



GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

Official Publication of God's Missionary Church, Inc.
Penns Creek, Pa.

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalms 68:11.

Volume 17

(Issued Monthly at \$1.00 per year)

April, 1966

No. 8

The Joys of Easter

J. V. Wilbanks

"And they departed quickly... with... great joy." Matt. 28:8.

Easter time always brings joy. This Christian festival occurs on, or after, the first paschal (full) moon following the spring equinox. The equinox is on either the twentieth or the twenty-first day of March. This is the reason that Easter occurs at a different time each year on our calendars. Easter time is springtime. The flowers bloom; the birds sing; the new surge of life is felt everywhere. Everybody, whether young or old, rejoice at this season.

But there are special joys for Christians. Such joys were experienced by the disciples of Christ on the resurrection morn. These joys are not transient ones such as little children experience in hunting Easter eggs or women buying new hats; or not even the exhilarating feeling of springtime. They are more substantial than any of these; they are lasting; they are eternal. Let us note a few of them:

First, those disciples experienced the joy of reunion with Christ, their Friend and Saviour. This reunion was to last forever. The disciples knew that Christ had died an ignominious death. And now they knew that He had conquered death, and that death should have no more dominion over Him. Thus He would be secured to them as an everlasting Saviour!

We have our reunions with friends and relatives. We visit them during the national holidays, or at other times of our convenience. But such visits cannot last

very long—we must return home. By and by, on the resurrection morning of the redeemed, we shall experience the joy of everlasting reunion. This is one of the joys that Easter brings.

Then, there is joy of security which the disciples experienced. Before His death, Christ had protected them and provided for them. Now that He was risen from the dead they intuitively knew that He would be their everlasting King and Provider. What a feeling of satisfaction this gave! People everywhere are looking for security. They want something in which they can trust, something upon which they can rely. Christ is the Christian's security. We can rely upon Him, even in this present moment. This is another joy that Easter brings.

Then, too, there is the joy of comfort. Isaiah said long ago, "His name shall be called... The everlasting Father"—and how comforting a father can be! My dear mother died at the early age of twenty-two years. She left behind her three small sons. Due to unavoidable circumstances our father had to leave us in the care of our maternal grandparents. They loved us and were good to us; but there is something about a father that no other relative, no matter how loving and kind, can replace. What a feeling of comfort and joy we experienced three and a half years later when our father returned for us. Christ promised the disciples a Comforter (John 16). This is none other than the blessed Holy Ghost, the Spirit of truth

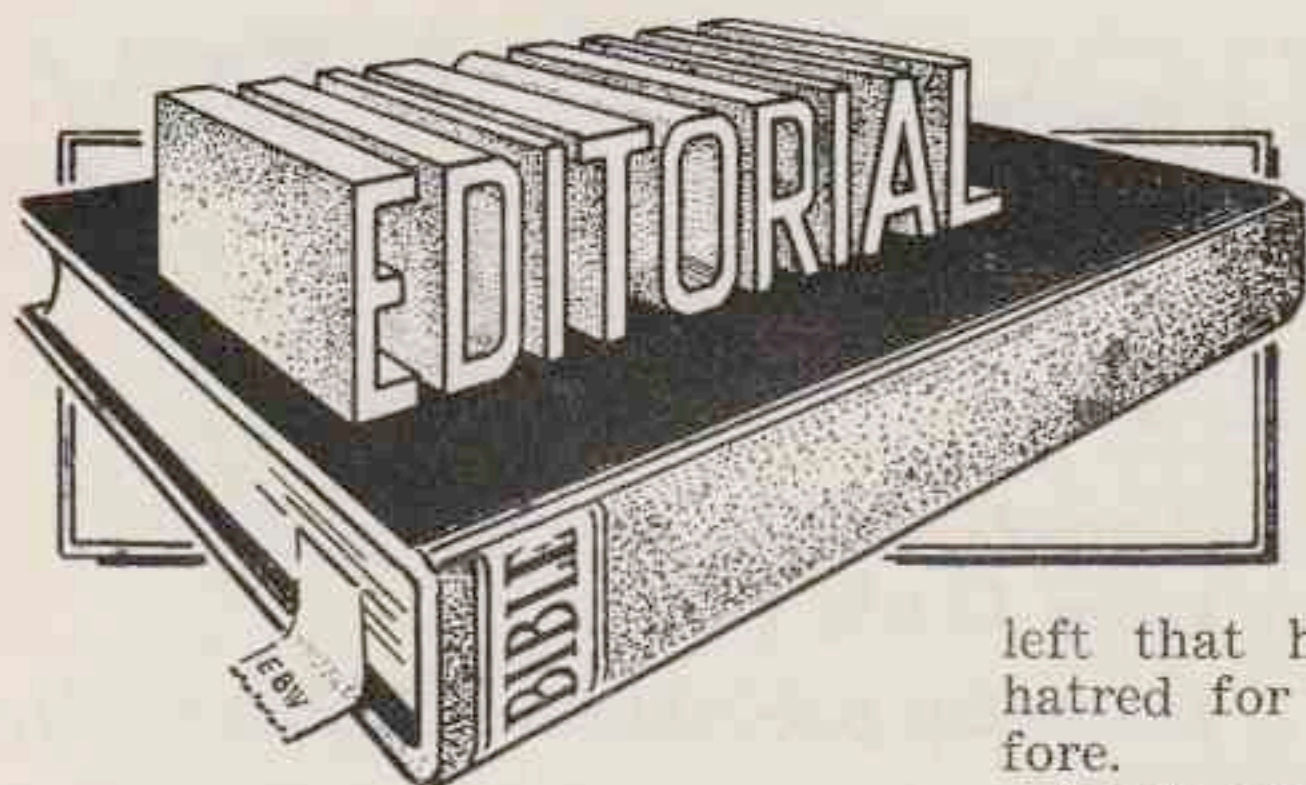
(verse 13). He came on the day of Pentecost, purging their hearts from sin and filling them with the fullness of God (Acts 2:1-4).

The same promise holds today, even in this twentieth century, for Peter said, "The promise is unto you, and your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."—Acts 2:39. Christ can be your Comforter, your Sanctifier, right now. And not only now, but every day in the year and throughout all eternity, for the promise is, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever."—John 14:16.

Another joy that the resurrection of Christ brought to the disciples was that of being thenceforth directed by the omniscient counsel of God. Isaiah had said, "His name shall be called... Counsellor." The disciples need not now depend upon their own wisdom to meet any of life's issues. They could go straight to Christ for advice. Let it be remembered that the last directive He gave them was to go back to the city of Jerusalem and there await the Comforter who would be an everlasting Guide to them (John 16:13; Acts 1:4, 5).

Divine counsel is available to every Christian today. Industrial enterprises pay great sums of money for information which will further their business. People who can afford it spend fabulous amounts of cash for the services of the psychiatrist or the marriage counselor. But Jesus Christ, the resurrected Redeemer, offers the directions of a loving Heavenly

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An Honest Look At ALCOHOLISM

The other day a General in the Salvation Army told me that there are more than 6,000,000 alcoholics in our nation. Yes, in this wonderful country of America there are more than 6,000,000 people who are addicted to alcohol, and I dare say that not one of them took the first drink with the ultimate intention of ever being a wretched drunkard. When you take your first drink your possibility of becoming a drunkard is 100% greater. On the other hand, if you never take the first drink you will never have to worry about being a drunkard. As you can readily see, I am strongly opposed to even moderate drinking. Your life and soul are too valuable to take a chance on ruining because of the unmerciful alcohol.

You have driven down the highway many times and seen the sign with a precious young lady holding a glass of alcoholic beverage, saying how wonderful it is, but have you ever seen one such a sign with a wretched man in rags, lying in a drunken stupor, a mother weeping, and the children crying because of hunger and fright? Certainly not, but that is what you will find if you open your eyes and look around.

One day I was called to the home of a mother who had just come home from the hospital with her twelfth child. As I entered the humble home I saw the new born baby lying in an old dresser drawer sleeping and the mother sitting in a rocking chair, her countenance filled with despair. Her husband had been on a drunk since the baby was born and came staggering in while I was there. My heart was crushed as I listened to that mother tell her story and I

left that home with more of a hatred for alcohol than ever before.

Look and see for yourself what alcohol actually is doing! It does not produce strength, health, happiness or life, but it does produce weakness, sickness, sorrow and death. It does not create happy homes of perfect love and harmony, but it does ruin the home as it binds itself to a father, steals away his love for his family and consumes the money which they so desperately need for food, clothing and shelter.

Alcohol robs man of many privileges and blessings in life. For instance, driving an automobile is a privilege which alcohol alone has robbed from more people than all other factors put together. According to Dr. C. N. Hostetter there have been more people killed in automobile accidents in the past fifty years than in the eight wars from the Revolution to the Korean. Statistics prove that ninety five per cent of these deaths were due to drunkenness or lawlessness. Thus man not only deprives himself of this privilege, but at the same time robs others of life entirely. Alcohol does not bring safety and hope, but rather terror and despair.

In the book "Science Speaks to Young Men", George Thomason tells us that it has been scientifically proven that "Alcohol interferes with heart action, injures the heart muscle and injures the kidneys." "With heart disease, arterial disease, and kidney disease working such havoc in America today it certainly behooves all of us to abstain from alcohol."

The records of 2,000,000 life insurance policies taken from forty-two American companies were reviewed by Dr. Eugene Lyman Fiske and it was found that the life expectancy of drunks was from 10 to 12 years shorter than that of abstainees.

Mr. Thomason further states

that "Alcohol is not a stimulant as commonly supposed, but it is a depressant or one of the most harmful of the narcotics. No matter how much is taken or in what form, alcohol always acts as a depressant upon the central nervous system." As being a depressant it deadens the nervous system and slows up one's reactions. Typists have been tested and it has been found that in every case their speed is decreased and errors increased when under the influence of even small amounts of alcohol. As alcohol acts on the motor nerves it paralyzes part of the body and as a result the drunk man can't walk straight. It may paralyze him so that he can't walk at all, or it may even kill him.

"Alcohol covers the land with

(Continued on page 9)

Internal Revenue Service Identification Number for GOD'S MISSIONARY CHURCH, a Pennsylvania Non-Profit Corporation, is as follows: 236296855

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From the Desk of our General Superintendent

The Search for Faith

by Rev. Geo. I Straub

When the Son of Man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth? (Luke. 18:8).

At the close of the parable of the unjust judge and the indefatigable widow, Christ immediately confronts the hearer with this solemn question, when the Son of Man cometh will He find faith on the earth?

The answer to this question is found in St. Luke's Gospel (chap. 17:26-27) And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it also be in the days of the Son of Man.

We would do well to turn to the Genesis account and review world and church conditions during the days of Noah. The earth was corrupt before God and the earth was filled with violence. In addition to this, every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts were evil continually. They had degenerated to such a low level until only eight righteous people could be found. The Bible further states, "They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day Noah entered into the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all."

They married, divorced, swapped wives, practiced free-lovism and trial marriages. They gave a deaf ear to the truth and rejected the testimony of Noah until the day of the flood. God has said, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man," indicating that in the days of Noah the voice and pleadings of His Spirit were resisted. So shall it be in the day of the coming of the Son of Man. Apart from Noah and his small family there was no true faith on the

earth when the flood came.

The cardinal sin of Noah's day was universal unbelief. This same sin said Jesus will again prevail at the time of His second coming.

Saint Paul when writing relative to the marks of the last days penned these words, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, and unholy.

Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

The command, "From such turn away" is quite clear, as the Apostle well knew the only way to safeguard ourselves against this awful catalog of sins is to separate ourselves from those who practice these things.

Prior to Christ's return, crime, sin, and lust will become unmanageable, with sins of every kind abounding.

Some weeks ago at the request of the Pennsylvania State Police, I attended a Police seminar held for the interest of the Clergy. For most of us this will be a day long to be remembered, as the State Police gave us an overall picture of the tremendous problems they are having with lawlessness, crime, and criminals. Their lectures and messages were in perfect harmony with St. Paul's Epistle to Timothy, "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse."

How can it be otherwise when so-called Bishops and a hired Clergy lock arms with the world, make sport and light of old time religion.

Recently a high ranking Clergyman wrote an article for Look Magazine, "In Search For God." If there is a God where is He? In addition to this, long columns appears in our leading news papers, "God is Dead".

With the Bible out of our school rooms and skeptics making a joke out of the Virgin Birth of Christ, what more can be expected?

In a recent edition of the Reader's Digest an article appeared, "Will Man Direct His Own Evolution"? The article dealt with artificial insemination which already is being practiced. This article is directed at the very heart and foundation of the Christian faith. The article further states with the knowledge acquired through medical science it is now possible for a virgin to bring forth a child through the means of artificial insemination. Thus informing there is no mystery to the birth of Christ. Artificial insemination is not a myth nor a fable, it is now being practiced and taught in schools of learning. What is in the background of all of this, nothing else, but the master mind of Satan.

Teaching such as this can destroy faith in God's Word, and pave the way for atheism and infidelity.

Humanity has always been a failure, every dispensation winding up with tremendous calamities.

One can well see why Satan strikes at man's faith after reading the great faith chapter (Heb. 11) Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the

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Subscription price: \$1.00 per year in advance, in the United States. For foreign countries, add 50 cents for postage.

Remittance and subscriptions should be sent to Eva Bailey, Centre Hall, Pa.

God's Missionary Standard

Official organ of God's Missionary Church, Inc.

"A Messenger of Full Salvation"

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice at Penns Creek, Pennsylvania Published monthly by God's Missionary Church, and mailed at Penns Creek, Pennsylvania.

All items for publication must be in the editor's office not later than the first of each month, so as to be eligible for publication in the following month's edition.

All items for publication should be sent directly to the editor. We advise that all articles be typewritten, double spaced, and typed on standard typewriter paper.

We are strictly "WESLEYAN" in doctrine and it is our aim to uphold the teaching of the infallible Word of God.

The Forgotten Cross

By W. T. Purkiser

In an essay awarded the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge, C. Calvin Herriott quotes part of a message to Christians in the French Communist paper, "Poix et Liberte." It has some interesting comparisons between the attitudes of Christians and of Communists:

"The gospel is a much more powerful weapon for the renewal of society than is our Marxist philosophy. All the same, it is we who will finally beat you. We are only a handful, and you Christians are numbered by the million. But if you remember the story of Gideon and his three hundred companions, you will understand why I am right.

"We Communists do not play with words. We are realists, and seeing that we are determined to achieve our object, we know how to obtain the means. Of our salaries and wages we keep only what is strictly necessary; and we give the rest for propaganda purposes. To this propaganda we also consecrate all our free time and part of our holidays.

"You, however, give only a little time and hardly any money for the spreading of the gospel of Christ. How can anyone believe in the supreme value of this gospel if you do not practice it, if you do not spread it, and if you sacrifice neither time nor money for it?

"Believe me, it is we who will win, for we believe in our Communist message and we are ready to sacrifice everything, even our life, in order that social justice shall triumph. But you people are afraid to soil your hands."

My purpose in quoting this statement is not for a moment to subscribe to its prediction of ultimate victory for international communism. Such a prophecy reckons without the most important factor of all, the power of God and His sovereign control of human history. It is rather to point up the stark contrast in attitudes between the dedicated Communist and the average church member.

The gospel is a much more powerful weapon for the renewal of society than is the Marxist philosophy, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one who be-

lieves. The problems Christianity faces in its life-and-death struggle with evil do not concern its message or the faith on which it rests. Our weakness is with ourselves: our softness, our sophistication, our reluctance to sacrifice.

And this despite the fact that the supreme symbol of our holy faith is the cross. True, we readily accept the message of the Cross as the hope of our redemption. We look to it as the supreme evidence of the love of God. We see in it and the Christ who hung upon it the basis of forgiveness and cleansing from sin. But we leave it standing, "on a hill far away," or at best atop our churches, or worn on the lapels of our coats.

What we willingly forget is that the cross has a place in our own lives. It was never meant that Jesus should bear the cross alone. True, He alone could bear away the sin of the world. He alone could atone for human iniquity. He alone could provide reconciliation to God through the Blood of His cross. But

**There's a cross for ev'ry one,
And there's a cross for me.**

This is the cross of discipleship, of self-identification with Christ and His followers. "Whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27).

It is the cross of death to sin, of sanctification by Christ and His Spirit. "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" (Romans 6:6).

And it is the cross of dedication to the purposes of God in this world, of service for Christ and those for whom He died. "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Alas, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Luke 16:8). The Communists know that they cannot succeed apart from a kind of dedication that demands the giving freely of money, strength, and time. They are willing to devote their incomes except for a bare subsistence and "consecrate all our free time and part of our

holidays" for the sake of spreading their ideology. Can we love our Master less than the Communists love Marx?

Let us hear it again this holy season: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

Keep your lamp burning and let God keep it where he will.

A philosopher sees less on his tip-toes than a Christian on his knees.
Pilgrim Holiness Advocate

"If you are dissatisfied with your lot in life, erect a service station on it."

The Free Methodist

Obituary

Mrs. Susan M. Musser of Spring Mills, Pa. R. D. 2, the oldest member of the Zerby, God's Missionary Church, was suddenly called home to be with her Lord, Dec. 4, 1965. She was hit by a small truck, as she was crossing the road to enter the Rebersburg, God's Missionary Church. It is believed that her death occurred immediately following the impact. It was her desire to attend another Revival Meeting Service, being conducted at the time in that Church. But instead her Lord and Master called her home.

Susan M. Musser was born in Centre County, Pa., Feb. 23, 1876. She lived an active life and was a regular attendant of the Church services, although she was 89 years of age.

Those who had a part in the early days of the Zerby, God's Missionary Church will recall the deeds of kindness and labors of love, that Sister Musser did for the Church, and those who gave themselves for the interest of the Lord. The loss to the Church is Heaven's gain, when the Redeemed and faithful are called home, to be forever with the Lord.

The Funeral Service was held in the Zerby Church, with the following ministers participating: Rev. Truman G. Wise, Rev. C. William Rachau, both of whom were former pastors, and Allen C. Russell the present pastor.

—Allen C. Russell

Good Intentions Are Not Sufficient

I will tell you a story of Jonathan Brown
The wealthiest man in his home town
He had lands, he had houses, and factories and stock,
Gold, gilt-edged investments, as solid as rocks.
"Everything that I have," he so frequently said,
"Shall belong to the Lord just as soon as I'm dead."
So he made out his will with particular care,
A few hundred here, and a few thousand there
For the little home church in the village close by
He planned a new building, with a spire great and high,
And chimes to be heard for miles upon miles
And deep crimson carpet all down its long isles
For His pastor, a new home, with rooms, large and nice;
For the village library, a generous slice.
And then he remembered a Christian college,
Where young folks were taught the essentials of knowledge
The promising son of his very best friend
To prepare for the ministry he planned to send,
He'd pay for his board and room and tuition,
Expecting the lad to fulfill a great mission.
His pastor, in old shoes and shabbiest raiment
Suggested the Lord might enjoy a down payment
But his plea could not old Jonathan sway,
Who said it wasn't smart to do business that way
I'd end in the poorhouse for certain," he said,
If I'd give my money before I am dead"
He grumbled because the good preacher'd been rash.
And sat down again to refigure his cash.
Now Satan stood by with a devilish grin,
Saw all that old Jonathan had to put in;
"Ahem," said the devil, concealing a smile,
"I'll see that the old fellow lives a long while."

So Satan chased off every menacing germ
And sprayed with heliseptic each threatening worm.
Until not a disease could go near Brother Brown,
And his excellent health was the talk of the town
He survived epidemics of flue and of measles,
Of smallpox, diphtheris, Bavarian teasles,
He escaped the distress of acute 'pendicitis,
He couldn't have so much as a slight tonsilitis.

At sixty he was still hearty and hale,
At seventy he hadn't started to fail,
At eighty his step was still youthful and spry.
At ninety his niece said, "Why doesn't he die?"
But one day after he was a hundred and two
And Satan wasn't looking, a germ wiggled through
And laid Brother Jonathan low in the grave,
And his relatives gathered in solemn conclave.

Lawyer Jones read the will in a voice deep and round,
But there was not a litigee that could be found.
The little home church he had loved in his youth,
Had long since closed its doors and ceased spreading the truth
His pastor had died poor a long time before
And the village library existed no more.
The Christian college, they found when they wrote,
Was long ago sold on account of a note.

And the boy he had planned to send off to school
Had grown up in ignorance, almost a fool,
And had seven sons, each worse than the rest
And eleven grandchildren, the whole tribe a pest.
So his ungodly relatives each took a slice,
And His ungodly lawyers forgot and paid themselves twice,
And there wasn't a friend and there wasn't a mourner,
Not even the paper boy down at the corner.

And Satan still smiled, turned to tasks fresh and new,
Muttered, "Brother, let this be a lesson to you,"
Wagged his fingers and spat as the casket went down.
Thus ended the story of Jonathan Brown.

—Selected-God's Revivalist
August 16, 1962

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The Design of Trials

A blacksmith, about eight years after he had given his heart to God, was approached by an intelligent unbeliever with the question: "Why is it you have so much trouble? I have been watching you. Since you joined the church and began to 'walk square,' and seem to love everybody, you have twice as many trials and accidents as you had before. I thought that when a man gave himself to God his troubles were over. Isn't that what the parson tell us?"

With a thoughtful but glowing face, the blacksmith replied, "Do you see this piece of steel? It is for the springs of a carriage. But it needs to be tempered. In order to do this, I heat it red-hot, and then cool it in water. If I find it will take a 'temper,' I heat it again; then I hammer it, and bend it, and shape it, so it will be suitable for the carriage. Often I find the steel too brittle, and it cannot be used. If so, I throw it on the scrap pile. Those scraps are worth less than one cent a pound; but this carriage spring is valuable."

He paused, and his listener nodded. The blacksmith continued, "God saves us for something more than to have a good time. That's the way I see it. We have the good time all right, for the smile of God means heaven. But He wants us for service, just as I want this piece of steel. And He puts the 'temper' of God in us by testings and trials."

"Ever since I saw this I have been saying to him, 'Test me in any way you choose, Lord, only don't throw me on the scrap pile.'"

—The Moody Bible Institute

Can't and Can

Soon after I started work as a boy in a foundry I had an experience I never shall forget. The molder to whom I was apprenticed sent me to find some C-Clamps, and I came back to him and told him I could not find them. Pointing to a keg, he said: "Do you see that keg over there?" I said I did. "Well" he said, "just you bring it over here and sit on it until I have time to go and find them." I needed no further persuasion, but went out and looked and looked until I found the C-clamps.

You and I have heard it said that the difference between can't and

'He Is Not Here'

"He is not here"—what wonderful words

When spoken at Jesus' grave;
Marvelous proof of a risen Lord,
One who is mighty to save!

"He is not here"—what terrible words

When spoken of human heart;
Empty and barren and hopeless,
that life

Where Jesus has no part.
"He is not here"—in many hearts,
Though He died and rose 'tis true.

If you welcome Him now, you may surely know

That He died and rose for you.
"He is not here"—is that true of your heart?

Have you crowded out God's dear Son?
Make room for Him now — the King of Kings,
'Tis Jesus — the Chosen One.
—Irene Hammer

can is a little extra effort. Too many of us give up too soon. I had a chance once of improving on the experience of my boyhood. Some of my men were gathering vermiculite from an open site on a mountain. The man in charge called me on long-distance telephone and said: "There is no more vermiculite on the surface. We shall have to go down underneath the surface if we want more."

I had no experience of deep mining, and was not going to get myself into trouble with something I did not understand. And I told my man so, adding that if he would go back and look he would find all the vermiculite he needed without going underground for it. He declared there was none, so I told him my early experience. We are still digging vermiculite from the surface of that mountain, and we have not had to sink a shaft to get it!

Usually when we say, "I can't," we really mean, "I don't want to." Man is not omnipotent by a long way, but most of us can do more than we think we can do, if only we put our hearts into it. Difficulties either defeat us or they develop us—and I am all for development! Business has never been easy going in my experience, and it is not right now; but I believe that no man is beaten until he thinks he is. If we say, "I

can't," we might as well quit; but if we say, "I can," then we shall be surprised how the obstacles disappear and what seemed impossible is achieved.

Of course there are occasions in life when we have to admit truthfully, "I can't." That is the case when we consider the battle we are to wage against self and sin. There is no hope of winning through unaided. But even then, "I can't" may be changed to "I can" if we accept the Lord Jesus Christ. That was the experience of Paul, who said: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

—R. G. Le Tourneau, in Now.

How to Keep Your Church Small

Of course the following suggestions would not be applicable to you, but perhaps you know of someone whom they do fit. Suppose you think them over.

1. Don't make the mistake of being regular in attendance. The preacher may take you for granted.

2. Never put your tithe in the local church. The church might get too much money, and it would leave you nothing to "scatter abroad."

3. Never compliment your pastor. He might become vain and look for a larger church.

4. Never speak well of your pastor to others. This is a sign of weakness. Let him speak for himself.

5. Never take your pastor's messages seriously. You pay him, don't you? Then why let him tell you what to do?

6. Don't overpay your pastor. It is good for his faith to be just a little underpaid. Besides, if you give him too much, he probably would not know what to do with it.

7. Never be in favor of your pastor's suggestions. This will keep him from getting over confident.

8. Always talk a lot, about everything you know, of everyone you know, to everyone you see. This is very impressive.

9. Always insist on having your way. Since you are always right, this is the only safe thing to do.

10. Never subscribe to church periodicals. They contain facts And you can speak so much more freely

(Continued on page 12)

GUEST EDITORIAL VOICE

Indestructible Easter

During the furious and momentous battle of Waterloo, one point was taken and retaken three times. Both Napoleon and Wellington knew the strategic value of that particular point. The resurrection and all it implies is likewise a vital and important battle ground in the current conflict. Recently the writer heard a young theologian state, "if Christ was not raised from the dead I don't know what would have happened, but God would have done something." Nothing could have been farther from the truth. "If Christ be not raised then is our faith vain." The resurrection of Christ is all important, therefore God has given us promise of a resurrection.

"H o p e-reviving, joy-instilling, death-conquering Easter! No other day in the Christian calendar floods the souls of men with such hope and warm rays of cheering faith." From the open sepulchre; outside Jerusalem to the South Sea Islands; from the mountains capped with perpetual snows; to the rim of the canyon where thousands have gathered to greet the first banners of the day; from behind the Iron Curtain and the Bamboo Curtain to the open skies of freedom; faithful disciples and firm believers in Jesus Christ greet one another with happy Hallelujahs and shouts of "He is Risen," or songs of joy reaffirming the timeless theme, "He lives, Christ Jesus lives today. You ask me how I know He lives, He lives within my heart." Glorious promise and prospect.

The promise of a resurrection is based upon the unimpeachable character of God, the impregnable rock of His unfailing word, and the imutability of His timeless purpose. The degeneration of man's body necessitates such a promise. Mankind's melancholy march to the grave without such a promise would cast a suicidal gloom over his life. But the promise of eternal life maintains man's sanity, and gives hope for the future. The bride of a few months needs such hope as she kisses the cold lips of her bridegroom; parents receiving the sad and heavy words, "We

regret to inform you," need this hope; the husband or wife stroking the hand of a companion of many years needs this hope as they watch their loved one fail and fade beneath their touch. This hope alone sustains us as the clouds fall, and our little world crumbles. Thank God for the promise "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth on me though he were dead yet shall he live." No promise in the word of God is underscored more than this.

The resurrection demonstrated the mighty power of God in a greater and different way from creation. God spake and mountains shouldered their rugged way toward the clouds, rivers began to flow; the earth was carpeted with green and tacked down with daffodils and daisies; the furnace of the sun was kindled while faithful steeds of light began to pull this glorious fire ball across the sky on its appointed rounds. This is power indeed.

The power demonstrated Easter morning was greater. It defeated devil power. The tomb became a battlefield. Conscripts from the civil, military, ecclesiastical and Satanic power were there. Diabolos had mustered the last demon, conscripted the least of his miserable subjects from his doomed empire, to do fateful battle. But to no avail.

Death could not hold its prey,
Jesus my Saviour,
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord.
Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
Hallelujah! Christ arose.

But this power is not demonstrated only when the trumpet sounds and the dead are raised. Its dynamic is demonstrated daily in the saving, keeping, sanctifying power of God. This is power to become "sons of God." This is power to be all God wants us to be. Notwithstanding the twentieth century with T.V., communism, ecumenicism, compromise, worldliness, lukewarmness, general apathy, ris-

ing crime, and plunging morals, here is power to be victorious. It is at the disposal of our faith and obedience.

It is this message the church needs to recover. Failure and frustration are expected by church leaders. "We face nothing but total despair" is their cry. NONSENSE. The early church in the power of the Spirit knew nothing of this dirge of despair, and they faced far greater odds than we. In Acts the church is not in the graveyard lamenting for her lot, but in the market place witnessing to a risen Christ. Their testimony sparkled with "joy," "great joy," "fulness of joy." They joyed and rejoiced in God. They terrorized tyrants through victorious triumphant living and dying. They took joyfully the spoiling of their goods, and rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for Christ's sake. The power to so live or die was not just a sanctuary religion. It shouted in the dungeon, sang in the prison, exulted at the stake, and worshipped victoriously in the dark.

This power is for our day and our problems. The Holy Spirit is our source of dynamic for conquest. This is the same spirit that "raised our Lord Jesus from the dead." It is in the power of this same Holy Spirit that we can conquer atheistic communism, smoldering socialism, subtle ecumenicism, or narrow ecclesiasticism.

The child of God is under subtle pressures. He must not be enamoured of this world, but resist it in "the power of his might." This world is not the beginning of things, nor the center of things, neither is it the end of things. The Christian's body may rest here and be eaten by skin worms, but his affections must be on things above. Our scientific age scoffs at immortality, and our politicians promise us the millennium here and now. But God's children are immortal and must not make this world the center of their interests. "The world passeth away, and the lusts thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

Dr. Von Braun is one space age scientist that knows this. Listen to his testimony, "Science does not destroy the fact of God and immortality, but rather establish it. We know that nothing is destroyed. The smallest particle of matter

(Continued on page 10)

A PAGE FOR YOUTH

A Man and His Watch

There was a Penn. Railroad engineer who retired on a pension after forty-eight years of service. "I carried one watch for more than twenty-six years," he said, "and it has always kept the right time. A good engineer must have a good watch; it does the most important part of his work."

It is said of this engineer that he has been an exceptionally sober, orderly, steady-going man, whose health has always been good and his record always clean. But does not this go without saying, when we know that his watch always kept the right time?

Watch-makers say that a watch partakes of the traits of the one who carries it. If the owner is even-tempered and reliable, and never "flies off the handle," his watch behaves itself in the proper manner. If the owner is a genius with an erratic, excitable, uncertain temperament, the watch cuts up all sorts of pranks, and is too fast or too slow or else will not run at all.

Watch-repairers look with considerable suspicion on men whose watches always need regulating. The man whose watch is always right "just to the tick" is pretty sure to be one who keeps regular hours, indulges in no excesses, conducts everything in a methodical manner, does good work, and enjoys good health.

The watch which works only by fits and starts is never to be trusted, nor is the man who does his work in the same way ever capable of the highest achievement possible to his station. Also with men as with watches, the test lies in being right and reliable all the time.

— Exchange.

I Followed A Smile

Dr. W. L. Stidger professor at Boston University School of Theology, died last August. Author of fifty-three books, he pioneered the first course in radio preaching at any theological school. In **Sermon Stories of Faith and Hope** (Abingdon-Cokesbury), he tells this incident:

One day, as an experiment, I followed a smile. I saw a newsboy smile at a man to whom he sold a

paper. I followed that man, saw him infect ten people in one square. He got on a bus and smiled at the conductor. The conductor infected everyone in the bus. I followed that businessman to his office. He spread the contagion of the smile to six people standing waiting for an elevator. He had infected ten more people before we reached his floor. He infected the receptionist at the information desk, who continued to spread the infection. Later I told the businessman what had happened when he caught that smile from the newsboy, and we had a good laugh over the adventure. I told the story to five hundred men at a Rotary Club luncheon—and started the contagion of smiles on a wider round. Try it.

—Quote.

—♦♦♦—

Man Worth \$31.04

Northwestern University chemists announce that the basic chemical element in the human body which used to be worth ninety-eight cents on the open market are now quoted at \$31.04. This does not mean that man has become a more valuable creature. It is just inflation. —Selected.

—♦♦♦—

Confusion In Our Youth

Said two young ladies in a wondering state.

"I'm a bit confused about a few things of late.

Why the great change in those we esteemed high?

Our confidence, it seems almost to die.

Why, they said to me but a few years ago.

For a Christian to be and to win a lost soul.

You must shun the world and the things they do.

A stand you must take with the Holiness few.

The many aren't right, when the Bible says 'No'

The right way is right if alone you must go.

There are some things that a christian can't do,

If to God and our church, we would be true.

Why, Father said, when teaching us children the way,

Yes! I can still remember when we were children at play.

Now honey, he'd say, This thing isn't so bad,

But it could lead to wrong, if it we had.

So we took the advice and tried our best to do.

We wanted, of course, to be among God's chosen few.

For examples he'd give us ladies to watch with years the more.

To pattern our life while treading earthly shores.

But now when I look to these dear ladies the same.

Well, all has changed, except their name.

The world has somehow crept in on them and their looks.

I wonder if God will change the standard in His Book?

Were they wrong when to us they said,

Dear little girls shun these things, if by Christ you'll be led.

Or have they learned better than those days of yore!

My mind is confused as I think this all o're."

Said the other young lady, with a heart that was swayed,

"I'm sure Dad was right when he taught us the way

Oh the memories of how Dad cried and prayed.

That we, his dear children, would surely be saved.

Oh my dear sister, I am convinced God is the same.

Though preacher, his wife, or layman may have changed.

I know, sister, it's hard to look over the failures of those

we had confidence in.

Who's life we admired and their influence once led us from sin.

Certainly as the preacher has said 'We're in the last days'.

We must let Christ be our perfect example and follow his ways.

We cant afford to miss heaven and its treasures so rare.

Oh my dear sister, by the grace of God I expect to be there."

So the two young ladies with love for the Lord

Decided to pray, till the confusion was no more.

Oh God they said as they knelt on the floor.

With hearts that were breaking for a confidence tore.

"Help us dear Father to never let down and disgrace

The younger than us, whose life we must face.

(Continued on page 10)

An Honest Look At ALCOHOLISM

(Continued from page 2)

idleness and poverty, disease, and crime; it fills our jails, supplies our alms houses, and furnishes subjects for our asylums; it engenders controversies, fosters quarrels, and cherishes riots; as it crowds the penitentiaries, and furnishes the victims for the scaffold; it is the lifeblood of the gambler and the food of the counterfeiter.

It poisons felicity, kills peace, ruins morals, blights confidence, slays reputations and wipes out national honor; then curses the world, and laughs at the ruin it has inflicted upon the human race." (Gunn's Family Physician)

In spite of all the potential evil of alcohol, people will still take a chance on it. The number of social drinkers in the United States is rapidly increasing. Young people think themselves great if they drink as father, mother, or other great people. They drink to get the kick out of it or because they think that is the only really true way to be lively and free without a care in the world. Don't be deceived my friend, alcohol is a cheater and Solomon said, "whoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

The person under the influence of alcohol does seem to be lively and free, but the truth is that he "takes off the brakes," "throws his personality into freewheeling" and thus "loses his sense of responsibility and self control." While in this condition he will do things he never thought he would do. Crime and alcohol have always been associated and many a man behind bars today would not be there if he had never taken his first drink of alcohol.

Don't be foolish as the proverbial Ostrich who sticks his head in sand when he is in danger and take a coward's refuge in a keg of alcohol. Be a man and stand up and face your troubles and trials. God will help you through if you give him a chance. The scripture tells us that the man who exercises self control is greater than the general who takes a city.

According to Dr. Hostetter, "In one of the recent years an average of sixty five dollars per person or a total of fifteen billion dollars was spent for liquor in the United

States." In 1952 the people of the U.S. spent 9 times as much on alcohol as was contributed to the church and 5 times as much as was given to religious and welfare organizations. If all of this money would have been put with that which was given for good purposes (toward the work of the church and education of our youth) you can readily see with me that this wonderful land of America would be far better than it is today.

"Since the negative results of alcohol consumption far outweigh any positive values that are claimed for it, it is time for every one in America to cry out against it. Mutilated bodies, perverted minds, impoverished spirits, wrecked homes and squandered billions are too high a price to pay for non-productive momentary pleasure." (The Christian Century)

Touch the goblet no more!
It will make thy heart sore
To its very core!
Its perfume is the breath
Of the Angel of Death,
And the light that within it lies
Is the flash of his evil eyes.
Beware! Oh, beware!
For sickness, sorrow, and care
All are there!

Longfellow, The Golden Legend
—The Editor

The Search for Faith

(Continued from page 3)

mouths of lions.

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. (Heb. 11:33-34).

It was the strong fervent faith of the Ancient Worthies that enabled them to stand like monuments when the storms of adversity raged.

Faith is a dependence on the veracity of another; firm belief or trust in a person, thing, doctrine, or statement; and one is said to keep faith when he performs a promise made to another.

Saving faith is the acceptance by the intellect, affection and will of God's favour extended to man by Christ.

Historical faith is inadequate to produce revivals and deliver souls from the cesspools of sin. To many, Christ is only a historical Saviour. Little or no opposition is

encountered when teaching or preaching historical faith. The battle begins when Christ is preached as the true Son of God, and one who can liberate those whom Satan has bound with sin's strong fetters.

Another reason why Satan seeks to destroy the Christian's faith is set forth in the Epistle of John (1 John 5:4) For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Without faith it is impossible to please God, therefore he that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Defeat begins when faith wavers and weakens. In the case of Adam and Eve, the federal head of the human family, their break with God came when Satan got them off the track. Listen to the approach the devil made, "Hath God said". This is all it took to set things in motion and to inject doubts into the mind and undermine faith.

The same tactics used in Eden are still being used in these days. It is not a light thing to tamper with God's Word and question the soundness thereof.

Where this is practiced defeat begins. Once God fails to bless His people, or hearken unto their prayers there is always a cause and that cause is with man.

Isaiah makes this very clear by saying, "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that he will not hear. (Isa. 59:2).

What the prophet is actually saying is this, God does not, will not, and cannot bless over sin.

This is so beautifully illustrated when Joshua led his army against the city Ai. Up until this time he had glorious victory with some old-fashioned shouts in the camp. There wasn't a king in the land that could withstand him until the battle at Ai.

The scene changed here and his soldiers began to fall, flee, and run from the battle. Shouts ceased, fear gripped hearts and questions were raised as to why they were driven back. To Joshua this was not a light thing to see the ungodly point the finger of scorn at his people, church, and God.

Immediately Joshua went to prayer and began to inquire into

what was in the back-ground of all this confusion. God did for Joshua what he does for every honest hearted seeker. He revealed the very thing that stalemated the battle and gave the enemy an occasion to criticize and belittle the cause of God.

There was a lull in the battle until Achan was dealt with and the accursed thing put out of the way. However it took this to bring back the blessing of God upon the camp.

In the text Christ was not dealing so much with the fact of His second coming as he was with the spiritual condition of the Church. Will I find faith on the earth when I come again?

The Joys of Easter

(Continued from page 1)

Father free of charge. He is the Counselor. Why not take your ease to Him?

Then there was the great joy of anticipation concerning the resurrection of their own bodies. Jesus had said, "Because I live, ye shall live also."—John 14:19. Again, He had said, "Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."—John 11:26. His resurrection was an immutable guarantee that these promises would be fulfilled. This element of joy must have rushed in upon the disciples' souls with a great undercurrent of emotion.

The redemption of the human body is not a new doctrine. It was in the thoughts of godly patriarchs of old. Job said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me."—Job 19:25-27. Here we have the full and glorious doctrine of the resurrection, and the basis upon which it stands—namely, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Job uttered these memorable words even before the law of Moses was given.

The resurrection is the Christian's hope today. Paul said, "We...groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body."—Rom. 8:23. Again, Paul comments on the resurrection: "We shall all be

changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible...For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality...then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O grave, where is thy victory?"—I Cor. 15:51-55.

But, really, we cannot separate these joys of Easter into different categories. They all come in one glorious unified force. They constitute one big bundle of joy and hope, related and interrelated, within the believer's heart. The Christian is entitled to all the joys of Easter because he has found Christ.

Christ's resurrection was a seal, or a guarantee, that these joys now exist provisionally everywhere for all who shall avail themselves of them by believing on His name. However, there is another seal, or attestation, stamped upon the believer's heart. This not only fills him with the fullness of these joys, but literally gives him a pledge that he shall share in the final resurrection of the just. That seal is the experience of entire sanctification which the believer enters into as a second definite work of grace.

Paul states emphatically, in Rom. 8:11, that inward holiness is necessary for resurrection's morning, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." The writer to the Hebrews emphasizes the same thing, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."—Heb. 12:14. John, the apocalyptic writer, reiterates it in Rev. 20:6, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

More than nineteen hundred Easters have been celebrated since that day on which Christ rose from the dead. How many more Easters will the world experience before Christ comes again? Who can tell—perhaps this will be the last one. But whether it is or not,

we know that the resurrected Christ is even now at the right hand of the Father (I Pet. 3:22) to bless all who come unto Him (Heb. 7:24, 25) and give them the joys of Easter.

Indestructible Easter

(Continued from page 7)

is not lost in remotest space. We can track and tell where they are. If this is so concerning material of questionable value, how much more must it be true of an immortal spirit."

Jesus Christ unites the destiny of men with His own destiny. First, He takes our life in all its severity upon Himself. Conversely He takes us up into His living and makes me His brother. He takes me into fellowship with the Father and endless life. Christ, not this world becomes the beginning, the center and culmination of my life.

God's eternal purpose in the resurrection proves that good is stronger than falsehood; and that life is stronger than death. The Christ life is imperishable, indestructible and eternal. It cannot be crushed by sorrow, buried or destroyed by death. They that hate the good, and love the false, score but temporary victories. For this cause Paul cried, "O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?"

May the testimony of Haldor Lillenas in his poem "Requiem" be ours.

"When the lengthy tale of time at last is told,
When the burning suns have faded and grown cold.
Thou my body sleeps beneath the rain swept sod,
I shall still be singing on the hills of God."

By H. E. Schmul (Editor I. H. Convention Herald)

Confusion In Our Youth

(Continued from page 8)

May we, Oh God, be an example to all

That it won't be our life that would cause young people to fall.

In closing, Dear Jesus, for those we pray

Who are nearing the end of life's short way

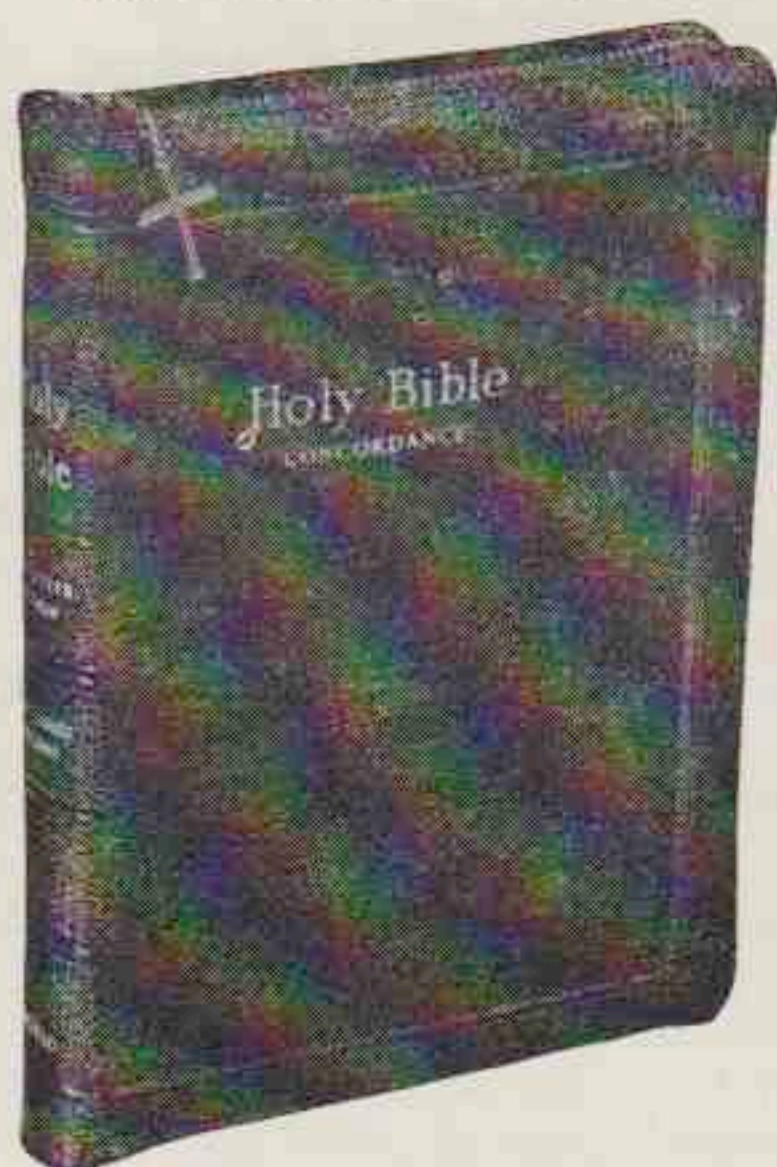
May they who have drifted, come back to the days of yore."

So that confusion in our youth, will be no more."

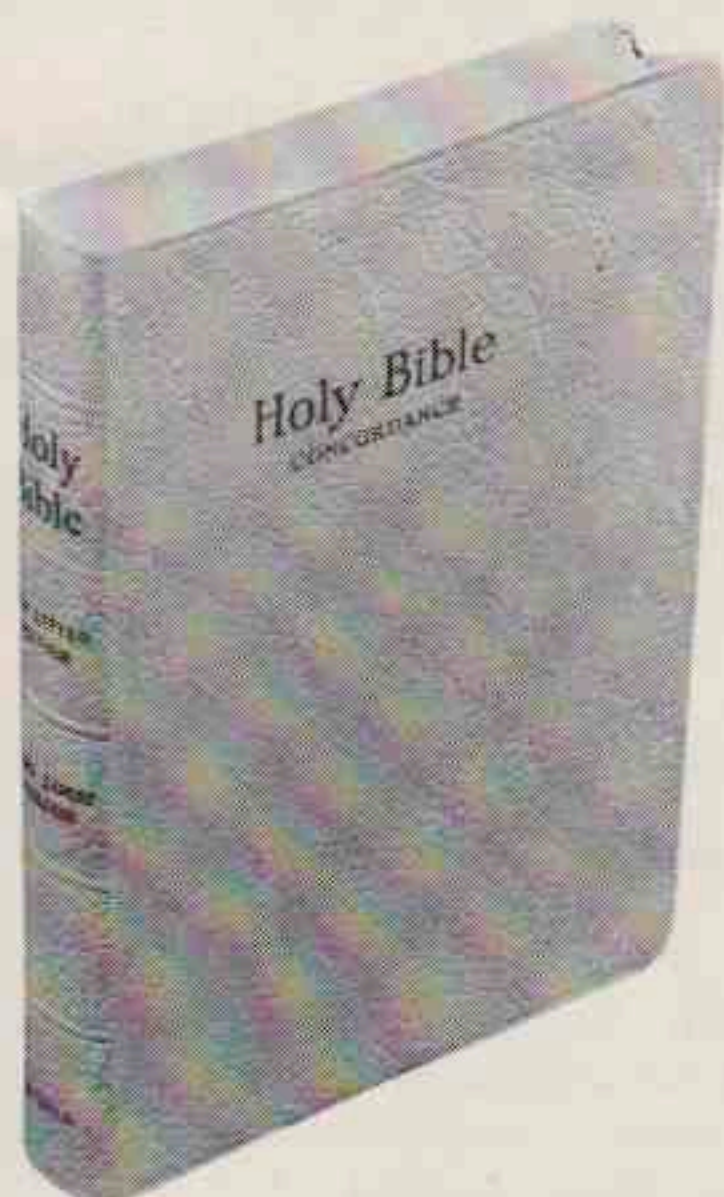
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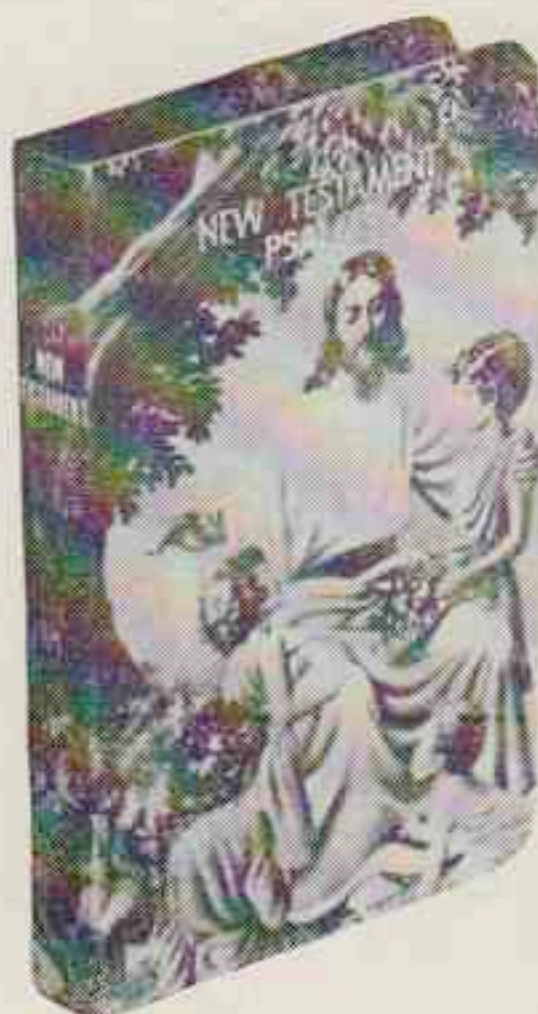
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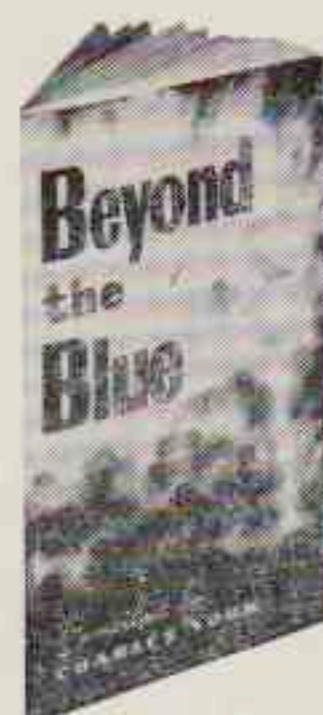
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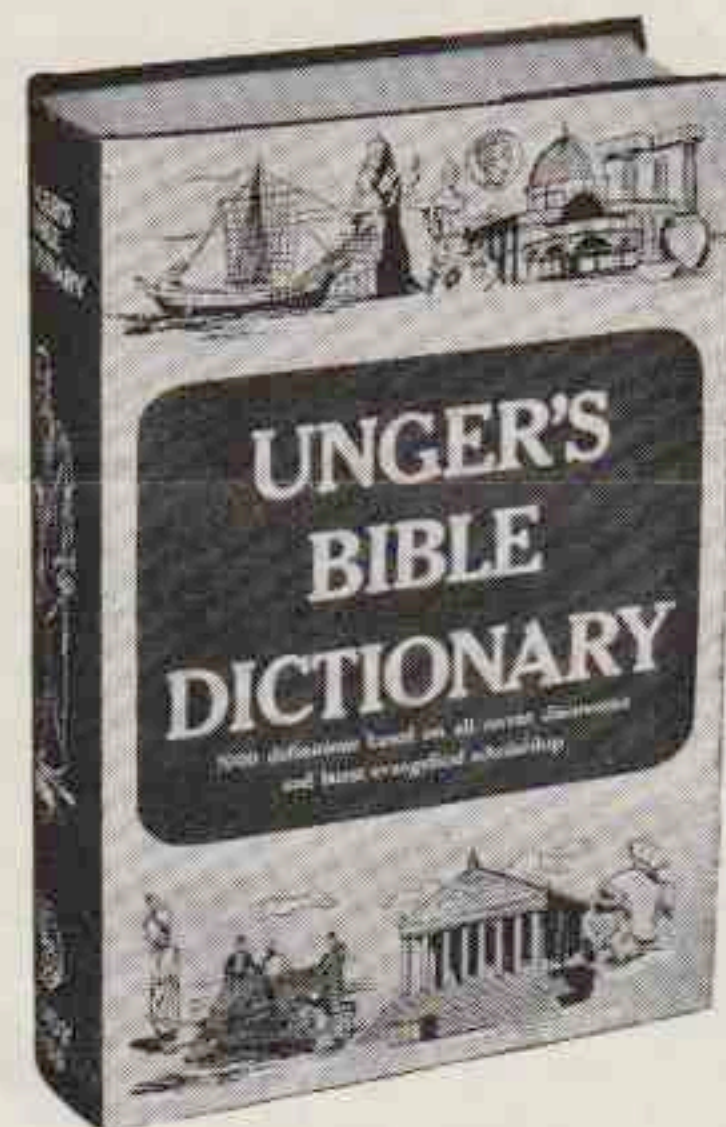
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Steps to Repentance

Rev. John F. White

(Matthew 3:2) "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." John the Baptist was the first recorded preacher of repentance in the New Testament. This new message from God was in great contrast with the messages of the Old Testament and the sacrificial system. The Word REPENT means to change one mind, therefore, the word repentance means a change of mind. It is important to know that man must have a change of heart. Conversion follows repentance, when man willingly changes his mind, God will change his heart. In order for a man to be converted he must have five major changes of ideas, therefore, there are five steps of repentance that must be taken by every man if he is to be converted. Let us consider these steps.

I. He must change his mind about sin.

The sinner loves the things of the world. He sees no harm in evil and enjoys the pleasures of the world. One must see the evil and wickedness of sin, turn from the evil way and hate sin to be converted. Therefore, a repentance of, and for sin must take place in ones life if he is to be free from sin. Until one changes his mind about sin, he will do nothing about his lost condition. When one becomes ashamed of his evil ways, fears the penalty for his wrong doings and realizes his helpless condition, he will turn to his only source of help—Christ. The word converted means to turn about, therefore, in order for one to be turned about he must have a change of mind.

II. The next step to conversion is that one must have a change of mind about HIMSELF.

Everyone feels he is good, and all he does is right. We will excuse or justify ourselves continually. After we change our mind about sin we must change our mind about ourselves, see our personal need. One can't be helped until he sees his need. Self-righteousness is one of the biggest hindrances to salvation. The feeling of being as good as everyone else has damned many souls. The comparison one must make is not with his fellow man, but how does he stand with God. We are commanded to be

Holy and perfect. When one changes his mind about himself he is on the way to conversion.

III. Step three is simple, but very important. We must have a change of mind about Christ.

Most sinners respect Christ as the son of God. They celebrate Christmas and Easter and go to church, but Christ is more than the Son of God. He is the Savior of man, the willing substitute for each sinner, the Lamb of God. We must think of Him as the personal friend of each soul. Christ is not far away, but ever near us and in us. We must accept him as the Lord of our life. When one takes God and Christ and places Him far out of reach he is without help. Christ is God, but he also became man and died to redeem fallen man.

IV. Every sinner must change his mind about the church

To many the church is nothing more than a place to go on Sunday morning. When one begins to see the church as the Bride of Christ, the earthly Arm of the Lord, in which each member is working and doing the master's will, then will the need of the church be real to him. The love of Christ causes one to love the saints, and want to fellowship with them. One changes his mind about why he attends church when he repents. We do not go to church for social reasons, political reasons, or from habit but to worship the most high God in his house.

V. The last step we must take is a change of mind about eternity.

Heaven must be real to us. Hell must be real to us. When eternity becomes a reality in our lives we will change our living. We will not just exist for today, but prepare for tomorrow. Eternal values will be fore-most in our lives.

Conclusion—

The Jewish people in John's time had to change their minds about sin, self, Christ, church and eternity. Under the old law they did not face the personal challenge they now were facing. To many, sin was something to be put up with. Christ was an imposter, the church was all form and custom, they had nothing to do with religion, the priest did everything for them, eternity was not real. Just as they had to Repent and change their minds so must man today. The mind is the gate to the heart.

Conversion is of the heart, the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin. Repentance is of the mind. We willingly without force, but with the leading of the Spirit begin to change our thinking. Until we change our minds, God cannot change our hearts. There are many fruits of repentance, man must repent willingly if God is to Save. If you are a sinner, follow these simple steps and they will lead you to conversion.

1. Change your mind about sin.
2. Change your mind about yourself.
3. Change your mind about Christ.
4. Change your mind about the Church.
5. Change your mind about eternity.

As the Holy Spirit brings conviction to your soul he will not only condemn you of your sin, but lead you to the forgiver of all sin.

How to Keep Your Church Small

(Continued from page 6)

if you don't have to bother about facts.

11. Keep the pastor guessing—about you, your support, and whether he will have your vote at conference time. He likes this little guessing game, because it makes life more interesting.

Wesleyan Methodist

—God's Revivalist, April 12, 1962

SPECIAL NOTICE

The beautiful Spring weather that we are now enjoying reminds me that Campmeeting time is almost here again. On behalf of the Penns Creek Camp and the Mt. of Blessings Camp I would remind you that payment of pledges and other donations are urgently needed. Please send your contribution for:

Penns Creek Camp

to

Rev. John F. White

P.O. Box 148

Beavertown, Pa.

Mt. of Blessings Camp

to

Rev. Kenneth E. Walter

P.O. Box 95

Allenwood, Pa.