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R. D. 1.  
Mahaffey, Pa.



# 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 12

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No. 7

## A Challenge To Holy Living

*"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy: break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Hosea 10:12*

### *The Situation Is Dark*

The text is lifted for our meditation from a part of Hosea's address to his countrymen. He came upon the scene while great changes were taking place in both the Church and the Nation. The task to which Hosea was called to discharge was not an easy one; however, he — like Isaiah — went forth to *"cry aloud and spare not."* His message was directed against a government that was unsettled, and a people who had lost all sense of shame. They had cast every restraining influence to the winds. There was no moral energy in their hearts, and no self-control in their lives. How like today!

*"Whoredom and wine, and new wine,"* he tells us, took away the understanding of his people. He further states they had eaten of the fruit of lies (See Ch. 10:13). It was this same trouble that brought grief and sorrow to the heart of Jeremiah, until he cried, *"Oh, that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people."*

Deception in any form is bad, but to be deceived spiritually is far worse, as it leads to eternal doom. One can easily understand the burden of Jeremiah's heart, for the Bible is self-explanatory, *"They have healed the hurt of the*

*daughters of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace."* (Jeremiah 8:11.) Hear the words of the New Testa-

## My Mother's Bible

This Book is all that's left me now.  
Tears will unbidden start,  
With faltering heart, and throbbing brow,  
I press it to my heart.  
For many generations past,  
Here is our family tree;  
My mother's hands this Bible clasp'd,  
She dying, gave it me.

Ah! Well do I remember those,  
Whose names these records bear;  
Who 'round the hearthstone used to close,  
After the evening prayer,  
And spoke of what these pages said,  
In tones my heart would thrill.  
Though they are with the silent dead,  
Here are they living still.

My father read this Holy Book,  
To brothers, sisters, dear.  
How calm was my poor mother's look,  
Who loved God's Word to hear.  
Her angel face — I see it yet —  
What thronging memories come  
Again that little group is met,  
Within the walls of home.

Thou truest Friend man ever knew,  
Thy constancy I've tried;  
Where all were false I found thee true,  
My counselor and guide.  
The mines of earth no treasures give,  
That could this volume buy;  
In teaching me the way to live,  
It taught me how to die.  
—(Author unknown, Found in an Old  
School Book in Longhand)

*ment: "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes,*

*and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them."* Matt. 13:15.

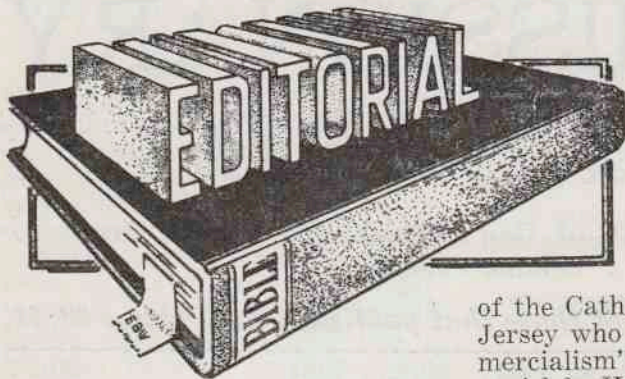
Though Hosea was called upon to reprimand his people and to expose sin in high places, he did it with love and kindness, for his chief objective was to turn them from the paths of sin and idolatry. He makes it very clear they were an empty vine merely playing the part of a religious clown in the spiritual world. They lacked nothing as far as form was concerned, but were perfect strangers to the realities of true religion.

### *Breaking Up Fallow Ground Necessary*

It was to the above group that Hosea directed the words of the text, *"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy: break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord."* "Fallow ground" is ground left untilled or slightly plowed. It is the will of God by the Holy Spirit to break up the great deep of man's heart and plough through everything that is unlike God. In desiring the rain of real righteousness we must be willing to *"prepare the way of the Lord"* by forsaking every known sin, and, so far as possible, right every wrong that has been done against God and man. This isn't always the easiest thing to do, but it is necessary and essential to have a personal revival. To repent is to feel and acknowledge the natural blindness, corruption and detestable impurity festering within us. It is to lament, and, from the bottom of our hearts, bewail the deplorable crookedness of our nature. We must be willing to for-

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## Religion Void of The Holy Ghost

It has been said that General Booth of the Salvation Army feared that in the latter days there would be "Religion without the Holy Ghost." Without being overly pessimistic, we are forced to agree quite clearly with Brother Booth of a bygone age. While this scribe deplores the usual attitude prevalent in some circles (That everyone is backslidden and that nobody, but Nobody, but NOBODY loves the Lord), it is becoming increasingly certain that the Holy Spirit has nothing to do with a lot we call "religious."

If you want to be blessed, re-read the words of Jesus: "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." (John 16:8) Chapters 14, 15, and 16 of John tell us much about the ministry of the Holy Ghost. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; Whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth WITH you, and shall be IN you." (John 14:16, 17.) Note that the Holy Spirit is "with" the converted believer, but "in" (within) the sanctified believer. Then, see the truth, any measure of God's grace involves the Holy Spirit, but the worship of worldlings is plainly to be without the Spirit.

Sermons as dry as dust. Drunkards in the choir. Unfaithful husbands teaching Sunday School classes. Suppers in the basement to raise money or any number of projects. Did you read

of the Catholic priest over in New Jersey who decided that the "commercialism" had to stop in his parish? He gave his attention to the matter in several explanatory letters to his communicants, and on the first Sunday in 1961, advised the members that they would go on a 10% tithing plan to support their church. Shame on Holiness professors who cheat God out of their tenth!

Many churches have gone to movies in the evening services to get people into church. Others have introduced skits and plays to entertain the young and old alike. Preachers are inviting visiting scientists, and some even have Communist-front members holding "peace missions" in their services. Is it any wonder that the youth of this age are unacquainted with the reality of old-time religion?

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26. This is a marvelous reality in the hearts of God's people. Did you ever sit in a free service, when some brother or sister "struck up" an old chorus or hymn that hadn't been used for years? The Spirit brought it to their remembrance, and it was wonderfully used to bless and break up hearts. Un-emotional services are the aim of today, and we are considered to be "back numbers" when we long for the "Glory" to descend, our waiting hearts to bless! It is related that the colored saint, Amanda Smith, one time sat in a white service. She appreciated the Lord's goodness, and was overwhelmed by a sense of His Presence even in this dry, barren atmosphere. God spoke to her to raise her little black hand. She hesitated, but the voice came again, "Amanda, raise your little black hand, and

give Me praise." Falteringly, she raised the black hand to the skies, and soon the diamonds were rolling from her eyes as she wept at God's Glory revealed to her soul. The meeting broke up into a time of seeking God, and souls were converted. Why is it that people can scream their lives out at a political celebration, or the parade of a president down an avenue, but cannot even lift their eyes in the Presence of the Glorious Ancient of Days!

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." John 15:26, 27. Having the Holy Spirit testi-

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## BACKGROUND

by  
BECHTEL

**Editor's Note:** Rev. Ira W. Bechtel, the author of this column each month, is District Superintendent of the Holiness Christian Church in the U. S. A. We appreciate his messages, and you will be pleased to read now of a jail-house revival!



*"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake,*

*so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed."* Acts 16:25, 26.

A revival at midnight was an unusual occurrence in the year 53 A. D. In some areas it would probably be an unusual occurrence in the year 1961 A.D. To say the least the conditions in the city of Philippi were far from conducive to a time of soul saving and judging from present day methods of planning and organization for a revival some of us would have declared that it would be of no use to try to get some folk saved.

But there was a remarkable spiritual awakening! What was the background of this extraordinary event? Who were the persons involved in this episode that brought a literal earthquake and a spiritual earthquake to Philippi?

Without fanfare but under the direction of the Holy Spirit four evangelists came to Philippi. The Book of Acts identifies three of them by name. They were Paul, Timothy and Silas. Luke, the author of the Book associates himself with this experience by the use of the pronouns we and us.

These men of God sought out the place of prayer by a river side and began a ministry of personal evangelism. The first converts were Lydia and her household. They acknowledged their faith by following the Lord in baptism. Not only did Lydia open

her heart to the Lord but she also opened her home to the evangelistic party.

The Kingdom of God seldom advances along a smooth and easy road. Glowing accounts may be given of some meetings but let us always remember we are engaged in a spiritual warfare. Forces of evil are constantly at work against the preaching of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Persecution, misunderstanding, resentments and even outward hostility are ever present to hinder an effort to win others for Christ. All is needed is some occasion to fan a smoldering fire into flame. It came to Paul and his companions in Philippi.

Paul and the brethren refused to accept the testimony of a damsel who had "a spirit of divination." While her testimony concerning them and their message was true it was not given to aid the cause of Christ but to bring gain to her masters. After a time of forbearance the apostle cast out the spirit who possessed the damsel, to the dismay of her masters. They were enraged because their hope of gains was gone.

In their rage they caught Paul and Silas and brought them to the magistrates and presented charges against them accusing them of being Jews who exceedingly troubled the city. These men of God were beaten, placed into the inner prison and their feet fastened in stocks. At this hour no one would have expected a gracious outpouring of the grace of God before the dawn of another day.

In the blackness of midnight, confined in a most painful position with backs bleeding and sore, falsely accused and unjustly imprisoned, Paul and Silas began to pray and sing. I wish I knew the words and music of the songs they sang. No doubt Timothy, Luke, and Lydia with her household were holding a prayer meeting at her home. And heaven was witnessing all that was taking place.

In circumstances such as these something would have to happen and it did. An earthquake came to the prison. It came to bring release. The doors were not jammed shut, they were opened. Walls did not fall upon the prisoners; they trembled to loosen the chains that bound them. A

heaven sent earthquake may terrify the guilty but it sets at liberty the captives as it breaks their bonds and opens prison doors.

In the midst of this seeming confusion the jailer cried out only to be reassured by Paul and after he called for a light he sought the greater light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He accepted the truth. His heart was changed and he humbly washed the stripes of Paul and Silas, and then was baptized with all his house. No doubt Paul and Silas had been imprisoned without food and water but that was soon remedied as the jailer invited them into his home for an after midnight meal. While this was taking place there was a time of rejoicing in the Lord.

This time of soul saving came because God was faithful, the disciples did not fail under pressure and because the hearts of the jailer and his house were open to divine truth and the moving of the Spirit of God. The attitude of Paul and the brethren is so strikingly revealed in the last verse of this chapter, "And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed." Paul and the brethren did not seek comfort; they gave it. Perhaps when we learn to think less of our own trials and more of the spiritual needs of others we shall prepare for revival at midnight, even in smug self-satisfied America.

—Rev. Ira W. Bechtel



### Evangelists' Slate

Miller, Rev. Paul & Wife (Home address: 328 Bellefonte Ave., Lock Haven, Pa.)  
Evangelist and Singers.

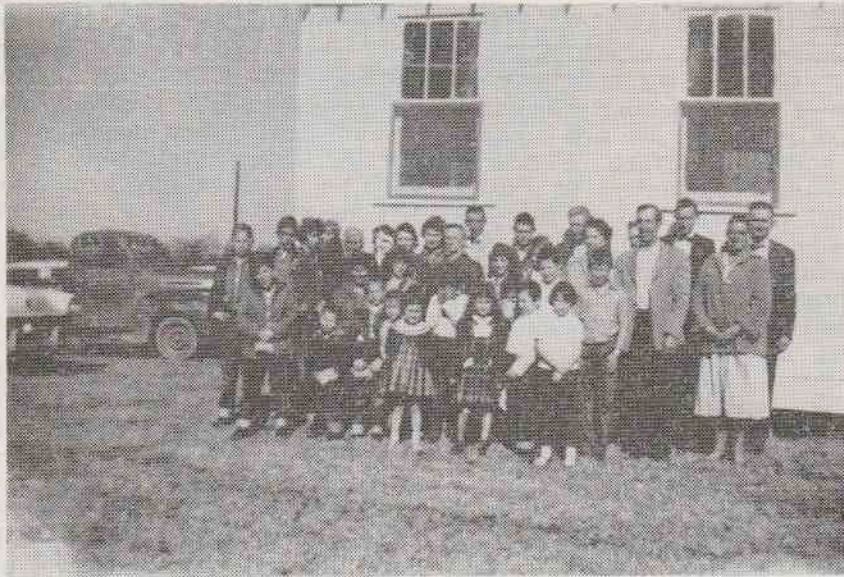
Moore, Marlin E. & Wife (Home Address: Aaronsburg, Pa.)  
Evangelist and Singers.

Locks Banks, Lewistown, Pa.  
(Evan. Methodist) — March 17 - April 2

Pleasant View, Bellefonte, Pa.  
(God's Missionary) — April 9 - 23



## The Church of the Month



Church group at Tichnor, Arkansas. Pastor, Rev. Henry Tharp and wife are at the extreme right of the picture.

### A Few Lines From Arkansas

Jan. 16, 1961

Dear Brother Straub:

Greetings in Jesus Name. Just a line to let you know that I am still thinking of you, with everything going very nicely out here. I trust this letter finds you well. Our Church runs up to forty each Sunday, and the enclosed picture was taken on Christmas Day when we had 35 in attendance. Keep praying for us, as we need your prayers. God is blessing and we are looking forward to a larger attendance when spring comes, as it is hard for some of the folk to get to Church when it rains. (Editor's note: Rain in Arkansas turns the roads into literal seas of mud, and makes many rural highways impassable for weeks at a time.)

It has been three years since we re-lived the work this time. May the Lord add His richest blessings to you.

Rev. Henry Tharp

### Playing Church Brings Results

Barbara and Daniel Smith of Watsontown, Pa., "played church" last summer in the yard, and they had the neighbor children come in for the services. They sang,

played music, prayed, took offerings, and preached. It is reported that one of the children found the Lord. Some time ago the children brought the offering they had received and put it in the Sunday School missionary offering. It was \$3.75. I think that was a fine thing. May God bless all who took part in their children's church, and may we have more of this kind of "play church." The Smith children are members of the Sunday School of God's Missionary Church at Spring Garden, Pa.

—Pastor, Rev. Raymond Hoffman

### Revival Notice

Spring Garden, Pa., March 15-16, 1961. Evangelist, Rev. F. W. Nason of Ohio. Special singing by the Nason Party. Your prayers and presence requested by Pastor, Rev. Raymond Hoffman

### A Little Chat With The Editor

9 February 1961

Dear Friends:

Christian Greetings! I wish it were possible for you to be with me here in the office of the Milesburg Church this evening so that we could chat together regarding some of the victories, as well as some of the pressing problems, of the STANDARD. As you know, your

humble servant has been working as Editor this time since October of 1960, and we have much to learn about publishing "good tidings of great joy."

We would like very much if EVERYONE reading these lines would subscribe for a friend or a relative. That would give us twice the out reach with these sermons, stories, and announcements. Is your renewal due? Did you let the notice that came in your paper go by unheeded? If you're in doubt about how you stand, send a thin George Washington dollar bill today to Miss Eva Bailey at Centre Hall, Pa., and simply ask to have your subscription extended for the amount of one dollar.

She'll do it at once. Her heart rejoices when you write to tell her you are renewing again, and she feels personally responsible for the many who have failed to renew for months and months. Whose fault is it, really? Do you know? I believe you do.

Would you like to have samples to give out to your friends and acquaintances? Send some stamps to defray postage charges to the EDITOR: P. O. Box 376, Milesburg, Pa., and you'll get a selection of back copies to distribute free of charge, and someone may find the Lord through this means. I pray so!!

If you are reading a SAMPLE copy of the STANDARD, do please consider this our invitation to you to become a regular member of our family of subscribers. \$1.00 will get you 12 issues, and you may continue with us a long time, for we know if you enjoy spiritual messages, you will look forward with pleasure to the truths of the regular staff writers, and the new features coming your way in 1961, God willing.

Reader, may I count on you to help in this work of making Christ known through the ministry of the printed page? If an army of God's people will get behind this humble ministry with their prayers and efforts, it will gladden the heart of our God, and also of

Yours, "Serving the Master,"

Thomas E. Frantz, Editor

GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

"The trees on the Penns Creek Camp Ground will soon be budding again." It is time to PRAY, PLAN, and PREPARE for the Summer Camp. Workers are to be: Rev. H. E. Darnell, Rev. Willis Miller, The West Virginia Trio, and others.

July 18-30, 1961

Penns Creek Camp Grove, Penns Creek, Pa.



## Reconsidering Our Stand Against The Movies

Editor's Note: We consider the following message to be of vital importance, and are printing it as was recently contained in the January 25, 1961, issue of HERALD OF HOLINESS.

By Wesley D. Tracy

Are we wrong about the movies? Have we been mistaken about Hollywood? Is it really a paragon of virtue instead of a playground of vice? Perhaps we should reconsider our traditional stand and ask ourselves some serious questions about the movies.

(1) *Are we wrong in believing that movie morals are corrupt?*

Movie titles alone are evidence enough for us to see that we are not wrong. Such titles as "The Mating Game," "Fast and Sexy," "Let's Make Love," and "Sex Kittens Go to College" reveal the moral content of the movies. Advertising blurbs are just as revealing. Here are a few from today's *Kansas City Star*: "See girls corrupted," "the most diabolical murderer," "the sensuous body." This is the moral tone of the theater.

Dr. Fred Eastman of Chicago Theological Seminary says of Hollywood, "Its stories are peopled with crooks, gunmen, prostitutes, and drunkards."

The *Los Angeles Times* declares, "We might as well be frank . . . The pictures that are selling . . . are . . . made of smut."

One minister, the members of whose denomination spend three times as much on movies as they give to missions, made a personal survey of one hundred films. He discovered that sex was the theme of seventy-nine of them. The hero or heroine was involved in adultery thirty-five times, eighty-seven films honored drinking, and seventy-two had "bedroom" scenes.

A converted movie actress testifies, "Pen cannot describe the sin, sorrow, wickedness, and wretchedness that exist in this modern Sodom."

The above evidence points to one thing — the conscience of the church is not wrong in condemning movie morals.

(2) *Are we mistaken when we say that movies manufacture criminals?*

The Production Code of the Motion Picture Association of America, Incorporated, reads in part:

"No picture shall be produced which will lower moral standards. . . . Hence the sympathy of the audience shall never be thrown to . . . crime, wrongdoing, evil, or sin. . . .

"Law — divine, natural or human, shall not be ridiculed, nor shall sympathy be created for its violation."

In spite of this noble pledge, one year one censorship board eliminated 4,825 scenes tending to incite crime. In a detailed study of 40 films, Dr. Dale discovered that 57 criminals committed 62 crimes and only 7 were punished by law.

A survey of reformatories conducted by Drs. Blumer and Hauser recorded "thirty-two separate . . . items of crime technique" which the young prisoners learned from the movies.

Yes, we will have to hold to the facts — movies foster crime.

(3) *Are we wrong in our conviction that movies incite passion and lust?*

In the Payne Fund Survey, teen-agers testified with brutal frankness that movies do incite passion and inflame lust. These records reveal such a desperate depravity that it cannot, for modesty's sake, here be described.

Seventy-two per cent of the girls in one reformatory testified that they had "imitated the movies." In another, nearly one-half the girls confessed that "passionate love scenes had led them to become delinquent."

Many teen-age boys re-echoed the following testimony of a sixteen-year-old sex delinquent: "I took a girl to one of these pictures . . . and we did everything they did in the picture." Multiplied over and over again were testimonies such as this one given by a seventeen-year-old sex delinquent girl: "The thing most responsible for getting me into trouble is these love pictures."

This is a sordid subject, yet the facts reveal that these scenes of wickedness and passion are nourished and cherished and imitated by many viewers, especially teen-agers.

(4) *Are we wrong when we say that it is worse than useless to try to "pick the good ones"?*

A council in St. Louis, made up of Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish organizations, was set up for this very purpose. Within fifteen years this council was recommending 98 per cent of all Hollywood productions.

Several religious magazines have tried the same thing. *Christian Century* attempts to pick the few "good biscuits" from Hollywood's "swill pail." However, one investigation reveals that thirty-eight films recommended by this magazine contained the following violations of Christian morals: adultery appeared in eight films; there were sixty-one crimes, thirty-three dancing scenes; in thirty-four the hero or heroine was a drinker; twenty-five had questionable nude displays; twenty-three contained smutty jokes; and twenty-eight had "bedroom" scenes.

## Meditations By Moore

St. Luke 6:31: "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise."

There are so many things that make nice stories for our children, such as the lives of Lincoln and Washington, and other great men. There are also the tales of the tragic failures of others. Personally, I like what President Kennedy said in his inaugural address, quote, "— and so, my fellow-Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." In other words, "AS YE WOULD THAT MEN SHOULD DO TO YOU, DO YE ALSO TO THEM LIKEWISE." The story seems to be the same generation after generation. It is so easy to praise those who have won, instead of take up the torch where they have fallen, and bear it on. It is so natural to cheer the winner, and

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## "A CLOUD OF WITNESSES" Hebrews 12:1

**Editor's Note:** It is our desire to print the testimonies of various brethren, feeling that the way they came to know the Lord may be just the extra "push" required to help some reader to track out for God. The second one in this series is the testimony of my brother-in-law, Charles McDonald of Allentown, who recently came back to the Lord after a number of years absence from the fold. He is the Youth Leader of his Church, and has been busily engaged in various Christian work in his community.

I thank God for this opportunity to witness to the wonderful saving and sanctifying power of our Lord through His beloved Son, Jesus Christ. After reading the ninth chapter of St. John recently, it was revealed to me that an amazing parallel existed between the blind man mentioned here and myself. For once I was spiritually blind, but then one day Jesus passed by and anointed my eyes by cleansing my heart. I replied to Jesus as did the blind man, "Lord, I believe."

How, you may ask, did this spiritual eye operation take place? Let us consider the answer the blind man gave to the Pharisees who asked him, "What did He do to thee? How opened he thine eyes?" The blind man said, "One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."

I can truly imagine the tremendous joy expressed by this poor soul, blind since birth, once he was made to see. For truly I have walked that path, blind to the chains of sin that once held me fast. Then I met Jesus who cleansed my heart and anointed my eyes, spiritually. Oh, I shall never forget that day of spiritual awakening!

I, like this man who had been blind, became eager to tell someone. Yes, eager to witness to my neighbors, friends, and relatives. I made several phone calls to proclaim, "Yes, once I was blind, but now I see." (Editor's Note: One of these was to the Editor's wife, his sister, late at night. It brought a shout from both ends of the wire. Amen.) Praise the precious holy name of Jesus. As I pen these words of testimony, my

heart thrills within me. I shall never forget that glorious, wonderful indescribable feeling. Truly, the shouts of joy cannot be contained within. Certainly, to God be all the glory!

I can never express in writing that gratitude I hold toward all who remembered me in their prayers. Truly, the reward will be made in heaven. I must journey there to meet those who have gone before. Won't it be wonderful to rejoice together some sweet day! Until then, I have purposed in my heart to join in this daily task of prevailing in prayer for the spiritual blind. This should be the responsibility of every Christian, for there is much work to be done and truly the harvest is at hand.

Indeed, I am thankful today I can shout and testify as did the blind man who had been born blind, "One thing I know, whereas I was blind, now I see."

—Charles McDonald

## A Challenge To Holy Living

(Continued from page 1)

sake every idol and every sinful practice and desire, as well as every unholy passion.

### Giving Honor To the Holy Spirit

When the Holy Ghost is honored He will enable every seeker to know what God requires and expects of him, for in the case of the Hebrew Church they were commanded to "break up the fallow ground, and sow the seeds of righteousness." Since the Spirit of God is given to "reprove the world of sin and of righteousness, and of Judgment to come," He should be highly honored and recognized, and allowed to have His rightful place in our midst, for indeed the Scripture teaches us, "If we draw nigh unto God, He will draw nigh unto us." Since it is possible to insult and wound the Holy Spirit we are cautioned against hardening our hearts against Him: "Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Be careful to give God your undivided attention, and

hearken diligently unto Him as it is your soul that is at stake.

It is not the most pleasant thing to have God break up the "fallow ground" of our hearts, but it is part of the work of the Spirit to crush and tender the spirit of man so that our need of Him might be sensed. At times God uses drastic methods to awaken hearts. In some cases it takes misfortunes, set-backs, and reverses to get man to thinking. Then there are those who are brought to Christ through the death of a friend or loved one. In either case the Psalmist has declared, "The Lord is nigh unto them of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a broken and contrite spirit."

### Seeking Until the Answer Comes

The extent of one's seeking is mentioned by the Prophet, "... Till he come and rain righteousness upon you." Since God is not pleased with superficial work on any line, He loves thoroughness, and if we give Him His rightful place in our affections, a genuine experience will be the result. Notice what happened to Zacchaeus in Luke 19:8: "And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore it fourfold."

The reason there is so much superficial work, and backsliding in the churches today, is largely due to the fact that there has been too much shallowness in one's seeking and repentance.

When the Church of God is free from worldliness and sin, and conformed to the will of God, the standard of what a Christian should be will be high. The fully awakened soul will see the evils of worldly conformity and allegiance. There will be little need of special exhortations to them regarding the evils of improper amusements, or worldly conformity, be it the dress question or the card table, dance, or theatre. In fact, old-time conviction deals with many of these things, to say nothing of saving grace.

Righteousness is the fruit of an inward work of grace, and that which God declares exalteth a nation. It is to this Hosea sought to awaken his people. How won-

(Continued on page 9)



## A Captive Redeemed

Many years ago in U. S. A., near the Indian frontier, a white man lived with his two daughters. The younger, a fair-haired child of five, was her father's joy and pride. Their mother died when she was an infant, and the elder sister had nursed her with unceasing care.

There lived across the frontier a warlike tribe of Indians, headed by a powerful chief, who bore the name of Trailing Serpent. The white settler had incurred the hatred of this chief, who conceived a fiendish plan. One day he saw the white man's little girl playing by herself in the grounds around her father's house, and skilfully enticing her to follow him a little way he seized the child and carried her off. Away far over the prairies Trailing Serpent carried his prize, far from her happy childhood's home, and from those who loved her dearer than life.

When the white man missed his child, he was frantic with grief. His hair became quickly white, his manly form bowed with the weight of his sorrow, yet his heart was set on the recovery of his lost child. For fourteen long years he sought in vain. At last a trapper from the Far West brought him the news that his daughter lived in the midst of a tribe of Indians many miles away, that she wore their dress, and was in every way as one of themselves. The father started off with a heavy ransom in his hand, hoping to redeem his long-lost loved one. After many a weary mile he reached the place, and had an audience with Trailing Serpent.

The chief eyed the offered gold, yet he was unwilling to deliver up his prey. At last he proposed a compromise: "The girl," said he, "is an Indian in heart and life; she is ours, body and soul. She will refuse to leave us, or to go with you. However, you shall have her for a month. If in that time you win her back, the gold will be mine. If she wishes to return, you shall let her go but the gold shall still be mine," said the chief with a malicious grin.

The father willingly agreed to this proposal, and his daughter

was brought forth. But, oh, how changed! An Indian in dress and in heart, she did not recognize, in the one who had purchased her, her own father. Nay, more, she looked upon him with hatred and scorn, as one who was forcing her from her people and her home. She would not listen to his story, she would not believe his love. This was the bitterest pang of all, and it wrung that father's heart with anguish.

As they neared the home of her childhood his elder daughter, who had come out to meet them, and who tried in vain to win her sister's heart, began to sing a well-known hymn, that she had often sung to her when a child in the happy days long gone by. The first verse passed unheeded, but as the sweet voice of the singer continued, the eyes of the lost one fixed themselves upon her and a strange light began to spread itself over her countenance.

"Go on," whispered the father as he saw the wonderful effect of that lovesong of childhood's days, and thus hymn after hymn rose on the evening air. When the singing ceased, the girl heaved a heavy sigh as if some great deliverance had been wrought within. With her eyes fixed, first on the singer, and then on the man who led her by the hand, she burst into a flood of tears, and cried out: "My father," and sprang into the outstretched arms that soon enfolded her, and clasped her to his bosom.

There was great joy there that night — the joy of the father who had found his lost one, the joy of the lost one who had been welcomed home, and the rejoicing of friends and servants who gathered to share the common joy — a

faint picture of what takes place when a lost and captive sinner is released from Satan's chains, and, believing the love of God, is brought into the children's place, redeemed, regenerated, and reconciled. Reader, has there been such a joy in Heaven over you?

When the month had expired, Trailing Serpent sent his messenger to bring back his captive, but to their astonishment they found her clothed in English dress, sitting by her father's side, holding his hand. In answer to their demand, she replied: "I am my father's child; he sought and found me, redeemed me, and brought me back, and I will remain with him forever."

This touching tale illustrates the truth of a worse captivity, and a greater redemption. Another "Trailing Serpent" has carried away his captive. "That old serpent, the devil," who entered Eden long ago, has carried sinners far from God and Heaven, into captivity. But the God of Heaven has set His heart upon them. He has paid a mighty ransom for their deliverance, even the precious blood of Jesus Christ His Son. The Holy Spirit brings the wondrous tidings of that love and redemption to all of you this day, and He wants you to give it a welcome. Say truly in your heart:

*"Even now by faith I claim Him  
mine,*

*The risen Son of God:  
Redemption by His death I find,  
And cleansing through His  
blood!"*

and salvation is yours for time and eternity, for the Saviour who has redeemed you will never give you up again.

—American Magazine

## A Gospel Picture

(Continued from page 8)

Christ and the ushering in of everlasting righteousness, with the heavenly city which has foundations (See Heb. 11:9, 10).

The obedience of Abraham and Isaac to the Lord brought great joy to their hearts. Their reward and joy were much greater than their sacrifice and sorrow, which were endured but for a short season. Even so, the infinite sacrifice which the infinite Savior made brought infinite joy to the Father and Christ. The blessed results and joy of Christ's offering will be shared with all who receive Christ by faith.

(To be continued)





# The STANDARD PULPIT

## A Gospel Picture

(Continued from last issue)

### *Isaac Became a Willing Offering*

After Abraham came to the mount which the Lord showed him, he erected an altar of rude stones and set the wood in order. It may have been then with tears in his eyes that he called his son Isaac to him and kindly talked to him. Probably he reviewed the past to his son, even his call, his arrival in Canaan, the promises of God, and his (Isaac's) birth in his old age. He then may have given him a lesson on submission and obedience, and told him that we should love the Lord supremely and be willing to die for Him. Then he may have told him what the Lord demanded three days before and that he was to be offered up, and assuring his son of God's promises and that the Lord would raise him up, for in Isaac his seed would be called. Isaac became a willing offering, was bound and laid on the wood on the altar. Jesus Christ willingly offered himself in sacrifice to God. He was not drafted, or driven to go to the cross. He was not compelled to go to the cross as it often is unscripturally illustrated. Before an angel was created, or a man was on the scene, in the sight of God who fills all time and space, Christ was accounted as the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world. This was an accomplished fact with God. It all was done willingly and freely because He loved the Father.

It is significant that Isaac was offered on a mount instead of being offered at home. Abraham was commanded to go into the land of Moriah. Moriah means, "foreseen by the Lord," or "the Lord will provide." Abraham named the place Jehovah-jireh, meaning, "In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen." In the days of Solomon, the temple was built on Mount Moriah. The temple site had been purchased by David, and it was on this mountain that the Lord manifested Himself on different occasions. The Lord manifested Himself to Abraham on this Mount and pulled the curtains of time back and allowed him to see future events which would be fulfilled in due time. Evidently this was the occasion and the place that Abraham saw the day of Christ and rejoiced (John 8:56). Christ also was offered on a Mount outside the city of Jerusalem, even Mount Calvary. Peter writes that this thing was not done in a corner. The crucifixion of Christ was the most open and conspicuous event of all history.

### *Three Day's Journey*

It took Abraham three days to reach the place of offering. From the time he received the call to offer Isaac until the ordeal was over and Isaac set free, his son was practically as dead to Abraham. When Christ was offered He actually died and was buried. For three days He was dead and buried.

### *A Substitute*

Abraham really went through with the Lord. In will and consent, he did as the Lord commanded him. Isaac was released and set aside. He had a substitute. The ram was offered up in his stead. Isaac was born in sin, and he could not become a meritorious offering, for he needed an offering. This figure is more beautiful and interesting than if he had been slain and consumed on the altar. In type, this gives us the doctrine of substitutionary atonement. Jesus Christ had no substitute. He Himself was the Substitute. There could be no substitute for Him. No one could take His place, for all men were in need of a Substitute. One became a Substitute for all.

### *Father Receives Son Again*

The son was not lost to the father, but the father received him back again, to be loved more than before the offerings. Isaac returned home with his father to remain in the home from whence he was honored and promoted. The soul of Christ could not remain in hell, nor His body in the grave. He came to His own, but His own received Him not. There was no room for Him. The Father received Him and gave Him a place at His right hand.

### *A Figure of the Resurrection*

Abraham believed in the resurrection. He was confident that God would raise his son Isaac up out of the ashes, from whence he received him in a figure (Heb. 11:19). Abraham believed God would keep His word, and that in order to fulfill all promises, He must raise him up. The Lord Jesus was in the grave three days. His body did not see corruption. He was resurrected from the dead and became the firstfruits of them that slept.

### *The Reward for Obedience*

It was after Isaac was released and set aside that the ram was offered. While the ram was being consumed in the fire, the Lord revealed Himself to Abraham again. Abraham was greatly blessed, and no doubt Isaac also was blessed. No doubt this was the time in which Abraham saw the day of Christ and greatly rejoiced (See John 8:56). This was the time when the Lord allowed Abraham to look into the future, even see the birth of Christ, the Incarnation and enfleshment of the Son of God, the death and resurrection of Christ, with the great atonement He made. Then he certainly saw the triumph of Christ over Satan and sin, the glorious reign of

(Continued on page 7)



## Our Losses

Friday night, January 27, 1961, was an unforgettable night to this scribe. I had been to the local hospital to visit some patients, among them a new brother, Claude J. Corl. I was shocked to hear the words from Dr. George S. White that Brother Corl had suddenly gone out to meet the Lord at 11:30 p.m. I went along with the son to tell Sister Corl, that late hour. Naturally, she was much shocked, since it had been only a few hours since she had bid him goodbye at the hospital. He had been making good progress, and there was hope he would make a complete recovery, since he was only in his early fifties.

Upon my leaving the Corl home after prayer and comfort with the family, I stopped by the Centre County Hospital to see how the room-mate of Brother Corl's had stood the shock of his passing, for he, too, was a coronary heart patient. It was 1:00 a.m. and the lights were low in the corridors as I quietly talked with the nurses at first floor station. They assured me that Mr. William Kern, Brother Corl's room-mate, would hear the news quietly and easily. I told them to inform him that I would be in early to visit and pray with him, as I had previously every day while visiting Brother Corl, as Mr. Kern had no pastor visiting him. Imagine my shock when the phone rang beside my bed at 6:30 a.m. the next morning, and I learned from the head nurse that Mr. Kern also had been called into eternity.

Two men, about the same years in age, in the same room of the same hospital, with the same physical affliction, with the same doctor, and the same pastor, died the same night.

Brother Corl's funeral was held on January 30, 1961, from the Bellefonte Wetzler Funeral Home, and Mr. Kern's the following day from the Bellefonte Hindman Home. It was my privilege to officiate at these services, and to point the family of both to the Lord for comfort and care. May all STANDARD readers everywhere pray for these bereaved ones!

—Rev. Thomas E. Frantz

## Suggestions For Manuscripts



**Editor's Note:** Due to the increasingly busy schedule the Editor faces, it will become necessary immediately to make effective the following regulations on manuscripts received for publication in the STANDARD. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated to help reduce the work load at the Editorial staff's desk:

- (1) All Manuscripts shall be typed on standard size type-writer paper, with the sentences arranged in double-spacing, and paragraphs properly headed and arranged.
- (2) It is suggested that each writer re-read his manuscript, so as to correct poor spelling, poor sentence construction, and the like. Then, re-type the entire arrangement.
- (3) We do not like to accept carbon copies of articles appearing in other papers. They are too often blurred and hard to read. Please give us a first copy.
- (4) All Scripture quotations should be enclosed in quotations, together with the reference, chapter and verse of the book of the Bible mentioned.
- (5) All Manuscripts shall be PRAYED OVER, PORED OVER, and sometimes PREPARED OVER. Then we'll all be blessed by the good material our fine contributors send us. Keep loving the Editor, as he is interested in your good and God's Glory.



## A Challenge To Holy Living

(Continued from page 6)

derful it would be if we could get our statesmen to see this, for God is the answer to the problems and ills of the world. Champagne and cocktail parties would end all over the country, in the White House, too, as sin ceases to function when God takes over, and "rains righteousness."

—Rev. George I. Straub,  
General Superintendent

## Religion Void of The Holy Ghost

(Continued from page 2)

fy inwardly to the Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ is rapture unexplainable to the worldly-minded about us. The farmer that offered many prayers for this writer used to say to me: "Son, I can't explain it to you. You will have to feel for yourself, but you'll know when the work is done." A dear friend of mine is as comfortable tonight as can be after an accident in a local stone mine, many hundreds of feet below the surface. The first words he said when this preacher approached his bed, "Reverend, God never makes a mistake!" This chap was testifying to all who would listen that Christ was sufficient to carry him through any heartache that came. Another dear friend, who recently got into close relationship with Christ, took my hand in the local hospital and said, "I know it's only through the Grace of God that I am here." He slipped off to heaven a few nights later. Look, beloved, as Moody said, "Lighthouses don't ring bells. They just shine." We don't have to sound a siren when we testify, but a life, lived with Christ and the Holy Spirit to honor, is an effective, witnessing existence.

*"Howbeit when he the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. . . ."* John 16: 13. Christ makes it plain in these words that the Holy Spirit is the Master Teacher. If this is true — AND WELL WE KNOW IT IS — we can well understand why some preachers have such dry messages. They get them from the Reader's Digest, the local paper, and the funnies. Anyone who knows the pulse of the age is well-informed in any pure line of information, but to center messages on anything but the lovely, revealed Word of God is to become a traitor to the faith "*once delivered to the saints.*" Yes, General Booth, the danger exists today, but sanctified saints are giving way to the Holy Spirit so that we may enjoy RELIGION INSPIRED BY THE HOLY GHOST even today!





## Missionary Work In A Strife-Torn Land

By the General Superintendent

Since diplomatic relations have been broken off with Fidel Castro's Revolutionary Government in Cuba, and our American missionaries called back to the States many of our STANDARD readers have been wondering about our Missionary activities and work on the Island.

As of now we are happy to report that there has been no violence or interference with our native Churches, as the doors are open and functioning as before. God has blessed and favored us with a number of sanctified native ministers who are now in charge of the work, with Rev. Ramon Seymore as the Supervisor of the field. Reports from the field are very encouraging in spite of all the reverses and setbacks in Cuba since the Communists came to power.

It is true that the Catholic Church has encountered some opposition from the Castro Government; however, this came about as a result of their political interference. Since it is not a good policy at any time for our missionaries to get involved in political affairs we propose to preach Christ as He said, *"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."*

### *A Quick Glance at the Past*

During the years that we have been operating in Cuba God has helped us to establish several churches that are now shining as a beacon in a dark, sin-ridden country, pointing suffering humanity to the fountains of living water. Fifteen years ago when I decided to visit a mission field to get a first hand picture of the needs, we planned to go to the Bahama Islands. The British Government refused to grant Mr. Robert Shuey and me passports to the Islands unless we went as tourists, and promise not to

preach the Gospel. This I refused to do as I well knew that if I went to any country I would preach Christ at any opportunity. Rather than suffer defeat after making that long trip to Miami, Florida, we decided to lay-over in Florida, while our passports were changed to the Island of Cuba, feeling a bit distressed over our defeat on the plans for the Bahama Islands.

### *Defeat Turned Into Victory*

The words of Romans 8:28 came to us: *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* In looking back across these years I can well see why God changed our plans and course, as I feel satisfied it was all His plan and will that the Gospel should be preached in Cuba. Little did I realize at that time the doors would soon close to the American Missionaries.

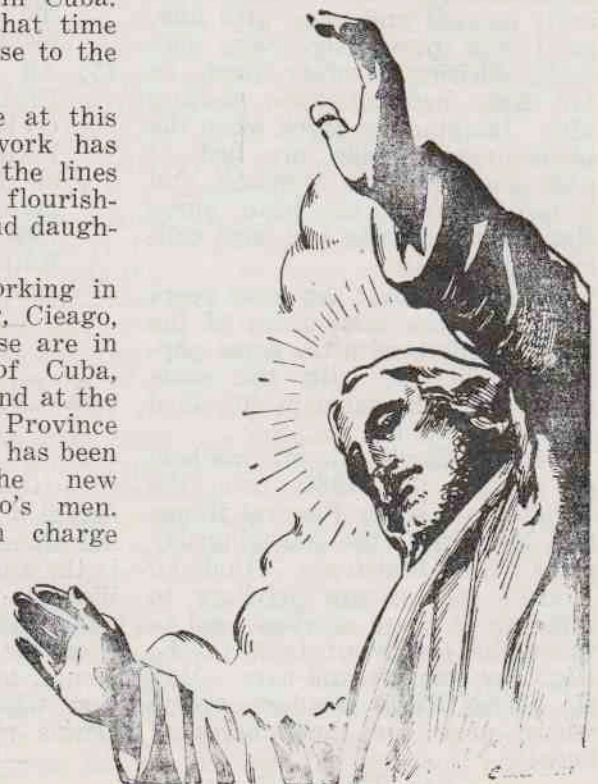
Nevertheless, I rejoice at this time to know that a work has been established behind the lines of Communism that is flourishing, and bringing sons and daughters into the Kingdom.

At present we are working in Havana, Melena Del Sur, Cieago, and Mayari, Cuba. These are in three different parts of Cuba, midway out the Island, and at the far end, in the Oriente Province where the heavy fighting has been going on between the new rebel bands and Castro's men. Brother Seymore is in charge until the doors open again to the American Missionaries.

I have been informed direct from the field that the Cuban people are responding to the Gospel as they feel the end is near at

hand. Reverend Alfredo, pastor of the church in Havana, informs us they have far out-grown their meeting house until many stand on the street to hear the Gospel. At present we are making plans to build an extra room on to this place of worship, so the people need not stand outside in the rain to hear about Christ. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the many closed, abandoned church buildings in America were over in Cuba. Everyone would be filled with worshippers. While we cannot do this, we must contribute to keep the buildings open that are now serving as soul-saving stations in this country fraught with trouble and strife.

At present we are supporting five native ministers plus the upkeep of the properties which is quite high. While many other properties have been confiscated by the Castro Government, we have been fortunate enough to





hold ours. This is an answer to prayer as we feel God has fought for us along the way. To quit supporting our native missionaries would be like closing a well that gave life-giving water, or taking food from the children's plates. If ever there was a country that needs help, it's this neighboring country which is looking our way for shelter in a time of trouble, even though the Government has turned to Communism.

Your continued support will be greatly appreciated toward this work as it's God's people who are serving as the rope holders in these perilous times.

Send all offerings for the support of Foreign Missions to the Treasurer:

Rev. Marlin Crock  
2127 Hill Street  
Lebanon, Pennsylvania

## From The Heart of Africa



Bonnie & Barbara

**Editor's Note:** These lines have been gleaned from the writings of Sister Cleaver to her family.

Killingsworth Mission  
Ding Gola Chiefdom  
Kungtown, Todee Dist.  
Monrovia, Liberia  
West Africa

Well, I am "Home" in my new home where God has called me, way up in the big "bush" in the "hinterland," and believe me, it is different. I am the only white person with my new family. I have 11 boys; they range from all sizes and ages and all of them are as nice as can be. I suppose the oldest is about 16, and the youngest is about four. We live here in the midst of the jungle, and eat the food we grow along with rice and I have bread and canned fruit. Some of the food is paw paw (something like a

melon), pineapple, grapefruit, oranges, limes, cassava, plam nuts and cola nuts. One day our home here shall be self-supporting since we have so many food-stuffs. It will be very good for then it will not be dependent upon the folks from home so much. The native people need to realize the importance of supporting themselves.

Here is an example of some of my visitors: The Chief of Kungtown, with his two wives, and a chicken for me. I gave him a can of peaches for dash and talked with them for a while. A father came with his little boy, whom he wanted to go to school here. He is a tailor, and he also brought along a chicken, and the following day sent some bananas (A whole stalk). We told them we shall be with them next week end. We shall have to start on Friday and then come back Sunday after service. I will probably go part of the way by hammock, for it is a long way through the "Bush."

I have a radio here, given to Barbara and me by the man at Elwa, the Christian radio station, and it has been worth its weight in gold. For over it I have been able to hear the news and many Christian programs, including wonderful music and sermons. I enjoy it so much, and the people

here do, too, for I do not think that they have ever had one before. Usually just before I go to bed at night I come out on the porch and we all listen to "Back to the Bible" broadcast. Last night Barbara was over at Elwa and she spoke over the radio. We were listening and we were so thrilled over it. She mentioned Kungtown and said she was glad the Lord called her there. The station plans to put radios into all the villages that want them. They should be a real blessing to the people for they have programs in Bassa, Gola, Kpelle, and Gio, as well as Crame and Mano. These are all dialects of the people.

**Editor's Note:** Sister Cleaver continues to tell of her walks through the thick jungles, and meeting people from all over the Bush, who seemed so happy to see and hear an American, and in church they all said that they knew now that God's salvation was real, for people could see this missionary had left her home to bring them the Gospel news. She can still be addressed:

Suehn Industrial Academy  
Box 65  
Monrovia, Liberia  
West Africa

I am sure that all readers of the STANDARD will join in prayer for the continued success of the ministry there, and for the safety and protection of the American girls.

N  
H  
A

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## They Rose As They Fell

God's faithful martyr, Stephen, is a classic example of rising while falling, for before his body was laid in the bosom of mother earth his soul was reclining on the bosom of God. James gives expression to this thought when he instructs us to "*Count it all joy when ye FALL into divers temptations.*" He is saying in substance, "Let your spirits rise in joy and hope as your soul falls into many disappointments."

The ability to rise spiritually while you are falling temporally is the core of Gospel victory. You are certain to fall into hard circumstances and the test of the quality of your life is discovered in your ability to rise from the ashes of burned out hopes to kindle new fires of ambition and anticipation.

Perhaps you know someone beset by some unpleasant affliction which seems to threaten their soul with many unhappy moments. Certainly to be thus beset is most undesirable, but it is a wonder to behold a child of God as the Spirit rises in joyful anthems to the praise of God's infinite Glory, while the body sinks in pain, pressed down by the hand of misfortune.

Here is a precious child of God, ground to powder by the wheel of abject poverty. He is often hungry, and many times, ragged, with no prospect of a better living. See him raise a calloused hand or shed a grateful tear in honor of the conqueror of Mount Calvary, Who paid special attention to the poor of earth. He has fallen into poverty, but his spirit is rising heavenward on wings of undaunted faith in the infinite God.

Again, see that one whom talent seems to have bypassed, leaving the individual with little hope of outstanding accomplishment in this world. Yet he sits and studies by the unsteady light of the fire-side, diligently desiring to rise above his circumstances. While he has fallen heir to many awkward and unskillful mannerisms, he refused to allow them to conquer him. Consequently, he — through toil and testing — rises in spirit, grasping each round of the ladder, and slowly climbs to

the crest of the mount.

O what a privilege is ours by the Grave of God to rise heavenward in the face of all the reverses that cause us to go earthward. Time would fail me to tell of the many martyrs who, while falling at the stake and sword, were rising to seize the everlasting prize, prepared for them by the God of all Grace.

Fellow Christian, this is thy day. Troubles beset you on every hand, threatening you with gloom and despair, yet hope and happiness await thee just within the vale. Let your spirits rise in prayer in the face of all that befalls you. Let the joy of the Lord be your daily strength. This generation will be deeply impressed as have generations past, with those who have had the Grace and courage to rise as they fall.

—George Bowen



Dear Bro. Frantz:

If you were here this afternoon you would have no doubt at all that you were in Haiti. The preliminary processions of the Mardi Gras season began last Sunday. They have had two so far today. It is a most heathenish sight: half naked people, outlandish costumes, wierd music, noise and dancing. Only the words of the apostle Paul describe it — earthly, sensual, devilish — vulgar beyond description. The tourist folders refer to some phases of the voodoo worship as "unique folk dances," but those of us who know their import shudder at the thoughts of it.

We are in language school at the present time. Two of us are living together, and we have a dog. However, we daily plead for the protection of God's angels encamping round about us. This place apparently is noted for its thievery.

I have just come through my first attack of malaria safely. Thank the Lord. A nurse was here and we had a hospital within easy access. With the exception of some weakness, I seem to be almost as good as new.

We would appreciate your prayers as we continue in these language studies:

1. For spiritual strength and encouragement.
2. For protection and guidance.
3. For health.
4. For help in gaining the language quickly.

We haven't received any letters since we have been here. Last night we got the old ones out and read them over again. We are hoping to send this out by way of Port-au-Prince with some friends, the Lord willing.

Please do pray — don't fail us now.

Sincerely in Christ,

Ellen M. Bressler

## Meditations By Moore

(Continued from page 5)

blame the guilty, instead of "WEEPING WITH THOSE WHO WEEP, AND REJOICING WITH THOSE WHO REJOICE." Do we have convictions that we will stand for in the face of the fiery furnace, or a God that we will kneel to in the face of the lions' den? Again I say, these make beautiful stories, but do we have what it takes to make these stories come to life in our generation, as did these men of past days?

Have we so learned the way of ease and luxury, security and prosperity, until we fear physical suffering or ridicule when called to defend our American or religious freedoms. The Bible says, "that if any would not work, neither should he eat." If we fail to work that which our fathers have begun, we shall soon enough go the way of others who have taken the same course. Can we not already detect that the future is a dead-end-street if we go farther without taking our bearings from the Word of God, and humbly and obediently going His way. Let us no longer boast of what others have done — but let us do something that will cause others to take notice of us.

\* \* \* \*

"As cold as the majority of religious professors are, we shouldn't be minding the zero weather too much."

\* \* \* \*

The world's greatest problem is, its people getting the things they never worked for, while the problem of the church is, forgetting the things they've always had.