

GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

The Official Organ of God's Missionary Church, Inc.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings . . . that publisheth salvation." Isaiah 52:7.

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The Seven P's Of Soul Winning

Rev. C. William Rachau

Text: Proverbs 11:30 *"He that winneth souls is wise."*

Soul winning is the great God given privilege of the Christian. When the Lord saved us, He saved us to get others saved. Let us never say "There's nothing for me to do." Friend get out and win others to Jesus Christ. You will never be without work, or a place to work in. I believe the possibilities for soul winning are better now than ever. . . . Let us notice seven P's in soul winning.

1. THE POSSIBILITIES OF SOUL WINNING

In St. John 4:35 we find the words of the Master when He says, "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest, behold I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are ripe already to harvest." . . . Yes, friend, the world is our vineyard. Let us go to work. What about your neighbor, relatives, children and friends as well as the neighbor across the sea?

2. THE PLAN OF SOUL WINNING

I believe there are two kinds of methods of soul winning. Mass evangelism and personal. Let us remember the saving of the three thousand following pentecost. This is a good example of mass evangelism. Thank God many are still being reached by this type of soul winning. Philip and the Eunuch is an example of personal soul winning. Philip preached Christ to him and won him to Christ and ended a perfect day by baptizing the new convert. . . . In the first chapter of St. John we find Andrew going and finding

his brother Simon and the word says "And he brought him to Jesus." Then we find Philip going after Nathaniel and inviting him to come and see Jesus and it resulted in his following him. What beautiful examples of personal soul winning.

Notice again the words of the Master "Go ye therefore and teach all nations." Acts 1:8 "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

3. The PURPOSE OF SOUL WINNING

The purpose of soul winning is to bring men and women, boys and girls to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. To save them from hell and fit them for heaven. That the lives they live here on earth may glorify God. . . . In Matt. 10:7 & 8 we find these words; "As ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Again in Acts 26:18 "To open their eyes, and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." Herein lies the purpose of soul winning.

4. THE PROVISIONS OF SOUL WINNING

In order that we may be a soul winner for the Lord we must have, first of all, a personal experience of that which we are endeavoring to lead others into. Un-

less we have Christ ourselves we cannot lead others into a saving knowledge of Him. . . . Colossians 2:10 says "Ye are complete in Him." Again we are told "Ye shall receive power after that the holy ghost is come upon you." I believe the reason there are so many failures in soul winning is that many "go," before they "tarry", and get the baptism of Holy Ghost fire.

Also we are commanded to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (Not tearing it to bits.)

I believe the person that loves the Bible and believes it wants to study it.

5. THE POWER OF SOUL WINNING

There is no doubt that we need the power of the Holy Ghost in our lives if we would win lost humanity to Christ. This power comes from the indwelling of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 24:49 tells us "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." . . . It takes power to give boldness in this day of falling away, false doctrines and higher criticism. Thank God if we humble ourselves He will exalt us.

Surely we need much to be soul winners but the greatest need is spiritual power.

6. THE PARTNERSHIP OF SOUL WINNING

Praise be to God we are not working alone at this task. In 2nd. Cor. 6:1 Paul says "We then as workers together with Him." Hallelujah! What a co-worker. What a privilege is ours. Again I notice the words of Paul in 2nd. Cor. 5:20 "We are ambassadors for

(Continued on page 4)

EDITORIAL

Easter In Three Dimensions

Rev. Joseph Hoffman

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No story has ever thrilled the hearts of men more than the story of Easter. It is truly like the good tidings of victory coming from a long and hard fought battle, when finally the enemy is subdued and conquered and the faithful soldier, battle scarred, dirty and worn comes trekking home. Amidst applause, shouts, the ringing of church bells, the screaming of fire sirens, in commemoration of the hard won victory, so is the sweet message of the resurrection. All the hope of the church lies buried in its truth.

RESURRECTION IN RETRO-SPECT

Peter gives us some light on this truth. It has to do with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many think the Christ lay bound in the tomb for all those three days. It is true that His body lay in the tomb, but beloved in those three days of divine mystery, we believe, and scripturally so, that Jesus was not there. He had a mission to perform, and He was busily engaged in doing it. Peter tells us that He went and preached to the imprisoned spirits. Paradise and the world of lost spirits were divided by a Great Gulf according to Luke chapter 16. It was possible to see from one realm to another and to be separated by this great chasm. On the one side of this great chasm was incarcerated the spirit of Dives, on the other side the spirit of Lazarus was in great joy and bliss. Torment versus comfort.

Old Testament saints were saved by a forward look to Calvary. But this was conditioned upon the death of Christ. All their sacrifices were types and symbols of the Christ, until He died, they were kept in the world called Paradise. When Jesus died, He took His blood and entered into this world of eternal bliss, presenting His blood before them, as

the completion of their redemption partially completed in the sacrifices. Now they shouted, we are not only initially saved, but finally saved. In this life we have initial salvation, but we are not finally saved until we are inside the gates of pearl. Much could happen between now and then. Thank God we can be kept by the power of God.

All Paradise with its redeemed saints began to shout, for now all of those types, shadows, symbols that fore-shadowed the Christ had literally been fulfilled before their eyes. They saw the one whom they commemorated in the Passover, Pentecost, the Feast of Tabernacles, the Year of Jubilee. Glory! Christ had died, it is finished was the cry. Who can fathom the meaning of those words? Beloved, this was IT, all those types and shadows had now been fulfilled it is forever finished. No more the bleeding sheep, the slain ox, the scapegoat, all was fulfilled in the death of Christ. It is finished.

But Jesus not only entered the realm of bliss, we believe He also entered the realm of the lost. When He presented the blood, lost spirits cried, my God, we justly deserve our punishment, for we have rejected the types and symbols which we now see fulfilled in your death. A wail arose from that mass of lost souls as Jesus walked from that prison house of the soul, turned the key in the door of hell, and cried, "It is finished." Your doom is sealed. What awful words to hear.

RESURRECTION IN INTRO-SPECT

We live in a lovely, yet fearful world. On the one side we see the beauty of God's handiwork, on the other, we see the awful desolations that have followed in the wake of men's bloody wars. Homes that cost exorbitant sums adorn our land. Factories are booming and generally speaking we are living better materially and financially than at any other time in our history. Yet, beloved what does all this add up to, if we have not Christ in our soul. Everything material, physical, temporal will fade away. In our breast alone is that little spark of immortality. Jesus said, "What should it profit a man, if he gained the whole

world, and lost his soul?" Man, thou art a traveller to eternity. Hast thou reckoned and righted thyself with God? Ah, that's the important thing. This was the one thing needful, that Mary chose. It was also the one thing the Rich Young Ruler lacked. Christ in our life alone assures us of a bright, hopeful resurrection. The tomb looks dark, death awful, eternity black without Him. Neighbor, what about your soul? Have you that bright hope of the first resurrection? Blessed and Holy is he that hath part in (the first resurrection).

RESURRECTION IN PRO-SPECT

There are those who would have us believe that the Bible teaches a General Judgment. But according to the Bible there will be a judgment day (for the Righteous) one thousand years prior to the last resurrection and judgment day. This day for the righteous will probably be more of a time of rewarding for the deeds done in the body. What a wonderful privilege is afforded us in living a holy life, we will be resurrected one thousand years before the

(Continued on page 11)

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Preach The Word!

By Evangelist Leonard Ravenhill,
Oldham, England

The Preacher is not the descendant of the Greek philosopher but of the Hebrew Prophet

Paul cried, "Knowing the terror of the Lord we persuade men." Today this is revised—Knowing the terror of the H-bomb we persuade men. The implication is to flee for your skins not your sins. May the Lord be pleased to deliver us from the smart preacher and replace him with the pregnant prophet in pain to be delivered

The heyday of confident utopianism has passed. Mankind today is dizzy with disillusionment. Yet we witness a cultured civilization, polished in its iniquity, crashing to its doom on entertainment skids. While some boast in armaments and some in the United Nations, we witness the sad spectacle of a divided Palestine, India, Germany and Korea. For the rest of the world, men rot in their riches, pine in their poverty, ferment in fear, or grow bitter and bent under their burden.

Through this political desert, this moral wilderness, and this complicated iniquity, we preachers upon whom the ends of the age are come, are called to prepare a highway for our God. God be praised for the ministry to the masses through outstanding Evangelists. But the church cannot ride to spiritual victory on the back of famed evangelists.

May it soon please the Lord to deliver us from the smart preacher and replace him with the pregnant prophet—in pain to be delivered,—the man who has a soul with a sword, a brain with a burden, and a heart with heaviness,—the man who can cry, with the Holy Ghost bearing him witness "woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel!" This is no hour for pulpit lullabies, nor will the man who knows he has a mandate from God stain his soul with such a betrayal of his commission.

The pulpit-stunter is a pervert and not a prophet. The man who makes the pulpit a shopwindow to display his talents has not yet learned the first thing about his task. The holy desk is no platform for mental acrobatics nor a

showplace for the philosopher's fancywork. The preacher is not the direct descendant of the Greek philosopher, but of the Hebrew prophet.

Let the pulpit prince subject himself to periodic scrutiny, lest his divine afflatus should have slipped away and he be coasting along under the power of human zeal and the oratory of the pedagogue.

This appeal is for back-to-the-Bible preaching! Preach the Word! Paul, the dauntless, cried, "knowing the terror of the Lord we persuade men." That seems to have been revised to "knowing the terror of the atom bomb we persuade man." The threat is believe or be bombed. The implication is flee for your skins and not your sins.

Brethren, I lovingly implore, let us not make preaching time a playtime for nerve-wracked folk to watch us build a theological castle. Let not these soul-sick people with burdened minds and battered spirits turn empty away, because when they sought a spiritual stimulant we offered them one more dreary diagnosis of the crisis of the hour. Brother, though the address may have been esoteric, it was but vanity.

Artificial Christianity

An anxious minister, vexed at the crowds pouring into a nearby theatre, sought the secret from a famous actor who had a remarkable pull on the people. The stunning answer to the preacher's question, "Why do so many folk surge in to hear you while a mere trickle come into my church?" was, "Perhaps it is because I make artificial things look real, while you, sir, make real things look artificial." What an indictment!

Finney had no slave whip like the threat of communist invasion to crack over the souls of his hearers. Wesley had no help from the horror of the hydrogen bomb to subdue the rebellious souls of his listeners. These God-governed men rode no theological hobby horses but they preached with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven. When we preach their message in their way with their power we shall have their results!

IS THERE ANY WORD FROM THE LORD?

Bishop Gore in his day declared

that "the disease of modern preaching is its search after popularity." That is caustic from a Bishop but who can deny it? That there are things in the Book hard to be understood and beyond our reasonings we all admit. But ours is not to reason why. Ours is the task of preaching to this heavy-eared, short-sighted generation the whole counsel of God and to sniff at the consequences.

The tragedy of present day preaching is that it neither soothes nor stirs, is neither a stimulant nor a sedative. The vain preacher whose eye is ambitiously fixed on getting a place in the preachers' Who's Who, will trim his terms, mute his message and pull his punches, but let that man not think he shall receive any thing of the Lord. That preacher can say what he likes where he likes and when he likes.

The prophet cannot be choosy. He cares not to project his erudition. His flaming soul, motivated by the strange mixture of anger and compassion, says unapologetically, "Thus saith the Lord!"

His heaven-heated arguments melt the wax in the ears of the people. Thus either they repent or rebel, turn from him or on him. The unspoken cry of the multitude is still, "Is there any word from the Lord?" In this hour of godless governments, cruel crime and almost universal sovereignty of sex, shall we hold our peace?

Can we tell them what God does or what He did? Have we any present-tense preaching? Can we demonstrate the Gospel? Miracles may not be the whole of the Gospel, nor yet the main part of the evangel, but that they are a part of the church's message none can deny. Powerless preaching is perfidy, even if polished and spiced with philosophy.

What plea of sanity can be made for offering an ill-nourished child snowflakes in place of cornflakes? To offer sermons instead of God-given messages is not less shameful. If the Bible interpretation of humanity is the right one—and we are sure that it is—then men are both blind and deaf in spiritual issues.

See that half-blind, hard of hearing man standing on the railroad track unaware of the ap-

(Continued on page 11)

EVANGELISTIC PAGE

The Danger Of Unheeded Warnings or The Hidden Rock

W. M. Tidwell

In years gone by there was a Hidden Rock a few feet beneath the surface of the Sea on which several ships had been wrecked. A certain King decided to plant a Light House on that Rock. A strong ship, with a brave captain and crew, were given facilities for sounding and locating this treacherous rock.

They reached the designated latitude and longitude and for days, amid calm and storm, they searched for the hidden rock, but all in vain. Disappointed and embarrassed they returned and gave report declaring there was no such rock at this place. The King vigorously replied, "The rock is there and you must find it or be dismissed from the Government service. And a more competent captain and crew take your place." The Captain strenuously contended no such rock existed but replied: "At your demand I will stake my life upon the thoroughness of the search we have made; and will run my ship at full speed on the very point you contend the rock exists." So the enraged Captain and crew, at full speed, sped to the dangerous spot and struck the hidden rock and burst the ship asunder and the defiant captain and entire crew perished.

He was sincere but was *wrong*. This is a graphic picture of much of the Holiness movement right now. Old apostate churches *already wrecked*. There are treacherous rocks and shoals of worldly apostasy on which denominations, congregations and individuals have been wrecked. Lift up your eyes and behold the deplorable situation right now. The sad sordid sight is sickening. God forsaken derelicts. God says, "I will be with you while you are with me, but if you forsake me I will cast you off forever." Second Chron. 28:9. Many now can recall the treacherous rocks on which these sad wrecks have taken place.

Many declare no such rocks exist. And if one *dares* to warn of such dangers he is accused of not going along with the program. He is a troubler in Israel and a calamity howler. If he is pastor or evangelist he dare not mention many "things", if he desires to stand with the powers that be. He might mention a few gross sins such as lying, stealing and drunkenness and the down-town movies. Of course, he must go a bit *easy* there since they are so closely related to the TV *home movie*. But he must not mention Church banquets, skating, make-up, slacks, shorts, blue-jeans, jewelry, etc. If he does, he is on his *way out*. If an evangelist, or pastor, *pressure* from the officials will be put on him. This will constitute grounds not to be recalled or for a *cancellation*.

This is *common now*. What has happened? Just one thing. These Old timers have sought to remain old fashioned Holiness Preachers. Preaching both negative and positive. These rocks are not imaginary, but *real*. However, a host of "*captains*" are determined nothing shall deter them. But catastrophe will come. What can be done? Just one thing, be true and faithful. God says, "I have set before thee an open door and *no man can shut it*." True, can close some doors but an omnipotent God is on the Throne and is all resourceful. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" If we have been faithful, to hear His words of commendation "Well done thou good and faithful servant", will be recompense for all burdens borne.

Your unworthy but sincere servant,

W. M. Tidwell
Chattanooga, Tenn.

The Seven P's Of Soul Winning

(Continued from page 1)

Christ". Who would of ever thought this humble servant would have the honor of being an ambassador for Christ. Praise God, we need not hang our heads, our vocation is of the highest. . . . Notice His closeness in our labors for Him in His promise in Matt. 28:20 "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Paul said "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

7. THE PRUDENCE OF SOUL WINNING

Surely there is a great need of prudence in the work of soul winning. Part of the definition of prudence means to conduct oneself wisely. Paul in one of his writings has said "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without." Zeal is good but zeal with wisdom is better. I fear many souls have been discouraged or driven away from Christ by the lack of wisdom on the part of someone who sincerely wanted to help the individual.

I believe it is a lack of wisdom to unkindly rebuke the sinner for his wrong habits, faults and sins before we lead him to a saving knowledge of Christ. It was not until I began to see Christ that I realized how wicked and sinful I was. . . . It is a lack of wisdom to "preach at" some sinner that has come into the house of God by what we may observe at his outward appearance. Grace in his heart will change him internally and externally.

God give us prudence in speech, actions, approach and every part of us that we may win men to Christ and never cause one to be driven away.

Another part of the definition for prudence is "Not rash or ill advised; highly sensible."

In closing, let us be strengthened and inspired by this passage of scripture found in James 5:20 "Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."

False Unity

By Paul Pumpelly



The Scriptures make it clear that every man has a right to his private judgment; especially when it comes to doctrine and these things regarding his own soul. Everyone feels we are living in the last days. The Holy Ghost has warned us that in these days there would be delusions, doctrines of devils, deceivers, and antichrists. Isaiah says, "when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and mutter; should not a people seek unto their God?—To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." The Head of the Church says, "Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruit." The practice of that holy group even in the apostle Paul's day searched the Scriptures daily, whether these things were so. Paul said, "I speak as unto wise men; judge ye what I say—Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit." John says, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, whether they are of God." And the Holy Ghost again warns, "prove all things".

There is a cheap pretense being palmed off on God's folk as "unity." Those who are counteractive to it are called "soured brethren". Jude warns us that there would be men creep in unawares for one purpose; to turn others out of the "faith once delivered unto the saints". He warns us that we are to earnestly contend with these "creep-ins." To cover their identity, they say they are God-called men for what they do. But even God-called men have the possibility of backsliding. And even if they should rise to the top of the ladder, they are still just men, poor fallible men. Look at Peter at Antioch. Paul saw him fearing the Jews and not walking according to the Gospel. Paul rebuked him before the church, then wrote about it. The Holy Ghost has caused it to be read by all people of all times around the world. Paul stood face to face with

Peter in direct controversy. It proves even preachers are fallible, and above that proves that the truth is to be valued above a false unity. To keep the truth as it is in Jesus is more important than to keep peace. Those who will forsake truth for unity are really looking for their bread and butter, especially in the ministry. They will bow to a leader, embrace false doctrine, round off the corners of the Gospel, compromise with the world, all for unity, denominational unity. But this is a false unity. Paul was a man of unity. He said, be at peace among yourselves; mind the same things. And yet here he with stands Peter face to face. Why? Because truth was at stake and truth is more valuable than a false unity. Peter took the rebuke and later called Paul a beloved brother. But Paul did it even if it meant controversy, division and separation. Truth must be valued at any cost.

Before we start blaming people for separation and division and controversy, we must be careful that we lay the blame where it belongs. "If people separate themselves from false doctrine and compromise, they ought to be praised rather than reproved. In such cases, separation is a virtue and not a sin." Those who make sneering remarks about those who "come-out" are evidently bowed to a false unity. "Unity which is obtainable by the sacrifice of truth is worth nothing." The church of Rome boasted loudly of a false unity. But consider its ways of obtaining it. They keep the Bible from the people, gag private judgment, encourage ignorance. They made a solitude and call it peace, false unity. What about today? Are men silent because of fear of losing their bread and butter? If so, their solitude is a false unity. And the false prophets are crying, peace, when there is no peace."

"Controversy is a hateful thing." It is hard enough to fight the devil and social evils without having harsh controversy within our own camp. But there is one thing that is even worse than controversy, and that is **WORLDLINESS** and **COMPROMISE** tolerated, and permitted without protest or molestation. "There are times when controversy is not only a duty but a benefit." Los

Angeles welcomes a mighty thunder storm with flashing lightning rather than to have polluted air. I know to speak as I am speaking will cause much disturbance, especially among those who contend for "not breaking fellowship", even at the expense of truth. They cry "treason, treason" of all who will dare to take their stand for precious truth, even if it means to "go out under the stars". But I know of one who cried loudly, "treason", and her name was Athaliah. Yet she herself was a traitor. Let them say what they will but God will stand by the man who will stand by the truth. I stand for unity and peace but as for this present tempest of worldliness and compromise and the cry for "church loyalty" even at the sacrifice of Bible standards, then there will be controversy, divisions, separations.

Those who would desire to keep peace at any cost try to make all things smooth, pleasant, and an outward calm, smoothness, stillness, and order even at the expense of truth. They seem content to give up Bible standards. These would have helped the princes of Judah when they put Jeremiah in prison to stop his mouth. They would have thought Paul went too far when he rebuked Peter; would have accused him of working for a separation. But for truth's sake Paul crashed a false unity, and who shall say he was wrong. For truth's sake Luther broke the false unity in the church in which he was born, and who shall say he was wrong. For truth's sake Wesley denounced the barren ministry of his day and took to the highways and byways to save souls, and who shall say he was wrong. Yes, unity without truth is a false unity, the unity of the devil. God help us not to be ensnared by the subtle maneuvering of those who seek this false unity. The Lord Jesus said, "Think not that I came to send peace upon the earth, I came not to send peace, but a sword."

CAMP ANNOUNCEMENT

The 42nd Annual Union Camp meeting of Auburn, Pa., will begin June 22 to July 1. The workers are Rev. Victor Glenn, Evangelist, Rev. Walter Scheltenbrand, Bible Teacher, Rev. Juddie Peyton singer, Mrs. Scheltenbrand Children's worker. Foreign Missionary day Friday June 29th in charge of Victor Glenn. William Ruch, President; 1005 Detweiler St., Hellertown, Pa.

MISSIONARY MESSAGE

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

From The Land Of Cuba

By James W. Tharp

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These are busy days here on the field in Cuba as we greet our STANDARD friends once again. At this writing we have been here less than a month, and of course, are still in the adjusting period. Everything has not been rosy, but God's grace is a powerful preserver. We can believe His promises and trust Him for victory here in this part of the vineyard.

SPANISH!

Spanish! Spanish! Spanish! If you want to know what we are doing besides calling, preaching, cleaning, and getting settled, then I'll tell you—studying Spanish! It is a beautiful, interesting language, but there are times when a student gets such a mind full of it that he dreams about it at night. Our every spare moment is spent in grasping this language. There are so many catches and idiomatic expressions until there is every chance for confusion. But there are so many reasons for a determined will to master it. We know that to do our work effectively we must have a thorough speaking knowledge of Spanish in all the native expressions. Thus, as we faithfully apply ourselves to study, we feel that we can also look to our Heavenly Father for an understanding.

Also, we are thankful for a good teacher. Brother Sullivan, though he himself did not have an English-speaking Spanish teacher, has a very capable knowledge of the language. In fact, it surpasses the average Spainard's in our area. But when we think of the short space in which we will have access to his teaching we are urged onward to take advantage of his teaching while he is with us. We are thankful that many of you are praying for us in our attempt to grasp the language.

SITUATIONS

There are simply no comparisons between the United States and Cuba. There are very few comparisons between the work of a pastor in America and that of a missionary here on the Island. The only likenesses are found in the cause and motives for dealing with the souls of men. The situations are different with exception of the nature of men itself.



Rev. and Mrs. James Tharp and family now on the mission field in Cuba, located at Melena Del Sur, Havana, Cuba.

I was shocked to find this land full of literal idolatry. The majority of Cuban homes have idols and altars where the household bows and prays to their respective gods. I've seen various forms of idolatry, but to note the existence of such stupid conditions makes one determine to lift up the true Christ! Of course those who have turned to Christ have given up their gods. Yet, there seems to linger a certain amount of superstition with some of those who claim to be followers of Christ. There is an inbred paganism in the average Cuban that only a

definite commitment to Christ will destroy.

Poverty is another sad element that exists here. No doubt a great deal of this is due to political situations. On the other hand the complacency, thoughtlessness and carelessness of the natives could not promote a consistent economy even if there were moves to initiate one. Ragged and naked children is a common sight in any direction.

But these heart-breaking conditions aren't all; there exists another sinful condition among this people just as it exists in America and elsewhere—that of *pride*. It is a prominent fact that even though this people have apparently nothing to boast of, still their pride keeps many of them from accepting the Bible, attending services, and becoming a Christian.

These are some of the situations that the Sullivans have been coping with for the past six years and that we are now facing. Our business is not to look on situations, but to carry the Gospel and hold a light in these darkened areas. I mention a few of these existant elements merely for the sake of letting our readers know some of the conditions on the field. But certainly they should make us thankful for a great Nation that God has blessed with peace and plenty.

SOULS

Certainly it is with no other motive that we come to Cuba, but that of thrusting in the Gospel sickle and trusting to harvest some souls for the Kingdom's sake. No one appreciates America more than myself; no one enjoys living in the United States more than I do. Yet, in seeking first the Kingdom of God, we feel drawn to sacrifice those great privileges for a season and launch further out into the harvest field. These poverty-stricken, suppressed, superstitious people have just as much a right to hear the Gospel as we Americans. Christ died for their sins, too. He saves a Cuban as quick as he does an American once he meets conditions.

It is with grave seriousness that I appeal to our Churches and individual Christians for a revival of prayer in behalf of Foreign

(Continued on page 10)

Wolves In Sheep's Clothing

Rev. A. J. Baughey

In Matthew 7:15 our Lord said, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are reviving wolves." Then, just to make sure that you and I should not be deceived and taken in by these "Wolves" in "sheep's clothing," Christ says, "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

These words of the Saviour suggest that we are not to accept as real and genuine, every man (or woman) who comes along preaching the gospel. According to Christ's words, you had better inspect their fruit before you swallow them. This is the most religious day in all history, and that is what makes it so treacherous. Satan has actually transformed himself and his ministers into angels of light in order to deceive the people, and it's high time someone dealt with this very neglected subject, and, as Christ Himself did when He was here, warn the innocent and honest people concerning these religious racketeers who are making merchandise of the people of God in the name of Jesus Christ, and many of them under the cloak of "holiness"!

In case any of you think there is no need for this type of message, and that there are no crooks today who are operating under the guise of a Pastor or an Evangelist, listen again to the words of Jesus in Matthew 7 when He forecasts the pending judgment of these crooked preachers: "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy Name? and in Thy Name cast out devils? and in Thy Name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity!"

Now let's look at the words of Christ here for a few moments, and get the true picture. There's coming a judgment day; a day of reckoning when preacher and priest and layman alike will stand

before God to be judged on the basis of truth and equity. God is no respecter of persons; there are no big-shots or privileged characters with Him. Those who are righteous and holy will be accepted by Him, and just as surely, those who are wicked and evil, regardless of place or position, will be rejected. In fact, Christ is speaking here definitely to those who had preached, prophesied, cast out devils, laid hands on the sick, and had done "many wonderful works" in the Name of Jesus Christ, but Jesus said He never knew them although they were using His Name to perform their miracles, cast out devils, and do many wonderful works, but Christ also said, "depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Here is where the public is hoodwinked and fooled, but no man has ever fooled God. Even though, in the eyes of the world, they were casting out devils, and doing many wonderful works, Christ accused them of being workers of iniquity! Why, because their motives and purposes were unholy. They preached for silver and gold; they had hidden sins, and were wicked at heart; of course the people to whom they were preaching did not know this, but the Holy Ghost does.

Now you may ask, How is it that they were claiming to cast out devils, and how is it they were doing "many wonderful works?" The answer is found in the very statement: "In Thy Name" we have done these things! The Word of God is powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword, and wherever it is preached will accomplish its purpose, therefore these crooks can carry on with their outstanding work and, in the very "Name of Jesus," literally deceive the people. Christ Jesus does not want you nor I to get taken in by these fellows, therefore He gives us the warning in our text: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing." With a smooth voice; broad smile; winning ways; soft-soap and palaver. But beneath it all, Christ says He's a wolf at heart. He has a beast nature, and is full of sin and iniquity.

Let me illustrate what Jesus means by calling this type of man a "ravening wolf." Rev. J. T.

Logan, a former Editor of the Free Methodist, told of a big tent meeting being conducted by one of these crooks in Lakeland, Florida, within 200 feet of the Free Methodist Parsonage there. He said they had a big array of music, including saxophones which were played by two fine looking young women. They drew large audiences and made a specialty of healing for the body. The evangelist was a glib-tongued fellow, whose cheap talk and witty-words were received hilariously. This evangelist had held services at Jacksonville and at Winter Haven, Florida, before coming to Lakeland, and had been Pastor of a church in Illinois, having left there in October, deserting his wife and children. When he left his church and home in Illinois, two 20-year old girls, members of a saxophone quartet, disappeared with him. A wide search was made for these girls, and it was learned that they were with him in the big tent meeting in Lakeland, Florida. Although the girls were no relation to each other, nor to the preacher, he was telling the people they were his daughters, and spoke of them as such in his sermons. The three occupied one bedroom in the house where they were staying, with one double bed and a cot, and no curtains of separation. Brother Logan said the night before he was arrested, he preached on "Judgment and Hell," and emphasizing his remarks with much physical force.

Now to show you how badly a man of this type can fool and hoodwink the people, when he was arrested, his followers and well-wishers went wild over the matter, and tried to bail him out of jail, but since his arrest was on a fugitive warrant, the judge would not release him on bail. However, another man of the same type, took charge of the big meeting at once, and, although the girls were taken before the State's Attorney and admitted that they were no relation to the Evangelist, this substitute preacher had them right up on the rostrum the very next night and on till the meetings closed two weeks later. He also took up a love-offering to help the arrested Evangelist, and urged the people to be at

(Continued on page 8)

Youth In Action

"Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth." Eccl. 12:1.

"God First"

When the Lord met Paul on the Damascus road, and unhorsed him, he was a changed man. No place in Scripture do we read where he ever drew back from anything the Lord called him to do. Truly he was God's man, in the place God wanted him to be.

Paul was one of the best learned men of his day. And was held in high esteem by the leaders of the Jewish Nation, as long as he did what they said. According to the Bible, Paul was one of the most zealous men in the Country, and one of the worst enemies of the Lord, and His Saints.

Paul was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, the most noted scholar of his day. He was well grounded in the Jews religion. He was one of the worst persecutors of the Church of God, and His followers that ever lived. By his own testimony he hounded them. Had them thrown in prison, and gave his voice against them, and caused them to be put to death.

When the Lord was ready to call Saul, afterward called Paul, He knew just how to do it. He unhorsed him, and prostrated him in the dust. When Saul wanted to know who was causing him all this trouble, and discomfort, the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest, it is hard for thee to kick against the goads." "What wilt thou have me to do?" Go into Damascus, and it will be told you what to do. When he arose from the ground he was blind, and had to be led by the hand.

After being in Damascus three days blind, and fasting, the Lord told Ananias to go lay hands on Saul, that he might receive his sight. But Ananias said Lord, we have heard about him, how he destroys the churches, and how he persecutes the Christians. And Lord, he has come here to take people back to Jerusalem to kill them. But God told Ananias that

he was a chosen vessel unto Him, to preach the gospel to the Gentiles. And I have showed him what he must suffer for my Name. Yes, while Saul was in the middle of the road, the Lord was talking to him, he revealed to him the fact that he was to be persecuted at every turn of the road.

Paul the persecuted was ready at all times to do just what the Holy Ghost told him to do. I am not ready to be bound only but to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus. What a time we would have today, if we had a few people like that. Those who are willing to wholly follow the Lord, even though they know it means death.

I have never been able to find one place in the Bible where Paul ever hesitated, or drew back, when God impressed him to go to a certain place, or to do a certain thing. It made no difference to Paul whom he was facing, or what the occasion might be, he was ready to go immediately. We read in Galatians, that Paul was made an Apostle by Jesus Christ. He gave no man any credit for what he was. It was he says, "By Jesus Christ, and God the Father who raised him from the dead. Amen!"

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood; Galatians, 1:15,16. We need men and women who will follow the old path of persecution, and be not moved by what people might say, but go forward in the Name of the Lord, rely on His promises, and fight every thing that is opposed to God, and Holiness. There is no middle road. We are for God and holiness, or we are following the devil and modernists. One young brother of the church, said we didn't need any shouting, or noise. We have learned better. And he was a student, or had been one at a certain Bible School. They believe in do-

ing things decently and in order. They are taught that we do not need any shouting, or noise of any kind, just be quiet, and don't get excited.

According to my Bible, there was shouting, dancing, and a lot of noise after the Israelites crossed the Red Sea. There was shouting before the walls of Jericho fell. And were things being done decently, and in order when about one-hundred and twenty people came out of the upper room on the day of Pentecost? The fact that the whole City of Jerusalem was stirred, and came running to see what had happened, I am sure there must have been noise.

They were accused of being drunk, but Peter who at the trial of his Lord, denied him, wasn't denying any thing now. He stood up before the people and declared that they were not drunk, being the third hour of the day. That was as much as to say that the worst drunkards were not drunk at that time of day. But says Peter, This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and also upon the servants and upon the hand maids in those days will I pour my spirit. (Joel, 2: 28-29.)

Let us take our stand for righteousness, and true Holiness, and in spite of the enemy, go through with the Lord.—C. N. Burkett.

Wolves In Sheep's Clothing

(Continued from page 7)

the train station and bid the big liar, fornicator and hypocrit farewell, when officers of the law took him back to Illinois to face charges against him!

This, ladies and gentlemen, is only one such of many cases that we could relate to you, and some of which we know personally, but this case will suffice to point out to you just why Jesus calls these men "wolves in sheep's clothing." They are thus "inwardly!" Remember, "God looketh on the heart!"

We Are Living In The Last Hours Of The Last Days

in The Last Days, God Has Promised He will Pour Out Of His Spirit. THIS Is the Greatest Need Of The Hour!

Acts 2:17

By Oswald J. Smith

—♦♦♦—

We are now living in the "last days." This is the dispensation of the Holy Ghost. If Peter could speak of Pentecost as the "last days," then we are living in the "last hours" of the last days. This is Saturday night in the history of the Church. It is the eleventh hour. Pentecost was the beginning of the "last days." Our generation marks the approaching end of the "last days." The "last hours" are upon us.

A Strong, Spiritual Leadership

God has declared that in the last days He would pour out of His Spirit. That promise was partially fulfilled on the day of Pentecost, but it remains for us to see the final and complete fulfillment! Is there Scripture to warrant the hope of another great outpouring of the Spirit of God as we enter the last days of this age? I believe there is.

It was my deep, deep conviction that God is waiting to pour out His Spirit once again, and that wherever He can find a people who will meet His conditions, He will give flood tides of mighty revival. And this, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, is the greatest need of the hour!

Heathen, Pagan, Communistic Flesh—All Flesh

But is this outpouring for a select few? Is it only for spiritual leaders and for men alone? By no means. Thank God, His Word is absolutely clear and conclusive. "I will pour out of my Spirit," He declares, "upon all flesh." Yes, Upon old flesh and young flesh, upon rich flesh and poor flesh, upon high flesh and low flesh—"all flesh."

"And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy . . . and on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy." Not only the men but the

women; not only the old but the young; not only the high but the low. Daughters will prophesy, and handmaidens as well.

All may claim a part. It is to be a great universal outpouring for all peoples everywhere. Anyone may have it, any church may expect it. This is the solution of all our problems.

Not money, but the outpoured Spirit. Not how to get the attention of the people, but how to secure the operation of the Holy Ghost! Not better preaching, but Holy Ghost preaching. "I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh."

There was no mistaking what had happened. "This is that," announced Peter. It had been foretold long, long ago. Joel had prophesied it, and at last his word had come to pass; "This is that."

It was a definite, a genuine, a real experience. Something happened, something so wonderful, so amazing, so unusual, that not one could possibly be deluded or deceived. It was no mere "beliefism," but a sure-enough, wide-awake, soul-satisfying experience! Things happened. Something came of it. It bore immediate fruit. There was a true outcome. It was not for self but for others.

IT DID NOT SEND CHRISTIANS IN SEARCH OF MANIFESTATIONS. IT SENT THEM OUT TO DO GREAT THINGS FOR THE LORD

How did it happen? What was its cause? Just two things. First, a ten days' prayer meeting. Not a play meeting but a prayer meeting. We are so busy these days that God cannot get our ear. We will not be quiet and still long enough for Him to speak to us. Prayer, real prayer, hours of unbroken, uninterrupted waiting on God, seems to be largely an experience of the past.

But they waited. God got them still. Do you grasp it? God secured their attention for ten days. Peter forgot his fishing, Matthew his tax collecting. Business was suspended for the time at least. Everything that might detract had been set aside. They "continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." —Acts 1:14. Thus God made them ready. They were now prepared for the mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost.

The Upper Room Is God's Pattern for Us

PRAYER. Get alone with God. Be quiet long enough for Him to talk. Pray until you are prayed through and prayed out, until you have prayed about every problem. Then when God has settled your problems let Him give you the new vision! Stay in His presence until you can see things through His eyes, until you can see what He wants you to see.

He will speak to you about hindrances and obstacles that you never dreamed existed. He will show you what is the matter if you wait long enough. Do not be impatient at the delay, but pray on and on. Delay is not denial. Those believers prayed.

Then they believed God. That is the second condition: Faith. They put their trust in His word. What was it? It first occurs in Luke 24:49, "Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

Then Jesus gave it again: "And, being assembled together with them, (He) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith He, ye have heard of Me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." (Acts 1:4, 5).

And finally, in Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

God Gives the Holy Spirit

To Them That Obey Him.—

Acts 5:32

It was to these promises they pinned their faith. Not to a feeling, nor to a hope, nor to a desire, but to the living Word of God. They knew, knew without a doubt, that their Lord's Word would be fulfilled—and they waited.

Mark you, it was not intellectual presumption. Ah, no! It was real faith, faith that waited, faith that expected, faith that reckoned on God. What mattered it to them that they had tarried seven days and received nothing? Did they not have His promise? And was

(Continued on page 11)

STANDARD PULPIT

Spiritual Stagnation

By Geo. I. Straub

Rev. 3:15-16 (*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.*)

So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.)

Without controversy or argument we have come to a spiritual crisis in the religious world. Spiritual leaders are all well aware of the fact that the growth and progress of the church has been retarded. Revivals with depth, power, and glory are almost a thing of the past.

The old line churches with a name to live are dead and powerless riding the saddle of ease and pleasure. The pulpits that were once occupied by fire baptized ministers are now being filled by ministers from the school of the no-harmites. They see no harm in bobbing the hair, wearing jewelry, drinking moderately, attending the shows, and joining up with secret and oath bound societies which are definitely against true Holiness. Hours that should be given to secret prayer and visiting the sick and shut-in one are spent before the T.V. screen where they are entertained by the stars of Hollywood. Modernistic compromisers have removed the land marks, lowered the church standards, and taken the way of least resistance. Altars that were once stained with the tears of penitent seekers have been removed. The method of hand shaking, card signing, and the raising of the hand has been substituted for the New Birth. This accounts for the much unrest and dissatisfaction in the religious world. That which should be satisfying the hearts of men is lacking. They are without true love and joy, as they have never enjoyed a crisis experience which converts and revolutionizes the inner man and nature until we know we have passed from death unto life.

It is not hard for one to see why the place of the Holy has been pol-

luted and what has given birth to spiritual stagnation.

When King Saul compromised with the compromisers he soon found both himself and the church on the way out. No man can take fire in his bosom and not be burned. Neither can we deviate from the Bible, smother our convictions, and pal around with worldlings and retain our relationship with God.

There is nothing so nauseating to God and true Christians like lukewarmness and spiritual stagnation. God's attitude is set forth in verse 16 (because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot I will spue thee out of my mouth.)

It is no problem to get folks to profess religion. The difficulty is in getting them to go on unto Holiness and allow the Holy Spirit to eradicate, purge, and rid the heart of the old self life that seeks sympathy and self-pity when going through the trials and hard places in life.

Spiritual stagnation is inevitable when walking behind light. Many like Peter can be seen in the shadows following afar off after trying to defeat the enemies of Christ with carnal weapons.

Pentecost was the answer to a powerless ministry, barren altars, dead meetings, and formality. As long as the spiritual rivers overflow their banks we need not worry about stagnant waters.

Stagnation sets in the moment revival fires cease to burn. Paul was very clear in teaching us that it requires the same spirit to keep the church on fire as it took to get one saved. As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord so walk ye in Him.

There is nothing so boresome in the song and praise service like lukewarmness. I saw Pastor's and class leaders standing before their congregations like an auctioneer teasing and coaxing the members to testify. This is unnatural when the heart is aflame with His Spirit.

Where this spirit prevails there will be shallow praying, shallow giving, and shallow praise.

Shallowness paves the way for divisions, strife, and contention, which tears down the counter over which we do business with God.

About all many of the churches have to offer the on-coming generation is torn down altars and burnt out ashes which speak of the glorious yesterdays. Knowing that the hour is late and the time is short to work for God, we need to move forward and lift up a standard for his people.

From The Land Of Cuba

(Continued from page 6)

Missions. Our greatest need is prayer! I believe God can and will set off revival fires on the mission field if there is genuine travail and agonizing on the part of His people.

Also, there is a need for finances. It is with a burdened prayer that I appeal to all our readers to send a special offering to our Foreign Missionary Treasurer at once. I make this appeal not for personal gain, but for our Treasury. The burdens have been heavy in purchasing a new Station Wagon, erecting a new building and getting missionaries to the field. If each reader would make a contribution (it may have to be a sacrificial one, but the blessing would be greater) it would greatly help our missionary program on its way. Inclose your offering in an envelope and mail it to Rev. C. William Rachau, Route 1, Allenwood, Pa. Rev. Rachau will promptly mail you a receipt.

These are great days of opportunity for Christ. Let each of us, in our respective places and capacities, yield to the Master completely as living sacrifices for His cause and truth.

Announcements

BIRTHS: A son, Jerry Len Gardner, of Bellefonte, Pa., on December 23, 1955, at the Lock Haven Hospital. Mrs. Gardner is the daughter of Bro. Peter Lyons, a trustee of God's Missionary Church of Milesburg. The young couple also have another son, David. We pray God to bless these young Christians and their family.

At Calvary

*I stood today at Calvary—
Upon that lonely hill;
I saw the thronging, pressing
crowd,
I heard their jeering, loud and
shrill.
I saw three crosses in a row
The middle one caught my
gaze—
And broken, knelt there worship-
ping
That One who took my place.*

*I knelt there and I gazed at Him
All beaten, bruised and torn,
When suddenly I realized
A whole new world was born:
The Cross, transfixed before my
eyes*

*No longer bore the shame,
But in its place I saw arise
New life through Jesus' name.*

*Ah, tell me not that life's not real,
And that it's not worth-while
To toil and labor here below
With Christ, through earth's short
while:*

*For since I stood at Calvary,
That look has pierced my soul,
I found life's truest purpose
And I'm working toward the
goal.*

—Mrs. Paul E. King

Easter In Three Dimensions

(Continued from page 2)

wicked are finally brought forth to hear their final fate, where they will be cast into (the Lake of Fire). Rev. 20.

But sinner friend, remember, you must come forth. For the Sea gave forth the dead that were in her; those unknown soldiers buried in solitary places; those mysterious murder cases, those who have disappeared from the scene of action, all will be brought forth in this final resurrection. What a day that will be when God shall call all men to Judgment. Sinner you better repent now, send your sins on before to judgment, then you can share in the righteous resurrection, a righteous judgment of receiving rewards, not to be lost and banished into awful darkness and desolation. Alas! for the unregenerate. Too late now. From the lips of the eternal God will come forth those unfath-

omable words, "It is finished". How awful they will sound in the ears of one who has made light of the resurrection, the Christ, the Church.

Evangelist's Directory

- Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Hoffman—
(Evangelist, Singers)
Watson, Pa.
April 5-15 Warren, Ohio (Independent)
April 18-29 Washington, Ind. (Pil. Ch.)
May 2-13 Kokomo, Ind. (F. M. Ch.)
Rev. and Mrs. Paul Pumpelly—
Evangelist and Singers, House Trailer
115 W. College St., Lake Charles, La.
March 1-11 Kennard, Ind.
March 14-25 Milesburg Pa.
March 27-April 8 Spring Mills, Pa.
Hostettler Family—R. 2, Elida, Ohio
(Evangelist, Singers)
April 10-22 Remus, Mich.
April 24-May 6 Circleville, Ohio
Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Passmore—
(Evangelist, Singers)
Snydertown, Pa.
April 6-15 Mt. Carmel, Pa.
April 19-29 Castle Wood, Pa.
May 4-13 Lancaster, Ohio
The Christianaires—South Side,
Oneonta, N. Y.
(Singers, Musicians)
April 4-15 Geneva, Pa.
April 18-29 Kellersburg, Pa.
May 2-13 Gipsy, Pa.
Rev. D. R. Matherlee—
(Evangelist)
152 Larkin St., Findlay, Ohio
April 3-15 Portland, Ind.
April 17-29 Youngsville, Pa.
May 1-13 Franklin, Pa.
Rev. Spencer Johnson—Vivian, La.
(Evangelist)

We Are Living In The Last Hours Of The Last Days

(Continued from page 9)

He not true? But why did they not simply believe that the Spirit had been outpoured and commence work?

Ah! they wanted something real! And besides, there would have been no outcome to prove it. It would have been a hollow thing. The outcome they sought would be manifest to all. Jesus had said "until." Hence, faith kept them on their faces "until". We, too, may wait—wait in believing prayer "until" the Spirit is poured out upon us, and on the Christless masses to whom we minister.

—The Alliance Weekly.
in Herald of His Coming

Preach The Word!

(Continued from page 3)

proach of the snorting stream-liner! Can we hesitate to drag him away because we have not been formally introduced to him?

Shall we on the other hand, because we know him to be an intellectual, begin an elaborate argument or explanation that a mechanical device known as a railroad train and travelling at an estimated seventy miles an hour, invented in England by George Stevenson, is about to decapitate him or facilitate his retiring to another world?

"Madness!" you say, but much of our preaching is but a tangle of phrases. We paint word pictures, erect our theological skittles so that we may show our logical skill in knocking them down. Thus sinsick, brain-bewildered, heart-hungry humanity staggers on to its doom.

*Perishing, perishing! Thou
wast not willing;*

*Master, forgive, and inspire us
anew;*

*Banish our worldliness, help
us to ever*

*Live with eternity's values in
view.*

The preacher God uses must be intimate with the Infinite and yet close to the crowd. He is God's liaison officer. He must be mastered by his Master, and governed by his God.

Ours, brethren, is the task as Wesley put it, "to save poor souls out of the fire and quench their brands in Jesus' Blood!" Will God have to say to this generation of preachers "I have many things to tell you but ye could not bear them"? Can He initiate us into the mysteries of soul-saving preaching?

There is a baptism to be baptized with. Can we candidate for it? Brethren, the world with its two thousand two hundred million souls sweeps on to hell. Can we hold our peace? If our trumpets give an uncertain sound their blood will He require at our hands. RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD, HAVE DONE WITH LESSER THINGS!

—Herald of His Coming

The Last Days Of God's Great Men

By Rev. Thomas Frantz
Second In A Series

The Triumph Of Bishop Seybert

Note: Information and quotes in this article are from the book, "THE LIFE AND LABORS OF JOHN SYBERT" by Rev. S. P. Spreng.

Early Years Of The Bishop

John Seybert, the first child of Henry and Susan Seybert, was born at Manheim, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1791. Soon after the boy had reached his teens, his mother and father were converted and began to hold prayer meetings in their home. Some few years later his father met an untimely death, and Mrs. Seybert was taken up with the Harmonists, an organization seeking to restore the "community of goods" thought of the early church.

At the age of nineteen, John was converted after attending the meetings of the "deceivers" as the early Evangelical ministers were then called by the unconverted. Ten years passed before he entered the ministry, but when he did follow the call of God he preached with great power.

"About a week after this, Bro. Seybert had a remarkable time. God blessed him so that he was able to preach with great unction and much feeling. A sick woman in the house, during the closing prayer began to cry out in terror, 'Lost! Lost! Lost!' and entreated the company to pray for her. . . everyone in the congregation fell to weeping. She was soon converted, and after that lived for God."

Advancing To The Episcopacy

After serving as a Presiding Elder and as a Home Mission worker, Brother Seybert was elected Bishop to the Evangelical Association at Muehlheim (Millheim, Pa. Just 10 miles from the writer's home town) in 1839. The election to such an important position was a great surprise to John Seybert, as he had not sought the office.

"It caused him great distress of mind. During the first few months after his elevation to the highest office in the gift of the church, he was known to weep almost constantly. He prayed much in secret, and several times burst out into a flood of tears in public. . . the agitation of his mind, during the

first few weeks, caused loss of sleep and appetite. Often he lay weeping for hours through the solemn vigils of the night."

TRAVELING TOWARD TRIUMPH

For nearly twenty years the great man of God toured his ever-increasing churches and outposts. In 1856 he narrowly escaped death when his horse, through being frightened, upset his conveyance and he was thrown violently to the ground. It was a long time before he had completely recovered from this unfortunate accident. However, the following month he arrived to preach at Warrentown, Indiana. His biographer says of this service:

"Weary with a long day's journey, he arrived late. The congregation was already assembled and waiting. He says (In the daily diary he kept for his forty years of ministry): 'There was no time left to eat—only to pray. I accordingly went out upon the church yard in the darkness, fell upon my knees, pleaded fervently with God for His help and His blessing. He also heard my cry and blessed His Word powerfully. His blessings descended upon the assembly like showers of rain, and there was a degree of joy in the camp that is seldom seen.' —No time to eat only time to pray, is a rare sentiment in such an emergency. It was a scene for an artist. The travel stained, weather-beaten, aged itinerant, upon his knees, amid the marble mountains of the dead under the shadow of night pleading with God for his waiting congregation in the temple of Jehovah."

TRIUMPH

"December 29, 1859, was the last day he spent on the road. . . Northwest of Flat Rock, Ohio. Here for the last time he alighted from his conveyance. Throwing the reigns of his horse over a fence-post, and taking his saddle bags on his arm, he entered the home of Bro. Parker greatly exhausted. He never went any further in his travels."

The last entry the dear aged Bishop made in his Journal was this phrase, "One soul saved". He spent the days following in reading his Bible and his favorite authors, and at times, talking about the work of God.

The last night he lived he slept

well, arising for breakfast with the family. He told them of a dream he had during the night. He said it was as though he were in a great gathering of preachers. He had attempted to shake hands with them all, but could not finish, the number was so great.

He sat on the couch after telling this dream, made a few more remarks about death, closing with, "So I too will fall asleep", and fell over on the couch dead. His dream had come true. The date was January 4, 1860. Another one of God's Great Men had lived and died in the Faith!

I Met With God

—*~*~*

*I met with God this morning
When my day was fresh and
bright,
And his sweetness lingered with
me*

*Filled my hours with joy and
light.*

*All day long we walked together,
Talked together—wept awhile;
And my heart was filled with
rapture*

At the presence of His smile.

*Many others on life's ocean
Who had failed to read and pray,
Spent most vexing, trying hours
Through the longness of the day.
But the things that seemed to vex
them*

*Brought to me the sweetest rest,
All because I prayed this morning
He fortified me for the test.*

*And I've learned a precious lesson
From this life that's filled with
care,*

*You can bravely weather storm
clouds*

*If you'll spend some time in
prayer.—Mrs. Paul E. King*

Revival

It's Revival Time at God's Missionary Church, Milesburg, Pa., with Rev. & Mrs. Dan Baughey, Ypsilanti, Michigan, APRIL 5-15, 1956. The Baugheys are not strangers among us, and we are looking forward and praying for an old-fashioned revival in our community. We invite the attendance of neighboring churches, and the prayers of brethren too far removed to attend.—Bro. Thomas E. Frantz, Pastor.