

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 21

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No. 3

Forget Not All His Benefits

E. E. Wordsworth

The average annual income of some mainland Chinese has been estimated at \$16.94. And we are told that the poorest people in the world are those of the Pintibu tribe who live (or merely exist) in northern Australia and who eat rats and drink water from soak holes.

Millions are dying in many lands from malnutrition. Millions are trying to eke out a mere existence in very primitive ways. Luxuries are totally unknown, and the necessary comforts of life are denied them. Extreme poverty with its attendant diseases, pestilences, fevers, aches, and pains cause premature deaths and bitter distress.

It is well to ask ourselves today if we are truly thankful to almighty God for His benefits toward us. "Ingratitude! thou marble-hearted fiend," said one. Ingratitude is oblivious of benefits, insensible to God's goodness and mercies. A plaque hanging on the wall in our living room reads: "I had no shoes and complained, until I met a man who had no feet."

Which street are you living on — Grumbling Street or Thanksgiving Street? Don't forget, there is plenty of room on Thanksgiving Street, and your health would be better and your heart happier if you moved there.

When thou has truly thanked thy God
For every blessing sent,
But little time will then remain
For murmur or lament.

Stonewall Jackson was asked what was meant by the expression "instant in prayer." His reply is interesting and exemplary: "I have so fixed the habit in my own mind that I never raise a glass of water to my lips without a moment's asking of God's blessing. I never seal a letter without a brief sending of my thoughts heavenward. The habit has become almost as fixed as breathing."

Jeremy Taylor well said, "Every man can build a chapel in his breast, himself the priest, his heart the sacrifice, and the earth he treads on the altar." The psalmist said, "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray" (Psalms 55:17).

We are definitely commanded to be thankful. "Offer unto God thanksgiving" (Psalms 50:14). Christ set an example. Before He performed the miracle of feeding the multitude, He gave thanks. The heavenly hosts engage in thanksgiving. All heaven rejoices and resounds with the praises of God.

In private worship and devotion we should render praise and thanksgiving to our God. Daniel did. "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed (forbidding prayer on penalty of being thrown into the lions' den), he went into his house; and his window being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime" (Daniel 6:10). He well knew what was designed, and he knew whom he faithfully served, so he "gave thanks before his God." Too many come to God like beggars, asking, asking, asking, asking, but lacking in praise. Begin your prayers with more gratitude.

Furthermore, in our public worship we must express praise and thanksgiving. "I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people" (Psalms 35:18). "Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee" (Isaiah 12:6). Clarke remarks: "Not only the Jewish people — but also members of the Church of Christ — cry out and shout, and proclaim the greatness of her Redeemer."

Are we not in danger of losing our "Amens," Hallelujahs," shouts of praises, and holy freedom of worship because of too much ritualism and formality? Dr. Bresee had "The Glory Barn" in the early days of our church. While we detest any sort of fleshliness and extremism, we must never lose the divine anointing, blessing, and power that characterize Spirit-filled religion. Let us worship with our intellects, wills, and emotions.

Why not on this Thanksgiving Day take a little time for prayer, praise, and heartfelt expression of gratitude to God for His many benefits? Gather around the piano and sing the praises of God. Accompany your singing with prayer and joyous thanksgiving. Let us be grateful and "forget not all his benefits."

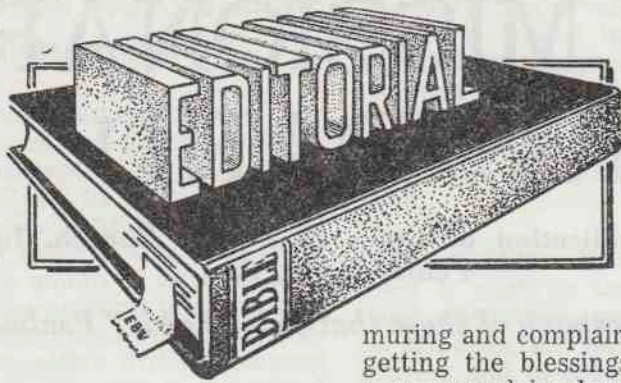
Praise God, from whom all blessings
flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

"Let every thing that hath breath
praise the Lord. Praise ye the
Lord" (Psalms 150:6).



We are at the season again where everyone's thoughts turn towards thanksgiving. Many are planning traditional trips back to "grandpas farm" or some other place regularly set aside for thanks giving. Pleasant are the memories of the past concerning this day, pumpkin pies, turkey with all the trimmings, cranberries etc. Yet, how many times these days of pleasantries are taken for granted and even on the one day we should all give thanks, the blessings are received without any expression of appreciation to our "Heavenly Father" Who has smiled upon us with special favor.

The opposite of thanksgiving is ingratitude, a spirit strangely prevalent in our day. Probably the most serious is the ingratitude we show God for His unspeakable Gift, His Son, and His gifts, the many blessings we enjoy. We eat the food He gives, sleep in the comfortable beds He provides, enjoy the bliss of our comfortable homes, breathe His free air, drink water He provides, in fact, everything we have we owe to Him, yet, without one word of appreciation or thanksgiving.

We show ingratitude towards our fellow men. Favors are accepted as if owed to us. Once while traveling through a city in central Pennsylvania I stopped for a service man who was wanting a ride to his home. I passed his home about a mile off the route I was traveling but since it was snowing and not so pleasant I went off the highway and took him to his door. It was late at night, I still had over a hundred miles to travel before reaching home, yet, he got out of the auto, closed the door and went into the house, not as much as saying "thanks". "Ingratitude."

Ingratitude leads to chronic mur-

muring and complaining. Often forgetting the blessings we receive, many complain about those expected and not received. If the day is clear it is too bright, hard to see, to hot and if it overcast the day is dismal, dreary and depressing. How wonderful to take all things as they come and in every thing give thanks. I recently heard a lady say, "Mrs. W. could be a nice person, but I get weary with her complaining. Isn't it strange that some folk never have a good day?"

Ingratitude leads to self-pity. If I believe that all is against me, including God, I soon begin pitying myself. "No one has it quite so bad as I" is the inner feeling of many folk. The individual who frequently recognizes the blessings and benefits and often says, "Thank You" seldom if ever develops a feeling of self-pity. I am reminded of a few lines I read some time ago, "I complained about my gloves until I met a man who had no hands; I complained about my shoes until I saw a man who had no feet." Develop a habit of saying "Thank You" and see if we don't see the many kindnesses toward us and forget our own complaints.

Ingratitude dwarfed "Ole Scrooge" into a grasping, clutching, covetous old miser until the spirits of Christmas past, present and future changed him into a generous and happy man. (A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens). Why should we let ingratitude dwarf us to a self-pitying, complaining, bitter soul? At this Thanksgiving time and every day let us allow a spirit of continual thanksgiving to make us a happy, appreciative person.

It isn't what you have in your pockets that makes you thankful, but what you have in your heart.

We live by dying to ourselves; we die by living to ourselves. Are you dead or alive?

We who tarry by the stuff need to be deeply exercised as to our part in the matter. We sing sometimes, "Lord, thy ransomed church is waking." But when one reads of the needs of missionaries it would be more to the point to sing, "Lord thy ransomed church is sleeping."

Are you connected with a number of societies, the expense of which drains your purse? Stop them for a while and tell the heathen of the joy that they may have in the society of Christ.

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Holiness Teachings

compiled by

Rev. Allen C. Russell

TOPIC: How To Obtain Holiness

(Continued)

Appetite For Holiness Cultivated

The subject of hunger for spiritual food and blessing is so important and indispensable that we continue the discussion under another head.

Some persons excuse their neglect of holiness on the ground that they feel no interest in the subject. They have no distinct belief in the doctrine, and no appetite for the enjoyment of the experience. For this reason they seem to imagine that no obligation rests upon them to be concerned about the matter.

Their conduct implies that a conviction for purity is exceptional and arbitrarily produced. They are ready to admit that where such conviction exists it is well enough to seek entire sanctification; but where it is wanting, the question may be dismissed without harm or loss. Now such a position is founded in error, for the appetite for holiness may be cultivated just as readily as a desire for food can be created. In this respect we are largely what we make ourselves to be. Our Lord says: "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness." This benediction implies that to hunger and thirst is a rewardable act, and, if rewardable, it must be voluntary. If voluntary, it may be concluded that, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, it is completely within our power to revive and nourish aspirations for holiness.

On the other hand, we may, in defiance of the work of the Holy Spirit, repress and extinguish all desire for that state. And, in most cases, I believe a lack of interest in full salvation is traceable to a non-use or misuse of our will in regard to the precious theme. If this be so, the absence of a relish for holiness is sin, for it is a self-induced evil. The person has neglected to cultivate his tastes in the right direction, and perhaps has impaired them by injurious diet.

I do not think it possible for a man to love holiness who loves novels. Nor is it possible for a man to find zest in sanctified and sanctifying literature who frequents the theater and other common resorts of worldly men. The same may be said of those who participate in popular amusements or mingle in hilarities of fashionable society. Such frivolities and vices create revulsions to holiness. And wherever Christians make worldly customs and tainted literature their element, soul-hunger for purity is sure to die out. A candle cannot burn in the foul air that settles in old wells and cisterns. No more can a flame of holy love exist in an atmosphere of un-Christian habits though not grossly wicked.

But one may say, "If I abstain from all such damaging practices, will I find myself groaning after full redemption?" Not certainly; for negative obedience is only a half compliance with the law of God. Positive work is needed to meet the commandment.

Do something or die, is a universal condition or responsible beings. Now, what is that something which, if done, will create an appetite for holiness?

First. **Think** on the subject. The apostle exhorts thus: "Wherefore, holy brethren, . . . consider the apostle and high priest of our profession, Christ Jesus." Heb. 3:1. Consider in this connection His Office as a Saviour personal to yourself.

Again the apostle says: "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think** on these things." Here the emphasis of the whole climax is placed upon the word **think**. Thought is like fire — it burns itself in. Fixed attention on any good idea is like the process of crystallization, where matter sinks, hardens, and takes on forms of beauty. To think seriously and prayerfully on the question of holiness is to transmute the principle into the texture of our inner man. In most cases a man's aspirations are the product of his meditations.

Second. Appetite for holiness is cultivated by reading. There is now a rich standard literature on the theme, contributed by different churches. Added to the books published, there is a supply of periodical matter of good quality. Now, we are persuaded that no one can read a fair proportion of these works open minded, and not be profoundly impressed with the great truth, and convicted for the experience.

Third. Appetite for holiness is cultivated by attending meetings appointed expressly to advocate the cause, and spread the experience of entire sanctification.

(Continued on Page 7)

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All items for publication must be in the editor's office not later than the 10th of each month, so as to be eligible for publication in the following month's edition.

CHURCH NEWS

Announcement

The Department of Music in the Penn View Bible Institute is in need of old hymnals and songs books. They would be glad to have any that are not being used any longer. If you or your church have any books, especially in sets for choir use, and you have been wanting to do something with them, or put them into useful service the School will certainly appreciate them.

Thank you. Rev. LaDette Cooley, Prof. of Music.

A Note of Thanks

Our sincere thanks to all for your prayers, gifts and the many cards that have come to our little Connie and to us during these past months following Connie's accident.

Your concern and interest has proven a real help in these hours of heaviness. Words fail to express the deep feeling of gratitude that we feel in our hearts.

We would appreciate your continued prayers for Connie's complete recovery. We are trusting the Lord, when the body cast is removed, she will soon be able to walk again. Our God is able! Praise His Wonderful Name!

Sincerely,
The Tillises

REVIVAL

The fall revival will be held in the Wolf's Store (Rebersburg, Penna.) church December 4th - 14th. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. followed by worship service. The evangelist is Rev. D. R. Matherlee of Findlay, Ohio. A warm welcome is waiting for you at this friendly church.

Rev. John Walter, Pastor

EVANGELISTS' SLATE

Rev. and Mrs. William Tillis
Box 2

Beavertown, Penna. 17813

Dec. 11 - 14, 1969; Mechanicsburg, Penna.

Dec. 17 - 21, 1969; Hanover, Penna., Brethren in Christ

Dec. 31, 1969 - Jan. 11, 1970; Hanover, Penna., Gospel Tabernacle.

Evening Chronicle, Allentown, Penna.

ALLENTOWN TABERNACLE IS DISSOLVED

Lehigh County Court has issued a decree of dissolution for the Good News Tabernacle, a religious non-profit corporation at 7th and St. John Streets, Allentown.

President Judge Kenneth H. Koch approved the petition recently, which was presented by Atty. Russell Kowalshyn. The organization was chartered on Sept. 16, 1964.

The decree states that the right, title and interest in the organization's real estate be returned to God's Missionary Church, a religious nonprofit organization, of Penns Creek, Snyder County.

The decree has been filed in the office of George D. Black, Lehigh County recorder of deeds.

Salunga, Penna.

The fall revival was conducted in the God's Missionary Church of Salunga, Lancaster County, Penna., Sept. 5 through the 14th. The workers were used nightly of the Lord for His glory. From the opening service until the closing night the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt. The attendance was very good with the lowest number in any night service being 97. Many nights the church was crowded to overflowing. Some 15 souls came to the altar and on the last Sunday morning, without preaching, God came and several were saved. The Keith Sheridan family sang the songs of the church with a sweet blessed spirit. Their music and testimony was the best. Nightly as Bro. Sheridan led the congregation in the song service the glory of God came. Bro. Hermon Noll, pastor of our Milesburg Church was the evangelist and preached under the anointing of the Lord. His message was deep and soul stirring. The pastor and family was also blessed with the good fellowship in the home of these servants of the Lord. We praise the Lord for a good revival in these last days.

Sunday, October 5th was the third home coming service for the church. Rev. Paul Miller was with us for the entire day. The Sunday morning message on heaven was a great blessing. The Spirit of the Lord was so near as our good Supt. preached under the anointing. It was also so wonderful to have Sister Miller and the children with us.

In the afternoon service, the Singing Zimms from the Hills of Berks were with us to give a service. This family under the blessing of the Lord presented the gospel in word and song. This family is a true example of what God can do for us. The training, standards, reverence and Spirit filled lives of these good people are the very best.

After the afternoon service we traveled several miles to the Horald Merkey farm where a baptismal service was conducted. Eleven believers were at this time baptised. Among them was a number of the Zimms children as well as some from the Salunga church. Bro. Miller and the Pastor did the baptising. The October sun warmed the chilly waters and all worked out for the glory of the Lord.

The evening service opened with a good old fashion song service. Then the Zimms family had a good period of singing special numbers. Bro. Miller then preached on the second coming of Christ as God came and blessed the good crowd present.

Thus closed the third home coming service marking the 3rd year of the Salunga God's Missionary Church worshipping in the present church building.

The church now has grown with an average Sunday School attendance of seventy, and five new members were added to the church membership roll in September. The pastor and family ask that you continue to pray for the church. On October 1st a radio broadcast was begun each Sunday morning over WGSA Ephrata 1310 on the radio dial and it is entitled the "Holiness Bible Hour."

The missionary projects and youth projects are in full advance. Praise God for His blessings in these closing days of time.

Rev. John F. White, Pastor

Milesburg, Penna.

Wedding bells rang at Milesburg for Connie Rose Brungart of Loganton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brungart and Rev. Stephen Russell Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Myron Hicks of State College. This was a fine ceremony in which Rev. Allen Russell, Rev. John Walter and Rev. Herman Noll officiated. One could sense the very Presence of the Holy Spirit as He came and put His seal of approval on this union. Approximately 150 persons attended the ceremony and a reception followed the service at the Milesburg Community Center where about 140 persons attended. The newly weds left for a honeymoon to Niagara Falls and then assumed the status as Pastor and wife of the God's Missionary Church in Roaring Springs. All reports indicate a success there as they are laboring for the Lord. Pray for them that they may be great instruments in the Church.

Wedding bells rang at the Beavertown Church on September 27 at 2:00 for Miss Linda Carolyn Mattern, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Mattern of McClure and Paul Franklin Zechman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Zechman of Beavertown. Rev. Herman Noll officiated. Approximately 200 persons attended the wedding both at the ceremony and the reception which was held at the Troxelville Community Building. The newly weds left for the New England States and are going to reside in Benfer. The prayers of the Christians are needed for this young couple as they launch out on this new avenue of life.

September was a wonderful month of activity at Milesburg. The blessings of the Lord was so very wonderful and pleasant as they always are. Sister Lorena Maynard filled the pulpit on Sunday the 7th and Bro. Fuller did the same on the 14th. The ministry of these dear hearts was greatly appreciated by the church. We were also happy to have Bro. Juddie Peyton here for a one night service in behalf of Faith Missions. This meeting was a good service and we all enjoyed both the message and the songs of our Bro. Peyton. On Sunday the 21st, Children dedication, reception of members and baptizing all made it a wonderful day in the

Lord. The baptismal was a great time at which 100 persons gathered at the site of the farm pond on the Frank Sayer farm near Milesburg, an ideal spot for this sort of ceremony. Bro. David Fuller led in several songs; Bro. Howard led in a season of group prayer; Rev. Bradley Halter gave a few good minutes of exhortation and this was enjoyed by all present. Rev. Dewey Evans and this writer then entered the water along with the deacons of Milesburg Church and six persons were baptized, three persons not planning to do so, came into the water after the prompting of the Spirit. A wonderful spirit did prevail through out the entire service. Five other persons who wanted to be baptized were not able to be there because of illness. A period of testimony followed interspersed with songs and chorus. Appreciation was expressed to the owner for allowing us to be there and enjoy this fine area and provision. Several families were there who never saw a baptizing before and of course we were glad to make this kind of a contact. The Port Matilda Prayer Band was well represented and we do appreciate these folks as they cooperate very well with us on special services. Munson, Wolfe's Store, Seven Stars and Milesburg Churches were represented. So all in all it was a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. It was good to see every one lining the bank and reminded us of old times.

Several visitors were present recently; from New York City, Dubois, Lancaster County, Philadelphia and Virginia. One young couple came all the way from Virginia for the special services on the 21st. So praise the Lord for victory. By the time you read this, our fall services will be past. The church here has been under the load with special prayer meetings being held on Monday nights, both being well attended and spiced by the Stately Presence of the Holy Spirit, Praise His Name. The Church is praying now more than ever and we are expecting great things to happen. All honor and praise to His Name for His direction and aid. We here are encouraged to press on and to fight the good fight of Faith convinced that He will lead us on to triumphs in His Name.

Rev. Herman Noll, Pastor

PENN VIEWS

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF PENN VIEW BIBLE INSTITUTE

Editor's Note: The following address was given by Rev. Howard Frey at the annual conference of the God's Missionary Church and was requested by the members present at that conference to be printed in the Standard. Bro. Frey is God's man of the hour and is doing a tremendous work at Penn View.

To the Brothers and Sisters of the Thirty-fourth Annual Conference of God's Missionary Church (Inc.) assembled at Penns Creek Camp Ground, Penns Creek, Penna. greetings in the Name of Him Whom we love and serve.

We must turn to the Holy Scriptures for a proper basis in considering the important matter of Christian education. Solomon gave as the starting point of a Biblical education philosophy the development of a proper reverence for God. He wrote in Proverbs, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Prov. 1:7) The reading suggested in the margin would read, "The fear of the Lord is the principle part of knowledge." Later Solomon stated, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding" (Prov. 9:10). It can be seen that true knowledge, wisdom and understanding are predicated upon a proper respect and fear of a holy God. This respect is more than a passing acknowledgement of the majesty of God. It includes a comprehension producing submission in the individual to the God whose authority is ultimate.

We are living in a day when modern men feel that there is no room for the transcendent and Holy God who existed prior to the creation of the world. As a consequence our children are being taught the science of the universe is sufficient to control man's environment and provide for the totality of living. We take sharp issue with this unbiblical concept. There is no secret of the universe hid in the universe. The Transcendent God stands above the world which He created and He must be revered and obeyed.

(Continued on Page 10)

A PAGE FOR YOUTH

Ronnie's Thanksgiving Theme

Sel.

Ronald Craig chewed the end of his pencil. He crumpled a piece of paper into a ball and threw it into the wastebasket. He couldn't do it!

Teacher had said to write a two-hundred word theme about Thanksgiving, and she would read the best one to the class. Well, tomorrow was the day and tonight he simply had to write the theme. But what could a fellow write about Thanksgiving that would add up to two hundred words anyway?

Ronald sighed. Now if he were Charlie Turner, the assignment would be so simple. For Charlie Turner had everything. He was a tall, broad shouldered, good looking boy with a friendly grin. He made straight A's in school, he was good in sports, and everybody liked him. He also had a nifty new bike, a baseball glove and bat, and he was allowed three dollars a week spending money! If I had what he has, Ronnie thought, I could write a theme, too!

He started again, wrote a few lines, and crumpled another page. How in the world was he going to get started on this theme anyway?

Let's see now, to be thankful you counted your blessings, didn't you? How did that song go? Ronnie began to hum:

"Count your blessings, Name them one by one;

Count your many blessings, See what God hath done!"

That didn't mean to think of what you did not have, did it? It said, "Count your blessings." Here goes! Ronald thought.

He had an old beat-up bike — not a nifty one like Charlie's, still he was thankful he had one!

As for his baseball glove, bat and ball, he was thankful for them, too, even though they'd been new when his dad was a boy!

The phone rang and Ronald sighed with relief that he might leave his theme for a few moments.

"Hello! This is Charlie Turner!" said the voice at the other end of the line.

"Why, Charlie — I was just thinking about you!"

"I'm trying to write that theme," said Charlie. "Got yours written yet?"

"Uh, no, I'm working on mine, too."

"Should be easy for you, Ron. You've got everything a fellow could wish for."

"Everything?" Ronnie repeated.

"Sure! Swell folks, a good home where you can bring your friends. I've sure enjoyed coming over to your house, Ronnie."

Ronnie gulped at the wistfulness in the other boy's voice.

"Well, thanks, Charlie," he managed to say. "You're always welcome, you know."

"I'll take you up on that. What I called to ask — how long was that theme supposed to be?"

"Two hundred words, Charlie."

"Well, I suppose I can stretch it out somehow, but it'll take some doing. 'Night, Ron."

"Night, Charlie." He replaced the receiver and sat stunned. Imagine Charlie envying him his plain and humble home! Say, I wonder what kind of home life Charlie does have, he thought. He knew Charlie's mother and father both worked. They lived in a beautiful house. His mother had never wanted Charlie to bring his friends home because they cluttered up the house and yard. She didn't want a dog around either. And Charlie's father was always cross and too busy to go fishing, play ball, or do anything else with him. Poor Charlie! Maybe he wasn't so lucky after all.

Suddenly Ronnie's mind was full of things he wanted to write. His fingers itched with the urgency to put them on paper.

Home and family certainly came high on the list. His dad was always sympathetic to his every need, whether it meant to pitch a few balls, discuss his problems, or help him with his Sunday school lesson. And Mom — well, she was the best ever — cheery, understanding, and gay. Then there was his sister, Brenda, an awful pill sometimes, but really a wonderful girl in many ways — and she adored her big brother. His heart swelled at the

thought. Then he had Gramp and Gram and a host of uncles, aunts and cousins.

Then, of course, the church and his Sunday school class were a great blessing. But knowing that the Lord was his personal Saviour was the best of all. Ronald's heart glowed as he thought of Him, of His greatness, of what He had done for him and of what it meant to belong to Him. What was it Charlie had said in school once? "My dad is an atheist, but I believe in God." Did Charlie go to church? Did he know the Lord Jesus?

Suddenly he bowed his head. "Forgive me Lord, for being so blind to Charlie's needs, and help me to tell him about Thee."

Soon his pen was flying over the paper. When the page was filled, he stopped to read it. How could I have forgotten, he thought with shame, those blessings money cannot buy? "Thank you, God, for giving them to me," he murmured.

The teacher smiled over the sheaf of papers she held in her hands the next afternoon. "I'm proud of each paper," she declared, "but the one that made the deepest impression on me was written by Ronald Craig. It showed deep thinking and it reveals a truly thankful heart." The she read Ronnie's theme. The teacher smiled as she came to the end of the theme and said, "Ronald has beautifully summed up his paper with this poem:

"At Thanksgiving and always, I will try to remember that —

'Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour is the mill;
And back of the mill is the wheat and the shower,
And the sun and the Father's will.'"

Our thanks, O God, we render Thee!
Our times are in Thy hand;
On Thee, for all things, we rely,
Thou art our bounteous Friend.

Our thanks are due for love untold,
Which brings us all life's need;
Our hungry beings, faint and weak,
For heaven's mercies plead.

For earth, for heaven, we praise our God!

For us are prospects bright;
As living here, we do His will,
Our future is delight.

THANKSGIVING

By William Bradford, Governor
of Plymouth Colony, A.D. 1647

After a long beating at sea on the Mayflower they approached that land which is called Cape Cod; the which being made certain, they were not a little joyful. The next day they got into the Cape harbor where they rode in safety.

Being thus arrived in a good harbor and brought safe to land, they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of Heaven, Who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean, and delivered them from all the perils and miseries thereof, again to set their feet on firm and stable earth, their proper element.

But I cannot but pause and stand half-amazed at this poor people's present condition. They had now no friends to welcome them, no inns to entertain or refresh their weather-beaten bodies; no houses, much less towns, to repair to for succor.

It is recorded in Scriptures (Acts 28:2) as a mercy to the apostle and his shipwrecked company, that the barbarians showed them no small kindness in refreshing them. But these savage barbarians, when they met them, were readier to fill their sides full of arrows than otherwise. As for the reason, it was winter, and those who know the winters of the country know them to be sharp and violent, subject to cruel and fierce storms, in which it is dangerous to travel to known places, much more to search an unknown coast.

Besides what could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness, full of wild beasts and wild men? And what multitudes there might be of them they knew not. Neither could they, as it were, go up to the top of Pisgah to view from this wilderness a more goodly country to feed their hopes; for which every way they turned their eyes (save upward to the heavens) they could have little solace or content in respect of outward objects. For summer being done, all things stood upon them with a weather-beaten face, and the whole country full of woods and thickets, representing wild and savage hue.

If they looked behind them there was the mighty ocean which they had passed, now a main bar and gulf to separate them from all the civil parts of the world. Let it also be considered what weak hopes of supply and succor they left behind them.

What could now sustain them but the Spirit of God and His Grace? May not and ought not the children of these fathers rightly say:

"Our fathers were Englishmen which came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness; but they cried unto the Lord, and He heard their voice in their adversity. Let them therefore praise the Lord, because He is good, and His mercies endure forever.

"Yet, let them which have been redeemed of the Lord, show how he hath delivered them from the hand of the oppressor. When they wandered in the desert wilderness out of the way, and found no city to dwell in, both hungry and thirsty, their soul was overwhelmed in them. Let them confess before the Lord His loving kindness and His wonderful works before the sons of men."

Songs Our Grandfathers Sang

by
Carol Holland

The church will be forever indebted to Lowell Mason for his contribution to religious music. Besides giving us the wonderful melodies of "Nearer, My God, to Thee," "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood," and a host of others, he was also instrumental in getting other young musicians started in the same cause. Among these was William Bradbury, composer of the tunes of "Just As I Am," "The Solid Rock," and others. In turn, Bradbury was the means of Fanny Crosby's turning from the writing of secular songs to hymns for the Church, when she was past forty. Also, in a singing school which Bradbury conducted, a poor lad, Philip Bliss, became interested and inspired, and later left to the world both the words and music for "Almost Persuaded," "Wonderful Words of Life," and many more. Who knows how many souls have been led to the Lord just by these songs?

Lowell Mason was always on the search for poems suitable for setting to music. In early 1832, a friend of his, William C. Woodbridge, brought back from Germany a number of songs which he had collected while studying European school systems, thinking that Mason might be able to translate some of them for use in his choir work. Mason liked the music, but the words might as well have been written in Chinese. Then he remembered young Samuel Francis Smith, a 26-year-old ministerial student and Harvard graduate, who could speak fifteen languages. Smith lived right by the church where the lantern hung on the night of Paul Revere's famous ride, and naturally was quite patriotic. On February 2, 1832, Smith got around to translating one of the German songs. The title in German was "God Bless Our Native Land." Smith did not know that England had sung that tune to "God Save the King" for one hundred years. He decided to write a patriotic song about America; so, taking a scrap of paper 'six inches long and half as wide,' in half an hour he had written his song. Lowell Mason's Children's Choir sang for the first time, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

Holiness Teachings

(Continued from Page 3)

A well-conducted service of this sort cannot fail to give birth to cravings for purity that will extend far beyond the number who, by open confession, attain the gift of full salvation. It will elevate the tone of Divine worship, sharpen the relish for such.

Fourth. There should be direct and specific prayer that concern and longing for holiness should be awakened in the heart. However cold and indifferent, let earnest supplication be made. By the force of will and under conviction of duty continue the pleading. Pursue the course we have indicated, dear reader, and you will soon say:

"My anxious soul cries out, oppressed,
Impatient to be freed;
Nor can I, Lord, nor will I rest
Till I am saved indeed."
(Possibilities of Grace)



Missionary Message

DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS

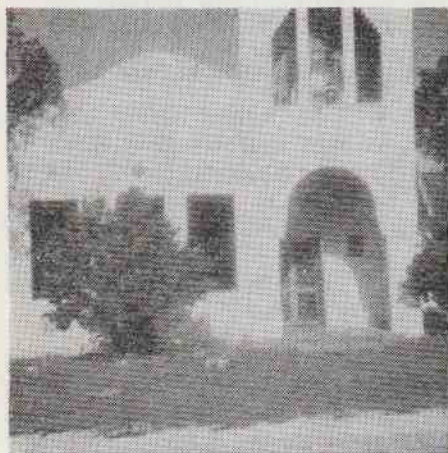
Enlarging Our Boundaries

by

Rev. Kenneth Walter, Chairman
of Florida Council

Isaiah set forth the challenge, amid his prophecies, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."

The business world of today lays great stress on "Promotion". I see ads in the newspaper offering fine salaries for outstanding promotional men. Multiplied millions are spent annually to promote man's business. Many times the man does not really believe in that which he is promoting, but most people will do anything for personal gain.



The church at large, has adopted a promotional program by which, I must admit, they are adding many members to their "Social Club". I fear, however, they are missing the mark. The purpose of the church is to teach people of a way that is different from the "World". To teach them the realities of Regeneration, which brings about a Transformation, and prepares the heart for Sanctification. The Holy Spirit will

not and does not dwell in a worldly minded, self-seeking, antagonistic heart. I pray God to send us a revival of "Old Time Religion" within the church.

I am finding an increasing number of God's choice people who are sick of compromise and are yearning for a spiritual fellowship. The conservative Holiness Churches are at this moment face to face with one of the greatest challenges the church has ever known. However, let me remind you that opportunity or challenge will see nothing accomplished unless they are met with courage and determination. Brethren, we are not about to lose! The right will always prevail. The faithful are assured of the victory. We dare not retreat, but fearlessly invade this world with a united voice, promoting the conservative holiness message.

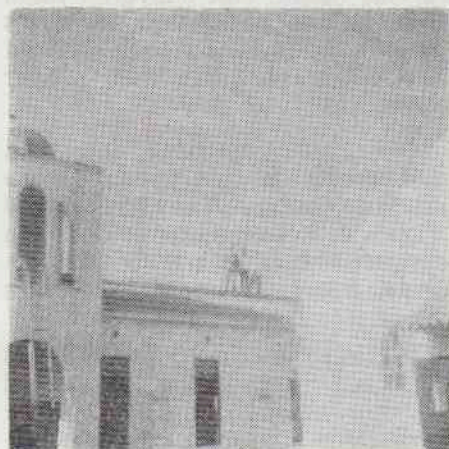
If man will give his talent to promote something he doesn't really believe in, for a little material gain, then shame on us if we will not give ourselves and our talent, and our finances, to promote that which we do believe in, for the salvation of lost souls.

Our text says, "spare not". You cannot invest too much in God's work. So often we are hindered in what we could do for God here on this mission field, because of a great lack of finances. God has led us here and we are endeavoring to "Lengthen our Cords" as rapidly as we are able, but we need your help to "Strengthen the Stakes". We need your regular monthly support to promote this Florida Pioneer District.

We are still praising God for the wonderful response on Home Missionary Day at Penns Creek Camp. The need presented was for a new work at Orlando, Florida, where we purchased an old Methodist Church. Rev. James Cooper felt led of the Lord to come and face the challenge of this new church. On August 16th

Bro. Cooper and his oldest son arrived here and on Monday, August 18th they started to work.

We are happy to report that at this time of writing the new roof is on, the new windows have been installed, many repairs have been made, tile has been laid on the kitchen floor, the necessary partitions have been set up and the electrician is almost finished.



The Lord gave us this spacious property for \$8500.00. Along with a lovely sanctuary, we will have two Sunday School rooms, a pastor's study, and a four bedroom parsonage, when renovations are completed. Due to county requirements on a parsonage connected to the sanctuary, the cost of this project has run considerably higher than we anticipated. We need about \$1000 to complete this project. If 100 people will invest \$10.00 to promote a conservative holiness church this need will be taken care of without being a burden to anyone.

The Cooper family is laboring untiringly, and sacrificing after real missionary fashion. I appreciate this fine family and their dedication to the Lord's work. Remember them in prayer.

Bro. Cooper opened the church for their first services on Sunday, Sept. 14th. We were thrilled with an attendance of 15 in the morning and 36 in the afternoon and an offering of \$357.18. Bro. Cooper is

(Continued on Page 10)

Recommendation

It is my privilege to recommend Rev. and Mrs. John F. White to the Standard family as evangelists and singers. Bro. White has been a pastor in the God's Missionary Church for 15 years and has been in the ministry for 20 years, serving in another denomination for five years before coming to us. In addition to this Bro. White has served faithfully on the Home Missionary Board for eight years and on the youth board for six years.



Bro. and Sister White have conducted many camps and revivals, working in capacity of evangelist and singers. God has blessed his ministry through the years. Anyone wishing to have these fine folk for a meeting will not be disappointed. They are old fashioned, anointed and will help your church. If interested please write to them at:

Rev. and Mrs. John F. White
4 South Ave.,
Landisville, Penna. — 17538

They have several instruments and travel trailer.

Worry is pulling tomorrow's clouds over today's sunshine.

Folks who really want to get ahead usually do.

Conscience is that still small voice that makes you feel even smaller.

Rather put your shoulder to the wheel than your back to the wall.

Preaching To Empty Church Seats

Tract

"Are you going to church this morning, Susie?" asked Dr. Clark, lying back in his easy chair, with the morning paper. "A doctor who is out day and night can't be expected."

"No, I made jelly yesterday, and I'm tired. I'm faithful enough to stay at home this cloudy morning," and Mrs. Clark curled up on the couch with the Bible she hadn't opened for a week, but it soon dropped from her hand. She was aroused by a strange voice saying:

"Now my good imps, what have you done today to weaken the Kingdom of God?"

The voice came from a suspicious looking person seated on a throne of human skulls. Around him was gathered a crowd of terrible beings, each with a crown of fire, in which gleamed some name, such as Malice, Envy, Pride, Hatred, and kindred passions.

"We have been busy today making empty seats in churches," said one.

"Nothing could please me better," answered their king.

"I persuaded one man that he had a headache, and kept him from a sermon that might have changed his whole life," said one.

"I induced one good man to slip into his store and fix up his books," said another, with a horrid grin.

"Good," said the king, "He'll soon give up the Sabbath altogether."

"I was able to get one devoted young man to visit some old friends," said another imp.

"I worried a good sister about her bonnet until she decided to stay at home until she got a new one," spoke up the imp labeled "Pride."

"And I made several women who were hungry for God's Word to stay home to repine over trials. I just said to them, 'Oh, these rich people don't care for you, you can't wear fine clothes, so I wouldn't go where I was looked down upon.' That way I kept many poor people whom the rich would have been glad to see."

"That is one of the best ways to cheat poor people out of Heaven that I know of," answered the king with approval.

"I induced a good many men and women to think they were not strong enough to get out," said one called "Indifference." "Of course, all these men will be at business tomorrow, even if they feel worse. But they could not go to church, where they would have no special mental or physical strain. And the ladies would have been able to go calling or clean house, but I made them think they couldn't walk to church unless they were perfectly well."

"Very good," said the king, with a sulphurous grin. "Sunday headaches might often be cured by getting out into the fresh air and backaches forgotten by thoughts driven to higher things. But you lying imps must use every weakness of the flesh to help make empty seats."

They all smiled, for in their kingdom lying was a great compliment.

"I'm the weather imp," said one gloomy fellow. "I go around persuading people it is going to rain or it is too cold, or too damp, or too hot, to venture out to church. It is enough to make even your gloomy majesty laugh to see these people start out next day in wind and weather. One would think it is a sin to carry an umbrella and wear gum coats to church."

"Confidentially," said the king, "when I find a Christian who has no more concern about weather Sunday than Monday — determined to make as much effort for spiritual gain as he would for worldly profit, I just give him up. It's no use to try to drag the man or woman who goes to church in all kinds of weather."

"I am able to do a good deal with some of the ladies of the congregations," spoke up the imp labeled "Fashion of this World." "I can make some people stay at home because the new hat did not come or because their clothes are out of style, or they have not gotten a new cloak."

"I have a better scheme than that," said another. "These people you keep away are indifferent — generally good-for-nothing folks, who are hardly worth getting into the kingdom of his satanic majesty, but I have a plan that empties seats of the workers in the church."

"That is just what we want," said the king.

(Continued on Page 10)

Preaching To Empty Church Seats

(Continued from Page 9)

"I make these people overwork on Saturdays. For instance, I induce some good man the preacher depends upon, or some devout Sunday School teacher, to make Saturday the busiest day of the week. I just keep him rushed with neglected things til late at night, and then he oversleeps or is sick the next day, and can't get out."

"Splendid plan," cried Satan.

"Yes, it works well with delicate women. If they clean house, or have Saturday company, they can be kept at home without knowing they have broken the Sabbath **THE DAY BEFORE**. A church party late Saturday nights helps make empty seats."

"You are doing fine, my imps," his majesty said warmly — for his breath was a breath of fire! "Preachers may work and pray over their sermons all week, but there will be no results in preaching to empty seats. One of the most important things we have to consider is how to keep people away from church on Sunday. Your plans are excellent, but I may suggest another good point. All preachers have human imperfection — some fault of manner or speech. Get Christians to criticize their pastor, especially before their children. If you can stir up a spirit of fault-finding against the preacher, or among the members, it will help empty seats. People who get angry at each other do not care to go to church together. If the seats are empty, the preacher may be a saint, and preach like an angel, but to no purpose. See the results of your labor on High Street Church today. Not only did the 200 people who stayed at home lose a blessing, but each empty seat did its work against the Lord's kingdom. The preacher made unusual preparation, and went with his heart on fire, but the empty seats chilled him, and he did poorly. There was a special collection, but the best givers were away, so it was a failure. It isn't a smart preacher, nor a rich congregation, nor a good location, nor a paid choir, that makes a church successful. It is the church members always being there that draws in the unconverted, and makes an elo-

quent preacher. As soon as a Christian begins to stay at home, for one reason or another, I have a mortgage on his soul, which, if he does not shake off, I will foreclose on the judgment day."

"You have none on mine," cried Mrs. Clark, who had been listening with bated breath, "I'll go to church if only to defeat you."

"What's the matter, dear?" asked the doctor, "Have you been dreaming?"

"Perhaps so, but I am going to church if I get there just in time for the benediction. I'll cheat Satan from this day out of one empty seat."

She has kept her word and influenced many others to let nothing trifling keep them from God's House, and one "down-town" church has begun to grow, and will soon be a great power for God, because of no "EMPTY SEATS."

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)"

And let us consider one another to provoke unto good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:23-25.

Enlarging Our Boundaries

(Continued from Page 8)

presently preaching his own revival. I was amazed to see him start off the first night with an attendance of 38 and a large number of them from the immediate vicinity. Surely God has placed his seal upon this new venture of Faith.

The Lord willing, we will have our first God's Missionary Camp Meeting in Florida, on these premises, December 31, 1969 through January 11, 1970. Rev. Donald Hughes will be the evangelist. Watch for detailed announcements in the "Standard".

Please send your contributions to Rev. William Lutz, Dist. Trea., 4931 Elfrida Ave., Sarasota, Florida — 33580.

Don't forget the new church at Seffner, Florida. The footing has been poured. Please help us get this building under roof. It is desperately needed.

PENN VIEWS

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF PENN VIEW BIBLE INSTITUTE

(Continued from Page 5)

Furthermore, man is estranged from God and needs to be told of the way of reconciliation which God provided through the sacrifice of His Son in a death of crucifixion, His resurrection from the dead, and His exaltation to the Glory of Heaven, and that further all men may come to know Him as Prophet, Priest and King in their individual lives. Penn View Bible Institute stands firmly upon the authority of Biblical revelation and is thoroughly dedicated to the propagation of its saving message.

Under the very able administration of Rev. George W. Stepp, the enrollment of Penn View Bible Institute reached an all-time high of one hundred and ninety-five, this being its third year. This has been by far the best year for the school. Our hearts were indeed saddened when our beloved President Stepp announced that he would no longer remain with us. His stay with us has made an indelible mark for spirituality and academic soundness in our school.

Throughout the year two revivals were conducted also a Spiritual Emphasis Week at the close of the term, which resulted in a number of students receiving definite spiritual help. We had our second high school graduation class of twelve fine young people. Also another highlight for Penn View was its first class of college graduates, numbering two excellent young men who are taking their place in the Christian ministry.

Work on the first level of the building will be begun shortly in order to render more facilities which are greatly needed in face of an increased enrollment this fall. Terracing, ground leveling and other landscaping are currently being taken care of. Your prayers are solicited for Penn View Bible Institute, the school of God's planting. We believe the future is very promising.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard J. Frey

Announcement

Sea Breeze Camp Meeting

The Sea Breeze Camp Meeting will be held Feb. 5-14, 1970 at Hobe Sound, Florida.

Workers are: Rev. H. C. Van-Wormer, Glen Griffith and others.

Hear Archie Coons and his choir.

We solicit your prayer for a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Turn east from highway R. 1 at the blinker, cross R.R. tracks and turn left at the first road.

Please bring bedding and pillows.

Write: Mrs. H. Robb French, Hobe Sound, Florida 33455.

The Inhabitants of HEAVEN

Sel.

Who are those that dwell in heaven forever and ever? Those saved by grace, who were once sinners. There is not a man or woman there who was not a sinner; not one but whose heart was "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." I stand upon those streets of gold; I walk amid the brightness of the city; I hear a man singing, and I ask him, "And what were you, on earth?"

He answers, "I am the thief who said unto Jesus Christ, 'Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom,' and He said, 'This day shalt thou be with me in paradise,' and I have been here praising Him ever since."

I pass on, and ask another, "Who are you, with light upon your brow?"

She answers, "I am the one who broke the alabaster box of ointment over the Savior's feet. I washed His feet with my tears and wiped them with the hairs of my head; and now He has wiped away all my tears, and I am happy in His presence."

"And who are you, so radiant with happiness?"

"I am the man who had the legion of demons. Jesus Christ cast them out and healed me; and now I am praising Him forever and forever."

I pause to listen to the endless song: "Now unto him that hath loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." Amen rings loudly over the scene: Amen and Amen!

Again I pass on, and ask: "Who are you, with face adoring?"

"I was a drunkard, a vile, wretched drunkard; but Jesus loved me, and saved my soul."

"And who are you?"

"A blasphemer."

"And you?"

"A murderer."

"And you?"

"A harlot — but Jesus bought me with His precious blood."

Yes, these are the inhabitants of heaven; and it may be when you and I get to glory, and stand amid the redeemed, worshipping, we shall hear one saying, pointing to Jesus:

"Do you see those marks upon His blessed brow? Those scars? It was I who plaited the crown of thorns and pressed it upon His brow."

"You?"

"Yes. After having done it, I heard Him say, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' I never forgot those words."

Another might say, "Do you see those marks in His hands and feet? I took the hammer and drove the nails into them. I am the one who nailed Him to the Cross."

"You, in heaven! You, clad in white, and with His name in your forehead?"

"Yes; He loved me, and gave Himself for me."

And why not, my dear reader? Why should not these one-time sinners be in glory? The blood of Christ availed as much for them as for you and me. I should not be surprised, such is the amazing love of God, at seeing any of these in glory. The greatest surprise to me will be to find myself there. Yes, when we get there and mingle with the glorified inhabitants, we may

hear voices say, "I was converted when Peter preached at Pentecost"; and, "I heard Paul on Mars' Hill"; and, "I heard Philip in Samaria"; and, "I heard Whitfield in the open air"; and, "I heard John Wesley" — and they will come from all parts — from the north, south, east and west. The dark faces and the pale faces are alike, now. Oh! Are you going to this city? We shall soon see above the Pearly Gates the banner waving, and upon its glorious folds the words: "Welcome Home!" The Crusaders wept when first they caught sight of Jerusalem; and when we see the gates appear, the light shining from afar; when we behold the angel-porter, clad in the livery of God at the gates of the Holy City, if we weep at all, they will be the last tears we shall ever shed. We shall go in with uplifted foreheads, to wear a crown; with eager feet, to tread those golden streets; with longing eyes, to gaze upon the face of Christ; with overflowing hearts, to worship God and the Lamb!

Then, as the wide expanse of heaven comes into view, as we behold the splendor of its streets, its walls, its thrones, its mansions, its angelic hosts, and its redeemed billions; as we gaze with clear eyes upon God's throne, and upon the face of Christ, as we hear the sound of innumerable voices praising, methinks we shall cry aloud so that all can hear, "The half hath not been told!" Then with eyes of joy gazing around shall we say, "This is mine forever — these streets, these hills of God, these robes of white, this diadem of glory, this endless song — mine forever and forever! Glory!"

Wherever the joy of the Lord is not present — the death sentence has been given.

We are no bigger than our conception of God.

Faith hangs a rainbow on the clouds of every storm.

To debate with God and trust in your own understanding is moral blasphemy.

Unless Jesus Christ is Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

Jesus Christ alone can save the world, but Jesus Christ cannot save the world alone.

ATTENTION PASTORS AND CHRISTIAN WORKERS

The publishing division of the God's Missionary Church has recently purchased fifty (50) copies of "Pure Gold" by C. D. Watson. It is very unlikely that we will be able to get any more of this good book. During the month of December we are offering as our Christmas special this \$2.00 book for only \$1.35. If you live within driving distance of Penns Creek, stop at the school and visit our book room. There are many items that you have been looking for. While there take several copies of this good book for those who like to read on your Christmas list.

Also all Christmas cards are going at the rate of two boxes for one. Buy one box at the regular price, get one at no additional cost. These are limited and going fast so hurry in and get those needed cards.

All items may be ordered by mail if you are not able to come in. For mail orders remember Pennsylvania sales tax and postage will be charged on all items.

Manager

The Vital Place of SELF-CRITICISM

by

A. W. Tozer

All things else being equal, a Christian will make spiritual progress exactly in proportion to his ability to criticize himself.

Paul said, "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged." We escape the critical judgment of God by exercising critical self-judgment. It's as simple as that.

We often hear the axiom, "Practice makes perfect." The fact is that practice, far from making perfect, actually confirms us in our faults unless it is carried on in a humble, self-critical spirit. The whole philosophy of instruction rests upon the idea that the learner is wrong and is seeking to be made right. No teacher can correct his pupil unless the pupil comes to him in humility.

The only proper attitude for the learner is one of humble self-distrust. "I am ignorant," he says, "and am willing to be taught. I am wrong, and am willing to be corrected." In this childlike spirit the mind is made capable of improvement.

The rapidity with which improvement is made in the life will depend altogether upon the degree of self-criticism we bring to our prayers and to the school of daily living. Let a man fall under the delusion that he has arrived, and he has stopped all progress until he has seen his error and forsaken it. Paul said, "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus."

Some Christians hope in a vague kind of way that time will help them to grow better. They look to the passing of the years to mellow them and make them more Christ-like. This is such a tender and pathetic thought that one hesitates to expose its essential error. But we had better know the facts now while we can do something about them than to go on moist-eyed and dreamily hopeful — and wholly wrong. A crooked tree does not straighten with age; neither does a crooked Christian.

All this is to say that a growing Christian must have at his roots the life-giving waters of penitence. The cultivation of a penitential spirit is absolutely essential to spiritual progress. The lives of great saints teach us that self-distrust is vital to godliness. Even while the obedient soul lies prostrate before God, or goes on in reverent obedience, convinced that he is carrying out the will of God with a perfect conscience, he will feel a sense of utter brokenness and deep consciousness that he is still far from being what he ought to be. This is one of many paradoxical situations in which the humble man will find himself as he follows on to know the Lord.

We have all seen the person who begins all arguments with the unassailable proposition that he is right, and reasons from there. We have received a few letters which purported to settle all questions, not by bringing forth reasons, but

by establishing the writer's qualifications to pronounce judgment. "How dare you question my actions?" he says. "I am the foremost leader in my field. I have written this many books and spoken to this many persons over a long period of this many years." Ergo, I am not to be trifled with, nor are my opinions to be questioned. If I do it, it is right. Ipse dixit. He has said it!

This kind of thing would be comical if it were not tragic. We mention it only to point up the truth under present consideration and to show by horrible example what long continued self-assurance will do to a human character. Let the public accept a man as unusual, and he is soon tempted to accept himself as being above reproof. Soon a hard shell of impenitence covers his heart and chokes his spiritual life almost out of existence. The cure, if there is to be a cure, would be simple, of course. Let him look to his past and to the Cross where Jesus died. If he can still defend himself after that, then let him look into his own heart and tell what he finds there. If after that he can still boast, close the coffin lid.

We might point out a danger here (for there will always be perils in the way of spiritual progress): it is that we become morbidly introspective and lose the legitimate, happy cheer from our souls. This we must never do, and we can avoid it by permitting Christ to engage our attention, rather than our own souls. The safe rule is: whenever we look at ourselves, be penitent; when we look at Christ, be joyous; and look at Him most of the time, looking inward only to correct our faults and grieve for our imperfections.

Prayer moves the arm that moves the universe. Prayer can reach the whole human race. What is there that believing prayer cannot do? Thanks to those hidden ministers who do not get the world's applause, but who are in constant touch with the Storekeeper and cause the goods to be delivered.

The possession of money has kept many a man small. In God's sight it never yet made a man great.

You might as well try to cure small pox by scenery, as to try to save the world by improvement of environment.