



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 35, No. 7

(Issued Monthly at \$4.00 per year)

March 1983

JESUS TAUGHT...

Obedience Is the Test of True Love

Rev. George I. Straub
General Superintendent

"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; and he that loveth Me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." John 14:21.

The most solid proof one can give of his attachment to and affection for Christ is by keeping His commandments. One's salvation does not consist in merely knowing the commandments, but rather he that "keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me." Here we see it is an utter impossibility for one to retain his sonship while violating the divine statutes and laws of God.

A MAN WHO DID NOT LOVE GOD

Some years ago, while in conversation with a man in the South, I spoke to him about his soul, and asked him if he loved God. Immediately he began to speak of the goodness of God, and stated that they had churches in the community that believed in old-fashioned revivals. I informed him that I was a minister and was deeply interested in the salvation of the lost, and tried to get him to see the danger and folly of going on in life void of the presence of God's love abiding in his heart. He further stated, "That's true; however, I am honest in telling you that I do not love God." This came as a surprise to me after knowing of all the good things God had done for him. He said again, "For me to say I love God and not keep His commandments would set me up as an untruthful man."

(1) True love strives to know what His commandments are, and what the Lord requires. "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul." Deut. 10:12.

(2) True love curbs any and all things that rob or chill our affections for the things of God. "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for Whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ." Phil. 3:8. The Apostle Paul plainly states he brushed aside an honorable position, popularity, reputation, wealth, and loved ones, so that he might be able to please God.

(3) True love always desires to have its object of adoration near. It was this which caused the poet to pen the words...

"Blest be the tie that binds,
Our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds,
Is like to that above.

"When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again."

(4) True love to God and the keeping of His commandments brings the highest type of fellowship. "He shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." Verse 23 states, "And we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." Obedience to God will cause Him to take up a spiritual residence in the heart. "I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20.

(5) True love is the queen of all graces. It binds and keeps together. When obedience and love to God are foremost in a church, there will be no strife and dissension. One will not need to worry about church fusses and splits. No church loses the respect of the community until the church loses respect for itself. It is a sad day for a congregation when its own membership begin to absent themselves from its services. When this takes place, obedience slackens, and it becomes very easy for us to excuse ourselves from the services and duty. It is very sad when professors of religion can be counted on to be there at the social function, or at the place of business, but cannot be counted on when the interests of the Kingdom are at stake, and when the Son of God goes forth to war.

(6) True love is self-sacrificing. It rather seeks to help others than to set up ambitions which center on self.

Jesus proved His obedience and love to the Father by doing His will, and carrying out the work as given by God. His love was not only in words, but in deed, as well. This we see manifested on Calvary where He proved His love to a lost world.

THE OPINION OF MR. GANDHI

Recently the writer was in conversation with a returned Methodist missionary, who had labored in India. He informed me of a visit with Gandhi, the late leader of India. During the course of their conversation, Mr. Gandhi asked him if it were a fact that the American people had signs by the wayside, "Jesus Saves," while across the street they advertised a brand of whiskey. He said he bowed his head before the mahatma and said, "It all could be." The Indian zealot was astonished as he was under the impression America was a Christian nation. Thus we see that decaying love buds into disobedience, indifference, and leads to a state of apostasy. It was this that caused the prophet Jeremiah to cry out, "Oh, that my head were waters and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people."

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GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

[USPS 220 - 880]

Official Organ of God's Missionary Church, Inc.
"A Messenger of Full Salvation"

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office
at Penns Creek, Pa.

Published monthly by God's Missionary Church
and mailed at Penns Creek, Pa.

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Subscription price: \$4.00 per year in advance, in the
United States. For foreign countries, add \$3.50 for
postage.

Remittance and subscriptions should be sent to: Rev.
Andrew Cooley, Box 100, Penns Creek, Pa. 17862

Postmaster:

Send form 3579 to Box 100, Penns Creek, Pa. 17862

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

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

All items for publication must be in the editor's office
no later than the fifteenth of each month, so as to be eligi-
ble for publication in the following month's edition.



Another Gospel!

Galatians 1:6 — "I marvel that ye
are so soon removed from him that
called you into the grace of Christ un-
to another gospel."

As one makes his way across the
conservative holiness movement to-
day he occasionally hears some
strange sounding gospel preaching.
We are in real danger in places of
substituting another gospel for the
"good news" that Jesus Christ can
save and keep from sin. Perhaps I
should say we are adding to rather
than merely substituting for the
gospel.

Jesus, on one occasion, looked the
Scribes and Pharisees in the face and
denounced their practice of adding to
the requirements of God. "And he said
unto them, Full well ye reject the com-
mandment of God, that ye may keep
your own tradition." Mark 7:9

The zealot of Jesus' day was absorb-
ed with many ceremonies and rituals,
and indeed was critical because the
disciples failed to adhere to such
minute details as washing their hands
before eating. The modern day zealot
also becomes supercritical when in-
dividuals fail to buy their particular
brand of dry goods and notions, such
as buying the proper width and color
of necktie, or even wearing one; using
the proper kind of material for his suit
or having a buckle on his shoe.

Sometimes camp meetings become
forums for evangelists to try to outdo
one another in preaching this "other
gospel." The more extreme and
bizarre one becomes, the more certain
he is of having a following.

Paul, the great apostle, called at-
tempts to add to the gospel of Jesus
Christ perversions, and indicated that
deviating from the preaching of the
clear, plain "good news" be worthy of
a curse. The problem in Galatia was
the same as in Galilee — people adding

to the gospel of God. Those recent
converts from Judaism were being in-
timidated by Judaizers who called for
adherence to certain Jewish
ceremonies and rituals. Paul called
that attempt "another gospel" and
then placed the emphasis where it
should be. Listen to Galatians 2:16
"Knowing that a man is not justified
by the works of the law, but by the
faith of Jesus Christ, even we have
believed in Jesus Christ that we
might be justified by the faith of
Christ, and not by the works of the
law, for by the works of the law shall
no flesh be justified."

I do not seek any accommodation
with this world, but I do call for a
balanced Scriptural approach to the
preaching of the gospel. I do not
shrink from the particular preaching
which names things, but I decry
various attempts to add our own
brand of gospel with its questionable
exegesis and hermeneutics.

Perhaps you have heard of the
would be cellist who kept sawing
away on one string. Somebody said,
"That is not the way to play a cello.
You must run your fingers up and
down the strings to find different
notes," "Oh, no," he replied, "those
fellows are looking for the right note,
but I've found it."

It takes no time in effective Bible
study to saw away on one string; it
takes no practice in prayer to play one
string; it extracts no demands for
careful exegesis to plunk on one str-
ing. In fact it may be a sign of mental
and spiritual laziness to do nothing
but play on your pet string. Beautiful
harmony comes from the blending of
single tones into chords.

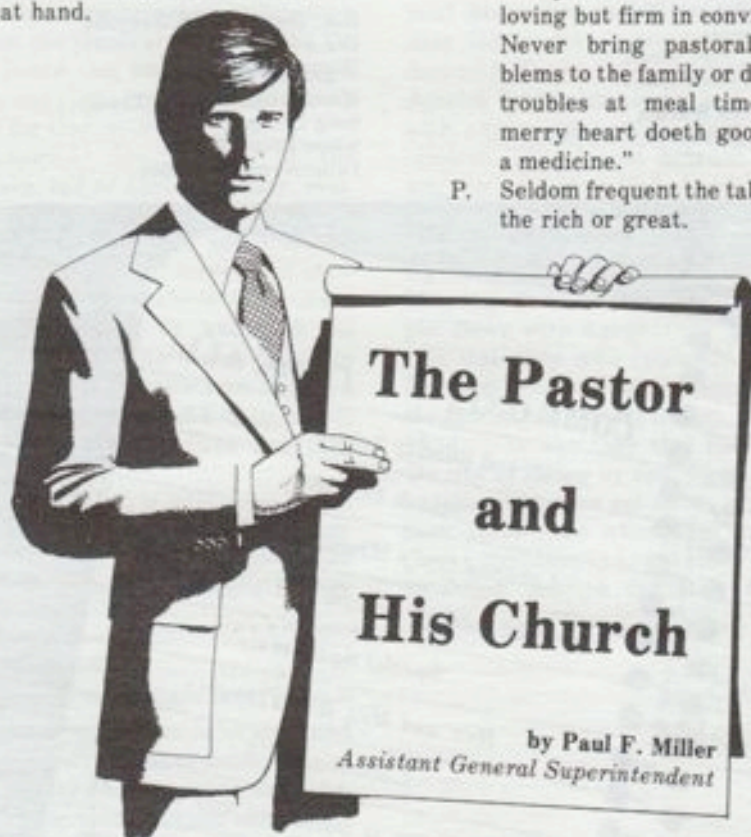
Brethren, who not just preach the
gospel?

— D.L.F.

It could be just my imagination or we could be facing a problem in the area of the pastor and his church. I frequently witness a loss of respect for pastors by their congregations. It becomes increasingly more difficult to supply pastors and easier for the congregation to criticize the preacher.

When pondering this condition to arrive at a possible solution I became interested in learning if there has been a break down in the clearness of the duties of the pastor in relation to his church and his pulpit conduct, thus creating this loss of proper respect.

The following list of do's and don'ts is the result of this research. Pastors read them carefully and let us compare our present ministry with those of other ministers of "yester-year". Perhaps it will help to solve the problem at hand.



I. General Decorum

- A. Beware of discouraging the people.
- B. Avoid the error of constantly finding fault with his congregation - either in or out of the pulpit.
- C. Be continent of his tongue.
- D. Act with great caution.
- E. Never prefer one above another.
- F. Let his life be consistent, (in perfect harmony) and never be partial.
- G. Have nothing about him that speaks of effeminacy.
- H. Do not conform to the world in dress and pomp.

- I. Let his ear ever be opened to the cry of the afflicted and dying.
- J. Be genuinely interested in people and their problems, but never "nosey;" the minister is not a news commentator.
- K. Never be involved to the extent of being a busy body.
- L. Do not share problems with other members of even his own family; if it is confidential, keep it that way.
- M. Stay in his study as much as possible, given to prayer, fasting, and studying.
- N. Enjoy some recreations but be discreet and temperate.
- O. Cultivate a good life with his family, be cheerful, relaxed, loving but firm in conviction. Never bring pastoral problems to the family or discuss troubles at meal time. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."
- P. Seldom frequent the tables of the rich or great.

II. In your study.

- A. Follow only the best authors.
- B. Be widely read - know as much as possible about as many subjects as possible.
- C. Divide time equally between prayer and study.
- D. Refuse to be distracted while in the study except for emergencies.

- E. Study so as to place the best and most practical interpretation upon all Scriptures.
- F. Be deeply taught of God and deeply study man.
- G. Take your work as from God, do it before God and refer all glory to God; remember you will someday stand before God.
- H. Study as well as preach under divine inspiration, hiding the word of God in your heart.
- I. Strive to use sound judgment and good sense in study and preaching.

III. In the pulpit.

- A. Preach the law and its terrors.
- B. Never take a text you do not fully understand.
- C. Never make a text say what it really does not say.
- D. Beware of purely emotional preaching, reach the heart and mind of your hearers.
- E. Never contradict the Holy Spirit - stay within the boundaries of the Book to avoid this.
- F. Do not lift the text out of its proper setting, this creates heresies.
- G. Never acclaim anything to be truth unless it comes directly from God.
- H. Preach to all the people but never at any person.
- I. Be diversified - have more than a few messages.
- J. Avoid paraphrasing whole books lest it becomes tedious.
- K. Avoid any quaint or fantastic attitudes.
- L. Never mimic, ape or imitate another preacher.
- M. Never assume an air of importance; remember you are nothing outside of Christ.
- N. Always make a fine appearance and always speak in a clear and refined voice.
- O. Preach to be understood.
- P. Guard against fine or flowered preaching.
- Q. Never harp on one thing and avoid being excessively negative or overly positive.
- R. Go from the study and your knees directly to the service.
- S. Preach the Word and not yourselves, always glorify God and not you.
- T. Tell where Jesus went and what He accomplished not

(Continued on Page 5)

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March 12, 1983

Lebanon God's Missionary Church

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Special Speakers:

Rev. and Mrs. R.J. Thornton
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Rev. Thornton is pastoring and is Youth
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Bring your Sunday school staff to Lebanon
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sionary Crusaders of God's Missionary
Church.

Humanism (Amalek) in the Church and Christian School

by Dewey Evans

Amalek, the great grandson of Esau, fought Joshua and was defeated when Moses prayed. Aaron and Hur held up the hands of Moses while he prayed. Exodus 17:8-16 Humanist: (Amalek) is one who interferes with real spiritual progress. They are everywhere in our Churches, Schools, Homes, Church Boards, Sunday School teachers, youth and blighting our services. Let us arise, as Samuel, thrust them from our midst that we go forth to see revival.

Send us some preachers and laymen — from the General Board to the Official Board that will not take Agag's sheep and cattle (greenbacks), but will stand for God, as did Samuel!

Humanism! the worship of the creature; self or another. Today, competitive sports have many people in the Churches, schools, etc. knowing more about the ball scores and standings and talking about them more than they speak or know of the Saviour. Down with Agag! You can ask many if they know how to lead a soul to repentance and they blush; ask them the ball scores and they beam.

If an individual is intelligent and at the top academically, but at the bottom spiritually, we lift them to the spotlight! Down with Agag! There

may be one on the bottom academically, (through no fault of their own), but on the top rung of the spiritual ladder, while no mention is made of them. No wonder humanism is growing at such an alarming rate in our churches and schools. Where are the Samuels?

Many times when a person is wealthy, many bow at their feet and applaud their every act. It makes little difference if they are spiritual, just as long as they have a lot of oxen and sheep to offer. Samuel, where are you? (Not every one that is wealthy uses his wealth to try to influence Samuel.) Down with Agag! This Amalek (humanism) would join forces with anyone that would fight God's children. They fought Israel on their way to the Promised Land. They fought them when they were in the Promised Land. Amalek is still fighting old-fashioned, Second-Blessing, Canaan-Land Holiness people. Down with Agag!

It was they who opposed Joshua, Ex. 17:8-16 ... and joined forces with the Midianites against Gideon. Judges 15:14 It was they that destroyed the city of Ziklag by fire, when David and his men were out of the city. 1st Sam. 28:18 Then when Saul had the golden opportunity to get rid of Agag, he failed. Amalek delicately talked

him out of it. As Esau, the great-grandfather of Amalek, sold his birthright for a bowl of pottage, many are selling out today for humanism. God knew then, as He knows now, that humanism will destroy the church and christian school. Saul gave in to Agag, the Amalekite's king and listened to his sweet talk. Later, Saul, as he fought the Philistines at Gilboa, when hit by an arrow and severely wounded, one of the Amalekites he failed to destroy, thrust him through. 2nd Sam. 1:6-16 ... David was not deceived by the Amalekite's Humanistic pitch, but overcame Amalek.

Humanism is a dangerous foe, but if we as a church fail to give God the glory and are not careful to watch, pray and obey, we are careful to watch, pray and obey, we are going to meet our Amalekite. Where humanism exists, we should remove it, so that we can serve Him freely. If we let it continue, it will rise to the top of the church, and school and idolatry will fill our land. May we turn again to the spirit-filled living that made the Holiness Church the greatest Church in our nation. Down with Humanism! Let us together see "Holiness Unto The Lord" VICTORY!!

THE PASTOR.....

(Continued from Page 3)

where all you have gone and what you have done.

- U. Make a good appearance - being neither proud nor sloppy.
- V. Make a good appeal to the sinner, do not compromise truth but do not unnecessarily offend any. An offensive message hinders instead of helps a sinner.
- W. When called upon to administer any corrective measures always act in a spirit of love, concern and compassion, but never with an attitude of arrogance.

In conclusion of this article let us, who are called of God consider these do's and don'ts prayerfully and if it makes any improvement in our ministries let us give Dr. Adam Clark, Rev. E.M. Bounds, E.E. Shelhamer, but especially God the credit.

Seminar On Mission Strategy Planned

"Cooperating to Complete Our Commission" is the theme of a strategy seminar sponsored by Friends of Missions, a recently established, cooperative service organization working among the conservative holiness bodies. To be held on the campus of Union Bible Seminary of Westfield, Indiana, the seminar will feature speakers and panelists from several holiness organizations and Bible colleges, including Marvin Powers, Spencer Johnson, Leroy Adams, William Gale and Leonard Sankey.

Dates of the special sessions are May 3 to 5, 1983, with the first session at 7:30 Tuesday evening. The topics have been chosen so as to be of real

value to all who are concerned about promoting missions, not only national leaders, but local church representatives and missions students as well. Time will be given to enhancing the local church missionary program.

Those who are interested in attending are asked to write Rev. Michael Watson, 434 South Union St., Westfield, IN. 46074, or call him at 317-896-9324. He will furnish details and a registration form.





Missionary Message

We Are



Christians!

We are World Christians. We put God's love for all people first. No race is superior to another, no government is more loved than another, no country is dearer than another. We don't put our nation's economy before God's economy. He tells us to seek **first His Kingdom**. He will then meet our needs. We are driven to action daily with the knowledge that three billion people do not know our Savior. Our passion in life, our unquenchable desire, is to take God's love to them. No task is too small for us. All that limits us is our unwillingness to believe God can enable us to do it. We are sold out to Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Nothing less. We understand following Him means absolute death to ourselves. It costs **everything** to be His disciple.

Don't give us blessings—give us grace to be unquestionably obedient to Your every last command and desire. Don't give us status—give us a place to serve. Don't give us things for our use—**use us**. Don't give us a mansion to live in—give us a springboard to take Christ's love to the whole world. Don't give us good jobs—put us to work. Don't give us comfort—command us. Don't give us pleasure—give us perspective. Don't give us satisfaction—teach us sacrifice. Don't give us good salaries—give us strength to do Your will. Our great joy in life is in pleasing our Lord—and there is **no other joy** comparable.

We're tired of playing religion, tired of seminaries and Bible schools that pump out thinkers who have no action, tired of a church life that consists of a few regular functions and sermons that sound good—as if they were being rated as speeches—but have no consequential value except complacency.

Life is not some 70 years stretch we endure until Christ returns or takes us home, nor is it a time to seek personal fulfillment.

We don't seek self-actualization—rather, we pursue the actualization of God's love in all hearts. We don't seek our personal rights—we seek to see all people set free. We make no plans—we take orders. We have no complaints—except our thankless hearts. We have no excuses—they limit God. We don't ask for reasons—we ask for responsibility. We don't give ten percent of our income to God—we give it all. We don't work for Him for 8-5—we are His 24 hours each day. We are not stoics—we hurt and cry when loved ones leave us. But we hurt all the more for people who pass into eternity without making Jesus Christ their Lord. We are not “drop outs” because we don't hold “respectable, secure jobs”—we are “sold-outs.”

We are not cynics. Although there are unanswered questions, we know Christ has all the answers. We are not bitter. Although we have been hurt, Christ is our healer. We are not

disillusioned. Although we stumble, Christ forgives us and makes us strong in our weakness. We don't spend endless hours squabbling over sideline issues such as pre-, mid- or post-tribulation or charismatic gifts. We don't take pride in acquiring things—no, hoarding shames us.

We say it's senseless to talk of availability or willingness. We would rather **obey** and **do** the job, not talk about it.

—Gordon Aeschliman

REVIVAL SERVICES

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Missionary Church**

Bermudian, Pa.

March 18-27, 1983

Evangelist

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Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

Worship 10:30 A.M.

Evening 7:00 P.M.

Nightly 7:30 P.M.

**Pastor Rev. Clarence Dupert
EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

For The Boys and Girls

Jacky's Adventures

THE "MON" OF GOD

Edited by Mrs. C. R. McPherson

Almost a year after the meeting in Aldersgate Street when Jacky's heart was strangely warmed by the love of God, a new thing happened. George Whitefield, who had started preaching out in the fields under the sky, asked Jacky to take his outdoor services near Bristol so he could move on to other places.

"You know what people say about Whitefield," Jacky said to Charles. "When he preaches, his voice can be heard a mile, and when he sings he can be heard for two miles."

"I know," agreed Charles, "but your voice carries too, and if you go where the hills form a sort of amphitheater, you also can make big crowds hear you."

"I'll try it," Jacky decided, "God being my helper! I never thought I'd preach outside the church, but . . . Jesus preached on a mountain. It must be all right."

So it was, that on a Monday afternoon in May, Jacky stood on a little knoll outside the city of Bristol and began his "field preaching." Whitefield had started with a congregation of 200 and ended with 20,000. Now these same folk came just as eagerly to hear Jacky. After preaching near Bristol for about a year, Jacky moved on to London. In the fields near London, there was often a little woman standing at the edge of the crowd near Jacky when he preached. It was his own dear mother. Her prayers and radiant face helped Jacky to preach his best. Of course Jacky was a grown man now, and had been, even before he went to America as a missionary to the Indians. While most people called him "Mr. Wesley," his mother still called him "Jacky." So did his brothers and sisters.

One day, very early in the morning when the miners were trudging to their work deep down in the dark earth, Jacky and a companion went up a narrow street to the poorest section of Newcastle. They stood at the end of the street and started singing the One Hundredth Psalm. Three or four persons stopped to see what was the mat-

ter. Soon, four or five hundred more crowded around. They wondered what would happen now.

Jacky stepped up on a higher piece of ground so that he could see the people better and they could see him. He took off his hat the first thing.

"Friends," he said so all could hear, "everyone can do as he pleases, but when I speak of the things of God or when someone else does, I like to uncover my head in reverence."

In a moment everyone else took off his hat, and the service began. Before Jacky had finished his sermon, twelve to fifteen hundred people were listening eagerly to every word.

"If you would like to know who I am," Jacky said, "my name is John Wesley. At five o'clock this evening I plan to preach here again with God's help."

At five that evening, the hill where he was to preach was covered from top to bottom with people. When he was through speaking, men were so anxious to get near him that they nearly trampled him under their feet. Why? "Out of pure love and a wish to show our kindness," one explained.

John Nelson, one of the men who had listened to Jacky told a friend how it all seemed to him. "As soon as John Wesley started to preach," he related, "he turned his face to where I stood. He looked right at me and I became so afraid that it made my heart beat like the pendulum of a clock. I said to myself, 'This man can tell me the secrets of my heart, even all my wicked thoughts and deeds.' But I knew too that as he talked he was showing me a cure for my sins—even the blood of Jesus. I was so ashamed of my past life that I couldn't even look up. I imagined all the people were staring at me."

"Then before Mr. Wesley finished his sermon, he cried out, 'Let the wicked man forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him: and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.'"

"I said to myself, 'If that is true, I

will turn to God today.' And I did."

This is the way Jacky did his work, and this is the way he spread the good news of salvation. Many of the miners, fishermen, weavers, spinners, foundrymen—in fact, hundreds of the working people of all England—were converted through Jacky's preaching.

In some other places, people were not so friendly to Jacky as they were in Newcastle. Those who hated his preaching tried to break up his meetings by throwing stones and rotten vegetables on him and on those who listened to him. They hired drummers to beat their drums loudly and drown out Jacky's voice. They located the houses of Jacky's followers and sometimes destroyed them.

"You can tell who belongs to the Wesley crowd by the houses that have the windows knocked out," one man remarked.

Many times Jacky had to face a mob. And face them he did! Never did he turn his back. One evening just as he had finished preaching out of doors, a rough gang seized Jacky and dragged him through the streets of the town.

"Wait!" shouted Jacky, "if you'll let me speak, I'll explain what I have been doing."

"No! No! No!" they cried on every side. "Knock his brains out! Down with him! Kill him!"

A big ruffian tried his best to do just that. Several times he struck at Jacky with a large oaken club.

"If he had hit me once on the back of the head," Jacky told Charles later, "that would have been the end. It would have saved him any further trouble. But every time he missed."

Another brutal man forced his way through the mob and raised his arm to strike Jacky. Then, all of a sudden, he let his arm drop and gently stroked Jacky's head.

"What silky hair he has" the man said unexpectedly.

Of course it was the Lord that caused him to change his mind, and it was the Lord that kept the mob from harming Jacky.

Most amazing of all, the captain of the mob, a prize-fighter, came up and stood in front of Jacky.

"Sir," he said meekly, "I will spend my life for you. Follow me and not one soul here shall touch a hair of your head."

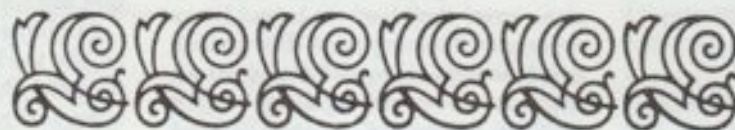
(Continued on Page 11)

To The God's Missionary Church

Let us be not dismayed if we have failed to do the sweet will of God this past year, but let us stand on the promises and launch out into 1983 more determined to draw nearer to the heart of God realizing that all the way our Saviour leads us. Don't be ashamed to stand up for Jesus and maintain a faith that will not shrink. Each golden daybreak ask the great Jehovah to guide you. Be sure your all is on the altar, then go out seeking the lost telling them the story of Jesus that if they will only believe they can be saved by the blood, made whiter than snow and have wonderful peace. Ask Jesus your Saviour to pilot you as you publish good tidings of the unsearchable riches of Christ. Always be ready should he call you to the regions beyond to bring them in. Remember that if you should yield to temptation, He is able to deliver thee, for we have a shelter in the time of storm, if we are anchored in Jesus. Every day, take time to give Him the glory and then be satisfied to rest sweetly under his wings, knowing that Jesus is all you need. You'll never be lonely because Jesus will walk with you and God will take care of you. Keep in mind that the King is coming to take us to that home of the soul where we can see Him face to face and crown Him Lord of all in the city where they need no sun. Then we can gather at the river or on Zion's hill where there'll be no sorrow or shadows and we'll understand it better inside the pearly white city. So, when the roll is called up yonder, you may look for me for I'll be there at the meeting in the air, because one day I knelt at the cross and He took my sins away. Glory to his name! If you want to visit me, I'll probably be in my mansion just over the hilltop or walking up those streets of gold past hallelujah square or maybe just sitting at the feet of Jesus, praising him because He included me and I shall be living forever with the one who gave His life for me on an old rugged cross. So, Never give up! God is still on the throne and someday we shall be like Him and He shall bid us come to the feast for the redeemed of all ages in the new Jerusalem. Until then, For you I am praying.

Yours because of Calvary,
Grace Bloom, A child of the King.

Bellefonte God's Missionary Church





Spotlight

on Home Missions

Rev. John F. White

The Purpose of Home Missions

Isa. 54:2 Enlarge The Place Of Thy Tent. Lengthen Thy Cords. In this issue of the "STANDARD", we are beginning a series of articles concerning Home Missions. Today we wish to discuss with you the PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS. We wish to divide this article into five simple parts to deal with this truth.

First: THE PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS is to fulfill the teachings of Jesus. In the gospels we read that he sent his own disciples out two by two to the Lost Sheep of the house of Israel. This was a "Home Missionary mission." Again in His teachings we find we are instructed to "GO INTO THE HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES AND COMPEL THEM TO COME IN, THAT MY HOUSE MIGHT BE FULL." When speaking of the need for evangelism Christ told his disciples to look on the harvest fields (about them) for they were ready for harvest. We can not be a New Testament church without following these important teachings of our Lord.

Second: THE PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS IS to fulfill the position each believer is called to in Christ. We are to be "Priests" unto God. A priest represents his fellow man unto God.

The Old Testament teaches us that God looked for a man to stand in the gap and make up the hedge. We must fill this gap at home. We have a responsibility to do all we can to keep men out of hell. David cried, "No man careth for my soul." This can not be said of the true New Testament church.

Third: THE PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS is to hasten the return of Christ. Jesus said in Matthew Chapter 24, that the gospel must be preached to all nations, then the Lord

would return. All nations includes our own home nation. This preaching is to be a witness unto them. We are to be the evidence of Christ to all people everywhere. If we love the Lord, and yearn for his return we must be Home Missionary oriented.

Fourth: THE PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS is to fulfill the purpose of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Acts chapter one, verse eight said, WE WOULD RECEIVE POWER AFTER THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON US TO BE WITNESSES UNTO CHRIST, and this witnessing begins at Jerusalem or at home. Since we teach the need of the second work of grace, we also must teach and practice the purpose of this second work of grace. If we are not Home Missionary minded, we are not keeping the purpose of the coming of the Spirit.

Fifth: THE PURPOSE OF HOME MISSIONS fulfills the command of Christ given to his disciples, "OCCUPY TILL I COME." We are to give no place to the devil, but carry on the ministry of the kingdom. Your church must be supporting Home Missions on a regular basis to keep this commandment. Your loyalty to your own is a must to hold the fort till the Lord returns. We can not **Occupy**, which means taking possession of, if we let our home front slip into the hands of the world. We are only as strong on the foreign missionary front as we are on the Home.

I urge you today to fill in the coupon on the bottom of this page and become a part of the "200" who will back Home Missions with five dollars a month. We need to hear from you today. Please pray about it and then do as the Lord tells you. You need not be limited to just five dollars per month. Your response will determine the results of Home Missions this year. Remember our motto. "HOME MISSIONARY VICTORY. IN 1983".

Home Missionary Department "200" League

I wish to join in my personal support for the work of Home Missions. I will, by the Lord's help send _____ per month to help get a full time Home Missionary Superintendent on the field.

Please sent this coupon to Rev. David Church, Home Missionary Secretary, 1320 N. Front St., Sunbury, Penna. 17801.

PLEASE REPLY TODAY.



Successful, or FAITHFUL?

Lionel Whiston recently wrote: "The Christian is not called to be successful, but to be faithful. He is set free from the fear of failure or the compulsion to succeed. God can use his mistakes and turn his apparent failures into the means of advancing His kingdom, even as He turned Calvary into Easter."

Words such as these must never be taken to excuse needless failure. Pious platitudes about good intentions will never forward the Church nor save the world.

Yet there is a very important truth here. In an imperfect world shot through with evil, faithfulness and "success" are not necessarily related one to one. We have but to think of a multitude of Bible examples to see that this is so.

I had occasion a few days ago to work through the eleventh chapter of Hebrews again. The heart of the chapter is a thrilling summary of the faithful lives and service of men and women of Old Testament times.

What brought me to pause, as it always has, was the abrupt and unexplained transition of the middle of verse 35. From the faithfulness that **succeeds** we are suddenly turned to the faithfulness that **suffers**.

By faith Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, Samuel, David, and the prophets "subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again."

This is a tremendous panorama of the victories of the faithful. There is no man living who would not want to be part of a company like that. The biggest sinner in town would gladly embrace any life-program that would assure him of instant success and prosperity.

But it doesn't always work that way, and we know why. The man who was "good" in order to be prosperous

and happy wouldn't really be good at all. He would still be as selfish and self-centered as he always was.

Then abruptly, right in the middle of a verse, the scene changes. Right next to the greatest miracle of all, dead raised to life, are the words, "And others..."

"And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth" (vs. 35-38).

In the same crowd with the same faith we find not only victory, but adversity. Yet who is to say that one group was more faithful or more godly than the other?

There will always be a measure of mystery in facts such as these. That the way of the transgressor should be hard is only what one would expect. That the way of the righteous should be difficult is not so easy to understand.

Perhaps all we can say is that, if the Christian faith is really to meet all our human need, it must provide a way to meet suffering without bitterness and to endure failure without frustration.

We can never be at our best until we are "set free from the fear of failure" and "the compulsion to succeed." Nothing paralyzes effort more than fear of making mistakes. Fear of failure is the foe of good works.

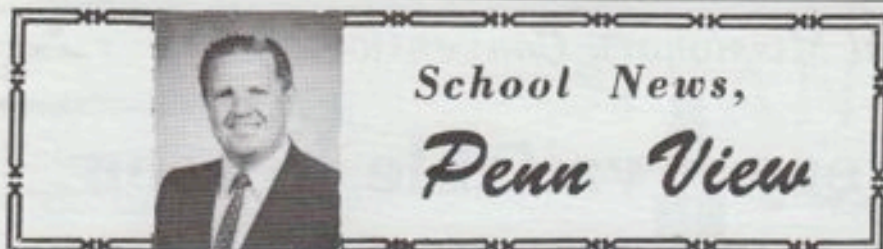
But when we see that God can use our mistakes and turn even our failures into means of advancing His kingdom, we are set free to follow the guidance of His Spirit.

God still turns Calvary into Easters. The defeat and suffering of the Cross becomes the victory of the crown. Even death itself becomes the gateway to life.

What the natural man calls success may be withheld from the child of God. What he attempts may seem to fail. Yet the truth remains that faithfulness is itself the highest kind of success.

The promise is not, "Be thou successful, serene, without failure unto death." It is, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

— W.T. Purkiser
in *Herald of Holiness*.



School News, Penn View

From the desk of Rev. Kenneth E. Walter --
President

News From Our Alumni!

Another Sunday on the mission field is coming to a close. It's nighttime now. A drumbeat has been going off and on throughout the evening. Probably someone is sick or dying. They are calling upon the idols for healing.

I write this from a small island (2 x 4 miles) off of the S.E. coast of Taiwan, China. The people here are fishermen. We came here over a year ago to preach the Gospel of Christ.

At 6:30 A.M. the children start coming for Sunday School and gather outside of our four room, Chinese style, \$10.00 a month house. Sunday School starts at 8:00 A.M. Sometimes they sing. They used to fight. At 7:45 A.M. I go out with a megaphone to call others to come and worship. Over fifty, sometimes sixty pack into our 15 x 12 room. Others stand outside. The songs of praise ring with a small thunder that is meat to the ears of any Christian worker. Stories, Bible verse, coloring, prayer. A number of these children have prayed for salvation and have been changed. Some from neighboring villages walk to attend.

About 1:30 P.M. we begin preparing for a trek that takes us to three different villages and four locations, for outside Sunday School. We leave the house at 2:30 P.M. We walk. Before entering a village, I pray to bind the forces of Satan. Then also pray for the Holy Spirit to freely move and work. Children see us approaching. They run, jump, sing, clap, and shout. Mothers and fathers, and grandparents come to see and listen too. Songs, stories, pass out scripture cards bless the children (some stand so still as I lay my hand on their heads and say, "Siong Dei Jok Hok Li; God Bless You"), and then move on to another place. We sit down to drink some water between villages and see many goats feeding. We pass a huge Buddhist temple.

After they fished all night and caught nothing, Jesus told the disciples to cast the net on the right side of the ship; and they caught a net-full. For some years I prayed, "Lord, where is the right side of the ship? I want to catch fish." One day in prayer He showed me that the right side of the ship is in going out and holding outside meetings. The disciples caught 153 fish. We have never fallen below this amount at these outside meetings and often have over 200. About 5:30 P.M. we arrive home.

We have ten preaching points in five villages. This past Christmas Day was a special day. At one of these points I got stoned. Oh, the joy that filled my soul as with uplifted hands shouted loud and long Hallelujahs. Afterwards prayed for and blessed the people. No blood. (Hebrews 12:3-4). Two weeks before, a group tried to come into our house at night. The next day two brothers came for the purpose of "hearing the gospel". A few days later one expressed a hope of salvation. From fire to water, that's how they temper steel.

Healings. The major ones come to mind. The mentally ill lady, the old man about to die, the boy with skin disease.

A fellow just came for some cold medicine. This fellow's father, three years ago was bitten by a poisonous snake. The man died.

I greatly desire that the people here will come to know God. The book of Ezekiel promises thirty-three times, "They shall know that I am the Lord." This is my prayer.

The Tempter came by the other day and laid out his wares. He asked, "What do you want the most?" I looked at his bright stuff, dazzing it was. With wry little smile, feeling no tug toward his hollow things, looked skyward and said, "I want most to live in heaven forever." He left.

Yours in Christ,
John Knight

Cafetorium Progress Report

We are happy to report that the basement of our Cafetorium has been transformed into a beautiful multi-purpose facility.

This project was necessary because of building code regulations requiring the installation of a fire-rated ceiling in the entire basement area. This need was presented at our annual Harvest Home service last October and you graciously responded with gifts and pledges sufficient to fund the complete project. Praise the Lord!

Working under a deadline, we proceeded to order materials and upon their arrival our dedicated carpenter, Mr. Wesley Patterson, went to work. Partitions were also installed to create a much needed storage room and a recreation room for our students. The recreation room will also serve as the camp bookstore during the annual Penns Creek Camp. A large dining area with tables and chairs remains for those students who patronize the school snack shop.

Because of your generous support the ceiling is now completed, the building inspector is happy, and we are rejoicing in the Lord as once again He has answered prayer and met a definite need. We invite you to visit our campus when you are in the Penns Creek area. We would be delighted to show you this newest addition to our campus facilities.



"Wesley Patterson adds finishing touches to new ceiling as Gary McIntire, Business Manager, looks on."

JACKY
(Continued from Page 7)

"In all that uproar," Jacky told Charles the next day, "I lost only a flap of my waist-coat and a little skin from off my hand. Praise be to God!"

It was not long until the prize-fighter joined one of the societies which Jacky organized to keep his converts in the Christian Way.

"What do you think of my brother?" Charles asked him one day.

"Think of him!" roared the fighter in his Scotch brogue, "Why, Sir, that he is a mon of God. And God was on his side, sure, when so many of us could not kill one mon!"

Annual Missionary Convention

Reach Every Available Person

APRIL 25-27, 1983

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Key West, FL

REV. MICHAEL HOBBS
Home Missions Work in the
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Bedford, IN

BONNIE WILLIAMS
PVBI Alumnus
God's Missionary Church
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REV. LEROY ADAMS
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- Cultural Anthropology and

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- Communicating a Call
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Lodging is available upon request. Make reservations by phoning 1-717-837-1855.

Ask for a Laborers of Love representative or Leroy Adams.

Meals served daily in the cafetorium.

A Tribute To God's Faithfulness

Our Business Manager looks forward to my arrival in the office on Monday mornings because I usually have some money for the school from my week-end contacts. Whether on official representation or in an evangelistic meeting, the Lord usually helps me to gather some funds to help meet our pressing financial obligations.

On Monday, January 17, I reported to the office as usual but with one exception the Lord had not provided any donations from my week-end travels. I detected a slight shade of disappointment on our Business Manager's face as I shared this news with him; I then picked up my mail and proceeded to my office.

My curiosity was aroused by one envelope included in the stack of mail. You can imagine how my spirit was lifted when, upon opening it, I found enclosed a contribution to the school in amount of \$2,000.00. Once again, God had truly answered prayer. Praise the Lord!

My spirit continued to rise as I read the letter accompanying the contribution. I have since received permission to share this with you because it meant so much to me. It began...

"Dear Bro. Walter:

Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus.

I have been praying for the Lord's directing in the way of contributions for His work.

At Christmas time, friends of mine accompanied me to the Candle Light Service in the tabernacle. They are Baptists and were so impressed with the concert. Last, but not least, it was superior to any other - anywhere - that I have ever heard and will stay with me for a long time. All this has stimulated my thinking and, this which I feel from the Lord has brought me to a decision Bro. Walter, **to do more for our own school.**

My years are swiftly passing - 83 of them now-but God is so Faithful in bestowing health, and strength, and meeting every need. Praise Him forever!

Daily prayers are lifted for you Bro. Walter, the President of our school, and the entire staff that every need will be met, and God's Holiness prevail at Penn View Bible Institute.

Wherever you desire to apply the enclosed, it will be satisfactory with me. In love for His sake."

... and so it concluded.

How encouraging it is to know that God still has some saints through whom He is permitted to exercise His love and manifest His faithfulness. This letter, I believe, is a demonstration of God's love and concern for Penn View Bible Institute.

I would ask you to prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you do for the cause of winning lost souls for Christ through our efforts here at

Penn View. Our purpose is to prepare dedicated, qualified laborers to work in God's vineyard. We stand in need of prayers and financial support to help us accomplish this purpose at our school. Will you write me today and let me know you are behind us? Write to:

Penn View Bible Institute
P.O. Box 97
Penns Creek, Pa. 17862