DO "LITTLE" THINGS COUNT?

"Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines; for our vines have tender grapes."

Songs of Solomon 2:15.

We hope that every professed saint of God noting these lines, will go with us throughout this entire article, which will only require a few moments of your time; but which we trust will, in the end, prove to be a blessing to you.

First, we hope that you will understand that the words of our text above do not apply to the destruction of the literal vines by little foxes, and stop there—but that the illustration has for it's real meaning, the spiritual example of the destructiveness of sin; and in this particular event, the illustration is so arranged for us, as to call our attention to the fact of the power of little sins—"little foxes"—how that such are not merely wrong, but are really DESTRUCTIVE—that not only would they ("little foxes") devour the fruit in our lives, but mischievously hinder the further production of fruit by injury to the vine that bears the fruit! Hope you are beginning to get the thought. Amen.

Now beloved, there seems to be a common tendency among so many in these last days, to disregard "little things," and to lay great stress upon things which seem to be of greater importance. In getting professed saints of God to take this view of the situation, the enemy lays a plan to enter into their lives, or the lives of those under their influence, or supervision (think of your children!), with his little "no harm" indulgences of a destructive nature! Now don't "fall out" with us too quickly—we hope you are going to read on with us—but for illustration's sake, there's the mother professing holiness, who, it seems, can't refrain from dressing her little daughter right along with children of the world—according to the dictates of prevailing styles; for stockings, it must be those "cute" little anklets, which attract more attention from the opposite sex—an ornament that is only vulgar so far as modesty and the finer sensibilities of truly feminine dress is concerned; then the skirt of possibly a low-neck, and partially, if not altogether, sleeveless, dress, that only reaches about mid-way between the knees and waist line—exposing what ought to be a sacred little body, to the lascivious gaze of the sensual, or to the enticement of the erstwhile more morally inclined; her hair—no! would hardly bob it! but otherwise, possibly "fixed up" in whatever the prevailing style, as far as long hair will make it possible to do so; then with a ring on her finger—and why does the professed holiness mother do all this? Oh! these are only "little" things; and besides, all the other girls are dressed that way; her school mates; her chums; and, "I don't want my child to have to suffer embarrassment around other children," etc. Mothers, if you live for God, you may have to suffer your child going through something worse than a little "embarrassment" over just godly dressing, before the Lord comes! Read your Bibles. And again, WHY perpetuate a thing in your child's life that is only fostering pride, when pride is, as you should know, one of the great sins spoken of in the Bible? Your child may have been properly taught the rudiments of holiness—it may believe the way is right; it may have confidence in your salvation, and all that; but just let them reach out from time to time—go hand-in-hand with the world—gay companions, social events, worldly dressing; a bit "popular" (a good bait put out by Satan to win the heart of some fathers and mothers as pertaining to their children!) etc.—let them indulge in all these little things; and then about the time you want to see them get saved, what then? Why, they are too proud to take the humble way with the Lord!—that seed that was sown in their tender little hearts has taken deep root, and thrived wonderfully! Truly, "little foxes" spoiled that vine! No, holiness is too common for them now; but possibly some fashionable church, or some less "reproachful" organization other than the good way with the Lord, will finally land them! While it's now too late, but it might be alright for such parent, or parents, to
think back to the time when the message was going forth, touching on pride, etc., as pertaining to their children, and how they utterly ignored the same, or lightly passed it by, thinking, “Ah, those are only little things; that preacher is just a bit fanatical, that’s all!” Who coined the phrase to this effect: “Mighty oaks from little acorns grow?”

Do Little Things Count?

Let us look to the Bible for a moment:

In James 3:5, speaking of this unruly human tongue, we read, “Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!”

Think of the anguish, pain, suffering, that has been endured; the good name besmirched; the ones sent to prison, to death—and possibly to torment, the result of a few little words ill-spoken! It is reported that the late World war, that taken it’s grim toll in millions of precious lives—and which combat is the foundation for bloodshed going on until this day—was the result of as little a matter as the mere shooting of a pig, either by, or among peasants of one of the European countries, the quarrel over which led to the final assassination of that Austrian nobleman about 1914, the ultimate result being that awful carnage of human souls! Yes, little things often count!

Then back to James 2:10, and we read, “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.” Your fear of God might have to do with the way YOU “look” at this scripture! Charity would believe it; wisdom would regard it. Remember, the rich young ruler lacked but ONE thing!

In Galatians 5:9, we hear the apostle Paul admonishing, “A little leaven leaveth the whole lump.” Some may think that just a little crooked doctrine is not so bad; but right here the Bible warns us against it, just the same. We know of a church, of the “Free Holiness” ranks, who accepted a woman as pastor for last winter, concerning whom the question of Biblical adultery had to do in controversy over whether to accept her or not; however, the influence desiring her prevailed, the leader saying, “just that one thing wouldn’t hurt.” But did it? The result was: It well nigh wrecked the church, that leader, himself, having to finally “throw up his hands,” so-to-speak, before it was all over with; but she is gone now, and with things supposed to be in better shape with them. Yes, little things often count, whether in quality, or quantity.

There are possibly many Bible examples touching on the dangers attributed to little things. Think of the three Hebrew children—how they chose the burning fiery furnace, rather than bow their knees to that idol. With many professing salvation, the mere “bowing of their knees” would have seemed a little thing—they would have possibly went on through with it, saying, “Well, the Lord knows my heart; I’ll not reproach the cause by refusing to comply with the demand.” For Shame on such graceless profession! And remember, Daniel would not leave off prayer, even though it be for just thirty days! With some, to comply with such edict, it would not amount to much. No, neither will it amount to much, so far as time and effort is concerned, to walk up and just merely “sign” your name, or what ever procedure is required of those who finally ascribe to the oncoming beast power—but it’s the final results that count—lost, doomed forever; and that through one little simple act! See Rev. 14:9-11.

Again—Do Little Things Count?

We are thinking of the time of terrible persecution gone through with by God’s people back yonder across the centuries, in the days of Nero, emperor of Rome; and possibly under other opposition. There seems to be a faint recollection of reported condition to this effect: that if the Christian possibly facing death at the stake, that if they would so much as move, or raise a finger, by that act signifying they would recant, or that is, renounce their faith—they would be liberated! Now the simple act of merely raising the finger, doesn’t seem to be much—possibly some of the onlookers would never be aware the individual had done so; but in Heaven it would have been instantly known—through that, to some a seemingly insignificant act, they DENIED the God of Heaven!

Then we read of the test some have endured, how, that if they would as much as pour a pinch of incense on the shrine of the Roman Emperor, early Christians would not go to death! Now it would not seem much of an act to just reach over, and out of some sort of receptacle, pick up a tiny pinch of incense powder, and then just sprinkle the same on the little fire burning before an idol of some kind, would it? but nevertheless, such would be sufficient to signify one’s denial of the true worship of God—a small act, but oh, what it meant!

Judas sold our Lord for only

“Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!” — James 3:5.
thirty pieces of silver—a small monetary transaction, but which ended up for Judas in a suicide death!

A few little acts of disobedience on a child’s part toward its parents let go uncorrected, and soon you will have a child out from under control.

If the enemy can’t get you to do some big something to cause you to lose out with God, he may try some little thing; and remember, that “No Harm,” is one of his trade-marks—many of his devices carrying that brand.

Some of the most destructive things we have today, are so small they can’t be seen with the natural eye—disease germs. Our nation can easily watch out for approaching armies or battleships of the enemy; but the disease germ is already taking it’s toll, ere we are scarcely aware!

We can easily fence against intruders in our fields and vineyards—such as large animals; but the thing most destructive to our crops, are the smaller things—insects, plant germs, etc.

It has been said to this effect—that we would not stumble over a salt barrel; but a broken place in the pavement protruding a quarter of an inch—over such we would stumble. And so it is. We would never be moved by some brother or sister stepping off into adultery, or some other act of outward sin; but some “little” thing, as a fancy hair dressing, a “little” trend toward the fashionable in apparel, some worldly amusement, etc. of a “No Harm” nature, might overthrow us after all. No—little things for the time being may not appear as much; but a multiplication of them will eventually show. A dime is a small amount of money; but TEN of them makes a Dollar.

Yes, Little Things Count—whether to the glory of the Lord; or to the gratification of Satan.

The poor widow cast in but two mites to the offering for God—but this small amount was MUCH in His sight, in that it was ALL she had—all her substance!

The thief on the cross uttered but a short prayer, but it was from a heart sincere, and brought him eternal salvation.

One little smooth stone, in the sling of the stripling David, slung to the glory of God, brought to an end, the life of the giant who was defying the army of Israel.

Paul’s message in Acts 17:23-31, was but a short one—addressed to worshippers of the “UNKNOWN GOD,” but it brought conviction, as well as persecution, and resulted in the salvation of precious souls.

As for the space of time, the ministry of Jesus was only about three years and six months; but think how it has rocked the world!

And so it is, beloved—little things do count. Remember, God is taking note of the minute details of our life. He knows the secret intent of our hearts. Even the very hairs of our head are numbered. He even notes the sparrow’s fall. And in that we are to give account for every idle word in the day of Judgment (Matthew 12:36), WHO might be there to report those words, except God be keeping a record?

So beloved, if on the one hand, we were more careful in guarding against little things, there would not sometimes be the resultant larger problems to bring us grief; and likewise, if on the other hand, we were more careful to observe little things, the blessings might be the greater. God expects us to have respect, both for, and against little things, or He would not have given space to the mentioning of such in His Bible. Amen.

THE WORLD OUTLOOK

Possibly the majority of our readers are keeping up with world events through the medium of the press, radio, or listening to conversation. And while reports coming through are as strictly censored as they are—facts, a question for surprise—yet one is bound to know the situation is bad enough. Poland, as a nation, no longer exists. It has gone to Germany and Russia. And now, it may be, the most serious situation of all is facing the warring nations—will England push her threats to abolish Hitlerism? If so, such endeavor may mean more than Germany’s march into Poland ever dare mean. It looks as if the crucial moment leading up to world dictatorship is steadily approaching. The world is watching for the action of the Italian dictator in the struggle now going on. And our feeble prediction is, that they well may—not that we feel there will be any chance for democracy to overthrow, or halt the advance, of dictatorial power—but that it is an assured fact, according to the teaching of the Bible, that the old Roman Empire is to again be rebuilt, and Mussolini is evidently leading out in that very respect. Abraham Lincoln said at one time, “I see a dark cloud arising, and that cloud is coming from Rome.” His prediction is now nearer fulfillment than on that day! Many have been watching, and fearing, for the advancement of Communism; or viewing with consternation, the achievements of Hitlerism; but the Fascist activities of Italy is the thing we are expecting to be the net to finally engulf the world—bring us under the final power of the beast, and that because of their approximacy to Catholicism—the religion of Rome. The great compromise between Catholicism and Protestantism is now being worked—or better say, Protestantism is beginning to compromise with Rome! Fair evidence of such is manifest in this: Just a few days ago occurred the death in Chicago, of Cardinal Mundelein, an “eminent” Catholic churchman, and the “spiritual” leader of more than a million. Among the notables paying tribute to the prelate, was Methodist Bishop Ernest Lynn Waldorf; and the point is, just what has the Methodist church in common with Catholicism! Amen.

“And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”

—Revelation 17:18.
DEATHS

Audry Fay Anderson, daughter of Bro. and Sr. J. W. Anderson, living some ten miles north of Claremore, Okla., was suddenly killed on the afternoon of Thursday, Sept. 14, 1939, as she was struck by a speeding car along Highway 66, while on the way home from school. She would have been nine years old on this October 17. A sweet little child; and is surely going to be sadly missed by friends and loved ones. Her so sudden and tragic passing was surely a sudden blow of sadness to the grief-stricken parents, who, last March, gave up little five-year old George Eugene, whose death resulted from complications following a minor injury.

May God comfort and encourage the hearts of these already grief-stricken parents; and may their fortitude be as that of Job of old, who, when appraised of the loss of all he had—his sons and daughters also being killed—he lost not his integrity; neither charged he God foolishly; but humbly said, “the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

Funeral services were conducted by the editor, with a Bro. Moore leading in prayer, from the auditorium of the Sequoyah school, where little Audry Fay was a fourth-grade pupil, on the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 17, in the presence of a large concourse of relatives and friends; and the remains tenderly laid to rest in the City cemetery at Collinsville, beside little Eugene, to there await the signal call from on High, as Jesus descends in power and great glory, to gather unto Himself, the sleeping dead in Christ, and the living who are following Him faithfully here.

Sister Dora Haggard

Sr. Dora Haggard, of near Branson, Mo., passed away just shortly after Camp Meeting this summer. Sr. Haggard had long been a correspondence friend of wife and I; and it was our good pleasure to meet her personally for the first time, this summer, and to be so hospitably entertained in her home the greater part of the time we were attending Camp Meeting. She was a good woman; and may it be ours to again meet, in that Land where no pain will be borne; and where partings will never be known. May her memory long be blessed to those who are left to mourn. Her husband preceded her in death several years ago.

Also to Bro. Aubery, of Kirkeyville, Mo.; Bro. Cam Edmonson, and Bro. Claudie Blevins, both of the White Oak band, near Harrison, Ark., we extend sympathy, to them and their families, in the loss of their mothers. Bro. Blevin’s mother passed away some months ago, while Bro. Aubery’s, and Bro. Edmonson’s mothers deaths were of more recent date. God bless the sorrowing ones of each bereaved family.

Sr. Whitford, of Arkansas City, Kans., reports the death there, on Sept. 7, of Vina, daughter of a Bro. and Sr. Faust. The Lord comfort them in their time of sorrow.

A death among the saints that has never been reported, was that of Sr. Nola Hudson, wife of Bro. Moud Hudson, of near Lead Hill, Ark., which occurred, going well on towards a year ago. Besides her husband, she left of her immediate family, one son, and five daughters. And of Sr. Hudson’s passing, let it be said, another saint of God has died in the faith. Though her affliction was great (cancer), yet she trusted God to the end. And while she is now resting with Jesus, we feel her life, in her implicit trust in God to the very last, should serve as an example of patience and endurance to those who profess to be followers of Him who gave His life for us; and who profess to be trusting Him for their all and all. Long may the memory of her be blessed to those who remain.

It is sad to see young people professing salvation, enter into the marriage state under circumstances whereby one cannot extend unto them, their heartiest congratulations.

Too many people are merely “toying” with the commandments of God. Beloved, the Judgment, when we are once there, is surely going to mean something—“play time” will then be over! Amen.

ARE THEY SINCERE?

Some folks will wake up in services long enough to testify, saying they want to do their best for God; that they have loved ones in sin, and, O! how they want to see them saved; they are looking for the soon coming of Jesus, etc. Then as soon as they sit down, and get comfortable again, they are back to sleep! If any one goes to the altar for prayer, they are too sleepy, or disinterested, to pray for them.

I can’t hardly believe they are wanting to do their part, and want to see people saved, by the way they act in services. If we are anxious about OUR loved ones being saved, let’s pray for another mother’s children!

Surely, we are living in a time when we ought to be busy, and have our eyes open for Jesus. The devil is watching you and me. If he can put us to sleep, that is as good as he wants. A man or woman asleep, can’t watch or pray either. I believe Jesus said, “Watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.” The devil surely has plenty of temptations. So let’s pray, and live close to Jesus, and be full overcomers.

Do pray for me; I want to be a faithful worker, and not slothful in this good way.

Ruby Steele.

Thank the Lord for the spirit of Sr. Ruby’s timely thought, to which we add a hearty, “Amen!” Assembling ourselves together for worship, is one of the commandments of God; and I’m sure the Lord wants us there in some shape for services—and NOT in the interests of sleep! If we can’t give our bodies time for proper rest, that we might be of benefit to His cause in meeting, we are depriving God of time that belongs to Him. If you hired the person to go do a piece of work, and later found them asleep on the job—then what? Preach it!

The Editor.
"TAKE ME BACK TO THE OLD CAMP MEETING DAYS"

Void of any pretentious appointments, but in rugged simplicity, and amidst the beautiful surroundings of Ozark scenery, on Highway 80, about two miles south of Forsyth, in Taney county, Missouri, was held the annual Camp Meeting this summer, of the Church of God, of the Apostolic Faith, where, from July 28, until August 6, saints of God from the four-state area, with one family from Arizona, met to enjoy fellowship, and the presence of the Lord.

Three services were conducted daily—the greater part of the time—that is, general services beginning in the forenoon; the special Young People's meetings in the afternoon; and the regular evangelistic services at night, which was an enormous gathering from the country side, out laying districts, and saints from as far as forty or fifty miles away. Various ministers preached from time to time, but with Bro. Henegar and Bro. Atchley in charge of the Meeting throughout. The Lord blessed with Gospel messages, wonderful testimonies exhortations, and good singing. Many sought the Lord; and a number professed experiences.

Services were held under a new 40 x 60 "fly," which was banked on the north by a combined cook shed and "dining hall," where two substantial meals were served daily—free to all—a regular feature of our Camp Meetings, and an effort wherein God never fails to bless in supplying every need. This method of caring for a multitude is the Bible way—Jesus never sent the people away hungry, either temporally or spiritually. Praise His good name. Amen.

Three were ordained to the ministry on night before the close of the Camp. Conference meeting was held on last Friday and Saturday.

Invitations for next year's Camp came from Coal Creek, near Catoosa, Okla.; Lamp Junction, near Blue Eye, Mo.; Mulberry, Kans.; and White Oak, near Harrison, Ark. (See conference minutes, page 9.)

The last Sunday of the Camp seemed to be a rather special day, in that it marked a gathering in of saints from other places, affording a chance for visiting, and enjoying a special dinner, following the good service of the forenoon. It is a blessing to many, to even get to meet with the dear saints of God upon occasions like this, and talk about the good things of the Lord. The finest people on earth—God's people! Amen.

Young People's Meetings

Services for the young people, led by one of their own number, seemed to be especially blessed of the Lord at this year's Camp, more so than usual. The presence and power of God was truly in their midst—an indescribable ray of light permeating these services. It was a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; and a time wherein the older ones taken advantage of the occasion

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The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. —Psalms 87:2.
Doctrine

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


THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS—The second coming of Jesus will be as literal as was His going away. Acts 1:11-14; John 14:3. Preparation for His return was the message He stressed to His disciples. Matthew 24:44; and such event was that which Paul looked forward to, and points us to. 1 Corinthians 15:19-28; 2 Peter 3:10-13.


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

THE MILLENNIUM—The Bible teaches a 1,000 years peaceful reign with Jesus upon earth. During this time Satan will be bound. Rev. 20:1-6. This will truly be a day of rest for God's people. Hebrews 4:11-Note. Isaiah 11:1-12; 65:17-25; Hosea 2:18; Zechariah 14:9, 29; Isaiah 2:1-5.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT—All nations shall be gathered before the throne of God for eternal judgment. Here both small and great among men will be judged according to their works. Daniel 12:2. Matthew 25:31-46. Rev. 20:11-16.

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


RESTITUTION—The Blood of Jesus will never atone for sin, but that sin can be right. We must have a conscience void of offense toward both God and man. Restitution means asking the thing right wherein we have wronged our fellow man—taking back or paying for, stolen articles, setting for goods obtained by fraud, etc.; paying up old debts, returning things borrowed, etc. Ezekiel 33:14-16. Luke 19:3. 9. Other confessions sometimes have to be made.

WAR—It is our firm conviction, supported by the Word of God, our conscience bearing us witness, that we cannot take up arms against our fellow men, however great the provocation or otherwise just the cause might seem; it being the teaching of the spirit of the Gospel presented by Christ in His Sermon on the Mount. Matthew 5:38-48. See Rev. 12:9-10. Luke 18:18-20. Hebrews 12:14-22.

We maintain the highest regard for our flag and teach absolute respect for the laws and officials of our country according to Romans 13:1-7, and 1 Peter 2:13, 14, as long as it does not violate our conscience, for “We ought to obey God rather than men.” Acts 5:29.

We hold the invariable right to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience.

TITHING—Tithing is an ordinance of God. Malachi 3:8-10. Some claim that tithing was under the law, and hence, it is not a requirement today. This is an error in teaching. Men paid tithes before the law was given. Genesis 14:20; 26:22. Then under the law the tithing system was imposed as the support of the priesthood and sangers, and not the work of Jehovah's redemption, which answers to the ministry of today. Now under grace, Jesus and Paul both speak regarding tithing. Matthew 19:23, 24; Acts 20:35.

And again, if tithing was did away with at the end of the law, WHY is the penalty still being imposed upon the nations for robbing God? We see the very things happening today in the day of crop destruction that God promised through Malachi to rebuke, if His ordinance was kept. When a law is repealed, the punishment for violation is therein immediately repealed. Think.

THE CHURCH—The Church teaches that Christ's body is the church, and that we are members in particular. Ephesians 1:22-23. 1 Corinthians 12-27. We get into the church through a spiritual birth. Ephesians 1:22-23. 1 Corinthians 12:27. Acts 2:47, 48. That organized institution—man-made organizations divide God's people, as clearly evidenced among the many different denominations today. God's plan is not for a divided and sectionalized church, but that there should be but one group, and all working in harmony.

"There is one body." etc. Eph. 4:4.
Devoted to the interests of the Church of God, of the Apostolic faith.

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

We stand for, and endorse, the three-fold plan of salvation—that is, justification by faith; sanctification through the Blood (a second, definite, work of grace); and the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, with the Bible evidence of speaking in other tongues, as the Spirit gives utterance. Teaching for doctrine, those principles taught by the people of the Apostolic faith since the outpouring of the Spirit in the beginning of the latter rain dispensation (Topeka, Kans., 1901; Los Angeles, Calif., 1906).

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SUNDAY SCHOOL QUESTIONS

1. A man in the Bible gave his wife, her name. Find this.

2. Who was first recorded man to take two wives?

3. Who was the second murderer?

Parents might spend their life in prayer for their children—praying that they might be better boys and girls—yet if they fail to use the remedy God has prescribed in His word for such cases, their praying would all be in vain.

There is no such thing as a "prayerless" Christianity. And except one reach the Throne once in a while, at least, such pretended prayer life would be in vain.

We are now reaching the point in the line of world affairs, where the thought of the eventual suppression of freedom of speech and the press is presenting itself to us in a manner more real than ever before. We are beginning to wonder about the future of the little paper—just how much longer we may be privileged to send it forth as now permitted. It's beyond doubt dictatorship is battling right at the very doors of our government. Not only is such realized by saints of God, but men of the street are talking the same thing. Already is the power of such—the spirit of such rule-ship—authoritatively manifesting itself today in the farming industry, as well as in almost all other lines of business—restrictions being thrown around business and parts of agriculture, until it is easily seen that freedom of buying and selling is now gone in many respects. "Signing Up" is most the order of the day. Farmers now must have their "cotton cards," if they would sell that product without paying a penalty so high as making the raising of such the same as impracticable; and furthermore, their acreage on such is limited by a governmental decree. This, among other restrictions now in governmental effect, as regards agriculture and commerce, is only indicative of that which is coming to pass—the time "that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, the name of the beast, or the number of his name." (Rev. 13: 17.) While we can hardly feel that the present European conflict will terminate in another World War (we yet feel the present situation might be the opportune time for a power more fierce than Hitler to be acclaimed, by reason of ability to suppress, or effect a compromise—Fascist Italy, or the reviving Roman Empire, is the thing to finally be reckoned with!), but in case the United States should become embroiled, such would be a very acceptable time for dictatorship to swing into control over us. It is surely becoming perilous times, indeed—times wherein the lost, if they ever expect to make a start for God, had better be doing so; and as for God's people, they had better be under the Blood, with the Comforter in their lives, for that time of spiritual darkness is fast covering the world; and as we approach the final end, it is going to mean much to stand.

We feel, that for the benefit of the saints, there should be more gatherings together during the course of a year than is now being practiced. Two camp meetings during the season would not be out of order, together with a mid-winter convention of about three days in a centrally located section, which would give opportunity for discussion of the good things of God, hear some good testimonies and preaching, and to enjoy the fellowship of the good people of God. Such gathering would surely be encouragement to the heart, food for the soul, and strength to

(Top page 8.)

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Ephesians 6:11.
"Take Me Back To The Old Camp Meeting Days"
(From page 5.)

to enter in and enjoy the blessings with them. Evidently these services bore a special significance from the Lord. And if any young saint left the Camp Meeting this year without real victory in their soul, it was surely on account of their failing to obey the Lord. The blessing was there for them; and some of them shouted the victory. And again, the special presence of the Spirit of God in these services brought to our mind, how that God might be preparing them—how that He would have them to be fitted to take the places now filled by the older ones, who, according to nature, shall soon begin to pass off the scene, should Jesus tarry.

May God bless every sincere young soldier of the Cross; and may their lives shine out for Him. Some special meetings for young people between camp meetings, entered into with the right purpose in view—a strictly spiritual gathering, with the sole purpose of finding a closer walk with God—would surely be of great benefit. And of course, older ones could hardly be kept away.

"With The Editor" 
(From page 7.)

the weary. And anyway—what about the fellowship meetings anymore? Easter Sunday, at Newkirk, Okla., was the last one!

OUR APOLOGY

We are later with this issue of the little paper, than at any time since beginning it's publication in September, 1930. We are sorry; and we are yet hoping—hoping—hoping—we can reach the place where we can send it out more often, and more regularly. Right now, there are many burdens, and many cares. Pray for us. —Ed.

Mulberry, Kans.

August 10, 1939.

Dear Bro. and Sr. Bond:

I want to send in a word of praise for the Lord this morning who has been so good to me. I know the hand of the Lord has been over me all my life; and in many, many, instances, I can look back and see that God was surely on the scene to watch over us, protect and guide us. He has stood by us in every case of sickness we have had in our home since we learned to trust Him. Once our little boy had been sick several days with fever. We got some good saints of God to pray for him. After about twenty minutes prayer, his fever was cooled instantly.

I want to praise God also for the privilege I had of going to the Camp Meeting this year. It seemed to me the best one yet. But they have all been good. We should appreciate getting to meet with the good children of God, for some days, we know not how soon, we will surely be denied this wonderful privilege.

When I went to Camp Meeting this year, I had been suffering with rheumatism in my feet for about five weeks. At times I could hardly walk. I had them pray for me, and I promised the Lord if He would heal me, I would testify to it through the little paper. I felt they were some better; and the day I came home I noted a decided change for the better. Some might say it had just run it's course in that length of time; but folks, I look at it a different way—they didn't improve until I began to have them prayed for, and got more in earnest about the matter my self, and made God some promises. So I give God ALL the glory.

I want to mention here, too, that God performed a miracle for me two years ago this month. I was really at death's door, with typhoid. Bro. and Sr. Bond are witnesses of my condition; also, many others who prayed for me.

For a space of, between three and four weeks, all was practically a blank; I did not realize any thing that was going on around me. Through the prayers and faith of the saints alone, God spared my life; and I give Him all the glory, for I know that He IS, and that He is a rewarmer of those who diligently seek Him.

I am glad because He saved, sanctified, and baptized me with the Holy Ghost. And I want all who reads this to remember me in prayer. Feel that I am a very unworthy child of God, but I want to live humble, and some day see Jesus face to face.

Mrs. L. L. Wheeler.

We are glad to confirm Sr. Wheeler's reference to wife and myself as regards her testimony of healing. Bro. Wheeler is a beloved minister among us, and whom we heartily recommend to the saints everywhere.

The Editor.

OUR WORD OF THANKS

Again has the dear Lord been wonderfully good to us. Some few weeks ago, we were bitten by a spider—that being the affliction so far as we were able to determine—which resulted in a very painful experience, holding us practically bedfast for almost a week; but at the last, it was wonderful how God came on the scene, and our recovery so rapid. Praise His good name! He has been our healer for many years; and we are glad to be able, by His grace, yet to trust in Him. There is a living reality in the divine touch on our physical being in sickness, just the same as there is reality in the salvation of the soul.

And we surely thank those of you who prayed for us. May God bless each of you; and to Him we give all the praise.

The Editor.

Don't forget your announcement for the new Directory list!

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;"—Psalms 103:3.
THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MESSAGER

CONFERENCE MEETING

The annual conference meeting of the Church of God, of the Apostolic Faith, convened on the Camp Meeting grounds, near Forsyth, Mo., at 10 A. M., August 4, 1939.

Services were opened with singing, and prayer, after which Bro. Ottis Green, of near Harrison, Ark., was appointed to take minutes of proceedings. A call for preachers showed seventeen present.

Opening address by General Chairman, Bro. P. A. Henegar, was to the effect, that we let God have His way in this conference.

Song: “Nearer, My God To Thee.”

Meeting now open for reports from the brethren from different places:

Bro. Moon, pastor at Newkirk, Okla., was first to respond, expressing appreciation for the Camp Meeting, and conference; and for God’s good people. He also called conference to prayer in his behalf, that God would lead and direct him for the coming year, as he was resigning the work at Newkirk, and desired the leadings of the Lord in his further steps in God’s cause.

Sr. Neva Anderson testified how that God was blessing near Yonkers, Okla.

Bro. Atchley, of White Oak community, near Harrison, Ark., spoke regarding the life of young people in their church, and used as his text, 1 Tim. 5:22, “Keep thyself pure;” and asked that this subject be preached on in this conference from the 7th. chapter of 1 Cor., and the 6th. and 7th. chapters of Proverbs; also spoke against a false doctrine that is being taught along this line. Brings message on 6th. and 7th. chapters of Proverbs.

Conference stands against such false doctrine as taught by some in reference to 1 Cor. 7:36, which teaching would do no less than attempt a sorry justification for nothing short of fornication in the lives of those who would be guilty. Broth. Henegar, Dees, and Roberts, joined Bro. Atchley in this discussion.

Bro. Norton, pastor at Van Buren, Ark., brought some good thoughts; and praised God for the good clean way.

Sr. Ruby Steele, in testimony, expressed herself concerning the line of dressing for girls, how that such should be taught from the beginning at home. Expressed her desire to stay with the people of God.

Sr. Isbell King testified to the goodness of God, and an appreciation for His people.

(Sr. Steele and Sr. King, both originally of Ramona, Okla., address, are co-workers in the ministry.)

Bro. Bond, of near Coweta, Okla., referred to the way holiness stood in the beginning along the line of the dress question, and made it known that he was not ashamed of the old-time standard in this respect.

Sr. Moore, of Forsyth, Mo., testified that it was time to take a stand for the old-time way and standard of dressing; and beginning in the home when the children are small.

Conference adjourned at 2 P. M., until next day at 10 A. M.

Conference was called to order at 10 A. M., with prayer, and singing.

Opening remarks by Bro. Henegar, with call for further business of the meeting.

Prayer. Call for business.

Bro. Bond speaks, pointing out the meaning of “much disputing” in a Bible conference, as recorded in the 15th. chapter of The Acts, verse 7.

The question regarding the Biblical application of Matthew 18:21-22, wherein the disciples asked how oft we should forgive a brother who sinned against us, brought out some good thoughts, among the which was this: There is a difference between one’s doing wrong against his brother, and that of sin against God—possibly that of openly reproaching the good cause. For the individual to step aside and become guilty of adultery, or fornication, etc., and then come before the brethren with a shallow, “Forgive me,”—possibly almost constantly into something along the line—and expecting to be taken back into confidence by the saints on the strength of this scripture—that the spirit of this teaching does not apply in such cases. If the person has actually broken a commandment of God, the thing is not fixed in both Heaven and earth by just a light, “Forgive me,” asked of the brethren? If such isn’t fixed with God, all the “Forgiving” of men would be of no avail. And as for some things ever being fixed in Heaven—there is that “dead line” of wilful sinning after one has reached the Biblically warned place before God to be reckoned with. No, the spirit of Matthew 18:21-22, does not apply to ALL wrong doing; neither does God expect one to ride to Heaven on such; but the principal thought here involved is that of instructing the offended to have a forgiving spirit—but not wherein God is the one offended—let them first make the thing right with Him, if so be they haven’t gone too far in this respect.

Bro. Sanders asks for information, whether it be wrong to preach against organizations; church rolls, etc. In reply, conference stands against all chartered membership, church rolls, etc., among God’s people.

Question concerning “two witnesses,” referred to in Revelation 11:3, was brought up for discussion, with possibly Daniel and John being more in acceptance as being the two, with Dan. 12:13, and Rev. 10:11, being basic scriptures used for such theory, but which does not necessarily mean that these two men be resurrected in person to perform this work; but possibly as John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah, the prophet, thus fulfilling Malachi 4:5-6 (note Matt. 11:14, etc.), even so could two brethren in that day be embued with the spirit and power of Daniel and John, and be sent forth of God, Biblically fulfilling this prophesy.

Bro. Atchley at this time stated the financial obligation against the tabernacle purchased for the Camp Meeting. (The Camp closed with tabernacle, and all bills, settled, or funds on hand for same.—Ed.)

A request for an explanation along the line of the “Oneness” doctrine, or that of baptizing in Jesus’ name, was made by a Bro. Getman, of near Forsyth. Broth. Atchley and Bond brought explanation. Eph. 4:1; Acts 19:1; 1 Pet. 3:21; Matt. 28:19; Mark 13:32, and 2 John 9, being used to prove the personality of Jesus as being separate from that of God; and to distinguish between the baptism of John, and that of Jesus, which some erroneously believe should be administered in Jesus’ NAME, only, instead of the triune ceremony as given us in direct comm.

[To page 10.]

The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
—Psalms 110:1.
mand in Matthew 28:18. This movement stands against much "Oneness" teaching as being false doctrine.

Invitations for the Camp Meeting for next year, were extended from Coal Creek, near Catooza, Okla.; Lampa Junction, near Blue Eye, Mo.; White Oak, near Harrison, Ark.; and Mulberry, Kans. Time and place to be decided upon later.

Bro. Henegar gave a financial report of his work for the past year, wherein his travels taken him an estimate of some 20,000 miles; and regarding the rule adopted a year ago, that all ordained ministers pay unto him, one-half, at least, of their tithes. Bro. Henegar requested this rule be suspended, stating he desired to trust God. In this, Bro. Dees suggested that those who are now paying the half to him, and feel God’s blessings on such, may continue if they desire; and asks all to help Bro. Henegar as much as possible. An offering of $3.45 was taken to be given Bro. Bond, account of publishing these Minutes.

Passed to a final close at 2 P. M., with music amidst an old-time handshake, following good closing thoughts from Bro. Henegar, with exhortation to live close to God, to keep saved, and to press on: feeling that the conference had been a blessing to all, and with many happy memories of another old-time Camp Meeting, wherein God met with His people, and several were saved, some sanctified, but with one only, receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Bro. Atchley continued on with a revival for a few days.

Bro. B. A. Pierce, of Forsyth, Mo., Bro. Ben J. Gray, of near Ramona, Okla., and Sr. (Mrs.) Levi Edwards, of near Harrison, Ark., were ordained to the ministry at the night service of the Camp Meeting.

Otis Green, Acting Secretary.

P. A. Henegar, General Chairman.

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REPORTS

Oct. 16, 1939.

Bro Lee Wheeler and famili, accompanied by Sr. Goldine Clauch, of Mulberry, Kans., and Sr. Lovene Pendergraft, of R. 2, Anderson, Mo., were with us for a week’s meeting in latter part of September. Good interest, and much conviction; but seems hard to get people to break away from sin. Especially did the young people of the unsaved, enjoy the ministry of Bro. Wheeler, and those with him. At the close of this meeting, Sr. Ruby Steele, and Sr. Isabel King, of near Inola, were with us for a few nights; and while it seemed the revival spirit was gone, yet, we had some more good preaching. We appreciated the effort put forth by the ministers and workers in both these series of services; and we know their labour was not in vain—good seed was sown; and another opportunity extended to the lost.

Bro. Atchley, and others, were in a lengthy period of revival services, following the close of the post-Camp Meeting services, at the junction north of Blue Eye, Mo. No particulars.

At last account [Oct. 13], Bro. Henegar, and son, Bro. Neil, were in a meeting at Cecil, Ark.

Word reaches us that Bro. Ussery, pastor at Drumright, reports a good meeting at the mission in Locud Hill, Ark., which he recently conducted.

Sr. Sullivent, and son, Bro. Jack, and wife, conducted a short period of revival services a few miles east of Morris, in latter part of August, in which there were some three or four conversions. We are expecting the Lord willing, to go there, Sunday, Oct. 22, for baptismal services.

A good report of the work at Van Euren, Ark., reaches us. Several had been saved in a recent revival. Bro. John Norton is pastor.

Bro. Gildhouse, in sending S. S. offering for the little paper, reports they have been having some good services at Newkirk. A good revival a short time ago; two saved.

Sr. Sullivent, and son, Bro. Jack Sullivent, of Okmulgee, were with us here at Center Mission, on Sunday night, Oct. 15. The Lord wonderfully blessed Bro. Jack with a message on the sin question, which was surely effective, and enjoyed by both the saved, and the unsaved. A real appointing from Heaven, thank God.

Sr. Miller, in sending S S. offering from Drumright, states the Lord had been blessing at that place. A good service the night before. [Oct. 6.]

Under date of Sept. 12, Sr. Whitford, in sending Arkansas City, Kans., of tereing, said they were expecting Bro. Bert Utter there for a revival as soon as he closed the one in Newkirk, Okla.

Don’t forget your announcement for the new Directory list!

Bro. Wheeler and Family to Oroville, Calif.

Feeling the call of God to labour in those parts, Br. Lee Wheeler and family, are now located at Oroville, California. The saints back this way are surely going to miss them—we hated to see them go, but God’s will first. May God bless and keep them. Br. Wheeler is thinking of a camp meeting out there for next summer, God willing, and Jesus touches. We surely hope so—feel it would be in order with the Lord; and in such event, there will be many back this way with a great longing, and a prayer in their hearts, to be there: and possibly many will attend. Their address: Route 2, Box 143, in care of R. M. Osterstreet.

Inola, Okla.

Sisters Ruby Steele and Isabel King closed a four week’s revival some time ago, in the Good Hope Dist., six miles south, and one and one-half miles west, of Inola, Okla. Large crowds. Fifteen conversions. Several sanctified. They are remaining with them as pastors for an indefinite period of time. Have started Sunday School again, which had been closed. Regular church services on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. All ministers of the faith invited. A new field, and large territory in which to work.

Their address: Inola, Okla., R. 1, In care of R. G. Addinson.

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FELLOWSHIP MEETING AT MULBERRY, KANS.

An all days’ meeting is announced for Mulberry, Kans., Sunday, November 12 (the second Sunday), to which all straight saints of God, and friends, are invited.

Special services Saturday night, account of those who may be coming from afar. Dinner on the grounds.

COME.
Our Young People

Harrison, Ark.

Dear Bro. and Sr. Bond;
Greetings in Jesus' dear name:
I am glad for Jesus, and His kindness and mercy to me. I've found Him to be a Friend when all others fail. I'm glad that He will carry us through every trial.

This evening finds me yet saved, sanctified, and filled with the precious Holy Ghost. I thank God for the blessings I did receive during the Camp Meeting. It was real food to my soul; and a time that I'm sure I shall never forget. I love Him because He first loved me, and gave His life on the Cross for you and I, that we might have this wonderful salvation. Praise His dear name.

Young people, the best thing in life is that of serving Jesus, and trusting Him for our all and all.

We see many today who are giving up, and turning from the way. Friends, we need to pray more. Prayer changes things. When we see the enemy is after us, if we will but stop and pray, God will bring us through every trial. He has promised to never leave us, nor forsake. And to those of you who do not have the baptism of the Holy Ghost in your life, it is time you were earnestly seeking the blessing, for it is surely going to take power to stand in these last and evil days. I have found the Holy Ghost to be a Comforter to me. I have come up against trials, whereas, had it not been for the blessing, I might not have stood; but praise His name, He knows when to come on the scene.

I'm asking an interest in the prayers of all, that I'll be just what God wants me to be.

Your sister in Christ,
Osee Atchley,
Route 3.
Harrison, Ark.

The thing most needed among young people professing salvation, is not a system of programmed activities featuring social diversion, or formal services—but like older saints, they need more of a genuine going down before God from time to time, seeking a closer walk with Him, for young people are subject to the same call of death as are the older ones; to the same coming of the Lord; and to the same Judgment. There is but the same Bible for both young and old; and it teaches the same clean life for all—that the younger men and women live just as pure, wholesome, chaste, and sober-minded lives, as is required of the older. (Titus 2:1-8.) And to accomplish this, it means for them to have the same consecration in their lives, and putting God first in all things. There is nothing more divinely beautiful in this life, than to see a young man or woman in these extremely evil days, living a clean, devoted life for God—ones who are putting something into the services when assembled with the church, as well as plainly manifest they also get something out of the services, besides a possibly new “date!”

Amen.

May God bless the young people everywhere; and may their young lives bring forth much fruit, meet for the Master's use. It seemed the young people's special services at the Camp Meeting this summer were so signally blessed of God—seemed a special visitation of the Spirit in these meetings, surely for their especial benefit—that they might see the need of their being prepared to carry on, if the Lord tarries, as the older ones pass on to their reward; or else an opportunity extended them for a closer walk with Jesus during the days of this present distress; and if any left the Camp ground not having availed themselves of this Heaven-sent opportunity for real victory in their souls, it was simply because of reasons NOT ordained of God, for the occasion was spiritually, as when blind Bartimaeus sat by the wayside—truly, 'twas again—Jesus of Nazareth was passing by!

Go on for God, young people; as you live sincere before Him, you are a wonderful blessing in His good cause; you are filling a much needed place in the vineyard right now; and a much more responsible position awaits you, if Jesus tarries. Amen.

Let us hear from you through the medium of this department.

The Editor—and your friend, if you should think we preach a bit "straight and plain" sometimes! Pray for us, always, beloved.

My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee. —Proverbs 7:1.
IN THE LAST DAYS

It has been preached, and re-preached, that the last days are upon us. Many signs of these times are being vividly portrayed before us. But among all the events to transpire toward the closing days of time, and which carries with it an influence of danger to the soul's welfare of the saints of God, is that of spiritual delusion that is to come upon the world. There are to be many deceivers, false prophets, etc., in the world in these days.

So it is sad to see people—professed saints of God—seemingly being influenced by those who have nothing but a wrong spirit in their lives. It matters not how loud people may preach, or pray, such is not sufficient evidence of their genuineness—the devil himself, is proficient in these very things; and as for them sometimes having “big meetings,” it is a known fact, the worst hypocrite in the country—even morally corrupt—can come along, put on a cry—and shed a few tears—and have a bunch at the altar, and some would think that assuredly, God was in their work! One thing for sure, God is not going to send out the individual to preach the Gospel, whose own past life is not straightened up.

So if there ever has been a time when saints of God needed to beware—when they needed to know something about the Spirit of God in reality (and possibly as they one time were able to discern) it is in these last days of deception and delusion, wherein human sympathy is too often replacing spiritual firmness; and friendship taking the place of fellowship. We need to remember 2 Cor. 11:13-15:

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

“Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

So let’s not be afraid to take a firm stand against the thing that isn’t all around founded upon the good Word of God. God will, in the end, honour those who stand for the right. Some might shout until they became hoarse; preach until perspiration dripped from the tips of their fingers; and if everything in the country, so-to-speak, claimed to get saved under their ministry, such would not move us in the least when we had sufficient evidence they were not Biblically founded upon the truth—just not right before God. We preach to call a certain spiritual experience by its proper name; why not then, refer to some other things in this life by their proper title—why not call such “John,” also, and let others see that we are not in for any such! Amen.

HOLINESS means heart purity; therefore, it is an EXPERIENCE, and NOT merely works, as taught by many.

ANSWERS TO SUNDAY SCHOOL QUESTIONS

2. Genesis 4:19.

As for our Church Directory, there has been some changes made in the past year, and so desiring to bring it up to date, and to also “revamp” the make-up of announcements, we are hereby requesting all the churches of the faith to send us your announcement, complete, with location if in rural section, or street address if in city, together with pastor, or leader’s (designate which) name and address. Please, let some one among each band of saints throughout the entire movement attend to this at once, that we might have a complete Directory, D. V., in next issue. Do this; and, the Lord bless you.

Thanking you in advance,
The Editor.

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.” —Psalm 122:1.