Questions:

1. Who came to Lydda to visit the saints?
2. How long had Aeneas been confined to bed?
3. What was wrong with him?
4. Where did Tabitha live?
5. What happened to her?
6. Who did the men send for?
7. Who stood by weeping?
8. What happened when Peter told Tabitha to get up?
9. What did Jesus send His disciples to do?

Verse to Memorize

And he sent them to preach
the kingdom of God,
and to heal the sick.

Luke 9:2

Let's



Talk . . .

In cities and villages throughout the land there were many disciples or saints who met to worship the Lord. The apostles went from city to city. At each place they met with the disciples, preached to them, and encouraged them to serve the Lord.

On one trip Peter came to Lydda, a city near the Great Sea, to visit with the saints. Here he saw a man named Aeneas who was sick with palsy. For eight years Aeneas had not been able to leave his bed.

Peter looked at the poor man with pity. Then he said, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ makes you well! Get up and make your bed."

In glad surprise Aeneas heard these words. Because he believed he was healed he tried to rise up. At once strength filled his body and he was perfectly well!

Throughout the city and round about, it was told how Aeneas had been healed. Many people came to see Peter and hear him preach the Gospel, and many turned to the Lord.

In the city of Joppa was another company of believers. Among them was a woman named Tabitha whose nickname was Dorcas. This wonderful woman was always thinking of new ways to show kindness and help others. The Bible says she was "full of good works" meaning that she spent all her time caring for the sick, the poor, and the needy. No wonder she was loved dearly! No wonder that the whole church was so grieved when she suddenly got sick and died. They wondered how they could get along without her!

It was the custom in those days to bury a dead person right away, but the people of Joppa couldn't bear to part with their beloved Tabitha. Lovingly they washed and dressed her, then laid her in an upper room.

Somebody said, "If only Peter were here!"

Then someone remembered hearing that Peter was at Lydda which was just a few miles away. They had heard how he healed Aeneas there. Immediately they sent men to find Peter. When they found him they told him about Tabitha and begged him to come at once. He agreed so they hurried back to Joppa as fast as they could.

Peter came into the room where the body of Tabitha was lying. The room was full of weeping widows whom Tabitha had helped during her lifetime. They showed Peter coats and other garments she had made for them.

Peter knew what Jesus would have done in a time like this. He knew how Jesus was touched with the sorrow of others. Gently he asked them all to leave the room. Then he knelt beside the bed and prayed. As he rose from his knees he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, rise!"

The woman opened her eyes. When she saw Peter, she sat up. How surprised she was to see Peter standing by her! Then she saw him hold out his hand to help her get up; she took his hand and stood on her feet.

Joyfully Peter called the saints and widows who had been waiting anxiously outside and presented Tabitha to them, very much alive! They could hardly believe their eyes and their happiness knew no bounds.

News of this miracle spread throughout all Joppa very quickly. Many people came to see and hear Peter and many believed in the Lord. For a long time Peter stayed in Joppa at the home of Simon, the tanner.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

white woman had challenged local customs and won! The tribe was in shock for days. They understood from this that the God of the white woman was stronger than their tribal gods. By standing up to the spiritual powers in courage and faith, Mary was able to give them the Gospel and many received it.

Meanwhile, in a village far from where Mary lived, a chief was ill. His people waited in dread because they knew that if he died many of them would be killed in order to be his attendants in the spirit world.

A woman from another village happened to be there. She told the chief's wives, "Through the forest at Ekenge there lives a white Ma who by her magic can cast out the demons who are killing your chief. She saved my own child. Why don't you send for her?"

The very lives of the chief's wives depended on the chief getting well. They quickly told the chief about the strange white woman. "Send for her at once," he ordered.

When the messengers finally reached Mary's house she was ready to go with them. She knew that it would be a long dangerous journey but she also knew that if the chief died many other people would die also.

When the local chief heard about the messengers, he warned her, "There are warriors out in the woods and you will be killed. You must not go."

So all through the night she lay awake, wondering if she should go on such a journey with so many risks and only a possibility of saving the sick chief's life. Early in the morning she knelt, praying that she might know the will of God in the matter. Assured in her heart that her Lord would accompany her, she set out at dawn.

After more than eight hours of walking, she staggered into the house of the sick chief. She was wet, exhausted, hungry and aching all over

from fever. Mary did not lie down for even a moment's rest but went immediately to the chief who lay unconscious on a mat on the mud floor. She did what she could for him and prayerfully watched him.

To everyone's amazement the chief regained consciousness the next day and was able to eat! Some days later he was quite well and all the people laughed and sang for joy, knowing that no one would be killed.

They gathered around Mary in gratitude and wonder, asking about her magic powers. She told them, "I have come to you because I love and worship Jesus Christ, the Great Physician and Saviour, the Son of the Father God who made all things. I want you to know this Father and to receive the eternal life which Jesus offers to all those with contrite and believing hearts. To know Jesus means to love Him, and with His love in our hearts we love everybody. Eternal life means peace and joy in this world and a wonderful home in the next world. My heart longs for you to believe in Jesus, to walk in His paths, and to know the blessings of eternal life through Him."

As the years passed by, Mary became known as "the white Ma". Her name was known far and wide. They knew that she was good and brave and kind, but they thought she had very strange ideas. Many of them, however, began to realize that her brave and loving spirit came from the great God of whom she spoke so much.
(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Peter. 2. Eight years. 3. He was sick with palsy. 4. In Joppa. 5. She got sick and died. 6. Peter. 7. The widows. 8. She opened her eyes and sat up. 9. To preach and to heal the sick.

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



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DEFYING DANGER!

(Continued from last week)

One morning, while Mary Slessor was sitting on her verandah, she was startled by a sound from the jungle that surrounded her hut. She listened carefully then quietly took off in the direction of the sound, just as an animal would hurry to find its young.

Following the sound, she came to a young man who was badly injured. A log had fallen on him, paralyzing him. A Scots carpenter, working at a new house for Mary, heard the cry, too, and followed the sound. Together they carried him back to his village.

Mary would not leave her patient. She gave him the best care she could but after two weeks he died.

As their custom was, the chief came in and viewed the dead body. Then he shouted his verdict, "Sorcerers have killed him! Bring the witch doctor!" When the witch doctor came he decided that a certain village was guilty of the young man's death. They must be punished! Immediately warriors went to this village where they captured a dozen or so of men and women.

Mary was shocked to see these innocent people brought in as prisoners loaded with chains. They would be killed, one by one. Mary could not stand the thought of this!

Finally Mary had an idea of how she might change the people's views about death. She would honor the young man's corpse! She dressed it in bright colors and fine clothes and placed it right in the middle of the people. She did everything she could think of to show respect to the young man.

But the people seemed to not even notice as they continued their dancing and drinking. Meanwhile the prisoners were starving while for days the awful drunken party went on.

Mary and the brave Scots builder did not leave the scene at the same time. One or the other kept watch both day and night hoping for some way to save the doomed prisoners.

And day after day Mary pled and pled for the lives of these prisoners. "If only once this custom can be broken through," she thought, "there will be hope of stopping it.

Then, at last, one woman was chosen and led out to drink the poison cup. Watching her chance, Mary rushed to the prisoner and grabbed her! Quickly she dragged her away out of the circle and into her own house. She was safe there. Even the chief honored Mary's home as a sanctuary. The white 'Ma' could not be touched!

Slowly, by twos and threes, the prisoners were released after days of



UNCLEAN ANIMALS

Acts 10:7-20

7 And . . . Cornelius . . . called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier . . .

8 And . . . sent them to Joppa.

9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter: kill, and eat.

14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord: for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had

made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate.

18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

20 Arise therefore, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

The Message: God used the vision of unclean animals to convince Peter that salvation was for the Gentiles as well as the Jews.

Questions:

1. Who did Cornelius call?
2. Where did Cornelius send them?
3. What was Peter doing as they came near the city?
4. How was Peter feeling?
5. What happened to Peter while the meal was being prepared?
6. What kind of vessel did he see coming from heaven?
7. What was in it?
8. What did the voice tell Peter to do?
9. How many times did this happen?

Verse to Memorize

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Psalms 32:8

Let's



Talk . . .

After Tabitha was brought back to life, Peter stayed on in Joppa for many days. He made his home with a man named Simon who was a tanner. It was here in his home that Peter had a very strange vision.

It happened one day at noon. Peter felt very hungry but the meal was not ready so he went up on the flat roof of the house to spend some time in prayer.

Peter was soon lost in prayer. As he prayed he fell into a deep sleep or trance and saw something that looked like an enormous sheet being let down from heaven by four corners. As it came nearer Peter saw that the sheet was full of all kinds of animals and birds!

While he wondered what this could mean a voice spoke to him saying, "Rise, Peter; kill, and eat."

Now Peter was still hungry but he was not that hungry! Many of the animals were those that, according to the law of God given to Moses, were unclean. The Jews were forbidden to eat anything unclean and all his life Peter had strictly obeyed this law.

One reason God commanded the Jews that they must not eat certain animals was because He wanted to put a difference between Jews and Gentiles. He knew that if His people ate and drank freely with idol worshippers they would soon be eating things that were offered to their idols. This would lead them away from Him, the true God, and they would worship the evil gods of the Gentiles.

So Peter answered vehemently, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean." The voice then answered,

"What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common."

The sheet was lifted back to heaven and lowered a second time and a third. Still Peter refused to touch the animals because he was a Jew. Finally the sheet and the animals were drawn back up into the sky and disappeared.

Peter was wide-awake now and greatly troubled. He knew that there had to be an important message in this mysterious vision, especially since it was repeated three times! Surely God did not want him to eat unclean food. There must be some other explanation.

And there was a deep life-changing message in the vision. Jesus, through His death and resurrection, had opened the kingdom of Heaven to all believers. The great Gospel message must now be preached—salvation was for all men everywhere, Gentiles as well as the Jews! Through this vision God wanted to teach this truth to Peter. He must be willing to take the Gospel to all men everywhere.

This was not an easy task. First Peter's own prejudices must be overcome. Then he must face the vehement opposition of the Jews. They hated the Gentiles intensely. They would not understand Peter's new convictions. But God knows how to prepare us for what he calls us to do. Peter would understand the deep meaning taught by the vision as he followed the Spirit's instruction to him.

So, as he thought about the vision and its meaning, the Spirit of God told him, "Behold, three men seek thee. Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."

By this time Peter heard a loud knocking at the gate of the house. He knew this must be the men the Spirit had spoken of. Climbing down from the roof he went to the gate to meet the men. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

strained watching and pleading. Last of all the rescued woman was allowed to slip out alone into the forest. Thus the white 'Ma' had her way.

Not long after this Mary was able to prevent another death penalty. One after another of those she had saved came to her secretly to thank her for her teachings of mercy. It touched her deeply to see the gratitude of these poor fear-ridden people!

One day Mary received a secret message saying that, in a district far away, a man of one village had wounded the chief of another village. Because of this the warriors of both villages were holding a council of war.

"I must go and stop it, else much blood will be spilt and many will be killed," said Mary Slessor.

"No, you cannot," replied her friends at Ekenge. "You have been ill and can scarcely walk. There are wild beasts lurking in the woods. The warriors are out and will kill you in the dark, not knowing who you are."

"I *must* go," she said and quickly made ready. Accompanied by two men with lanterns she set out through the darkness. At midnight she came to a certain village and asked the chief to provide her with a drummer so that people might know by hearing the drum that a protected person was traveling.

The chief was surly. "You are going to a warlike people," he said. "You are likely to get killed on the way. Anyhow, they would not listen to what a woman says."

Mary took this as a challenge. "When you think of the woman's power," she said to the chief, "you forget the power of the woman's God. I shall go on."

Turning, she disappeared into the darkness. The villagers thought she must be mad to defy their chief who had the power to kill her. She might be killed by ferocious leopards or by

savages infuriated by anger and by drink at any moment in the forest.

At dawn she came to the place where a large company of warriors were preparing to assault a village. She was too weary to walk, but her attendants shouted, "Run, Ma, Run!" She heard wild yells and the roll of war drums.

Running as fast as she could, she caught up with the maddened warriors and demanded that they desist from fighting. Stunned by her courage, they hesitated, while she walked boldly toward a regiment of fierce savages standing in the village ready to fight. Drawing near she called out, "I have come to help you settle this matter peaceably and justly. There is no need to shed many lives."

Just then, to her amazement, an old chief stepped toward her and knelt down at her feet! "Ma," he said, "we are glad you came. We admit that one of our drunken young men wounded the chief over there. It was an act in which the rest of us had no part. We are glad for you to speak with our enemy and help make peace."

Looking into the man's face, she saw to her joy that this was the very chief who was about to die several years before. It was a long, dangerous journey through the forest in the rain to nurse him back to health. She was so glad that she had gone! Now she could be a peacemaker between the two parties of wild savages. If she had not come many would have been killed.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Two of his servants and a devout soldier. 2. To Joppa. 3. He was on the housetop praying. 4. He was very hungry. 5. He fell into a trance. 6. It was like a great sheet. 7. All kinds of animals. 8. "Rise, Peter; kill, and eat." 9. Three times.