8-1952

The Texas Herald, V. 3, No. 8, August 1952

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Through the centuries there has been one light along the rocky coast of human progress that has never failed. Education, great as it has been as a beacon light, has sometimes failed. The Western world was almost destroyed recently by men called Nazis who drew their skill, daring and even many of their concepts from the German educational system which in philosophy, music, medicine and science stood paramount in the realm of scholarship for half a century. Science itself, for all its brilliant moments of illumination, now threatens to leave the world in total darkness. Everything man has learned about economics will suddenly become dim and futile when again we have surplus of goods, unemployment, hunger. Millions are gripped now by the possibility of the return to such conditions. But the light of Christian truth has not failed; whenever men have been selfless and generous to one another they have prospered; whenever they have loved and feared not, they have lived in peace; when they have trusted and obeyed God they have found contentment. Men never need be without hope with this eternal light.

By Charles A. Wells
PLAYING CHECKERS WITH GOD

In his book, "Christ the Healer", Evangelist F. F. Bosworth says that getting things from God is like playing checkers. In a checker game, one person moves and then can do nothing further until the other player moves. So it is in our relationship with God. Sometimes it is our move and sometimes it is God's move.

God never moves out of his turn, but He ALWAYS MOVES WHEN IT IS HIS TURN! Many folks are asking God to move when it isn't His turn to move. He has already moved and now is waiting their move.

God always makes the FIRST move. He moves towards us with His great love and compassion. He seeks us before we seek Him. He makes the first move for our salvation, our healing, our filling with His Holy Spirit, to supply every need, our guidance and our home in Heaven.

"God's first move is His Promise in His Holy Word.

"As his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto our home in Heaven."

It is our turn. It is God's move. When Noah built the ark he had nothing but the naked Word of God that there was to be a flood and that Noah must build an ark and in it save his family and the chosen beasts of the earth.

"God's second move is our move. When the ark was complete, Noah and his family entered, and the flood came. Noah could not move again until God had completed the ark and gotten his family and the chosen beasts of the earth into the ark."

"God's third move is the answer to our prayer. The ark was filled and the ark came into manifestation. We want to SEE an improvement. Then we will believe. That is not faith, and that is not God's way."

"Noah built the ark he had nothing but the naked Word of God that there was to be a flood and that Noah must build an ark and in it save his family and the chosen beasts of the earth."

"Then Noah's move. This meant that he must go out on dry land, far from any stream and build an ark, enduring the jeers and ridicule of the community as folks from mile around came by to witness this "crazy old man" calmly building a ship and warning everyone who came of the destruction ahead. God could not move again until Noah had completed the ark and gotten his family and the animals aboard, as God had directed.

"Then the move was back on God. And, remember, God always makes the first move. He moves towards us with His great love and compassion. He seeks us before we seek Him. He makes the first move for our salvation, our healing, our filling with His Holy Spirit, to supply every need, our guidance and our home in Heaven.

"God's first move is His Promise in His Holy Word.

"As his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:3-4)

"After God has given us a promise in His Word, the next move is up to us. Our move includes doing five things:

First, we must BELIEVE His Word, nothing else. "Faith is the evidence of things not seen." (Heb. II:1)

"Therefore, I say unto you, What things soever you desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them." (Mark II:24)

Second, we must CLAIM the promise for OURSELVES. It is not enough to believe God's Word is true, to believe that He did heal in Jesus' day, that He heals some today. If we expect to have our prayers answered we must believe that God's promises are made to us, and claim them personally.

Write your own name into the verses of promise. God's Word is like a blank check. You must write in your name if you want to cash it.

"As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee." (Matt:8:13)

"Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses." (Joshua 1:3)

The children of Israel had to go into the land of Canaan and "stake out their claim" before they could possess the Promised Land.

Third, We must confess our faith.

"Whosoever, therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in Heaven." (Matt:10:32)

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:10)

"Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith". (Mark II:22-23)

"We must boldly SAY we are claiming the answer to our prayer, standing on God's promises. Our answer to the Devil must be the same as Christ's: "It is written; It is written." Fourth, we must ACT on our faith, ACT OUT our belief, do something to prove our faith, act as we would act if we KNEW our prayer was already answered. What would we do if we KNEW our prayer was answered? If in bed, we would get up. We would throw out our pills. We would "stretch forth our hand" if drawn with rheumatism. We would begin DOING the things we could not otherwise do without the help of God; that things that we had asked for and that God has promised.

This is God's game and we must play it according to His rules. His way to obtain is: 1. Faith. 2. Fact. 3. Feeling. First, faith in the naked Word of God, regardless of pains, symptoms or appearances. Second, the manifestation of the thing prayed for.

Third, the feeling.

"We want to obtain the blessing in the reverse order: 1. Feeling. 2. Fact. 3. Faith. First, we want to FEEL something, some tremor or sensation, some improvement. Next we want the blessing to come into manifestation. We want to SEE an improvement. Then we will believe. That is not faith, and that is not God's way.

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"It was then Noah's move. This meant that he must go out on dry land, far from any stream and build an ark, enduring the jeers and ridicule of the community as folks from mile around came by to witness this "crazy old man" calmly building a ship and warning everyone who came of the destruction ahead. God could not move again until Noah had completed the ark and gotten his family and the animals aboard, as God had directed.

"Then the move was back on God. And, remember, God always makes the first move. He moves towards us with His great love and compassion. He seeks us before we seek Him. He makes the first move for our salvation, our healing, our filling with His Holy Spirit, to supply every need, our guidance and our home in Heaven.

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"A sacred burden is this life ye bear, Look on it, lift it, bear it solemnly, Stand up and walk beneath it steadfastly; Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin, But onward, upward, till the goal ye win."

—Frances Anne Kemble

Paul was the greatest globe-trotter of his day. While Jesus confined his activities to the tiny Holy Land and was never farther from his birthplace than Egypt, Paul traveled the length and breadth of the Roman Empire. He was Christ's No. 1 Salesman, with an unquenchable desire to "tell the world" about his Saviour. How much baggage did Paul take with him as he travelled? What did he deem necessary for his many journeys?

"And after those days we made ready our baggage and went up to Jerusalem. (Acts 21:15)

"Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Heb.12:1)

Those who drag huge trailer houses filled with luxuries behind their cars and go about seeking warm and comfortable places in which to winter are confined to the low countries.

The invigorating chill of the high altitudes, the glorious view, the strength that comes from climbing, are not for them. There is not enough power to pull trailers piled high with baggage when the way gets rough and steep. The man who would explore the mountain tops must leave much of his load behind.

The way of the Christ leads upward. It is not a way of coasting, drifting. It is the joy of putting strength against obstacles, of climbing, of falling, and rising to dare again. Christ's army must be mobile, able to meet changing conditions, to go forward and upward, without backward glances at the many interests left behind. Paul knew with Jesus that he who would go far must travel light. Therefore he warned, "lay aside every weight"; and so testify St. Francis, Kagawa, Gandi and all the other saints we know of. "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." (1 John 2:6).

One, then, who would follow Paul must look well to his luggage. (What he lugs along). If you try to take too much there will be many places he will lead that you cannot follow. What must we take, what leave behind, as we pack our bags to trace the trail that he blazed across the world?

Wealth? How much? Just enough for your actual needs and keep those needs simple. This is the heaviest commodity of all and just a little too much will keep you in the low lands. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." (Matt. 19:24). The love of money is the root of all evil." (I Tim. 6:10)

Luxuries? Take care. They will make you soft and effortless and cause you to spurn the exhilaration of the steep climb. If left behind they can provide for many the necessities of life. "Behold, they that wear soft clothing are in king's houses." (Matt. 11:8)

Comforts? Choose with wisdom. Just enough to keep the body healthy, the mind active and the spirit at its best. Too many will blind your eyes until you cannot see the way. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself." (Matt. 16:24)

Pleasures? Only a few, and those the best. If you must enjoy the foolish, wasteful, sinful pleasures all about us, best not plan the trip; there are no casinos in the heights. "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." (I Tim. 5:6)

Family? Yes, by all means take the family if they will go, but you must watch carefully as they pack. Many a man never starts the journey because of the many things he wants to accumulate for his wife and children before they go, and thus shuts out, not only himself, but his family as well, from the promised land. "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." (Matt. 10:37)

Friends? A few of the best, if they would go your way. If not, better leave them all. No one who must be surrounded by hosts of friends and admirers can travel far with Jesus or Paul. "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you!" (Luke 6:26) You will come to forks in the road where there will arise arguments as to which is the way. If to please them you take the lower path you will miss Jesus. There comes a time in every Christian's life, if he climbs far, when he will have to walk alone. "If they have persecuted me they will also persecute you." (John 15:20) Perhaps you had better practice spending some time each day, alone, before you start.

Pride? Some places we will have to stoop, perhaps to crawl. "Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." (Rom. 12:16)
Prejudice? There will be stops where we will have to camp with those of other races, other faiths. "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him." (Rom. 10:12)

Food? Just enough to keep you strong and fit. Overeating dulls the mind and blunts the conscience. It was no accident that Jesus fasted in the wilderness to do battle with the devil. The clamoring voices of the flesh were stilled that the voice of God might be heard. "The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink." (Rom. 14:17)

Drinks? Leave behind all spirits, but take the Spirit. "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit." (Eph. 5:18) "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." (John 4:14)

Sins? Better to leave them all behind. Even the smallest ones weigh heavily when we start uphill, and any one of them can swing us into the ditch on some unsuspected curve. "The wages of sin is death." (Rom. 6:23)

Books? The very best, but not too many. One who spends all his time in reading has little time to climb. Take the Bible, on top of the pile, within easy reach. In it you will find the wisdom of the ages and of God, ever judging the transient headlines of the day. "The cloke that I left at Tros with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments." (II Tim. 4:13)

Take Faith and Hope and Love. You can not go far without these three. Faith of the pile, within each space. Use it daily, hourly, always. It will fill most of your baggage of the day. Take prayer; take plenty. Indeed this article should follow in their steps took much of it into the water. "He who drinks thereof will live forever." (John 4:10)

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2. PAUL THE PRISONER
Make me a captive, Lord, And then I shall be free.

What was Paul's demeanor when in prison? What was his attitude towards the officers and guards, the military, the government responsible for his imprisonment? With thirteen million Negroes in America being denied their equal rights as citizens, many of the Christians, with sixty thousand American citizens of Japanese and Jewish origin interned during the last war, many of whom were also Christians; with six thousand conscientious objectors to war in Public Service camps in that war, and over a thousand in prison; and with a definitive trend toward regimentation in evidence in America, it may not be amiss to consider the proper attitude of the Christian who is in bondage, or who is confined for the sake of his Lord Jesus, as was Paul.

Here, as in every other question, Paul did not rely on his own opinions or feelings in the matter. He followed the lead and the commands of Christ who had been a prisoner before him.

How then did Christ face persecution, arrest, imprisonment and punishment? The answer to that question is a complete demonstration of what being a "Christian" means, a complete demonstration of the Cross, a complete review of all that Christ said and did while on earth.

At the beginning of his ministry, before anyone thought of his being arrested, Jesus laid down some revolutionary rules for conduct. They were so radical, so opposed to what everyone believed, so different from the usual custom, that no one took them seriously.

"Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say..." (Matt. 5:11)

In other words, meet whatever of evil anyone may render against you, with a larger portion of good. One of the galling rules of the Roman conquerors was the one requiring a Jew to carry equipment of a Roman soldier for one mile whenever he demanded. Unjust law? Yes, surely! Tyranny? Dictatorship? Indeed, yes! How would Christ have the Christian meet it? By suffering, by persisting, by doing good to him who cursed him. Why? There is too much difference in condition between the two. The insulted one usually tells the drunk to go home and sober up and he will meet him some day sober and see then what he has to say. Often the sobered one comes and apologizes, saying, "I was not at my-

GOOD PREACHING
A Hindu woman was converted (chiefly by hearing the Word of God read) and as a result she suffered much persecution from her husband. One day a missionary asked her "When your husband is angry and persecutes you, what do you do?" She replied: "Well, sir; I cook his food better; when he complains I sweep the floors cleaner; and when he speaks unkindly I answer him mildly. I try, sir, to show him that when I became a Christian I became a better wife and a better woman."

The consequence was that while the husband could withstand all the preaching of the missionary, he could not stand against the preaching of his wife, and he gave his heart to Christ.

The Pentecostal Evangel
self, my best self, else I would not have acted thus.”

Nor does one plant his doubled fist on the fair chin of a sharp tongued woman who ruffles him with catty speech. Why? The woman is protected by her sex. She is the symbol, though perchance at times only the symbol, of all that is pure and good and noble. More she is the “weaker sex”. The one who struck back at a woman would not thereby enhance his reputation or his self-esteem. The gentleman could only show his superior chivalry, superior strength, by contrasting the xivem’s temper with his manly self-restraint.

All these examples throw light upon the Way of Christ to meet injustice, ill-treatment, evil. His broad wisdom made his adversaries seem childlike in their pettiness; his noble character had only pity for the one who was not “at his best”. His strength and power and superiority of spirit made it not only un-chivalrous and unloving, the impossible, to strike again the one who struck, and yet had the possible likeness of God within his breast.

He had a new technique, so recognized by his contemporaries as a method of dealing with others as to be labelled the Way. He had a secret weapon. When they struck with force and evil, He struck back with love and pity and an extra mile, and the impact of his power staggered them.

So we find Jesus paying taxes to the hated Romans, (Matt. 17:24-27) We hear Him issue that profound edict that still thunders down the centuries, “Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s. (Matt. 22:21) Before Pilate He stands in majestic dignity, his strength never greater; his adversaries never smaller; and from the shallow tyrant was wrung the epitome of tributes, “Behold the MAN!” (John 19:5)

Christians, in fighting injustice, frequently overlook the fact that Christ came, not so much dealing out justice as calling for escape from just deserts by repentance, breathing out forgiveness, trying to win the erring ones, change them rather than to save himself. “For I came not to judge the world but to save the world.” (John 12:47)

What matter if He were a prisoner, or reviled or forced to carry the pack of an arrogant Roman? What really mattered was the fact that his jailor, his persecutor, his conqueror, was lost in sin. Could He win him and set him free? If so, how? Spiritual freedom, repentance, to be real must be voluntary. That, then, ruled out winning them by force, by rendering them their just dues in turn. How then?

He turned upon them His secret weapon, His very nature, for He, like God, was Love. He did not hesitate to point out their error, but most of all He loved them; loved them so much He could not lift a hand in retaliation though they slay Him. And slowly but surely it got beneath their skin. Not soon enough to save His life, for that life must be laid down as clinching proof of the extent and power of His love. And even as He breathed his last He whispered, “Father forgive them for they know what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

Paul was likewise a follower of the Way. He too used Christ’s secret weapon; in-exhaustible Love. Knowing that his Way meant the ultimate destruction of tyranny, dictatorship, militarism, bondage, yet Paul respected the present authority of government. (Rom. 13:1-7) Like Jesus, he organized no insurrection or massed rebellion against wrong, but patiently trusted the leavening process of good to destroy the evil.

Though knowing that God was no respecter of persons, that all were one in Christ, and urging Philemon to grant mercy and freedom to his runaway slave Onesimus, Paul nevertheless raised no hue and cry nor abolitionist army to free the slaves. On the contrary he advised his slave converts not to strike for freedom but to remain in their places and convert their masters, (I Cor. 7:20-24; Eph. 6:5-9; Col. 3:22-4:1) knowing that as the Way was utilized and followed, slavery was gradually but surely doomed.

The blackest mark upon the history of our great Nation is that four year period of 1861-65. Man, ever impatient with the slowness of Christ’s Way, again took up his worldly weapons and marched forth to do by force of arms what can never so be done; bring true and lasting freedom and peace to the oppressed. Good white and black tyrants and oppressors were killed in the name of right and justice, and a greater sin than slavery thereby committed.

And there followed years of bitterness and petty tyranny, years of black terror and white robbed riders, and the end of enmity is not yet. The slave is not yet totally free; the black man is not yet citizen; though the dark-skinned be a child of God, he is not accepted socially as a man. The bitterness of hate, frustration and defeat against Northern interference with the morals and property and independence of the South, has been taken out upon the Negro. All because man used the usual way of man rather than the patient, loving Way of Christ.

Paul, like Jesus, did not resist arrest or imprisonment nor did he ever attempt escape. He did not mutiny or rail against his captors, nor revile the government of which they were but servants. He treated the jailor and the soldiers and the courts with courtesy, dignity and respect, unawed by their threats nor tricked into retaliation by their cruelty. He knew the law, insisted on his rights as a citizen, but did not fight for them. He calmly stated them and let right speak for itself. He was ever ready to help in any needed endeavor, to let his cause be examined, to speak the truth, and to suffer any consequences his following of the Way might bring.

At Philippi Paul was solicitous for the Jailor. He sought to kill him, and permission was cancelled. The next day when Paul learned of the plot against him, Paul calmly stated them and let right speak for itself. He was ever ready to help in any needed endeavor, to let his cause be examined, to speak the truth, and to suffer any consequences his following of the Way might bring.

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The Greatest Thing God Ever Showed Me...
The Greatest Thing I Know Today

God Is A Good God

By Oral Roberts

Here for the first time, is told the discovery Oral Roberts made of the verse in the Bible that abruptly and completely changed his life—this is an intimate part of his life. You have been looking for it for a long time, and after you read this story, you will be thinking about it for a long time to come. This is one story you will read without stopping and to which you will return many, many times. — G.H.M.

These words literally astounded me. I could scarcely believe my eyes. It was simply beautiful. Yet, it had something more than beauty. It had power and it gripped my heart. I read the entire book, for it is a short book having only one chapter. I began to study it with mounting fervor, but it was the second verse that kept pulling at me. I couldn’t keep my eyes off it. I suppose I must have read it twenty times. I was so excited I didn’t care whether school kept or not.

Evelyn was in the kitchen and I told her to come in the front room a minute. I guess she must have seen the excitement on my face for she said, “What’s the matter, Oral?” I handed her my Bible and told her to read 3 John where I had marked the verse. When she had read it, I asked her to read it out loud. She read, “Beloved, I wish above all things thou mayest prosper and be in health even as thy soul prospereth.” I had her to read it out because sometimes you can get a better understanding when you read something out loud. As she read something was happening inside me. I never remembered to be affected by a scripture like that before. My thoughts were interrupted by Evelyn’s voice. “Oral, is this verse in the Bible?”

“Yes it is, you just read it.”

“Did you know it was there before this morning?”

“No, I didn’t.”

“Oral, do you mean to say you have read the Bible all these years and the past few months practically day and night, and yet you didn’t know this verse was in the Bible?”

“That’s right. I have read it at least a hundred of times but I just did not see this verse.”

“How could you read it so many times and not see it?”

I had no answer for this question, for one of the mysteries of life is why people read the Bible and fail to see its real meaning.

We stood there talking about this wonderful and powerful verse for several minutes. Already, I could see new worlds, new horizons, I could see the door opening for the first time in my life.

All my life I had been beaten down. Papa was a preacher and people didn’t support him well. They figured if the Lord kept him humble, they would keep him poor, and they certainly worked at it; therefore he couldn’t afford many things for us children. In the fall of the year we had to pick cotton to help make the living. Sometimes, we went barefooted up until Christmas because we didn’t have the money to buy shoes. When Papa finally moved us to town, I had to sell papers on the streets in order to get enough clothes to go to school.

I was born a stutterer. All my life I had stuttered and it had
practically ruined my life. When I was sixteen, I ran away from home. One year later I was carried home burning with fever and with knife-like pains shooting through my lungs. The doctor pronounced me with tuberculosis in both lungs. I had had it nearly a year without knowing what it was. I fell across the bed and lay there 163 days hovering between life and death.

Religious people came to visit me and told me to be patient, to accept my afflictions for it was the will of God that I was sick. They said, "Son, God has put all this on you." These people had come to accept life's tragedies as God's will and they didn't expect Him to change the inequalities of life. One was to be sick—another well. One poor—another rich. One happy—another miserable. And that was that. If you could get enough religion, you could endure these things and some day, if you died, when you got to Heaven, things would change. To them, religion was not divine deliverance but acceptance of life's tragedies.

Something inside me said this wasn't true, but I was chained to the bed with tuberculosis and had to listen to these misguided comforters. All I ever said was, "If God had made me a stutterer, if He had put the t. b. on me, I didn't want to serve Him and they were wasting their time trying to get me to be saved.

But God always has someone to speak for Him. Sometimes it is a still small voice. But if we only listen, we will know the right way to take. In this case, the Lord spoke to me through my mother. She came to my room one day and sat down on the side of my bed. She put her hand on my brow and started soothing my hair back. "Oral, you must not pay too much attention to what everybody says to you," she said, "especially what they say about the Lord for they are only repeating what they have heard someone else to say."

Knowing she had reference to the things people had been saying to me about the Lord afflicting my body, I said, "Mama, do you believe God put these things on me?" She said, "Oral, God had nothing to do with it. Son, the devil is trying to destroy your life."

That was the first time I ever heard the devil mentioned in connection with sickness and it sounded a lot better to me than putting the blame on God. I said, "Mama, if what you say is true, why did the devil pick on me?" What she said to me next should be heard by everybody who has ever been afflicted. "Oral, when the Lord lays His hands on someone's life, the devil always tries to destroy that person." She took my hands and said, "If you will give your heart to Jesus and have faith, someday God will raise you up from this bed." This really thrilled me, but Mama wasn't through. "Oral, before you were born, God spoke to me and said that the child I had in my womb was His and that I was to be careful with you. And that isn't all. There is a prophecy on your life that God gave your father. The Lord told him that some day you will be a preacher and would hold the largest meetings of your day. Both of us have heard the Lord speak concerning your life. We know the devil knows of these prophesies and is trying to destroy you. That is his way of getting back at God."

And that is when my understanding began to open. That is when I began to look upon God in different light. Mama had opened my mind and I began to see the possibilities for my life if I could turn to God. For the first time in my life I wanted to be saved. This approach to God appealed to me and I wanted Him. I had almost lost the desire to live but after Mama had talked to me, I really wanted to live. I wanted to get up out of that bed and go out and tell people that what they had heard about God wasn't true, that He was a good God and that He loved them and that He hadn't afflicted them, but wanted to heal them and set them free.

It was shortly after this that Papa came into my room one evening and said to me, "Son, I have made a vow. I am going to kneel by your bed and pray. I am not going to stop praying until God gives me an answer as to why He has afflicted you."

He began to pray and I found myself listening to his prayer. Pretty soon, I began to feel something going all through me. I looked up and saw his face and when I did, I guess I must have had a vision for there just as clearly as anything I saw the face of Jesus in Papa's face. When I saw Jesus, I began to cry. I couldn't help it. My heart was broken into a thousand pieces and pretty soon I was asking God to save me. The Lord did save me. Two hours later I was praising God and shouting with all my heart because Jesus had saved my soul.

Getting saved made great changes for me. My fortunes immediately changed for the better. Things began to happen in my favor. Twelve years passed in my life which to me were twelve years of questionings. During this time, God's voice rang in my ears, "Son, I am going to heal you and you are going to take my healing power to your generation." I was only seventeen years old and I was not able to realize the full significance of these words. But as Brother George Moncey stood before me that night in the tent and he told me to be patient, to accept my afflictions, pretty soon I was asking God to save me. Two hours later I had recovered my strength and was preaching the gospel.

Twelve years passed in my life which to me were twelve years of questionings. During this time, God's voice rang in my ears, "Son, I am going to heal you and you are going to take my healing power to your generation." This power was at my fingertips and somehow I had not been able to grasp it. I was very unhappy most of the time. I remember only a few periods when I was happy. I had married and had a family. I had attended two universities. I had preached in various parts of the country with varying degrees of success. My ministry had become acceptable to my denomination and they had honored me in many ways, but I was restless. I felt something was driving me. I found no rest for the soles of my feet and life became a quest for something I did not have.

Some of our church leaders thought that my restlessness was a sign of instability and they told me quite plainly I should settle down and be content. How foolish they were. Perhaps they didn't feel "a fire shut up in their bones," nor did they hear God's voice ringing in their hearts as I did. I could not help but be restless, and today I thank God for that restlessness for it drove me to find an answer to life's problems, to receive God's power to heal and to do something for my generation.

Many people in their search for God find themselves doing strange things. Some of them feel they should come out of the church, but I didn't. I had no such feelings at all then and do not have now. In fact, my search drove me to a renewed study of the word of God, for somehow I felt that the Bible held the answer and I shall always be grateful that when the climax did come, it came while I was reading the holy scriptures. I can say...
This verse found us in poor circumstances. We were being paid $55.00 a week for pastoring our church. From this amount I had to support my family, pay my way through the University, as well as have clothes suitable for pastoring the church. Our pitiful little batch of furniture cost less than $300.00 for all five rooms. My car needed replacing. Worst of all, nobody seemed to be concerned about us, whether or not we did well.

Most of my church people were content to come to church, give my sermon decent hearing and go home. There were good honest people but were not extremely about faith, about miracles, about very many people's souls being saved or about healing the sick. We had 150 to 200 in Sunday School. We had 50 and 75 on prayer meeting night. The prayer meeting crowd had been dwindling so bad until one week night I got up and announced that if we didn't have a good crowd the next Wednesday night, I was going to cancel the prayer meetings. The next prayer meeting night we had a large crowd and we were able to average about 75 from there on. I had been burning up inside. I used to pass by the church and look at it and say, "Oh Lord, do you suppose it will ever be packed out?" I used to look at good lots where a great church could be built and wonder if some day I would ever be able to preach to great crowds. I used to say, "Lord, it just isn't right for me to be preaching the Bible and yet preaching to 150 to 200 people at a time." Oh, how miserable I was.

So that morning I said to Evelyn, "Will you please read that verse just one more time?"

She read, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and that thou mayest be in health even as thy soul prospereth." Now I said, "Explain what God means by prospering," she finally said, "Well, I guess He means what He says. He means that we are to prosper, our bodies are to be strong, just like our souls are," I said, "Evelyn, you've said a mouthful. You said something there that most religious people don't believe and most preachers are not preaching. Evelyn, if what you say is true, then somebody has been wrong a long time about God."

I said, "Evelyn, do you think if I would believe strong enough, the Lord would help me get a new car?"

She said, "No, I don't."

I said, "Well, I do, and I am going to do it."

That ended the conversation.

A few minutes later, I was mowing my lawn when my closest neighbor leaned over the fence and said he wanted to meet me. We got to talking and after while he said, 'Bro. Roberts, you sure need a better car, don't you?" I said, "I sure do."

He said, "Come down in the morning, I want to talk to you about it."

The next morning I went down to see him and discovered that he ran a car lot. He said, "Brother Roberts, I have been listening to you preach and I believe in you. I believe a minister of the gospel should have faith, that he should have more faith than anybody else, because that is what he is supposed to be preaching to the people. The other day I felt impressed that I should help you to get a new car. I kinda figure that will strengthen your faith." Then he told me that he could take my car and sell it at the highest ceiling and in turn sell me a new car at his cost and the difference would be comparatively small. He would arrange the payments to suit my convenience. I was overjoyed. Driving that new car did something to me. I felt like it was an answer to my faith and that at last my faith was working and that it was going to do far greater things for me than merely supplying an automobile.

Someone recently said, "Brother Roberts, I suppose that since you had read the New Testament a hundred times and you finally discovered 3 John 2 that you stopped studying the Bible so hard and went to preaching. I said, "Oh, no. When I found 3 John 2 I really began to study the scriptures. I knew enough to realize that one could not build a doctrine on one verse in the Bible, that it would have to be in harmony with all the word of God and would have to be backed up by the
On the journey to Rome Paul stood head and shoulders above the guards, sailors, captains and owner of the ship. At Sidon Julius his captor entreated Paul to go ashore and refresh himself and visit his friends. Paul's warning to remain at Fair Havens was ignored to their sorrow. On the third day of the storm Paul helped the sailors lighten the ship. He fasted and prayed and such was their respect for this man of God in the hour of emergency that prisoners, soldiers and crew alike fasted with him. (Acts 27: 33-37) Paul warned the centurion against the escape of the ship's crew and in turn Julius spared his and the other prisoners' lives. (Acts 27: 30-32, 42-43)

Shipwrecked on the island of Melita, Paul joined in the common task of building a fire. Though a prisoner he was ever watchful for an opportunity to do good, and healed the father of Publius and other diseased folks of the island. Arriving in Italy the following spring Paul was allowed to tarry with his captor entreated Paul to go ashore and refresh himself and visit his friends. (Acts 27: 30-32, 42-43)

Herod Beheads John The Baptist

(News as it might have been if there had been newspapers 1900 years ago)

John, the evangelist that had everybody rushing to hear him last year when he preached along the Jordan River, was executed last night by order of King Herod.

The King himself could not be reached today. It was rumored that he was suffering a hangover from the elaborate party he threw last night for his s'ep-daughter.

This comedy daughter of Herod did a dance number at the feast that rang the bell with the King, who no doubt was somewhat melted with drink by that hour. He promised the girl anything she might ask up to half of his Kingdom.

Coached by her mother who has hated John for calling her an adulteress because she divorced Phillip to marry Herod, the girl demanded John's head in a charger, and made the Old King come across with it.

Surely a woman scorned is dangerous, especially in combination with too much wine.

Jerusalem Herald, Mar. 16
A.D. 29.

Page Nine
CHRIST AND THE HEADLINES

An earnest attempt to look at today's events through the eyes of Jesus.

GOD'S REMEDY FOR THESE TIMES

From pulpit, press and radio; from politicians, preachers and people everywhere you hear warnings that these are perilous times, that we face the danger of destruction, that we must do this or that or the other, to survive.

We do live in perilous times. We do face danger. We do live in the shadow of a terrible world war, an atom bomb war, a germ war, a war of destruction that would see many of our cities destroyed and our children blown to bits.

The Republicans would have us believe that they have the answer to these problems that face us; that if we all fell in behind the banner of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, all would be well, fears would cease, and we would live in peace and prosperity, unharmed by the Communists, the government, by high taxes, or by war.

On the other hand, the Democrats would have us believe that if we elect Governor Adlai Stevenson President and continue the Democratic program of rearmament, conscription, containing of Communism by sending our armies to Asia and to Europe; we can be assured of peace, high taxes and high living, and all will be well.

My friends, neither of these men and neither of these platforms have the cure for our troubles. Neither of them have the answer. But I know One who does have the Answer, the real Answer and the only Answer.

He is not running for any political office. He is not seeking fame or honor or acclaim. He is not in the mad scramble for victory and power. But He has the only winning platform in this time of doubt and fear. He, alone has the Answer. That One is Jesus Christ who said, "I am the Way."

He alone knows the Way. The tragedy of this hour in American history is that we are more intent on what word comes out of Chicago then what word comes from Heaven. We are more interested in knowing what Eisenhower says, or Stevenson says, or Churchill says, or Stalin says, than we are in knowing what GOD says.

God is no amateur in the affairs of nations, politics and men. Centuries ago God choose a nation to be His People. His witness among the nations of the earth. He gave them a form of government. He gave them a set of laws. He gave them a ruler — Himself!

But the chosen Jews chose to disobey Him, to repudiate Him as their ruler, and demanded for themselves a King like other nations had. Listen to these words from First Samuel, eighth chapter:

"Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together; and came to Samuel unto Ramah, and said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord. And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voices of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king. And he said, This will be the manner of the the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariot, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots."

And he will appoint him captains over thousands; and captains of five hundred; and will set them to ear his ground; and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war; and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyard, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest men, and your asses, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep; and ye shall be his servants. And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you: and the Lord will not hear you in that day."

This prophecy of what happens to a people when they reject God as their King and demand a man to rule over them, has come true in every nation of the earth from that day to this; from Israel to America. Listen again to these words: "He will take your sons and your daughters — to reap his harvests — and to make his instruments of war — he will take the tenth of your seed — and the tenth of your sheep — and he will take your goodliest young men and put them to his work."

God promised, if men persisted in turning to and obeying man-made rulers instead of God as their King, that their chosen ruler would de two things: He would take their best young men and women for his armies, and a tenth of their goods as taxes to supply the needs of his administration and his wars.

That prophecy has always come true. In America today, in a time called peace, conscription lays its heavy hands on our choicest youth and sends them off wherever the President decides they must go. The tax promised has increased from the tenth of that day to at least twenty percent today. Did God know what He was talking about when He made that prediction?

God also told the Israelites that if they disobeyed His law and rejected Him as their ruler that enemy nations would plague them with wars and carry them away captive; but if they obeyed Him and trusted Him, He would make even their enemies to be at peace with them.

That promise by Almighty God, like all His promises, is still good today.

Neither the Republicans or the Democrats or any man either of them might elect can save us from the destruction we face. Great armies, navies, and air force; atom bombs and radar and germ's; United Nations, North Atlantic Treaty, or the re-armament of Europe — none of these will save us from the things we fear and dread. None of these will bring the peace we pray for.

All of these merely invite and hasten our destruction. They are mirages; illusions, the false hopes and false plans of men who have forgotten that God only hope and refuge. He is our only sure protector and that He cannot save us unless we trust and obey Him, not man or man-made schemes.

"Not by night, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

"Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it, except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

A century and three-quarters ago, God led a few men and women, oppressed by the tyranny, the conscription and the high taxes of European kings and queens, to the shores of America, and here inspired them to build a nation on the principle that all men are created equal in God's sight, and that all men have the God-given inheritance of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Why? Because all men are God's children, white, black, yellow, brown, American, Russian, German, Japanese.

This Republic of the United States of America was founded by God-fearing men and women who had tired of the rule of men and who yearned for a life under the rule of law and God. But America, because of sin and disobedience to God's laws, has slipped back into the trap our forefathers fled Europe to escape. They, more and more, have rejected God and His laws and more and more have turned to some man to save them from the plight their sin has brought them to. Today the President of the United States is no longer merely the executive who administers the law
of the land: he is our ruler, with much more power than the King of England, and almost as much as some dictators, with our foreign policy, our pocketbooks, and our sons, and our destinies held in his hands.

We have become a corrupt, a drinking, a smoking, a cursing people; a Sabbath-breaking people; a war-like people; a proud, race-prejudiced people; a rich, greedy people; a complacent, hypocritical people. And so a confused and fearful people.

And, instead of turning to God, of asking His forgiveness and His mighty protective care, we place our trust in men — this man, that man — a Roosevelt, a Truman, an Eisenhower or a Steven­son, a huge army, alliances with other nations, anything that promises a hope of peace and safety.

Anything but the ONE thing that God demands if we would know His peace and favor. That one thing is repentance.

"If my people which are called by name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land." (1Chron. 7:14)

Today, it is not the voice coming from Chicago or the White House that we need to listen to and heed; not the voice of the United Nations, not the voice from the North Atlantic Treaty nations, not the voice from the peace talks in Korea; not the voice of any man in America, be he Democrat or Republican, in or out of office.

There is one Voice that thunders down the centuries, the only true Word of warning, the only real cure to our helplessness and fear, the only right Answer to our question: What shall we do?

That Voice is the eternal Voice of God, through the person of His Son, Jesus. He stands today in America, as He once stood among His chosen Israelites, and cries out with a breaking heart: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

The men to whom He cried out then, the men for whom He gave his life to save them from sin and death, did not heed His warning or obey His Words. They crucified Him and chose their man-made ways of self-defense, sin and war. His warning was fulfilled within their lifetime; their beloved city, Jerusalem, was destroyed and there was not left one stone upon another of their Holy Temple.

Today, Jesus, still with breaking heart, weeps over Washington and America, crying out in terrible warning as He did then. This time, to God's chosen people of this hour, the people of America whom He had placed here as a beacon light to all the world, of Godliness and freedom and peace. The place is different, the people are different but the conditions are the same; and God's Word the same, His warning the same, the consequences for good or evil the same.

"Repent, or Perish!"

Oh, let that word be flashed every telegraph wire in America; let it be heard on every radio and television set, let it blazon forth on every newspaper and every billboard in America. Let it be preached from every pulpit and from every political platform: "Repent, America or Perish!"

That is not the voice from Chicago. That is not the voice of a Democrat or a Republican. That is not the voice of any man.

That is the voice of God, spoken by his Son Jesus Christ. Will you listen? Will you obey? Will you repent? Will you turn from man's ways to His ways? If you will, then you may have peace and joy.

And now, let us pray: "Heavenly Father, Forgive us for being rebellious like your other chosen people: Israel. Forgive us for rejecting you and your ways and pinning our hopes on some man to lead us out of the mess our sins have gotten us into... And save us from the plight that the rejection of your way always brings. Lead us to repentance, in the name of thy son, Jesus. Amen."

—J.A.D.

PLAYING CHECKERS WITH GOD

(From page 2)

that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go." (John 11:41-44)

Jonah praised God for deliverance while still in the whale's belly. "I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving: I will pay that I have vowed." (Jonah 2:9)

A little child, promised something in the near future, claps her hands and runs joyfully to tell her playmates of the gift that is soon to be hers. On what assurance? Merely on the word of a human being, her mother. We have the more sure Word of God, Himself, for every promise in His Word, when we have FUL­FILLED the conditions laid down in His promise. When we have made OUR MOVE.

God made His move for man's salvation and his healing 1900 years ago at Calvary.

"Who his ownself bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." (1 Peter 2:24)

Whenever a man or a women comes to Christ for salvation and forgiveness; believing, confessing, accepting, God always moves as He promised.

"Whosoever cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

"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)

Whenever a man or a woman comes to God for the healing promised in His Word and bought with Jesus' stripes, and fulfills the conditions which are a part of HIS MOVE, God always moves as He promised, for GOD ALWAYS MOVES WHEN IT IS HIS TURN, but never before His turn.

God's moves toward you were made 1900 years ago. He is now waiting for you to move so that He can complete His promise and give you, in His next move, the thing He promised to give WHEN YOU HAD MADE THE PROPER MOVE. If you have not received the things you have been asking of God, better ask yourself these questions: 1. Is the thing I am asking for promised in God's Word? 2. If it is, have I matched God's promise by moving, now that it is my turn? Have I believed in His promise? Have I claimed it personally as to me? Have I confessed it publicly before men? Have I acted on the promise, acted as I would act if I KNEW it had been already answered? Have I thanked God for the things He has promised, as though I had already received it?

Perhaps you are waiting for God to move in your case, when it is YOUR MOVE instead of God's.

Believe God's promises. Claim them for yourself, confess your faith and God's goodness and power, step out on His promise, and give God thanks, now, for the things NOT SEEN AS YET, which He is waiting to give you when it is His turn to move again.

Faith doesn't wait to give thanks until the walls fall down. Faith shouts them down with its praises.

Brother, sister, IT'S YOUR MOVE.

"God grant me the Serenity to accept things I cannot change; Courage to change things I can; and Wisdom to know the difference."
God Is A Good God

(From page 8)

entire scriptures. But it was amazing to me that as I began to re-
study the Bible full of scriptures like 3 John 2, of which showed God is a good God. While I do not have
space nor time in this article to go into detail, yet I would like
to have you read some of the verses that I subsequently found in
the scriptures that gave me the broad basis for the launching of
my ministry of Bible deliverance. Some of these are Acts 10:38,
There were many more, but these became a blessing to me beyond
others.

It was not an easy task to get all these thoughts together so
that they could be preached in an intelligent manner. I have always
believed that a preacher should have something in his sermons be-
sides a bunch of amens and hallelujahs, that he should tell the
people the word of God says. The Bible says, “Faith coming
by hearing and hearing by the word of God.” I knew then,
even as I know now, that while one’s “amens” and “hallelujahs”
might thrill one’s own soul, there is only one basis that will build
faith in the human heart and that is the written word of the liv-
ing God.

One of the first sermons I was to preach was, “If You Need
Healing—Do These Things,” which is now the title of my book
on healing. It was a tremendous success and was preached the
first time to twelve hundred people. One of the other sermons
I preached was on Job’s sufferings and his healing. This sermon
also had great success among the people. From the very begin-
ing, God helped me to preach with power and authority. I entered
the pulpit like John the Baptist of old saying, “Prepare ye the
way for the Lord.” I preached to people to get their understanding
straightened out, to look on God as a good God, that He did not
come to afflict them but to heal them, not to impoverish them,
but to prosper them, not to beat them down but to lift them up,
not to destroy them but to save them. And I gave them scripture
for everything I said.

Within one month’s time I was preaching to twice and three
times and four times as many people as I had before. In six months
I was preaching to even larger crowds. In one year the crowds were
so large, few auditoriums would hold them and the Lord led
me to buy a big tent and from that tent we have gone now to
where we have a tent seating 12,500 people. Just last month, in
Birmingham, Alabama, it was jammed and packed out almost to
the streets.

Today I look back to that early morning in Enid, Oklahoma,
when I discovered 3 John 2, and, neighbor, I cannot improve
upon the scripture I discovered that morning. It is just as real to me
now as it was then. 3 John 2 means God is a good God and the
devil is a bad devil. God is totally good and the devil is totally
bad. There is no badness in God and no goodness in the devil.
God is totally good and the devil is totally bad.

The good things come from God. He has always been good.
Children love to hear me say these things—because that is their
understanding of God to begin with. The reason is they are so
fresh out of Heaven. They haven’t been corrupted by unbelieving
grown up people yet.

I have found that when I can get people to see that God is a good
God, I can bring healing to their bodies. Most of the great miracles
in our meetings are wrought on people who have changed their
thinking and believing so that now they look on God as a good
God and the devil as a bad devil, that their afflictions come from
Satan but their healings come from God.

Neighborhood is a simple but powerful truth that you cannot
believe God to bless you when at the same time you believe He
is cursing you. It is difficult for you to have faith to healed by
God when you feel that He has afflicted your body. Let me tell
you this, neighbor, if God has afflicted your body and sent Jesus
Christ to heal you, then He sent the Son to take off of you what
He Himself had put on you. But that is not true. Jesus Christ came
to take off of people what the devil put on them, to take out of
the people what the devil put in them and to put back on people
what the devil took off them and to put back in people what the
devil took out of them.

Jesus Christ did not come to shorten men’s lives. He came to
save those lives. He wants men to live out their days on this earth
so they can be witnesses for Him. He wants us to have strong
bodies, strong minds, strong souls and He wants to prosper the
work of our hands, to gladden our hearts, to lift up our flagging
spirits and to give us strength for the responsibilities that He has
entrusted to our care. When you get on your knees to pray the
next time, look up and believe that God is a good God, that He
wants to bless you, He wants to heal you, He wants to do those
things for you that no one else can do. Believe that He wants you
to be free from the evil influences of life. If you are a father or
mother and you love your children, remember that God loves His
children even more than we love ours. God is a good God. I wish
I could shout it from 10,000 radio stations and a thousand television
stations. I wish I could be on every radio station on the earth
and every television program in the world. I wish I could tell this
to every man, woman and child living in the world today. If
I could get people to see that God is a good God, I know then that
they would believe right. Thousands and thousands, yea, millions
of them would be set free. I have seen this work in thousands of
lives already. I have seen it thrill the hearts of great audiences.
I have seen little children healed, grown people set free. I have
seen as high as 2,200 come down the aisles to be saved in one
night after I had preached a sermon like this. People, Bible deliv-
erance is real. It is God’s message for these last days. Join me
in this crusade of Bible deliverance. Together we can reach this
world for Christ. People will believe this if they get a chance to
hear it. Together we can set this generation free.

Neighbor, if this story has been a blessing to you, it will bless
others if you will pass it on. Don’t let the fire go out in your heart,
but tell others that God is a good God. And write me TODAY if you feel
God leading you to be a partner with me for deliverance. Also order
ten copies of the July issue of Healing Waters Magazine to distribute.
See that your pastor gets a copy, and especially give copies to the
sick people that you know. Only 132,000 copies of this issue have been
printed, and they will soon be gone. Send $1.00 today for 10 copies,
or $5.00 for 50 copies. Order from HEALING WATERS MAGAZINE,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.