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Amos,—The Prophet With A Modern Message

By L. T. CULP

I invite you to a fresh study of the remarkable prophecy of Amos. It has only nine chapters and if you read it in the mind of the Holy Spirit, you cannot fail to note the parallel in application between the Israel of Amos' day and the America of today. Nor can we fail to hear the voice of God calling across the centuries to a nation that has much in common with the Israel of old. Amos was a rustic of the rustics, a herder of sheep—he did not belong to the elite, nor the intellectuals—I am sure that neither his clothes or his sermons were cut according to the conventional pattern. he was one preacher who was not afraid to preach the pure word of God. The rich were growing richer—the poor, poorer and materially, skepticism and immorality ruled throughout the land.

There is no systematic outline to Amos' prophecy, but if we must have one we might state it thus: The present conditions, The Coming Judgment, The passing Opportunity and The Distant Prospect.

Amos began with profiteers who sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes,” who stored up violence and robbery in their palaces who trod on the poor and took from him burdens of wheat, and desecrated the Sabbath and cheated by false measures. Amos could say everything in Washington that he said in Bethel and be strictly up to date today. Whenever a minister condemns national evils, someone is sure to ask, "What does he know about economic conditions? Let the shoe maker stick to his last." When Paul started on his voyage to Rome, he said "there will be a storm;" the captain of the ship said there would not be a storm. They listened to the captain and sailed away to certain shipwreck. Today men listen to the captain and not to Paul; to the voice of information, not revelation; to the engineer, not the evangelist. Belshazzar calls for his Soothsayers who cannot read God's message on the wall. It was the experts who got us into trouble, the experts who know more and more about less and less. Some one has said that if all the experts were laid in a row they would never reach a conclusion.

Then like a flash Amos spoke of those who drink wine out of bowls and anoint themselves with the chief ointments. That is particularly timely in a nation that fills its bowls with legal alcohol, puts the stamp of national approval on that deadly potion which will ruin its children internally, externally, and eternally. And as to the ointments, they have long since been the craze in a nation that paints itself without to hide dreariness within; particularly the woman who puts everything in the show case of the face and has nothing in the shelves of the soul. Beauty is only a by-product; we have made it a business. Jezebel is the only Bible character of whom it is recorded that she painted, and she was a poor example. “Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord shall be praised.” Is not this prophecy a perfect picture of a nation that has spent two billion dollars annually on amusements and is the most miserable in so doing; a land where luxuries have become necessities; a land more interested in how it looks than how it lives; a land where personality is more important than character; a land that lives by the philosophy of the country club. Scriptures teach us the utter dependance of woman upon man. But women have become economically independant, and it has changed the attitude toward home, family, children, and all the relations of life. The breaking down of our national social fabric is due in no small part to the defect of womanhood. Man should be the head of the home, and woman, the heart of the home; and borne with two heads and no bean is a monstrosity. I may not see you all shaking your head with approval—but it’s true just the same—and I am not ashamed to preach.

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"Nevertheless God."—2 Cor. 7:5,6.

Be still my soul, nor anxious be,
Upon God's promise stand;
He knows how pressing is thy need;
All things are in His hand.

"NEVERTHELESS GOD." This word serves as a splendid background to the picture of persecution and peril which seemed to make up the life of those early disciples of Christ. It was a setting of suffering in which oftentimes the splendor of God found expression. And this is why, however desperate their position, we invariably find them emerging trustful and triumphant. Through manifold and multiplied dangers they moved to their God-given goal. Menacing difficulties formed their escort to victory.

It was this sense of the sufficiency of God that constantly saved them from despair. To them God was ever present—the Great Environing Reality. They never got away from the Divine overshadowing. They dwelt beneath the sheltering wings of God. He was always immanent. They lived and moved and had their being in the radiant consciousness of the Omnipresent Lord.

"Nevertheless God." This word speaks of a profound sense of inward satisfaction. After a comprehensive survey of all the deadly things that threatened the Divine purpose in life—things that could torture the mind and weaken the body—like a needle answers to the magnet, so the heart of the apostle swings back to the pivotal and fundamental fact of all his experience, and at once a deep sense of satisfaction possesses him. The thought of God has given balance and poise to his soul. From this centre of vision all things come into their correct perspective. Those forces that would have swept him off his feet are more than neutralized by this saving sense of the Omnipotent One.

How wonderful that God should thus deliverance send: The bitter things of life thus make To serve His end.

"Nevertheless God!" These two words viewed in the light of their context at once suggest the thoughtfulness of God. "Nevertheless God, . . . comforted us by the coming of Titus." The Lord knew His servants were hard pressed by the enemy; that physically they were drawing nigh to the limit of their powers of endurance, and so He sent Titus, that by his advent they might be refreshed and encouraged. The coming of Titus was doubtless as timely as it was unexpected. But there was no doubt in the mind of Paul as to the meaning of the presence of Titus. To him it was another evidence of God's never-wearying care and vigilant love.

God might have sent succor to His servants through the ministry of an angel—instead He sent Titus—a fellow human, one who could understand the conflict through which they were passing. An angel could never have entered into fellowship with a life smitten by the cruel blast of loneliness. This all serves to reveal the fine discrimination of love. God makes no mistake in the succor He sends.

'Tis often thus that God pours His comfort into wounded hearts: through the channel of human friendship He imparts Himself unto the needy among His people.

The touch of a friendly hand brings the healing of the heart so sorely needed. Some God-sent fellow disciple whispers the message that lifts the soul on to victory ground. Friendship has proved an oasis in the desert of discouraging difficulty from which the heart has drunk new courage and confidence in God.

Often it is the sudden unveiling of God that decides the issue of the conflict and determines the result of the crisis. Some small turn of events makes the heart to realize that it is in partnership with the Eternal; that the hand which is shaping life is one of Infinite Love; that there are unexpected forces in the field.

Let us beware lest we fail to welcome the messenger that God sends, and thus miss the comfort that should be ours. Some of God's richest blessings come in the humblest and homeliest form. He clothes His thought in the homespun of everyday life. Through the avenue of the ordinary some of life's greatest transformations may come. The coming of Titus may represent spiritual reinforcements which shall turn the tide of battle. God's big things always come without the slightest ostentation. He does not herald His miracles with a fanfare of trumpets, nor choose some dazzling arena in which to display His power, but quietly exerts His wondrous power through the commonplace.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? Left up thine head, and be not dismayed at the combination of circumstances which threaten to thwart the purpose of God. Thou shalt see the salvation of the Lord, and in the hour of His unveiling thou shalt rejoice in His faithfulness. Even now God hath sent forth deliverance for thee, and succor is at hand. The Lord will not suffer thee to be overthrown. He shall cause thee to stand girt about with the buckler of His truth, and in the pavilion of His presence shalt thou hide.

Be at rest, my soul, God lives! As thy days, so strength He gives! —Elim Evangel.

Twice-Born Men

By H. Pickering

True conversion records of 100 well-known men in all ranks of life, as: Bunyan, Calvin, Finney, Gordon, Judson, Knox, Livingstone, Moody, Wesley, Torrey and others. Price $0.50, plus 6c postage.
Delivered From Prayerlessness

By Andrew Murray

The greatest stumbling block in the way of victory over prayerlessness is the secret feeling that we shall never obtain the blessing of being delivered from it. Often have we put forth effort in this direction, but in vain. Old habit, and the power of the flesh, our surrounding with their attractions, have been too strong for us. What good is it to attempt that which our heart assures us is out of our reach? The change needed in the entire life is too great and too difficult. If the question is put: "Is a change possible?" our sighing heart says: "Alas, for me it is entirely impossible!" Do you know why that reply comes? It is simply because you have received the call to prayer as the voice of Moses and as a command of the law. Moses and his law have never given any one the power to obey.

Do you really long for the courage to believe that deliverance from a prayerless life is possible for you, and may become a reality? Then you must learn the great lessons that such a deliverance is included in the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: that it is one of the blessings of the New Covenant which God Himself will impart to you through Christ Jesus. As you begin to understand this, you will find that the exhortation, "Pray without ceasing," conveys a new meaning. Hope begins to spring up in your heart that the Spirit—who has been bestowed on you, to cry constantly, 'Abba, Father'—will make a true life of prayer possible for you. Then you will harken, not in the spirit of discouragement, but in the gladness of hope, to the voice that calls you to repentance.

Many a one has turned to his Inner Chamber, under bitter self-accusation that he has prayed so little, and has resolved for the future to live in a different manner. Yet no blessing has come—there was not the strength to continue faithful, and the call to repentance had no power, because his eyes had not been fixed on the Lord Jesus. If he had only understood, he would have said, "Lord, Thou seest how cold and dry my heart is: I know that I must pray, but I feel I can not do so: I lack the urgency and desire to pray."

He did not know that at that moment the Lord Jesus in His tender love was looking down upon him and saying: "You can not pray; you feel that all is cold and dark: why not give yourself over into My hands. Only believe that I am ready to help you in prayer; I long greatly to shed abroad My love in your heart, so that you, in the consciousness of weakness, may confidently rely on Me to bestow the grace of prayer. Just as I will cleanse you from all other sins, so also I will deliver from the sin of prayerlessness—only do not seek the victory in your own strength. Bow before Me as one who expects everything from His Savior. Let your soul keep silent before Me, however sad you feel your state to be. Be assured of this—I will teach you how to pray."

Many a one will acknowledge, "I see my mistake: I had not thought that the Lord Jesus must deliver and cleanse me from this sin also. I had not understood that He was with me every day in the Inner Chamber, in His great love ready to keep and bless me, however sinful and guilty I felt myself to be. I had not supposed that just as He will give all other grace in answer to prayer, so, above all and before all, He will bestow the grace of a praying heart. What folly to think that all the blessings must come from Him, but that prayer, wherein everything else depends, must be obtained by personal effort! Thank God I begin to comprehend—the Lord Jesus is Himself in the Inner Chamber watching over me, and holding Himself responsible to teach me how to approach the Father. This only He demands—that I with child-like confidence, wait upon Him and glorify Him."

Brethren, have we not seriously forgotten this truth? From a defective spiritual life nothing better can be expected than a defective prayer-life. It is vain for us, with our defective spiritual life, to endeavor to pray more or better. It is an impossibility. Nothing less is necessary than that we should experience that he who is "in Christ, he is a new creature; old things have passed away; behold all things are become new." This is literally true for the man who understands and experiences what it is to be in Jesus Christ.

Our whole relationship to the Lord Jesus must be a new thing. I must believe in His infinite love, which really longs to have communion with me every moment, and keep me in the enjoyment of His fellowship. I must believe in His Divine power, which has conquered sin, and will truly keep me from it. I must believe in Him who, as the great Intercessor, through the Spirit, will inspire each member of His Body with joy and power for communion with God in prayer. My prayer-life must be brought entirely under the control of Christ and His love. Then for the first time, will prayer become what it really is, the natural and joyous breathing of the spiritual life, by which the heavenly atmosphere is inhaled and then exhaled in prayer.

Do you not see that, just as this faith possesses us, the call to a life of prayer which pleases God will be a welcome call? The cry—"Repent of the sin of prayerlessness"—will not be responded to by a sigh of helplessness, or by the unwillingness of the flesh. The voice of the Father will be heard as He sets before us a widely-opened door, and receives us into blessed fellowship with Himself. Prayer, for the help of the Spirit to pray, will no

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What God Hath Wrought
LIFE STORY AND WORK OF JAMES G. PEONIS
By HARVEY McALISTER

SCENE IN FRONT OF GLORYLAND PEONIS LEFT CHINA FOR AMERICA

(Continued from last month)

In “Four Hundred Million Customers.” by CARL CROW, in Readers’ Digest, we read: “It is impossible to conceive of anything which has no commercial value in China. The lowliest handbill can be put to some useful purpose for which it was never intended. Its most common use will be for wrapping paper; or pasted together with others of its fellows, it will make good insoles for shoes. There is an old story to the effect that that is how the tracts of religious societies find such a wide circulation. If printed on one side only, the circular will serve as writing paper or make a very satisfactory envelope.”

“In the fifth year,” Brother Peponis further states, “I was able to start and support a mission station in Shantung Province, under the supervision of Brother Peter Johnson, assisted by three workers. Also in the same year, with the assistance of a God-given co-worker, Brother Z. U. Yas, who proved a great boon in organizing the work and giving to me a greater vision of China’s needs, a tract depot special central office was established for the purpose of sending out the tracts and posters to missionaries and workers in every part of China, regardless of their denominational affiliations.”

Missionaries in all parts of China were being supplied with these tracts and posters, free of charge, for distribution. Needless to say, this work grew and grew and still grew, until no small amount of money was needed to pay the printing and postage bills. The Presbyterian missionary, already referred to, told me of a time when the printer advised Brother Peponis that his bill was over $600. That same night one Chinese Christian handed him $400., and another handed him $300., enabling him to pay the printer in full the next day.

Visiting a Pentecostal mission, learning that $1700. was urgently needed to meet the payment upon the recently constructed chapel, and, while engaged in earnest prayer with the missionary in charge of this station that the Lord would provide this needed amount, feeling an inward urge by the Holy Spirit, there burst forth from his lips, as if directed by the Holy Spirit, as in the case in the giving forth of prophetic utterances, the words, ‘I will assume the responsibility of meeting this obligation.’ A short time afterwards there was handed to him a check for $900. to be used where needed most. He turned over $850. to this missionary to be applied towards paying of this debt that he had assumed. And before long another check for $1363. was placed in his hands, enabling him to liquidate the last half of his obligation and clear this mission of all debt.

Returning to the land to which the Lord had called him, after nine months of furlough in the United States and Canada at the conclusion of a five year term of service in China, the work under the supervision of this man of God, known as the Gloryland Mission of China, expanded until its influence was becoming felt throughout the entire land of China. Up until the time the war broke out between Japan and China 10,000 posters and 500,000 tracts were being sent out, free of charge, monthly.

The back covers of all telephone books of the city of Shanghai, both Chinese and English telephone books, were telling forth Gloryland’s Gospel message, stressing John 3:16, at a cost of $3800. a year. This same service if leased for secular advertising would have cost approximately $5,000. a year.

A large bill-board sign, carrying the message of life, had been erected at a location where literally thousands upon thousands of people passed daily at a cost of $100. a month. Another bill-board sign at another strategic point cost Gloryland Mission for its maintenance $90. a month.

Three Gospel boats, two of them operated by man-power and one of them motor-driven, before the outbreak of the war, were plying the

(Continued on page 9)
Alcohol

Whereas there were 177,000 outlets for liquor in saloon days, there are 500,000 outlets now. The majority of those who serve liquor in these establishments are young men and women. Death from drunken drivers and alcoholism speedily increases. Crime of despotism. Brown shirts of Lyranny. The White Robe

The World is giving men Shirts—red shirts of anarchy, black shirts of despotism, brown shirts of tyranny. The White Robe

What the World needs is men clothed in the white robe of Jesus of Nazareth—Samuel M. Orton.

Apostasy

America cannot be considered a Christian nation when only one man out of every nine attends church.—Lewis Milam.

During recent years our Bible Schools have had too little Bible in them and our religious education has too often had its emphasis on education rather than on religion.—Norman Cox.

To a generation that drinks its way to prosperity, spends its way to wealth, wisecracks its way to happiness, hates its way to brotherhood, wars its way to peace, and loses its way to heaven, the church must speak in no uncertain terms.—Charles F. Banning.

Holy War

The Iraq Moslem leaders last fortnight decreed a Holy War against the Britons and Jews in Palestine. All Moslems are commanded to join it.

Palestine for the Jew

Nothing must be permitted to prevail for one hour, for one moment, in the soul of any Jew against his share in the unbreakable will of the Jewish people toward its own destiny and its own redemption. And the name of that destiny and the name of that redemption have been in all ages and are today one.—Ludwig Lewisohn in the Jewish Criterion.

Anti-Semitism in Italy

Margarita Sarfati, official biographer of Premier Mussolini and for years one of his closest collaborators, has been dismissed from the editorial staff of the influential Fascist Newspaper, La Stampa. Signora Sarfati is a Jew and her influential position has long been cited to prove that Il Duce was not anti-Semitic. It was also reported that Foreign Office has recalled all Jews and part Jews in the Italian diplomatic service.

Tel-Aviv, Palestine

Jaffa and Tel Aviv would be one city if race and religion did not set up a barrier between them. Tel Aviv is the only city in the world entirely Jewish and is the only safe place for the Jews in Palestine. It has grown in a few years to 140,000. Hebrew is the official language and is used throughout the city.

Religion and Home

Judge Hill, presiding Justice of New York Juvenile Delinquency Court, Manhattan’s foremost juvenile crime jurist, says that 70 per cent of the 6000 delinquency cases which annually come before this court are the result of dissolute and godless home environment. He said, “Religion is necessary to the happiness of American Youth, but it is not enough to merely send the children to church, for the child inevitably follows the example set by its father and mother.”

Pentecostalism Spreading

The liberal, pink religious magazine called the Christian Century is alarmed at the growth of the Pentecostal movement. It says, “The little sects are growing in the north and west. The “Pentecostal”, “Holy Rollers,” and “Four Square Gospelfers” are having their day here.”

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H. C. McKinney, A. B., Editor
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September, 1938

Prophetic News

The Coming Great War


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The Refiner's Fire

By FRANK ISENSEE

"But who may abide the day of his coming and who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire and like a fuller's soap." Mal. 3:2.

We learn from the passage quoted above that the true children of God are subjected to experiences that are likened to a refiner's fire.

To determine the value of a body of ore, the assayer must first crush a sample, then when it is thoroughly dry, he must pulverize it like flour. From there, this sample goes into crucibles or clay cups, and the material is subjected to a melting process in a very hot oven. When cooled, the glassy waste material that settles at the top is separated from the heavier metal that lies in the bottom of the cup. That lump of metal is then subjected to a hotter fire, until all elements contained therein disappear in gas form; with the exception of the gold and silver contents, the two metals that stand a greater heat temperature than any other metal. From there, that little bead of gold and silver is put through an acid solution that eats away all silver: and now we have just the gold contents left from the original rock sample.

This brief outline of the assayer's work may give the reader a better understanding of the experiences through which one is expected to go if he would follow God's plan of perfection.

We must not lose sight of the fact that we are still living in the enemy's territory as long as Jesus tarries. Satan, the Prince of this world (John 14:30) through the efforts of countless numbers of his evil spirits, is continually fighting to destroy those precious things that we have received from the Living God. The tests and trials of this never-ending conflict vary according to the degree of strength put on by God's children.

We are commanded in Ephesians 6:11 to wear the Whole Armor of God. It will do no good to go into battle with part of the armor missing. It is a certainty that the enemy's missiles will find that unprotected spot, and the resulting wounds may prove fatal. Satan then has another backslider to his credit. To one who leaves this world in a backslidden condition is a fate more terrible than that of one who has never accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour. (2 Peter 2:21):

"For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than after they have known it to turn from the holy commandments delivered unto them."

In the twelfth chapter of the Gospel of Saint Luke and the verses 24 and 25 we are given a picture of a backslider's fate as more than seven times worse than if he had never been saved.

No convict is ever forced into that position; God always has a way open for escape. If we resist the devil, he will flee from us. (James 4:7). By wearing the whole armor, we can pass through those fiery trials and acid tests and emerge with a victorious shout.

In 1 Peter 2:5 God calls His faithful ones lively stones. We are supposed to be brilliant jewels, all polished and sparkling at the time He makes up His crown, according to Mal. 3:17.

To prepare a precious jewel for a setting, one must cut and grind and polish it. The process of being re-shaped to fit in with God's plan calls for experiences that seem strange to many, especially to new converts. In 1 Peter 4:12 we read:

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which it to try you, as though some strange thing has happened unto you."

In this warfare we are not fighting against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers in high places. (Eph. 6:12). Against an enemy who not only comes in by way of least resistance but also like a flood where we least expect him. Strange are the many ways he performs his tactics. He is finding many today with rusty spots on their armors: those who are not prepared to stand in the refiner's fire. According to Nahum 2:3,5 in the day of God's preparation He will recount His worthies.

Will you be in that recount? Will you pass safely through the Refiner's fire?

"Ye, therefore beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also be led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness." (2 Peter 3:17).

TEN TRICKS OF THE DEVIL

1. Stay away from church services.
2. If you do attend, come late.
3. If it rains, stay home, you might get wet.
4. When you go to church, find fault with the preaching, talk and laugh.
5. Do not accept any responsibility, just criticise.
6. Try to create a disturbance, if no one talks to you, fall asleep and snore.
7. NEVER say amen, you might encourage the preacher.
8. You tell the church officers what to do, They do not know.
9. Do not pay tithes or give any offerings, The Lord is Rich, He does not need it.
10. Do not pray, have some one else do it, why should you waste your valuable time.

Christianity and Anti-Christianity

In Their Final Conflict

By Dr. Samuel J. Andrews

"In this volume Dr. Andrews has gathered up the lines of the past history of Christianity and converged them on the future with such definiteness that the coming days are luminous with meaning and serious in their significance. This is beyond a question a book for the hour. It should be read now." Price, $1.25, plus 15c postage.
"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30).

Paul is here speaking to a grade of Christians who evidently have the Holy Spirit and are sealed, yet he admonishes them not to grieve Him. We often wonder why it is that we see so little of the mighty power of God in religious services. Is it not because the rank and file of professing Christians grieve and insult the Holy Ghost?

When a man falls in love with a fair young virgin, it is not long until he is aware that certain things please her and other things displease her. When he finds the things that are displeasing to her he quickly avoids them. On the other hand, when he learns what pleases her, certain kinds of flowers, candy, and such things, he is quick to do those things. In like manner when one falls in love with the Lord, he will not be long in discovering what things please or displease Him. If He truly loves His Lord, he will be exceedingly careful that he does nothing to grieve or displease Him.

Let us observe a few ways in which good people grieve the Holy Spirit, which we believe accounts for the present day lack of power and blessing.

Conversation

Most people talk entirely too much. Show me a person who is a great talker and I will show you one who grieves the Holy Spirit at least four ways:

(a) Evil Speaking. Mr. Wesley called this the universal sin. It is the sin that nearly everyone commits. It is almost impossible to go to the average home and visit for half an hour without hearing something said in criticism of others, or hear some unkind words spoken about mutual friends.

(b) Foolish Talking. We are told that "Foolish talking should not be once named among you as becoming saints." Here is where many people, both young and old, lose the keen edge of their Christian joy. Lightness of Spirit is the devil’s substitute for the joy of the Lord. You cannot be profoundly spiritual and at the same time be filled with the spirit of foolishness. By foolish talking therefore we grieve the Holy Spirit.

(c) Unkind Words. There are very few homes where there are not harsh and unkind words spoken: where there is no scolding, no blaming, no insinuating. Few husbands and wives retain their honeymoon love for years. How seldom do we see them sit, or walk together arm in arm. Some children have never seen their parents show any very great affection for each other. Few have ever heard one of them apologize the one to the other for small inattentions or rudeness which would have been thought out of place when courting. Too many homes are marked with a coldness that is alarming. These things, my friends, grieve the Holy Spirit of God, and cause a lack of power in our lives.

(d) A Spirit of Criticism and Fault-finding Among Church People. This is the damning sin of church life. There is not a church on earth free from it. For twenty-five years I have evangelized over America and across the seas and I have never been to a church yet that this spirit was not there in a greater or lesser degree. Both sides in the church will generally run to the evangelist with their comments on the members of the other side. I am often asked by one element to preach on certain subjects in a revival in such a way as to wholly denounce the conduct of another group in the church. Before long a member or more than one, from this other group will want me to preach on something that is calculated to skin the opposite group. This is a sad situation to arise in any church. This grieves the Holy Spirit and he will not manifest himself under these circumstances.

By the Way We Employ Our Time

Paul exhorted, "See then that you walk circumspectly... redeeming the time because the days are evil." John Wesley said, "Never be unemployed; never be triflingly employed. He is idle who might be better employed." The failure to observe this has caused many to become an easy prey to temptations of various kinds. Another old time writer said, "There never was an idle man, if he be a healthy man, who was strictly a virtuous man." This is true, for just as certain as one is idle, the devil will find something for him to do. So thus being idle, wasting time, we could be using to advance God's cause, to seek the lost, and lead the wandering back to God, we are grieving the Holy Spirit.

By Failing to Answer His Call to Service and Work

Many a time when the Spirit speaks to us, we fail, as Christians, to heed that call.

(a) He may speak to us to go to one of our fellows and win him for Christ, and we fail to obey. I believe that this is one of our greatest failures as Christians. All about us are thousands who are actually unsaved, but we church people are doing very little about it. If there is a Heaven of bliss with happiness beyond compare, as we declare there is; if there is a hell, eternal in its burning, "where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched," as we believe there is, then does it not appear that we could not rest until at least we had the assurance that all our friends had escaped this terrible place of damnation and gained Heaven's bliss? But we do not act as if we believe in either a hell or Heaven.

(Continued on page 15)
THE MORE we investigate this great financial plan of God for the upkeep of His Church and ministry, the more we are convinced of its fairness and sufficiency (if we all tithed) to take care of every need and emergency. What a rich blessing to consider these two phases of the matter! Let us consider these two phases of the matter:

1. Where should my tithes go? First:— Into the church where you get your spiritual food. (Deut. 12:6; 11: Neh. 12:44; 13:12). How God’s church will prosper when consisting of faithful tithers. Secondly:— Tithing goes for the support of the ministry. (Neh. 10:38, 39). Let us take care of our ministers who are giving their lives for the Gospel. (1 Cor. 9:7-18). Thirdly:— For Missionary work (1 Cor. 16:1, 2) i.e. real, systematic, proportionate giving through our local church for the missionary cause. Fourthly:— It seems reasonable to me that where folks have no church that they call “Home” they should divide the giving of their tithes in proportion to the needs arising. It is always considered best for our good and welfare of souls that we locate in some church and “Stand By” the church and its pastor. I have always considered the local church like a spiritual restaurant. We pay where we eat! Much of tithe money is “Wasted” by many honest believers who give to the needy, here and there as they see the need. The scriptural way is to send it through your local God-appointed church treasury. Fifthly:— The scriptures speak about tithes and “Offerings.” Let us be faithful and bring our tithes into the church treasury and then the needs we see arising let us meet them out of our offerings over and above one-tenth. The Scripture teaches “Tithing” as a foundation or basis for giving, not as an ultimate goal. A believer who is on fire for God and souls, and wants to see things “Move” in his own church should so treat the matter by never giving less than one-tenth but much more!! One tenth is thus a safe starting point in giving to God. “Tis always best to give God the benefit of the doubt.

2. Should my tithe be limited to my profits or paid from my gross income? In general, the following scriptures would seem to apply:

2. Gen. 14:20. “Gave Him tithes of all.” (Before the law of Moses).
3. Lev. 27:30-32. No mention of deduction of overhead expenses, etc. There are of course straight commission jobs where, of course YOUR SALARY should be tithed. When it comes to deducting for certain cost and expenses or for only tithing amount after necessary expenses have been deducted, I trust the following helps might enlighten:

1. Let’s not try to “cut as near to the margin” as we can. Matt. 6:33 “All.” If God had done so in John 3:16 where would we be today? (Rom. 8:32).
2. When a doubt arises, be sure you have given God the benefit of the doubt! Rather give God too much (should we use such an expression?) than possibly not enough.
3. If we are faithful in our offerings as well as our tithe, there won’t be too much trying to “Whittle down the tithe.”
4. Tithing should be more than a duty and responsibility, it should be the overflow from a heart of love. (Rom. 5:5; 2 Cor. 9:7; Jno. 4:24).
5. The longer we walk this blood-bought highway of consecration the more we sacrifice and give to God of our substance. (Luke 6:38). A father one time, was illustrating to his children how to tithe. So he placed 10 potatoes on the table in a row. Then he took one of the ten and separated it from the other nine. “Now,” said he to his children, “This one belongs to God, and these (pointing to the nine) belong to me.” One of the children spoke out in child fashion, “Oh, but daddy, aren’t you a bit selfish?” That is the spirit and the whole matter in a nutshell. The writer has experienced the blessedness of this system of divine taxation for twenty-two years now. I’ve never lost when giving to God but “I get all the benefits” (Someone’s interpretation of Psa. 103:2).

Let’s tithe over and above all the doubts and God will bless the labors of our hands. (Mal. 3:10b, 11, 12). Many people are lacking the necessities of life through non-tithing, or partial tithing. Let’s go all the way with God! “We are bought with a price.” — “The blood of Jesus” therefore let Jesus be Lord of your possessions as well. How true and freighted withunction and pointed truth are the words of the following song:

- “Have you given up all for Jesus?
Is your sacrifice full and complete?
To have hidden life with the Savior
You must lay your all at His feet.”

- “All, all for Jesus—
All, not a part for Him;
If you’ve God’s best,
On His bosom rest;
You must give up all for Him.”

The writer’s heartfelt cry and prayer is:— “Oh, for a present day Repetition of Ex. 36:5-7.” —Sel.

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WHAT GOD HATH WROUGHT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

waters of the rivers daily, distributing tracts and preaching the Gospel to the one and a half million people who lived in house boats and to the towns on the banks of the river.

A Gospel car, modernly equipped with radio receiving set to pick up the programs of Shanghai Christian Broadcasting Association, which broadcasted the Gospel and the Gospel only; amplifiers and loudspeakers to pass the radio programs on to the general public; victrola and records to play the Gospel and the Gospel programs of Shanghai Christian Broadcasting Association, was used for times when desireous of giving out gospel hymns more suitable to the occasion than those available by means of the regular scheduled radio programs: stereopticon projector and slides carried the Gospel to the inland towns. It is estimated that the Gospel car reached, conservatively speaking, about 2,000,000 people in one year's time.

Scores of telephone books were secured from inland towns and cities and Gospel literature was mailed out to all persons whose names appeared in these books. This method proved most successful in getting the Gospel into the homes of the more educated and wealthier classes of people, as only those classes would be users of telephones. In some months the postage alone in connection with this department of the work amounted to as much as $1,000.

In the two years previous to the outbreak of the war 25 mission stations had been established, or an average of one mission station a month for a period of two years.

Then there was the Bible Institute of the Gloryland Mission of China, a school for the training of men and women to preach the Gospel, with a competent staff of teachers, including Pastor Y. M. Kyia, one of China's outstanding Bible teachers. The institution offered a three-year course and a splendid group of bright and enthusiastic young people were in training for the purpose of becoming evangelists, pastors and teachers.

Eighteen passenger boats of the Indo-China S. N. Co., a large passenger and freight company, with boats plying the water of the rivers and along the coasts of China, by special arrangement of the Gloryland Mission of China, were displaying cards carrying the Gospel message.

One of the cleverest artists of China had cast his lot with Gloryland Mission of China and was rendering a most effective service in the drawing of illustrative pictures, which were used on the tracts, posters and boat display cards.

In the summer of 1936 a Bible conference was held for one month at Koo Long Yue, opposite Amoy, with two thousand delegates present from all parts of China, and Dr. John Sung, known throughout China as China's Billy Sunday, as the special Bible teacher and preacher. At this conference Pastor Z. Z. Wong, who was Principal of the Gloryland Bible Institute, was elected to be President of the Evangelistic Bands of China. Great awakenings were being witnessed all over China as a result of the activities of these evangelistic bands.

Of late it was my privilege to have a visit with H. D. McClurg, superintendent of a missionary rest home in Shanghai, a bosom friend of Brother Peponis. I said to him, "Brother McClurg, I am vitally interested in the Gloryland Mission of China. Would you give me an estimate on how much money is needed to carry on this work in all of its departments." After meditating for a few minutes, plus a bit of figuring with a pencil, he answered, "Roughly speaking, I would say about $60,000 a month, or an average of about $5,000 a month.

And, since talking to Brother McClurg, I have had the privilege of meeting again Brother Peponis himself and he informs me that the activities of the Gloryland Mission of China, up to the outbreak of the war, were costing approximately from three to five thousand dollars per month.

About 30 days after the outbreak of the war, Brother Peponis, at the request of the United States Government authorities in Shanghai, left China on board the U. S. Gunboat S. S. Sacramento. Before leaving China, Brother Peponis entrusted to the care of Brother S. K. Tsoh the headquarters of the Gloryland Mission of China and the Gloryland Gospel car. Brother Tsoh, a Chinese minister of the Gospel, for over 25 years was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church in China and for a number of years and until just recently has been pastor of the Moore Methodist Episcopal Church of Shan-
ghai, one of the largest churches in China. Brother Tsoh has been baptized in the Holy Spirit as on the day of Pentecost and is a man of rare wisdom and faith and well educated. At a later date the building owned by and used as the headquarters of the Gloryland Mission of China, under the trying stress of the war, was turned over to the Red Cross to be used as a hospital for the care of the wounded and the Gospel car was also turned over to the Red Cross to be used as an ambulance.

Whereupon Brother T. E. Lee, who already was in charge of the Free Gospel Tract Depot, by appointment of Brother Peponis, with Brother Lincoln Sha acting as treasurer, has taken over also the interests of the Gloryland Mission of China and will continue in charge of the same until it is possible for Brother Peponis to return to China. Brother Lee was Brother Peponis' private secretary and right hand man and is most trustworthy.

The work at Hankow was committed by Brother Peponis to the care of Brother Y. H. Tang and Dr. F. Chen and many of the outstations were entrusted with individual Chinese ministers who were in positions to support them financially as well as care for them in a spiritual manner. These precious Chinese Christians surely need our prayers in these trying days.

I close with a word of greeting cul led from a letter from Brother Peponis to the writer. "Grace, mercy and peace from God our Eternal Father, and from Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen. As I promised to write you dear ones—time does not permit to write a long letter—nevertheless even a few lines with the Grecian expression will make you dear hearts, happy because it is from your spiritual son." — The End.

The Testimony of A Miraculous Escape From Death of Approximately Two Hundred Christians

With the reported total number of civilians killed and wounded in Canton bombing raids amounting to SEVEN THOUSAND, within two weeks, you will be wondering what has happened to the churches of this city. There has been only four reported bombings so far, the fourth is our TABERNACLE.

Our property is situated on a thoroughfare, facing the Dr. Sen Yat Sen University, a memorial to him, the late founder of the Chinese Republic. Our church being in such close proximity to this well known Government supported cultural institution, naturally its liability to suffer from "enemy" air raids is appreciably increased. Our Christians although taking cognizance of this fact have paid little or no attention to the presence of bombers in the air as their daily visits to the city, the sound of the siren and the whir of engines have become common events. As some one expressed it, "as common as our daily meal." Missiles had fallen near the university destroying property and killing a few people, but our building being separated from this university proper by a large drill-ground it appeared possible at least, that an airman bombing in this region would be able to detect clearly his objective and not miss the mark so far as to greatly endanger our church. We had been daily conducting morning prayers in our church commencing at 6 A.M. and God's presence was so manifest that we all felt He would protect us.

It was Sunday June 5, and the sky was clear, a little air stirring the tree branches, while perched high above the road hid from sight amongst the thick foliage of these shade trees God's birds were unusually active, singing with all their ability praises to their Creator. In many of our streets might be seen Christians old and young, men, women and children, dressed in their freshly ironed white suits wending their way to one of the fifty odd churches in Canton. At the same time Japanese aeroplanes were reconnoitering above the city.

A number of candidates having to be examined for water baptism, I preceded Mrs. Kelley to the Tabernacle, she following soon, but first going to fill her engagement in another church as speaker for the day. The applicants for baptism appeared in due time and the examinations thoroughly executed, more time being consumed than usual as I wished to deeply impress upon these new converts their responsibilities as well as explain their privileges upon connecting themselves with our church. While I was in the anteroom with these Christians and some of their well-wishers, the congregation had been gradually increasing till presumably about two hundred had arrived for the morning service. Many of our Christians were on their way possibly as it was not yet 12 o'clock, and many come from the eastern suburbs for our Lord's day meeting.

Suddenly I became conscious of an uneasiness which was expressed by some of the Christian women's faces, on account of the nearness of the Japanese bombers. "You can be sure you are safe here," I assured them, "for of all the places which are supposed to be free from danger, I would chose this Tabernacle where so much prayer has ascended to God." My words had been scarcely spoken when as if coming as a challenge to my faith, concerning this place of prayer, the screeching sound of a descending bomb was heard as it was let go from the racks of the plane flying just above us. The elapse of time consumed on its way to the earth seemed like hours as we sat there motionless fully conscious of danger surrounding us. The explosive made a direct hit on the road in front of our church, the noise
of which was terrific. The earth vibrated for some distance around this spot as the weight of this missile is said to have been at least 600 pounds. It made a crater there estimated to be about 25 feet deep. It was barely 45 yards from where we were sitting that this explosion occurred, consequently large blocks of road-surface, rocks, bricks and other substances rained upon our Tabernacle with devastating force tearing large holes in the roof, shattering glass windows and smashing even some rafters.

Almost unconsciously, I spread my hand to protect those about me from harm as the noise of falling debris was most disconcerting, at the same time I was comforting them with words similar to those used a short time before, assuring them of God’s presence and the certainty of His protecting care.

Not a sound indicating hysteria was heard from any part of the building as is usually the case in times of excitement, where women and children are congregated. Everyone seemed at that moment to be directly and absolutely under the power of God, one of His Old Testament names being “El Shaddai” (ALMIGHTY GOD) therefore no one was extremely terrified. Presently we heard joyous sounds, “Hallelujah!” “Amen!” “Praise the Lord!” and soon the people were coming from the auditorium into our room to make inquiry concerning those of us in this part of the building. The air was still saturated with dirt and dust, when I looked toward the entrance to the auditorium and saw my wife emerging from the crowd to see if I was safe. I stood for a moment speechless, looking at her, for I had known nothing of her presence in the audience. Happy over the assurance that God had kept His promise to us, we both turned our attention to ministering to those about us. Afterwards it was revealed that she had come over earlier, as the people of the church to which she had gone, had taken refuge in the supposedly bomb-proof shelter at the sound of the first siren. Had she come later as she had planned undoubtedly she would have encountered the explosive at our Tabernacle entrance, resulting in certain death.

Taking a hurried inventory of our losses (?) it was found that ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ONE HOLES had been made in the roof, while rafters in some places had been broken and hurled to the floor. Five pews had been smashed. Three windows had been blown away and glass from every window had been kissed away by the concussion. Over 1000 pounds of debris covered our Tabernacle floor, in which was included large pieces of road surface, broken glass, twisted and splintered timbers and pieces of tile in abundance. Two buildings adjacent to our Tabernacle on the west side had their fronts completely removed. Trees in the university campus were plucked up by the roots. A concrete post was bared of all concrete leaving steel reinforcements twisted into peculiar shapes at one side of the street. But most pathetic of all these details, is the loss of life sustained by Sen Yat Sen University, which is reported to be more than ten souls. They were hurled unexpectedly into eternity. We reverently bow our heads to our God and your God, in heart-felt thanks for preserving our whole group from danger of being mutilated and crippled for life, or dashed to pieces by this death-dealing missile. Only three persons sustained minor skin scratches. This marvellous miracle of His Gracious preserving power grows more astounding as the days pass by and we have time for serious reflection.

The World’s Greatest Love Story
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A certain young man testified that he felt it necessary to borrow a portion of his tithes from month to month, looking forward to a “better day” when he would be able to repay the full amount. Accordingly a strict record was made of the sum thus borrowed. The amount steadily rose until it seemed impossible to repay, but the borrowing process continued!

A prolonged illness made it necessary for him to spend several weeks in a hospital. He said, “While praying for recovery the Lord answered, ‘if you will pay your tithes I will let you get well.’ I offered many excuses, such as hospital bill, doctor bill, mounting home expenses, and no income, but the only answer was, ‘If you will pay your tithes I will let you get well.’ Whereupon, it being my only alternative, I promised to tithe. To my utter amazement and surprise, upon my dismissal from the hospital, a statement was presented to me for hospital care which amounted to exactly the sum of my borrowed tithes!

“But after I had promised to tithe and had gone home, God measured it back to me, ‘Good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over.’ in that I received from an unexpected source a check for more than the hospital account, plus a large grocery shower from friends.”

Since that time, God has continued to bless, enabling him not only to put hundreds of dollars into the cause of Christ, but also to win many souls for the Master. Eternity alone will reveal the results of one’s being true to God in tithes and offerings. ‘Bring ye all the tithes.’—Ex.

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September, 1938

Word and Work

11
MATRON’S REPORT

As we look out upon the green fields and trees basking in the bright autumn sunshine, one finds it hard to believe that the lovely days of summer have really come to a close.

God has been good to the Bethel Home family in keeping the aged members in general good health and in providing for us those things necessary for our well being. Praise His Name!

During the summer months we have had the pleasure of having with us, at different times, a number of evangelists as well as visitors and friends who enjoy the opportunity of spending a few days’ vacation at the home. The spaciousness of the place, together with its atmosphere of rest and quiet makes it quite an attraction to those who have visited us from year to year.

And now as we enter into the new fall season our hearts send up grateful praise and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for His continued goodness to us. Surely He deserves all our praise when we remember that “Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning” James 1:17.

How faithful He is, and how gracious to those who earnestly seek to know Him. It means much in these dark, troublesome days to have such a One at our side as we go along life’s journey. In the midst of every trial and difficult situation we have come to know that we can count on Him, the unseen Guest. Blessed Assurance! The arm of flesh, however strong, will surely fail us, but we have the glorious promise of His presence and guidance all the way. I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way that thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.” Psa. 32:8.

Our prayer meetings have become a source of real encouragement of late. God is moving upon our hearts, seeking to deepen His work in us. There has been a sweet brokenness of spirit manifested since we have returned to our regular routine again.

Bethel Home was the scene of a happy gathering last month when the Annual District Camp Meeting was held on the grounds here. What a blessed Camp Meeting it was! The Word of God, which was so wonderfully expounded to us at that time, has truly left its mark upon each of us. How we thank God for the fresh encouragement our hearts received, and for the determination which is ours to let God possess us more and more.

The combined ministries of Bro. Swift and Sister Hammond brought great blessing to all who were privileged to hear them. The missionary messages, too, were a source of real inspiration. The spirit of God was in the midst of the camp from the very start in a precious way.

Bro. Wallace of Springvale, Maine, deserves much credit for his able management throughout the entire Camp, and for his kind consideration in matters pertaining to the home itself.

We would not forget to mention the services of Miss Grace Wallace who worked untiringly and faithfully both before and all during the Camp Meeting.

Good reports have come in from the neighborhood. Some who are strangers to Pentecost have expressed themselves to be in favor of the meetings, a number being sorry that they could not have been continued. We praise the Lord for this response to the full gospel message.

We are pleased to see some new subscribers to our paper. “Word and Work,” and wish to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the work at Bethel Home. Clothing and household articles are always gratefully accepted.

We pray that the coming season will bring new blessings and opportunities to our many readers and friends, and that you will all remember Bethel Home in your prayers.

Yours in Him,

Mrs. CHARLES ARMSTRONG, Matron.

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Mrs. Wilder 2.00
Mrs. Silvernell 5.00
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—Alfred Wight, Treas.

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W. HARTFORD, CONN.

The Hartford Gospel Tabernacle, Warren Terrace and W. Beacon St., extends a cordial invitation to the ministers and saints to attend the district fellowship meeting Sept. 24th at 2:30 and 7:30 P. M. Elder E. E. Voland in charge. The seventh anniversary of the Tabernacle will be combined with this occasion. Sunday, Sept. 25th. three services will be held, at 11 A. M., 3 and 7:30 P. M. All those that can come will be entertained.

—Roy Smuland.

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REPORT OF THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT CAMP MEETING

The meetings started August 10th under a Big tent 40 x 80 on the grounds of the Bethel Home for the Aged at Framingham Center, and the Lord's blessing was upon the place from the very start.

Sister Hattie Hammond as the evening speaker and Brother Allan A. Swift of Green Lane, as Bible Teacher proved to be a great combination. Under the blessing of the Holy Spirit the Word was given and hungry hearts were fed, sinners were convicted and Saved and a number of believers received the Baptism for which we give God all the glory.

The congregation represented people from all parts of New England and many other States with a special large group from Brooklyn, N. Y.. The Missionary field was well represented by the well known missionaries Sister Nichols, Bro. Bang, Sister Stephanie, all of China; Sister Wilcox of South Africa; Sister Eberhart of India and many others.

We enjoyed the fellowship of many visiting Brethren from other Districts and the messages they brought in the afternoons from the Word of God. Bro. A. Trotter of Jamestown, N. Y., Bro. Livermore of Haverstraw, N. Y., Bro. Wells of Brooklyn, N. Y., Bro. Bang of China as well as many of the Local Brethren.

The meetings were well attended with good attentive crowds at all times.

The dining room and bed rooms were well managed under the efficient hand of Bro. R. Wallace, pastor at Sanford, Me. The Spirit of God was brooding over the whole camp and among the people at all times. The expression of most of the people was that this was a wonderful place and the presence of God was wonderful. The District Superintendent Bro. Mitchell asked for an expression from the congregation for Bro. Swift and Sister Hammond for next year should Jesus tarry, and it was unanimous that they return to us again next year. So the writer joins with all the others and says with them: Amen! Come again.

The divine healing service on Thursday was a time of exceptional blessing and nearness of God when many received healing and quickening in their mortal bodies.

The Young People's service was wonderful and many dedicated themselves to the Lord for the missionary fields and an offering was taken for the use of the first one of the group who will be ready to go. We request special prayers for this group that God will set them free and make it possible for them to all find their places in God's vineyard.

—A. White.

CLAREMONT, N. H.

Fellowship Meeting in Claremont Oct. 3 and 4. Monday 7:30 P. M. Tuesday, 10:30 A. M., 2:30 and 7:30 P. M. All ministers of New England invited. Visitors put up over night and Tuesday dinner and supper served by the church.—Fred Smol chloride.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN MISSION CHURCH 789 MAIN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASS. From October 9th to October 16th 1938. All are welcome. —Elder Cragwell, Pastor. 87 Cherry St., Cambridge, Mass.

Bible Changed

In Nazi Germany, God's Word has been tampered with by Protestant leaders on a scale unequalled since the heresies of early Christianity. This fact was documented in a threepenny pamphlet, issued in England by the friends of Europe, and circulated in the U.S. last week. In a foreword Dr. Howard Chandler Robbins of Manhattan's General Theological Seminary estimated that one-tenth of Germany's Protestant pastors have defied the Nazi State and suffered the consequences. About two-thirds are lying low hoping the storm will blow past. The remainder have either joined Germany's innumerable pagan cults or, as German Christians have sought to purge Christianity of its inconvenient elements. Purgers-in-Chief have been German Christian Bishop of Bremen. Dr. Heinz Weidmann, and Ludwig Muller, the bullet-plated army chaplain whom Hitler appointed Reichbishop in 1933, supplanted in 1935. Both prelates have sought to find a pure, Nazified essence of German Christianity in the New Testament—the old Testament being, to Nazis, a bad job, hopelessly full of Jews. Dr. Muller revised the Sermon on the Mount, Bishop Weideman the Gospel according to St. John. Though both jobs were done more than 18 months ago the Friends of Europe is the first extensive English study of them.

Neither the Christian concepts of sin, grace, or life everlasting, nor any reference to the Hebrew prophets, are to be found in Muller or Weidemann scriptures. Both translators make Christ's teachings as utilitarian and earthly as possible. Some of Dr. Muller's beatitudes are as follows:

Happy is he who in Childlike simplicity, trusts in God; he has communion with God.

Happy is he who bears his suffering like a man; he will find the strength never to despair with courage.

Happy is he who is always a good comrade; he will make his way in the world.

Happy are they who keep peace with their fellow-country-men; they do the will of God. From the magazine Time.

Notes on the Tabernacle

By David Leigh

This new book is written by the President of Beulah Heights Bible School at Newark, New Jersey, who has been teaching in Bible School for many years. It is an up-to-date, well written, analytical study of the Tabernacle, and is the product of many years study of this fascinating subject. Price 25 cents.
AMOS.—THE PROPHET WITH A MODERN MESSAGE
(Continued from page 1)
the truth anywhere.
And now we find Amos turning to the life of the nation, "I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites, saith the Lord. But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets not to prophesy." Family worship has become almost as extinct as the covered wagon. With Dad at the club and mother at bridge and the youngsters away in a sport roadster in a state of intoxication or in infatuation or both, we have let the world in by radio and the family out by auto, and as some one has said, the autocrat of the breakfast table is a sovereign without realm. There is perhaps as much authority in the home as ever, except that the children use it. In this day of electricity, a modern home is one in which everything is controlled by a switch except the children. God gave us children to be Nazarites—to be a separated generation—but we have closed the Bibles to them, we have junked the family altar. Duty and discipline in the average home are out of date. Impulse has supplanted principles.
Then we find Amos turning to the false religions of his day. Their religion was a form without force; a ritual without righteousness. Much of our church business is not the Father's business. Is it not true today the house of God in many places is becoming the house of vanity instead of reality. There is no reason to believe that America will fare better than the nations of the past. God said, "I destroyed the Amorite—whose height was like the height of cedars and he was strong as the oaks"—the wisdom of Egypt, the laws of Rome did not save them—and America has had a God given opportunity, a virgin wilderness of natural resources, unexcelled success and prosperity and moral leadership of the world, but the god of this age has blinded our eyes and if we will not be ruled by the rudder we must be wrecked on the rocks. It is not money we need, for the remedy is without price. It is not education that we need, for our trouble is heart trouble, not head trouble. Politics cannot meet the need. In most cases, the average politician platform is like the platform of the street car—not something to stand on, but something to get in upon. Amos was a stern prophet, and may God give us more of them—and remember there are two kinds of optimism, Bible optimism, and blind optimism—there is the blind, pollyanna philosophy which puts its hopes in singing "God's in His heaven, All's well with the world." But—Bible optimism does not try to whittle its way past the graveyard.
There are better times around the corner, but it is God's corner. We look for a better day, but it will not be brought in by a conference of experts; it will not be arranged by science and philosophy. We Bible Christians have a civic pride but it is in the great white city that's soon coming down. The century of Progress was opened by a ray of light from Arcturus. We are looking for ten centuries of progress which shall begin in the light of the bright and morning star. To whom shall we listen—the people or the voice of the prophet. Man wants the bright side, but the right side is eventually the bright side. Amos' preaching was distasteful but it was right. America listens to the voices today instead of to the voice. God's plumbline is amongst us today—we are ripe for judgment. All sorts of remedies are being proposed for our national ills, but we are treating the symptoms instead of the disease. May God help us before it is too late.
Then Amos turned to the luxuries of his time. "The houses of ivory shall perish and the great houses shall have an end" 3:15. He had in mind of course, the palaces of the rich. "Lying on beds of ivory, they stretch themselves upon couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the stall" (6:4). He speaks of those who—"chant to the sound of the viol." I wonder if Amos could have had in mind the voodoo crooning to which we have had to listen to for these years. Jazz is not music; it is just an excuse for not being able to make music. I do not like syncopeation because it has sin in it.
There is no place in Scripture for a soft, sentimental God. The Almighty has been sneered at. Hell has become a by-word; and judgment day, a myth. But God is still on His throne; the devil has not resigned, and it will take more than the polished exegesis of apostate preachers to remove the wrath of our God.
Amos suggested the only remedy in verse 4:12—"Prepare to meet thy God." That used to be a favorite text with ministers, but today God is no longer regarded as a personal being in many countries. Hell has become a by-word, heaven but a judgment day, a medieval superstition. Men no longer believe they are hastening on to the great accounting; that we are passing away to the great judgment day; but for all that there is a judge, there is a coming judgment, and a standard of righteousness which must be met. It has been met in Christ who was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. To receive Him into the heart is to prepare to meet God. for clad in His righteousness alone are we faultless to stand before the throne.

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Consolation
By Mrs. Chas. E. Cowman
DELIVERED FROM PRAYERLESSNESS

(Continued from page 3)

longer be in fear of an effort too great for our power: it will be but falling down in utter weakness at the feet of the Lord Jesus, to find there that victory comes through the might and love which stream from His countenance.

If the question arises in your mind Will this continue and the fear comes, “You know how often you have tried and been disappointed,” faith will find its strength not in the thought of what you will, or do, but in the changeless faithfulness and love of Christ, who afresh has succored you and assured you that those who wait on Him shall not be ashamed.

If fear and hesitation still remain, I pray you by the mercies of God in Jesus Christ, and by the unspeakable faithfulness of His tender love, dare to cast yourselves at His feet. Only believe with your whole heart—there is deliverance from the sin of prayerlessness. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). In His blood and grave there is complete deliverance from all unrighteousness, and from prayerlessness.

GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from page 7)

By the Way We Use Our Money

The right and the wrong use of money is of vast importance to real Christians. Jesus, when He was here, demonstrated his attitude toward money and its use. While He spoke over forty parables during His ministry, sixteen of them had to do with the right and wrong use of money. Taking the first three gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, we find that one verse in every six deals with money. Surely this should indicate to us that we may go wrong in the handling of money. There is no wrong in the legitimate making of money; it is how we spend it that matters. To throw away money on luxuries, needless ornamentation, artificial habits learned usually in a life of wrongdoing, and useless dress, is certainly a sin. “Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread and your labor for that which satisfieth not?” (Isa. 55:2). When we have gotten money we should help the church, its missions, its orphanages and its schools. And it goes without saying that the tenth of every dollar belongs to Him. We may, therefore, easily grieve the Holy Spirit of God by the wrong use of our money.

By the Lack of Spiritual Life and Training in Our Homes

We wonder why there are so few young people today who are spiritual and God-fearing. There is really no wonder about it. Under the present home set up, it would be a wonder if it were otherwise. Not one home in ten has any kind of spiritual exercise. Blessing at meals, Bible reading to children, and the old-fashioned family altar of our fathers have almost disappeared from the home life. A recent survey by a major denomination showed, it was reported, that only ten percent of its families had a family altar. There is little discipline in most of our homes. Children go and come at will. They obey if it is convenient to do so. Parents live with the children instead of the children living with the parents. I personally know homes where the father and mother may not invite a godly minister to their home because of the antagonism of ungodly and worldly children. America needs nothing more today than to get back to the old fashioned family altar, to the Bible, and a home life patterned after the ideals of Jesus. The condition of a large per cent of our homes must surely grieve the Holy Spirit. We may pray with the great Wesley:

Come, death to self,
How oft have I the Spirit grieved,
Since first with me He strove;
And trampled on His love!

Savior, I yield, I yield at last,
I hear thy speaking blood;
Myself with all my sins I cast
On my atoning God.

— P. H. Advocate.

JEHOVAH GUIDE

Frances Edgerton-Spooner

Abide in me, Thou great Jehovah, Guide,
In heart of mine, come, Lord, in me abide.
In stillest quiet my soul leans on Thy breast.

Abide in me till breaks Thy glorious day.

O Cross of Christ, on which vain self decrease,
And gain in Thee, O joy, a glad release.
Come, death to self, my way, my will, my all,

And rise to live in Christ: I need Thy call.

I seek Thy presence, Lord, my Saviour dear;
What but Thy light can keep away my fear?
When trials sore assail on ev’ry side,

O Lord, my Life, my Guide, in me abide.

Abide in me, Thou loving, gentle Guide;
In death, in life, O Lord, my Light, abide.

Thy Word to know, in all Thy face to see,
Not self, but Thee, O Lord, my Guide shall be.

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