



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 15

(Issued monthly, \$1.00 per year)

May, 1964

No. 9

What is Your Life?

By Rev. Fred T. Fuge

James 4:14

Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. James 4:14.

In all my deep and interesting study of God's great work in nature, I must confess that I have found nothing more amazingly wonderful than that strange and almost invisible something, which for want of a better name, we call vapor. In all the four hundred fifty-five thousand words in our English vocabulary, there is not one, apart from those dealing with the Deity itself, which if filled with majesty, power and wonder, as vapor! At first this may sound startling, but vapor itself is a billion times more startling. In the text James is much more in vapor than a picture of a few brief fleeting moments. Not the full round of human existence, and perhaps not the span of all the ages could possibly exhaust the meaning of vapor. Not in all the sweep of God's creation is there anything more amazingly wonderful in its universal mission.

Without vapor all creation would shrivel up and die. Every leaf, bough, blade and bud in the vegetable kingdom would perish from off the earth; and every human body, beast and bird would change into dead blackened mummies. The firmament above would turn as black as pitch and roll away to judgment, and the earth beneath would soon become a vast unbounded field of death with not a single spark of life on all the perished

planet. There would be no blooming rose, no blossoming flower, no waving fields, no meadows green. No cloud in the great dark sky, no rainbow after the storm. No tint of gold or purple in the sunset, no crimson rose in the early morning dawn, no river to flow into the sea, no brook to sparkle down the valley, and no spring or fountain to slake one's burning thirst...for all these things are made possible to us through the agency of vapor. So you see that when the Apostle compared our lives to vapor, he did us no dishonor; in fact he lifted us up to where the angels live. Only the shining immortals who have never sinned—holy beings that hover around the sapphire throne on wings of living light have attained to possibilities that lie beyond our reach.

In the early morning of the ages, God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the water from the waters. The firmament He called Heaven. The waters under the Heavens He gathered into one place... the dry land He called earth and the waters He called sea. Yes, there it was; the firmament above, the oceans below and the great dry earth awaiting the waters. Everything was in order. He weighed the hills in His scales and the mountains in His balances. He meted out the heavens with a span, and to be certain that all would get its proper moisture, He measured the waters in the hollow of His hand. But just how

was that water to get to the tops of the highest mountains and out to the far-extending deserts that must have it, or die?

On September 11, 1930, President Roosevelt from his desk in the great blue Constitution Hall a few blocks away from the White House, pressed a tiny button and sent forth a wave of electrical power from Washington to Nevada—a wave that started into action a mighty giant that had never exerted its full force before. Surrounding the president were delegates of a hundred different nations and countries who were gathered in Washington for the World's Power Conference, and when by the touch of the small button, the great Boulder Dam awoke to power like some mighty Hercules to tear the world in pieces, the applause was tremendous. The dreadful Boulder Dam became alive! It is seven hundred and twenty-seven feet high, costing one hundred and sixty-five million dollars, and holds in its powerful grip thirty million, five hundred thousand cubic feet of water—the largest concrete structure in all the known world. The power that gushed forth from the heart of this concrete monster, made the wilderness rejoice and the desert to blossom as the rose. For many miles around in every possible direction, barren and fruitless fields burst forth with energy and power, Long slumbering soil awakened to life; brooks and rivers sang for joy, and the trees of the wood clapped their hands. Birds nested on the fertile banks, fish swam in bright blue rippling waters. The farmer's plow split the moistened soil and abundant crops flourish-

(Continued on page 8)



Total Commitment

Editor's Note: This month's Editorial is written by Dr. J. N. Hostetter, Editor-In Chief of the Evangelical Visitor, the official organ of the Brethren In Christ Church. Read his good truths carefully, and examine your heart.

"...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

The apostle Paul's commitment was "against that day." He had asked two questions on the Damascus road: "Who art thou, Lord?" and "What wilt thou have me to do?" As a convinced man, Paul became a committed man.

The time limit was set. It reached beyond the length of this life to the second advent of Christ when life's account would be settled.

This decision ruled out living life as an opportunist. For him, purpose and direction were no longer a question. The issue was decided as to what to do even though doubts there were moments of concern how to perform most effectively. Total commitment to Christ does not mean that immediately we have all the answers for life's journey. Day by day faith and trust in the Holy Spirit's guidance are the norm of life to a committed Christian.

Commitment involves the acceptance of responsibility. A giving up and giving over of one's self to Christ includes more than mere surrender. The white flag of surrender can be waved but does not necessarily mean becoming an active recruit on the other side. Too many Christians have given up to Christ without giving themselves over to Christ.

Commitment is not a question of talent or ability. What one can or cannot do is no premise for consideration. What a congregation could accomplish for Christ if all the able and supposedly unable people were totally committed to Christ!

Irresponsibility is a grave fault among Christians. Such would be less difficult to accept if high levels of professed Christian experience were not involved. Church membership, though not a saving factor in life, become a sacred responsibility. Loyalty to the church's program seems so difficult. Some mission cause or radio program plausibly presented cuts right straight through some people's devotion. Distance and lack of information lend enchantment and away in the mail goes an offering that would be much better invested in the congregational budget.

If some other big meeting or sensational activity does not interfere, the pastor can count on certain members on Sunday and prayer meeting evenings. Otherwise, the need for soul food and a more spiritual meeting takes precedence.

Nonchalance and indifference take their toll from effectiveness in the church's program. When conflicts ensue, involving priority, too often the cause of Christ rates secondary.

Total commitment reveals itself in character. Christ's gracious spirit will be reflected. Whether it was the "woman at the well," the Canaanite woman whose

daughter was "greivously vexed with the devil," or the elite Nicodemus who came as an inquirer under the cover of night, each was greeted by a compassionate Christ.

In God's sight, faithfulness outweighs usefulness. A total commitment to Christ is expressed by devotion for the cause. Quiet, unobtrusive, deeply devoted to Christ and the church, such committed Christians do much to advance the Lord's work in any congregation and community.

Joseph wept and remonstrated when cruel brethren sold him to the Ishmaelites. Doubtless this was not the only weeping experience of those thirteen difficult years. Sometime, somewhere during these years Joseph discovered the secret of total commitment to God. Such grace seized Joseph's soul that he was able to interpret cruel treatment as a means to accomplish the divine purpose. When opportunity came to "get even" with his brethren, the bigness of his soul transformed a tense moment into transcending fellowship.

Informity, frailty, earthly and faulty, these characterize all of us. To recognize our own weaknesses is the only way to attain strength in the Lord.

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*Now faith is the
substance of things
hoped for, the evidence
of things not seen.*
Hebrews 11:1



Fruits of a Prayerful Life

(Continued from last issue)

PRAYER DIGS A WELL OF JOY

Prayer brings us near to God, and brings God near to us. One of the greatest joys is the joy of meeting God, the joy of His presence. David experienced the joy and blessing of the Lord and wrote, "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."—Psa. 16:11. Fanny Crosby, the sainted blind song writer, experienced the joy of communion with God and expressed this joy in the words of the song:

"Oh, the pure delight of a single hour

That before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend."

The joy of prayer made her heart cry out in a melodious manner for a closer fellowship, even that of being at the Saviour's side.

"Daw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,

To the cross where Thou hast died;

Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,

To Thy precious bleeding side."

In the Bible, salvation is likened to water, and obtaining salvation is likened to drinking. The prophet Isaiah said, "With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."—Isa. 12:3. The Christian will discover that this world is no friend to grace to help him on to God and Heaven. It is a bare and desert place which he must pass through. Every Christian needs some wells of salvation along the journey, from which he may be refreshed daily, such as the wells of Bible reading, family wor-

ship, testimony, and prayer meeting. Another well from which he should drink freely, and that daily, is the well of prayer. Here he will be refreshed and strengthened for the journey. The Christian who never is blessed, but sad and despondent over a long period of time, should search his heart and his prayer life. Of course, he will not live constantly on the mountain top of blessing, or in a constant ecstasy of joy; but there should be frequent periods of joy and victory. Those who are constantly sad should carefully check their prayer life. Prayer will dig a well of joy and will keep it flowing, for the Lord will positively furnish the living waters that will bring refreshment to the soul.

PRAYER COURTS GOD'S FAVOR

God delights to hear His children pray, and to answer their prayers. He listens all day and all night to hear them pray. Christian experience is likened to a divine love story. In courtship, two young people delight to be in each other's presence, to talk over matters which are dear to their hearts, to please each other, to become conformed to each other. The true Christian delights himself in the Lord—delights to be in His presence. To pour out his heart, and to please Him. It is in the secret closet that the saint imbibes of the nature of God; as he worships he becomes more like the Lord. It is more than a courtship; it is entering into a partnership with the Lord and laboring for Him in winning the lost, feeding the saints, spreading the Gospel, and seeking to do the entire will of the Lord. In doing so, he will be led into an aggressive service for Him.

Laboring for the Lord will not be very effective without prayer.

Prayer makes labors effective and fruitful. When the Christian worker is faithful in prayer, he courts God's favor, and the blessing of the Lord will rest upon his labors.

A little more than a generation in the past, two godly women in the southern part of Indiana prayed down a revival. They lived in a community in which there was no church, and they became concerned because a generation of young people was growing up which had not been influenced by a revival. It is a spiritual tragedy that any generation has not been influenced or moved by a sweeping revival that will reach many; and if they do not yield, they will remember the revival when God did visit them. Also, if they reject the Lord, miss Heaven, and land in perdition, they will do so without excuse.

For a period of two years these women met weekly to pray. God was working at one end of the line, then He began to work at the other end, bringing the two points together. The Lord sent two young preachers to the community, and they held a tent meeting. Neither of them had more than one year of experience in the ministry; but God honored the preaching of these two young ministers and the prayers of these two godly mothers, and gave a revival in which one hundred fifteen sinners were saved. Before the tent meeting closed, this group of converts said, "We must have a church." They banded together and organized a church with eighty-five charter members. This was not a meager start. That church is still flourishing today. If two godly women could pray down a revival, and a flourishing church resulted, why could this not be duplicated all over the country?

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

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

God's Missionary Standard

Official organ of God's Missionary Church, Inc.

"A Messenger of Full Salvation."

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Milesburg, Pennsylvania. Published monthly by God's Missionary Church, and mailed at Milesburg, Pennsylvania.

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

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

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

Missionary Crusader's Page

Who am I????

5. I was an old priest. One day while I was leading the service of worship in the Temple I saw an angel from the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. I felt a great fear, but the angel said, "Don't be afraid; for I have come from the Lord to bring you good news. Your wife is going to have a son. He shall bring joy and gladness to many." I could hardly believe all of his words, for I was old. My wife was old. How could we expect a son? How shall I know the angel's words are true? Because I did not believe the angel who was sent from the Lord, I became dumb, not able to speak, until my son was born. I wrote his name for others to see. All at once the power to speak and to hear came back to me. Who Am I?

6. My mother's name was Rachel. I had been given five times as much food as my brothers at a special table. My father, after my brother was lost, loved me the most of all his children. He told my brother that if any harm should come to me it would bring down his gray hairs with sorrow to the grave. I was blamed for taking the ruler's silver cup. A brother wanted to take my place, bear the blame so I could go free, and not be held as a slave. This all set the scene for a wonderful re-union. Who Am I?

7. I had a towering head and shoulders above my fellows. I was brave when occasion demanded, and made no haste to wear royal honors preferring to wait till I had earned them by distinguished services against my country's foes. I had the gift of drawing men to myself, men of distinction from different parts of the lands. My task, however, was not easy. I had a streak of jealousy, and gradually my whole life and reign turned into a tragedy. I lost the friendship of Samuel. I turned against David. I had 85 priests slain, yes, even all the population of Nob. I threatened my own son's life, and then visited the witch of Endor. My three sons and I were slain at Mount Gilboa. Who Am I?

8. I was taken to Babylon. I could understand visions and dreams, and interpret the king's dreams, being made a great man, and becoming a ruler over the entire province of Babylon, being sometimes called Belteshazzar. I interpreted the handwriting on the wall for the king, and opened my window toward Jerusalem and fell upon my knees three times a day, giving thanks unto God. Then I was cast into the lion's den. Who Am I?

9. I was born at Jerusalem, and selected king by David, having my request from God granted, until all Israel heard of my judgment between two women about a living child. During my reign a temple was built, such construction taking seven years. The Lord was angry with me, for I had many strange wives who led me to worship idols. It has been said that I was the wisest man in all the world. Who Am I?

10. I was an evangelist, called sometimes by the title of the "Beloved Physician." I wrote a Gospel and another Book of the New Testament. In 2 Tim. 4:11 you will read that I was with Paul. Who Am I?

(Answers on page 11)



Take to the Road

James F. Gregory

What does it mean to be a pilgrim? It means to "take to the road." "Blessed is the man in whose heart are the highways to Zion." The pilgrim keeps his body on the King's main road, while his heart dwells in the city at its end.

What shall we find in that city at the end of our pilgrim road? Pearly gates and streets of gold? These will mean little to us. But

what of the citizens we shall find there? What are they like? A company of men and women who have learned the new way of life and victory in Christ, and have been freed from envy, pride, anger, lust, and who serve God and one another.

Can we imagine such a society here on earth? Humane, righteous, devoted to the common good, and confessing the source of it all, even Jesus. We answer, "This would be heaven on earth." Such a society would be the city that abides, the city of God which we seek. There are such men and women around us. We have seen, if we have any eyes to see, the victory over pride, greed, and selfwill. We have seen the working of the new life in Christ. Familiar, though in part, it is the mark of the pilgrim traveler who has found the city while it is sought.

If there is anything that distresses us in a church we have learned to care about, it is the knowledge that some of us are only half-grown, a company of men and women who have as yet only half-learned the laws of the pilgrimage. Yet the laws are known, and the root of our confidence as we travel to the celestial city is that what we look to find there is already here. The highway is in our hearts.

We are foreigners in a land with its rumblings of disaster. The world through which we pass may seem at times to promise safety, but we live in the land of Meshech, which means prolonging, and in the tents of Kedar, which signifies darkness. Men who do not have the pilgrim heart are ignorant of our secret. They may even hate and despise us. But we know the road. "I am the way," said Jesus. It is revealed unto babes, though the first archangel may desire to peer into it.

"That palace of our glorious King,

We find it nearer while we sing."

How could it be otherwise when the palace is the company of the pure in heart, and the pure in heart can be found at every turn of the road? The golden windows are behind us as well as in front. The heavenly city can never be reached unless it has been found.

Only those who have already
(Continued on page 9)



Missionary Message

Killingsworth Mission
Kungstown, Liberia
February 22, 1964

Dear Prayer Warriors:

"Behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him." Rev. 1:7. There will be wailing for those who have not been honest stewards with the physical, mental and spiritual benefits which He hath bestowed and of those who have not settled the sin question in their lives. But, oh, how pleasant it is to labor in the regions beyond to hasten the return of the King.

THE TASK'S GREAT

We have been quite busy since our last letter to you. We have had many new experiences and much has been learned. Last month one of the mission boys made the comment, "But Mother, you are four now!" Meaning of course the two missionaries and the two children. I didn't get the full impact of the statement until I began to look around and saw that we were always running out of filtered water because we needed more water than the one candle filter could supply, one drum of creek water was no longer sufficient, we had two times as many sheets and clothes to be washed, which meant almost a half a day at the creek, our kitchen table suitable for two missionaries was inadequate now for four persons. Considering these things, I agree with the boys, being four made a lot of difference in our little home. The Lord is helping to alleviate some of the strain. He enabled us to purchase recently a three candle filter which holds four gallons of water.

A GOOD SERVICE

The Lord gave us a wonderful watch night service. As you know our people do not usually walk at night, partly because of fear and superstition and partly because of the dangers "in the bush" at night. We had announced that watch night service would start at 10:00 Dec. 31. At 6:00 that evening early arrivers had begun to come, and by 9:00 so many had gathered that we started service early. Service lasted until midnight and then people lingered to continue talking about the goodness of the Lord.

DEATH VISITS AGAIN

January 19 marked the third death in our family of church folk. This time an old woman who had been coming to church took sick on Thursday, complaining of pains in the stomach and by Sunday she was deceased. When death comes so suddenly, as it does quite

often here, it make our hearts glad that the Lord through you has extended the Gospel to those who have never heard. At last our people in the Community have had the Gospel of the risen Saviour preached unto them. We are not sure if the old woman accepted Christ or not, but she came to church regularly and heard the message of Salvation. Many of the deep entrenched pagan beliefs are slow to give away to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but we must work the works of Christ until the heathen too are His inheritance.

VICTORY

There are some who have settled the sin question, and it would thrill your heart to hear their testimonies and see how God is working in their behalf. Last Sunday a widow woman told us how God held the fire in check as she was burning the bush for a cassava farm for herself and her two small children. Usually it takes ten or twelve persons to control the fire when burning bush. She had no help, the fire got out of control and had moved in the direction of a neighboring farm. She had no available physical help, so she prayed and cried unto God and He miraculously held the fire in check and saved the other farmers' crop. It's testimonies like these that encourage missionaries hearts.

CLINIC, SCHOOL, THE GOSPEL

The rainy season and school will start next month. We've been working against time trying to cement some of the cracks in our home and whitewash the house inside and out. Repairs are a constant job here in the tropics because of the extreme dryness and dampness affects everything. As you know the clinic is in one of the rooms in our house and sick ones sit on the porch until they are treated. May I interrupt here to say that the clinic is not only



an outlet for the Gospel and of special benefit to the natives, but it's an advantage to the missionaries and their children to have adequate medical care near at hand. We plan to teach classes on the porch, so we're trusting the Lord's help in providing a clinic room away from the house. We also need a new shelter to be used as another teaching room. Please remember especially this request as the rainy season will start soon and both the clinic room and shelter must be built before the rains begin. We have been praying for an additional native teacher. While we were yet praying, we received a letter from a young Christian woman requesting a job as a teacher. We had interviews with her on two separate occasions and we are convinced that this is the teacher the Lord has sent. She has become a member of our teaching staff. It will mean an additional expense on your part and may God supply you with the financial increase so you can meet this need.

SNAKES

The driver ants have not visited us since our last letter to you, but we killed our fifth snake this past week. Charlene and Danny are still enjoying their new home and they have become quite fond of the native dish "cassava leaves and rice." Danny recently planted some sugar cane and pineapples. Since neither have received their trunks as yet, Charlene and "Little Frances" are busy sewing skirts and making dresses.

In service for the King,
Barbara, Frances and the children



Shower-room facilities. Drum of water is located under thatched roof. Boy to right of missionary is a mission helper, the other lad is a day school student.



Leopard shot by natives near village.

THE BULLETIN BOARD—

In the Valley of the Shadow

HENDERSHOT, Mrs. Laura J. died at her home at Wingate, Pennsylvania, Sunday evening, March 29, 1964, as she prepared to attend the closing service of evangelistic meetings at the Church in The Valley, Milesburg, where she was a member. Born at Wingate on February 15, 1905, she was a daughter of William and Elizabeth Murrury Summers. Her husband, David M. Hendershot, whom she married in 1920, died in 1950. Sister Hendershot was the mother of a large family, and nine children survive:

Mrs. Lott Catherman and Mrs. Gerald Miller of Milesburg; Mrs. Harland Ault of RD 3 Bellefonte; Claude Hendershot of Bossier Air Force Base, Shreveport, La.; Mrs. Landis Bowen, West Palm Beach, Florida; Ronald Hendershot of Wingate; Mrs. John Etters of Jacksonville; Mrs. John Gahner of Stormstown, and Gerald Hendershot at home.

She is also survived by 23 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and eight brothers and sisters.

Services of Memorial were held from the Wetzler Funeral Home at Milesburg on April 1, at 9:00 p.m., with members of her Bible Class and the Trustee Board taking part, scripture and prayer by the pastor, and full services were conducted at the Church on April 2, at 1:30 p.m., in charge of her pastor.

Burial was made in the family plot at Union Cemetery in Bellefonte, where she was laid to rest to await the First Resurrection.

We will miss this sister indeed, and while she was never honored by the great of earth, the saints and her family "will arise up and call her blessed."

Her son, Jerry, lived with his mother, and together they walked the Christian pathway, until at last she was taken suddenly, and he was left to continue alone. She attended both Sunday School and Morning Worship Services the last day she lived, and in a few more moments would have been in the

House of God again for the closing service of Passion Week Evangelism with Dr. Joshua Stauffer's ministry attending. May God Bless Her Memory.

Wedding Bells

STEM—BOONE. Rober Leroy Stem, son of Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Stem of RD 3 Bellefonte, Pa., and Miss Carol Ann Boone, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Boone of Milesburg, Pa., were united in marriage at the Parsonage of the Church in The Valley, by the pastor on March 27, 1964, at 6:00 p.m. Attendants were Robert Boone, brother of the bride, and Miss Martha Robinson. Bobby and Carol attend the Milesburg Church.

BURD—HOY Charles Burd, son of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Burd of RD 3 Bellefonte, Pa., and Miss Mona Hoy, daughter of Mrs. Mary Phillips of Milesburg, Pa., were united in marriage at the Church in The Valley of Milesburg on Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m., April 11, 1964. Attendants were Robert Burd, brother of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Dianne Newman Dyke. Mrs. Thomas E. Frantz played organ selections of nuptial music during the ceremony. Rev. Thomas E. Frantz officiated. The newly married couple will live in Howard.



What Is a Friend?

A "friend is a balancing pole," said an athlete, "without which it is impossible to walk safely the tight-rope of life."

A "friend is a jewel," said a girl, "that shines brightest in the darkness of misfortune."

"A friend is a volume," said a journalist, "a volume of sympathy, bound in cloth, as a rule, though in rare cases the binding may be silken."

"A friend is a gold link," mused a jeweler, "in the chain of life."

"He is a plaster," said the physician, "for the cuts of misfortune."

"Like ivy," said the botanist, "the greater the ruin, the closer he clings."

"A friend," said a sad-looking woman, "is the first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out."

And "there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" (Prov. 18:24).

—Author not known



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The Place of the Will in CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

Warren C. McIntire

Going about the work of evangelism, and after dealing personally with many individuals, I have become convinced that something needs to be said that will help people to understand the importance of the human will in Christian experience. That the will is the prime human factor in man's relation to God as his Saviour is so basic to a sound, well-established Christian experience that those who do not recognize this fact, and act accordingly, make up the major part of those who are unstable and who repeatedly backslide.

Notice what Rev. 22:17 says, "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely." Not just whosoever (that leaves something lacking), but whosoever will. It is the decision of the will that is the determining human factor. Psa. 110:3 says the same thing—Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." That is, God is able to work wonders of His grace when people are willing. When the Holy Spirit pleads and the human will agrees, then God can wonderfully save.

In creating us, God built into the very structure of our being a set of tools, as it were, with which we weigh, evaluate, guide, and construct our lives. These tools are reason, judgment, and the will. Reason looks at a given matter from every angle, turns it over, takes it apart, examines it, and lays the facts before the judgment. Judgment weighs the facts, listens to the plea of desire, draws upon experience for evidence for or against, hears what conscience has to say, considers the suggestion of Satan and the advice of God, draws its conclusion, and submits its recommendation to the will for decision. The will, which is the executive agent of personality, makes the decision for action or restraint and thus determines the course which a man takes. This action of the will determines moral attitude, action, relationship, and responsibility. It is thus that

the soul maintains innocence before God or comes under a cloud of guilt.

The whole matter resolves itself into this simple form: every sinner becomes what he is by a decision, or repeated decisions, of his will; every Christian becomes what he is by a decision, or repeated decisions, of his will.

The work of the Holy Spirit in conviction may be deep and pungent and fully sufficient to lead to salvation; but there will be no finding forgiveness and peace with God until by a decision of the will one turns from sin and, meeting the conditions of surrender, repentance, and faith, obtains the Divine pardon.

The work of the Holy Spirit, in warning of the dangerous nature of carnality and in convincing the believer of his need of a pure heart, may be definite and fully adequate to bring him into clear experience of sanctifying grace; but he will never obtain a pure heart until by a decision of his will he yields to God makes a complete consecration, enters into a holy covenant with the Lord, and seeks the sanctifying indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

There is no keeping saved apart from repeated decisions of the will, as problems arise, to agree with God and side with Jesus. The power of God to keep is effective only in conjunction with the decision of the believer's will to co-operate with Christ by obediently walking in light and keeping true. When the believer thus furnishes the will to be kept, God furnishes the keeping power.

There is no growth in grace without a firmly maintained decision of the will to make progress spiritually. The point of greatest weakness in the Christian experience of many people is the lack of a definitely made and aggressively maintained decision of the will to grow spiritually, walking and working in glad co-operation with the Holy Spirit as He seeks to teach, guide, and mature.

There is no keeping true to one's appointed calling in life, whatever

it may be, apart from a vigorously maintained decision of the will to carefully and constantly be obedient to the whole will of God for heart and life. Paul, in Phil. 3:13, 14, states how he had this issue definitely settled, how he kept his will set: "This one thing I do... I press toward the mark."

There is no maintaining of a genuine devotional life in the reading of God's Word and the kind of praying that brings blessings and help, apart from a settled fixedness of the will to do this "in spite of" and "at any and all cost."

In every case God, ready and anxiously willing, after warning and pleading, has to await the decision of the human will. The will decides what God can or cannot do about saving, sanctifying, and keeping. Marvelous, astonishing fateful fact—salvation or damnation turns on a decision of a man's will.

Sinner friends, the provisions of grace are adequate, the promises of God are reliable, the blood of the Lamb is efficacious to cleanse, the constant help of the Holy Spirit is available. You can be a Christian if, when He deals with you, you set your will to co-operate with Him. This you must do very soon or, by your neglect, you will pass beyond all hope of salvation. Hesitancy and postponement ultimately, and often very quickly, become fatal.

My Christian friend, if you want to do so, God will help you to maintain a firm decision of your will to walk humbly, to reject evil, and do the right, to at once correct mistakes, rectify unintentional wrongs, heal accidental wounds, earnestly push on, and keep true to Christ. Thus the Lord Jesus will aid and enable you to keep in constant victory. If you have not already done so, definitely settle it right now to keep your will doing its part in maintaining a good Christian experience, God is waiting to work out in your heart and life all the provisions of Calvary. This decision and set of your will to always co-operate with Him will determine not only your present happiness but the future of your Christian experience, your character in this world, and your destiny beyond the grave.

—God's Revivalist

What is Your Life?

(Continued from page 1)

ed in the path of glory. Herds and flocks grazed on lands long dead and buried, but now resurrected to a new and glorious life by the power of Boulder Dam. No wonder the nations applauded when President Roosevelt pressed the button that turned such power loose. There was certainly reason to applaud.

The weight of the concrete in that mighty dam was more than six million tons—heavier than the great Pyramid of Egypt, and many times more useful. Into this enormous mountain of concrete, there was stored up by chemicals used in the mixing, heat enough to keep the entire dam hot for a hundred years; and in order that it might not get too hot, five hundred miles of steel pipe were built into the concrete, and through this pipe line was forced ice water from plants that manufactured ten thousand tons of ice per day. Here then, we have in Boulder Dam a tremendous picture of power—power stirred up, power in action, and power on fire! Yes, power enough to make the wilderness rejoice and blossom as the rose.

But the construction and power of Boulder Dam was child's play when compared with the waterworks of my almighty Jesus! He spent no millions of dollars, nor employed no thousands of men, nor did He build any mighty walls of steel and concrete. HE simply commanded the sun to shine down and warm the surface of the sea, and as the result of that warming, an invisible soft vapor floated up towards the sky and carried with it two hundred thousand cubic miles of water every year—or enough in one year to cover the entire land of the earth with a blanket of water three feet thick, which is far more than all the rivers and streams pour back into the ocean. And He did it all without the cost of a copper cent or the straining of a single muscle.

But water in its natural state is eight hundred times heavier than the atmosphere. How then can the gentle vapor, as soft as the sunlight, as silent as the dew and as light as an angel's wing; how can it carry so many millions of tons of water so far up into the

sky? Here is the secret: The vapor left all its heavy burdens behind. It shook off the tremendous load of salt which so long had held it down, and then arose majestically up in the sky, there to distill on particles of dust and get ready to come back to earth again to accomplish its glorious purpose. And I want to believe that it was when God completed this great plan, that "the morning stars sang together and the son of God shouted for joy."

So can you not see the Holy Life, like vapor casting off its heavy burdens, leaving all its cares and fears behind and soaring away to a world where angels live, and where prayers approach the sapphire throne of God, there to be dealt with in God's own way. Then we can behold it sent back to the world again to give drink to the thirsty soil, spiritual bread to the needy and health and hope to the suffering, dying millions. Like holy prayers, the vapor goes up on high to return again in rich and gracious blessing. Not only in the warm pleasant days of summer, but in the cold and bitter winter when the stripped and naked trees are reaching up their skeleton hands to God and every bulb and plant and seed lie under the threat of death—it is in that dark hour that the vapor comes forth to the rescue.

While meditating on this great subject, I awoke one morning after a snowstorm. Every bough and branch and stalk were garlanded and laced about with long and feathery scrolls of the purest white, while the earth beneath was wrapped in a blanket that looked as clean and pure as the robes that angels wear. Even a speck of falling dust or a splash of mud from the wheels of a passing motor seemed like a gross insult to the spotless purity sent down from heaven above. The vapor had frozen into pure white blossoms of snow and found its way back to the earth from which it went away a little while before. It had now come back to warm and bless the earth, and to prepare the soil for springtime resurrection. You say, "That is neither poetry nor prose!" Perhaps not. To me it is just a wordy chariot in which the secret, silent thoughts of my heart ride out in sound and articulations, ex-

pressing great and marvelous works.

Not only is the vapor great in its wonderful mission to our lower world (as every holy man and woman should be), but it is also great in its work on high. Have you ever considered the sunset? Such a riot of color no artist on earth could ever paint! The glorious King of Day retiring to his rest, riding down the evening sky in chariots of flame and fire, surrounded on all sides with banners of blue and purple, gold and crimson, while all the mountain tops of clouds are ablaze with light that looks like bonfires on the coast of heaven—all these glories are embodied in a magnificent sunset.

And again, after the long dark night has passed, the Morning Star unlocks the gates of Day, and the golden dawn flings out its gilded curtains across the eastern sky. The heavenly flowers unfold; every rugged edge is trimmed with gold and every valley of cloud is bedecked with the rarest flowers of Paradise, as radiant gates of Day roll back. The heavenly highways sparkle with living fire, and the king in his golden chariot rides forth to bid the world "good morning."

See also the aurora-borealis or "northern lights" as they fold and unfold their silken skirts across the twinkling stars in scrolls of rainbow flame, and God's rich bow in the cloud as it leans its sevenfold arch on the breast of the dying storm, and glorifies the earth below with a touch of its radiant feet. All these wonderful colors in the heavens are the result, or the work of vapor which has gone up from the world below, distilled on particles of dust and glorified by the sun.

Now don't you see my Vapor-Life not only as a blessing to the world below, but on through endless ages magnifying and glorifying my dear Lord Jesus Christ and all the heavenly world? There at the foot of the sapphire throne with the redeemed of all ages, shall I not join the Hallelujah Chorus and sing to the astonishment of angels: "Thou art worthy, for Thou wast slain, and has redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every nation, kindred and people and tongue."

Constant Victory

MRS. FANNIE ERB

In the precious Word of God we read: "In every thing give thanks," and, "Rejoice in the Lord always."

God would not tell us to do things either impossible or unreasonable, and because He has commanded us to do this, He has likewise made provision for its fulfillment in our lives. In Acts 5:41, we read that the disciples rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for Jesus sake. In the early days of the Church, many millions sealed their testimony with their blood. God gave them such wonderful victory in all their cruel sufferings that many deemed it a disgrace to utter a moan or a sigh; many rejoiced in the flames, and sang songs of victory, so long as their tongues and lips could frame the words, and died in the triumphs of a mighty faith, rejoicing in their all-conquering Savior.

One notable martyr wrote to another, a friend:

"We are joyful upon the occasion; we are not comfortless, for we have faith in God. We fear not affliction, for we have hope; and we forgive our enemies, for we have charity. Through the promises of God, we are happy in confinement; we glory in our bonds, and exult in our being thought worthy thus to suffer for the sake of Christ. We desire not to be released, but to be blessed with fortitude, and wish for no change in our condition but that which places a crown of martyrdom for Christ upon our heads."

But, can we obey this injunction, "Rejoice in the Lord always," immediately after being sanctified? Oh, we no longer rebel, nor give over to discouragement; no, because the "old man" (carnality) is gone, and with him, all rebellion, carnal blues, etc.; but do we always rejoice in the Lord, and in everything give thanks?

Are we not often inclined to think, "If this had not happened; or if that circumstance had not come to pass, how much better my lot would be!" Or, "It will be better farther on," as though Jesus were worth more to us when things go smoothly than when things go contrary!

But you say, "I don't feel like praising God. I feel heavy and

depressed. I am under hard pressure and trial!" Ah, just so! This is not a third experience, but an outgrowth of one's being saved and sanctified. Paul said he had learned in whatsoever state he found himself, therewith to be content.

So, there is a process of learning, a schooling, a drilling necessary before we reach the stage where we can "in every thing give thanks." Oh, yes, God has to show us the emptiness of things earthly, and the discontent of earthly attachments. He must put us through a series of grindings, crushings, furnace and crucible experiences until we find our all in Him; until we are lost in His will, His plans, His purposes, and we find ourselves becoming smaller and smaller in our own eyes, until all self-importance is gone — all self-pity, all self-centeredness, all self-love, and we are grateful to God for the least blessing, and are no longer hard to please. We are thankful that He deigns to call us His own; and while He may chastise us sorely, yet He pours into the soul such wonderful confidence to believe and trust Him; such deep love and adoration that we learn to praise and love Him in the midst of our deepest sorrows and greatest trials; for, as one has said, "He keeps His choicest cordials for our deepest faintings," and is nearest us when we are in the furnace; for "the form of the fourth" is with us in the flames. Hallelujah!

And so, it comes to pass, little by little (for we are slow of learning and God is infinitely patient) that we learn to live above the realm of feeling, for victory is there. We learn that God either orders, or permits, every circumstance in life. We learn that "all things work together for good to them that love God," so that we can "in every thing give thanks," and always "rejoice in the Lord"; for the fellowship of His sufferings and deep communion with Him during these inner-heart searchings and crucifixions of all earthly ties have become so precious and real that He becomes the "One altogether lovely, the bright and morning Star" of our souls.

"It is the branch that bears the fruit

That feels the knife,

*To prune it for a larger growth—
A fuller life;
Though every budding twig be looped,*

*And every grace
Of swaying tendril, springing leaf,
Be lost a space,
O thou, whose life, of joy seems reft,*

*Of beauty shorn,
Whose aspirations lie in dust,
All bruised and torn,
Rejoice, though each desire, each dream,*

*Each hope of thine,
Shall fade and fade —it is the hand*

*Of Love Divine
That holds the knife that cuts
and breaks*

*With tenderest touch,
That thou whose life hath born
some fruit*

May now bear much!"



Take to the Road

(Continued from page 4)

learned the secret of the pilgrim way can ascend the hill of the Lord, and can know there with joy what they have already learned here amidst stress and conflict. There is but one road to reach the city—the road of the clean hands and the pure heart, the gifts of the Lord of the city, shared by the band of travelers.

The pilgrim road is strewn with pitfalls, and a thousand hands are stretched out to pull us back. But Christ, our leader, is there in the city of our search, and is here on the road. Though the world around us seeks to destroy the very highway on which we travel, the young Prince of Glory is our guide and the center of the happy band of pilgrims. And while we walk the road to the city of light, God's own smile shines forth from the walls which rise before us.

Better the long trek across the desert than all the desert than all the garlic and flesh pots of Egypt. There are times when our souls have clear views of the immortal city that brought us hither, and we stretch out our hands for the sweet and blessed country.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT

Chosen in Him



By Geo. I. Straub

Ephesians 1:1-7, Verse 4, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love."

Verse four of this chapter teaches us God's interest in man dates far beyond Calvary. He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world.

Have you ever heard remarks like this, Did God know Satan would defeat man at the time of creation? Of course he did as there is nothing like a surprise attack with the Lord. Not only did God know man would fall, He knew the effects of the fall and made provision for his recovery. In Revelation 13:8, John saw Christ as the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

In the Garden of Eden, it may have appeared to Satan that he was victor and had triumphed over God by defeating man, which would give him the claim to man and his possessions. Satan is wise, but not all-wise, he is not omniscient. However, he is wiser than man and all men put together. It is folly for us to underestimate Satan's wisdom and power. We must remember he is cunning, deceitful, and deceptive.

In making his attack on Eve he approached her as an angel of light, with soft and smooth words. He began his subtle work by injecting doubts into the heart and mind of Mother Eve by raising question marks as to the sound-

ness of God's word. And the serpent said unto the woman, "Ye shall not surely die." Gen. 3:4, "This is a direct contradiction to God's law,—“In the day that thou dost eat of the forbidden fruit, Ye shall surely die.”"

Satan used the same tactics and methods in attacking Christ in the wilderness: "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." (Matt. 4:3)

"If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down; for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee..." (Matt. 4:6)

In both these verses the word IF is used by Satan. Small as this word may be, it is one of the great avenues used by the forces of evil to inject doubts and question marks in the minds of God's people. It is a common thing for the devil to attack God's children when going through the valley of suffering and sickness with words like this. If you are God's child this would never come upon you as God is too kind and loving to permit these things to befall you.

On this battleground hundreds of God's people fell as a result of questioning the Almighty. Turn to Job and see what he has to say about this, Man is born unto trouble as the sparks fly upward. Question marks concerning the Word of God gives way to unbelief and leads to defeat and despair. Though Satan before his fall was created full of beauty and wisdom, he did not possess any foreknowledge such as God possessed, neither did he know anything concerning God's divine strategy. He knew nothing about his own destruction and the redemption of man and the earth. While Satan rejoiced over the fall of man, he was blind to the secret of redemption which was kept in the secret chambers of eternity.

Note the words of Jesus, "All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying I will open my mouth in

parables: I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world." (Matt. 13:34-35) This verse gives insight as to why the devil and his crowd hates God, the Christians, and the truth of God's eternal word. The Bible not only reveals Satan's defeat, but also his destruction and his final damnation in the lake of fire.

Satan will not be alone in this awful destruction, as the Psalmist David had a revelation of this horrible catastrophe: "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God." (Psa. 9:17) While this is so it is not the will of God that man should suffer, be lost and shut away from his presence forever and forever. It comes about through man's own rebellion, and the forsaking of his own mercies.

According to the text man was chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love. This verse of scripture teaches us, God was prepared for the emergency long before the world was created.

The fall of man was not a surprise to God. However, redemption through God's Son proved a shock to Satan. For this reason we hear the angry mob,—Crying time and time again, "Away with Him, Crucify Him."

Since there was no redemption for fallen angels, Satan took the same attitude toward man and felt certain man's defeat in Eden would wreck the whole plan of God. Momentarily, it may have appeared so. However, out of this came the words, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed, it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Gen. 3:15)

The Lord knew the outcome of this conflict and that it would eventually result in triumph and victory through the death of His Son on Calvary. God was not indifferent concerning the fall of man. His glory and the work of His own hand was at stake. By no means was he going to allow Satan to triumph and allow him to go unchallenged.

Though years have gone by and the world picture is dark with sin abounding on every front. We

(Continued on page 11)

(Written by John Deemy of Troy, Pa. Bradford County. Mr. Deemy is now in his 35th year of teaching in our public schools.)

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
The changes we're making for this
school year.

We'll spoil the child and spare the rod
And forget about Him whom we used to
call God.

No more prayer to open the day:
The black-robed justices have had their
say.

No more shall we sing "In God We
Trust,"

But let the "old men" declare what is
just.

Forget all the history that you've been
taught,

And marvel on only what man has
wrought.

Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and
others

Believed in a God that made us all
brothers.

Catholic, Protestant, Mormon and Jew
Joined in making the Red, White and
Blue.

How foolish they were to credit success
To Him whom they worshipped and
asked Him to bless;

For the faith on which our country was
founded

And soared to such heights has now been
grounded.

Science, more Science and Physical
Fitness

Are the gods to worship and bear our
witness

"Protect the Minority," make everyone
Free

To do whatever the Judges decree
Soar off into space, but forget about
Glenn,

For he thanked God, not just men.

Join the Peace Corps and go abroad,
But in green pastures, don't mention
"de Lawd."

So there's no God in school this year,
Kids:

The Supreme Court has put Him on the
skids,

And who knows but next year after legal
researches

They'll drive Him out of homes and des-
troy all our churches.

The Red, White and Blue we'll change
to just fushia

And the U. S. A. to Russia or Roosha.

Listen, my children, and I'm not foolin'
I don't go for this kind of schoolin'!

As long as I'm teacher, I'll use the rod
And I'll teach with the fear and the
love of my God.

—Selected by Mrs. Pearle Corl



Answers

from page four

5. Zacharias 6. Benjamin 7. King
Saul 8. Daniel 9. King Solomon
10. Dr. Luke

Chosen in Him

(Continued from page 10)

must remember in due time God
will make bare his arm and cause
all nations and people to drink the
wine of his wrath from the cup
which is being filled with sin and
vice of every kind.

Not only is God a God of love,
but rather that of wrath toward
those who make sport and light
of His Son, His Word and the
entire plan of redemption.

Some weeks ago I met with the
jointure School Boards of our
school district to discuss the pos-
sibility of reading the Bible in our
public schools. Most all the direct-
ors were in favor. However, I was
informed it is an established law
and declared unconstitutional to
read the Bible or pray in the
School room.

The Bible has been declared ob-
solete, old-fashioned and a book of
fables and myths.

To read it in the school room
could lead to prosecution, a fine
or a term in jail. What's back of
all this? Nothing more than the
spirit of Antichrist.

Unbelief in God's Word does not
change or alter the fact that we
are judgment bound creatures.
Sooner or later all will come to
the end of life's short day.

Man has the power to take the
Bible from our libraries. However,
we will meet it in the great judg-
ment morning. It is this day de-
mons and devils wish would never
come.

God said it is easier for hea-
ven and earth to pass away than
for one jot or tittle to fail in his
word.

It was the Psalmist David who
said, "Forever O Lord thy word is
settled in heaven."

Fruits of a Prayerful Life

(Continued from page 3)

Certainly, God could send grac-
ious revivals into many commun-
ities, if two or three people would
agree and would meet regularly
for prayer once or twice a week, or
even daily. If they would desire,
believe, and continue praying for
one, in due time God would send
a revival. The desire for a revival

should take precedence over every
other desire. The prayerful life will
bear fruit in which the Lord will
be glorified, others will be helped,
and the prayer will be edified.

—Joshua Stauffer



The Valley

*I have been through the valley of
weeping,*

*The valley of sorrow and pain;
But the "God of all comfort" was
with me,*

*At hand to uphold and sustain.
As the earth needs the clouds and
the sunshine,*

*Our souls need both sorrow and
joy;*

*So He places us oft in the furnace,
The dross from the gold to
destroy.*

*When He leads through some val-
ley of trouble,*

*His powerful hand we can trace;
For the trials and sorrows He
sends us*

Are part of His lessons of grace.

*Oft we shrink from the purging
and pruning,*

*Forgetting the Husbandman
knows*

*The deeper the cutting and paring,
The richer the cluster that
grows.*

*Well He knows that affliction is
needed;*

*He has a wise purpose in view,
And in the dark valley He whis-
pers,*

*"Hereafter thou'lt know what
I do."*

*As we travel through life's shad-
owed valley,*

*Fresh springs of His love ever
rise;*

*And we learn that our sorrows and
losses*

*Are blessings just sent in dis-
guise.*

*So we'll follow wherever He
leadeth,*

*Though pathways be dreary or
bright;*

*For we've proof that our God can
give comfort,*

*Our God can give songs in the
night.*

—Unknown

The Little Match Boy

At a large hotel a man was standing in the office when a little boy came in selling matches. It was against the rules of the house, but the weather was cold, and the case was desperate; so the child forced his way in, at the risk of being rudely thrown out. He asked several to buy; they were sitting around the good warm fire after a nice breakfast, and felt comfortable and happy as they read the morning paper. He came at last to a gentleman who was standing near the others and appealed to him.

"Mister, please buy some matches. My mother is poor, and we haven't a thing to eat, and my father is dead."

The man looked at him a moment and handed him a quarter of a dollar. "Here, change that and I'll buy some."

The boy hadn't the change, but ran out to get it. As he went out, the clerk said, "You will never see that money again. That little humbug has got that much on the clear."

"Well, I can't help it. I would rather give to an unworthy object once in a while than turn a worthy one away, and you cannot always tell."

Sure enough the boy did not come back. Next morning, however, a little fellow came in, and asked if there was a man there that gave a quarter to a little boy.

"Yes," said the clerk, "but you are not the boy. You get out of here. I suppose you want to play the same game on him, do you?"

"No, Sir, I'm his little brother. A wagon ran over him when he was crossing the street to get the gentleman's change, and the doctor says he's going to die, and he cried all night to Mother to let me bring the change back, because he said the gentleman would think he stole it. Please, Sir, send for him; I want to tell him about it, because my brother said I must see him myself, and come back and tell him."

While the little fellow was talking, the man had come in and was listening. He put on his overcoat and hat and, taking the little fellow by the hand, led him out of the hotel, and told him to show

him where his mother lived. Down streets and alleys they walked, until they came to the poverty-stricken home. As he entered, he saw the poor little wounded boy on his pallet of rags. The child recognized him at once and began to explain how it had happened.

"Indeed, Sir, I didn't intend to steal your money. I was trying to get across the street, and a wagon struck me, and ran over me, and I couldn't help it; indeed, I couldn't, Sir."

"Never mind, my child, never mind," said the good man. "Don't talk now, just try to be quiet." Turning to the mother he gave her a handful of money, and said, "Here, you take this, and go and buy whatever is necessary for this child's comfort, and get what you need for yourself. Don't be uneasy. I'll stay with him."

And he sat down, and told the little fellow about Jesus, and that He died for all of us. He explained that if he would ask Jesus to save him, he could become His child. Then he said that Jesus would

come soon and take him out of all his suffering, take him Home with Him, where he could be well and happy.

All night long the gentleman sat beside the dying boy, and when the morning dawned and the first beam of light came through the windows of the humble home, the little sufferer looked up into the face of his benefactor, and said, "Good-bye, Sir, good-bye. You have been very kind to me. I will wait for you and think of you in Heaven. And I will tell Jesus how good you were to me, and He will love you more, I know. I am getting very tired, and the light is going out. It is dark. Can you see me, Sir? Put your hand on my forehead. Mother, won't you kiss me?"

He fell asleep, and the tears came down the cheeks of the good strong man and fell upon the face of the poor, tired, dead child.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

—Selected



Why Abraham Lincoln Refused

One day Lincoln was riding in a stagecoach, as they rode in those days, in company with a Kentucky Colonel. After riding a number of miles together the Colonel took a bottle of whiskey out of his pocket and said, "Mr. Lincoln, won't you take a drink with me?"

"No, Colonel, thank you," replied Mr. Lincoln. "I never drink whiskey."

They rode along together for a number of miles more, visiting very pleasantly, when the gentleman from Kentucky reached into his pocket and brought out some cigars, saying: "Now, Mr. Lincoln, if you won't take a drink with me, won't you take a smoke with me? Here are some of Kentucky's finest cigars."

"Now, Colonel," said Mr. Lin-

coln, "you are such a fine, agreeable man to travel with, maybe I ought to take a smoke with you. But before I do so, let me tell you a story, an experience I had when a boy."

"My mother called me to her bed one day when I was about nine years old. She was sick, very sick, and she said to me: 'Abey, the doctor tells me I am not going to get well. I want you to promise me before I go that you will never use whiskey, nor tobacco as long as you live.' I promised my mother I never would. Up to this hour, Colonel, I have kept this promise. Now would you advise me to break that promise to my mother and take a smoke with you?"

The Colonel put his hand gently on Mr. Lincoln's shoulder and said, "No, Mr. Lincoln, I wouldn't have you do it for the world. It was one of the best promises you ever made. I would give a thousand dollars today if I had made my mother a promise like that."

There is scarcely a man or woman in this country today, but what believes that Abraham Lincoln's keeping his promise to his mother helped to make him the great and good and loved man that he was. —Selected.