The Earth Corrupt

"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence." Genesis 6:11.

The earth today is far from the condition it should be in by virtue of the angelic message of, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men," which was heard by the lowly shepherds as they kept watch over their flocks, in the Bethlehem country, on that memorable night so many, many, years ago. Peace has practically been taken from the earth, and this because of the lack of good will in the hearts of men.

In connection with the text above, we read in Matthew 24:37, the following:

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

It is Biblically true, beloved, that the earth is more corrupt today, than it has ever been since the days of Noah, which were before the flood. It was in those days that the earth became so corrupt—wickedness so great—that it repented God that He had made man. So He purposed to, and did, destroy man from off the earth with a flood of water, saving only Noah, a preacher of righteousness, who found grace in the sight of God, together with his wife, his three sons and their wives, and the creatures which were also brought through the flood, that the renewed earth might be replenished.

And the earth that now is, is reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of the ungodly. (2 Peter 3:7.)

Corruption and violence is surely filling the land today. Wickedness is ever on the increase. The world is now staggering under its load of sin. The wrath of God is daily being manifest, so-to-speak, on the account of the nations rejection of His laws and commands. Truly is the world today, back to where it was, in different respects, before the flood. Crime conditions are appalling. Penitentiaries, jails, insane asylums, etc., are, generally speaking, filled to overflowing today, so-to-speak, with men and women, boys and girls, who have fallen victims to the snares and traps of Satan in this, his last attack against righteousness, and civilization, you might say. Capital punishment—the electric chair, the gallows, the lethal gas chamber, the firing squad—nor life-time prison sentences, are not remedying lawlessness. The court docket of our land are packed with cases ranging from petty misdemeanors, to crimes practically too horrible to print. Murder is one of the chief crimes today—that and robbery. Possibly next to these, is that heinous crime of assault, or rape. Often the victim is some young child—the little girl, and maybe whose life is taken at the hands of the fiendish wretch. It seems the very powers of hell are loosed in these last days against morality. It is not a bit uncommon to read any more where some father or mother (if they be worthy the name) have murdered their own precious little children. (And this does not speak for the possibly thousands of little innocents who never saw the light of day, having fallen a victim of the murderous hands of father and mother, as it were—cases that seldom ever are found on the court docket, though a penitentiary crime, but so often hid under a cloak of society, or religious pretense! You know what we mean—criminal abortion!) Children murder their parents. Parents murdering each other. And let us not forget the big crime wave of kidnapping, or abduction, and holding for ransom, that has brought terror and grief to some in the past few years.

Then there is all the greed, graft, and corruption, to be considered in

(Continued on page 2.)
The Earth Corrupt
(Continued from front page.)

business and political world. Politics are corrupt. Men are appealing for public office for the purpose of promoting—some kind of a gift or scheme. Old time patriotism is scarce to what it once was. Self-aggrandizement is the goal of many today. Men in the business world are after the dollar in more than one way. Short weights and measures, together with inferior merchandise, exorbitant prices, unfair business dealings along the line of competition, etc., constitute some of the means of money making today in business circles. We have said before, that all the hijackers do not use pistols by any means. Some use pencils; some short weights and measures; some exorbitant prices; some misrepresentation of merchandise, etc. While we do not approve of either class, but if there is any difference in the two classes, we say the hijacker that takes his loot at the point of a gun is more honourable than the one who takes it with a pencil, or some schemes way of business dealing. The out-and-out hijacker uses no deception when he has a gun drawn on you, while the business class of such characters do. In the case of the bank robber, he is taking from the wealthy; but in event of the "robber bank," as the case was more so a few years ago, especially, such institution would take a widow woman, or maybe some poor wash woman's meager deposit today, as it were, well knowing they were insolvent as a business concern—that their doors would close on the morrow! Of course we do not mean to infer that ALL business men and officials are of the corrupt class—we believe there are surely some yet who are possessed of a sense of upright and legitimate dealings. You understand our thought is to the effect how, that generally speaking, business and politics have degraded to a state of corruption.

While this phase of the world's condition—lawlessness, corruption, graft, greed, etc., among the people, is bad enough, indeed, which things are most widely in violation of the law—all being a violation of God's law—yet there is the social condition to be considered, within whose boundries are so many things today that are corrupt before God, and which things go unrestrained so far as the law of the land is concerned. It seems a spirit of immodesty, looseness of morals, etc., broke over the world, beginning with, and following, the great World War. This new freedom virtually swept the youth of our land off their feet, so to speak. Parental rule and authority was cast aside, boldly ignored, or compromisedly laid aside, and youth went forth, unrestrained, to search out, and to explore life to their satisfaction. Petting parties became one of the orders of the day. "Necking," cigarette smoking, wild parties, drinking, etc., taken the place of the more milder, and more modest form of social diversion of the young people of the years before. And that an appalling condition has been reached, is beyond dispute. No doubt but what if the cover, so to speak, could be pulled off from off old world, and all the sin, shame, and debauchery exposed that is today secretly practiced, and that right within the ranks of what the world calls the "best," people, one might be disposed to wonder at God letting the world stand.

Things must have become corrupt, indeed, in the line of the movie shows, which is one of the chief entertainment features of the worldly class, as to have moved the Catholic Church to sponsor a clean-up campaign against the kind of pictures being shown, which thing they did some months ago. And a glance at the general line of reading material in a newspaper today, is enough to convince of the necessity of a "clean up" drive in the manner of reading matter displayed to the public, if such a campaign would be lastingly profitable in these last days. But it seems where Satan may be head­ed off in one thing today, he only breaks out in maybe something worse the next time. It is a shame and a disgrace, the salacious brand of literature, accompanied with indecent pictures, that is foisted upon the youth of our land today. And greater yet is the shame that our boys and girls give themselves over to Satan to feast on such sex­appealing rot. And great the shame that parents tolerate their children to indulge in such reading matter. We have seen such filthy literature in the holiness home! So lets not blame young people altogether for some of their ways—let's place part of the blame where it deservingly belongs—right upon parents who sit idly by, allowing their children liberties in things of questionable nature—maybe engrossed in such themselves! It's no wonder some children go astray, and that from right under the hands, sometimes, of seemingly good Christian parents. But such is just possibly because those parents failed God in that they did not give the proper care and attention to their children that they should—did not hold a strict parental rule of authority over them as they should have done; and on top of

(Continued on next page—3.)

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. —2 Tim. 3:13.
The Earth Corrupt (Continued from page 2.)

this, possible get offended at the preacher for simply giving them the Bible on how God instructs on the line of how the parent ought to bring up the child.

Just a glance at the great divorce record of our land today—how that the sanctity of the marriage state is being swept away, giving place to legalized adultery.

Rottenness of matrimonial affairs within the ranks of the moving picture industry, is surely setting a bad example before the youth of our land.

The moral condition existing among young people today (and older ones as well) is reaching an appallingly low level, indeed. Modesty has long since become almost an obsolete word, so far as it's practical value is concerned. Step by step has Satan led people in the matter of immodesty in dress, and moral conditions, until the old and out modest is the result of such. Bathing pools, gymnasiums, and athletic fields, are used by Satan today as a place to break down the old time standard of modesty and decency in the lives of men and women who frequent such places.

Measured by a standard of real purity and godliness, conditions are much worse than they are now generally credited with, and this is due to the now accepted rule of social relationship. Barriers have been broken down between what one time stood as a wall of protection between propriety, and impropriety. The sacredness of modest girlhood, and womanhood, has given way to brazen boldness, and masculine activities. Women cigarette smokers “gracing” (For Shame the thought!) the billboards along the highways, and in newspapers ads, or maybe clad in some ungodon manner, advertising in picture, some of Satan’s wares, only shows where we are drifting to, for a nation’s moral standing can well be determined by the standard of modesty of it’s womanhood—civilized nations at least.

We can’t, of course, authoritative-


called home

Sorry beloved, to have to announce to you, the passing away, recently, of Sr. Annie Reece, of near Yonkers, Okla., a dear saint of God, and of the Cherokee Indian race. We haven’t all the particulars at this time, but hope to be able to publish obituary in next issue, D. V.

Office Notes

The Season’s Greetings To All!

So far as we now know, Bro. Buckles’ condition is about the same. Some days more encouraging to him than others. Let all the saints keep praying for him. God is yet on the Throne, and still answering prayer when we come before Him uncondemned, in faith believing, and asking according to His will. Write to him—he will appreciate a letter of encouragement. And don’t forget him in his financial needs. May God bless you in any remembrance of him. Let us suggest that ALL the churches, and saints at large, send a New Years offering to this dear saint of God, who is our brother in the Lord, and to many, a father in the Gospel. Do this saints—let’s ALL give him an encouraging “shower” at this time. Maybe it’s been a long time since some of us have made a real sacrifice unto the Lord. Do this. It will be good for us all. Didn’t think of this until after we had begun this article. Let some one in every hand take this up at once. Remember our sister church at Mulberry has been faithful to Bro Buckles and family in his affliction; so in this, we can be also a help to them. Bro Buckles has given the best part of his life in our Saviour’s cause, so let’s be neglectful in his time of affliction. God bless you for the interest you may take in this.

His address:

Bro. E. A. Buckles,
Box 322.
Mulberry, Kans.

In order to reach our readers before Christmas, and also that we might make, the Lord willing, a now delayed trip to Drumright, Okla., for a few services, at least, with the saints there, we are cutting down this issue from 12 to 8 pages—hence, page 8 corresponds to what would have been page 12.
THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MESSENGER

O. H. BOND, Editor & Publisher.
MRS. O. H. BOND, Assistant.

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MESSENGER.

Devoted to the interests of the Church of God, of the Apostolic faith.

"Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, both theirs and ours." - I Cor. 1:2.

We stand for, and endorse, the three-fold plan of salvation, that is, justification by faith; sanctification through the Blood (a second, definite, work of grace); and the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, with the Bible evidence of being born in other tongues, as the Spirit gives utterance. Teaching for doctrine, those principles taught by the people of the Apostolic faith since the outpouring of the Spirit in the beginning of the latter rain dispensation (Topkapi, Kans., 1900; Los Angeles, Calif., 1906).

Our creed: HOLINESS.

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DOCTRINE

( Below are some of the principal doctrines taught by the Apostolic faith. )

We preach Christ, His birth, baptism, works, teachings, crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and His soon coming. We teach the personality of the threefold Godhead; and contend that the very same Gospel in its purity and fulness as was delivered by Paul, and the other apostles, to the early church, is the only Gospel for us today.


SANCTIFICATION—Sanctification is that act of God's grace which makes us holy. It is a second, definite work, wrought in the heart with the Blood of Jesus [Heb. 13:12], by the Holy Ghost [Romans 15:16], through faith. Heb. 2:11; 13:12. 1 Thess. 4:3. John 7:15, 17. 1 John 17. 1 Peter 2:2.


And when we receive the experience, we also receive the evidence, as did the disciples on the day of Pentecost [Acts 2:4], at the house-hold of Cornelius [Acts 10:46], and at Ephesus [Acts 19:5], that of speaking in other tongues (or languages), as the Spirit gives utterance. Note also Mark 16:17; 1 Cor. 14:21, 22.

HEALING FOR THE BODY—The Bible teaches divine healing for our physical bodies, just as it teaches salvation for our souls. Divine healing was purchased for us in the Atonement. Psalms 103:3. Isa. 53:4, 5. Matt. 8:17. Mark 16:18 James 5:14-16.


THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS—The return of Jesus will be just as literal as was His going away. Acts 1:9-11. John 14:3. Preparation for His return was the message He stressed to His disciples Matthew 24:44; and such event was that which Paul looked forward to, and points us to. 1 Cor. 15:51-53. 1 Thess. 4:15-18.

WATER BAPTISM—Water baptism by immersion [single], in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, being preformed as the answering of a good conscience toward God, is unmistakably the form set forth in the Bible. The word "baptize," is taken from a Greek word meaning, "to dip." Jesus was baptized of John IN Jordan. Matt. 3:15, 16; 28:19. Acts 10:47, 48. Mark 16:16. 1 Peter 3:21.


WASHING THE DISCIPLES FEET—Jesus said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash another's feet." For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." John 13:14, 15. Teaching us humility.

THE TRIBULATION—Jesus prophesied a great tribulation period, such as was not from the beginning of the world. Matt. 24, 21, 22, 20. Rev. 18th and 16th chapters. Also note Daniel 7:15-25; 8:15-25; 9:20-27; 11:20-45, and 12;1. Isaiah 26:20, 21.

Upon authority of Matt. 24:6-8, by virtue of recently past, and now current events, has already entered into the "beginning of sorrows," or the great tribulation period, which is to climax by the three years and six months reign of the beast power prophesied to us in Rev. 13.

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. — I Timothy 4:16.

THE MILLENNIUM — The Bible teaches a 1,000 years peaceful reign with Jesus upon earth. During this time Satan will be bound. Rev. 20:1-6. This will truly be a day of rest for God's people. Isaiah 11:1-12; 65:17-25; Hosea 2:18; Zech. 14:9, 20; Isaiah 2:1-5.


NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH — The Bible teaches that this earth, which is polluted with sin, shall pass away, and that there shall be new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 2 Peter 3:12, 13. Rev. 20:11; 21:1-3.


RESTITUTION — The Blood of Jesus will never atone for any sin that we can make right. We must have a complete void of offense toward God and man. Restitution means making the thing right wherein we have wronged our fellow man—taking back, paying for, stolen or骗取ed goods obtained by fraud, etc.; paying up old debts, returning things borrowed, etc. Ezekiel 33:14-16. Luke 19:8, 9. Other confessions sometimes have to be made.

WAR — It is our firm conviction, supported by the Word of God, our conscience bearing us witness, that we cannot take up arms against our fellow men, however great the provocation or however just the cause might seem. It is the teaching of the Bible and the Gospel presented by Christ in His Sermon on the Mount. Matthew 5:38-48. Also Rev. 13:10. Luke 18:18-20. Heb. 12:12.

We maintain the highest regard for our flag and teach absolute respect for the laws and officials of our country according to Romans 13:1-7, and 1 Peter 2:13, 14, as long as it is not contrary to "We ought not to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29. We hold the unalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience.
The Pastoral Work

We have often said that every band of saints needed a pastor over them. This is right. God has called some to this particular phase of the Gospel work. So if every band of saints not having a pastor, would take steps to get one—if none presently available, go to praying God to raise up some one for them—it would surely be better all around. And in the event of one considering the taking over the pastoral charge of a church, or a band of saints, it would first be well to prove the Lord—know definitely that it was His will—in the matter. Then, after having assumed charge, be as careful to know you are in His will in relinquishing, or giving up, the charge as you were in accepting the same. If the shepherd, in the event of some of the sheep be coming stubborn, or unruly, would give up his job each time the sheep did so, the shepherd might be out of a job a good part of the time, and the sheep in need of a shepherd! Now let everybody take this in a charitable manner—but evidently there is something wrong SOMEWHERE—shepherd, or sheep, one—when shepherds are short staying at practical every charge; or, too much shifting of pastors by a band of saints, as the case might be!

Another thought—What about the God called evangelist trying to fill a pastor’s place some where, if they are feeling a call to duty in their own line? A pastor ought to be with the flock a reasonable part of the time, at least. We are referring to the resident pastor, and do not mean to infer that he

or she should never visit other bands in services, nor conduct a series of meetings at other places, if they know it to be the Lord’s will, during the course of their pastorate. But it would hardly look to be in harmony with God’s will, would it, beloved, for the individual to be holding down a pastorate somewhere—maybe that chance turning them practically all their tithes, and giving occasional offerings—virtually supporting them—and that pastor being on the go the greater part of the time, visiting other places, or in revivals elsewhere?

Finished Work of Grace

With the greatest of respect to ALL concerned, knowing there are people among them who have old time salvation, yet we want to say candidly and sincerely, in a charitable manner, that even the leaders of those who teach a Finished Work of Grace doctrine, CAN’T trace their doctrine back to the original outpouring of the latter rain, which occurred now almost thirty-six years ago. Looks as if this fact ought to put the sincere individual to thinking, at least, in view of the fact that Paul forewarns in Acts 20:28 30, of the danger of both, grievous wolves entering in, who would not spare the flock; and also, of our own selves—those who are in the right way—there would be those arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. So it is through the operation of this latter class, we’ll just have to frankly say, beloved, that we have the doctrine today that opposes the original doctrine—the three fold plan of salvation, which includes the doctrine of sanctification as a second, definite, work of grace.

Yes, beloved, the very leaders of the new movement (now grown old within it’s self, and fast becoming popular with the world, it seems, taking it’s place with the rank and file of other sectarian churches) taught, stood for, and experienced, the blessing of old-time sanctification as a second work. In fact, the very author of the new doctrine, the late Pastor Durham, of the Stone Church, in Chicago, went to Los Angeles, Calif., during the great out-pouring of the Spirit there in 1906—that great revival that ignited so many Gospel fires throughout the world—and there received the blessings of sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and speak in tongues, and carried both, the message, and the blessing, of the full Gospel back to Chicago, and preached the same for a period of time, but later on denounced the doctrine of sanctification as a second work of grace, and introduced to the world what we now have in the form of the so-called Finished Work, or one work of grace doctrine, which in reality is only a revival of the Zinzendorf doctrine, the teaching of Count Zinzendorf, a German of the Moravian faith, who opposed the Wesleys in their day along the line of sanctification.

So in the case of Pastor Durham, it began to be fulfilled toward us, that which was spoken of Paul by way of warning to the elders of one of the early churches—that of our own selves—one of this faith—there arose a man, speaking a perverse thing, and did draw away disciples with him—induced others to lay down the profession of their Blood bought, and Heaven sent, blessing of a definite experience in sanctification, and accept instead,

(Con’t on page 8.)

They had almost consumed me upon earth: but I forsook not thy precepts. ...Psalms 119:87.
Tithes and Offerings

Possibly there are many good saints of God who never think but what just failing to pay tithes alone, constitutes robbing God. But we read in Malachi 3:8, wherein the failure along the line of offerings was also counted as robbery of God the same as was failing to pay tithes counted as robbing Him. Please note: “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.”

So no doubt but there are saints of God who feel they are free from any guilt of robbing God because of their carefulness in keeping their tithes paid up, possibly not realizing that offerings unto God are held in demand the same as tithes.

Maybe some feel they cannot afford much above tithes. If we are going to make a sacrifice toward God’s cause, it MUST come through our offerings, for in paying tithes, we are NOT sacrificing unto Him—we are only rendering unto Him that which rightfully belongs unto Him. In Leviticus 28:30, we read: “And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s: it is holy unto the Lord.” So in paying tithes, we are not sacrificing of our own means unto God—we are merely giving back unto Him that which is His, just as the tenant farmer turns unto his landlord, the land lord’s rightful share of rent at harvest time. If we want to make a sacrifice then unto God, it must come through an offering.

So for as tithing individually is concerned, some may think that such was confined to the jurisdiction of the law, only. But we find it was in practice long before the law was given. Abraham paid tithes unto Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings. (Gen. 14:17-20; Hebrews 7:1-2.) Then in Genesis 28:20-22, we read of the vow which Jacob vowed unto God concerning tithing:

“And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on,

“So that I come again to my house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God:

“And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God’s house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.”

So we see that men had a knowledge of tithing long before the law existed. Then when the law came, tithing was included in God’s plan; and now since the law, it still remains in His plan. In Matthew 23:23, we have the Saviour commending tithing though He is upbraiding certain of the scribes and Pharisees for their strict observance of the tithing plan, and in the meanwhile having omitted the weightier matters of the law, which they were, no doubt, still trying to follow:

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”

Please note that though the Saviour is referring to these people’s observance of the law, He is at the same time commending them for their yet paying tithes now under grace. He says, “ye pay tithe,” now, present tense; and “these ought ye to have done,” or, in other words He tells them that they OUGHT to have paid tithes. Then let us note Paul’s words in

(Con’t on page 8.)

PERILOUS TIMES

The terrific toll in human life due to automobile accidents—over 500 men, women, and children, met death in Oklahoma the first 11 months of 1935, with 66 for the month of November—is only the result of one of the perils of these last days.

Paul tells us in 2 Tim. 3:1-5, that in the last days perilous times would come. This great toll in human life is, to a great extent, just the result of that spirit in the world today that is causing the condition mentioned by Paul.

We are living in a fast age. That spirit of dash, rush, and go, is the prevalent condition today. This is accompanied with a spirit of recklessness, which, with drunkenness, carelessness, etc., when connected with the operation of an automobile, goes to make up a dangerous condition.

So this great toll in human life due to car accidents, is just another one of the perils of the last days—the fruit of the spirit of the age in which we are now living, to a great extent—perilous times, in which people are losing their fear of God, and regard for man, in their mad rush for the dollar, for pleasure, dissipation, etc.

When people—especially saints of God—go to driving a car in a reckless manner, speeding when not reasonably necessary, they are unnecessarily inviting disaster—both to themselves, and maybe to some innocent bystander, or passerby; and in the event we are professing to trust God for all in all, we ought to be a little careful about “stepping on it” when not needful (and here we take any part due us! Amen), lest we be guilty of tempting God in the matter.

The recent publicity given this perilous condition in highway and city traffic, has thrown a scare into more than one, possibly; and may we all profit by it. Carefulness is one of God’s laws, and we are sure it is often beneficial when observed by mankind in any walk of life.
THREE RIVERS, TEXAS

October 30, 1935.

Dear Bro. and Sr. Bond:

I have felt impressed for some time to write a piece for the little paper. I do pray it will be a help to others.

I have been reading the little paper for some time, and in it I find food for my soul.

I am so glad God, in His mercy, sent some one my way to tell me about this wonderful salvation. I have found it real to my soul.

I am so glad Jesus still saves, sanctifies, and fills with the Holy Ghost, heals our bodies, and supplies our needs. I praise Him today because He has been so good and merciful to me.

The Lord began to move on me three years ago to condemn pride, but so many folks would say, "It's just your idea;" others would say, "Salvation is in the heart," until I tried to lay it aside. But Oh, how I do praise the great God of Israel today, because He can show us things above man. I learned it wasn't just me, or my idea, praise the dear Lord.

Brothers and sisters, I want to say if there wasn't another scripture in the Bible against pride but this one, it gets the whole thing—1 John 2:15-16:

"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."

And in another place, speaking of pure religion, and undefiled, it infers that we must keep ourselves unspotted from the world. (James 1:27.) Then read Isaiah 3:16-26, about the pride of the daughters of Zion, which is the church.

I want to say the "LUST OF THE EYES," will get all lace, buttons, ruffles, ornaments—everything put on clothes for looks; paint, powder, high heeled shoes, "scallop" hair, and silk hose; also men's neck ties. The Word of God teaches us it is the little foxes that spoil the vines. (S. of S 2:15.) People will say, "Oh, these little things don't amount to anything." If not, why do you hold on to them? Things I didn't care for, never was any trouble for me to lay down—it was the things I cared for. This is why the Word of God teaches us to cleanse the inside of the cup and platter, that the outside may be clean also. So the "outside" surely does speak for the "inside!" (Matthew 23:24-26.)

I want to say that when the Lord got through with me, I didn't want any more "out side" trimmings. And if I had to go through with what I did to make me go tell others, don't think you will escape if you don't take heed. I can speak as one having authority, because I know where my learning came from.

Oh, it almost makes my heart bleed because people are so heedlessly drifting away! The Gentile age will soon be over. They have become like the Jews. When Jesus came to the Jews, many did not believe, so they were cut off. They were likened unto a good olive tree. Then we Gentiles, as a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them. So if God spared not the natural branches, neither will He spare us. (Romans 11.)

In Isaiah 55:2, we read: "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not?" I have noticed so many people just can't pay their tithes, but have to have their chewing gum, and dress trimmings; and lots of preachers can't go carry the Gospel, and spent the tithes for such things. People, it's time for us to awake.

The "LUST OF THE EYES," will also get all your home decorations—things that are not needful; idols on the wall, on the dresser, hanging over the windows. I must say people are worshiping idols.

Your sister in the Lord,

Mrs. G. M. Armstrong,

Three Rivers, Texas.

"Prepare To Meet Thy God"

The Bible injunction, "Prepare to meet thy God," found in Amos 4:12, has most always been a text used by Christian people as referring to sinners—a warning to them, when as a matter of fact, it is an admonition to God's people, themselves. The entire verse reads like this:

"Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

So we see the thought is addressed to Israel, or the people of God.

In a spiritual reality, it would be unspiritual to admonish sinners to "prepare to meet THY God," for in the Bible sense of the matter, the appellation, "THY God," cannot be rightfully applied to the unsaved, since God is not the spiritual Father of the wicked. In John 8:44, we hear the Saviour speaking to some Pharisaical Jews—sinners—in this manner: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do," etc. Note here that the God of

(Cont'd on page 12.)

"... Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble." —James 4:6.
Editorially

(Con't from page 5.)

FINISHED WORK OF GRACE

a "theory" of just one definite work of grace, instead of the two works—justification, and sanctification—was the original plan at the time the power fell, and continued such until Pastor Durham renounced the original teaching, and introduced this new theory.

While it isn't for us to question everybody's experience in this new way, which in reality is not a new way, because of the same spirit having arisen in the days of the Wesleys, coming, as afore mentioned, through Count Zinzendorf, a German nobleman, and of the Moravian faith, and which opposed the doctrine of sanctification as being an instantaneous work of grace, as taught by the Wesleys—but we DO say, and that upon the authority of God's Word, that NO individual has ever prayed through to the genuine baptism of the Holy Ghost without first having been sanctified some where between the time of their conversion, and their receiving the Baptism! To this, will those of the one work theory agree. But peculiar, then, how they will oppose one's teaching so openly to the people, pointing out to the young convert who is seeking the Baptism, the Bible conditions to be met in that deep consecration (Rom 12:1-2; 1 Thess. 5, etc.) which ONLY brings the blessing of holiness, or sanctification into the heart and life, which is Biblically necessary before the Holy Ghost will come in, because the Bible plainly teaches that the temple (our body) must first be cleansed—spiritually—before the Comforter will come in to take up His abode. He will not dwell in an unclean temple. (1 Cor. 3:16-17.)

Then in view of this fact, isn't it so that the last act of consecration on our part IS met with SOME WHERE along the line, bringing the completed cleansing into our lives—made holy; sanctified wholly, thank God, with the old carnal nature destroyed—thereby making us a candidate, then, for the real baptism of the Holy Ghost? Then beloved, if you can point back to the time you, after having been clearly and definitely saved, previously some where, made your consecration complete before God—the last thing on the altar for Him—and felt that undescribable sweetness steal over your soul—drawn into His very presence, seemingly—and this while in the days you were seeking the Baptism, the Comforter possibly coming in right shortly, or maybe some time later, but you KNOWING that last effort in your consecration did something for you—brought an experience into your life you had never possessed before, and you well knowing just the conditions you met that brought the blessing—just what else would you intelligently call such experience but a second, definite one? Such experience is bound to be definite. Our conclusion is, that if the individual knows nothing of the time nor place wherein carnality went out of their heart and life, and when they became wholly reconciled unto God and His will, that they have either never gone through the experience at all, or they know nothing about the experience of the baptism of the Holy Ghost in reality, peradventure they claimed such.

So whether some will admit it, or not, the experience of sanctification is a second, definite one—just as real and fruitful today in spite of all opposition as in the early days of the latter rain pouring out, when it was signally honoured of God above ALL other doctrines, in that He chose to pour out the Spirit upon the lives of those who were living and teaching the experience when the Holy Ghost first begin to fall almost thirty-six years ago. And though man did come on the scene with a professedly "new light," whereby putting people to seeking the Baptism with carnality in the heart—a dangerous doctrine—it yet stands out in the Bible as of old, thank God! Many deceivers are in the world; and many counterfeit religions in evidence; but it is going to take the genuine, beloved, to stand the final test. And in conclusion, let us say, IF you are really sanctified in the old time Bible way, there'll be no "fight" in your soul when it is doctrinally preached on. Yes, beloved, the Blood will tell! Amen.

Tithes and Offerings

(Con't from page 6.)

Hebrews 7:

"And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth."

Sounds like tithes were being paid in Paul's day (under grace), and the same received of the Lord in Heaven as a witness that He yet lived, does it not?

(Note: Sorry that on account of a lack of time and space, we are having to quit this article in this manner. In next issue, possibly, may continue with a continuation of this, and additional thoughts, D. V.—Editor.)

"Prepare To Meet Thy God"

(Con't from page 7.)

Heaven WAS NOT the Father of these wicked people—they were, spiritually, the children of Satan. The thought is applied generally in 1 John 3:10, in referring to the two classes upon earth—those who are born of God, living above sin; and those of the unsaved: "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil." This may sound a bit plain, but it is just the Bible.

Some might think it strange that the individual, being a child of God, would need any further preparation towards being ready to meet Him. But there often is some good people of God are always ready at a moment's notice to go; others there are who are on the background part of the time.

The Saviour's message to His people:

"Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." (Matt. 24:44.)

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. James 4:10.