

# FAITH AND VICTORY

USPS184-660

## Church of God Servant



### The Bridegroom, the Bride and Beyond

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

*"The bells are now ringing, There's love in the air, A lovely young couple is waiting to share. The joy found together..."* So begins a wedding song that describes the joy of a man and woman coming together to be joined as one. The atmosphere is charged with anticipation of something precious about to happen. The sweet glow on the bride's face and the excited smile on the groom's lips are for each other. All they want to see is each other, to say the vows that make them one, to kiss and to leave alone for their honeymoon.

Marriage is honorable. (Hebrews 13:4.) God performed the first wedding ceremony when He gave Eve to Adam. Jesus referred to this union when He said, "...Have ye not read, that he which made *them* at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one

flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matthew 19:4-6. From the words of Jesus we know that marriage is between one man and one woman joined together for a lifetime.

Before marriage, there is a deep admiration for each other. The admiration becomes respect and honor, part of the wedding vows. "...Do you promise to love, cherish and honor, her/him...in sickness and in health; in poverty or in wealth; for better or for worse; and forsaking all others keep her/him only unto thyself so long as you both shall live?" When the man and woman have made binding promises of commitment to each other before God and the present witnesses, they are joined together in a sacred covenant. God records that covenant and He blesses the husband and wife who do as they promised and cherish one another until death separates them.

There is significance in the modest, long white dress adorning the bride on her glorious wedding day. A white, spotless dress—a pure, clean heart of the bride, they are to be one and the same. If the bride brings something less than virginity to the marriage altar, she has already put a crack in the love, cherish and honor of the marriage vows. Likewise, the bridegroom has the responsibility to bring godly integrity and purity to the marriage altar. On this purity of heart lays the foundation of a happy marriage.

The Webster Dictionary defines purity as: *the quality or condition of being pure; (a) freedom*

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from adulterating matter (b) cleanness; clearness (c) innocence or chastity (d) freedom from elements regarded as corrupting. Using this definition as a reference, let's look at the purity in a marriage.

To remain faithfully committed to the wedding vows, the bride and groom must stay free of *adulterating matter* of the world. The songs, movies, advertisements, etc. of the world glamorize cheating on your spouse. The night club life of dancing and drinking alcohol, divorce and heartbreak portray images of marriage that are inferior to what God ordained for a happy marriage. A God-fearing couple will turn off these harmful elements and prevent them from slipping into their thoughts and attitudes. Because our society bombards the mind continually with wickedness, Christian men and women must tune their minds toward heavenly thoughts. The initial thoughts of evil will enter the mind, but we choose what we dwell or meditate upon.

Evil forces against pure thoughts have been in the world since Eve obeyed satan and enticed Adam to sin also. The pattern has always been that thoughts become attitudes which put on actions that speak of who we are as a person. A respectable person will guard against the corrupt media and flaunted wickedness lived around us daily, and think on the things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of a good report. (Philippians 4:8.) Divine help through the Holy Spirit gives the necessary resistance against evil and strength to live righteous in this world of darkness. (I Corinthians 2:12.)

This purity of the heart and mind is vital to the intimacy of a married couple. It keeps the marriage bed clean or undefiled. (Hebrews 13:4.) Jesus spoke strongly against adultery and deceit when He said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his

heart." (Matthew 5:27-28.) The devil knows the damage a glance at nudity can cause on the mind and he has made corrupt magazines easily available in nearly any store in our nation. Besides that, the media flashes perverted propaganda wherever possible, and the internet can invade the home with deceptive secrecy to spoil purity. This is only a scratch uncovering the cruelty and crime of child/adult pornography marketed in the world today. The Word of God cries out against such horror and for this cause He will bring this world to judgment and damnation. (II Peter 2:4-9.)

The scriptures compare a husband and wife relationship to that of Christ and His Church. Amidst all this worldly filth, the Lord is looking for a pure Bride; one without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; one that is holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:26-27.) The bridegroom, Jesus Christ, has cleansed His bride with His blood and sanctified her with His Holy Spirit. He has lived a pure life before her, and when He comes for the final marriage feast, He is looking for His Bride to be clothed in white purity of heart. (I John 3:3; Revelation 21:2.) As the evening darkness thickens before the wedding ceremony, so the whiteness of the Bride's modest wedding dress will call attention to her purity.

The Bride of Christ is guarding her heart, keeping it pure and unspotted from the world. Anxiously waiting for that glorious moment when the Bridegroom shall burst through the clouds and claim His chosen Redeemed. Do you not feel the atmosphere charged with anticipation, for the time is drawing very near? "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." (Revelation 22:17.) Those prepared and watching with their lamps trimmed and burning say, "...Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Amen.

## The Importance of Our Promises

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life." Proverbs 13:12.

"What shall I do, for my people are starving?" David asked God. "There's been three long years without rain and no rain is in sight."

"It's because of a broken promise." God told David. "The promise Joshua made to the Gibeonites." (II Samuel 21.)

Do you have a son or daughter that is rebelling? It might be related to a broken promise. It might have been one made many years ago.

There was a son who had been a very obedient child but in his teen years he began showing signs of rebellion. The parents were hurt and sought to find out what had happened to cause this change.

After praying daily for several months about the situation, the father decided to take the boy out for lunch and open up the subject. First, he made small talk about school, his friends, etc. Then the father asked questions about his son's interests and about what he planned to do in the future. Then he told the son that he loved him very much and asked forgiveness for anything he had done to offend the son.

The father was surprised when the son said, "Dad, do you remember the time you promised to take me fishing? That morning I got up and had my fishing gear ready before the sun came up. Mom told me that someone in the congregation needed your help. I waited on the porch until the sun went down. You never came for me nor called to explain the situation.

"Every hour I became more bitter as I thought of other times similar things had happened. I was convinced others were more important to you than me. I also concluded that others were more important to God because He didn't answer my prayer that you would return so we could go on the fishing trip. Why should I strive to please either you or Him?"

The father had a hard time remembering the occasion. He was a busy minister, but he also worked another job so his family could have what they needed. Wasn't that proving his love to his son? How could a child not appreciate what he was doing, and excuse him for not keeping those little appointments that he had made?

King David's generation was suffering drought because of a promise made many years before by another leader, Joshua, who had led the people into Canaan. Their first battle with Jericho was a great success, but the second was not successful because soldier Achan had broken his promise to God. After Achan had admitted his sin and God's wrath was appeased, then Ai was easily conquered.

The people of Gibeon, in another area of Canaan, heard what had happened to Jericho and Ai. They feared what might happen to them so they drew up a plan for their protection. They gathered worn out shoes, ragged clothes, old wine bottles and threadbare sacks. With these they dressed their leaders and their families. Moreover they packed moldy bread for the journey and set out to visit Joshua.

"We have traveled from a distant land," they said, "Our shoes (now falling apart) were new when we started out, so were our clothes, our wine bottles and sacks. This moldy bread we took fresh from our ovens the day we left."

Immediately, Joshua and his princes felt sorry for the poor travelers and took them in. Not only did they give immediate assistance, but without counseling with God they promised the Gibeonites residence in the land of Canaan.

Three days after the league was made, it was discovered that the Gibeonites were nextdoor neighbors. The promise was made, so it had to be kept. The Gibeonites lived among the Israelites for many years. Although they served as servants, they were as thorns continually pricking them.

More than 200 years later Saul became king of Israel. After learning of the trouble the Gibeonites had caused his people, he had many of them killed. David became king after Saul and during his reign a drought came. King David inquired of the Lord the reason for the drought. God answered, "It is because Saul broke the promise with the Gibeonites."

We might think that after all those years God had forgotten, but He had not. God's commandment to not make a league with any nation in the land of Canaan had been broken when the league was made; but nonetheless the league had to be kept. "You must be reconciled with the Gibeonites before I will answer your prayers," God said. King David made restitution and God sent rain.

We can readily see that the percentage of saved children coming from Christian parents is not very high. Are these children offended because of unkept promises? How often parents make promises just to get the child "out of their hair" at the moment. That's a good way to keep the child heavy on your heart for years to come.

Maybe the promise was made long ago and we have forgotten it. Has the child forgotten it or is he or she holding in their mind an offense against you? Is someone else offended because we have not kept a promise? Does your child know about a promise you made to your spouse that has not been kept? He or she might be resentful because of that.

Do you have a son or daughter growing bitter against you and the church because of a broken promise or promises? Rebellion is often caused because of offenses growing into bitterness. Take some time with your daughter. Try taking that troubled son out to lunch and find out if the roots of rebellion might have sprouted in you.

# FAITH AND VICTORY 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

**(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK)**

Notice to subscribers: When you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 60¢ to notify us of each change of address.

Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

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## SUBSCRIPTION RATES



Single copy, one year ..... \$5.00  
Package of 5 papers to one address, one year ..... \$20.00  
Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

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This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ—the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: Separation from sin and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

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The *Faith and Victory* (USPS184-660) is published monthly, except August, for \$5.00 per year by:

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

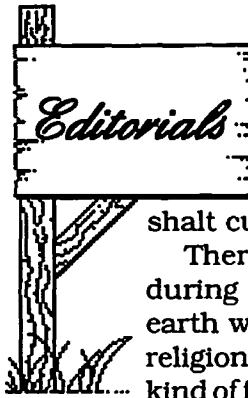
P. O. Box 518, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044  
Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479;  
fax number: 405-282-6318.

Internet address: <http://www.faithpublishing.com>

**(Periodical postage paid at Guthrie, OK.)**

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Postmaster: Send address changes to: *Faith and Victory*, P. O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044.



"And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it. And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." Luke 13:8-9.

There were many people living during the time Jesus was on this earth who had a high profession of religion and yet were not bearing the kind of fruit in their life that God was looking for. This example shows how longsuffering the Lord is in dealing with mankind and how every opportunity is given to him to bring forth righteous fruit before his pilgrimage in this world ends. God is looking for righteous fruit from mankind today also. This illustration should be taken as a warning for the unrighteous man as well as the professing Christian. If our lives remain unfruitful, then we will be taken out of God's kingdom and those who are not in God's kingdom when they leave this world will be eternally separated from God's presence. When one understands the serious implications of being removed from the kingdom it should encourage that individual to give heed to their personal life and see that they are bearing fruit for the Master.

If a minister of God were to "dig" about the members of his congregation it would probably result in protests by the ones who need it the most. Generally these individuals have a dry, crusty cloak of religion wrapped around them and if one were to peer into the heart, beneath that cloak, they would likely find "hidden" things that do not bring approval from the eyes of the Lord. Protests, such as, "That is just Bro. or Sis. so-and-so's opinion," "Why don't they mind their own business," or "if the Lord would show me that, then I would measure up." These things are very likely to be uttered, either to others or to themselves. Once they have expressed their words of this nature, then they draw the rags of self-righteousness more tightly about them and continue in their fruitless existence. Failure to be receptive of godly counsel and righteous instruction has caused many to be removed from the King's garden—not by man, but by God.

A reasonable question might be "Is it possible for one to be in the Kingdom of God and not bear fruit?" The answer would have to be, "perhaps, for awhile." One would likely come

into this condition by once having an experience and then allowing it to grow stale. We know that when outright sin is committed and that individual turns from the Lord, they are out of His Kingdom immediately. However, there are some who drift into a state of fruitlessness over a period of time. They still maintain their testimony but their lives have become barren of spiritual fruit. The longsuffering nature of our heavenly Father, Who is not willing that any should perish, sends His Holy Spirit to work with them and causes them to become productive.

Let us look at the fruits of the Spirit and consider what some of the hindrances might be for one to bear this fruit. All of us enjoy being around those who abound with these precious fruits. They spill over and bless saint and sinner alike and God would be pleased to see more of it produced by His people.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23.

Elevation of "self" is generally the culprit that causes one to have a spiritual crop failure. Many of these fruits require "giving" as a basis for their maturity. When one becomes self-consumed, their giving slows down and their fruit dries up. Giving of oneself encompasses so many aspects of life, it includes our time, talents, companionship, financial and material blessings, abilities, knowledge, wisdom, influence, even our goals and ambitions.

Self can show up under different names. One of those is preoccupation. This can enter a person's life so innocently and gradually that it takes the spirit of the Lord to reveal it's detrimental effects. Generally this will occur with things that are considered, "necessary" in life and then carry over into things that are not really necessary but "desirable." When this happens and our focus is shifted to center on these things that are only desirable, perhaps our mind is still thinking "necessary," our fruit is diminished.

Jesus listed three things in Mark 4:19 that should be considered, "And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful." How careful we should be to not allow these things that are existing all around us to take control of our life and become the object of our affections.

Doubts and worry will also cause some of our fruit to go sour. It will especially steal our joy and it works contrary to faith. The other fruits will also be affected by these nagging problems.

There is a valuable wealth of counsel on this subject given in II Peter 1:5-8. It says, "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*" May the Lord help us give "all diligence" to keep the Lord the central object of our heart and give ourselves completely into His hands to be used for His glory. It will take work on our part to continually add these good things to our life but as the scripture says, we will not be "barren nor unfruitful" if we do. The Spirit of the Lord will work through a vessel that is totally yielded into His hands and the precious fruit will bless all who come into contact with them and one day they will hear their Father say, "...Well done, good and faithful servant;...enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

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We are thrilled that the Lord has laid a burden on the heart of Sis. Karen Goltry to begin working part-time for the Faith Publishing House. Sis. Karen grew up around the Print Shop because her late father, Bro. Bob Sallee, worked here for a number of years. Among other tasks, Sis. Karen will be proofreading, paging the books, tracts and *Beautiful Way* papers. We trust the Lord will bountifully reward her dedicated service and bless her husband, Bro. Ben Goltry, and her two children, Jessica and Landon. Her two children have accompanied her to the shop on some days and their bright smiles have added an enjoyable, youthful liveliness to the working atmosphere here. Some may remember a few years ago how the Lord miraculously healed Sis. Karen of malaria, a disease that she contracted when she accompanied her father to the mission field in Malawi. We are awed at the mighty hand of the Lord and humbly give thanks for His bountiful goodness.

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The Faith Publishing House is located on a parcel of land that contains 20 acres. There is a small creek that crosses our property about a

third of the way back. On the other side of this creek there is a good portion of land that has been growing up in trees because we have not had a way to access that land and keep it mowed. It has been our desire for some time to have a creek-crossing put in place and we give thanks to the Lord for Bro. Earl Benson who supplied us with a large tank and used his backhoe to set it into place and did the dirt work necessary to make a crossing for us. We sincerely appreciate his willingness to do this deed of kindness for the Lord. He also has been mowing the front part of the property and around our facility on a regular basis and has kept our frontage looking nice. May God reward his labor of love.

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We have received word that the shipment of supplies that were in transit to Honduras has finally arrived. Some of you may remember that the shipment was intended to arrive last fall but the ship on which the cargo was loaded was run aground by Hurricane Katrina. It has been the subject of much prayer and concern over the intervening months but we give praise to the Lord for keeping His hand over things and making it possible to finally be delivered. At this time the contents have been stored and were not fully examined for damage before Bro. Doug Wall came back to the states.

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The Oklahoma State meeting that recently concluded was blessed by the Lord. We give praise for the good that was accomplished by the soul stirring messages that went forth. God is still visiting His people and we value the dealings of the Holy Spirit in our midst. The singing and fellowship of the saints brought joy to our heart and refreshed our spirit. We trust those who sought the Lord at an altar of prayer will faithfully follow Him all the way.

The family housing units that are under construction just north of the Guthrie chapel still have quite a bit of work to be done before they can be used. The local building officials are requiring each unit to have double sheetrock walls that extend completely to the roof. This adds considerably to the cost of construction and to the work in finishing the project. We are looking to the Lord to supply the means for the completion of the building. They will be a great blessing in helping accommodate the families who attend the various meetings held here throughout the year. —Bro. Willie E. Murphey  
wemurphey@yahoo.com



PA—We pray for your protection from the natural elements—drought, fire, hurricaes, tornadoes, etc. and more importantly, the storms of life. Your prayers for us are much appreciated. We are much concerned for Bro. Dale Doolittle and Sis. Bernice Williams. God has been gracious to spare them this long.

Sis. Virginia Myers certainly has had her share of health problems with M.S. but God has sustained her thus far, too. With gratitude,

—Sis. Barbara Campbell

CA—Please place Cordillia Revels on your prayer list. She has had some physical challenges. Ellen Bennett has suffered health problems the last eight years. I would like to request prayer for her. Pray for her husband also, he has been carrying a heavy financial load due to her illness.

—Bro. Don Viser

MO—Do remember me and my unsaved loved ones. Christian love, —Sis. Nelva Stanley

WA—Please pray for my niece, Rochelle Glenn. They have discovered that she has a cancerous tumor and she is in a lot of pain.

—Sis. Claudia Jerome

LA—I have been having difficulty with my foot and would like the saints to remember me in prayer that the Lord would completely heal it.

—Sis. Patsy Turner

OK—Sis. Velda Wisner appreciates the prayers of the saints in her behalf. She is looking to the Lord for healing of a very serious affliction.

MO—Remember Sis. Glenetta Carpenter in prayer for a serious affliction that is causing her much trouble.

## Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga  
Sis. Mamie Butcher  
Sis. Helen Carson

Sis. Waneta Creel  
 Sis. Charlotte Dilliner  
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson  
 Bro. Troy Gentry  
 Bro. Robert Hetland  
 The Lounds Sisters  
 Sis. Marie Mitchell  
 Sis. Melba Powell  
 Sis. Anna Severs  
 The Mitch Taylor family  
 Sis. Velda Wisner



## MEETING NOTICES

### JEFFERSON, OR, CAMP MEETING

Everyone is invited to attend the annual camp meeting in Jefferson, OR. The meeting will start the Friday evening of June 16<sup>th</sup> and end on Sunday morning, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Service times will be at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. and a 2:00 p.m. service on the first weekend and last Saturday. For accommodations or directions, you can reach Bro. Bob Wilson at (541) 327-3621 or Bro. Clifford Smith at (503) 581-4575. Your presence would be a great encouragement to the saints here in Oregon.

### GREEN BANK, WV, CAMP MEETING

The annual Green Bank Camp Meeting is scheduled to begin on Friday evening, June 16 and continue through Thursday evening June 22, Lord willing.

Services will be held daily at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Two meals will be served daily, with breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and the noon meal immediately following morning service. There are no afternoon services scheduled.

All are welcome to attend this meeting. Dorm spaces are available for the young people, as well as rooms and private homes for others. Please bring your own bedding and towels. Come prepared for cool weather. You may want to bring a heater or fan as we have unpredictable weather in June. It would be good if you could call ahead so we can better arrange accommodations. Please provide as much of the following information as possible: name and phone number, date of arrival and departure, number of adults and children in party. However, if you decide to suddenly drop by, you will be welcome. Accommodations will be provided.

When coming from the north at Elkins take Highway 250 south; go to Highway 92 and

## MEETING DATES

Jefferson, OR (Camp Meeting)—June 16-25  
 Green Bank, WV (Camp Meeting)—June 16-22  
 Wichita, KS (Sisters' Retreat)—June 23-24  
 Fresno, CA (Camp Meeting)—July 2-9  
 General Southern (Loranger, LA)—July 2-9  
 Okmulgee, OK (Singspiration)—July 15  
 National (Monark Springs, MO)—July 21-30  
 Myrtle, MO (Camp Meeting)—August 4-9  
 California State (Pacoima, CA)—August 18-27  
 Spooner, WI (Tent Meeting)—August 23-27  
 Bakersfield, CA (Fall Meeting)—Sept. 20-24



follow it to Arbovale. When coming from the south take the White Sulfer Springs exit from I-64; follow Highway 92 north to Arbovale. The campground is located off Route 28 and 92 in Arbovale. Signs will be posted to direct you to the grounds. Camper hook-ups are also available.

For further information, call Bro. Mike Carpenter at (304) 456-3250 or Bro. Jim White at (304) 456-4192.

Come praying that the Holy Spirit will have full reign in this meeting.

### WICHITA, KS, SISTERS' RETREAT

The 2006 Sisters' Retreat will be convening, Lord willing, at the Church of God chapel in Wichita, KS (2509 North Grove Street) on June 23-24, 2006.

The theme for 2006 is "Becoming a Woman of Excellence." There will be all day services with different sessions beginning at 8:00 a.m. Child care will be provided.

Accommodations will be provided at the chapel and in homes. However, for those who prefer a hotel, eight rooms are on hold at the Kansas Inn. To make a reservation, call (316) 269-9999. The toll free number is (877) 269-9899 or go online at [www.thekansasinn.com](http://www.thekansasinn.com)

Dinner on Friday will be at the Hometown Buffet. You will need to bring \$10.00 to cover this cost.

Come praying that the Lord will bless these services. The meeting will be run by freewill offerings.

For further information, contact Sis. Mary McDonald (865) 977-6997 or Sis. Carrie Porter (865) 984-2348. Those who wish to send an offering may send it to: Church of God, 322 Lindsay St., Alcoa, TN 37701. For directions to

the Wichita chapel, contact Sis. Shirley Knight at (316) 682-2474 or (316) 683-0006.

**GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMP MEETING**

Lord willing, this meeting will begin Sunday, July 2, with services daily through July 9. Come for a blessing and please support this meeting in your prayers.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Please bring sheets and linens, if possible. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those traveling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information, contact Bro. Carlos Doolittle at (985) 878-8122. The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788.

**OKMULGEE, OK, SINGSPARATION**

A singspiration is planned at Okmulgee, OK, July 15 at 6:00 p.m. Please make plans to attend and bring a song. Let us lift our hearts in joyful praise to the King of Kings.

For further information call Bro. Warren at (405) 396-2839.

**NATIONAL CAMP MEETING  
MONARK SPRINGS, MO**

The National Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held, Lord willing, at Neosho (Monark Springs), MO, July 21-30, 2006. All are cordially invited to come and bring others to enjoy the blessings we are expecting from the Lord.

The Monark Springs campground is located approximately five miles east of Neosho, MO. It is one mile east and 3/4 mile south of the intersection of Highways 86 and 59.

If you travel to Neosho by bus, you may telephone the campground, (417) 472-6427, or Bro. Mike Hightower, (417) 451-3636, for transportation.

The camp meeting is conducted on a freewill offering basis. There is no charge for meals or lodging on the campgrounds. You are welcome to come and enjoy the meeting. We are confident God will supply every need. Meals will be served in the dining hall. Dormitory space and trailer spots are available on a first-come basis. Family units are also available.

The business managers are Randel Bradley (see address and telephone number below), and Mike Hightower, 13974 Newt Dr., Neosho, MO 64850. Phone, (417) 451-3636.

**Instructions For Making  
Dormitory Reservations**

Call DeLoris Bradley (620-226-3390). If not at home, please leave a message on the answering machine, or e-mail <rdbradley@ckt.net>. I will call or e-mail to confirm.

Please provide the following information so I can accommodate each one better:

Name and phone number

Date of arrival

Date of departure

Number of adults and children in party

Things to keep in mind:

Bring your own bedding, if possible.

If you leave after the weekend be sure to let me know, even if you are returning the next weekend.

No young people or children are to stay alone in cabins or family units.

After Wednesday the rooms start clearing out, so you might want to keep that in mind.

We have a boys' and a girls' dorm—if your child is staying in one of these, we ask that you feel the responsibility of staying also for at least one night.

There is a mens' dorm, ladies' dorm and a ladies' dorm for the handicapped.

We want everyone to come and enjoy the fellowship of kindred hearts while we worship the Lord together.

Come praying that the Holy Spirit will have full reign in all that we, as a group, do, from the dorms to the kitchen, and in cleaning and keeping our grounds orderly. Parents or guardians, please keep your children in services with you. I believe God would be pleased if we observe these things and will meet with us under the tabernacle in a greater way.

Love and prayers,

—DeLoris and Randel Bradley  
1540 2000 Rd.  
Bartlett, KS 67332

**CALIFORNIA STATE CAMP MEETING**

The California State Camp Meeting will be held this year from August 18, 2006 to August 27, 2006 at the campgrounds located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA 91331. The first service will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday, August



18th, with three services daily thereafter. For more information, please contact either the Sunset Guest Home at (818) 899-2022, Bro. Paul Phillips at (661) 251-6956, or Bro. Herbert Clay at (818) 897-1396.

### BAKERSFIELD, CA, MEETING SCHEDULE

For many years, it has been our custom to have a five day gospel meeting in August and a three day weekend meeting in September. This year we will not have a meeting in August here in Bakersfield. We invite you to join us at the State of California meeting in August. We will have a five-day meeting in Bakersfield, September 20-24th. Services will be 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Saturday, we will also have our annual 9:00 a.m., "Victory Brunch," which is a time of songs and testimonies of God's blessings as we share breakfast. Sunday services will be as follows, Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Afternoon service at 3:00 p.m. We welcome everyone and solicit your prayers. For Information contact the Pastor, Bro. Hayward Cox or Sis. Tina at (661) 836-3877.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### WICHITA, KS, MEETING REPORT

The Wichita saints wish to report that God blessed us with another good meeting. We had 11 ministers to attend at one time or the other during the meeting. Three were here from the beginning right through the end. The messages were clear and good and caused different ones to seek God at the altar for various helps and blessings.

We were so happy that Bro. Michael Smith was able to be with us for awhile and bring us a message. He still needs complete deliverance from his back problem. More saints from other places were able to be with us this meeting and we thank each one. We received some good rains while the meeting was in progress too. God is so faithful and as always, we thank Him and give glory and honor to His name.

### SPRINGFIELD, OH, CHAPEL PURCHASE

Dear Saints: The Lord has blessed us. The Church of God in Springfield, OH, formerly Dayton, OH, has been able to purchase a chapel on Race Street, in Springfield, OH. There was a balance of \$15,000 that had to be paid in full in

six months. We would like to let the saints know this debt has been paid in full, praise the Lord! We express heartfelt thanks and appreciation to each individual and every congregation that has supported this work.

We are enjoying the chapel the Lord has so graciously blessed us with. Please pray with us that we will be able to reach honest souls and that we will be a lighthouse for God in this area.

We are in need of a kitchen and dining area. There is room to add this on to the back of the chapel. We still have a building fund and hope to be able to do this in the near future.

Anyone desiring to help with this, please send contributions to Church of God Building Fund c/o Rick and Dianna Cox (Treasurer), 2341 Shrine Rd. Springfield, OH 45502, phone (937) 964-9101 or our pastor, Bro. Larry Abbott, 5665 Kizer Ln., Springfield, OH 45502, phone (937) 390-1563.

Again, we express our gratitude to each one that has helped us, God bless you.

—The Springfield congregation on Race St.



## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

OK—Dear loved ones: I send greetings and love to all my dear sisters and brothers. This finds me encouraged and determined to press through. Jesus is so good, I love Him in every way. The truth is so good.

Pray for me, —Sis. Gertrude Haven

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus, the One that "...loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." Revelation 1:5-6.

I think of another scripture that has to do with the blood. The apostle Paul, in giving instruction to the Elders which were at Ephesus, said, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost

hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Acts 20:28

Another scripture says, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20. Again Paul says, "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:20.

It is easy to see by these scriptures that we have been purchased or bought with the greatest price that could be paid, even the blood of God's own Son. God's church has been purchased with so great a price, He does not leave it for man to govern or control in His own human wisdom. He, God, has given that job to His Son, "...whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" Hebrews 1:2. Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it, and He only is satisfied when it is getting the best of care, that comes about by Him being the head and placing the members in the body as it pleases Him. Then He fills each member with His Holy Spirit. This brings a closeness between Him and His people. "...If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." I John 1:7.

The Holy Spirit is the greatest gift to the church. Through it God reveals His Word to our souls. He reveals to us the preciousness of Jesus' blood and the preciousness of His love. One scripture says, "...the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." As we yield ourselves to God and allow His Spirit and Word to dwell in our hearts, we have the greatest treasure one could have in this world and gives us hope of *That Happy World Above*—"Where there's joy and peace and love.... There we'll sing and happy be, And in all eternity Our Redeemer we shall see, In that happy world above."

—Bro. T. V. McMillian

LA—Dear ones: Greetings to one and all from Louisiana in the lovely name of Jesus. First, we must apologize for not having written this letter sooner. I know many have inquired about our congregation's well being but there are some who haven't heard, so we'd like to take

this opportunity to bring everyone up to date.

As everyone well knows, hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf States, which included Louisiana, on Aug. 29, 2005. There was much destruction of property all around us and many lost their lives. We do thank the Lord for the mercy He did extend to His saints. We are presently a very small congregation but we love the Lord and are pressing on. The Louis and Tauna Scott family was probably the hardest hit with quite a bit of damage to their home and furnishings. They have recently moved from an apartment back to their home even though the repairs aren't completed, but they should be soon. Sis. Diane Kimble's place received some damages, as did Bro. John and Sis. Diane Clement's place. The chapel received some damage but nothing major. None of the places were flooded, thank the Lord. New Orleans (and other affected areas) will never be the same and it will take a long time before things even get back to "normal" in those areas. It's so sad to see neighborhoods—miles—of desolation still yet. Work is being done on the levees now but they say that they will only be ready for a category 3 hurricane. Really, even a tropical storm would create lots of problems and much flooding right now. Hurricane season is almost upon us again...June 1 through Nov. 30. That's right...six months long! Do remember us here in prayer that as the season approaches God will have mercy upon His people here and spare us. We're thankful for His love and protection to us in the past and our faith and confidence is in Him.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who prayed for us and helped in any way. Some sent offerings and we appreciate them so much. It all came in so handy at a time it was so needed. Some Sunday schools took their offerings to send to us. Some from the Cayman Islands sent offerings... congregations, individuals...you know who you are. We wouldn't want to make a list in fear of leaving someone out. God knows each one and we trust and pray that He will continue to bless you for your love shown to us. There's no one like God's people...the wonderful family of God. We love each one and again we thank all who helped us here in our time of need.

Bro. Gary Connor from Miami, FL has been doing some work here since the storm. His wife, Sis. Carla and three children are moving here

this month when school is out. They will be a very welcome addition to our congregation. Bro. Jackie Riley from Dallas, TX is here working off and on. Over the last few years our congregation has dwindled in size but it is now growing again. Other folks seem interested and have been coming out to service. Please do remember the work here much in prayer and that we will be faithful unto the end.

The Kenner (New Orleans), LA congregation  
—Bro. John Clement, pastor  
— — — — —

WI—Dear Saints: It is truly blessed to live for the Lord. What a wonderful life. As we look back over our lives we realize that the truly happy times were the ones spent living for God. He has taken such good care of us and someday we will reap Heaven if we faint not! Praise God!

The Lord has worked out an early retirement for Bryan. His last day will be July 1<sup>st</sup>. We are thankful, as it was becoming very hard for him to do his job with his bad hip. We are holding on for complete healing for his hip. Remember him in prayer.

We will be selling our home, putting our things in storage and living in our truck-camper until the Lord tells us where we are to go. We will be doing some traveling to visit the saints in different locations. Please pray for us that we will follow the Lord wherever He leads.

Yours in Christ,

—Bro. Bryan and Sis. Sheri Rich  
— — — — —

OK—Dear Saints: It has been a while since I have written. The saints have been so good in praying for our family! We wish to thank you. I also want to testify of the blessing the Lord has been to us. I will soon be 76 years old. In looking back it seems my life has passed by so fast!

Our lives seem to go by in sections. First there are the pre-school and school years. Next comes the responsibility of choosing an occupation to make a living. Marriage, raising children then middle age quickly follows. Then, before you know it, you reach retirement and old age. And we wonder, where did it go?

That's why it is so important to start out with the Lord; to give ourselves to Him while we are young and then let Him direct our lives. We can spare ourselves so many heartaches and troubles along the way if we let the Lord lead us. It is easy to get over-involved in trying to get ahead in life.

First thing you know, if you aren't careful, you'll forget about the Lord.

If the Lord spares us to old age, usually one of the companions is taken. That makes such a difference in the rest of your life; it feels like part of you is gone. I'm thankful that I have a strong consolation that Dora made it in peace. I have a real anticipation of going over to meet her there. For the past several years, each year about this time, it seems I have a real bout with affliction. Each year the Lord has brought me back up again. I know that one of these years will be the last. What a blessing it is to be able to look forward with hope!

It's amazing, our ambitions and goals that we're fighting so hard for, when we get to the end of the way they seem to drop off and not matter very much. If a person is ready to meet the Lord it is real interesting to see the changes that take place in our bodies as we get older, ripening up for Heaven. They say I have congestive heart failure, along with other things. There have been times at night that it seems like my heart will stop for sure. But there is no fear, because if the Lord calls, all we're doing is stepping over into real life. Our life here is only a preparation room for our eternal home.

Of late I've been thinking a lot about eternity. It is so serious to think that our soul will be eternally at one of two places. Many people are successful in business and smart in money affairs, etc., but when it comes to the most important decision of their life they are willing to leave it to someone else to figure out for them or just try not to think about it. But just think what it would be like to miss Heaven. There have been times that I have been smothering and feel so desperate. Just think, in Hell this is the feeling all the time; nothing good, nothing pleasant, no hope! It is so serious, folks! Let's each make sure, very sure, that we are ready for Heaven! Thank you so much for your prayers, friendship and love down through the years to me and my family! Let's all meet in Heaven.

—Bro. Dale Doolittle  
— — — — —

**From India...**

June 11, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie Murphey and dear saints abroad: Greetings to you dear ones in the precious name of Jesus. Thank you for your letter dated May 23. May God bless the camp meetings in USA this year. Salvation of

souls is the main purpose of our efforts in this world. By the grace of God all of our congregations are doing fine. Monsoon rain is not very strong in Kerala this year. Children in Bethesda Childrens Home are also doing fine. Please continue to remember our needs in your prayers.

Yours in Him, —Bro. John Varghese

### From the Philippines...

June 4, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie: Greetings of peace and love in Jesus name! Kumusta? I pray that you are in good health so that you could continue to work for Him. As for the Church of God in Muntinlupa, I thank God we are doing fine.

Last April during our VBS, almost everyone got sick of the summer flu. I myself, after the flu this whole month of May, I have swollen legs, feet, face and hands. I have shortness of breath and feel dizzy. I thank the Lord, He still helps me to stand at the pulpit to deliver His message on Sundays. Sometimes my sons take over when I really can't do it.

Today, I feel fine. I thank God. I prayed that I would be better. My feet and legs are not swollen as much now.

Please give my love to all the Saints. How's Sis. Neta? My hugs I send to her. Thank you. God bless you is our prayer.

Your sister in Him, —Nellie Tibayan



**Leroy Creel**, 85, of Guthrie, OK went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, June 3, 2006, after a short illness. Leroy was born on August 16, 1920. He was the third child born in a family of ten to Elic and Frances Creel of Wright City, OK. His two older sisters, Eldora and Ollie Mae looked up to him being the oldest son. At the early age of nine, Leroy felt obligated to help his parents in supporting the family. The siblings

looked up to him, and continued to, all his life through. He became a cow puncher and wild horse rider at an early age. He went into the Civilian Conservation Corps and received an honorable discharge on September 30, 1940 at Broken Bow, OK.

Leroy joined the army on December 19, 1941 and served in all of the Second World War and the Korean War. He would come home on leave bringing presents to his younger siblings and share his pay with them. He faced many hardships during his term of duty. He retired from the military on April 1, 1963.

On November 30, 1942, Leroy married Ruby Duncan of Lahoma, OK and to this union four children were born, three sons and one daughter. His wife Ruby was a very dear friend of Waneta's mother, Beatrice Eck. Many evenings were spent at the Duncan's or Waldo and Beatrice's home playing games, putting quilts or puzzles together. On Sundays, they had home worship together. Ruby was killed in a tragic accident in front of their home in Enid, OK on May 8, 1969. Following the death of his first wife he married Julie Trindle. They had only three short years together until her passing in Kingfisher, OK.

Leroy met Waneta Ruth Eck and after a short romance they married on September 14, 1973. Although there was a span in their ages, he was the love of her life. To this union they had one son, Daniel Lee, born on March 14, 1979. Love truly prevailed for they have enjoyed almost 33 years together.

Just a few days prior to his passing, on May 25, 2006, Leroy and Waneta were having prayer together. Waneta concluded her prayer and he asked her to continue praying. He was calling on God to save his soul. Our dear heavenly Father heard and answered his plea for mercy and Leroy was saved to spend eternity with the Lord.

He was preceded in death by his parents Elic and Frances Creel, two sisters, Ollie Mae Landreth and Bonnie Sutton and three brothers, Elic, George and Chester;

He leaves to mourn his wife, Waneta Ruth, of the home; his children, Stan and his wife, Pat, of Stillwell, OK, Jim and his wife, Anna, of Enid, OK; one daughter, Sharon Roberson of Lampasas TX, Edward and his wife, Shirley, of Enid, OK, Daniel Lee and his wife, Rhonda, of Edmond, OK; 15 grandchildren, Michael, Mark, Melissa, Timmy, Nicóle, Bryan, Ashley, René, Ruby, Rich-

ard, Michelle, D'nae, Levi, Wesley D., Bridgette; 20 great-grandchildren, Logan, Conner, James, Sarah, Seirra, Austin, Eric, Abrianna, Ashton, Angel, Nathaniel, Kayla, Kylie, Wesley, Madison, Brandon, Julie, Spencer, Styler, Morgan. He also has two sisters, Eldora Jennings of Guthrie, OK and Fayon Chitwood of Norman, OK; two brothers, Halmon of Kingsland, TX and Ray of Klamath Falls, OR and a host of other relatives and friends.

The memorial services were officiated by Bro. Stanley Dickson and Bro. Willie E. Murphey. He was interred at Memory Gardens Memorial Park Cemetery at Guthrie, OK.

— — — — —  
**Marie Violet (Massey) Francisco** was born in Bakersfield, CA, on August 16, 1925 and passed from this life May 5, 2006. She was the last child born to James and Violet Massey. In addition to Marie, her family consisted of four sisters—Elvira, Mildred, Georgianna, and Elizabeth, and three brothers—Louis, Walter, and Robert.

Marie's father passed away when she was two years old. She and her siblings were raised by their mother and were taught to love the Lord beginning at an early age. She prayed that she would never bring shame to her mother. She accepted the Lord as her Savior many years ago. She strove to be a good example before God, just as she had been taught.

In 1943, she married Nathaniel Francisco of Bakersfield. Marie graduated from Union High School (now Bakersfield High) in 1944. After Nathaniel was discharged from the Army, they returned from Texas and made their home in Bakersfield. To their union was born 13 children. In 1969 they moved to Los Angeles, CA, and later Inglewood, CA. They remained in Inglewood for 16 years before moving back to Bakersfield and later to Tracy, CA. They celebrated their 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary January 1, 2006.

Marie had several career wishes. These included working in a flower shop, traveling around the world with her mother, and being a weather reporter. She realized some of her dreams by traveling to several destinations with her children. Some of the places she visited were Bermuda, Hawaii, Chicago, New Orleans, Atlanta, and Houston. She often spoke of her love for all kinds of weather—sunny days, cloudy days, and she especially loved rainy days. She loved

the smell of clean air, green grass, pretty flowers and the new growth after the rain.

She cherished her children and had special nicknames for most of them. She also knew exactly how many grandsons, granddaughters, great-grandsons and great-granddaughters she had, as well as the one on the way. She eagerly made new acquaintances and loved to shop for family and friends. There was a special love she displayed that caused others to love her as she loved them. She always sent cards for birthdays and special occasions to her family, friends, and acquaintances.

Her legacy continues. She wanted to have a positive influence on humanity. She leaves us blessed by her undying love for God, high moral character, and unique qualities. In January 2006, Marie was diagnosed with a terminal illness. She told her children she would like to live longer, but she would accept God's will. Her prayer for all of us was to get right with and to hold on to God.

Surrounded by her loving family in Dallas, Texas, she went to be with the Lord on Friday, May 5, 2006. One son Nathaniel James "Jimmy" Francisco preceded her in death. She leaves to cherish her memory, her husband, Nathaniel Francisco, nine daughters and three sons and their spouses; Norma Francisco, Karen Francisco and James Elliott, Marian Francisco, Eunice and Ronald Hattley, Antonia and John Guice, Steven Francisco and Mercedes Melara, Jennifer and Henry Zakers, Sarah and Arlynn Sorrell, Brian and Melanie Francisco, Kimberly and Darrell Johnson, Danelda and Gordon Beck, Mark and Sharon Francisco, 33 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; in-laws Irma Francisco, Felix Francisco, Lawrence and Juanita Francisco; a first cousin Violet Dotson, and numerous other loving family members and friends.

Memorial services were officiated by Bro. Darrell Johnson and others. She was laid to rest in Union Cemetery, Bakersfield, CA.

— — — — —  
**Betty Jean (Millican) Koch** was born March 15, 1929, near Morrisville, MO. She was the daughter of Mack Shell and Clora (Dotson) Millican. She went to be with Jesus April 7, 2006, at the age of 77 years and 23 days.

She attended school at Marion C. Early and graduated in 1946. She completed one and a half years of college at Mt. Zion Academy near Ava, MO.

On June 4, 1947, she was united in marriage to Verlon Koch. To this union was born one son, Max Edward Koch.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mack and Clara Millican, three sisters, Doris Elaine Millican, Reda Pauline Luce and Maxine Stickney, also, one brother, Dennie Edward Millican.

She is survived by her husband, Verlon E. Koch of the home; one son, Max Edward Koch and his wife, Kay, of Morrisville; one granddaughter, Verlonda and her husband, Rob Slentz, of Republic, MO; two grandsons, Doug and his wife, Jodi Koch, of Goodson; and Mark Koch of Morrisville; two great-grandchildren, Zackary Slentz and Kaitlynn Koch; a sister-in-law, Lanette Millican of Kansas City, MO and several nieces and nephews.

Betty Jean was saved as a young lady in college at Mt. Zion. This is where she met Verlon. She later consecrated her life to God and was sanctified. She filled her place as a minister's wife and stood by the truth of the Word. When they printed *The Gospel Emancipator* she worked endless hours. She was a very conscientious person and she seemed to always fear that she would not please God. When she learned her time here was short she wanted all doubts removed. Bro. and Sister Busbee came. They sat down, talked and quoted scripture to her and from then on all doubts were removed. She was at peace and completely satisfied.

I sat by her bed several times the last 11 months and several times I sang these words to her. "What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see! When I look upon His face the One who saved me by His grace, what a day glorious day that will be!" One time she said, "I'll be glad when I can go."

As I watched her body slowly deteriorate I was reminded of the story of a ship. It sailed off into the distance while those on the shore watched until it was gone from sight and then someone declared, "There, she is gone." Gone where? She had only gone from their sight. I believe this was true of Betty. We said "There, she is gone!" but I believe on the shores of Heaven others were shouting "There she comes!"

The funeral was held in the Pitt's Funeral Home in Bolivar, MO. Bro. Leslie Busbee brought the message entitled "A virtuous woman." The singing was by The Church of God saints. She was laid to rest in the Eudora, MO, cemetery.

#### A Note of Thanks

Words can never express our heartfelt thanks to everyone for the love and kindness shown to us through the illness and death of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother, Betty Jean Koch.

A special thanks to our friends and neighbors for their prayers, food, flowers and cards, also to the singers and Bro. Leslie Busbee, who conducted the funeral.

—Verlon Koch, Max and Kay Koch, and her grandchildren.

## Growing Old Gracefully

By Sis. Naomi Jennings

I am so thankful to be saved and very much encouraged. God has been so good to me. I'm thankful God is teaching me to grow old gracefully. It was so hard for me to learn to be old. I was always doing things for myself—going places alone. They used to ask me, "Aren't you lonely traveling alone?" My answer was, "Oh no, I have the best company in the world—God is with me." I would drive over 200 miles going to the camp meeting, singing and praying—God would shower me with His blessings.

Gradually that stopped. I can't drive on the highway anymore. But being old doesn't stop me from going to meetings if I feel like the Lord wants me to go. Just because we get old we don't have to sit at home alone feeling sorry for ourselves because no one comes by or calls—go

see them or give them a call. There is always someone who needs encouraging. We can be fruitful in our old age.

I had a wonderful experience last month on the train going to the dedication of the chapel in Dallas. God blessed that meeting from the first song to the last. On the way there and back I would take my walk on the train. There were many cars to go through and back. I got lost so much going back to my coach that the lady on the train, who assists people, would say, "wrong way." She knew I was lost and trying to find my coach. I was ashamed and started to see who was in the coach before mine. A little man had on a green cap and coat. I used him as a mark; my coach was the next one. I told him, "Don't

you move; you are my marker." That is old age syndrome.

I love the way God watches over many other older ones and me. It wasn't funny at first, forgetting to do the things I normally do. But I got used to saying, "Help me today, Lord," and He did. One day I went out the door and God spoke to me and said, "Go back and check." I entered the kitchen and there was my eggs still boiling on the stove. Oh how I thank the Lord for watching over me.

It wasn't easy when I could not see as I used to—my eyes are failing. I thought of the scripture, "In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened," Ecclesiastes 12:3. We can replace the grinders, but it takes God to help us see as our eyes fail.

I am so thankful to God for blessing me to still be able to live alone and take care of myself and I'm still able to drive to church in the day time. Oh, what a mighty God we serve.

Yes, I'm learning how to grow old gracefully. It's not easy, but God is helping me. Many times I have to go to the front house where my daughter lives to have her help me—maybe button a shoe or zip a dress. Sometimes she says in her nice sweet voice, "Mom, go change that. That's the wrong color" or since I lost so much weight she may say, "that's so much too large." But I'm thankful for my children; they do for me what I can't. Yes, I'm learning.

As many of you know I had a severe nervous attack last year. I had a month of bed rest and God has blessed me. I thank Him so much. I have learned to be more thankful and not complain. I'm like Job, "For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me:..." Job 23:14. I have learned that whatever happens to me, God has allowed it for my spiritual benefit. God knows what is best.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the saints and friends that assisted me in the Pacoima Camp Meeting. After my helper lost her health, many others came in and helped me. Many gave me financial help. Thank the Lord for answering prayer. One young lady said to me, "I don't want to get old." I told her, "You either get old or die young." I thank God for blessing me to be past 83 years old. It wasn't easy, but, yes, I have learned to grow old gracefully. Pray for me.

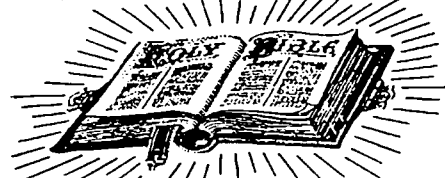
## Have You Seen Him?

Isaiah saw Him in the temple. Moses found Him in the wilderness. The Hebrew children saw Him in the furnace. Job found Him in the midst of severe affliction. Jacob saw Him at Bethel when beset by danger. He came to Joseph in the dungeon after years of imprisonment and slavery. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, just previous to the beginning of His life-work. Paul was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of satan to buffet him, that the power (and revelations) of Christ might be entrusted to him

Strange places to meet the King! Are we willing to go part of the way, that we may meet Him face to face? —Lottie Jarvis

The son of a wealthy man was scratching upon a show window with the diamond in his ring. A ragged newsboy said to him, "Don't do that." The rich boy replied, "I guess I have a right to do as I please." "Yes," answered the newsboy, "but yer can't rub it out." And so it is, the life we live cannot be erased. Jesus can forgive, but the evil influence that was started flows on. —C.E. Orr

## Bible Lessons



"Beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, we are CHANGED . . ." II Cor. 3:18

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