

11-1962

## The Texas Herald, V. 13, No. 11, November 1962

J. A. Dennis

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### Recommended Citation

Dennis, J. A., "The Texas Herald, V. 13, No. 11, November 1962" (1962). *The Texas Herald*. 25.  
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# GOOD NEWS THE TEXAS HERALD

VOL 13, No. 9

AUSTIN, TEXAS

NOVEMBER 1962

## "SEARCH ME AND TRY ME"

### TRY ME

By Dr. A. B. Simpson

"All things work together for good to them that love God." — Romans 8:28.

Every moment the great Refiner is waiting to add some new touch to your strength and beauty, and fit you for a higher place in His eternal life. We are so prone to think that these things that come to us are accidents, incidents, mishaps or personal injuries from personal hands. But after a while we learn that His hand is above every other hand, His love above every hateful blow. You get up in the morning and find everything wrong in the kitchen and diningroom, and you say, "Oh, it is that cook; it is that wretched stove." Oh no; it is the Lord trying you and proving you. You come down to business and find things wrong in your store and you say, "Oh, it is that careless janitor." No, it is the Lord trying and proving you. You open your mail expecting a check according to promise from some person. It is not there. You say, "Oh, it is this dishonest and unprincipled man." No, it is the Lord trying and proving your faith. You meet with a friend, the very one that you look to for help and comfort, and something happens to try you more keenly, and everything in your life seems to become a source of annoyance.

You say, "Oh, it is the inconsiderateness of others." No, it is the Lord showing you something in you that is wrong, and that He wants to have buried away.

God tries us, proves us, and establishes us. It is not by a very quick process. "He shall sit as a Refiner and Purifier of silver." He sits down to His work, He takes plenty of time. He will wait years with you over a single lesson, if you make Him to do so, or He will get you through it at once, if you are willing to take the quicker process and the hotter fire.

How touching is the love that will take so much trouble with all these little matters. No wonder that Job should say, "Lord, what is man that thou shouldest magnify him? And that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him? And that thou shouldest visit him every morning and try him every moment?"

And so He comes to you every moment, as Job says, from morning to night. If you would understand life as He does, you would see nothing but God; and as you meet Him in everything, you would see nothing but God's ever presence, and every unfriendly blow be warded off. Against every fiery dart you would have a shield of faith that nothing can pierce, and out of every storm you would shout with the great apostle, "None of these things move me." Beloved, they will come until they don't move you." For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake." — Phil. 1:29. "That He might present to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish." — Eph. 5:27. "Not as though I had already attained . . . I press toward the mark I have set." — Phil. 3:12-14.

—Pilgrim Tract Society, Randleman, N.C.

"I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved."

Psalms 16: 8



# GOOD NEWS THE TEXAS HERALD

The Texas Herald is published monthly as the Lord provides the funds. It has no subscription price, but is distributed without charge. Its publication is made possible by the free will gifts of those who receive it.

The Texas Herald is published by Words of Life, Inc., of Austin, Texas, a non-profit, Religious corporation chartered under the laws of the State of Texas, for the purpose of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of Heaven. Contributions, Gifts, and Legacies, of money or property, made to Words of Life, Inc., are tax deductible.

Mail Address .... Box 2156, Capitol Station, Austin 11, Texas, U.S.A.

Editor ..... J. A. DENNIS

"The words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are life. (John 6: 63)

## "GO — BUY — OIL"

By

J. A. DENNIS

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

"And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

"They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

"But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

"While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

"And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

"Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

"And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

"But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: But go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

"And when they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage; and the door was shut.

"Afterward came also the other virgins saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

"But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

"Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." (Matt. 25: 1-13)

## "IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS"

1 Thess. 5: 18

"Thank God for dirty dishes, they have a tale to tell,

While others may go hungry, we are eating well.

With Home, Health, and Happiness, I shouldn't want to fuss;

By the stack of evidence, God's been very good to us."

— A Housewife.

All around the world today there is a universal heart-cry among sincere Christians, as they feel the deadness and dryness in the church and in their own hearts, "Our lamps have gone out!"

And this cry is usually followed by the accompanying cry: "Give us of YOUR oil!"

In Pentecostal circles this lack of "Oil" — the power of the Holy Ghost — is felt more keenly than elsewhere because, without the Oil — the power of God moving in their midst — they are without a testimony, like a fish out of water, for the Holy Spirit is their life and the reason for their existence as a church.

But the "Full Gospel" folks the Pentecostals, as all others are now crying, "Our lamps are gone out!"

The fire and fervor, the joy and the daring, the miracles that come only by the moving of God's Spirit, are sadly lacking in many assemblies that were once "on fire for God." Much of Pentecost, like the rest of Protestantism, has become staid and "respectable," having a form of Godliness but lacking the power they profess to possess.

Many of us have been like the five foolish virgins, running hither and thither, asking those who seemed to have the power and presence of God in their ministry, "Give us of your oil!"

We have run to this evangelist and that, this tent and that auditorium, where God is still moving by his Spirit, and we have said, in effect: "Give us of your oil. Give us some of your anointing, some of your faith, some of your gifts of the Spirit, some of your signs and wonders, some of your miracles, so we can take them back to our town and to our group. Give us of YOUR oil, for our lamps have gone out!"

As I meditated recently over this passage of Scripture, I saw something I had not previously seen. The wise virgins' reply to the foolish virgins' cry was, "Not so . . . but go and BUY for yourselves."

Go BUY oil? I thought heavenly oil was a free gift. Aren't all of God's blessings and gifts free? Isn't the Holy Spirit a free gift? Aren't the nine Gifts of the Spirit, free? (1 Cor. 12: 4-11)

"Go, BUY oil!" But doesn't that make us EARN our gifts, our anointing, our power with God?

Yes, God's blessings and gifts are free. But there is a price we must pay in preparing ourselves to RECEIVE the Oil, the gifts, before God can entrust them to us. We must furnish the VESSEL.

So, in a sense, we do have to BUY our own oil. We cannot get it from someone else.

Burdened by a great need and my inadequacy to be of any help in the situation, seeing my lack of power, lack of oil, I cried out to God, "Is it true that we have to BUY oil?"

Yes, it is true. For that is what God's Word says, spoken through the lips of Jesus Himself, "Go, buy oil for yourselves."

When this became real to me, then my heart-cry was, "Oh, Lord, How much does Oil cost? I must have some! I want to buy some. What does it cost? What is the price of this Heavenly Oil; this Oil that will make us shining lights in the Kingdom; Oil that will set us aflame for God and the souls of men; this Oil that will enable us to see signs and wonders follow our preaching of the Word; this Oil that will bring miracles to pass, as in New Testament days? Oh, tell me what's the price of Oil?"

After several days, with this cry on my heart day and night, the answer began to come.

What price this Heavenly Oil?

The price is Seven:

### 1. THE PRICE OF SILENCE

"Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

If we would have power with God we must learn to



"keep our mouths shut."

We talk too much. We preach too much. We talk too lightly. We talk too critically. We talk too boastfully. We talk too jokingly.

"When I therefore was thus minded, did I use lightness?" (I Cor. 1: 17)

"But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

"Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient; but rather giving of thanks." (Eph. 5:3-4)

"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shall be condemned." (Matt. 12: 36-37)

It was not for nothing that God, through Joshua, commanded the Israelites, as they circled the walls of Jericho: "Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout." (Josh. 6:10)

If the Israelites had been permitted to talk, as they walked around those mighty walls for a week, no doubt they would have been discussing the height of the walls, the strength of the defending army, the impossibility of the task before them.

But they were commanded to "Keep their mouths shut," not to utter a word — not a word of doubt, or fear, or discouragement, or defeat — not a word.

We need to learn that lesson, if we would expect God to work miracles in and through us. Too often, as we walk around a sick bed or some other obstacle to our faith, we lose the battle with our tongue — with our idle or doubting words.

When Jesus was falsely accused before the Sanhedrin and before Pilate, He answered "never a word."

Idle talk, foolish chatter, dissipates faith and power.

There is enough potential power in a teakettle full of boiling water to blow up the kitchen. But it sizzles and steams and boils harmlessly away and accomplishes nothing more than the dissipation of the water. Why? Because the steam all goes out the spout!

So it is with much of our potential power — it all "goes out the spout" as we "run off at the mouth."

"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." (Col. 4:6)

"For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward." (II Cor. 1: 12)

## 2. THE PRICE OF SEPARATION

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

"And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you,

"And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (II Cor. 6:14-18)

If we want the Oil, the power of God in our lives and

ministries, we must live separated lives; "in the world, but not of the world."

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (I John 2: 15-16)

Most Christians today, sad to say, live pretty much as the world lives. They read the same newspapers, magazines, novels and comic books. They listen to the same radio programs, watch the same Television shows. They dress like the world, talk like the world, joke like the world — because they think very much like the world.

Before God permitted John the Baptist to announce the coming of Jesus and the Kingdom of Heaven, He placed John in the desert "until the day of his shewing unto Israel." (Luke 1: 80)

Before God sent Moses to deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage, He forced him to herd sheep in the desert for forty years.

Before God placed Joseph in charge of the Egyptian economy, He held him in jail for something like 13 years.

Before God sent Paul to preach Christ to the Gentiles, He sent him to the deserts of Arabia for three years.

Before God permitted Jesus to preach his first sermon or work his first miracle, He led him into the wilderness for 40 days and nights.

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"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom. 12: 1-2)

### 3. THE PRICE OF KNOWING THE WORD

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Tim. 2:15)

"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Rom. 10: 17)

Men of power, men with Oil, are men saturated with the Word of God. They not only read the Word, study the Word, know the Word — they LOVE the Word and its Author, they BELIEVE the Word and its Promises, they USE the Word and its Power.

"The Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb. 4: 12)

Jesus, facing the Tempter in the Wilderness, won his victory over satan by meeting the devil's testings with the Word. With three slashes of this mighty Sword of the Spirit — "It is Written," "It is Written," "It is Written!" — He put the enemy to rout.

If we are to see the devil flee from us, we must "resist him" with the Word of God. (James 2: 7)

If you would "buy" Oil, let the Word and Jesus the Living Word back of it, become your meat and drink, your shield and buckler, your ever-present Sword.

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Matt. 4:4)

### 4. THE PRICE OF PRAYER

"Men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

(Luke 18: 1)

Jesus knew that the only alternative to "fainting" was to pray.

When other men were sleeping, He was praying.

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." (Mark 1:35)

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray; and when the evening was come, he was there alone." (Matt. 14: 23)

"And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

"And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom he named apostles." (Luke 6: 12-13)

"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

"And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

"Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death; tarry ye here, and watch with me.

"And he went a little farther, and fell on his face and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

"And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

"Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matt. 26: 36-41)

Have you won the battle with the bed? Do you "rise up early" enough in the morning to spend an hour in prayer before your daily work begins?

"What could ye not watch with me one hour?"

When Joshua and the Israelites took Jericho, they rose "early in the morning."

"And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times." (Josh. 6: 15)

If you want to meet God, meet Him early in the morning.

"Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the Lord, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them: but ye would not hear, saith the Lord." (Jer. 29:19)

"And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction." (Jer. 32: 33)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4: 6-7)

### 5. THE PRICE OF FASTING

"This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting." (Matt. 17: 21)

The disciples were put to shame before the multitude and before the enemy, when confronted with the boy possessed with a devil which they could not cast out.

They had not fasted. Jesus had, and with a word, He rebuked the devil, and the boy was delivered.

Jesus said that his disciples would fast after his departure from the world:

"But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast." (Matt. 9: 15)

Paul fasted. "In fastings often." (II Cor. 11: 27) "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." (I Cor. 8: 27)

Fasting breaks the bands of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Fasting kills the ego, crucifies the self, stills the tongue, subdues the flesh, slays the pride, makes us weak so that

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God can be strong in us.

"For my strength is made perfect in weakness." (II Cor. 12:9)

When prayer alone will not prevail, fasting added to prayer will bring the Victory.

Men with the power of God in their lives, men with Oil, are men who have won the twin battles of "bed and board" — sleep and appetite — men who have learned the secret of fasting.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." (Zech. 4:6)

I was amazed when I learned that there is just about the same percentage of sick folks in the Full Gospel or Pentecostal churches as there is in the denominations which do not believe in Divine healing today.

And I was more amazed when I found that almost as many Pentecostal believers, as others, when they became sick, depend on medicine, doctors and hospitals for their healing, rather than upon God.

In the early days of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost some 60 years ago, many Spirit-filled believers "Trusted God for their healing," and many miracles of healing took place, as in the New Testament days when Peter, Paul, Ananias and Philip healed the sick and cast out devils in the Name of Jesus.

One of the early Pentecostal preachers gives this testimony: He was traveling through the Southern states preaching in brush arbors and establishing churches. Coming to one community, he held a meeting, baptized a group of believers and built a little church, also a small place where he and his wife lived. Then he was stricken down with a very severe illness. Though prayed for, he was not healed. Trusting God fully for his body, he burned up with fever and wasted away until too weak to rise from his bed. His Sunday School Superintendent, who had been saved and filled with the Holy Ghost in his meeting, came to his bedside one day and said, "Brother ———, you have got to exercise your own faith for your healing!" The preacher replied, "I don't have any faith. (Sometimes we get too weak to have faith.) All I can do is lay here and wait for God to move."

This so affected the Sunday School Superintendent that he called the church together and they went on a three-day fast. At the end of the three days they came to the preacher's house to pray for him. Some of the men lifted the minister up in a blanket and set him in a chair on the porch. Then they began to pray. In a few minutes the power of God struck the sick man and he leaped out of the chair shouting praises to God. That night he walked across the lot to the church and preached the sermon, healed by the power of God.

Today, it is a rare thing to find a Pentecostal preacher or a layman who fully trusts God for his health and healing.

On this part of the Word, our lamps have gone out — we are out of Oil — both on the part of the laity and the ministry.

On the part of the laymen, few Believe that Jesus is the Great Physician who "Took our infirmities, and bare our sickness," and "By his stripes we are healed."

And on the part of the ministry, there are few to whom we can go and expect the "prayer of faith" that "saves the sick." (James 14: 15)

We're out of Oil.

The few to whom the multitudes go for healing, are men who have paid the price of prayer and fasting, separation, solitude and silence, to walk and talk with God and present their bodies a living sacrifice unto God, a "vessel sanctified and meet for the Master's use." (Tim. 2: 21)

They have the Oil.

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church: and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

"And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall rise him up: and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." (James 5: 14-15)

## 6. THE PRICE OF DARING

### A. Daring to SAY.

"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 sayeth shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith." (Mark 11: 22-23)

The battle against satan is often won or lost with our tongues — what we say.

Idle words, foolish chatter, dissipate power.

But when we "Say what God says," speak His word — seriously, confidently, boldly — it IS quick and powerful.

Jesus dared to boldly SAY what was going to happen BEFORE it happened. He KNEW it would come to pass "because it was WRITTEN in God's Word.

"The scripture cannot be broken." (John 10:35)

When the Centurio told Jesus of his servant lying at the

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point of death, the Master calmly replied, "I will come and HEAL him." (Matt. 8:7)

When standing at the tomb of Lazarus, BEFORE he had dared to call forth the dead man. He looked up to Heaven and thanked the Father openly, for the miracle that was about to happen. (John 11: 41-43)

"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are speaking, I will hear." (Isa. 65:24)

"They shall have whatever they SAY." (Mark 11: 23)

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering: for he is faithful that promised." (Heb. 10: 23)

#### **B. Daring to DO**

**"Whatsoever he sayeth unto you, do it." (John 2:5)**

The final proof of faith is what we DO. We only believe what we believe strongly enough to ACT on.

If I sincerely believe that God will heal me when I call on Him, then I do not seek help from means or men.

If I am not sure He will, then I turn to the arm of flesh for help.

God's men of faith are men who dare to put their faith and their God to the bitter test.

Abraham went the last step in offering his son Isaac on the altar, even to tying him and lifting the knife to slay him, "accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure." (Heb. 11:19)

Moses dared to take his life in his hands (No, he put it into the hands of God) when he returned to Egypt to appear before Pharaoh and demand that the Israelites be set free.

Joshua risked his life by stoning at the hands of the multitude, if the waters of Jordan had failed to open when the priests bearing the Ark of God marched into the swollen river at Joshua's command.

David risked a cruel death at the hands of Goliath when he dared go out against him in the Name of the God of Israel.

Elijah faced an ignoble death before Baal's prophets, if God failed to send the fire on the altar of Mt. Carmel where the prophet had challenged the enemy and their god.

Noah dared to face the ridicule of his generation when he built the ark and declared that God's wrath would flood the earth.

Daniel risked death in the lions' den when he dared defy the king's decree and continued to kneel in prayer and give thanks to his God.

The three Hebrew children boldly accepted a flaming death in lieu of bowing to King Nebuchadnezzar's image, unless God would save them.

If we want the Heavenly Oil, we must dare to pay the price of Saying what God's Word tells us to say, and of Doing what his Word tells us to do.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Luke 9: 23)

#### **7. THE PRICE OF CRUCIFIXION.**

**"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet, not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Gal. 2: 20)**

All the steps outlined above are a part of and lead up to the ultimate Price of Oil — the Crucifixion of Self.

If we want Oil — the power of God moving in our lives — we must bring Self and Ego and Pride and Stubborn Will to the Cross of Christ and there condemn them to death with Him, that the old man may be dead and we may arise to walk in newness of life — truly a new creature in Christ Jesus — where his will, not ours is sought, where we have one passion in life: to please Him who died for us.

God cannot trust his holy Oil to carnal, fleshly hands.

If we seek power in order to build up OUR ministry, OUR assembly, OUR finances, we seek in vain.

When God begins to use a man, and that man begins to take the glory, God removes his hand, and soon the man is left without oil, an empty, darkened vessel.

If God is using a man, that man has little to boast of, for God does not often use the wise, the great, the gifted.

If God is mightily using a man, it is pretty good evidence that man is a fool, is weak, is nothing, as the world judges wisdom and greatness.

Paul, though talented and learned, was used mightily of God because he counted all these things, "as dung, that he might win Christ." (Phil. 3: 4-9) He was willing to be a "fool for Christ's sake."

When other men boasted of him, saying, "I am of Paul," Paul reminded them that neither he nor Apollos "was anything." "But, God that giveth the increase." (I Cor. 3:4-7)

"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing." (Rom. 7: 18)

"For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

"And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

"That no flesh should glory in his presence.

"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

"That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." (I Cor. 1: 26-31)

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.

"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

"But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Phil. 2:5-8)

"Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

"Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life a ransom for many." (Matt. 20: 26-28)

"And, whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." (Matt. 23:12)

**"Give me oil in my lamp,**

**Keep me burning;**

**Give me oil in my lamp,**

**I Pray.**

**Give me oil in my lamp,**

**Keep me burning,**

**Keep me burning,**

**'Til the break of Day."**

**—Author Unknown.**

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# WHY THE BIBLE IS ATTACKED

Editorial In  
Southwest Daily Times  
Liberal, Kansas

Of all the books the world has ever known, only one has incurred the hatred of mortal men. Many books have been disliked, but they had only to be left alone in order to pass out of existence and to be numbered with the past. But the Bible has had a persistent and murderous enemy ever on its trail, seeking to annihilate it, to wipe it from the face of the earth.

Have you ever stopped to think of the reason for such a feeling manifested toward the Bible? The Bible has a supernatural enemy who has experienced its power in the person of Christ, and ever since, the devil has marshalled all his forces to rid the world of the Sword of the Spirit.

But there is perhaps another reason. The Bible draws an appalling picture of man. It does not proclaim his career as one of progress, ever reaching toward holy realms, but rather the reverse. It suggests his course as one of darkness rather than light, because his deeds are evil. The Bible does not picture man as having come into adverse conditions of life by no fault of his own, nor does it represent him as using all the powers of his being to overcome his situation; but the Bible says: "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5).

When man looks upon that appalling scene, it is anything but encouraging and inviting. To rid the world of a portrait like that, the enemies of the Bible have kept up the fight.

But that is not the only reason the Bible remains under constant attack. The Bible is the only thing in the world that claims to exercise authority and dominion over man. That very claim is contrary to our disposition and our nature. We are a democratic people and love to boast of liberty, of absolute freedom. God's Word is the only thing that comes to us and proposes to hold us accountable and amenable for our every deed along the pathway of life.

The disposition of the world is to break all bonds and to know no limitations, to yield to the appetites, the passions, and the lusts of our being. And could the enemies of the Bible get rid of it, the man of sin would be revealed and anarchy would reign triumphant over the splendid land in which we live, even as it reigns over much of the earth today.

The Bible does not consult man nor does it advise with us as to how we would prefer to have it; but it speaks, indeed, as one with authority, not upon a plane or level

with mankind, but super-human, and issues its decrees and its edicts in the form of "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not." Just as its commands are definite and sure, so are its wonderful promises. When passion has run its course, it is to the Bible that men turn for that which is sure and cer-

tain. From its pages you and I have the assurance of the love and care of a Heavenly Father, if we will accept membership in His family. If you are not a child of God today, won't you study the pages of God's Holy Word and cease to neglect so great a salvation as is offered therein?

## My Saviour And I

### A Testimony to His Presence and Power

By THOMAS D. WHITEMAN  
Dallas, Texas

#### HE GOES BEFORE THEE

This manifestation of the Spirit took place in the little city of Washington, N. C., in the summer of 1939. The man and his wife were making a three month's trip through the Eastern States. To make the trip profitable financially, they had an item of advertising which was offered to the bottling trade. They had made their regular call on the only bottling plant there — so they thought. Business had been slow the past week and as they made their way out of town on the highway to Norfolk, Virginia, the wife, who was driving, suddenly made a right turn onto a broad avenue. The man said to her, none too pleasantly, "Why did you turn here, we were on the highway!" The wife replied "I don't know but I am sure this will be alright and will take us back into the highway."

She drove on about four blocks and there, on our right, was a big, new bottling plant for another type of soft drink. The man said, "Stop right here." He took his samples and his order book and went into the main office. Within 15 minutes he was back in the car with a nice order that paid him a commission of \$82.50.

The sale was not the important thing, though it did help out. The big question is, what made her turn on that particular street?" She said afterward that it seemed that someone had turned the wheel for her. I am sure that SOMEONE did, for it is written, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

#### THERE AM I IN THE MIDST

Some years ago I had occasion to make a business trip to Hot Springs, Arkansas. I had travelled quite a bit in Arkansas, but had never been over this particular stretch of road. It was late afternoon and I was enjoying the beauty of the mountains. The sun dropped lower and lower. I switched on my lights and settled back. Then suddenly there was a vicious streak of lightning, a loud clap of thunder, and almost immediately it began to rain. The road began to wind more than it had been, and I kept going down and down. I cut my speed to about 10 miles an hour and crept along. I sensed a feeling of fear, for the road was narrow and I could see only about 10 feet ahead.

I remembered a little prayer that I had learned years ago: "God is my help in every need." That one line of the first verse was sufficient. It seemed as if someone took hold of the wheel. There was not a word spoken, but I suddenly realized that someone else was driving. A peace settled over me and I relaxed. We, the DRIVER and I continued on for about 30 minutes, when suddenly I was on a brightly lighted street.

I pulled up to the first hotel I saw and got out. The end of my journey! I checked in and went to my room. I picked up a Bible placed there by the Gideons — God bless them! I opened it and the first line I saw was, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end . . ." (Matt. 8:10)



# The KINGDOM of HEAVEN

By  
J. A. DENNIS

## I. MIXED SIGNALS

**"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it; when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." (Isaiah 30: 21)**

When today's football team starts a play they go into a "huddle," where each player learns his part in the coming action. Each man has his place, his part to play. If one or more miss the signal, go the wrong way, are in the wrong spot, the play is ruined, the team thrown for a loss, perhaps the ball is lost to their opponents.

That is all that is wrong with the world today, we've gotten our signals mixed. God has a great Plan for the world, a plan and a place for every man, woman, and child in it. His Son, Jesus, came announcing that Plan: the Kingdom of Heaven. He calls the plays, gives the signals. But men have failed or refused to listen. They make up their own plays and plans, give their own signals, or listen to someone who doesn't know.

Hence God's Kingdom is thrown for a loss, the Devil has a field day, with hate and confusion, fear and war.

Only as men go into a "huddle" with God do they get the proper signals and know where to go and what to do.

Down through the ages a few men have done this. They alone have had the right answers to life. In them alone lies the hope of mankind.

Centuries ago God called a man up on a mountain top and gave him some rules for living. They were so important that pen and ink were not durable enough to hold them, so they were chiseled on tablets of stone. Those laws, given to Moses, became the foundation stones for nations down to our own.

Centuries later God came down on another mountain in the person of His Son and gave the world a new set of Signals, a new code for living, a new Law—the Law of Love—spelled out in the Sermon on the Mount. These new signals ushered in a new Plan: Peace on earth, goodwill to men.

The world is all askew today, not because the Plan was wrong, not because the world or man is a mistake, but simply because we have gotten our signals mixed, or having received them, have refused to carry out our part in the plan.

**"For they, being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." (Romans 10:3)**

## 2. THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

**"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." (Heb. 11:16)**

God always has the answer ready for man's need.

**"For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." (Matt. 6: 8)**

When man felt the need for swifter transportation, he found steam, waiting. When he felt the need of more light and swifter communication he found electricity and radio, waiting. When he needed fuel for the newly invented automobile and airplane, he found oil stored in safe warehouses far inside the earth, waiting.

Likewise has God's Perfect Plan for man been ready and waiting since the "foundation of the world." Waiting the day when his Son Jesus would proclaim it. Waiting the day when men would Believe in and Accept it and their new King. When they would turn from their lives of sin and sickness, fear and failure, and step up and live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Few people have caught the full significance of what Jesus offered to the world when He proclaimed, **"The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" (Matt. 4: 17)**

Few Christians have seen the glorious life, right here on earth, that Jesus offers for those who really see what He meant, and who accept, without reservation, citizenship in that Kingdom of Heaven.

Some think of the Kingdom of Heaven as the beautiful land they hope to inherit after death. But to Jesus the Kingdom of Heaven was not a place that men must die to attain. He died that they might attain citizenship in that Kingdom, here on earth — here and now! The Kingdom begins on earth, but continues throughout eternity in Heaven.

John the Baptist's first word heralded the coming of the Kingdom: "Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand." (Matt. 3:2) Jesus repeated that proclamation as He began to preach (Matt. 4:17) and continued to preach the Kingdom all through His ministry.

**"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people." (Matt. 4:23)**

Here we see the Gospel that Jesus preached was the "Gospel of the Kingdom."

When Jesus sent forth the twelve disciples, two by two, He commanded them to preach the Kingdom. **"And as ye go preach saying, The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand; heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give." (Matt. 10:7-8)**

Later, when Jesus commissioned the seventy to also go out two by two, He commanded that they, too, preach the Kingdom.

**"And into whatsoever city ye enter and they receive you, eat such things as they set before you; and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The Kingdom of God is come nigh unto you." (Luke 10:8-9)**

Most of Jesus' preaching and teaching was about the Kingdom. He described it in many parables. Indeed many of His parables began with, **"The Kingdom of Heaven is likened unto . . ."** This was true of the parable of the wheat and the tares, the grain of mustard seed, the bit of leaven, the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price, the householder hiring laborers for his vineyard, the king making a marriage feast for his son, the ten virgins, the parable



of the talents, and the king taking account of his servants. In the parable of the sower who went forth to sow, Jesus said the seed was **"the word of the Kingdom."** (Matt. 13:19)

Paul spoke often of the Kingdom. **"The Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost."** (Rom. 14:17) **"For the Kingdom of God is not in word but in power."** (I Cor. 4: 20) And the last recorded account of Paul's life pictures him still preaching the Kingdom:

**"And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, preaching the Kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him."** (Acts 28: 30-31)

Isn't it strange, with all this emphasis on the Kingdom in the New Testament, that we hear so little about it today?

What is this Kingdom of Heaven, or Kingdom of God, that John the Baptist, Jesus, the Disciples, and Paul came announcing?

It was the most wonderful news yet heard on this earth. For all those who would accept it and become its citizens, accept its King and its laws and its responsibilities, it would set them free from every fetter: from the rule of Law, from the bondage of sin, from sorrow and pain, and take them, as fellow-citizens of Jesus Christ, into the Kingdom of Heaven, whose King was Jesus, whose Law was Love, whose flag was the Cross, whose provider was God.

What was, and is, the price of citizenship in this amazing Kingdom? A total allegiance to their new King, above allegiance to any man, organization, or country on earth. A commitment to obey His laws, to obey God rather than men. (Acts 5:29)

**"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."** (Matt. 16:24-25)

This Kingdom of Heaven and the wonderful privileges of citizenship in it have not been recognized and seized upon by many Christians.

Jesus said that on one could "see" the Kingdom, or become a citizen in it, until he was born again and became as a little child.

**"Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God."** (John 3:3) **"Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."** (Matt. 18:3)

We have so limited God and His Kingdom by our own limited thinking. Some would whittle Jesus down to fit into their particular denominational mould and then proclaim to the world that theirs was THE Church because they were like that puny model.

We give our allegiance to small and passing things and so miss the joy and wonder of His great Kingdom. Our allegiance is to family, business, denomination, State, or Nation, each one confining us to a small divisive role.

Jesus came with a citizenship so breathtakingly large and wonderful that we have not dared drop our little loyalties in order to grasp it. We are like little children clutching candy in our sticky fingers, reluctant to relinquish it, as we must, before we can receive the bicycle, the doll, or the new coat that our parents hold out to us.

What does the Kingdom mean? What must its citizens believe and do? What does it promise that the average Christian has not yet inherited? What would the Kingdom do for the world that the Church has not done?

The citizen of the Kingdom still gives a certain amount of his allegiance to his denomination, his State and his Nation, but a bigger world-wide responsibility and privilege has opened up to him and he begins to see, through the renewing of his mind (Romans 12:2), through "the mind of Christ" (I Cor. 2:16), what Jesus meant by the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

**"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God."** (Matt. 6:33)

Citizens of this new Kingdom of Heaven **"must obey God rather than men."** (Acts 5:29) They must put allegiance to Jesus and His people everywhere above loyalty to Church, State, or Nation. Christ, alone, is King. When He speaks, His subjects must obey, no matter what their lesser loyalties might demand.

From the day the convert takes out citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven and pledges allegiance to his new King, he is no longer merely a citizen of Galilee or Judea or Rome — or England or America or Japan — he is a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven and is only a temporary "sojourner" in the lesser Nation. While "visiting" in any of these "foreign" countries he gives that nation partial allegiance and obeys its laws up to the point where they conflict with the laws of his own King. He renders unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's but reserves unto God the things that are God's (Matt. 22:21) He is "In the world" but not "of the world." His citizenship is in Heaven. (Phil. 3:20, Margin)

**"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."** (John 8:31-32)

This new citizenship frees the Christian from racial prejudice and superiority because Jesus is King of all the earth, not just of the American white man.

**"One is your Father . . . And all ye are brethren."** (Matt. 23: 9, 8)

**"God . . . hath made of one blood all nations of men."** (Acts 17: 24-26)

It frees him from rabid nationalism, for he realizes that all Christians everywhere, of whatever race or color, are the children of God, the body of Christ, and his own blood-bought brothers.

It disentangles him from the madness of war, for he cannot fight and kill his Christian brothers in other lands who, too, are sons of God.

A citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven need never worry about un-employment, for there is always plenty of work to do in the Kingdom. His concern is not primarily to make money, but to serve his King and his fellow men. And, if he does that, God has promised to provide all his needs.

**"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."** (Matt. 6: 33)

**"Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."** (Psalm 37: 3)

**"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."** (Phil. 4: 19)

Citizenship in the Kingdom frees the Christian from covetousness, for in the Kingdom he owns nothing — he and all he possesses belongs to God and the Kingdom.

**"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 Cor. 6: 19-20)

**"The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts."** (Haggai 2:8)

**"Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle**



upon a thousand hills." (Psalm 50: 10)

As a faithful steward of all that God places in his hands, the Christian must administer it for the good of the Kingdom and the benefit of his fellows. He may "own" a farm, a business, or a profession, but it is his only to use for the Kingdom and its citizens.

This citizenship frees the Christian from worldliness.

"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

"Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately." (Luke 12: 32-36)

Why can't men "see" the Kingdom? Why do they reject so great a gift as its citizenship? Why do they cling to their little loyalties that set business against business, church against church, race against race, nation against nation, and man against God?

The Kingdom has not been taught. A few have caught the vision and have been working as ambassadors of the Kingdom. But the Church frowns on such open-hearted, world-wide loyalty. It threatens their hold upon the members of their own fold.

Governments try to stamp out ruthlessly any such world-wide loyalty, for if this Kingdom idea spread seriously, where could they recruit soldiers who would go out and fight other peoples?

The United States is probably the only nation today where, by the constitution, its citizens are legally allowed to give higher allegiance to God than to our own government. But few have realized this fact, and few have dared use the freedom our constitution permits.

So long as we reject the Kingdom with its absolute and final allegiance to our King, Jesus Christ, we will continue to search fruitlessly for a way to live in happiness and peace. We will remain slaves to our lesser loyalties and small conceptions of what it means to be a "Christian."

To a tottering world, with its little plans for saving itself, Christ hurls His challenging answer: **"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!"** (Matt. 4:17)

When Christians begin to take the Kingdom of Heaven seriously, the world will begin to take the Christians seriously, and we, like Paul, will begin to **"turn the world upside down."** (Acts 17:6)

God's Plan for man is for him to live abundantly while here on earth, and to live eternally hereafter, as a Citizen of

**The Kingdom of Heaven.**

### 3. ENTERING THE KINGDOM

**"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."**  
(John 3:5)

Our Salvation and Entrance into the Kingdom are based on our Believing and Accepting four great Truths, four great events in the life of Christ. Christianity, like a house, is set upon four foundation pillars.

**"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."** (I Cor. 3:11)

**"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)

The first great truth of Christianity is the fact that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born of a Virgin, and so lived and taught as to become the Example and unalterable Standard of anyone who would call himself a Christian. **"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."** (John 14:6) **"Follow me."** (Matt. 16: 24)

The second truth is the death of Jesus Christ, and his everlasting atonement for us by his shed blood on the Cross of Calvary. **"How that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures."** (I Cor. 15: 3) **"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins."** (Col. 1: 14)

The third truth is Christ's resurrection from the grave. On this fact is based our hope of eternal life and the fulfillment of all his promises.

**"And that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures . . . And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins . . . But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept."** (I Cor. 15: 4, 17, 20)

**"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."** (Rom. 10: 9)

The fourth great truth of the Christian's faith is Christ's sending back another Comforter, the Holy Ghost, on the day of Pentecost.

**"This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we are all witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear."** (Acts 2: 32-33)

**"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."** (Acts 2:4)

To enter and live in the Kingdom of Heaven, we must not only Believe that these events happened in the life and ministry of Jesus, but we must Believe that they happened for our benefit. We must accept them as a gift of God's Grace, and we must IDENTIFY ourselves with Jesus in each of these four great events, that we may be born-again, may become sons and daughters of God.

First, then, we must Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

**"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name, which are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."** (John 1: 12-13)

**"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."** (Acts 4: 12)

**"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast."** (Eph. 2: 8-9)

Second, we must identify ourselves with Jesus' death, accept his atonement for our sins, his paying of our debt with his blood at Calvary, and consign our "old man" to death, to be "crucified with Christ." We will publicly proclaim this "death" by being baptized, as Jesus was. (Matt. 3: 13-17)

**"Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."** (Matt. 4:17)

**"But, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."** (Luke 13: 3)

**"Repent, and be baptized every one of you**



in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." (Acts 2: 38)

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Matt. 16: 16)

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1: 9)

Third, we must identify ourselves with Christ's resurrection, counting the old man dead and ourselves born-again as children of God.

"Therefore we are buried with him in baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6: 4)

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 6: 11)

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5: 17)

Then, as sons and daughters of God, we are to "walk in his steps," follow the example of Jesus' holy and loving and helpful life.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9: 23)

"He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked." (I John 2: 6)

So follow in the footsteps of Jesus, we will need the help of the Holy Spirit, even as Jesus himself was filled with the Holy Ghost before He began his earthly ministry.

"As my Father hath sent me (empowered by the Holy Ghost, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." (John 20: 21-22)

Without the Holy Spirit the Christian cannot see or understand or approve the breath-taking greatness of the Kingdom of Heaven. He cannot see all men, black, white, yellow and brown, as "made of one blood." (Acts 17: 26) He cannot see all believers, in many differing denominations, and in many different nations, as one Body in Christ.

Without the Holy Spirit, the Christian cannot see or is he able to practice: "Love your enemies"; "Resist not evil"; "Turn the other cheek"; "Bless them that curse you"; "Put up thy sword"; "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and soul and mind and strength; and thy neighbor as thyself."

Many church members are merely "reformed" sinners. But to be Christians we must be born-again, must be "Transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Rom. 12: 2)

Then, and only then, does the Kingdom of Heaven appear possible or desirable to us. Not until then do we see that, in God's eyes, the Kingdom is more important than America; that doing good "Unto the least of these, my brethren" is more important than our racial pride and prestige; that "Put up thy sword" and "Thou shalt not kill" are more important than national pride or military supremacy; that "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" is more valuable than all the praise and plaudits of men.

Jesus commanded all men to "Follow me." But, for weak, sin-stained humans, that was impossible. Jesus knew that. So before He ascended into Heaven, He charged the disciples to wait until they had received the Holy Ghost before they were to begin preaching. He knew that only with the Holy Ghost ruling their lives would they have

the power to do what He wanted them to do.

"(He) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence . . . but ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." (Acts 1: 4, 5, 8)

And on the Day of Pentecost, He baptized his followers with the Holy Ghost and fire. Those formerly weak and fearful disciples came from that upper room entirely different men from the men who had entered it ten days before. They had been cowering behind locked doors for fear the authorities would find, arrest, and execute them as they had their leader, Jesus. (John 20: 19) Now they marched boldly out into the streets of Jerusalem, singing his praises and shouting the Victory of his resurrection, so charged with a passion for serving God and saving mankind, that there was no room left in them for fear. They were new men, different men, God-filled men.

The Holy Spirit is one of the great inheritances of citizens of the Kingdom. He makes the Kingdom of Heaven both real and glorious. The Holy Ghost is for you, today.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

"For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." (Acts 2: 38-39)

#### 4. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SICK

"But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God is come unto you." (Matt. 12:28)

Millions of Christians are sick today because they do not know that God is as anxious to make them well as He was to save their souls. They do not know that Christ died for their sicknesses as well as for their sins.

If you are a born-again Christian, you do not have to be sick. It is God's will for his children to be well, even as you want your own children to be well.

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." (III John 2)

"And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." (Exod. 23: 25)

"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing ALL that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." (Acts 10: 38)

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." (Ps. 103:3) "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." (Matt. 8: 17) "By whose stripes ye were healed." (I Pet. 2: 24)

(Continued next month)



Little faith will bring your  
souls to heaven, but great  
faith will bring heaven to  
your souls.

—Charles Spurgeon

## REPORTS FROM GHANA

### NEED BOOKS, VAN, LOUD SPEAKER

Ghana, West Africa  
October 22, 1962

Dearly beloved,

Pentecostal greetings in that Sweet Name. Dearly beloved, I must confess that your booklets are very, very powerful and useful. Up to the time of my writing, there are so many people who have been asking for these. Your booklets have paved the way to bring more souls for Christ.

Dearly beloved, I want you to pray harder than before in order to get the following for His work: Van, Loudspeakers, and funds to pay my workers. I know the Lord has supplied my needs already, even before this letter reaches you. Praise Him (II Peter 3: V. 8-9, Luke 1: v.37.) But in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who saves us. I will never lose hope, for my Lord is faithful and He will never make me to be ashamed. Rom. 10, v. 11.

Lest I forget: The demand for the following booklet is very, very great in Ghana, and I should be very, very grateful if you could send me some. About 500 or more will do. The Gospel of St. John.

During my visit to one village the entire School children and all their teachers marched to the place where I was preaching and most of them were healed and all

the teachers were saved on the same day. They admired your powerful booklets which we freely gave to them. As a matter of fact I must say the truth that your books have given me more impetus or vim to reach where the Gospel has never reached. Your booklets are one of the powerful booklets and bet me they will bring more souls to Christ.

God bless you and your ministry and I believe greater works than these you will do. John 14: v. 12. God's mighty hand is upon you and so never be dismayed. My God who is in thee is mighty. (Zephaniah 3. vs. 16-17) Again I say God bless you richly. Halleluia! Amen, Amen.

Sincerely yours, Still His Laborer,  
Evangelist E. Y. M.

### GOD WORKS MIGHTY MIRACLES

Ghana, West Africa  
Nov. 10, 1962

Dear Brother Dennis,

We thank you so much for the booklets which arrived safely. We also praise the Lord for your good letter with all the reports of the booklets being used by the churches there through the moving of the Holy Spirit of God. We have received the 150 Gospel of St. John sent to us with thanks.

I am happy to report that your booklets are doing wonders in Ghana. I was moved by the Spirit of the Lord to preach from one of the booklets (The Seven Steps to Victory). I held the booklet in my hand and preached from it in an open air rally near the market in Kumasi on the 2nd and 3rd day of November, 1962. A deaf and dumb man was healed instantly as I applied the booklet (The Seven Steps to Victory) and prayed in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ, with the support of Acts 19: 11 and 12; Acts 10: 38; Matt. 8: 16-17; Isaiah 53: 4 and 5. He could even hear a watch tick and he could talk. Praise the Lord!

Others who were healed the same day were Mr. Joshua Tetteh of partial blindness, Mr. Samuel Cope of deafness; Mr. K.

A. Oosei Bonsu of crippled foot, Sister Comfort Akosuah of blood pressure and dizziness, and Mrs. Henry of paralyzed arm. She was healed instantly and she could raise her hand above her head, which she could not before. People were amazed and praised the Lord Jesus for the wonderful power in His Name through the booklet which they saw demonstrated before their eyes.

These miracles of healing made them rushed for the booklets. All the booklets got finished the same day and many more people are still asking for more.

55 people were saved the same day. After the close of the Rally 25 more people came to my residence and accepted Jesus as their Saviour. This made the total 80. Now they are rejoicing in His Salvation.

Please kindly send me more of the booklets.

Brother! The Almighty God who inspires our faith and word in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, has promised to supply us all the needs for the work and with the power of His Spirit to destroy the evil spiritual forces. Therefore fear not, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Philip 4: 19; Deut. 28: 2-14; Isaiah 58: 11-12; Malachi 3: 6 and 12.

My team and friends are praying always for you and your ministry, Sister Dennis, and all your family in Jesus Name. My wife and family greet you both and thank you for your prayers for us. May God bless and encourage you in Jesus' Mighty Name. Amen.

Yours in His Vineyard,

Evangelist E. Y. M.

### NEW GALILEAN SECT SPREADS

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

Jesus, the carpenter-preacher from Galilee, ordained twelve helpers yesterday and sent them out to spread this revolutionary movement throughout Israel.

The twelve were a non-descript lot of fishermen, farmers, one tax collector, and one reputed insurrectionist.

They were not allowed to take provisions for their journey or even extra clothing, but are expected to live off the working people whom they visit. Where will this end?

—The Capernaum Chronicle  
Jan. 21, A. D. 29.

"The church confronts the world not primarily with an offer to heal its ills or solve its problems. Its first appeal is to rebels who have taken up arms against their Creator, an appeal which is nothing less than the demand for surrender."

—Donald G. Miller, in  
Herald of Holiness