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The Texas Herald, V. 35, No. 3, March 1984

J. A. Dennis

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GOOD NEWS THE TEXAS HERALD

VOL. 35, NO. 3

AUSTIN, TEXAS

MARCH 1984

"I KNOW —"

"WHO HOLDS MY HAND!"

BUT HIM I KNOW

I know not HOW life's tangled skein
Shall e'er unraveled be,
Nor how the days of wasting pain
Are God's best days for me—
But Him I know who holds the key
To every problem here,
Before whose face life's shadows flee,
To Whom my path is clear.

I know not WHAT each changing day
May bring into my life,
What blight may come from earth's decay,
What woundings in the strife—
But Him I know, the sparrow's friend,
Who portions life to all;
My sure Companion to the end
Who answers when I call.

I know not WHEN the fev'rish day
Shall cool of evening feel;
Nor when the sorrows of our way
His pierced hand shall heal—
But Him I know, Yoke-Fellow true,
Who never fails His own;
Who walks with us the valley through,
Til we are safe at Home.

I know not HOW, nor WHAT, nor WHEN—
But HIM I know full well,
And knowing HIM, the sinner's Friend
In Peace secure I dwell.
Companion, Keeper, Saviour, Lord;
Mine own unfailing One;
With Him, content, I'll press the road
Till sets the west'ring sun.

—Samuel McPheeters Glasgow,
Charlotte, N. C.

"I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." II Timothy 1: 12.

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GOOD NEWS

THE TEXAS HERALD

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Mail Address Post Office Box 2156, Austin, Texas 78768 U.S.A.
Editor J. A. Dennis

"The words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are life." (John 6:36).

God's "Insurance Policy"

I want to tell you about the greatest insurance policy in the world, the most valuable, the costliest, the safest and most protective, ever written.

This policy is issued by the greatest firm in the universe: Father, Son and Holy Ghost. It is the longest policy ever written, with more promises, more "fine print," more coverage, than any other ever issued.

This policy carries the costliest premium ever paid for any insurance ever written. It cost the life blood of the Son of God.

This protective insurance policy insures a selective group of policy holders only—Christians. It protects them against dan-

gers that no other company, no other policy, does or can protect one from.

In fact, no other policy of insurance can protect anyone "against" or "from" the injuries or dangers or sickness for which it is written.

We talk of being insured "against" fire, or theft or sickness or accident, but no insurance policy on earth, besides this one, ever really promises to, or can they ever, save us from these catastrophies. All they ever do is to promise to REPAY the expense or damages or to pay a certain sum of money, AFTER the calamity insured "against" has happened to us.

But this policy actually insures us AGAINST the thing happening. So that we will need no indemnity or damages or reimbursement, for we are insured "against" the suffering or loss or accident or sickness or disease.

The policy really consists of the entire Bible, Old and New Testaments, but a few passages will suffice to sum up the great coverage it gives its selected group of policy-holders.

For, though many have Bibles, many are Christians, many claim to believe and trust God's Word not many of God's children have actually "taken out a policy" of this great insurance.

It is one thing to hold an insurance policy in your hand or to read its contents it is quite another to be "covered" by its terms.

If you go into any insurance agent's office and ask to see a policy, he can show you a whole drawer full of richly printed and engraved policies, all stacked neatly in his desk drawer, ready to be used.

These "policies" or forms all recite the conditions, advantages, and damages or amounts to be paid in case certain unforeseen events occur. So much money to be paid if a fire destroys your home, so much if a thief steals your car, so much if you get sick and go to the hospital, so much for the loss of your leg or your life.

They look nice, they sound good, but they aren't worth a dime a dozen, they are merely words on an expensive sheet of paper. They don't protect you from a thing, nor will they reimburse you one penny in case of calamity.

It is only when, after reading or agreeing to its terms, you "take out the policy" by promising to abide by its conditions and by paying a "premium," that any insurance policy takes effect and you are "covered."

So with God's "Insurance." To many it is just lovely words on beautiful thin paper, nice to read, inspiring to think about, encouraging and comforting. But it doesn't guarantee them a single blessing or protect them from a single hurt. It is just a lot of words on a piece of paper.

Only to those who dare to "take out a policy," agree to the conditions, and "pay the premium," does God's Insurance policy promise any protection.

Of course, Jesus has paid most of its cost by His death, but there are conditions and a price for us to pay before we can become a beneficiary, before the policy "takes effect" in our behalf.

You might think it unfair, if this policy protects me and doesn't protect you though you are as good a Christian, and probably far better, than am I. But have you dared to "take out" the policy?

When, in the insurance office, you "take out a policy," what happens? The agent takes one of those beautiful policies from his desk, inserts it in his typewriter, fills in your name and address, the amount of the policy, the amount of the required premium, then hands it to you for your signature.

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When you have signed it, and paid the premium required, then—and then only—does the policy go into effect. Then and then only can you collect in case of a loss, a sickness, or an accident.

If you had taken out a policy of fire insurance covering your home and car, furniture and other valuables, and a fire swept the entire block, destroying your home and the neighbor's as well, you would, in due time, receive a check from the insurance company covering your loss.

Suppose your neighbor next door had lost everything in the fire and had received nothing. Could he complain that he was unfairly treated because you were repaid and he wasn't? And he was "just as good and deserving" as you?

Your reply would be that it wasn't a question of goodness or of being deserving, it was a question of having "taken out" a policy of insurance. You had, and he hadn't. He protests that he had read the same policy you had, believed it was a good thing, and had intended to take out a policy, but hadn't gotten around to it.

Still you see nothing unfair in your receiving several thousand dollars to repay your loss while he receives nothing. He just didn't "take out" the necessary policy.

Likewise with God's insurance, it isn't a question of your goodness, or of your believing in the "insurance" or of your good intentions. The question is have you actually "taken out" a policy?

Have you said, "I'll take this as my protection. I'll meet the conditions. I'll pay the premiums. This is now in force over my life. I'm trusting God to protect me as He has promised to do?"

If so, then the Insurance is "in effect" over your life—otherwise not.

What does this great insurance policy cover and what are the premiums?

Let's take just a few passages in the policy and see what they say. The 91st Psalm sums up much of the protection over our lives as regarding health, sickness, accident and longevity. In this Psalm there are four conditions or "premiums" we must meet and pay.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high, shall abide under the shadow of the almighty." (Verse 1)

He that DWELLETH, lives, abides in the secret place of the Most High and ABIDES, lives under his shadow. Not one who pays the Father a weekly visit at 11:00 o'clock on Sunday morning, but who LIVES with and in the Father. That is condition number One.

Second, "I will SAY of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God, in him will I trust." (Verse 2)

You confess PUBLICLY you trust in God as your protection. You no longer lean on the arm of flesh. Jesus says that whosoever confesses Him BEFORE MEN, him will He confess before the Father. And Paul says that if we shall "confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shall believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Rom. 10:9)

This open confession of your trust in God's Insurance is like saying to the insurance agent, "I'll take it." It completes the contract. The policy takes effect immediately.

A third condition, similar to the first premium, is found in Verse 9.

"Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation."

Habitation means house, dwelling. You have chosen to dwell, to LIVE, in Him. And Jesus said in John 15:7, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

The fourth "premium" mentioned in the 91st Psalm is found in Verse 14.

"Because he hath set his love upon me."

This is in accordance with Jesus' statement that the first commandment was "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." (Mark 12: 30)

Other similar conditions or premiums are stated at various places in the New Testament. For, unless the promise contained in the 91st Psalm were approximated or repeated in the New Testament, we would not be justified in claiming them as our own, for we Christians must lay claim to all our blessings through Jesus Christ and His blood shed at Calvary.

Now that we've considered the premiums due on this great policy, what are the benefits to those who dare to actually "take out the policy" and so state to the world?

First, it places God as our "refuge" and "fortress." He is our "protection." Not an insurance company, which may fail, not a doctor who may err in diagnosis or treatment, not a bank which may close, not an army which might be defeated or die of a plague—but in God. He is my refuge, my safety. He is my fortress, my protection. "In Him will I trust." Can anything or any-

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one hurt God, or batter down His protective walls? Can any enemy ferret out those who are hidden "under His wings?"

The next clause in the policy is a "blanket protection" against all the wiles and snares of the devil (the fowler), and against all manner of sickness (noisome pestilence.)

"Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence." (Verse 3)

This is the direct answer to our prayer, "lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil."

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust." (Verse 4)

Christ later said, "How often would I have gathered my children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." (Matt .23: 37) To the chicken, the mother hen is home and shelter and warmth and protection and food, as she leads forth her brood.

"His truth shall be thy shield and buckler." (Verse 4)

His Word is His Truth. The Word is both our Sword for offense and our shield in defense against temptation and mistake.

Next, this wonder policy insures us against one of the great destroyers of modern life — Fear. No other company in the

world ever thought of insuring its policy holders against being afraid. But God did!

"Thou shalt not be afraid." "Fear Not," the Master said. "Perfect love casteth out fear."

In this marvelous policy God not only promises protection from the actual sickness, diseases and accidents that we fear, but promises freedom from the fear itself, from the fear and dread of their possibly coming upon us.

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night." (Verse 5)

Fear stalks at night. Many people are afraid of the dark and its hidden dangers. This policy insures you against that fear.

"Nor for the arrow that flieth by day." (Verse 5)

What kind of arrows fly today, now that we no longer fear savage Redskins? Well, Pierce-Arrows, Packards, Fords, Chevrolets, Buicks, fly down the highways like painted arrows, but this policy protects you from them and the fear of them.

"Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness." (Verse 6)

Pestilence? Fever, polio, influenza, etc. None of these can harm you if you are one of God's policyholders.

"Nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday." (Verse 6)

Heart failure, heat stroke, cancer, none of these can harm you nor make you afraid.

"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand but it shall not come nigh thee." (Verse 7)

How often does the rumor or news report of an epidemic in the neighborhood strike terror to your heart—"What if the children get it?" Fear not, this policy protects you from all that.

"Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked." (Verse 8)

Your eyes will see others suffering sickness, destruction, accident, fears, but it won't happen to you, if you are under the protection of God's Insurance Policy.

Next, the Policy repeats its general protection against accidents and sickness.

"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling." (Verse 10)

No pestilence, no epidemic, no disease, no plague, can come into your house, if you have really taken out this Policy. And even if hardships come or happenings that might seem on their face to be evil, you may know that they can't harm you, for "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8: 28)

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all Thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands lest thou dash thy foot against a stone." (Verse 11, 12)

I once thought this protection was for Jesus only, as it was quoted to him by the devil in the wilderness, but I found by reading this Psalm that it was promised to all who took out this Policy, to those who had "made the Lord even the most High, thy habitation." (Verse 9)

These verses, read before starting on any journey, and at the beginning of each new day, insures us against stumbling on the stone steps or hitting a stone bridge railing with our car, or having any other accident — "in ALL thy ways."

What peace, what comfort, what joy, to set out on God's errands, whether by car or train or plane, and know no fear — "they shall bear thee up in their hands" — you can't even "stub your toe," if protected by this Supernatural Insurance Policy!

"Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet." (Verse 13)

Who is the lion and dragon? None other than the devil. "Be sober, be vigilant because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." (I Pet. 5 8)

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Fear him not for Jesus gave us authority over him. "Behold I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10 19)

"Therefore will I deliver him." (Verse 14)

This repeats the protection promised in Verse 3, "He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler." Though satan set his traps ever so carefully, he cannot hold us, if we are policyholders with the most High.

"I will set him on high because he hath known my name." (Verse 14)

Here the policy goes into the realm of "extra benefits," beyond protection and freedom from disease. It points us to Jesus' promise in Rev. 3: 8: "Behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it; for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."

"He shall call upon me, and I will answer him." (Verse 15)

Jesus repeats this promise in John 14: 14: "If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it."

"I will be with him in trouble I will deliver him and honour him." (Verse 15)

This points us to the promise in Jeremiah 33: 3: "Call unto me and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." And Jesus says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11: 28)

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Then, this amazing policy adds a benefit like no other policy ever hinted at — It promises long life to its policy holders!

"With long life will I satisfy him." (Verse 16)

This promise takes away all fear of fatal accident, premature death from sickness or other cause, and insures one that his life work will be completed before he is called home.

Last but not least, this wonderful Policy promises,

"And shew him my salvation." (Verse 16)

"Shew him" — make real to him, manifest to him — my salvation. So Jesus promised in John 14:21. "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will MANIFEST myself to him."

Such is God's marvelous Insurance Policy. Such are the amazing promises to all who dare "take it out" for their lives.

I say "dare" advisedly, for here is where the test comes that causes many people to stumble and fall, and fail to put the Policy into effect in their lives.

In verse 2 of Psalm 91, the Policyholder has boldly declared, "In Him will I trust." God is still a jealous God. He is to be sought, and loved, and trusted FIRST. "Seek ye FIRST the Kingdom."

Would it show trust in Him if after taking out His Insurance Policy, guaranteeing me against sickness, accident, evil, plagues, etc., if I then "hedged" and went to an earthly insurance agent and took out insurance covering the very things promised in His Policy?

Suppose I took out a fire insurance policy on my house for its full valuation from one insurance company. Then, hearing rumors of the company's weakness, I went to another agent and

took out another policy in another company? Would that show much trust in the first? If I did this and did not tell both companies of my actions, it would invalidate one or perhaps both policies, in case of a fire.

Many Christians, though claiming to be insured under God's Policy, have "hedged" and taken out other fire, sickness, accident, hospitalization insurance, and so, in God's eyes, have cancelled His Policy. Like Asa, they "sought not to the Lord, but to the physicians." (II Chron. 16: 12) In Asa's case, God withdrew His protection and "Asa slept with his fathers, and died."

"He is my refuge and my fortress: my God in HIM will I trust." (Verse 2)

Is He or isn't He? Do we trust in Him or don't we? That's the test we have to face. Can His word be trusted, are His promises sure? If so, then He demands our corresponding actions. If they cannot be trusted, literally, then we do well to take out our insurance in a company that we do trust to "pay off" in case of loss or damage. But they can only repay us AFTER loss, they cannot insure "against" fear or sickness or accident or early death.

This test applies to all of God's promises, throughout His Holy Word. As long as they are left in the Bible, they are merely nice sounding words on a piece of paper.

Only when they are "taken out" of the Bible and put literally to work in our daily lives, are they valid as stated. For all of God's promises to His children are promises "on condition," only good if the conditions are met, the premiums paid, the promises believed and belief is only proven by our actions. "According to your faith be it unto you." (Matt. 9: 29) But "Faith without works (corresponding action) is dead." (James 2:26)

To reassure us God has given His word in Numbers 23:19, "God is not a man, that he should lie neither the son of man, that he should repent; hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall he not make it good?"

Is man to be trusted above God? Is some man-made insurance company to be trusted above His Policy? Surely not to those who "Abide under the shadow of the Almighty," who "have set his love upon me."

They, and they alone, can know the peace, the joy, the absolute trust that comes when we can truly say,

"He is my refuge and my fortress: my God in HIM will I trust."

Where else can you find an insurance policy like this—God's Protective Policy against all evil, all sickness, all plagues, all snares of the devil, all accidents and which promises long life and the manifestation of the Saviour to us?

"In him will I trust."

J. A. DENNIS

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In The Desert With God

In these days of hurry and bustle, we find ourselves face to face with a terrible danger; and it is this — no time to be alone with God. The world in these last days, is running fast; we live in what is called "the age of progress," and "you know we must keep pace with the times." So the world says. But this spirit of the world has not confined itself to the world. It is, alas, to be found among the saints of God. And what is the end result? The result is — no time to be alone with God; and this is immediately followed by no inclination to be alone with God. And what next? Surely the question does not need an answer. Can there be any condition more deplorable than the condition of a child of God who has no inclination to be alone with his Father?

This "desert life," as we may call it, is of an importance that cannot be over-valued. And, as if with a trumpet, we would sound it in the ears of our brethren. Let us turn to the pages of God's own Book, for we can turn nowhere else if we are seeking light on this or any subject. On scanning its precious pages, we find that the men of God—God's mighty-men—were those who had been in "the school of God," as it has been well called; and His school was simply this: "in the desert alone with Himself." It was where they got their teaching. Far removed from the din and bustle of the haunts of men — distant alike from human eye and ear — there they met alone with God; there they were equipped for the battle. And when the time came that they stood forth in public service for God, their faces were not ashamed — nay, they had faces as lions; they were bold and fearless, yea, and victorious for God, for the battle had been won already in the desert alone with Him.

Nowadays how many of God's dear children have picked up the "spirit of the age;" and how many Christians are pushed into service for God, or thrust themselves into it, who have had no "apprenticeship" — no desert training; they have taken a terrible "short-cut" into the front of the battle; for that "short-cut" has cut off entirely "the school of God!"

How different from what meets our eye in the pages of our Father's Book. If it be an Abraham we look at, we find him

sweetly communing with his God, far away yonder in the plains of Mamre, sitting in his tent door in the heat of the day (Gen. 18:1); while his worldly nephew is keeping pace with the spirit of the age in ungodly Sodom. If it is a Joseph, we find him at least two full years in God's school — although it were Egypt's dungeon — before he stepped up to teach her senators wisdom (Psalms 105:22), and "save much people alive" (Gen. 50:20). If it is a Moses, we find him at God's school in the backside of the desert (Ex. 3:1); and then, but not till then, he appears publicly, as a deliverer of the people of God. If it is a David, the wilderness for him is the school of God. There he slays the lion and the bear (I Sam. 17:34-36), when no human eye was near. He gets the victory alone with God. Fresh from God's school, he steps before the thousands of Israel; and while all Israel follows Saul, the people's man "trembling," there is one there who trembles not; and he is the one who has been at God's School in the wilderness alone with Himself. Surely little wonder, then, that the Lord wrought a great victory in Israel that day! But why multiply instances from the Book of God? We might tell of an Elijah, a bold witness for God, who was longer alone with his God than standing in the place of public testimony; and who found the solitude of Cherith (I Kings 17:3) and the quiet seclusion of Zarephath (I Kings 17:9) A needed training ere he delivered the message of God. We might tell of a John, the Baptist, who was in the deserts till the day of his showing unto Israel (Luke 1:80)—of the great Apostle Paul, whose journey to Arabia seemed to have been for no other purpose than to be at God's school in the desert (Gal. 1:17).

But from the instances we have already pointed out, nothing can be clearer than this, that if you and I are to be of any use to God down here — if we would

"The six best doctors
You'll agree
And no one can deny it;
Are sunshine, water, rest,
And air,
Exercise and diet."

Fred D. Miller

glorify Him on earth — we must have time to be alone with God. If we "can't get time," we must take it. Whoever or whatever is put off, God must not be put off. We must have time — every one of us "gifted" or "not gifted" — we must have time to be alone with God. It is in the closet that the "lions" and the "bears" must be slain. It is in the presence of God, with no one near but Him, that the spiritual Agags must be brought out and hewn in pieces before the Lord in Gilgal (I Sam. 15:33). Then, when we appear before our brethren or the world, we shall find ours to be the "strong confidence" which is the portion of all who have to do with God in secret. And the "Goliaths" shall be slain; no doubt of that. And God's work shall be done; no doubt of that either. We need not fear that God won't use us. It is only by being in God's school that He can use us—not perhaps in the dazzling way that the world and many Christians admire; but in His own way—in a way that shall most honor Him.

But the Lord makes all these things clear to us, while in the desert alone with Himself. It is only then we really do God's work—it is only then we do it in God's way—it is only then we do the very things God has fitted us for, and at the very time appointed of the Father. What secrets we get from the Lord in the wilderness with Himself? And if we care not for the secret of His presence, what cares He for all our boasted service? It is ourselves He wants, and it is only service flowing out of the joy of His presence that is worthy of the name. It is only such service that shall stand the fire of the judgment seat and bring joy in the day of Christ that we have not run in vain, neither labored in vain. May each one of us have an ever open ear to the Master's voice when He says to us, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place," remembering that though He were the Son of the Father, we find Him time after time departing "into a solitary place, and there praying," although in doing so He had to get up "a great while before day." The faithful witness Himself, as well as His faithful and trusted servants in every day, required a desert experience — a wilderness teaching alone with God; and beloved, so do we.

—Herald of Hope

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

ENTERTAINING EVANGELISM— AND RIOT PRODUCING REVIVAL!

By
EVANGELIST DOUGLAS BUSHBY
Of Australia

Laymen's Initiative in Prayer for Revival Results in a Riot.

Mordecai Ham is one of the last of the old school American revivalists, and is often referred to as the "Billy Sunday of the South." He is the evangelist the Lord used to bring Billy Graham to the Lord.

This week, as I was discussing with him the entertainment aspects of our modern-day revivals as compared to the "revival or riot" nature of oldtime revivals, he declared, "Billy Graham is the product of a 'revolution,' and not of a 'revival,' as you know it today."

I was thrilled to hear his appraisal of revivals, riots or revolutions. It impressed me since Wm. P. Nicholson, who had a "revolution" in Belfast, Ireland, has also said, "You can never have a real revival without a riot."

The Saturday Evening Post, June 23, 1951, had an article on Charlotte, North Carolina, in a series on American cities. After giving the history of the city and its development, the writer states, "This is a strong Calvinist stronghold. But as late as 1934 an old fashioned revival conducted by Mordecai F. Ham inspired such a frenzy of conversions that the event was called 'The Ham Revolution.' One convert was a youth named Billy Graham, who at 31 has become perhaps the nation's outstanding evangelist."

What was this revolution? How did it differ from the usual revival? How did it start?

MEN OF PRAYER AND VISION

In Charlotte, a city of over 100,000 people, there was a Christian Businessmen's Fellowship. They were men of prayer and vision. For three years they had unsuccessfully endeavored to get the city ministers to cooperate for a united evangelistic campaign.

Year after year, the ministers opposed their efforts, and discouraged the laymen in their zeal. The usual excuses were given. "The day of mass evangelism is over . . . We cannot get unity . . . Finance is our problem."

After three years of ministerial discouragement these 50 laymen became desperate. In this group of businessmen was Billy Graham's father and Grady Wilson's father. A special prayer meeting was called to be held at the farm of Billy Graham's uncle, that they might pour out their hearts to God in prayer.

For 18 hours they fasted and prayed. "Lord send us an evangelist!"

Lord shake this city!" After eight hours of prayer they began to pray, "Lord, shake North Carolina!" Then after midnight their prayers changed. "Lord send someone to start a movement here in Charlotte that will shake this nation and the world!"

THEY HEAR FROM HEAVEN

God, who always honors the boldness of faith, spoke to them. "Do not let the ministers hinder you in your vision. You businessmen launch out in faith. Organize a meeting yourself."

The next night, they prayed again. "Lord who do you want to come to Charlotte?"

"As they were praying," Mordecai Ham said, "I was in Birmingham, Alabama, having mass meetings. A delegation of thirteen ministers had just come from Atlanta, Georgia. They represented 137 Atlanta ministers who had invited me to Atlanta for a meeting. I agreed to go, but only gave them a tentative date to be confirmed later."

"Just before I left the hotel for the evening meeting, the telephone rang. It was Charlotte, North Carolina. 'Dr. Ham, will you come to Charlotte for a meeting immediately?'"

"Putting my hand over the receiver, I prayed aloud, 'Lord, what shall I do?'"

"Go! the Lord said." And Mordecai Ham went in God's time, for God's revolution that was to affect the world.

Speaking of the Charlotte meeting, Mordecai Ham said it was particularly difficult. "The Lord had to convert the newspapers and ministers as well as the lay folk. Sorely tested, I turned to God in prayer. On October 8, 1934 I wrote out a prayer to the Lord on paper."

PRAYING FOR MIRACLE

"Dear Father, Lord, Thou knowest how the ministers have opposed. Father, please, for thy Name's sake, deal with the scoffers and the enemies. Father, only a miracle will crush them. Deal with the Baptists, my own brotherhood, the Methodists and their leaders. Deal with the newspapers, the city councilmen and all who are trying to drive us out of the city. Lord, make this the greatest meeting we have ever witnessed. In Jesus' Name, M. F. Ham, signed."

MOVING HEAVEN AND EARTH BY PRAYER

Telling of the satanic battle, Mordecai Ham said the city council extended the fire limit so their tabernacle had to be on the edge of the city. "I exposed politically tolerated vice," he told me, "including that organized among the Charlotte High Schools."

"The newspapers came out with headlines 'Ham Slanders Schools.' They demanded I apologize publicly. I was mobbed. The city was completely stirred. But God gave me holy Boldness to expose the corruption in detail from the pulpit. The liquor people were mad. But God vindicated. And instead of apologizing, the police were forced to arrest a number of local characters."

"In all we had 6,400 converts out of a city of 100,000. Prayer was the secret of this revival as in every revival, but it has been truly named, 'A revolution.'"

"Some years after Billy Graham was saved I prayed for him on the platform. I called his father up to pray with me. Before we prayed I told the audience, 'There is not a single person in the great cities shaking them today. Let us pray that the Lord will send Billy to the world that they may know the Saviour is alive. All the old revivalists have passed away. We need young men.'"

In looking at these events, we see the chain sequence of prayer. First, there was a praying father, then praying businessmen, a praying evangelist, and—the son of revolution is born to be an evangel to the nations.

(Please turn to Page 11)

and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail.

"Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels, Let now the astrologers, the star gazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that come upon thee.

"Behold, they shall be as stubble, the fire shall burn them they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it." (Isa. 47: 9, 12-14)

Turning to the New Testament, we find Paul rebuking and striking blind the sorcerer, Elymas, who interfered with Paul's teaching to Sergius Paulus, deputy of Paphos. (Acts 13: 6-12)

"Then Saul, (who also is called Paul) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him.

"And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child OF THE DEVIL, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

"And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand." (Acts 13: 9-11)

At Philippi, Paul had another encounter with a familiar spirit which landed him in jail. (Acts 16: 16-40)

"And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by sooth-saying.

"The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

"And this did she many days. But Paul being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour." (Acts 16: 16-18)

Paul later classed witchcraft along with the sins of adultery, idolatry, murder and drunkenness.

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness.

"Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, sedition, heresies.

"Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I

tell you before, as I also have told you in times past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." (Gal. 5: 19-21)

The last Bible warning against these evil practices is found in Revelations 22: 15:

"For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie."

Jesus added his warning to all those who would seek knowledge through other means than God's way:

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (John 10 1)

"I am the way the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14: 6)

He further pointed out how all may know sufficient truth for their needs:

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

Many sincere Christians are confused and deceived by the fact that the spiritual-

ist or medium often tells them things about themselves that are true yet the "fortune teller" had no way of knowing these things."

We know there are many tricks in the devil's trade; but we also agree that sometimes the medium or spiritualist does reveal secrets in a supernatural or "miraculous" way.

This makes the victim believe it "must be of God."

But, remember, the devil also has supernatural knowledge. At least he knows things we do not seem to know. And, remember, he can if he chooses, in order to deceive the unwise, occasionally tell the truth.

The damsel told the truth when she proclaimed that Paul and Silas were the "servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation." (Acts 16: 17). It was perfectly true, yet it was displeasing to Paul, for this evil spirit to be peddling the wares of God, and he commanded it to stop.

The witch at Endor called up Samuel or a spirit that resembled Samuel closely enough to deceive Saul, and this spirit told Saul the truth—that he and his sons would die and the kingdom be given to David.

This prophecy had already been given by Samuel in his lifetime. Yet the truth of the Spirit's prophecy did not justify Saul's seeking the familiar spirit or stop God's wrath from coming upon him for his disobedience to God's word.

The evil spirits which faced Jesus often told the truth. If it had not been for His prompt action against them, in ordering them to hold their peace and come out of the person possessed, bystanders might well have been impressed to believe they were "prophets of God."

"And in the synagogue there was a man which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice.

"Saying, let us alone what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art the Holy one of God.

"And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not." (Luke 4: 33-35)

In this instance the devil proclaimed Jesus as the Son of God before Peter or anyone else had made that claim. The evil spirit had spoken the truth, but Jesus did not care for his endorsement, and hushed his mouth and cast him out of the man.

Twelve Reasons Why A CHRISTIAN DOESN'T SMOKE

By J. A. Dennis

When the Holy Ghost comes into a man, He will either drive out the smoking habit, or the man will smoke out the Holy Ghost. Both cannot long dwell in the same temple.

This is a ministry of Love and Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. As He provides the funds for their printing and mailing, we will send 25 of these tracts — Postpaid — to anyone who will prayerfully distribute them for God's Glory and the Deliverance of His people.

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"And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him." (Mark 1: 34)

This is a day when men everywhere look up to men—men's wisdom, men's discoveries, men's advice, men's way—instead of obeying, as a child, God's commands.

I have a sincere Christian friend who argues that hypotism is perfectly alright if used for good purposes like pulling teeth and in child birth. I have another Christian friend who was deeply impressed by a spiritualist "preacher" who told her some things that were true about her family. They hate to think that these things can be harmful, that they are not "of God."

Besides being a violation of God's Word and His warning, consulting these mediums, fortune tellers, spiritualists, etc., places the disobedient one in other very grave dangers. One sin, though done in ignorance, opens the door to another. When the devil can, by deceit or lies or any other means, get one foot into the door of our minds and hearts, it is much easier for him to get in both feet. Like the story of the camel's nose in the master's tent, soon he is inside completely and the master pushed out.

Here is a true story of what happened to a fine young minister I once knew, whom the devil deceived into dabbling in these forbidden practices.

This minister had had a wonderful experience with the Lord. The Lord had healed two persons miraculously through

his prayers. His whole church had been stirred. He went to a religious gathering and there was touched by the Lord's mighty hand. Enthused and onfire, he saw ahead a great ministry of healing.

Prior to this he had studied and practiced hypnotism, and he argued with me and others that it surely would be alright to use this "talent" for God—to hypnotise the sick, make them believe they were healed and so set them free. He would not listen to God's warning in God's Word. The devil had his foot in the door.

Soon it was more than a foot. The report came that he had left his family and given up his church.

Our next report was that he had joined himself to another hypnotist who was reportedly doing what he himself had advocated — healing folks by hypnotism and "prayer."

I am praying that he will see his sin and repent, if he has not already done so.

(Please turn to Page 12)

RIOT REVIVAL

Let other fathers and businessmen take up the challenge! Where are the other sons of revolution that can spearhead revival today? They may be in your town or city, needing to be dug out by prayer as Billy Graham was in Charlotte, North Carolina. Pray, then! Who knows but that your fervent prayers may be the missing link in God's prayer chain for world-wide revival?

Today's spiritual crisis challenges every evangelist to become a fiery prophet instead of courting the good graces of the compromising ecclesiastics to become a mere evangelist. The evangelist works to have a revival. The prophet stirs up a spiritual revolution!

Where, today, in our evangelistic crusades do our cities have to confess about us, "These men have turned the world upside down." Instead, the consensus of opinion is given in the carnal assurance that since scores of churches are cooperating, the revival is a success and has served its purpose.

Who among us can turn this world upside down? Brother, you cannot have a revival without a riot!

This article has been written to show how the chain-links in prayer for revival are forged. Are you a missing link on the chain of prayer for revival? One broken link — and the chain is useless.

—Herald of His Coming

THE SAME JESUS

By Doris Harris

The sneer pulled at the lips of the Emperor Julian the apostate. Julian had nothing but contempt for those who were followers of a "dear carpenter".

He enjoyed "baiting those who believed in the "outlandish lie" and when Agathon, a well known Christian was in his presence he mocked, "Tell me, Agathon, what has become of the carpenter of Nazareth?"

Relishing his sport he would continue, "Is he still around? Has he any work at all these days, your carpenter? Are there still some little jobs coming his way?"

"Yes, Your Majesty, the Carpenter of Nazareth is very busy these days," he looked directly into the eyes of the ruler as he continued, "He is nailing together a coffin for your empire."

A few months later Julian and his proud empire were gone. But the influence of the One who was scorned because he was a carpenter lives on.

The Bible says that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." What a comfort that is in the daily round of every day living.

Have you been laughed at for your stand for Christ?

He is the same.

Have you been subjected to sly remarks and crude jokes and sudden silences when you enter a room?

He's the same.

Are you tired of being classified with the fanatics, the uneducated, the ignorant because of your stand for Christ?

He's the same.

And He is very busy today. He is "nailing together a coffin" for the empires and individual's that scorn Him.

He's the One who raised the dead. He's the same today. He's the One who condemns sin. He's the same today. He is the tender loving friend. He is the same today. He is the One who cared about every detail in the lives of those who followed Him.

He's the same.

Does the power and the implication of the statement reach your heart?

He is the same.

"Jesus Christ . . . the same . . . yesterday, and today, and forever."

—Herald Of Hope

REPRINTS OF

GO-BUY-OIL

By J. A. Dennis

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Man's mind has always been in enmity against God's ways and God's commands. Man is continually figuring out some way or discovering some formula which he thinks is harmless or even beneficial, regardless of the fact that God has said "No!"

So man goes ahead and tries it his way, disputing God's Word, God's wisdom, God's authority.

That has been the tragedy since Adam's fall.

In the Garden of Eden, God emphatically told Adam and Eve they **MUST NOT** eat of the tree of good and evil which was in the midst of the garden. If they ate of it they would die.

Did they believe, or heed, or obey?

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

"And the woman said unto the serpent We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

"But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

"For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

"And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat." (Gen. 3: 1-6)

And who was right?

"So he drove out the man . . . and he died." (Gen. 3: 24, 5: 5)

From that day to this satan has continued to deceive man into disobeying God's commands, into believing that the dire punishment of disobedience prom-

ised in God's Word will not catch up with him, into believing if something seems reasonable or harmless or beneficial, that surely God will not punish him for it, even though God's Word specifically says that thing is forbidden territory.

We can see the harm of some things which God forbids us, and it isn't hard for us to refrain from them. Others "seem" harmless, and we go to great length to rationalize our doing them.

In other instances our "reason" tells us they are beneficial, and we stoutly argue that God's Word must be wrongly written, or out of date, or misinterpreted. Because "we think" it is alright, we go ahead and disobey God.

But disobedience of God is a sin, and the wages of sin is death.

God is sovereign. He isn't required to explain just **WHY** He commands one thing done and something else is prohibited. He sometimes demands and expects our blind obedience where we can't "see" the reason for it.

Blind obedience is but demonstrated faith in God's wisdom and goodness, that "God knows best."

Anything else is rebellion, and rebellion against God is man's worst sin.

Have you let friends, or the devil, or some slick fortune teller or medium, deceive you into disobeying God's commands?

God says if we want to know anything of the future, or of personal guidance, or of wisdom, to come to Him and **NOT** to a spiritualist, medium, fortune teller, astrologer, or hypnotist. If He wants you to know it, He has several ways in which He has promised to give you information. If He thinks it unwise to reveal it to you, then do not be so foolish as was King Saul, to try to force the issue and find out in some forbidden way. For that way lies death — spiritual and physical death.

God has provided three ways by which man can have wisdom, knowledge and a preview of the future.

Those ways are:

1. By God's Word.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119: 105)

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

2. By prayer.

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." (James 1: 5)

3. By Prophecy and other gifts of the Holy Spirit.

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth for he shall not speak of himself but whatsoever he shall hear, that he shall speak; and he will **SHEW YOU THINGS TO COME.**" (John 16: 13)

"Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy . . .

"But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men of edification, and exhortation, and comfort." (1 Cor. 14: 1, 3)

"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom, to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit

"To another faith by the same Spirit to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

"To another the working of miracles to another prophecy to another discerning of spirits to another divers kinds of tongues to another the interpretation of tongues." (1 Cor. 12: 8-10)

By these Scriptural and God-given means, the Lord can tell us all He wants us to know.

Seeking knowledge by other and forbidden means will bring upon us God's curse of death—physical and spiritual.

There are many spirits in the world, but only one **HOLY SPIRIT.**

Which will you seek to be your guide?

J. A. DENNIS

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