

Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 2, 2011

THE DRUMMER BOY

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

Every day was the same. More and more wounded soldiers were being brought into the hospital.

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

There were many needing immediate help. He started down the aisle, examining each man. Bed after bed he passed, stopping at each one, and seriously considering that soldier's condition, then moving on to the next patient. He stopped and looked at the chart hanging on one cot.

"Charlie Coulson," he said, greeting the boy. "You look very young to be a soldier."

"Yes, I am too young to be a soldier, but I wanted to help so I enlisted as a drummer boy." While talking to Charlie, he was studying the condition of the boy's leg. After a moment he said, "I have sad news for you. To save your life, I must remove your leg. Losing a leg will be better than dying, though. I will send for you shortly, and see what I can do."

"Prepare Charlie for surgery," he told the nurse.

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

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

"But you must."

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

"It is the doctor's orders. Nor could you stand to have your leg amputated without it," he insisted.

"Please let me talk to the surgeon," he pleaded. When the doctor came, Charlie said, "I don't want to take chloroform."

"May I ask why?"

The drummer boy laid his hand on the doctor's and said, "One Sunday morning in Sunday school when I was nine and one-half years old I gave my heart to Jesus. I have trusted Him from that day, and wish to trust Him now."

"Young man, when I first saw you, I thought you were too far gone



PURPOSE TO SERVE GOD!

Daniel 1:6, 8-19

- 6 Now among these (captives) were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:
- 8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
- 9 NowGod had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.
- 10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.
- 11 Then said Daniel to Melzar . . .
- 12 Prove thy servants, I be seech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.
- 13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.
- **14** So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.
- 15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

- 16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.
- 17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.
- 18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.
- 19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

The Message: God will give strength and power to those who purpose to obey Him.

Questions:

- 1. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah belonged to what tribe of the Israelites?
- 2. Who purposed in his heart to not defile himself?
- 3. Who brought Daniel into favor with the prince of the eunuchs?
- 4. How long did Daniel ask him to prove them?
- 5. Compared to the others how did they look after this time?
- 6. What did they eat and drinkinstead of what the king offered??
- 7. What did God give these four?
- 8. What special understanding did Daniel have?

Verse to Memorize

... I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him . . . II Timothy 1:12



When Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, won a decisive victory over the king of Judah he carried away many captives. Among those taken captive were Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

Nebuchadnezzar wanted many wise men in his kingdom. He ordered that young men should be chosen from among the captives who were strong, had good countenances and were intelligent so they could be taught the learning and language of the Chaldeans.

God had especially blessed Daniel and his friends. They were among those chosen to be given certain privileges and training to prepare them to be rulers. They were even to have special food from the king's own table!

Daniel knew the meat from the king's table would be some that God commanded they should not eat, such as swine or meat that had been offered to idols. His captors had stripped him of many things but one thing he would never give up: his love and trust in the one true God. He purposed in his heart that he would not displease God by eating the king's meat no matter what trouble it caused him.

The prince of the eunuchs could not understand why Daniel and his friends would refuse the delicious food that was served to the king, especially when Daniel told him that they only wanted vegetables to eat and water to drink! He was afraid to grant his request. He was sure that such a diet would never make these young men

as strong and healthy as those who ate the king's meat. And if Daniel and his friends looked scrawny compared to the others he could literally have his head cut off!

But God honored Daniel's faith and courage. He gave him such favor with this man that he was willing to even risk his life to allow him to prove that God's way was the best!

At the end of ten days Daniel and his friends were obviously in better shape than those who ate at the king's table. The steward was so impressed that he gave them only vegetables and water from then on! Not only did they look better, but God also gave them knowledge, skill and great wisdom. When we give upanything for God, He gives us so much MORE in return!

Daniel and his three friends' obedience to God prepared them for the great trials they would face. When Daniel was thrown into the lions den and his three friends went into the fiery furnace they knew God would protect them. By their faithfulness the king saw that there was one true God.

Charlie Coulson knew Jesus personally. He also purposed to obey Him no matter what the consequence. His experience of Jesus' love gave him confidence that He would be with him to give strength and courage to stand true to his convictions.

God has not changed. When we dare to take our stand and do His will even when it is dangerous and seems impossible, He will make a way for us! Give your heart and life to God and get truly acquainted with Him. Talk to Him often in prayer and let Him talk to you through the Bible. You will learn that you serve a mighty God. Then when you are tested you will not be afraid to let Him prove His power, just as Charlie Coulson, Daniel, and many others have done.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

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

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

"I know God helps people," answered the doctor. "Jesus, though, what can He do for a man? A drink of brandy will ease your ability to feel pain. Allow me to give you some brandy."

Charlie looked into the doctor's face and very seriously said, "Doctor, I have no father. Mother said that he died a drunkard. She made me promise to never taste any alcoholic drink. I promised. I was only fiveyears old when I made that promise. Now I am seventeen, but to this day I have never tasted beer, wine, whiskey or brandy. If I drink brandy, I'd be breaking my promise. What if I die during the operation? I would die drunk, just like my daddy, and also with a broken promise on my heart.

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

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

War raged in the doctor's mind. How could he, a notable surgeon. let a boy tell him how he must do a surgery? How could he have courage to tear into his flesh and nerves with the boy feeling the sharp teeth of the saw? Why should he force himself through this horrible task, when there were so many more needing help?

How could Jesus so deceive a heart that it would be loyal through such severe pain? The doctor did not believe in Jesus, but there was something about the boy's loyalty that he loved. He stood thinking for a few minutes. When he finally spoke, he said very gravely, "Charlie," I will send the army chaplain. Please discuss this with him."

"Yes, Sir," Charlie answered.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. Judah. 2. Daniel. 3. God. 4. Tendays. 5. Theywere fairer and fatter. 6. Pulse (vegetables) and water. 7. Knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom. 8. An understanding of visions and dreams.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 9, 2011

CHARLIE'S PRAYER

(Continued)

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

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

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

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

someone call you?"

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

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

"Yes, yes. How is he doing?"

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

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

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

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



STEPHEN'S PRAYER

Acts 6:5, 8-13, 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.
- 11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.
- 12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,
- 13 And set up false witnesses . . .
- 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, 54-60

- 2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken: . . .
- **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: While he was being stoned Stephen prayed that God would 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



The church in Jerusalem grew rapidly. Soon 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, who we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and preaching the Word."

Stephen was the first man who was chosen. He was a man full offaith and power who did many wonders and miracles among the people.

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 could not deny that he spoke the truth.

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 it was 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. While

the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. Even though his face shone like an angel's, they continued to 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 disobeyed God's laws. This made the leaders very angry!

God let Stephen see into Heaven to give him courage to face his enemies. 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 Stephen say another word. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the citygate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at Saul's feet.

Astherocks 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." No doubt it was in answer to that prayer that Saul was saved.

In our story Charlie Coulson, even while in extreme pain, showed this same spirit of love and concern that others should know Jesus and His power to forgive their sins. He made Dr. Rossvally promise that he would always remember that he had prayed for him to be saved. Nor could he forget. That prayer followed him until he finally yielded himself to God.

Most of us have godly parents, relatives or friends who have prayed for us to be saved. Some, however, have not had this blessing. But Jesus prayed for everyone! He said, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them which shall believe on me through their word:" John 17:20.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

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

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

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

About twenty minutes later a nurse knocked on Dr. Rossvally's door.

"Come in," he said.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dr. Rossvally was tired so he sat down in a chair beside Charlie's bed. The boy moved and opened his eyes. "Take my hand, please?" he begged the doctor. "Ilove you doctor, because you are a Jew, and my Jesus is a Jew. I think He must have looked like you. I hope you will learn to know Him like I do. I believe you keep promises. Will you promise to never forget what I am about to tell you?"

"I promise."

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

The doctor couldn't understand how a person suffering so intensely could be thinking about His Saviour and wanting others to know Him.

"Well, my son, you will soon be all right." the doctor said, "I must go now."

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

"I thought you didn't believe in Jesus," his friend said.

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

(To be continued)

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.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 16, 2011

THE BARBER

(Continued)

Dr. Rossvally was as busy as ever trying to save the lives of the men who were wounded in battle. Each time he amputated a leg or arm, he remembered Charlie, the boy who was loyal to his Savior to the end. Many soldiers were treated by the army doctor. But not one hadrefused everyform of drugs as the drummer boy had done.

After the war was over, the doctor was put in charge of the military hospital at Galveston, Texas. Ten years passed by. The doctor had forgotten Charlie's words, but he had not forgotten Charlie Coulson.

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

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

On the walls of the barber shophung

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

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

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

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

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

There was something about this man that caused the doctor to remember Charlie Coulson. He felt drawn as if to an unseen magnet.

Dr. Rossvally was so interested in



SOWING GOOD SEED

Matthew 13:1-8; 18-23

- 1 The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.
- 2 And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
- 3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow:
- 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
- 5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
- 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
- 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
- 8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
- **18** Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
- 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.
- 20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that

heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it:

- 21 Yethath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
- 22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
- 23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

The Message: The Word of God is like a seed. When it is planted in a good and honest heart it will bring eternal life to that person.

Questions:

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

Verse to Memorize

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

Luke 8:11



Farmers in Jesus' time did not have fenced protected areas in which to plant their seed. Their fields were usually just open areas. Only ancient landmarks or perhaps ridges of stones divided one field from that belonging to a neighbor. Through these open fields were paths where people walked from one place to another.

So when the farmer, as the one in Jesus' story, went out to sow his seed he would try to scatter it where it would have the best chance to grow. But as he walked along throwing his seed this way and that some would fall on the hard beaten paths. Some would fall in rocky places or in corners where weeds, nettles and thistles grew thick.

Jesus wanted to show that those who preach the Gospel are like the farmer. First they must receive the good seed to sow. They must, by spending much time with God, learn the deep Gospel truths so they may teach them to others. Only then are they ready to share the Gospel with others.

Their field is the hearts of men. Only God knows a man's heart. As the preacher gives out the truth he has no way of knowing which hearts will receive it. His responsibility is to faithfully preach the Gospel at every opportunity to everyone who will hear. After he has sown the seed that God has given he must commit the seed to the Lord who alone can make it fruitful.

Jesus said some seed fell by the way side and the birds came and devoured the seed. It didn't have a chance to take root and grow. The devil knows the power of the Gospel seed. He never misses a service where God's Word is taught. He will quickly take the truth from your mind if you allow it. The seed is then lost; your life will never produce the good fruit God intended.

Then Jesus tells about seed that fell on stony places. This seed sprouted quickly but, just as quickly it withered away. We must prepare our hearts by confessing and turning from all sin before the Gospel can grow there.

Some seed fell among thorns. The soil was good and before long the seed sprouted and grew. But along side it were other little sprouts growing too. These weeds soon grew so thick they shut out the light and took up the nutrients that should have gone to the good plant. These weeds are like the cares and temptations that everyone faces in life.

Last of all Jesus told about the seed that fell on good ground and produced much fruit. God wants to make our heart a beautiful and fruitful garden. As we yield to Him He will teach us His own ways. He may use trials to break up the hard places. But all is done in love and for our good.

Dr. Rossvally was entirely opposed to Jesus and all He stood for. As a Jew he was taught that Jesus had wrongfully claimed to be the Messiah. His people still expected the true Messiah to come. His dark hard heart appeared to be a most unlikely place for the Gospel to grow and bear fruit.

But Charlie and the barber wanted everyone to know Jesus, the One who had given them such peace and joy. They faithfully offered the seed; God caused it to eventually sink into Dr. Rossvally's heart and take root. His life was wonderfully changed.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

what the barber was saying that he asked for a haircut. When his hair was cut, he asked for a shampoo. He still wanted to stay and listen but didn't want the man to know he was interested. What else could the barber do for him? Nothing. So he said, "I need to catch the next train to Washington, so I'd better hurry on."

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

He steadied the doctor all the way to the station. He said little except cautioning about dangerous places in the walk. Once at the station the barber continued to talk about the peace, strength, and happiness that he had found in Jesus. Then he added, "You may think it strange that I talk to you like this and walked you to the station, friend. Take my Friend, Jesus, as your Friend," he pleaded with tears flowing down his cheeks.

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

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

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

"I certainly will," the doctor said very

confidently, for he thought the man's prayers would never be answered.

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

After breakfast, Dr. Rossvallypicked up thenewspaper. One of the first things that caught his eye was the announcement of a revival in one of the largest churches in Washington. A little voice seemed to whisper, "Go to the revival."

"Me, go to that church?" he questioned himself. "I have never been inside a Christian church during worship service." Yet he felt an irresistible pull. "I'll just walk by and see what's going on," he told himself.

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

She brought his wraps and bid him goodbye.

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

"Ican't go in there," he told himself. Yet the pull became stronger than ever. "I'll come back tonight when it's dark," he promised, hurrying back to the warmth of his house.

(To be continued)

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





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 23, 2011

SEPARATION

(Continued)

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

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

He had a sudden eagerness to get away, but he couldn't do that. He was crying, and if he walked out many people would see his tears. He didn't want anyone to see him crying. He knew they would if he took out his handkerchief. "I'll not cry any more," he told himself, but the tears kept coming. He couldn't understand. It was something he couldn't control.

Finally the service was over. He was anxious to leave, but the preacher

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

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

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

"That is wonderful. Jesus was a Jew." Dr. Rossvally followed the woman back into the chapel, and up the aisle to the front.

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

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

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

The doctor, dressed in officer's uniform, stood gallantly tall in the chapel, while the old lady kneeling at his feet began praying in earnest for God to save this Jew.

He felt embarrassed and wondered



THE JOY OF THE LORD

Nehemiah 8:10

10 ... for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

Psalms 5:11

11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Psalms 16:11

11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Habakkuk 3:18

18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Acts 2:28

28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

Acts 13:52

52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

Galatians 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Philippians 4:4-7, 9,10

- 4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.
- **5** Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.
- 6 Be careful for nothing: but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

- 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
- 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.
- 10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

Romans 14:17

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Luke 15:10

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

The Message: When Jesus comes into our hearts He brings us great joy!

Questions:

- 1. What is your strength?
- 2. Who should be joyful in the Lord?
- 3. Where will we find fullness of joy?
- 4. "I will joy in the God of my
- 5. The disciples were filled with what?
- 6. When should we rejoice?
- 7. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but ______, and _____, and _____, and _____, and _____in the Holy Ghost.
- 8. When are the angels of God joyful?

Verse to Memorize

is your strength.
Nehemiah 8:10



When Dr. Rossvally humbled himself and prayed for God to forgive his sins God answered prayer. The heavy load of guilt suddenly lifted and instead great joy filled his heart. He had never been so happy! He knew he had found the Messiah; Jesus was his Savior!

His first impulse was to share the good news with his wife. But her heart had not been prepared; she could not accept the truth nor share his newfound joy.

I hope every one who reads this has experienced the miracle of the new birth when Jesus comes into your heart! You can never forget the overwhelming joy and peacethat suddenly replaces the dark heaviness of guilt and sin! Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. II Corinthians 5:17.

The blood of Jesus cleanses our hearts of sin and all that made our life so gloomy. Then the Holy Spirit takes away the roots of sin and fills us with power to overcome the temptation to sin. He enables us to resist the devil and instead do what Jesus would do. Jesus' life was spent doing the will of God, His Father, and pleasing Him. He did not sin. (I Peter 2:22.) He gives us that same power. It is a great joy to be able to overcome temptations to sin and always have God's approval!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Dr. R. A. Torrey wrote: "I presume everybody has known saints whose lives were just radiant. Joy beamed out of their "eyes; joy bubbled over their lips; joy seemed to fairly run from their fingertips. You could not come in contact with them without having a new light come into your own life. They were like electric batteries charged with joy.

If you look into the eyes of such radiantly happy persons you will find that every one is a man or woman who spends a great deal of time alone with God in prayer. God is the source of all joy, and if we come into contact with Him, His infinite joy comes into our lives.

Would you like to be a radiant Christian? You may be! Spend time in prayer. You cannot be a radiant Christian in any other way. Prayer makes God real. If you take time for prayer you will have a real, living God, and if you have a living God you will have a radiant life."

Mr. Gong's Joy

Mr. Gong was a happy Christian attorney in China. Often his non-Christian neighbors on the other side of the wall would hear him singing hymns. They said, "Oh, he is happy because God has smiled on him, and he is doing well."

However, one day Mr. Gong's little boy died and went to be with Jesus. The neighbors said, "Now Gong will be just like the rest of us in his sorrow."

Nevertheless, that night Mr. Gong and his family gathered as usual for family worship. Their hearts were filled with sorrow, and yet they sang hymns and praised God just as before. The neighbors were astonished to learn that Christians have an inward joy even in times of sorrow.

That night Mr. Gong remarked, "I've never really understood how wonderful it is to be a Christian until this moment. I shall never forget it. God is always with us—both in happy times and in times of sorrow."

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort."

II Corinthians 1:3. —Selected

who of his acquaintance had by now recognized him. Yet he was intrigued by the lady's way of praying. It was not legalistic nor repetition from memory like the prayers of the Jews. She was talking as if God was standing right beside her. She was speaking to Him like one would to a good friend.

Hewas too respectful to leave while the old woman was praying, so he waited. When she arose, she offered her hand saying at the same time, "Will you promise me that you will pray before you go to bed tonight?"

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

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

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

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

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

"Very well, I am going to bed."

He closed and locked the door. Then standing facing the East, he began to pray. He repeated every prayer he knew, always addressing them to "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

The longer he prayed the worse he felt. The feeling of guilt for all his sins just got heavier.

Finally he submitted to kneeling as the old lady had done. Fear gripped his heart. "Would he become deceived by this Jesus if he bowed to pray, as the Christians do?" he wondered. "I promised my father I

would never worship Jesus."

He fell to his knees and began praying much like the woman at the church had done. To his surprise, he started feeling better. The darkness and confusion in his mind cleared. He could understand prophecies in the Old Testament, which he had never before understood. The heavy feeling of guilt lifted and he felt light enough to float. He was happy, happier than he had ever been. Jesus was his Saviour!

"I must share this with my wife," he said. "She is looking for the Messiah just as I have been." Even though it was 2:00 a.m. he rushed into their bedroom to share the good news.

I've found the Messiah!" he told her.

But his wife did not share his enthusiasm. She jumped out of bed and pushed him back.

Without another word she put on her clothes. She then went to the closet and took out some other clothes.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "Aren'tyou happy that the Messiah has come. We've been expecting Him."

She still said nothing. Putting on her coat and throwing the clothes over her shoulder, she walked out into the freezing wind. He could only stand and plead, "Ruth, Ruth, please don't."

From the open door, he watched her go across the icy street to her parent's house. She went in and closed the door behind her. He knew by what she had done, that she wanted to remain a Jewess. Her religion would not allow her to live with a Christian, even though the Christian was her own husband.

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. The joy of the Lord. 2. All who love God's name. 3. In the presence of God. 4. Salvation. 5. Joy and the Holy Ghost. 6. Always. 7. Righteousness, peace, joy. 8. When one sinner repents.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Jan. 30, 2011

THE LETTERS

(Continued)

Dr. Rossvally could not help crying, "Oh, Ruth, Ruth, why did you leave me?" He had hoped his wife would be glad that he had found that Jesus was the Messiah. He wanted her to share the joy and peace Jesus had brought into his own heart. He fell on his knees in prayer.

While he was praying, someone knocked on the door. Old Josh, the gardener for Ruth's parents, was standing on the porch. "Ruth has sent me to get the children," he said. The doctor had already decided to let her have the children. He hoped they would soon all come back to him.

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

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

Five days later, Dr. Rossvally was ordered to go away on government business. He planned many ways to

see his family and tell them good-bye, but every scheme failed.

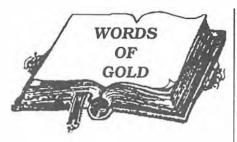
Ruth must have heard that he was leaving, for just before he left she sent another note. It said: "As long as you call Jesus the Saviour, I nor the children will have any dealings with you. You must give up your Jesus or us. Which will you choose?"

"I can but choose my Jesus, for He is God," he told himself. Dr. Rossvally waved to the house across the street as he was driving away. "Abraham or Sarah might be peeking out a window," he mumbled.

He was a strong man but after he got seated on the train, he broke down and cried. He was going 1,300 miles away and did not know when he would be back. Nor did he know when he would get to hear from his children or his dear wife.

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

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



GOD IS LOVE

I John 4:8-21

- **8** He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
- 9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
- 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
- 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.
- 12 Noman hath seen Godat any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
- 13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us. because he hath given us of his Spirit.
- 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.
- 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
- 16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
- 17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
- 18 There is no fear in love: but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

- 19 We love him, because he first loved us.
- **20** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
- **21** And this commandment have we from him. That he who loveth God love his brother also.

John 3:16

16 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.

Romans 5:8

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

The Message: God is love. When He lives in our heart we, too, love everyone.

Questions:

- 1. If you do not love you do not know
- 2. God is .
- 3. How did God manifest His love to
- 4. Because He loved us we ought to love .
- 5. When we love one another, Who lives in us?
- 6. The Father sent His Son to be the _____ of the world.
- 7. What casts out fear?
- 8. Why do we love God?
- 9. Anyone that loves God must also love whom?

Verse to Memorize

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16



Probably the first verse you learned was, "God is love." When we hear something so often it is easy to just take it for granted. We don't really stop to consider what we're saying or the great meaning of the words. Yet this is a message powerful enough to change the life of everyone who accepts it!

Two missionaries in China were troubled when they saw such misery and sadness all around them. These people worshipped many gods. They sacrificed their precious food to these idols. But these gods had no power to help them—they were merely statues made by men. They couldn't hear, speak or care a thing about the poor ignorant people who brought sacrifices.

What a contrast to the God of love and power that they served! The missionaries wanted to tell everyone they met about the true God. Their own lives were rich and happy because the God of love lived in their hearts.

It was the message of John 3:16 which many of us know by heart that drew these people to want to know more. Most of us can quickly recite, "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." We know the words so well we hardly have to think about what we are saying. Yet, to these hungry hearts each word brought wonder and hope.

"Will you explain how and why He died? Will you explain how it is He could love me?" some would ask eagerly. The wonder of God's love obsessed them. The story of Christ's death on Calvary filled their minds with awe and reverence.

Dr. Rossvally could not help but wonder at the courage and strength Charlie Coulson had, to endure such extreme pain without a groan. He did not believe in Jesus but he could not deny that it had to be a Divine power. He was amazed when Charlie told him that, while the doctor was cutting off his leg without anything to deaden the pain, he was praying that the doctor would be saved. He marveled at Charlie's great love for Jesus.

We have heard many times that God is love. But have we ever thought about the power it brings? If God did not love us we would have no peace here on earth and no hope of ever living with Him in heaven. If Jesus had not been willing to come and die on the cross at Calvary we could have no power to break out of the awful bondage of sin and selfishness. The devil would be our dreadful master and we would have no hope of escaping his cruelty.

But Jesus did come. God did make a way so we could be free from sin. He forgives everyone who will repent then He cleans our heart, fills it with His love, peace and joy and comes to live right in our heart! Such love is beyond our ability to understand. We must open our heart then we will experience its power and wonder!

What are you doing with the offer of salvation, the greatest gift you can ever receive? To reject God and His great love leaves you at the mercy of the devil that has no mercy or love for you. His only purpose is to destroy you in hell at last! But if you accept salvation it will fill your life with all the good that the God of love has purposed for you.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

letter! A letter!" As she opened the door she called, "Mama; a letter from Pa—from Dr. Rossvally," she finished almost in a whisper.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sarah went back outside biting her lip. She tried hard to finish the snowman, but all she could do was think of her papa so far away and wonder what his letter had to say. The next day another letter came. It was also burned. The next day, the third letter came, then the fourth, the fifth, the sixth, and the seventh. For a month Sarah and Abraham watched every day as their mother destroyed each letter from their father. Sarah loved her papa. She was the younger child and his little pet. Every time a letter came, Sarah hoped against hope that her mother would read it. Sometimes she said, "Please, Mama --. "Her mother's quick rebuke made her stop.

More and more letters came: 49; 50, 51, 52, 53, 54 letters came. One letter came each day. All 54 letters were destroyed. Not one of them was read.

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

"Hush my child," her mother ordered.

That night Sarah went to bed with a sad troubled mind. The next morning she got up with a different attitude. Soon after breakfast she put on a sweater and went out into the fresh spring air. She busied herself watching a mud dauber roll a ball of mud and carry it away. Then she discovered a crocus breaking through the crusted ground. A red cardinal flew away to the blossom-covered cherry tree where she had seen her nest. All the while she was amusing herself, she was listening for the hoof beats of the pony.

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

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

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

(To be continued)

Answers: 1. God. 2. Love. 3. He sent His Son into the world. 4. One another. 5. God. 6. Savior. 7. Perfect love. 8. Because He first loved us. 9. His brother.





Vol. 61. No. 1 (USPS549-000) Part 6 Juniors Feb. 6.

UNITED

(Continued)

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

When she finally went downstairs. her mother saw her tear-stained face and asked, "Sarah, why have you been crying?"SuddenlySarahfeltcoldandsweaty. Her heart was racing like it wanted to run away. She opened her mouth to speak. but no words came out.

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

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

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

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

"Go ahead, what did you dream."

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

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

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

Ruth hurried away to her bedroom with the letter. Sarah heard the door lock. Sarah waited in silence. Would her mother destroy the letter or was she reading it? Sarah wondered and waited for what seemed to be a long. long time.

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

"Child, my heart aches."

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

"I read it through five times."

"Then you are going to keep it?"

"I hid it in my desk."

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

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

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



PRAYER

Luke 18:1-8; 15-17

- 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?
- 15 And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them.
- 16 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
- 17 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

Matthew 6:9-13; 7:7

- **9** After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
- 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
- 11 Give us this day our daily bread.
- 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
- 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
- 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

The Message: Prayer is a duty but it is also our greatest privilege! It is the channel through which we obtain God's favor for ourselves and others.

Questions:

- 1. What did Jesus teach in His parable?
- 2. Who did not fear God nor regard man?
- 3. Who asked him to avenge her?
- 4. Why did the judge finally avenge her?
- 5. Who did they bring to Jesus?
- 6. Who rebuked those who brought them?
- 7. Who wanted the little children to come?
- 8. How must we receive the kingdom of God?

9. Jesussaid, "As	sk,and	;
seek and		_; knock,
and	"	

Verse to Memorize Pray without ceasing

Pray without ceasing. I Thessalonians 5:17



Prayer is a powerful and wonderful gift from God. Since we are completely dependent on God we should always be in a spirit of prayer—continually lifting our hearts to God asking Him for help, guidance and, also, thanking Him for His many blessings to us. It is in this way that we are always praying.

He always hears us when we pray and He loves to have us talk to Him. Think of the most wonderful, loving father who loves to protect and provide for his children and you begin to get a glimpse of your Heavenly Father.

Even the best earthly father sometimes is too busy or tired to listen every time we come with our little problems or desires. But God loves to have us pour out our hearts to Him and tell Him every detail of what is bothering us. Day or night and as often as you choose you can pray to Him and He will hear. In the most urgent and extreme need and danger He is there just in time.

I remember an incident that happened several years ago. My brother, Dale, and I were driving from Guthrie, OK. to the camp meeting in Green Bank, WV. Dale had driven all night and we still had many miles to go. It was a difficult time to drive with the bright morning sun in his eyes. I looked down to choose one of Bro. Leslie Busbee's story tapes to listen to to help keep him awake. When I looked up I saw that the cars ahead had merged into one lane and were stopped. On the left side was a concrete wall and in the right lane there

were workers. We did not have time to stop at the speed we were traveling!

Dale saw the situation about the same time and braked as hard as he could. Isaid, "Lord, help!" but it seemed a crash was inevitable. Then, just as we screeched closer to the stopped car, that driver eased over to the right. By hugging close to the concrete wall Dale came to a stop about a half car length beyond the back bumper of the car ahead of us. We did not hit the car or the concrete.

It was a miracle! I couldn't help exclaiming, "He did it!" I was certain there was no way to avoid a terrible collision yet God did it in answer to that short little prayer!

Prayer strengthens us spiritually. Every time we truly touch God through prayer we receive real strength and increased faith.

When we have a need we should bring it to God in prayer. Our prayer may not be answered immediately. We are taught then to continue to pray until the need is met. God cannot be compared to an unjust judge—He loves us more than we can realize and will give us the very best. If our prayers are not answered at once we must continue to pray, knowing that God has a purpose in the delay.

Charlie prayed for Dr. Rossvally to be saved. He never lived to see it but years later God wonderfully saved the doctor. Charlie's mother knew about his prayer for the doctor and no doubt added her petition for the doctor's salvation. God blessed Dr. Rossvally to be present when the mother told about Charlie's prayer. He was able to let her know Charlie's prayer had been answered. Both he and his wife were saved in answer to that prayer!

Prayer is a powerful privilege God has given us. Ask the Lord to teach you how to pray. Live a life of obedience to God and He will gladly answer your prayers. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

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

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

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

The next day Ruth and the children went to stay across the street in their own home. Every day they watched the road for a carriage bringing their father.

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

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

Later, a letter came from Dr. Rossvally's mother who lived in Germany. He was so happy to hear from her. He laid the other letters on the table and hurriedly opened the letter. "Oh, my," hesaid, "Listen, Ruth, and I'll read you Mother's letter. It doesn't say, 'Dear Son', as usual, it just says, 'Max: You are no longer my son; we have burned you in effigy; we mourn you as dead. And may the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob strike you blind, deaf, and dumb, and damn your soul forever. You have left your father's religion and the synagogue for that Jesus, "The Impostor," and now take your mother's curse. Clara.'

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

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

"No, not alone. We have each other and Jesus is always by our side. I found

that out soon after I got saved."

Sarah asked, "Papa, what did Grandma mean by 'burning you in effigy?'"

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

Sixteen months later Dr. Rossvally was on a job in Brooklyn and went into a church for prayer meeting. Many people were standing up and telling of ways that God had shown His love to them. An old sister stood up and said, "Dear friends, this may be the last time I will get to testify. The doctor who examined me said one of my lungs is almost completely destroyed and the other is badly afflicted with the same disease. So you see, I don't have long to live, but what is left of me is all for Jesus. I do not fear to die, I am looking forward to meeting my son in Heaven.

"My son died from being hurt in the Battle of Gettysburg. His leg was amputated by a Jewish doctor. The army chaplain sent me his Bible and wrote me a letter telling me that just before Charlie died, he called the doctor and said to the doctor, "While you were amputating my leg. I was praying for you to believe in Jesus and be saved.""

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

Answers: 1. That men should always pray. 2. The judge. 3. A widow. 4. Because she was troubling him. 5. Infants. 6. The disciples. 7. Jesus. 8. As a little child. 9. Ye

–Selected

shall receive; ye shall find; it shall be opened unto you.

THE



Vol. 61, No. 1 **Juniors** (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb 13, 2011

THE MIGHTY MESSENGER

"What will you read to us tonight?" John asked his grandmother.

"I have a letter to read," his grandmother answered.

"A letter? Is it from Mother and Dad?"

"No, we haven't gotten a letter from them. Maybe we will get one tomorrow. Where's Melissa? I'm ready when she gets here."

Just then Melissa came around the corner. "Listen, and I will read you a letter," Grandmother said.

When Melissa had seated herself Grandmother began reading: "My Dear Christian Friend:

I am only a little tract, but I have a message for the whole wide world. When you have read me, send me on; oh, send me on.

What! Are you going to put me on a dusty bookshelf, or in a musty old book, or in your dark writing desk? Oh, dear me! Are you going to bury my talent? Please do not do it. Read me, then pass me on. Put me into an envelope and let me fly on and on, stopping here with my message and then off again in another envelope until I have encircled the entire globe with my message that is for 'every creature.' Then, but not until then, can I lay me down to rest.

God's messenger in haste, A little tract

P. S. If you have any of my brother tracts safely tucked away in any place, shake the dust off them and send them on their way that they, too, might finish theircourse and hear, "Well done, little tract. You have done all that people let uou do."

"That was written by Percy G. Near," Grandmother said.

"That was a funny letter," John remarked.

"I like it," Melissa retorted. "I'm writing an essay about Hudson Taylor for Literature I. He was saved by reading a tract.

"Can you tell us about it?" Grandmother asked.

"From what little I know." Melissa answered, "as a very young boy Hudson had tried to act good like a Christian does. The older he got, the more he realized he just could not be good. This made him doubt God. Another thing that influenced his feelings was that many of his friends did not believe there was a God. By the time he was 15, he also began to wonder if there was one, until the day he found a box of tracts and booklets while browsing in his father's library looking for a book with which to entertain himself. He thought these tracts might contain interesting stories. He would read the amusing parts of the tracts and ignore the rest.



SPREADING THE GOSPEL

Acts 17:15-28

- **15** And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens...
- 16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.
- 17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews . . .
- 18 Then certain philosophers...encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.
- 19 And they took him . . . saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?
- 20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.
- 21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)
- 22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.
- 23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.
- 24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord

- of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;
- 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;
- 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;
- 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:
- 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being . . .

The Message: Jesus lived in Paul's heart and directed his life. He wanted everyone to know about Jesus and the one true God.

Questions:

- 1. Where did they bring Paul?
- 2. What was the city wholly given to?
- 3. What did Paul preach to them?
- 4. Who did the people think Jesus was?
- 5. Where did Paul stand to speak to the people?
- 6. What was the inscription on one of their altars?
- 7. Who made the world and everything in it?
- 8. He does not dwell in _____ made with hands.
- 9. In Him we ____, and ____ and have our

Verse to Memorize

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

Acts 17:24



Those who truly know Jesus and His power to change lives long to tell others who need Him. Many missionaries have risked their lives and some have died to take the Gospel to those who have never heard about Jesus and His power to save.

When Paul was struck blind on his way to Damascus, the Lord sent Ananias to pray for his sight to be restored. The Lord told Ananias that He had chosen Paul to tell the Gentiles, kings and the children of Israel about Jesus. So from the beginning Paul understood what God had called him to do. He spent the rest of his life preaching the Gospel everywhere he had the opportunity.

While Paul waited in Athens for Silas and Timothy he toured the city. Everywhere he went he saw idols. He was amazed at how many different gods these people worshiped. There was even an altar to the Unknown God!

Paul found a Jewish synagogue and went there to speak to the Jews about Jesus. He met with anyone who wished to speak to him in the marketplace. He used every opportunity to preach Christ to the people. Some listeners were sincere but many were just curious. They had never heard about Jesus and His resurrection. They thought Paul was talking about some strange new god.

Soon he had so many wanting to hear what he had to say they asked him to speak on Mars' Hill. This was the place where important matters were discussed. As Paul looked over the crowd of wise men and curious listeners he longed to present the Gospel to them in a way they could understand. I'm sure he prayed for wisdom to know how to reach these people.

"You men of Athens," Paul began, "I see that you are too superstitious. As I was walking through the city I saw your many altars to different gods. I even saw one whose inscription read, "To the Unknown God". You ignorantly worship this God and He is the God about whom I preach to you.

"This God made the world and everything in it. He is the Lord of Heaven and earth. He does not live in temples made by men, neither is He worshiped by anything men make. It is He who gives us our life and breath.

"This God is not far from every one of us. He wants people of every nation to seek Him and worship Him. He is not like gold or silver or stone that man shapes into an idol. He is the true God. Now that you know about the true God He commands you to repent of your sins. The day is coming when He will call all men to judgment." Then Paul told them about how God had raised Jesus from the dead.

Many of the wise men laughed when they heard about the resurrection. Others asked him to come back another time and tell them more. But there were several who believed Paul's words.

Our story shows that everyone can have a part in spreading the Gospel. When we give tracts we have no way of knowing whether their message is accepted or rejected. It brought great joy to the elderly man to hear about the miracle God worked in the life of this Japanese man all because of one tract left on a rocky cliff beside the ocean!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"He couldn't ignore some words in one of the tracts. It caused him to realize that Christ paid for his salvation on the cross. Hudson realized that he did not have to force himself to be good. Christ would live the goodness right through him."

"It is wonderful that he got saved, for thousands of Chinese learned about Christ through Hudson Taylor's teaching," Grandmother said. "I will tell you a story about a Japanese man who also was saved because he read a tract.

"He had tried and tried to find God by worshiping his father's gods. He burned incense to idols. He decorated hisfather's shop with stalks of bamboo and straw ropes before New Year's. On New Year's Day he ate carp for energy and determination to overcome problems. He also ate chestnuts for success and seaweed for happiness. None of these things helped. He was just as depressed as ever.

"One night he went out on a high rocky cliff beside the ocean. Strong waves beat against the razor sharprocks below him. Why they hadn't already worn them smooth, he didn't know. He perched himself in a very dangerous spot, waiting for the final inspiration to fling himself to his death below.

"Suddenly he was startled by a strange flapping noise. In a smooth spot not too far from where he sat was a paper held fast by a rock. He was sure that someone had placed the paper there. Being curious as to why anyone would put a note in such a place, he was determined to find out what the note said. Laboriously he crawled over the rocks and freed the paper. He took a small pen flashlight from his shirt pocket, sat down Indian fashion and read the tract. It was a tract explaining God's free gift of salvation for all mankind.

"'Oh, God,' he cried out, 'Are you there? Is this true? Do you give mortal

men freedom from evil? Will you save me from my wicked self and give me peace in my mind?'

"As soon as he had said these words, a calm quiet peace came over him."

"He got saved out there on the cliff all by himself?" John asked.

"Yes, he did. God will save a person anywhere, when they repent and believe," Grandmother assured John.

"The Japanese man was so thankful for his salvation that he became a minister so he could share this good news with others.

"He became the pastor of a church near where he had found the tract. One evening after he had been saved about 30 years, he told the story of how he was saved. Yes, on the highest, most rugged cliff around here, I was saved,' he said. Then he told the exact date.

"An elderly gentleman in the congregation stood up. In a quivering high-pitched voice he exclaimed, 'Pastor, I am the man who put that tract under the rock. I had passed out about 300 tracts on the seaside that day. The tracts were not welcomed. I was treated with contempt. By the time I got to that cliff, I was very sad. I had just one more tract left, so placing it under a stone and breathing a prayer that it might fall into some welcome hands, I returned home.'

"The old man's face was aglow by the time he finished speaking and tears had thoroughly washed his face."

Grandmother took off her glasses and laid them in her lap. "We never know how much good a tract will do, so we should pass them out every chance we get."

—Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. To Athens. 2. Idolatry.
3. Jesus and the resurrection. 4.
A strange god. 5. On Mars' hill. 6.
TOTHE UNKOWN GOD. 7. God. 8.
Temples. 9. Live, move, being.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 20, 2011

A. J. GILLIES

(A true story)

"Why should I give my money to the priest?" A. J. asked, as he and his mother walked out of the Roman Catholic church.

"Because you are a sinner, my son," Mrs. Gillies answered. "When you pay the priest, he prays to Holy Mary who gets God to forgive your sins."

"Thepriest, HolyMary, then God; why can't I ask God to pardon my sins?"

"We are too sinful to talk directly to God. Only the priest can do that. And always remember to be careful with your money. We must never gamble or spend it foolishly. Giving to the church is a wise way to use money, and it pleases God."

"I like to please God, but I don't like giving my money away. I want to keep it so I will someday be a rich man."

"My dear son, it is very hard to be rich," Mrs. Gillies said with a sigh.

A. J. believed his mother told the truth when she said that it was hard to become rich, but he was determined to try. One day he told his family good-bye and sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to America. "I will become a rich man in America," he told himself.

Soon he found a good job and began saving his money. Every time he got paid, he went straight to the bank and deposited most of the money in his savings account.

A friend whoknew that A. J. wanted to get rich told him of a game room where men played games with money and the winner kept the money.

Week after week, A. J. worked hard. He thought his savings were growing very slowly. Often he felt tempted to go to the game room and see if he, too, could win a lot of money. But he remembered that his mother said, "Be careful with your money and don't ever gamble."

One day when he was getting ready for work, he noticed his clothes were looking pretty shabby. "I need to buy a new suit," he said. "That will take every penny I make this week." He bought the suit.

The following week his rent was due. "Since my rent has been raised, all my pay check will go to pay the rent," he mumbled as he looked at his week's pay check. For many weeks A. J. was unable to save money.

Finally, one day, he said. "I'm not getting ahead like this. Tonight I am going to the game room and see if I can win some money. I'll play plenty of money so I will be sure and win," he told himself. Dreaming about winning a lot of money, he took out all his savings and went to the game room. His heart beat fast as he played and his mother's words were again speaking to him, "Remember to be careful with your money, and never gamble."



OUR WEAPONS

I Samuel 17:40-41.43, 45-51

- **40** And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.
- 41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David:...
- **43** And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?...
- 45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.
- **46** This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee;... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.
- 47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands.
- 48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.
- 49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and

slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

- **50** So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.
- 51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith...

II Corinthians 10:4

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

The Message: God can make even a slingshot a more deadly weapon than a giant's sword!

Questions:

- 1. Howmany smooth stones did David pick up?
- 2. Who drew near David?
- 3. In whose name did David come?
- 4. Who would deliver the giant into David's hand?
- 5. What did David threaten to do to the giant's head?
- 6. Whose battle was it?
- 7. How many stones did it take to cause the giant to fall?
- 8. What did David do with the giant's sword?

Verse to Memorize

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God...
II Corinthians 10:4



Goliath was fully armed, and seemed indestructible. David came in the name of the Lord and with just one stone from his sling, caused the giant to fall on his face. David ran and got right on top of his enemy while he pulled the giant's heavy sword from its sheath. Then he did as he said he would—he cut Goliath's head off!

When we give our lives to God He becomes our Captain in the battles we face in life. The weapons He gives us may seem useless, but through God they are mighty and give a far greater victory than any gun, knife or sword.

The following story of the missionaries tells how they refused to carry guns but instead used the weapons God gave them and let Him fight their battle. Those weapons are truth, Divine love, prayer and our sword, the Word of God.

God gave them courage to face the great danger without natural weapons. He gave them strength to stand true. Through the mighty spiritual weapons they won many people for God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Better Than A Gun

Two brave missionaries were traveling in Africa through a part of the country belonging to a fierce head-hunting tribe. They had had a hard day crossing rivers and valleys and climbing mountains. There was no footpath and they had to cut their way through the tangle of jungle.

At nightfall they came near to a village, and pitching their tent some distance from the native huts, they soon fell asleep. Suddenly in the darkness they were awakened by the sound of a soft footstep. Someone—friend or foe—had discovered their presence,

and was stealthily approaching. For what purpose? Would tomorrow's sun see two white men's heads being carried as trophies through the village?

They could only lie still and ask God for His protection as the steps drew nearer. Then the flap of the tent moved and a voice whispered, "Have you got a gun?"

No, they did not have a gun—they were missionaries, servants of Christ, fighting in a spiritual kingdom. They were armed only with the sword of the Spirit. They thought, "Had we better pretend we have a gun and frighten the strange visitor away? No, that would be telling a lie. As followers of Jesus we must speak the truth even though it costs us our lives. How could we preach the truth of the Gospel to these people if we start by deceiving them?"

"No, my friend," one of them said aloud, "We have no gun. We have not come to harm you but to bring you the good news of salvation, to tell you about Jesus who died for sinful men everywhere."

By this time the tribesman had drawn back the flap of the tent, letting the bright moonlight stream in. He came in, but he would not believe that the white men had no gun until he had searched every inch of their tent. "All white men carry guns." he said. At last, unableto find any, he went quietly away, leaving the two men to sleep.

The next day the missionaries entered the village. The people had already heard and were amazed that two white men should come to their village without guns. It was a brave thing to do, but the messengers of Christ, the Prince of Peace and Saviour of the world, won the admiration of these vicious tribesmen. Many of them were brought to the Lord.

Now instead of headhunting, they have a peace that only the followers of Christ can have. They thanked God for sending His two brave soldiers who carried no gun. They themselves have found that the sword of the Spirit is their best weapon of warfare and defense.

—Selected

A. J. won a little money the first game and the second; but the third he lost more than he had gained from the other two games. "Be careful with your money," rang in his head. He couldn't stop now. He'd have to play again to get his money back. He did, and lost again. "Now I must play again. This time I will win and go home." He played; he lost. He played again and lost. He played again and again. The evening was soon gone and so was his money.

He walked out of the game room a penniless man, after working hard several years and saving carefully. He wanted to scream, "Why did I do it?" He wanted to say, "Mother, I'm sorry I didn't follow your advice."

He wanted to tell God he was sorry and ask forgiveness, but he couldn't do that. He was a sinner, a real bad sinner now. He was a gambler. He had no money to pay a priest to ask Mary to plead with God to forgive him. "What shall I do?" he cried in utter hopelessness.

He looked around to see if anyone heard him. In the distance he saw a young man approaching him. The man walked right up to A. J. and said, "I have a message for you. Please read it." Then, handing him a tract, he walked on down the street.

A. J. leaned against the street lamp and began reading, "The Way Of Life Made Plain," by Norman H. Camp. He read until he had finished it. "This says that God will hear my prayers and forgive my sins if I will confess them to Jesus. Lord Jesus, I confess that I have sinned against you in many ways. I am sorry with all my heart," he said.

God forgave all his sins! "I've never felt so good in all my life!" he exclaimed. "I'm sure that being rich wouldn't feel this good."

When he got back to his apartment it was 2:30 in the morning. "I must have gotten saved around 2:00

o'clock," he said, and fell into a most wonderful sleep.

A. J. lost interest in getting rich; he had something better. He bought a Bible and began reading it. He wanted to know what God's Word said to mankind. After 8 years of studying the Bible, he began teaching the real truth about God to the Lithuanians in Chicago who were Catholic. Soon, many people were saved. A. J. was their pastor for 9 years. Then he and his wife and son. John, went to Lithuania to tell his people the truth about God. "He is a loving heavenly Father who will forgive sins for anyone who repents and believes," he told them, "and it doesn't cost a penny."

When World War II was being fought in Lithuania, A. J. and his family were forced to leave the country. He went to Argentina where he found almost as many Lithuanians as were in his home country. Soon, many of them were saved. From Argentina he went to Uruguay and later to Brazil. In all these places a church was established.

During these years of working for the Lord, A. J. never forgot that a tract had showed him the way to be saved. Because of this, he came back to Chicago and began printing Gospel literature for the Lithuanian people. He printed portions of the Bible, tracts, and a monthly magazine which was sent to 10 countries. He also edited Gospelarticles which appeared weekly in a Lithuanian newspaper which had 250,000 subscribers.

A. J. did receive a lot of money but he never kept it for himself. He used it in spreading the Gospel. He was rich in good works towards God.

—Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Five. 2. The Philistine, Goliath. 3. The Lord of hosts. 4. The Lord. 5. Take it off. 6. The Lord's. 7. One. 8. Cut off the giant's head.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Feb 27, 2011

A SPIRITUAL MOTHER

(A true story)

I was lonely and sad. Everything about me seemed dark and desolate. My soul, so cast down, had forgotten that the Bible says, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee..." Ps. 55:22.

As I sat in a chair beside the window feeling sorry for myself, I heard the music of a street organ. I knew that meant that some poor person was playing music on the street, hoping that someone would give them a few pennies that they might buy some bread.

I peeked out the window and saw a small boy playing a street organ. Immediately I went out to give him some money. From the looks of his face and eyes, I thought he must be both honest and intelligent but had met much sorrow. "He is hungry," I said to myself and hurried back in. I placed bread and meat on a plate, then added a booklet. "How To Become A Christian," which had been laying on my dining table. I handed it all to him without a word. I wanted to cry. He so courageously played music to keep from starving, and I was depressed when I had everything I needed.

He interested me so that I continued watching him from my window, praying silently all the while for God to bless him. After he finished eating, he picked up the booklet and read the title. He smiled and put it carefully in his pocket.

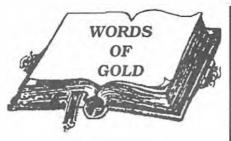
Years passed, and the little organ-grinder passed out of my mind. Later, war broke out and many of the wounded were brought to the hospital in the city where I lived.

Sometimes I visited the sick at the hospital. One day when I went in to visit, the surgeon was making his rounds. When I came by, he was standing by one of the wounded, holding the wounded man's wrist as if counting his pulse. I could tell by the doctor's expression that he didn't expect the man to live. I stopped. It looked like the seal of death was on the young man's face.

At that instant, the hospital chaplain (minister) came to the bed. He leaned over the young man anxiously, to see if life was still in him.

All at once the young man opened his eyes and asked, "Am I going to die?" The doctor left without saying a word. The chaplain, looking sad, made no answer either.

"Oh, don't be afraid to tell me. I am ready."



TWO MOTHERS

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

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

20 . . . she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying. Because I have asked him of the LORD . . .

24 . . . she took him . . . unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26 And she said. . . I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition. . .

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD. . .

I Samuel 2:18

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

Judges 4:15, 17-18, 20-21

15 And the LORD discomfited Sisera ... so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet.

17 ... to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite . . .

18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him. Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. . . .

20 Again he said unto her. Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be.

when anyman doth come and enquire of thee, and say. Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

21 Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died.

Judges 5:28

28 The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?

The Message: Hannah, the godly mother, dedicated her son to God even before his birth. Sisera's mother taught him to strive for earthly fame and glory.

Questions:

- 1. What did Hannah vow if God answered her prayer?
- 2. What did she name her son?
- 3. Where did she take him while he was still young?
- 4. Who granted Hannah her petition?
- 5. What did Samuel do for the Lord even though he was a small child?
- 6. Who got out of his chariot and ran?
- 7. Whose tent did he run to?
- 8. Who killed Sisera?
- 9. Who wondered why Sisera did not come?

Verse to Memorize

. . . a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.
Proverbs 31:30



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

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

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

This yearly journey became difficult for Hannah as she saw parents and children coming together. Finally on one trip Hannah was so troubled that she wept and would not eat. As quickly as she could get away, she went into the tabernacle to pour out her heart to God. She was crying so much she could hardly pray but she vowed that if God would give her a son she would give him to the Lord and he would be dedicated to the Lord's service all his life. Hannah prayed from the depths of her heart but made no sound; only her lips moved.

Eli, the priest, sat nearby. Seeingher lips move, but not understanding her silence, he decided she was drunk.

"No, my lord," she answered Elirespectfully; "I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord."

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

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

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

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

Each year when Hannah returned to worship she brought a little coat for Samuel. She was pleased to see that her young son joyfully performed many small duties in the tabernacle.

No doubt Sisera's mother loved her son also. But this mother did not serve God. She did not teach Sisera to serve Him. Instead, he fought against the people of God. He hoped to gain glory by defeating God's people in battle.

His mother loved to see Sisera in his speeding chariots. She was proud of her son when he returned from a battle bringing great spoil. Hannah's desires for her son looked heavenward; Sisera's mother thought only of earthly fame and wealth.

Wise, godly mothers are a gift from God. Those who have their mother's prayers to guide them are truly blessed!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"I cannot tell you, my young friend," was the chaplain's answer. "I do not know. But do you know the Saviour of all sinners? Do you know Jesus?"

"Yes. Yes. I know Him, I have just seen Him. I must tell you about it before I go. I am not wondering if I will go to Heaven."

"Have you a mother that we should notify? Can I do anything for you?" the chaplain asked.

"My mother is not here. I am going to be with her soon; she is in Heaven." As he said these words, a lovely expression settled on his face. While he rested a moment, his expression changed to a sad one. Then he added, "I have a young sister. Poor child, she will be very lonely now. But I have committed her to the Lord. I know my God will not forsake her. But I would like to send her these things."

Herested a moment, then making a special effort, he drew from under his pillow a Bible, a photograph, a worn, dirty, blood-stained booklet and a purse in which were a few gold pieces. Curious as to why he would keep such a dirty old booklet, I looked at it. "How To Become A Christian," was the title on the crumpled cover.

"That little booklet," he said, "brought salvation to me, also to my mother. When I was a little boy. I was a poor organ-grinder. I played the organ on the streets and parks to try and earn enough money to care for my sick mother and wee little sister. We were very wretched then. One evening when I was playing, a good lady gave me this little book." He had to pause to rest, then he continued, "How glad my mother was when I read it to her! Until then, no one had ever given us anything to show us the way to Heaven. No one had ever talked to us about that precious Saviour who died upon the cross to redeem us. That dear lady; we prayed for her every day. How I wish I could see her again and thank her for this booklet. . ."

I drew nearer and nearer to catch every word from the lips of the dying man, for I thought I recognized in him the little organ-grinder who had once cheered my depressed spirit. He mumbled on. Neither I, nor the chaplain could understand.

Then his speech became clearer, although still very weak. I could hear him again! He was saying, "What a beautiful dream it was! I had come to the gates of Heaven and went in . . . everything was so lovely! But I wanted to see my Saviour, then my mother. She seemed. . . there she was near Him. Then I thought of that good lady, the giver of the booklet, and I wanted to see her. But she wasn't there. I guess she had not gone over yet."

I could no longer restrain myself, and I burst into sobbing aloud. The noise aroused the dying man, and he looked at me. A flash of recognition lit up his face. Astonished, but unable to move, he said slowly, "I thank thee, Lord; I know you have heard my prayer." Those were his last words.

No words can describe the gratitude I felt in my heart, for the booklet was what God used to bring a new birth to the boy and his mother. I felt that I was their spiritual mother.

-Ormer Sorunt

Answers: 1. That she would give her son to the Lord. 2. Samuel. 3. To the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 4. The Lord. 5. He ministered before the Lord. 6. Sisera. 7. To Jael's tent. 8. Jael. 9. His mother.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 6, 2011

MAKE THE PAPER SPEAK

"Looks like our first job will be to get these Greenland Eskimos to believe that there is a God," John Beck toldhis missionary companions, Steve and Luther.

"How can we do that?" Steve questioned.

"I have an idea how we can teach them about God. Let's translate the creation story into their language and teach it to them. Think that sounds like a good one?"

"Terrific!" Steve shouted.

The next day, John began writing the creation story into the Eskimos' own language. Steve and Luther studied the language so they could communicate better with the natives.

In a few months the three men gave their first lesson about the Creator of the universe. The Eskimos laughed. "Our land has always been here," they said. "It was here long before the Eskimo fathers."

The missionaries went home and prayed. Then they went from house to house, helping the sick and comforting the depressed. Whenever they could get the Eskimos to listen, they told the beautiful story of a loving God who made everything. In some homes the Eskimos sat very quietly. This encouraged the missionaries. They thought the people were beginning

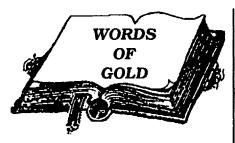
to believe in God. Month after month passed as the missionaries trudged through rain, snow, ice, and sleet to help the Eskimos. It had been 3 years since they had come to Greenland. "Maybe there will soon be a lot of Christians in this place," Steve said one day as he returned from teaching.

"Things are looking promising," John agreed.

Soon afterwards the Eskimos got into a great fight and many were left badly beaten. The missionaries prayed harder than ever. They continued telling the creation story. They thought that someday the Eskimos would believe that there was a God, and that then they would be ready to hear the story of His Son, Jesus.

John decided to translate the life of Christ. Day after day he worked, translating. The language of the Eskimos had not yet been written. First, John decided what words of their language should be used for the English words. Then he had to spell the words from the different sounds he heard in the words. He worked hard for many, many months translating the story.

"I'll be back late this afternoon," Steve said as he put on his snowshoes and fur-lined coat. "I'm going over to talk with Kayarnak today. I think he's keeping some of the other men from believing in God."



THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 119:89

89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Isaiah 40:8

8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Matthew 5:18

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Matthew 24:35

35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

I Peter 1:25

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Jeremiah 15:16

16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

I Peter 2:2

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

II Timothy 3:16

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

II Peter 1:21

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Psalm 119:11

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Colossians 3:16

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Psalm 119:105

105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:130

130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

The Message: The Word of God is the only safe foundation to build our life on. It will never change or pass away.

Questions:

- 1. For how long is God's Word settled in heaven?
- 2. The grass withers and flowers fade but what will stand forever?
- 3. What did Jeremiah say he did when he found God's words?
- 4. How is all Scripture given?

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Verse to Memorize

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. Matthew 24:35



Our Bible is the Word of God. It is the most valuable book because God talks to us through the Bible. There is great power in its words. By reading it we learn about God, His greatpower, love and will. Those who obey its commands are changed into God's own likeness.

John Paton worked among the cannibals, teaching them about the true God. His work was very dangerous and for a long time it seemed that no one would receive the good news he brought.

One day while he 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 howGod's book speaks our own Aniwan words. Listen to these beautiful words, tellingwhy 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 alway." So little by little the savages learned that the missionary was not alone. They could see by his life that God wasworking 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, is a Gospel in largest capitals which all can read."

It is hard to imagine a time when Bibles were not available. Now anyone who wants a Bible can find a way to get one. If they have no money there are many places to get one for free. How thankful we should be for the privilege of reading God's Word at any time. Many have died so we might have this opportunity. Do you value your Bible? Do you read it often?

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Hope you find him home," John answered. "Knowing him, he's probably already out doing some mischief."

As he waved good-bye to Steve, Luther spoke. "We came here five years ago today yet we see no change in the Eskimos. I would pull out of here tomorrow if I went by what I see. I believe there has been a change, although I can't see any."

"There has been some change, all right," John assured him. "They were at least friendly when we came. I think now they would like to kill all three of us!"

"Well, I had better go and see that boy with the measles. See you tonight," Luther said, and closed the door behind himself.

John bolted the door and breathed a prayer for Steve and Luther's safety. Only the scratching of his pen on paper and the crackling of the fire could be heard in the little cabin as John worked. "Jesus cried, Forgive them, for they know not what they do,' "Forgive, I don't know the word for..."

Bang! Bang! Someone was beating on the cabin door. Before he could get off his stool, the door fell from its hinges and hit the floor. Instantly John was surrounded by a mob of angry men. Kayarnak was with them.

One picked up his pen, another his bottle of ink. Other dirty hands fingered the precious papers on which he was writing the story of Jesus.

"What is this?" demanded Kayarnak, looking at the paper he held in his rough hands. "What are these black marks?"

John explained as best he could that what he called black marks were letters. "These letters make words. They are the same words that we speak." He talked as long as he could about letters and words, wishing for a chance to back himself into a corner. But he was sitting at his table and the Eskimos were all around him. His

manuscripts were precious, but John was thankful they were mauling the papers instead of him.

Kayarnak stood looking at the paper a long time, as if thinking through all that John had said. At last he exclaimed, "This piece of paper hears, and remembers, and says words?"

"That paper has a lot to say to you," John answered.

"Then make it talk," hedemanded, "or else... we'll. . ." All the men began yelling in agreement and laughing at the impossibility.

John began reading the page. Then he read another and another, hoping that the story would calm the men enough so they would not kill him. The men became so quiet, he feared they were preparing to jump on him, so he looked up.

Kayarnak's dark face was clouded with grief, tears pouring down his weathered cheeks. "Don't stop," he cried, "Makethepaper talkmore. I want to know more about this Jesus."

Had the stones outside of John's cabin cried out as Kayarnak did, John would not have been any more surprised. He read on and on about thelove of Jesus, until Kayarnak cried out for mercy and was saved.

When Steve and Luther returned, tired, weary and disheartened from their work, they found John praying with Kayarnak, and a dozen Eskimos looking on very respectfully.

After Kayarnak was saved, he helped in the translation, and was areal leader; bringing many to salvation. Soon, there were 50 Christians, then 100, then 2000. Years later there were thousands of believers among the Eskimos of Greenland.

—Selected

Answers: 1. Forever. 2. The Word of God. 3. He ate them. 4. By inspiration of God. 5. Doctrine, Reproof, Correction, Righteousness. 6. Word. 7. Lamp, Light. 8. Light, Understanding.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 13, 2011

LIONS IN THE ROAD!

We knew there were lions around, but we felt fairly safe on my big 500 c. c. motorcycle. Deng, my African friend, was riding on the seat behind, and I was driving the motorcycle as best I could over the rough dirt road in the half darkness of early morning.

We had left our S. I. M. station at Kabus Bridge before the sun rose; so we wouldn't have to travel in the fierce heat of a dry-season day. Deng and I often traveled together to preach the Gospel to people who were serving false gods and living in sin. We wanted to tell them that Jesus loved them so much that He died on the cross for them.

As we roared along, kicking up dust behind us, I remembered one day when my wife and I saw 5 lions coming toward us as we rounded a bend. Only we weren't riding a motorcycle; we were walking! We looked around for trees to climb. There weren't any. We couldn't turn and run—theywould have jumped on us at once. We had no guns. We prayed quietly for God's protection. (And I hope that you always pray for the safety of your missionaries. You never know what they are experiencing.)

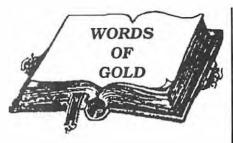
They kept coming closer. The only thing we could do was to walk toward them. Then they stopped. God must have spoken to them. Suddenly they bounded off to the side of the road and stood there roaring at us. As we walked by, it was as if some unseen Hand was holding them back.

While I was thinking about that frightening experience, we had been riding down a steep, rocky hill. I had to slow down, so we wouldn't slide in the loose stones.

Suddenly, I felt Deng's knuckles digintomy sides, and I heard him hiss in my ear. I looked up to see four eyes gleaming in the light of the headlamp. I jammed on the brakes as I saw the outline of 2 full grown lions. They were standing only 15 yards away, right in the middle of the road. The first rays of the sun were lighting the sky, and I could see that one was a hungry looking female, and the other a big male, his "collar" of fur bristling fiercely around his head.

Deng hung on tight, as we put our feet down on the road to steady the motorcycle, which I kept running. What should we do? I prayed that God would show us. I thought about how these lions were like satan. The Bible says he goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We have to ask God to keep us from satan, just as Deng and I needed to be rescued from these lions.

The male lion decided to act. He disappeared silently into the long grass beside the road. "That's bad," I thought. "The male lion always stalks



LIONS OBEY GOD

Daniel 6:16-23, 25-26

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 Then was the king exceeding

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

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

26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

The Message: God has power over the fiercest creatures to restrain them from hurting His trusting children.

Questions:

- 1. Where did they cast Daniel?
- 2. Who did the king say would deliver Daniel?
- 3. What did they put over the mouth of the den?
- 4. Who could not sleep that night?
- 5. Where did the king go very early the next morning?
- 6. What did he ask?
- 7. What did the angel do?
- 8. Why was Daniel not hurt?
- 9. The king decreed that all men in his kingdom should tremble and fear before whom?

Verse to Memorize

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths. . . Daniel 6:22



Daniel had been taken captive when he was young and brought to Babylon. The Babyloniansworshipped idols but Daniel purposed in his heart to always worship God alone. He became a man of great faith and prayer. Whenhe had to choose between praying to God or facing death for his beliefs, he was faithful to God.

God blessed Daniel for his faithfulness. When Darius, the new King of Persia came to power he appointed Daniel as one of three presidents to oversee his kingdom. He was so efficient and trustworthy that Darius decided togive him sole administrative authority over all the kingdom.

This made the other rulers jealous. Theywatched him closely so they could find some fault with him. But Daniel was neither corrupt nor negligent. Finally they devised a scheme to trap Daniel by making it illegal for him to worship God. They convinced Darius to make it mandatory for all his subjects to worship him for the next 30 days and anyone caught worshipping anyone else must be thrown into a den of hungry lions.

Daniel was a man of prayer. He faithfully prayed to his God three times a day. When Daniel heard about the law he did as he always did. He went to his house, opened his window toward Jerusalem, kneeled down on his knees and prayed and gave thanks to God.

His enemics saw him praying—their scheme had worked. They rushed to the king to let him know that Daniel had disabeyed his law. The king realized too late that the princes had tricked him into passing

such a law in order to destroy Daniel, his most faithful servant. He worked feverishly to find some way to save Daniel. But at sundown the wicked men came to demand the execution of the law, saying it could not be repealed.

So the king gave the commandment and Daniel was brought to the den of lions. "Your God will deliver you," the king told Daniel. Then he was thrown in with the hungry lions and a huge rock was put over the mouth of the den. There was no way for Daniel to escape!

The king went home vexed at himself for signing such law. His heart was so heavy he could not eat or sleep. At the crack of dawn he hurried to the den of lions and cried out anxiously, "Is your God able to deliver you from the lions?"

The king was overjoyed to hear Daniel reply, "My God sent His angel and shutthe lion's mouths! They have not hurt me."

While the king spent a restless night in his palace, an angel of God kept Daniel company all night. He enlightened the dark den and shut the lions' mouths, so Daniel could not have been in a safer place!

King Darius ordered Daniel's release. He had suffered the penalty of the law; his enemies could not say the law had not been fulfilled. Daniel was a free man. They brought him out of the den and when they examined him they saw that he had not been hurt in any way.

The king then ordered Daniel's enemies to be thrown to the lions. They did not have God's protection. They were immediately torn to pieces by the hungry lions.

"The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." Psalms 34:7 Those who boldly trust in God to protect them as they stand faithful to Him will always find Him to be right there to help them. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

the prey, chasing it towards the female, who does the killing. He's going to circle round and come up behind us."

If we had turned around, the lioness would have jumped on our backs. And if she had missed the first leap, we still couldnot havegotten away up the steep hill in time. I moved a little closer. She didn't budge. I blew the horn; I raced the engine; I flicked the headlight dimmer switch up and down. But she stood her ground. I didn't know how close her mate was behind us by now. Then she put her head close to the road and switched her tail back and forth like a cat watching a mouse. I knew she was going to spring on us.

"Oh God, help us now!" I breathed in prayer. I quickly opened the throttle wide, and headed the motorcycle straight at the lioness. For a second she watched us; then suddenly turned around and ran down the road. I knew I had to keep after her, or she might turn on us—and maybe her mate was following. The lioness kept running down the road, almost like a galloping donkey, with us roaring behind her for all we were worth. Then she wheeled off into the grass and disappeared. And we kept sailing right on, thankful for the Lord's deliverance.

"Deng," I said, when we finally stopped for a rest," this reminds me of the Bible verse, 'Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.'" Deng pulled his robe close around him and blinked his dark eyes. The next time the devil tempted him to sin, he would remember that verse.

—Sudan Witness

"My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lion's mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; ... He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." Daniel 6:22, 27.

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Answers: 1. Into a den of lions.
2. Daniel's God. 3. A stone. 4.
The king. 5. To the den of lions.
6. "Is your God able to deliver you from the lions?" 7. Shut the lions' mouths. 8. Because he believed in his God. 9. The God of Daniel.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 20, 2011

ONLY ONE TALENT

Mrs. Marcy, the dean of women, stood in the doorway of the mission school breathing the fresh air as her weary body leaned against the door casing. All day she had been listening to life stories of the new students. Some were tragic, some strange, some amusing. All day she had been mentally placing each girl in classes she felt they could handle. Already she was so weary she wished it were night so she could stretch out on her hard springless bed. Hard as it was, it would feel good.

Hearing a crackling of branches, she looked down the jungle path. A tall, but manly-looking, awkward girl was approaching. Her long faded skirt flopped sloppily around her bare ankles. Across her shoulder rested a long stick from which hung a small red bundle. "All her personal possessions," Mrs. Marcy thought.

As the girlcame nearer, Mrs. Marcy saw that the face was disfigured; no nose. From two large ugly openings where the nose should have been, water was oozing.

Mrs. Marcy turned away to avoid the sight, then straightened herself as the girl stopped in front of her. "Why did you come?" she asked without thinking.

"School. I want to learn."

"How far have you come?" she asked, thinking she might send her home.

"Two hundred miles."

"Did you walk all the way?"

Her head nodded "Yes," and her weary eyes showed it was the truth.

"Where did you sleep?"

The girl pointed to the ground, as if too tired to talk.

"I can't send this girl back into the jungle. Why, it's almost night." she thought. She led the girl into the kitchen. She could not speak, so waved the girl to eat the plate of leftover dinner she placed on the table. Quietly the girl ate as if she had eaten nothing since she left the place she called home.

Mrs. Marcy led the girl upstairs where a row of cots filled the long, long room. Under each cot were the belongings of each girl. At the foot hung the meager wardrobe—if there was a change of clothing. Some, who had been there before, were sitting on cots chatting, but silence reigned as the strange figure was led down the aisle to the last cot in the corner.

"You'd better go right to bed and rest. We'll talk about school tomorrow."

She wanted the girl to rest. She needed time to think. Could she spare the space, when there were so many others wanting in the school? What good could there be in educating this one? The graduates from the mission school went out to make the world a better place for others. Some got good jobs and repaid the school. This kept the school going for future students.



ONE TALENT

П Kings 5:1-11, 13-14

- 1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man ... but he was a leper.
- 2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.
- 3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.
- **4** And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.
- 5 And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel ...
- 6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying ... I have therewith sent Naaman myservant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.
- 7 And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God
- 8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying ... let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.
- 9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

- 10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.
- 11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away ...
- 13 And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?
- 14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan ... and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

The Message: Although she was a little slave girl in a strange land, she knew the one true God. By sharing her knowledge, this powerful man and his family came to know God also.

Questions:

- 1. Who was Naaman?
- 2. What was wrong with him?
- 3. Who had the Syrians brought back captive from Israel?
- 4. Who did she say could cure the leprosy?
- 5. Who sent a letter to the king of Israel?
- 6. What did the king do after he read it?
- 7. Who told the king to send Naaman to him?
- 8. What did he tell Naaman to do?
- 9. What happened when he obeyed?

Verse to Memorize

But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Luke 6:27



The Syrians lived in the country north of Israel. They sometimes attacked the cities of Israel and took anything they wanted from the Israelites in their raids. Sometimes they took people and even children for slaves.

In one raid a little girlwas captured. She was taken, along with the other captives, to Syria. Here they were sold as slaves. Naaman, the rich captain of the Syrian army, saw the little girl and bought her to serve his wife.

No doubt the little girl's parents grieved over the loss of their little daughter and prayed for her safety. They would probably never see her again but they knew God would keep her safe though they could not. The parents did not know that God would use their little daughter to accomplish great good. She became a little missionary, though it was against her will.

Great trouble struck. Naaman discovered that he had the dreaded, deadly disease called leprosy! The king of Syria was very sorry when he heard the news. Naaman was a brave captain of his army.

The little slave girl, too, was very sad. She remembered Elisha, the prophet of Israel, who God used to do many miracles. She had faith to believe that Elisha would heal her master, Naaman. Bravely she told his wife, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would heal him of his leprosy."

Naaman would have gladly given all he owned to be well again. When his wife told him what the little girl said he hurried to tell the king.

This was good news to the king. He wrote a letter to the king of Israel, asking him to cure Naaman. When Naaman delivered the letter to the king of Israel he was greatly troubled and tore his clothes to show his distress. He knew he could not heal Naaman and decided that the king of Syria was only looking for an excuse to make war against him.

But Elisha heard about Naaman and told the king to send him to his house. The kingwasrelieved to direct Naaman there.

When Naaman and his servants came, Elisha did not even bother to go out to meet the great man. Instead he sent his servant to tell Naaman, "Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then your leprosy will be gone and your skin will become new!"

This should have been wonderful news to Naaman. But Naaman was a proud man. He was used to being treated with dignity and honor. He was insulted that Elisha had not even come out to meet him. "Why should I bathe in that muddy river when I can bathe in the clear waters of our rivers at home?" he asked.

Naaman was ready to leave but his servants knew that dipping seven times in a river could never cure him. He must obey the prophet if he ever hoped to be well. Finally, at their persuasion, Naaman did as Elisha instructed. God honored his obedience and healed him!

The little captive maid proved that even a child has a God-given talent and in difficult situations can be a faithful witness for Him. She did not hide her talent but instead let love conquer. Ignoring her own pain of being taken from her home she shared her knowledge of God's healing power so Naaman would not suffer. Her tragedy brought great good to Naaman—the knowledge of the one true God.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Mrs. Marcy found no place in her heart to refuse the girl, although others were turned away because of no room. Many waited. Every 3 months only the better students remained, others left to make room for the new ones.

Three months passed. The tall, awkward jungle girl was called into the office. She had not learned letters much less learned to read. The dull brain had, however, learned some songs, and God in His kindness had given her the ability to sing.

Mrs. Marcy told her as gently and as quickly as she could that she would have to leave. The girl stood speechless, as if dazed; she had been so happy!

"Go?" she asked and pointed in the direction of the jungle, "Go home?"

Mrs. Marcy nodded. She had meant to say kind words, but a big lump in her throatchoked back the words. She stood in the heart-searching silence, fingering the papers on her desk.

Finally the girl turned, went through the open door and up the stairs to the roomful of cots. The few girls who had not gone to class watched as she put her scanty belongings in the red cloth, tied it to the stick she had brought, put the stick over her shoulder and, without a word, passed down the stairs by the office door where Mrs. Marcy stood at the desk. The approaching footsteps told that the girl was leaving.

Mrs. Marcy wanted to tell her good-bye, but the lump was still in her throat. Quickly reaching her, she took the girl's hand, pressing it as they walked together to the edge of the school grounds. There, their hands slowly unclasped. The girl lifted her right hand as if to wave, then passed slowly on down the path that led to the jungle. The dean watched the drooping shoulders, and the lagging steps. A few times the girl turned, waved a farewell, and was soon lost in the shadows.

Two years passed.

An urgent message came. It said, "Please send a missionary to our village. We have never had a missionary and we wish to hear the Gospel. Please come." The school had never been able to spare a person to go, but this time it was possible. Soon, a missionary was on his way to the village 200 miles away.

Many days he was led through the jungle by a guide from the village. Arriving just as the sun was setting, he came upon the whole village sitting on the hillside, waiting. Eagerly they watched the missionary's approach. A few went out to welcome him and led him to the group.

"I'll teach you to sing," he said, and quoted a simple chorus. Their eyes lit up with understanding.

"We know that," he heard one say in hushed tones.

Thinking hehad notheard right, the missionary started the chorus slowly so they could learn it. Soon there rose from the hillside the most beautiful music he had heard in a long time.

"We'll learn another," he said, repeating another and beginning to sing. Again that group of 300 natives took up the words.

"Where didyou learn these songs? I thought you had never had a missionary."

Immediately many faces turned, fingers pointed to a crouched figure in the center of the group. There was the sent-away, forgotten girl! Her disfigured face with the 2 ugly holes where a nose should have been, came into full view. She had prepared the whole village to receive the Gospel. She had no personality, but the one talent she had, she used for the Lord!

—Jeanie Howland

Answers: 1. Captain of the host of Syria. 2. He was a leper. 3. A little maid. 4. A prophet in Samaria. 5. The king of Syria. 6. He tore his clothes. 7. Elisha. 8. Go wash in the Jordan seven times. 9. He was healed.





Vol. 61, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 27, 2011

THOU SHALT BE FED

Duncan was a tall, wiry Scotsman who had come to China a year ago as a missionary. Already he was wanting to try something impossible.

In those days in China, a new station was seldom opened without a riot. Duncan felt called of God to open a new one in Nanking, one of the largest cities in China. How could a man with so little of the language, and only one year of experience, hope to succeed?

He consulted the older brethren. After some hesitation and much prayer, they encouraged him to go ahead. Duncan gathered his supplies and some money and hired a Chinaman to do his cooking and cleaning.

After traveling two weeks in a house-boat, they reached Nanking. The authorities were surprised to hear a foreigner had come, and determined to make it impossible for him to stay. They invited him to the city hall and entertained him with Oriental courtesy, while the police officers were hurrying all over the city warning innkeepers that if they dared to harbor the foreigner, their inns would be razed to the ground and they would be cast into jail.

As the day wore on, Duncan bade his civic hosts farewell and started out to find lodging. But hotel after hotel seemed to be full. No room, nor a bed was to be had. Just before dark he found himself at the central Drum Tower of the Buddhist temple. He greeted the Buddhist priest in charge. "I am a stranger in your honorable city," Duncan began, "I'll pay you well to stay the night in the tower."

"Ofcourse," answered the priest, seeing his chance to earn an honest dollar. No civic threat had come to him.

Duncan's bedroom on the second story was open to the four winds, and had plenty of fresh air. The rats ran over his quilt while he tried to sleep. This didn't scare Duncan. All day long, with Gospels and tracts in hand, he went about the city. Once in a while someone would stop and listen while he told the Gospel story.

A couple of weeks later on a quiet back street, he found a carpenter willing to rent half his shop, if Duncan would pay in advance. He must also pay for the cost of the wall to divide the shop, and the necessary furniture, which the carpenter would make. Duncan's little room was 6 feet wide and 20 feet long. At least it was wide enough to have a door that opened to the street.

This was the first missionary home and chapel in Nanking. Benches pushed against either wall of the narrow room and a table and chair at the far end outfitted this chapel and home. These things made considerable inroads into his limited supply of funds.



THOU SHALT BE FED

Mark 6:34-46

34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

35 And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed:

36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.

37 He answered and said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?

38 He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

39 And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

40 And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties.

41 And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

42 And they did all eat, and were filled.

43 And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.

44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

45 And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people.

46 And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

The Message: Jesus proved that God can provide food for us when there seems to be no way.

Questions:

- 1. What did the people remind Jesus of?
- 2. What kind of place were they in?
- 3. Why did the disciples want Jesus to send the people away?
- 4. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do?
- 5. How much food did they have?
- 6. What did Jesus do before He gave the food to the people?
- 7. How many baskets of fragments were there?
- 8. How many men had eaten?
- 9. Why did Jesus go into a mountain?

Verse to Memorize

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalms 37:3



Jesus knew His time on earth would be short. It was important that His disciples should be taught the work of spreading the Gospel. One day He sent the twelve out to tell the Jewish people the good news of the kingdom of Heaven and to heal the sick. When the disciples returned they told Jesus about the people who had been healed and where all the Gospel had been taught. As many more people heard about Jesus they came from everywhere to hear and see Him.

There was always a crowd around Jesus because so many people were eager to hear His words and have their loved ones healed. He did not have time to rest or even to eat. Finally Jesus called His twelve disciples to Him and said, "Come with Me to a quiet place. We must rest awhile."

So they sailed to the other side of the sea to a desert place far from any city. But somehow the people foundout where He was going. When He reached shore there was already a great crowd gathered! The people had followed from the other side of the sea.

As tired as He was, Jesus felt sorry for the people who were so hungry to hear the good news of the Gospel. Looking out over the multitude He said, "They are like sheep that have no shepherd!"

All day Jesus sat teaching the people about the kingdom of Heaven and healing the sick. Evening came and the people still stayed. They seemed to forget their need for food and shelter for the night. The disciples reminded Jesus that they were in the desert and the people had a long way to go back home. "Send the people away," the disciples told Him, "so they can buy

food in the towns and villages as they go home. They have nothing to eat!"

To their surprise Jesus answered, "We must feed them before sending them away." Turning to Philip, He asked, "Where shall we find bread, that all these people may eat?"

Philip looked at the people and shook his head. "If we should buy two hundred pennyworth of bread," he answered, "there would not be enough for each one to have a small piece."

There were five thousand men in this great crowd besides all the women and children. They had left home without thought of food. They did not know they would walk so far to find Jesus. One boy, however, had a lunch basket with five little loaves of barley bread and two small fishes in it that his thoughtful mother had packed for him.

When the boy heard Jesus and the disciples talking about what to do, he went up to Andrew. Showing him his lunch basket, he offered to give the food to Jesus. Andrew told Jesus.

"Howmany loaves are there in the basket?" Jesus asked.

"Only five, and two small fishes," Andrew said. "But what will that be among so many people?"

"Bring it to me," Jesus replied. He then told the disciples, "Make the people sit down in groups of fifty and a hundred."

Jesus took the loaves and fishes, gave thanks, and broke the food into small pieces. He filled a basket for each disciple to pass among the hungry people.

When the crowd had eaten all they wanted, Jesus had the disciples gather up the food that was left. There were twelve baskets full!

Mr. Duncan was not anxious when there was no more money for food. He trusted God to provide food for himself and the cook. He went right on with his work knowing that if he trusted in the Lord and did good they would be fed as the Scripture said. His example preached the truth more effectively than any spoken sermon could have!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

The brethren he had left were making every effort to send supplies to him, but were unable. Often though, even in the night, they prayed for Duncan.

There came a day when Duncan's cook had to spend the last dollar for food. That morning, before the missionary went out for his day's work, the cook, in great distress, said to him, "What shall we do now, the money has come to an end!"

With a quiet smile, Duncan replied as he departed, "We shall trust in the Lord, and do good, so shall we dwell in the land, and verily we shall be fed." (Psalm 37:3.)

After supper that night the cook said, "Sir, I have saved up\$5.00 from mywage and I want you to take it and use it."

Looking at him closely, Mr. Duncan asked, "Are you thinking that funds will soon be coming from Mr. Taylor and that then I shall repayyou? If so, that would be a loan, and as you know, we never go into debt."

"No," replied the cook, "I have been listening to you each evening in the little chapel, and I have determined to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus. This is my first gift to Him for His work." So on this unexpected \$5.00, Duncan and his cook lived a long time. But, naturally, it came to an end. Then the cook asked, "Now, what shall we do? Your money is gone, and mine, too."

"What shall we do? We shall trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall we dwell in the land, and verily we shall be fed," and Duncan went about his work as usual.

The brethren were getting more and more worried about him. Then came Mr. Rudland, from still another mission station in China. He was just the man they needed to take money to Duncan. Mr. Rudland set out on his errand in a little hired boat. The wind caused them to make remarkably rapid progress.

The boatman said, "Foreign teacher, I think your God must be the God who controls the wind and waves." This opened the door for the missionary to preach to the boatman. In just two days they came to a bend where the great canal had burst its banks and its bed was dry. "What can I do now?" Mr. Rudland asked himself.

He went ashore and found that he had reached a point opposite to Nanking. By traveling overland he could be at Nanking in just two more days, making the trip in four days while Duncan had taken two weeks. He arrived in Nanking on the afternoon of the very day when the cook's last dollar was spent.

Although the city was one of the largest in China, he had no difficulty finding the home of the only foreigner in the city. When the cook opened the door he nearly fell on Mr. Rudland's neck for joy. Forgetting his Chinese politeness, he blurted out, "Have you brought any money, we are at the very end of everything!"

While Mr. Rudland was resting, the cook went to the market. When supper was ready, he stood at the doorway watching for Duncan to return. Towering head and shoulders above most of the citizens, it was easy to see him several blocks away. When the cook finally saw Duncan, he ran as fast as he could go to tell the good news. The calm missionary put his hand on the man's shoulder and replied, "Didn't I tell you? It is always right "to trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall we dwell in the land, and verily we shall be fed." -The Gospel Gleaners

Answers: 1. Sheep. 2. A desert place. 3. Because they had nothing to eat. 4. Give the people something to eat. 5. Five loaves and two fishes. 6. He blessed the food. 7. Twelve. 8. Five thousand. 9. To pray.



Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Apr, 3, 2011

ANNA'S NEW HOME

Anna placed her fifth grade math book on the top shelf of the rickety old cupboard, and held her hands over the open oven door. Her mother, who was mending Anna's only Sunday dress, sat with her back against the side of the stove. It was the only bit of heat in the basement apartment, and to keep warm, one needed to be almost touching it. The snowstorm that had buried East St. Louis last night made staying warm even more difficult.

Anna's blue eyes clouded, "Why is Dad so mean?" she asked.

"He doesn't have Jesus in his heart, that's why," the Christian woman answered.

"Oh, how I wish he would go to church so Jesus could change him," Anna sighed.

"I do too, my dear, but until that day, we will go alone. We must be happy and rejoice in our salvation, regardless of what he does."

Anna and her mother faithfully went to church. The pastor, Bro. A. M. Trotter, taught them to believe the Bible and that they must always have faith in God.

Anna's Sunday school teacher taught the children about God's great love. She taught them how to pray to Him when they needed help.

"Can't you walk any faster?" Anna said to her mother as they were going

home from church. "We used to walk home in ten minutes, now it takes half an hour."

"I know, I know. But I just have to stop and rest," Mother saidvery weakly. "I'd never make it if I didn't."

Mother grew weaker and weaker. Finally the day came when she could not walk to church. "You'll have to go alone," she told Anna.

Anna did go alone, but when she got back, her angry father said, "You may not go to church again unless your mother goes."

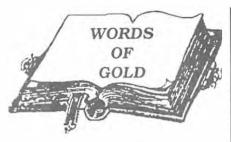
The next Sunday Mother was too weak to go, so Anna stayed home. The following Sunday was the same. "Do you know why Anna is missing Sunday school?" her teacher asked Bro. Trotter.

"Yes, I visited in their home and her father has refused to let her come alone."

The teacher wanted Anna to continue learning about Jesus. She prayed. God showed her something to do. Monday, when Anna left the schoolyard, she met her Sunday school teacher.

"Mind if I walk you home?" the teacher asked.

As they walked to Anna's apartment, the teacher taught Annayesterday's Bible lesson. The next Monday the teacher met her again and walked her home. Every Monday the teacher



OUR MANSION

II Corinthians 5:1

1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

John 14:1-4; 11-15

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so. I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
- 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- **12** Verily, verily, I say unto you. He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do: because I go unto my Father.
- 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- **14** If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
- 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Psalm 23:5

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Psalm 31:19

19 Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee: which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

I Corinthians 2:9

9 But as it is written. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him

Hebrews 11:16

16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

The Message: Jesus died to give us eternal life. He has prepared a wonderful home for us to always live with Him!

Questions:

- I. Who built our "house not made with hands"?
- 2. Where is our eternal home?
- 3. Let not your heart be
- 4. What did Jesus say were in His Father's house?
- 5. Jesus said He went to prepare what for us?
- 6. How will we get to our new home?
- 7. What was prepared in the presence of his enemies?
- 8. What better country did they desire?
- 9. What has God prepared for them?

Verse to Memorize

In my Father's house are many mansions . . . John 14:2



Jesus knew that in just a few days He would be arrested by His enemies and crucified. He warned the disciples that He would soon be taken away from them. By telling them before it happened it would help them understand that God was in control of all the events. He was allowing this tragedy because of His great love for all men and the disciples themselves.

These men had left their homes, their occupations and everything to follow Jesus and spend all their time with Him. I'm sure they could not imagine life without Him to comfort and instruct them.

So Jesus tried to explain that it was best for them that He should go back to His Father. Then the Father would send the Holy Spirit to comfort them and always be a personal Guide to each one of them.

"Don't let your hearts be troubled." He assured them. Then He shared the wonderful news that after He was crucified He would go back to His Father in order to prepare a place for them to live with Him eternally.

He wanted them to know it would be a very special place, beyond their ability to understand. "In my Father's house are many mansions!" He told them. Not just an ordinary home—but a mansion! And the best part was that there they would be with Him forever and ever.

When Godcreated man Heintended for him to always live in the beautiful Garden of Eden where there was no sin. sickness or sorrow of any kind. But when Adam and Eve listened to the devil and disobeyed God's commandment, sin entered their hearts. God had warned them that if they ate the forbidden fruit they would surely die. Though they lived

physically for many years yet on that day they died spiritually. They could no longer talk to God face to face. Sin and guilt separated them from Him.

But, as John 3:16 tells us: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son. that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus came to earth knowing His mission was to teach men the will of God and then to die as a sacrifice for their sins. Only then could men receive forgiveness and be restored to God's favor.

Everyone must die. After that we will face the judgment. Hebrews 9:27 says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" We have no choice about that. But we do have a choice where we will live eternally. Jesus wants us to always be with Him in Heaven. He paid the full price for us to go there and live with Him in the mansion that He has prepared for us!

Every one wantstogoto Heaven and it is God's desire that we all live there eternally. He sent Jesus to show us the way to obtain eternal life. But unless we follow Him we will never reach Heaven. Those who are following the ways of the world, choosing to live in sin and selfishness. will never inherit an eternal home in Heaven.

Hell is horrible beyond description. It was prepared for the devil and his angels, not for men. Yet so many are refusing to follow Jesus to Heaven so they can escape that awful place. When we make our choice, God must honor it, just as Adam and Eve chose to disobey and suffered the consequences. The devil intends to keep us from inheriting our mansion.

Anna's own father cruelly took away the only place she had to call home. God miraculously gave Anna an address where He had prepared someone to care for her. She had to follow the instructions to get there before she found the love and security He had prepared for her. We must follow His instructions if we hope to live at last in the beautiful mansion He has prepared for us.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

taught Anna the Bible lesson as they walked together.

The day came when Anna's mother died. The funeral was held on the south side of the town. Bro. Trotter comforted Anna as best he could. Her Sunday school teacher sat beside her during the funeral and held her hand.

After the funeral, Anna was left a shortway from her house to walk home alone. When she got to the apartment, her few clothes were in a sack outside the door. Her drunken father shouted, "You can not live here any longer. I don't want to ever see you again."

Anna thought for a moment that something inside her was bursting. She knew her father was mean, but she never dreamed he would turn her out into the street.

She had no idea where her kind Sunday school teacher lived nor the pastor. If only Mother were here. "Mother, Mother. I can't get along without you," she cried softly as she picked up her clothes and started back towards the cemetery.

Her ragged coat sleeves were wet from rubbing the tears off her face by the time she found her mother's grave. She threw herself across the fresh mound of dirt that separated her from her mother. The loose dirt packed into the wet coat sleeves, but she didn't notice. "Oh, Mother, Mother, what will I do? Where will I go?" she cried.

As shelay the resobbing, sheremembered the teacher saying, "Always pray when you need help." Then she thought of a verse the teacher had taught her on the way home from school. "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

At that instant she reached her dirty hand into her pocket. Her fingers touched a piece of paper. Pulling it out, she read, "If you ever need help. please come to this address."

"A place to go!" she shouted. Themileandone-half back seemed like nothing. East St. Louis was the only place where she knew she could find a policeman. She found one and gave him the note.

After a little investigation, he set out to help her find the address. It was almost dark by the time they found the house.

Anna knocked at the door. A kind looking woman answered the door. "So you are the little girl the Lord has sent? Come right in. I have supper ready for you," she said.

After the policeman was gone, Anna asked, "When did you put that note in my pocket?"

"I did not write a note."

"Then who did? It was in my pocket. How did you know I was coming?"

"My child, I know nothing about a note. This morning in prayer the Lord spoke to me saying that He was sending a little girl for me to raise. This is your home as long as you wish to stay."

Anna was happy in her new home. She received love like her own mother's love and was provided for better than her father would have done.

When she was grown she went as a missionary to China, where she served God for many, many years. She told the Chinese people that Jesus showed His love by what He did for others. She told how Christians must show their love to others by helping others. Sometimes she told them about her Christian mother, her kind Sunday school teacher, and the dedicated saint who gave her a home and a mother's love when she had lost both. All of these were excellent examples of being like Jesus.

—Written by Charlotte Huskey, as told by A. M. Trotter

Answers: 1. God. 2. In the heavens. 3. Troubled. 4. Many mansions. 5. A place for us. 6. He will come again to take us. 7. A table. 8. An heavenly. 9. A city.

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Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Apr. 10, 2011

HE TOOK MY WHIPPING FOR ME

Years ago there was a certain school which no teacher could handle. The boys were so rough that the teachers resigned.

A young, gray-eyed teacher applied, and the old director scanned him, then said. "Young feller, do you know what you're asking? An awful beating! Every teacher we have had for years has had to take it."

He replied, "I'll risk it."

Finally, he appeared for duty. One big fellow, 'Tom', whispered, "I won't need any help, I can lick him myself."

The teacher said. "Good morning, boys, we have come to conduct school!" They yelled at the top of their voices. "Now, I want a good school, but confess I do not know how unless you help me. Suppose we have a few rules. You tell me and I will write them on the blackboard."

One fellow yelled, "No stealin'!" Another yelled, "On time." Finally ten rules appeared.

"Now." said the teacher. "a law is no good unless there is a penalty attached. What should we do with the one who breaks them?"

"Beat him across the back ten times without his coat on."

"That is pretty severe, boys. Are you ready to stand by it?" Another

yell, and the teacher said, "School comes to order!"

In a day or so 'Big Tom' found his dinner was stolen. Upon inquiry the thief was located—a little hungry fellow, about ten. The next morning the teacher announced, "We have found the thief and he must be punished according to your rule—ten stripes across the back! Jim, come up here!"

The little fellow, trembling, came up slowly with the big coat fastened up to the neckand pleaded, "Teacher, you can lick me as hard as you like, but please don't make me take my coat off!"

"Take that coat off; you helped make the rules!"

"O teacher, don't make me!" He began to unbutton, and what did the teacher behold! Lo, the lad had no shirt on to cover his little bony body.

"How can I whip this child?" he thought. "But I must do something if I keep this school." Everything was quiet as death.

"How come you to be without a shirt. Jim?"

He replied. "My father died and mother is very poor. I have only one shirt to my name and she is washing that today and I wore my brother's big coat to keep warm."

The teacher, with rod in hand, hesitated. Just then 'Big Tom' jumped to his feet and said, "Teacher, if you don't object, I will take Jim's licking for him."



BETRAYED!

Matthew 26:14-25

- 14 Then one of the twelve, called 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.
- **16** And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.
- 17 Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus. saying unto him. Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?
- 18 And he said. Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him. The Master saith. My time is at hand: I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.
- **19** And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.
- 20 Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.
- **21** And as they did eat, he said. Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.
- 22 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
- **23** And he answered and said. He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.
- 24 The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.

25 Then Judas, which betrayed him. answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him. Thou hast said.

John 18:1-3

- 1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples.
- 2 And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus oft-times resorted thither with his disciples.
- **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.

The message: Jesus was tempted and suffered the pain and distresses common to man so that He could be our powerful and compassionate High Priest.

Questions:

- 1. Who was Judas Iscariot?
- 2. To whom did he go?
- 3. What did he promise to do if they would give him money?
- 4. How much did they agree to give him?
- 5. From that time Judas watched for a chance to do what?
- 6. Why were the disciples and Jesus together?
- 7. What made the disciples exceeding sorrowful?
- 8. Where did Jesus and His disciples go after supper?
- 9. Who led the enemy to Jesus?

Verse to Memorize

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 4:15



Love caused God to look down in great pity upon sinful men. The world was ruined by sin. It was condemned and utterly without power to rescue itself from destruction.

God knew what it would cost to redeem the world. His great eternal love caused Him to make that great sacrifice. By giving His Son to die for it He provided for its rescue and salvation. This was the only way that man could be saved from the power and penalty of sin.

Sin is so evil nothing less than the sacrifice of God's own pure and holy Son could make atonement for it. And love compelled Jesus to willingly offer Himself to be that sacrifice.

The song, If That Isn't Love. says: He left the splendor of heaven. Knowing His destinu

Knowing His destiny Was the lonely hill of Golgotha. There to lay down His life for me.

When Jesus began His public ministry the common people followed Him in great crowds listening gladly to His gracious words. His words were powerful; He spoke with authority as He told them about God and how to serve Him. It was evident that He knew God personally! His messages told of the deepest truths, yet they were so amazingly simple that even the children could understand.

It made the Jewish leaders furious to see the multitudes that gladly heard Jesus and followed Him about. They felt threatened: their power over the people was slipping away from them.

So they looked for some way to

kill Jesus. They knew they could not take Him by force in broad daylight. This could cause an uprising of the common people. These people would rather stone them than to see Jesus killed!

Then the most unexpected happened. Judas, Jesus' own disciple, came to the chief priests, asking, "What will you give me and I will deliver Jesus to you?" They gladly offered him thirty pieces of silver to lead them to Jesus by night. Judas did not bargain for more. He seemed happy to take what they offered.

The chief priests could hardly believe that they could so easily capture Jesus! They would never have thought that one of Jesus' own disciples would ever betray Him. But here he was, Judas, one of the disciples, volunteering to lead them to Jesus. The chief priests gladly agreed to pay him to do just that.

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 was fully aware of all that was taking place. He knew all His disciples would desert Him: that He would be mocked and tormented and, finally, hung on the cruel cross to die to atone for sins He did not commit. But Jesus had prayed through. He was ready to fulfill His purpose in coming to the world to die for the sins of the people. He was ready to suffer so we might be saved.

When Judas and the band of men came they did not need their weapons to capture Jesus. He went out to meet them and asked, "Whom seek ye?"

They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Boldly Jesus declared, "I am He."
The soldiers were so shocked by His
great power and courage they ran
backward from Him and fell to the
ground. —Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Very well there is a certain law that one can become a substitute for another. Are you all agreed?"

Off came Tom's coat and after five hard strokes the rod broke! The teacher bowed his head in his hands, and thought, "How can I finish this awful task?"

Then he heard the entire school sobbing, and what did he see? Little Jim had reached up and caught Tom with both arms around the neck. "Tom, I am sorry I stole your dinner, but I was awful hungry. Tom, I'll love you till I die for taking my licking for me! Yes, I'll love you forever!"

Sinner friend, you have broken every rule and deserve eternal punishment! But Jesus Christ took your scourging for you, died in your stead, and now offers to clothe you with His garments of salvation. Will you not fall at His feet and tell Him you will love and follow Him forever?

-Pilgrim Tract Society

SHOOT IF YOU DARE!

MANY YEARS AGO an American sailor named Haskins became hilarious when ashore in a South American port. A police officer, instead of warning him not to make a noise in the streets, drew his sword and with the flat of the blade knocked the sailor down.

The American got up and, as might have been expected, knocked the police officer down.

Other officers soon arrived on the scene. The American was arrested, quickly tried, and condemned to be shot the following day.

Mr. Loring, the American Consul, pleaded with the authorities without success. He then made a formal protest in the name of the United States Government, but to no avail. In the morning Haskins was brought out to be shot.

Not far away the British Consul was preparing to hoist his country's flag (the Union Jack) for the day. He saw the crowd in the field where the execution of the American sailor was about to take place. He had heard about the unjust sentence that had been passed upon the man. He rushed over to the American Consul and said: "Loring, you are not going to let them shoot that man? A fine or a prison term would be fair enough, but to shoot a man...!"

"What can I do?" replied the American Consul. "I have protested against it. I do not have time to appeal to Washington to get action."

"Give me your flag!" shouted the British Consul. The American flag was handed to him. Then, taking the Stars and Stripes in one hand and the Union Jack in the other, he hurried across the field and elbowed his way through the crowd. He rushed up to the doomed man, folded the American flag around him, and laid the British flag over it. Then he stepped aside a few paces, faced the officer and soldiers, and shouted: "SHOOT IF YOU DARE!"

The bullets would have gone through the flags of two powerful nations. The order to fire was withheld and, after a hurried consultation, the man was released.

The Lord Jesus offers a man or woman greater salvation and protection than that. He can wash a black heart white in His precious blood, place the soul beneath His care, and say to satan: "Shoot if you dare!"

Let me urge you to believe in Christ and accept Him as your Saviour. There is wonderful salvation and eternal protection for you.

—TALL TALES THAT ARE TRUE by Arthur H. Townsend

Answers: 1. One of Jesus' disciples. 2. To the chief priests. 3. Deliver Jesus to them. 4. Thirty pieces of silver. 5. To betray Jesus. 6. To eat the Passover. 7. Jesus told them one of them would betray Him. 8. To a garden. 9. Judas.





Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Apr. 17, 2011

THE COLONEL'S WORD WILL STAND

During my military service in India I had in my regiment a little bugler who was too weak and delicate for the life he had to lead: but he was born in the regiment. His father had been killed in action, and then his mother died. After his mother died, his life was made miserable by the scoffing sneers and jokes of the men in the regiment.

When little Willie Holt was 14 years old, the regiment was bivouacking some miles from camp for rifle practice. I had intended leaving the lad behind, but my sergeant-major begged hard for me to take him along. "There is mischief in the air. Colonel," he said, "and rough as they treat the lad, his pluck and his patience tells on 'em; for the boy is a saint. Sir; he is indeed."

I had a rough lot of recruits just then. Before we had been out a fortnight, several acts of insubordination had been brought to my notice, and I had pledged to make an example of the very next offense by having the culprit flogged. One night the targets were thrown down and otherwise mutilated. On investigation the act was traced to occupants of the very tent where Willie Holt was camped.

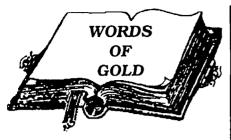
In vain I appealed to them to produce the man, and at last I said, "If any one of you who slept in number four tent last night will come forward and take his punishment like a man, the rest will get off free; but if not, there remains no alternative but to punish you all, each in turn to receive ten strokes of the cat."

For the space of a couple of minutes dead silence followed; then the slight form of Willie Holt came forward.

"Colonel," said he, "you have passed your word that if any one of those who slept in number four tent last night comes forward to take his punishment, the rest shall get offfree. I am ready, Sir; please, may I take it now?"

For a moment I was speechless, so utterly was I taken by surprise; then in a fury of anger and disgust. I turned upon the men, "Are you all cowards enough to let this lad suffer for your sins? For that he is guiltless you know as well as I." But sullen and silent they stood, with never a word.

Then I turned to the boy, whose pleading eyes were fixed on me, and never in all my life have I found myself so painfully situated. I knew my word must stand and the lad knew it, too. as he repeated, "I am ready, Sir."



HE GAVE HIS LIFE

Matthew 27:1, 12-14, 19, 28-31, 35, 45, 51, 54

- 1 When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death:
- **12** And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.
- 13 Then said Pilate unto him. Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?
- **14** And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.
- 19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying. Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.
- **28** And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.
- 29 And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying. Hail, King of the Jews!
- **30** And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.
- 31 And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him.
- **35** And they crucified him, and partec is garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was

spoken by the prophet, They parted mygarments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

- **45** Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.
- 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;
- **54** Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

The Message: Jesus knew that He could call for twelve legions of angels to deliver Him. But He chose to suffer death to save us from eternal death.

Questions:

- 1. Who took counsel to put Jesus to death?
- 2. What did He answer when the chief priests and elders accused Him?
- 3. Who told Pilate to have nothing to do with that just man?
- 4. After they stripped Him what did they put on Jesus?
- 5. What kind of crown did they put on His head?
- 6. How did they fulfill what was spoken by the prophet?
- 7. What was over all the land from the sixth hour until the ninth?
- 8. What did the centurion say when he saw all that was done?

Verse to Memorize

Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? Matthew 26:53



It is only natural to want to defend yourself and clear your name when people are saying things about you that aren't true. Jesus had never sinned and had done nothing but good all His life. But He angered the religious leaders when He exposed their evil deeds and hypocrisy. They envied Him because the common people were glad to hear Him tell them about God. their heavenly Father. As Jesus' followers increased, the hatred and envy of the chief priests and elders against Him increased.

When Jesus was delivered into their power the chief priests and rulers brought Him before Pilate. They were not seeking justice: they had one thing in mind and that was to destroy Jesus. As they accused Him of many terrible crimes Jesus stood silent. Pilate was amazed at such power and composure. He asked Jesus, "Don't you hear how many things they witness against you?" Yet Jesus said nothing.

Jesus was fulfilling prophecy. Many years before, the prophet Isaiah had foretold this very event. He wrote: "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth." Isaiah 53:7.

Every detail of Jesus' suffering and death had been foretold many years before. The wicked mob did not realize that their actions were fulfilling these very prophecies—God was in control!

John, an eyewitness of the crucifixion, wrote, "After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. . . . and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said. It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." John 19:28-30. God revealed this scene to David many years before. He prophesied in Psalm 69:21, "... and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink."

When the soldiers came to break the legs of those who had been crucified, they were surprised to see that Jesus was already dead. So, instead, a soldier pierced His side. Again, David had written this would be so. In Psalm 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.

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

It was Jesus great love for us that compelled Him to silently endure such shame and agony. He willingly suffered so the power of sin and death would be broken. He paid the price so that we could be with Him forever and ever. He has given us a written invitation: "In my Father's house are many mansions . . . I go to (the cross to) prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2-3

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Sick at heart, I gave the order, and he was led away for punishment. Bravely he stood with bared back, as one, two, three strokes descended. At the fourth a faint moan escaped his white lips; but ere the fifth fell, a hoarse cry burst from the crowd of prisoners who had been forced to witness the scene, and with one bound Jim Sykes-the black sheep of the regiment—seized the cat, as with choking utterance he shouted, "Stop it, Colonel, stop it, and tie me up instead. He never did it, but I did!" and with convulsed and anguished face he flung his arms around the boy.

Fainting and almost speechless, Willie lifted his eyes to the man's face and smiled such a smile! "No, Jim," he whispered, "you are safe now, the Colonel's word will stand." Then his head fell forward—he had fainted.

The next day I visited the hospital tent where the boy lay dying. The shock had been too much for his feeble strength. He lay propped up on the pillows; and at his side, half kneeling, half crouching. was Jim Sykes. I saw the drops of sweat standing on his brow as he muttered brokenly, "Why did you do it, lad? Why did you do it?"

"Because I wanted to take it for you, Jim." Willie's weak voice answered tenderly. "I thought it might help you to understand why Christ died for you."

"Christ died for me?" the man repeated.

"Yes, He died for you because He loves you. I love you, Jim, but Christ loves you much more. I only suffered for one sin, but Christ took the punishment for all the sins you have ever committed. The penalty was death, Jim, and Christ died for you."

"Christ has naught to do with such as me, lad: I'm one of the bad 'uns; you ought to know."

"But He died to save bad ones." answered Willie. "After you have sinned against Him He loves you so much that He came all the way from Heaven, and suffered and died in your place, and now He is calling you. He wants to cleanse you from every stain of sin and make you fit for His presence. He wants you to live with Him in glory. He was wounded for your transgressions, He was bruised for your iniquities, the chastisement of your peace was upon Him; God laid your sins all on Him. How can you resist such love as that?

"But you can never enter Heaven, Jim, unless you let Him cleanse you from all sin in His own blood. Nothing can ever enter there that is not just as pure and as perfect as He is. You must have a garment of spotless purity in which to enter the presence of God or you will be cast out of His presence into everlasting darkness and despair forever. The Lord Jesus is God's righteousness which He will give you the moment you are willing to receive Him. Won't you receive Him now?"

The lad's voice failed him, but he laid his hand gently on the man's bowed head.

After a little while we saw a strange light in his dying eyes, and with a happy cry he flung out his hands as if in welcome. Then gradually the weak arms dropped: the light faded from the shining eyes; and his spirit passed from earth to Heaven.

 Adapted from tract published by Faith Publishing House

Answers: 1. The chief priests and elders. 2. Nothing. 3. His wife. 4. A scarlet robe. 5. A crown of thorns. 6. They parted His garments, casting lots for them. 7. Darkness. 8. "Truly this was the Son of God."

THE



Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Apr. 24, 2011

THE RICH FAMILY

I'll never forget Easter, 1946. I was 14, my little sister Ocy was 12 and my older sister Darlene was 16. We lived at home with our mother, and the four of us knew what it was to do without many things. My Dad had died five years before.

A month before Easter the pastor of our church announced that a special Easter offering would be taken to help a poor family. He asked everyone to save and give sacrificially. When we got home, we talked about what we could do.

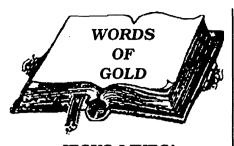
We decided to buy 50 pounds of potatoes and live on them for a month. This would allow us to save \$20 of our grocery money for the offering. Then we thought that if we kept our electric lights turned out as much as possible and didn't listen to the radio, we'd save money on that month's electric bill. Darlene got as many house and yard cleaning jobs as possible and both of us baby-sat for everyone we could. For 15 cents we could buy enough cotton loops to make three pot holders to sell for \$1. We made \$20 on pot holders.

That month was one of the best of our lives. Every day we counted the money to see how much we had saved. At night we'd sit in the dark and talk about how the poor family was going to enjoy having the money the church would give them. We had about 80 people in the church, so figured that whatever amount of money we had to give, the offering would surely be 20 times that much. After all, every Sunday the pastor had reminded everyone to save for the sacrificial offering.

The day before Easter, Ocy and I walked to the grocery store and got the manager to give us three crisp \$20 bills and one \$10 bill for all our change. We ran all the way home to show Momand Darlene. We had never had so much money before. That night we were so excited we could hardly sleep.

We didn't care that we wouldn't have new clothes for Easter; we had \$70 for the sacrificial offering. We could hardly wait to get to church! On Sunday morning, rain was pouring. We didn't own an umbrella, and the church was over a mile from our home, but it didn't seem to matter how wet we got. But we sat in church proudly. I heard some teenagers talking about the Smithe girls having on their old dresses. I looked at them in their clothes, and I felt rich.

When the sacrificial offering was taken Mom put in the \$10 bill, and



JESUS LIVES!

John 20:1-6, 8, 10-18

- 1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.
- 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them. They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre . . .
- **3** Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple . . .
- 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter . . .
- **5** And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying . . .
- 6 Then cometh Simon Peter . . . and went into the sepulchre . . .
- 8 Then went in also that other disciple . . . and he saw, and believed.
- **10** Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.
- 11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,
- 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.
- 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them. 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 herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

- 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, 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, Rabboni; which is to say, 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, and your Father, and to my God. and your God.
- 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord. and that he had spoken these things unto her.

The Message: Jesus honored Mary Magdalene's faith and loyalty by appearing to her first after His resurrection.

Questions:

- 1. When did Mary Magdalene go to the sepulcher?
- 2. What had happened to the stone?
- 3. Who did she run to tell?
- 4. What did Peter do when he got to the sepulcher?
- 5. What did Mary do after the two disciples went back home?
- 6. What did she see when she looked into the sepulcher?
- 7. Who did she think Jesus was?
- 8. What did Mary tell the disciples?

Verse to Memorize

But now is Christ risen from the dead . . . I Corinthians 15:20



Mary Magdalene's heart ached with grief. She had watched helplessly as the soldiers fastened Jesus to the cruel cross. Through her tears she had seen Him hanging there between the two thieves. She had heard His voice—"It is finished!" He had shouted. Then His head dropped to His chest.

When it was all over she knew her Lord was dead, yet she could not leave. She stayed at the scene while Nicodemus and Joseph worked quickly to prepare Jesus' body for burial. Finally, they had tenderly lain the body on a limestone ledge in the new tomb. Mary watched while they heaved the massive stone into place across the opening to the tomb. It was dark when the two men turned to leave.

Mary knew she, too, must leave. But as she turned toward home she determined that she would 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 for Mary. Saturday's sun finally dipped below the mountains; Sabbath was over. Now she could prepare the spices. Then, long before sunup, she started for the tomb.

By now Mary must have realized that it would be impossible for her to remove the great stone that covered the mouth of the tomb. She had watched as it took all their strength for the men to roll it into place. Then, as she came in sight of the tomb, she stopped and gasped. The stone had already been pushed aside—the tomb wasempty! Someone had already been

there and taken the body!

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

Peter and John could not believe her words. They ran to see for themselves. John was younger than Peter and easily outran him. When he got to the tomb he stooped down and peered into the tomb. He could see the empty grave clothes that Joseph had wrapped around Jesus' body. But when Peter reached the tomb he boldly went right into the tomb to investigate. John was right behind him. It was true! Jesus' body was not there; only the grave clothes.

After dashing to tell the disciples about the empty tomb, Mary was too tired to run any further. She let the disciples raceahead while she 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." As she spoke she sensed that someone was standing behind her.

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!" He said.

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

Overjoyed she ran to find the disciples. "I have seen the Lord!" she exclaimed breathlessly.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

each of us girls put in a \$20 bill. As we walked home after church, we sang all the way. At lunch Mom had a surprise for us. She had bought a dozen eggs, and we had boiled Easter eggs with our fried potatoes!

Late that afternoon the minister drove up in his car. Mom went to the door, talked with him for a moment, and then came back with an envelope in her hand. We asked what it was, but she didn't say a word. She opened the envelope and out fell a bunch of money. There were three crisp \$20 bills, one \$10 bill and seventeen \$1 bills.

Mom put the money back in the envelope. We didn't talk, just sat and stared at the floor. We had gone from feeling like millionaires to feeling like poor white trash.

We had such a happy life that we felt sorry for anyone who didn't have our Mom and Dad for parents. We thought it was fun to share silverware and see whether we got the spoon or the fork that night. We had two knives that we passed around to whoever needed them. I knew we didn't have a lot of things that other people had, but I'd never thought we were poor.

That Easter day, I found out we were. The minister had brought us the money for the poor family, so we must be poor. I didn't like being poor. I looked at my dress and worn-out shoes and felt so ashamed-I didn't even want to go back to church. Everyone there probably already knew we were poor! I thought about school. I was in the ninth grade and at the top of my class of over 100 students. I wondered if the kids at school knew that we were poor. I decided that I could quit school since I had finished the eighth grade. That was all the law required at that time. We sat in silence for a long time. Then it got dark, and we went to bed.

All that week, we girls went to

school and came home, and no one talked much. Finally on Saturday, Mom asked us what we wanted to do with the money. What did poor people do with money? We didn't know. We'd never known we were poor. We didn't want to go to church on Sunday, but Mom said we had to. Although it was a sunny day, we didn't talk on the way. Mom started to sing, but no one joined in and she only sang one verse.

At church we had a missionary speaker. He talked about how churches in Africa made buildings out of sun dried bricks, but they needed money to buy roofs. He said \$100 would put a roof on a church. The minister said, "Can't we all sacrifice to help these poor people?" We looked at each other and smiled for the first time in a week. Mom reached into her purse and pulled out the envelope. She passed it to Darlene. Darlene gave it to me, and I handed it to Ocy. Ocy put it in the offering.

When the offering was counted the minister announced that it was a little over \$100. The missionary was excited. He hadn't expected such a large offering from our small church. He said, "You must have some rich people in this church." Suddenly it struck us! We had given \$87 of that "little over 100."

We were the rich family in the church! Hadn't the missionary said so?

From that day on I've never been poor again. I've always remembered how rich I am because I have Jesus!

—Selected

Answers: 1. The first day of the week while it was still dark. 2. It was taken away. 3. Peter and John. 4. Went in. 5. Stood at the sepulcher weeping. 6. Two angels. 7. The gardener. 8. That she had seen the Lord.





Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 1, 2011

TOM NEVER LEFT THE BARS DOWN AGAIN

There is a fine story that comes from a New England home of years ago, it is told by one of the boys concerned, grown to manhood. As he tells the story:

Once I saved Tom from a promised whipping for leaving down the bars when he went after the cows at milking time, thus giving the young cattle left in the pasture a chance to get out, of which they always approved. If they were on the back side of the lot when Tom got the cows he thought it unnecessary to put up the bars. It would be so short a time when the cows would be driven back. Father cautioned and reproved him several times, till finally he threatened to whip him if it happened again. Several weeks passed and he left the bars down again. The young cattle got into the corn, doing much damage.

The next morning Father said nothing, but went about his usual work. Tom was gloomy, there was an air of depression in the house and I was greatly troubled. I could not bear to have Tom whipped, nor could I blame father. At last I resolved to go and speak to him.

The sun was shining brightly and he was opening up some bales of hay in the meadow. I approached him slowly, for I did not feel sure of my ground, and stood still without saying a word.

He looked at me and said, "Well, Joe, what is it?"

"I have come to speak to you about Tom, I do not want him whipped."

"I do not see how I can help it, my son. I can not have my crops destroyed in this way, and I must keep my word."

"Father, didn't you read this morning in the lesson, 'He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?' "

"Yes, what a boy you are to remember. Joe."

"Well, I will take half the blows you intend to give Tom."

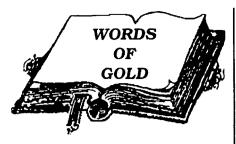
"I can't do that, Joe. Tom is the transgressor, not you," answered father, his face softening and his voice trembling a little. Then looking at me kindly, he asked, "Did Tom send you to me?"

"No, he knows nothing of my coming."

My father stood leaning on his pitchfork with both hands, looking down at the ground. At length he said. "Go and bring Tom."

I found him on the front porch with a sober face, trying to study. "Come with me, Tom, father wants you."

"I know what he wants," he said, turning a little pale. After a moment's hesitation he arose, saying, "I might as well go and have it done with."



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 sepulcher;
- 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 sepulcher, 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** . . . 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...Didnotour 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



That 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 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.

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

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 and locked. 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

As we walked along I thought it best to give him a little advice. for he generally did as the occasion served him. There was no knowing beforehand what he would do. "Now. Tom. you must not flare up or show any spunk; you must be humble and answer father's questions in a good kind of a way. You must not talk any, only answer his questions. I do not think he will be hard on you."

Father stood as I had left him. I can see him now after the lapse of so many years, with his back to the sun, leaning forward a little on the handle of his fork, looking down at the ground, one hand above the other and his chin on his hands and some forkfuls of hay scattered about him. He did not seem to see us; he was lost in reverie. "Father," I ventured timidly. "Tom is here."

He looked up at us both quickly, then said, "Tom, do you remember these words in our Scripture lesson this morning. 'He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?'"

"Yes," answered Tom greatly surprised.

"What do you think these words mean?"

"That Christ suffered for us," replied Tom, his voice unsteady and his face blushing.

"Well, Joe offers to suffer for you."
Tom turned to me with a look on his face I shall never forget and exclaimed.
"No. Joe, you shall not do that." Then flinging his arms around my neck, he kissed me and as quick as a flash, he stepped up to father and held out his hand, saying, "The stripes belong to me. Father, I am ready."

Tears were falling down father's face and for a moment he could not speak. Then he said. "No, Tom, I cannot punish anyone now. I do not think you will ever forget this day. If

you do, remember Joe's offer holds good. I love my children and I want to do to them all the good I can. But I must be obeyed, and this is one way of doing them good; you may go now."

Tom did not stir. He was evidently waiting for me, and yet, for some reason I could not explain, I hesitated, then stepping closer I said, "Father, I want to kiss you." He caught me in his arms, saving: "Oh, my boy," and kissed me.

Then taking Tom, who was ready, he said: "God bless you, dear Tom," and kissed him with swimming eyes. Then with great awe upon us we went to the house. Tom never left the bars down again.

—Selected

PARENTS OF TRUE LOVE

Children of Christian parents may feel they are being abused when they are only being disciplined according to God's principles. From reading the Bible we understand that parents are responsible to train their children to know and obey the laws of God.

While children are young they must obey the rules of their Christian parents. If they don't obey them, the rod and reproof must be used. The Bible says in Proverbs 29:15 "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." When children become older, reproof, counseling, and other methods are used to bring them under God's principles.

The next time the devil tempts you to think you are being abused, realize that your parents are trying to help you to become a better person.

-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.





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A MOTHER'S FAITH

ALL day long the sun had thrown his javelins of fire on a village in Inland China. It seemed as though one's very breath would be stifled.

Inone of the houses of that village, a baby boy of two years of age, apparently sick unto death, lay in a room close and humid. His eyes were half open; his lips almost black; the little head, tossing restlessly to and fro, was hot and throbbing; the whole body limp. For three days he had been utterly unconscious of his surroundings.

The father and mother had watched with breaking hearts the little life flickering out. Three other children had been taken from them; this was the only one left. What a lovely baby he was: plump. round, full of fun, smiling his winsome baby smile up into their faces. But an evil spirit had entered their darling, as he had entered the other three, threatening to snuff out his little life as he had snuffed out the lives of the others.

The native doctor had given him some vile concoction, which had only made him worse. He had muttered incantations over him, and had even heated the cruel iron to place on the tender flesh to burn out the evil spirit. The mother had cried out in protest at this last, so the baby was spared that horror.

She and the father sat beside the little one, dry-eyed and mute with grief. Suddenly a neighbor rushed in crying, "The 'Jesus Man' is here and is coming to see you now.

For the first time in days the light of hope flashed in that mother's face. "Perhaps the 'Jesus Man' can cure our baby!" Just then the sound of many voices reached her ear, and the next moment the 'Jesus Man', accompanied by a crowd of people, entered the room.

This medical missionary, from a city three days' journey away, had visited their people a year before. He had cured many, relieved suffering and had preached to them the "unsearchable riches of Christ." On this occasion he was hailed with joy all along the route, and besieged by poor Chinese in all stages of disease. Someone told him of Lee Ban and the trouble in his home, and the doctor at once said, "I will go and see what can be done."

Gently he spoke to the sorrowing parents. "Oh, 'Jesus Man,' you can make our baby well," cried the little mother clasping herhands in anguish. "If we only had some ice to apply we might save him," said the missionary, half to himself. But they were three days' journey from the city, the only place where ice could be obtained. The



MARY, JESUS' MOTHER

Luke 1:26-35, 37-38

- **26** And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee. named Nazareth.
- **27** To a virgin . . . and the virgin's name was Mary.
- 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
- 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- **30** And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God
- **31** And, behold, thou shalt . . . bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- **32** He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- **33** And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- **34** Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be . . .?
- 35 And the angel answered and said unto her. The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- **37** For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

John 19:25

25 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

Acts 1:14

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Acts 2:1

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come. they were all with one accord in one place.

The Message: Mary readily accepted God's will for her life.

Questions:

- 1. What was the angel's name?
- 2. To whom was he sent?
- 3. He told Mary, "The ____ is with thee."
- 4. When she saw him Mary was at his saying.
- 5. With whom had Mary found favor?
- 6. What would she name her son?
- 7. With whom is nothing impossible?
- 8. Where was Mary when Jesus was crucified?
- 9. Where was Mary on the day of Pentecost?

Verse to Memorize

And Mary said. Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word

Luke 1:38

... Luke 1:36



God knew the important influence a wise and godly mother has on her children. He was preparing to send His own Son to earth as a newborn baby. The one chosen to be His mother must be worthy of such an honor. God knew Mary loved Him with all her heart and wanted to do His will. He chose this pure young girl to be the mother of Jesus.

Mary was very young. She was engaged to a man named Joseph and looked forward to her coming marriage. Then one day she received a message that changed her entire life. God sent Gabriel to tell her that she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, God's own Son!

We can better understand the great courage and faith Mary had when we realize that she was not a middle-aged and experienced woman, but rather a young girl. But her love for God made her willing to accept whatever He chose for her life, though she could not understand how it could be.

Immense joy thrilled Mary's young soul when she understood Gabriel's message. Her answer reflected her humility and faith in God. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord;" she said meekly, "be it unto me according to thy word." She completely submitted her will, her hopes and plans, even her entire life, to God.

But when the angel left, Mary was alone. Everything in her life had suddenly changed. She faced an uncertain future but one thing sustained her; her confident faith in God.

When Jesus was born Mary treasured up in her memory every new circumstance that took place. She

compared each event with those which had already taken place. This was God's own Son. She wanted to understand fully the nature and mission of Jesus so she prayerfully considered all that happened, knowing it was God working out His purpose.

When Jesus was twelve He went with Mary and Joseph to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When it was time to return home to Nazareth, Joseph and Mary joined the crowd of relatives and neighbors in the long walk home. Jesus was trusted to stay with the group on His own. But when Josephand Mary stopped for the night, Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Mary felt the panic that arises in the heart of any mother whose child is missing. Quickly she and Joseph hurried back to Jerusalem. There they found Jesus sitting in the Temple with the teachers of the law. When Mary reproved Him, Jesus asked, "How is it that you came looking for me? Don't you know that I must be about my Father's business?" Mary did not understand His words but the Bible tells us that she kept all these sayings in her heart. She no doubt prayed for wisdom as she meditated on them. She wanted to be the mother God would be pleased with.

Years later Mary stood nearby, heartbroken, as the cruel soldiers crucified Jesus. There was still much that she did not understand but she knew this was God's Son; she knew God was working out His perfect plan.

Then, on the day of Pentecost, when many were gathered waiting, watching and praying as Jesus commanded them, Marywasamong them. When the gift of the Holy Spirit was given she was there. Her work as the mother of God's only Sonwas finished. Now she was His disciple.

Mary did not seek recognition or praise from men. Her life proved that true greatness comes from placing your life in God's hands and doing whatever He calls you to do.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

baby would be dead before they could make the trip there and return.

"But when you were here before, you said your God could do anything," said the mother.

"Yes," answered the missionary, "I did say that." He was doing what he could to ease the suffering child.

"Then He can send us ice," she insisted. "Ask Him for it, O 'Jesus Man' and He will send it quick, and my baby will live."

The missionary was startled; indeed, he was utterly dumbfounded! How could he pray for ice when it seemed impossible to expect an answer? Almost in a daze, he joined the parents on their knees. He opened his lips to pray. The words came haltingly at first, for what would these trusting ones say when no answer came? And how could an answer possibly come?

Nevertheless. he prayed; as he proceeded a strange feeling of ecstasy and exultation entered his soul. He forgot everything, except that he was pleading with his Heavenly Father—not only for the life of the little child, but that the on-looking Chinese who knew not the true God might see the faith of the parents honored, As they rose from their knees there was an inexpressible look of peace on the face of the mother.

Fifteen minutes elapsed, and suddenly it grew dark! Increasingly so, until it seemed like night! The superstitious Chinese cried upon their gods for deliverance from this terror which the "Jesus Man" had brought upon them by his prayer.

Then the storm broke in indescribable fury. It sounded as though thousands of pebbles were falling from the sky. The fear of the Chinese increased. but upon the missionary's face came a look of joy. He hurried from the house to find the street covered with hailstones! Truly,

"God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;

He plants His footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm."

The missionary rushed back into the house crying, "Give me a large dish! God has sent ice from the sky!"

They gathered up the ice; the missionary applied ice-packs. Gradually the fever left the little body; the restless tossing and moaning ceased. The child was restored to health!

Not for forty years had a hail-storm visited that part of China; it came just in time to honor the faith of that Chinese mother.

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

"Expect above all that you ask or think." —Pilgrim Tract Society

GOD'S LIGHTS

Are you afraid at night? One time a girl asked her mother if the moon was God's light.

"Yes," her mother answered.

"Will God ever blow out His light and go to sleep?" she wanted to know next. And her mother said, "No, God's lights never go out, for God never sleeps. Even when we cannot see His lights, they are shining just the same.

"Well, then while God's awake I'm not afraid," was the girl's answer.

Are you ever tempted to be afraid? It will help you to remember that God is always awake and that He has said, "Certainly I will be with thee..."

Exodus 3:12

Answers: 1. Gabriel. 2. To Mary. 3. Lord. 4. Troubled. 5. God. 6. Jesus. 7. God. 8. Standing by the cross. 9. With the others who were praying.





Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 15, 2011

READY NOW

In the city of London, many years ago, on a cold, cloudy morning, the captain of a steamer was coming down the street on his way to the steamer, when he noticed a poorly clad, hungry little boy standing in front of a fine restaurant.

The captain placed his hand gently on the boy's shoulder and asked, "What are you doing here, my little man?" The little boy, with a piteous look, said, "O sir, I was just standing here looking at the good things they have to eat in the restaurant."

"Well," said the Captain, "I have but thirty minutes to spare before my steamer leaves; but my little man, if you had on good clothes, a clean face, and your hair combed. I would take you in the restaurant and get you something to eat." The little boy, with a look of love and gentleness. and tears in his eyes at the Captain's kind words, brushed his hair with his hand and said, "I am ready now." To which the Captain replied. "Well, my little man, God bless you: come with me into the restaurant and I shall get you something to eat." As the little fellow began to eat, the Captain asked, "Where is your mother, my boy?"

"Mother died when I was about four years old," replied the child.

"Where is your father?"

"I haven't seen Father since Mother died."

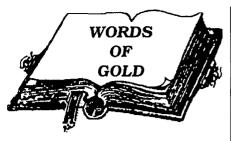
"And who takes care of you?" inquired the Captain.

The boy, with a look of calm resignation, said: "When Mama was sick, just before she died, she told me that Jesus would take care of me; she taught me how to pray and to love Jesus."

The Captain, with tears in his eyes, said. "I have just a few more minutes before my steamer leaves, and if you were only dressed real well and had a clean face, I would take you with me on the steamer—you could wait on me."

The little man looked up into the Captain's face and cried, "O Captain, I am ready now." The Captain put his arm around the boy, saying, "Come with me. my little man, and you'll always be my boy."

They both hurried to the steamer and went on board. The Captain introduced the little boy to his men. saying: "He will wait on me. and his name is 'Ready Now'. He is always ready and you must not call him by any other name than 'Ready Now'." The little boy cleaned up after the good Captain had given him a new blue suit of clothes, and he began his pleasant



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 intomy 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



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 Him 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 how 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

duty of waiting on the Captain, and did so most faithfully.

The Captain learned to dearly love the child. Shortly after the little boy had been on board he was taken sick, and one day he said to the good Captain: "I feel sick: I have awful pains in my breast. O Captain, I want to get close to you." The kindhearted man took the little child in his arms and pressed him to his heart. The little one fell asleep and was carried very carefully to his berth. A few days later the doctor said to the Captain, "I have done all I can for the poor child; he is seriously ill and will die."

"O Doctor!" cried the Captain, "save him: I can't give him up." But the child continued to grow worse.

One day the boy sent for the Captain whom he loved so dearly. and as the Captain looked him in the face, he saw that death was very near. The little boy, in a low, weak voice, said: "O Captain, I do love you; you have been so good to me. But say, Captain, I am going to leave you; I am going to where Jesus and Mother are. O Captain, I see my dear mother, she is looking for me. Oh, she looks so sweet; and I see the angels, too; I have heard them sing so sweetly. Yes, Captain I am going to be with Jesus. O Captain, won't you give your heart to Jesus? Meet me in Heaven, Captain. Jesus loves you; won't you let Him save you and be a Christian?"

The Captain, with deep emotion and trembling voice replied, "I have been thinking about it, my little boy."

"But when, Captain?" asked the little boy.

"I will attend to it soon," replied the Captain.

"But when?" again asked the boy.
"When will you be ready to give your heart to Jesus?"

"Well," said the Captain, "I will not put it off much longer."

"O Captain, won't you let Jesus save you? When will you be ready?"

With tears streaming down his cheeks, the Captain fell upon his knees and cried. "I am ready nowready now." And there on his knees with a broken and contrite heart. the Captain gave his heart to God. surrendered to Jesus. About a half hour afterward some of the men came to the Captain's room and found him kneeling in prayer, the little boy's arms around his neckthe child cold in death's embrace the spirit had returned to the God that gave it. He had pleaded with the Captain to the end, and had won-a faithful little worker for Jesus to the last.

The Captain immediately gave up his position as captain of the steamer and went out to preach the Gospel of the grace of God to poor, lost sinners and to tell of the dear little boy who had been the means, in God's hands, of leading him to the blessed Saviour.

Boys and girls, will you kindly permit me to ask you this question, Are you a Christian? Do you know Jesus as your own personal Saviour in the forgiveness of your sins? If not, I beg of you to say as the little boy did. "I am ready now—ready now."

"...Behold now is the accepted time: behold, now is the day of salvation." II Corinthians 6:2.

-Selected

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.





Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 22, 2011

ESCAPE FROM DEATH

"Do you feel better?" Mr. Garlock asked his wife as he held the glass of water to her feverish, parched lips.

Too weak to talk, she only made a slight sound. She swallowed a little water then lay back on her hammock.

An hour later when Mr. Garlock spoke to his wife, she made no sound. He went to her side. She was unconscious again.

He fell to his knees on the earthen floor beside his devoted wife. "Why did I bring my lovely wife into this 'white man's graveyard?" he mumbled to himself. "Only a miracle has kept us both from dying with malaria fever or from being used as 'barbeque' for these cannibals, and now..." He touched the hot cheek of his lifeless wife. "Another malaria attack," he groaned. "When will she ever be well?"

"Oh Lord, what will I do? You know she has been terribly sick for over 2 weeks. But I could not take her through the enemy territory while they were on the war path, killing everyone. Now it's raining, and the trip through the wet jungle is too long and dangerous for her in this weak condition. She would never live to reach the city. If I could just get needed supplies, that would help, but how? The natives are still afraid to go through the enemy territory, and I cannot leave. Oh, Lord, what shall I do? What shall I do?"

There was only one thing left to do. Try again to get the natives to go for supplies. He called in his most reliable helper and pleaded with him to arrange a large caravan and go for the much needed supplies.

The caravan started out very early in the morning, in a downpour of rain. About noon the head man came running into Mr. Garlock's hut. Between gasps he said, "All my men have been captured, and Inue's been almost beaten to death. They say he was in the gang that roasted their man."

"Go back and demand the release of the other men. They haven't done any wrong."

No matter how hard Mr. Garlock tried to persuade the head man to return, he firmly said, "I will not go unless you go along."

"Then round up another group of men," Mr. Garlock ordered.

"When the group was ready to go, Mr. Garlock kissed his wife's hot forehead, slipped on his jungle boots and crammed his hard hat on his head. "I'll be back shortly," he said to the native girl who was their cook.

They arrived at the village shortly before dark. The village was protected by a stockade fence of poles about 7 feet high. They quietly walked around this stockade looking through the cracks to findthe prison. When Mr. Garlock found he was near the prison, he motioned for his men to hoist him over the fence.



TAKEN UP IN A CLOUD!

John 20:30

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples. . .

Acts 1:2-12

- 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the HolyGhosthad 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: andye 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, Yemen 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.

I Peter 3:22



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. When questioned by a girl. Peter had denied he even knew Him! 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. There they assembled with other believers in an upper room 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

"Hurry to my side when you see I need help." he whispered.

His men watched as he walked across the clearing. Two guards, holding spears, stood on either side of the door. He greeted them as if they had been his friends, then took out his knife and cut the grassrope that tied the door shut. He dragged the prisoner out and sat down on an elephant's head, the half-dead prisoner lying at his feet. Immediately the guards spread the alarm. The village drums began to beat.

Mr. Garlock's men came over the fence like high jumpers, and surrounded him just as the blood-thirsty, village warriors surrounded them. The warriors were armed with knives, spears, bows, and clubs of all shapes and sizes, yelling as loudly as seemed possible. Mr. Garlock saw fear on the faces of his men. He knew they felt the same as he did, that all of them might be torn into pieces any minute.

"Oh. Lord, please help us," he prayed silently. He seemed not to be able to think of any other words to pray, so he said these words over and over.

When they were too hoarse to vell any longer, they sat down in a circle. The witch doctor stood up. His hair was in 2 longbraidssmeared down with cowdung and palmoil. Heworea string of leopards' teeth around his neck. From his neck, shoulders, and waist, hung pouches of jujus and other fetish medicines. In his hand he held a wand. With a hideous look on his face he came slowly toward Mr. Garlock. Then suddenly he began all sorts of scary grimaces and dives. as if trying to scare him to death. Mr. Garlock felt as if his blood was running out the end of his toes, but he just kept on praying, "Lord, help us."

When the witch doctor became tired of trying to scare Mr. Garlock to death, he went around the circle of warriors relating all their war victories and the cruel things they had done to captives. After that was finished, he laid his wand down at Mr. Garlock's

feet as if to say, now it is your turn to defend yourself and your men.

Mr. Garlock prayed harder than ever. He knew very little of this tribe's language, and he didn't think his men could interpret his true feelings. Quick as a flash he remembered, Mark 13:11, "Take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate; but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost."

"I'll do it, Lord," he said under his breath. The Holy Spirit began to speak through him.

After Mr. Garlock had talked a while the witch doctor ordered a white fowl to be brought. He took the white fowl and rung its neck. Then he stretched himself on the ground in front of Mr. Garlock. This was the sign of surrender, or asking forgiveness. After lying there for a while, he got up, smeared blood from the fowl on Mr. Garlock's head, and the head of the wounded man, then on the village chief and his own head. By this rite he was saying that Mr. Garlock and the wounded man had been condemned to be put to death, but the fowl would be a peace offering between them and the village chief and himself.

While he was smearing blood, he said, "We see your God fights for you. Please tell us what we can do to atone for our mistake. We will do whatever you wish."

Mr. Garlock requested that two men be sent with him to carry the wounded man back to his home and that his men going for supplies be given food to eat and be allowed to continue on their journey.

"God will take care of his children in sickness, through threats of death and whatever comes to them. if they will trust in Him." Mr. Garlock said.

-Charlotte Huskey

Answers: 1. Many signs. 2. Commandments. 3. Fortydays. 4. Jerusalem. 5. The promise of the Father. 6. Water. 7. The HolyGhost. 8. A cloud. 9. Two men in white clothes.





Vol. 61, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 29, 2011

LIZZIE'S FUND-RAISING PROJECTS

(A true story)

Alice and Lizzie were walking silently along the path, enjoying the warm sun and the lightspring breeze of southern Illinois. Only Lizzie's heavy breathing and the twitter of robins broke the silence until Lizzie said, "Hope mother has my graduation dress finished. Just three more days and I'll be out of school!"

"But I thought you wanted to go on to high school?" "I do. but how can I? My back hurts all the time."

Lizzie's back never got better. She had a rare disease of the spine, which caused her back bone to soften until she became unable to sit or stand. Soon she had to stay in bed, and after a while she could only lie on her back.

"I want to do something." she said to herself as she lay in bed day after day. "I want to do something that will help other suffering people. What can I do?" She thought and thought. One day she remembered hearing a missionary telling about the slave trade. He said that \$50.00 would redeem an African slave girl.

"That is what I will do. I'll help to keep a girl from becoming a slave," Lizzie thought. She had read how men. women and even children were kidnapped to be taken to other countries and sold as slaves. These slaves were chained, beaten and auctioned as if they were animals.

Lizzie tried for many days to think of something she could do to earn money. It was hard to think of anything she could do lying flat on her back. But one day she finally thought of something. Then she planned how to do it.

A few days later when her daddy came into her room, she said, "If you would make a tall table that would fit right over my bed, I could sew pieces of cloth scraps together to make a quilt. I want to make a quilt."

"You're cold?" he asked. Then frowning, he called to her mother. "Don't you have another quilt to give this girl? She's wanting one."

"Yes, dear, I have plenty of quilts," Mother called from the kitchen that joined Lizzie's room. "Look in the closet and get one." Daddy opened the closet door to look for the quilt.

"I don't want a quilt for myself. I want to make one to sell."

"Make one to sell? You don't need money. I'll buy whatever you need."

"I know, Daddy. I don't want it for myself. I want to send \$50.00 to Mr. Taylor so he can get a slave girl free."

"What a girl," he said patting her head. "I'll make you a table and get whatever you need for your project."

"Thanks, Daddy." she said.

Soon Lizzie was busy making the quilt. Her head was propped up about 4 inches by a pillow, her arms braced on the table. Day after day she worked. Weeks passed. Months passed. Every day brought her nearer her goal.

Finally the day came that the quilt was finished.

Now to sell it. Alice tried to sell the.



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 Nowwhenthiswasnoised 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



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

the devil 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

quilt. Lizzie prayed every day that God would help the quilt to sell. Mother tried. Daddy tried. But no one would pay \$50.00 for the quilt. It really looked like God would not answer Lizzie's prayer; but Lizzie prayed on.

While Lizzie was praying, she was thinking. She was thinking of other ways she might make money to send to the missionary. "I would like to make some book markers," Lizzie told Alice one day when Alice came to bring her some pudding. "Since Daddy fixed me the book stand that holds my book so I can read, I have found many excellent Bible verses and other beautiful sayings. These could be printed on a nice heavy ribbon to be used for book markers. Maybe these would sell so I could earn the \$50.00."

Slowly but determinedly Lizzie wrote out the verses and sayings on paper. Mother bought ribbon and arranged to have the printing done. Before long, Lizzie was busy selling book markers while she lay on her back in bed. She showed them to her friends and neighbors. She asked them to help sell the markers. She wrote a letter explaining that she would send a box of book markers to be sold, and expect no money until every book marker in the box was sold. She sent these letters to many addresses. Many were sent to other countries of the world. Soon people were asking for a box of book markers to sell.

At last, Lizzie made \$50.00. She sent it to Mr. Taylor to redeem a slave girl. It wasn't long until Lizzie had made another \$50.00. which she also sent to the missionary. Soon she made another \$50.00, and another, and another. She started sending money to other missionaries.

Days. months, and years passed. Although Lizzie was kept busy selling book markers the quilt was not forgotten. Everyone who came to visit Lizzie heard the story of the quilt. They told others about it. Many came to see it, but no one bought it.

Lizzie loved to help missionaries. Many of her friends were also interested in missions. When the General Conference was held in Chicago, Illinois, several of the people who knew Lizzie went to the conference. They told about Lizzie's quilt. One missionary from India was told many times that she must see the quilt before going back. She did.

"I've heard a lot of good things about you so I wanted to meet you. I also would like to see your quilt," she told Lizzie.

"The quilt is right there," Lizzie said, pointing to a crazy quilt laying over a quilt rack. "I've been praying to sell it for 14 years, and prayed every stitch I took while I was making it. Maybe someday..."

"Fourteen years?" the missionary asked, "and you haven't sold it yet? Tell you what, I'll sell it for you," she said patting Lizzie's hand softly.

Lizzie said good-bye to her quilt and prayed another prayer that this time the quilt would sell.

Over a month passed before Lizzie heard anything from the quilt. Finally a letter came from the missionary. Alice opened the envelope and out fell a check for \$600.00. She read:

Dear Lizzie:

Everywhere I went I showed your quilt and told how and why you had made it. This is the money the people gave to you. I am also mailing the quilt. The quilt is too precious to sell. It is yours to keep.

(Lizzie kept a record of the money she earned and sent to missions. She sent more than \$20,000.00. After she died, Aliceand her father sold \$5,000.00 more of the book markers she had made and also sent that money to missionaries. Lizzie wanted to earn \$50.00 to free a slave girl. She earned \$25,000.00.)

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Answers: 1. Pentecost. 2. Like a mighty rushing wind. 3. Cloven tongues like fire. 4. They began to speak in other languages. 5. Because every man heard the message in his own language. 6. The wonderful works of God. 7. Peter. 8. Joel. 9. Prophesy.