



# 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 39, No. 4

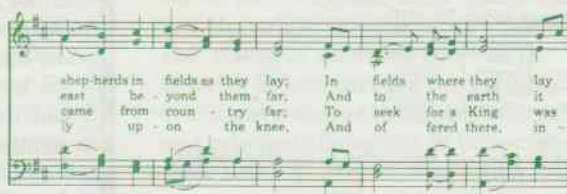
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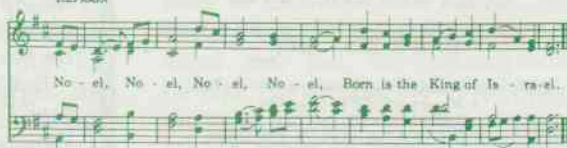
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ble for publication in the following month's edition.



## The Destructive Aspect Of The Advent

1 John 3:8 - *"He that committeth sin is of the devil: for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."*

As once again we ponder the mystery and beauty of the Christmas season we go to the Apostle John for a clear picture of Christ's mission to earth. The incarnation of Jesus Christ is the centerpiece of God's Word. Everything moves steadily and inevitably toward that grand climax, as a definitely as a well written symphony moves toward a tremendous crescendo.

John, who had written that gracious description of Christ's first advent in the introduction to his gospel, here clearly defines in succinct language the design of the divine kenosis. G. Campbell Morgan puts the matter of the Incarnation in fine prose when he writes, "The incarnation was not an act by which God began to be in any single sense. It was not an act by which God came into nearness to human life. It was an act by which God manifested His nearness to human life, and by which manifestation He was able to do in human life and in human history things he could not have done apart from that selfsame method of manifestation."

The use of the past tense "manifested" presupposes the prior existence of the One who was so manifested. Jesus was slain from the foundation of the world. He was manifested initially in the very first promise in Genesis 3:15 that He was to bruise the serpent's head. He was manifested typically in the Old Testament sacrificial system as people and priest were involved in pardoning sin according to God's ancient design. He was manifested prophetically as one after another of God's sacred penmen peered through their prophetic telescopes to see "His day and be glad." Finally, He was manifested personally in the "fullness of time." The place of unveiling was a humble cattle stall in Bethlehem of Judea. I rejoice that He has been manifested in my life.

But what of the purpose of His coming - to "destroy the works of the devil?" Words fail in their power to describe the awful works of Satan. Various descriptions characterize him as "the father of lies," "a murderer from the beginning" "the lawless one." He is the instigator of lies, and men consequently stumble on in their ignorance of God's divine remedy for sin. Jesus Christ came to bring light in place of the devil's darkness, to illuminate men's hearts and lives with the glory of His provision. The devil places murder in the hearts of men and is involved in the destruction of physical and spiritual life. Christ laughs in the face of death and promises to those who trust Him eternal life. The devil is certainly the ultimate sinner and sinning is ultimately lawlessness, carelessly breaking God's divine law. Christ takes men and women who are rebels by nature and transforms them into glad, willing love-slaves whose highest goal is to have their life conformed to the image of His will.

Finally, note that Christ came to "destroy." This destructive aspect of the Advent must be clearly understood. He did not come to campaign for "peaceful co-existence with the works of the devil. He came to destroy; to dissolve the cohesive power of the devil over men. Out of lies come light; out of death comes life, and out of lawlessness comes loveliness.

Sing a song of glad jubilation:

"He comes to make His blessings known

Far as the curse is found."

DLF



# The Christ of Christmas

by Rev. Glenn Griffith

*"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)*



YES, THE SON of Man is come. Behold! what an occasion! The whole world was effected by His coming. Heaven's angelic hosts announced His birth in that midnight hour, while His glory illuminated not only the heavens but the hearts of lowly shepherds guarding their flocks by night and three wise men from the east who saw His glorious star and followed it to His manger bed. He also lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

In that dark night of long ago, while the world was wrapped in spiritual darkness, the last prophet had lifted his voice 400 years previous and the temple of God had become but a mere shell of its former meaning of God's Holy place, and had become a place for religious pigeon sellers, whom Jesus said later, had made it a den of thieves.

But now to think that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who promised the prophets that, "A virgin would conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel!" (God with us), kept His promise, and took all of His love and wrapped it in swaddling clothes and revealed it, and expressed it in His Son, as He laid Him in a manger and told His virgin mother, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

"HE CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST." Nothing could swerve Him from His supernatural purpose. He could have come as a mighty One from His Father's throne to enforce His divine law, but instead He humbled Himself and tabernacled Himself in the

likeness of sinful flesh, so that He could be tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin, so that He could succor us that are tempted.

The people as they watched Him in His miracle performing ministry would have made Him King, and placed Him on the throne of David, but His kingdom was not of this world, but in the hearts of lost men, saved. For He came to seek and to save that which was lost. John the Baptist, who was His witness and the one to introduce Him, said, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world," expressing the purpose of His coming.

He could have come as a rich ruler and amassed the wealth of the world for He owned the cattle on a thousand hills and the gold and silver in the mountains that He created, but He brought His Gospel to the poor and walked with the needy. "The foxes had holes and the birds of the air had nests, but the Son of man had no place to lay His head." He came to seek and to save that which was lost.

He might have come as a lawyer to prove God's law and condemn all men with His divine wisdom, no one could have contested His mighty arguments. Even in Pilate's court, after Pilate's wife had warned her husband of the dream she had, but he opened not his mouth. He had evidence for they had scourged Him until His back was bruised and bloody. Spittle ran down His innocent face, mingled with the blood dripping from the crowns in His noble brow, made by a crown of thorns in mockery. He could have called one angel who alone had slain 185,000, to His defense, or could have spoken death to them all, but He didn't. He came to suffer in our stead to seek and to save that which was lost.

He could have come as a great general and how great He could have been. Israel and Judah had great leaders, as mighty nations think they have today, but with His divine wisdom and power and glory, He could have marshalled a host for battle that the combined forces of Satan and armies of this earth could not dare to withstand. But he did not come to be a general. "He came to seek and to save that which was lost." They drove Him and pressed Him beyond

measure and nailed Him to a rugged cross, but here is where the victory was won that He had set out to win. He nailed sin to the tree, and a fountain that the crowd thought was a fatal wound in His side, was but the 'Fountain that was opened in the house of David, for sin and uncleanness." And now with His Father's will fulfilled and His Father glorified, He cried, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

They thought He was dead and would not trouble their consciences any more and buried Him, but this Babe that once laid in a manger was now a glorious Saviour and He was not to battle against flesh and blood, but He, while the world was aghast and disciples mourned His death in seeming defeat, invaded the domain of death and defeated the power of death and released the spirits in prison and took both the key of death and Hell and came back the mighty conqueror over death, sin, hell and the grave. He shouted from the doorway of His empty tomb, "I am the resurrection and the life, He that believeth in me shall never die!"

I'm so glad that He never failed in His mission of rescue of lost souls. I am so glad that Christmas means more to me than trees, candles and Santa Claus, for the seeking Saviour found me, lost but seeking and through His atoning blood, that paid the price for my redemption, he gave me the power to become the son of God. Bless His name.

I know it won't be long and may be real soon, when the power that He did not use when He walked on earth, will be demonstrated, for I read in the book of Revelation, chapter 19, verses 11 through 16, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war."

"His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon

(Continued on Page 4)



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## Youth Rally Eastern District

In spite of the lights blinking, the wind blowing, and the rain causing motorists to stop, 71 people attended the first youth rally at Helfenstein on October 3. Helfenstein, Berwick, Northampton, Shamokin, and White Haven churches were represented. Rev. Clifford Sarver, and new pastor

at Milesburg, brought a challenging message based on I Samuel 3:1. He expounded on the points "Turn, prepare, and serve," and of the need of prevailing prayer like Hannah, and people to serve like Samuel. God's presence was felt as he preached and as the Helfenstein orchestra provided several musical specials.

*Welcome To The Florida District*

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**THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS**.....(Continued from Page 3)

white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF

KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

May this blessed Christmas season find all of us pressing close to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

May we lose sight of the tinsel and make believe, and cling to the old rugged cross, and carry a real message of a real Saviour to lost men, for whom He seeks today.





## The Noise of Christmas

Morris Chalfant

A few years ago the editor of *The Atlantan*, a magazine published in the federal prison in Atlanta, Georgia, wrote an article portraying life in that institution on Christmas day. The scene he described makes one wonder if the word "prisoner" should be limited to those behind iron bars.

"Christmas in prison," he said, "is a time of reminiscence; of nostalgia; of sadness. It is a time when . . . a man seeks company, activity, and noise to prevent himself from entering that part of his mind wherein he might feel embarrassed should he betray his thoughts."

"The prison takes on an air of minor hysteria. Even late in the night when the lights have gone out, the men stand at the bars and shout beating metal upon metal. Are they celebrating? No. They are defeating thought. They are driving back fear of themselves."

"Finally the shouting will die down. Men will lie awake in the early morning thinking of other Christmases surrounded by laughing children. Vows are sworn that future Christmases will be spent as Christmas should be — at home with family, friends, kindness, and love. Some will remember those vows and keep them. Others will remember them only when they have returned for more 'walled' Christmases. Some will never have the chance to put their vows to the test."

Could it be that all the busyness of the season — the commercialism, the festiveness, the "celebrating" and drunkenness — are but the sound and fury of men running from reality, running from themselves?

What, fundamentally, is the meaning of Christmas? Do we know the original meaning in all this feverish activity — its shopping and shouting, racing and wrapping, milling and mailing, festooning and feasting? When it's all over, will we have caught the real message, or will we merely have gone through some gestures in keeping with custom?

The Son of Man is come. Yes, but why? Why did He come to that remote Judean village; come by motherhood's painful toil; come by the lowly manger; come by the starlight while drowsy shepherds tended their fleecy flocks; come to a woman's heart of love and a king's heart of hate? Why did He come to a world so lacking in hospitality as to afford Him only a borrowed bed at His birth and a borrowed tomb at His death?

Christ came to the earth the first Christmas for two specific reasons: **the love of God and the sin of man.** There was guilt on man's side and grace on God's side. Divine pity met human need. God's love responded to man's lostness.

Lost is a tragic word; but men are lost — lost in sin and confusion. In a day when sin is smiled upon with fawning indulgence; when man's swelling pride denies the very disease that is threatening his life; when movie makers and television producers flaunt their glamorous appeals to humanity's carnal nature in defiance of the laws of God; is it not time for ten thousand pulpits to cry into the ears and consciences of the people the sober, solemn fact that apart from repentance and personal surrender to Christ they are **lost**?

A distinguished New York minister told of a woman who, under his preaching, became convinced that Christ was and is the Son of God. She was a school teacher. Great sorrows and disappointments had broken her heart. Worse still, her faith had been shattered, and she had turned to agnosticism. But a Christian friend had invited her to church. After listening to the preaching of Christ and Him crucified for several weeks, she came to the pastor with the glow of a great discovery. "I see it now," she said.

Puzzled, the pastor asked, "What is it you see?"

Then she gave this beautiful answer: "I see in Jesus we discover all of God we can know, and in Jesus we have all of God we can need."

That is it. Christmas is the revelation of God to men on a recognizable form. Jesus came to reveal the Father. He is Immanuel, "God with us." God became flesh and lived among men. "Learn of me," said Christ, for to know Him is to know the Father.

May Christmas have more meaning than just the colored lights, the evergreen trees, stuffed stockings and stuffed turkey. These things are just the wrappings. Look within and you will see the wonderful gifts of God that came to earth the first Christmas. Let your heart burn as you exclaim, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

It is time to stop the noise and let the inner thoughts of the heart be heard. On that first "silent night, holy night," there was a message from heaven. You may hear it again if you will get quiet enough to listen.





# Missionary Message

## Dear Friends:

Have you been feeling lately that the age of miracles is past? Or perhaps you've wondered if God is taking a whole-hearted interest in your prayers? If so, you're not alone by any means, as one of Satan's best or should I say worst weapons is the weapon of Pessimism. I've scars on my spiritual body from that very weapon. Needless scars to say the least. God still does miraculous things, and answering prayer is without doubt some of His very favorite work.

"Today I have seen my first real miracle", these were the words of 21 year-old Estephen Prosper, a young Haitian man who dispenses medicine in our La Croix clinic. "Before this I had only read of them in the Bible" It was wonderful to tell him that what he was seeing was not really so unusual. After all our God is the same one we read about in the Bible, isn't He? The transformation that came over his face was wonderful to see. The realization that his God was real! His God did miracles! He does really answer prayer! I could see his faith growing right before my very eyes! Let me fill you in a little on what transpired to make this great realization dawn on this young Haitian Christian.

About four months ago I was asked to go to a mud hut about one half mile or less from our mission station to see a young woman who was reportedly very sick. They told me she was so weak she could not walk. When I first saw her I thought she might be putting some of her symptoms on. It seemed that she was paralysed from the waist down. Also she seemed to be having some difficulty breathing. I called for a stretcher and we transported her to the clinic. Upon examination it became apparent that she was completely paralysed from her abdomen down. She had absolutely no sensation below the waist. I

quickly realized that her breathing difficulty was related to her paralysis. Her respiratory musculature was beginning to be paralysed also. I knew that we would have to get her to a hospital quickly where they had a ventilator in the event the paralysis continued to ascend. We sent her to the Albert Schweitzer hospital at Deschappelles about 40 miles away. She was there for about 5 days. Her breathing improved, but she was still totally paralysed from the waist down. Her family brought her back home. Her father who is deep in witchcraft, and is addicted to alcohol, killed a chicken and poured its blood all over her. No improvement. I went to see her and told her that Jesus was her only hope. Others had told me she wanted to be a Christian when she was younger, but her parents were against it so strongly she never dared. I told I couldn't promise her that God would heal her, but I knew he could save her, and also He would do whatever He knew was best for her. She said she wanted to become a Christian. The following Sunday after the AM service, our La Croix preacher, SelonDieu, and I went to the little mud hut where she lay on the floor. Brother SelonDieu lost no time in bringing her to the point. She gave her heart to Christ that afternoon to live for Him if she never walked again- willing to take whatever the loving Savior had in store for her. During the next month or so it seemed there was no change. I went to check her every week and we always had prayed. I was afraid she'd get discouraged. During this time I was also able to witness to her mother, who confided she wanted to become a Christian, too, but wanted to know more about it before she accepted the Lord. She accepted us because she could see our concern for her daughter. Finally one day some one told me she had moved one of her toes. Later in the week when I got to see

her again she was able to move both feet a little, and could feel when her one leg was touched. She eventually got to where she could sit alone. Then it seemed like weeks passed with no further improvement. It looked like maybe God wasn't going to do any more for her. The devil got down his sword of Pessimism and hefted it around a little. Then one day when I entered the little mud hut she said she wanted to show me something. She got up and stood shakily on her feet. The devil's weapon went back on the shelf. God was able to complete this thing. Each day she was a little stronger and took a few more steps. Just this week she walked into the clinic by herself with no help. That was the point at which Brother Estephen saw her. A miracle! Two miracles! Not only walking again, but also a child of God! And it looks to me like a third miracle is about to happen. Its ripening on the vine. The mother knows it was only God who touched her daughter. She's almost ready for harvesting! Isn't our God good!

I couldn't say like Estephen- "this is the first miracle I've seen"- because I've seen others, but you know how we humans are- as time passes our faith tends to shrivel up- we forget the kind of God we have. The devil sharpens up his weapon of Pessimism and we bleed again. Brother Estephen, my faith like yours has grown- the devil has been defeated by our great God. Our prayers have been answered and will continue to be! The devil can put Pessimism and Doubt and all his other weapons of that sort back on the shelf again for awhile, because I doubt if they can hurt me for sometime to come. Lord, this time don't let me forget so quick! Help me remember I saw a miracle. A miracle! Right before my eyes in 1986!

*Rejoicing in Christ,*  
**Rex D. Evans**





# The Birth of Christ



By Seth C. Rees

*"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea" (Matthew 2:1).*

Joseph, a son of poverty, and Mary his delicate wife, had journeyed eighty miles on foot. Dusty and wayworn, they were hoteled in a village barn. It was a public resort where the rougher class of teamsters lodged with their oxen, camels, and dogs. It was here on a chilly, cheerless night amid braying asses, lowing oxen, and growling dogs, that the world's Redeemer was born.

When the Prince of Wales was born, there were lords of state waiting in the ante-chamber; there were mounted messengers at the door ready to herald the news of the advent abroad. There was the most elaborate and the most expensive preparation for the royal event. Cannons thundered, flags waved, messengers shouted the advent throughout Great Britain. But there was no satin-lined cradle in the cattle pen. No medical skill in attendance, and no delicate attentions offered. Homeless and friendless, His first cry was heard by the brutes of the barn, and was answered by the clanking of their chains and the stamping of their hoofs.

It is no wonder that the great artists have represented the camels and oxen on their knees at that first Christmas, as there were no other worshippers there.

Note that this scene is most encouraging to the poor and lowly-born. A great truth is illustrated in the same. The conditions of your start in life cannot hinder you. Christ rose from the depths of cattle-pen poverty, to the highest honor of earth and heaven. The mightiest name on earth today is Jesus. Mohammed is dead; Confucius is dead; but Christ lives to die no more! As Christ rose from the depths of poverty to the heights of renown, so He can lift you out of the most uncongenial conditions, into the sweetest and fullest fellowship with the good and the great, both dead and alive.

I note the music of the occasion. Everything seemed so out of proportion that night. If that winged orchestra and angelic chorus with their brilliant music had been furnished at an advent in the house of a Pharaoh,

Caesar, or in Buckingham Palace, it would not have been such a human wonder. But a stable seems such a strange center for such angelic display. The music was too grand and celestial for an audience of camels, oxen, and asses. That little stable window was the smallest opening that ever received such a serenade.

I note that honest toil is honored and elevated here. The shepherds were not in the city having a big blow-out; they were not on a furlough; they were not asleep; they were watching their flocks by night.

When God called Elisha, he was plowing in the field with twelve yoke of oxen. God knew that a man who could manage twelve yoke of oxen could manage things for Him. Matthew was busy at his desk in the custom house when Christ commanded him to follow Him. James and John were mending their nets when they were called to become fishers of men. Gideon was flailing on the threshing floor when God called him to thresh the Midianites. Saul was hunting his father's asses when he found his crown. You may find yours, Sister, over a wash tub. You may find yours, Brother, between the plough handles; you will not find it whittling white pine, or spinning yarns.

Wise men came from the East.

Tradition states that they were the three wisest men in all the great learned East. One thing sure, they were not fools. The Holy Ghost records that they were wise. Many of the brainiest men of all times have visited the manger. The great metaphysician was Jonathan Edwards, and he worshipped at the manger. The greatest astronomer of all the past was said to be Herschel, and he bowed at the manger. Milton was certainly one of the greatest poets, and he bowed at the manger. Who is greater authority on law than Blackstone, and he revered the manger. The heaviest brain ever produced on American soil weighed 63 ounces, and Daniel Webster brought his brain and soul to the manger.

Note the star. They saw a star, not a black cloud. A cloud signifies trouble. They did not see a shaft of light, that would suggest judgment. He came not to judge the world, but to save.

A star suggests hope. A star suggests creative power, for the "morning stars sang together" at Creation. A star means defense, for they fought together for Israel against Sisera.

A star speaks of the morning of a new day, of the dawning of better

(Continued on Page 7)





## THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

(Continued from Page 7)

things. "Star!" This means that Christianity is not all groans, sobs, weeping. There's a lot of cross-bearing, a lot of tears, sorrow, war-waging; but there are songs in the night. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." There are seasons of measureless joy. A star promises morning. Jesus said, "I am... the bright and morning star."

Note the song and its message "Peace on earth." How could that be?

How could heaven's holiness and earth's depravity be at peace? The Sodoms of forty centuries, and the holiness of all eternity! How could they ever get together? The gulf is so immeasurably wide. What a dark background! But the gospel of a new day bridges the gulf. That long stretch is spanned by a suspension bridge, and by going single file in the narrow way we can pass over.

Continents will not pray, and

hemispheres will not sing, until Jesus comes back to earth again. Not national, but individual heartpeace may be known in the forgiveness of sins, through the blood of Christ. You may hear the joybells ring, and have a merry Christmas more than once a year, or once a month. You may have joy in the deepest sorrow, and songs in the darkest nights.

— Sel.



*May the Glow from  
The Light of the World  
flood your Life.  
Thanks for your support!  
The Standard Staff*





SUPERINTENDENT:  
REV. DENNIS McCOY  
92 E. Landis St.  
Coopersburg, PA 18036

SEASON'S GREETINGS! One contemporary songwriter said that it "Tis the season to be jolly." Of all times of the year, this should be the most joyous. "Joy to the world; the Lord is come," should be the glad refrain which echoes from everyone's heart. I trust that you will take the time that Christmas season to reflect on what the Holiday is all about! I do not in any way want to be a wet blanket thrower and leave one under the impression that I do not enjoy all the festivities of the season. It is such a beautiful sight to see lovely decorations adorning the homes of our land. Manger scenes, with angels and shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus help us to recall what the season is really all about! Flashing lights and tinsel, and candles burning, and joyous bells are ringing, we are reminded that the majority of the world fails to understand the real meaning of Christmas. I dare say that if many of our precious children across America would be asked to tell the *real* reason for Christmas, many could not tell us that Jesus was born on this blessed day in Bethlehem of Judea nearly two thousand years ago! I would to God that we could publish the glad tidings found in Luke 2:10 & 11 in such a way that everyone in America could hear it. "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Hallelujah! That was the beginning of the greatest event that

the world ever witnessed. When Jesus Christ was born that glad day, it was not the coming into existence of some new being; it was the infinite Son of God clothing himself in human form. It was God manifest in the flesh. Jesus had always existed. In one place in the scripture He spoke of the glory that He had with the Father even before the creation of the world. If Jesus had already existed, why did He want to become a man? Because the world had never seen God, Jesus came to give us a proper concept of the Father. We could never have understood what God was like, had Jesus not come to show us. He came and lived among us, suffered with us, taught us a new and better way, loved the sinner, and ultimately died for *our* sins, and said to you and I, "He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father."

Jesus Christ came as a babe in a manger for the express purpose of offering us a way to God. We could in no wise come into His presence. Someone else had to offer a sacrifice for us, someone else had to pray for us and intercede for us. But thank God, when "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth," Jesus Christ was put on display for the world to admire. He came for the purpose of forgiving our sins and show us the way to Heaven.

It is the privilege of man to now "Come boldly to the throne of grace, that we might obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need! Jesus came to not only show us the way of

God, but He himself **became** the way to the Father. In one place in the scripture He states, "No man can come to the Father, but by me." That is what Christmas is really all about! That is why Jesus chose to come to us. Praise the Lord for this blessed Christmas season. Shall we all join together this season and Adore Him, Christ the Lord!

What better way to show our appreciation to Jesus for His coming to earth, than to take Him to someone who so very desperately needs Him today! If we really love Jesus as we say we do, then I fully believe that we want the whole world to know of Him. I read just today an article written by Rev. Raymond Shreve that said that purity was not the only benefit of Pentecost. But power to be witnesses was also given to that band of believers. And just as it was given to them, so it is given to all today that are genuinely filled with the Holy Spirit. Bro. Shreve also stated that we dare not allow our purity to become sterility. Oh, dear friend, we must tell the world that Jesus loves them. If we don't tell them, then they may never hear! Let us spread the *real* Christmas story this Holiday Season, that many may come to know Him.

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know that God is working in a wonderful way in the Home Missions Department. Reports are coming in from pastors in various churches that souls are being saved and the message of full salvation is being spread. I returned from Atlantic, North Carolina recently and had a wonderful service and visit with Bro. David Walter and his family. They closed revival recently and God gave them a wonderful meeting. A brand new man from the community came in during the revival and prayed through. How thrilling it is to see someone who has not heard and been indoctrinated in this way hear the simple message of salvation and find the Lord precious to their heart! Will you pray for this young man that God will establish him in His grace? Now is a very vital time in his life and he will need the leadership of the Spirit to go on and live for God. The Lord is helping in various areas of the mission work, and we praise Him for it.

On behalf of my wife and children, I would like to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God's choicest blessing be yours in the days ahead as we continue to work and strive together for the salvation of men's souls here at home! GOD BLESS YOU!



# Formula For A Burning Heart

By A.W. Tozer

Any Christian who desires to, may experience a radical spiritual renaissance; and this, altogether independent of the attitude of his fellow Christians.

The important question is, How? Here are some suggestions which anyone can follow and which, I am convinced, will result in a wonderfully improved Christian life:

- Get thoroughly dissatisfied with yourself. Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul. When speaking of earthly goods Paul can say, "I have learned . . . to be content"; but when referring to his spiritual life, he testified, "press toward the mark" (Phil. 3:14). Stir up the gift of God that is in thee.

- Set your face like a flint toward a sweeping transformation of your life. Timid experiments are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God. "The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matt. 11:12).

- Put yourself in the way of the blessing. It is a mistake to look for grace to visit us as a kind of benign magic, or to expect God's help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. There are plainly-known paths which lead straight to the green pastures; let us walk in them. To desire revival, for instance, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.

- Do a thorough job of repenting. Do not hurry to get it over with. Hasty repentance means shallow spiritual experience and lack of certainty in the whole life. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. Until we allow the consciousness of sin to wound us, we will never develop a fear of evil. It is our wretched habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.

- Make restitution wherever possible. If you owe a debt, pay it, or at least have a frank understanding with your creditor about your inten-



tions to pay, so that your honesty will be above question. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can in an effort to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible, make the crooked things straight.

- Bring your life into accord with the Sermon on the Mount and such other New Testament scriptures as are designed to instruct us in the way of righteousness. An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly. I recommend that the self-examination be made on our knees, rising to **obey** God's commandments as they are revealed to us from the Word. There is nothing romantic or colorful about this plain downright way of dealing with ourselves, but it gets the work done. Isaac's workmen did not look like heroic figures as they dug in the valley, but they got the wells open, and that was what they had set out to do.

- Be serious minded. Unless you break away from the funny boys, every spiritual impression will continue to be lost to your heart, and that right in your own living room. The people of the world used to go to the movies to escape serious thinking about God and religion. You would not join them there, but you now enjoy spiritual communion with them in your own home on TV.

The devil's ideals, moral standards, and mental attitudes are being accepted by you without your knowing it. You wonder why you can make no

progress in your Christian life. Your interior climate is not favorable to the growth of spiritual graces. There must be a radical change in your habits or there will not be any permanent improvement in your interior life.

- Deliberately narrow your interests. The Jack-of-all-trades is the master of none. The Christian life requires that we be specialists. Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God. If you will narrow your interests, God will enlarge your heart.

"Jesus only" seems to the unconverted man to be the motto of death. But a great company of happy men and women can testify that it became to them a way into a world infinitely wider and richer than anything they had ever known before.

Christ is the essence of all wisdom, beauty and virtue. To know Him in growing intimacy is to increase in appreciation of all things good and beautiful. The mansions of the heart will become larger when their doors are thrown open to Christ and closed against the world and sin. Try it.

- Begin to witness. Find something to do for God and your fellow men. Refuse to rust out. Make yourself available to your pastor and do anything you are asked to do. Do not insist upon a place of leadership. Learn to obey. Take the low place until such time as God sees fit to set you in a higher one. Back your new intentions with your money and your gifts, such as they are.

- Have faith in God. Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne where your Advocate sits at the right hand of God. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you.

If you will follow these suggestions, you will most surely experience revival in your own heart. And who can tell how far it may spread? God knows how desperately the church needs a spiritual resurrection. And it can come only through the revived individual.



## School News, Penn View



As I begin this report, Isaiah chapter 9 and verse 6 is on my mind; "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." This scripture surely describes our Wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ. Oh, how we adore Him not only in this season, but throughout the year. Praise His Dear Name!

There is much praise now on the campus of PVBI. The reason? Well, the "brand new" furnace is producing "heat." Several students have made posters which sound out praise for the furnace. Let me give you part of the one poster which will tell the story as to how the students feel about having heat. "Thank you Lord for the HEAT. It sure beats freezing in our seat! No more icicles dangling from our nose, No more iceburgs instead of toes. No more snowmen instead of students, No more mufflers and boots to sit in school with.

Now that we have a FIRE in the stove, Let's let our Spiritual hearts glow, with the warmth and love of our Father above. Thank God for the heat, for the furnace and the dedicated men who have made our school warm again." The thanks were written in Hebrew, Greek, Spanish and Ethiopian. Someone recently made a statement that miracles are not seen in our day. Well, it is truly a miracle that the cold weather did not arrive until the exact day the furnace produced heat. We will be needing another miracle, that is to pay for the furnace. Cost is at \$16,000.00 Would you pray about

the possibility of another miracle happening and that is a prompt clearing of the debt for the furnace?

While we are speaking of miracles, this is the 20th year for PVBI. We are asking God to help us in the clearing of the debt for the large class room, office and chapel building. If we would all help in this need, I am sure this could also be paid before we are out of our 20th year.

Great things are happening at PVBI. A wonderful spirit prevails and we are seeing students minding God. There is an expectant atmosphere for revival on the campus. Please pray with us for true revival. Oh, how we need this!

We are encouraged! God is at work! The Spirit is felt in classes, chapel services and in the halls. The faculty is minding God and is being used of God in training youth for the fields of labor which are whitened.

Last month we began a series of introductions: This month we continue with the introduction of Mr. Gary L. McIntire. Gary has been at Penn View since 1982 and is doing a fabulous job as our business manager. Mr. McIntire married Anita Minich of Dayton, Pa., in 1968. Their home is blessed with two children, Derek Leroy and Regina Marie. Mr. McIntire, before coming to PVBI, drove truck and worked on a farm. He attended the Indiana University of Pa. and Ball State University where he graduated with a B.S. degree in accounting. Mr. McIntire is an outstanding example of devotion and dedication to the cause of Christian Education. PVBI is blessed by having Mr. McIntire as our

business manager.

The Chapel Singers will be travelling throughout December presenting the program, "Sounds of the Season." This group will also be travelling in the spring; and if your church would like to have them, please contact the president's office. The following is the Chapel Singers itinerary for December:

- Dec. 5 - Mountain Grove GM
- Dec. 6 - Youth Rally - Winfield  
Calvary Holiness
- Dec. 7 - Sunbury GM (AM)
- Dec. 7 - Spring Garden GM (PM)
- Dec. 10 - Lebanon GM
- Dec. 12 - Bellefonte GM
- Dec. 13 - Christmas Concert Penn  
View G. I. Straub Tabernacle
- Dec. 14 - Gratz Emmanuel  
Wesleyan (AM)
- Dec. 14 - Coopersburg GM (PM)
- Dec. 19 - Youth Rally - Endicott,  
NY PH
- Dec. 20 - Mall - Schenectady, NY
- Dec. 20 - Youth Rally - Schenectady,  
NY PH
- Dec. 21 - Schenectady PH (AM)
- Dec. 21 - Binghamton, NY IND (PM)

In closing, let me remind you to keep Penn View in your prayer list, and to remember us daily. It is very important that much prayer ascends to the Throne of God for the Spiritual needs and also the financial needs of our Great Institute. Penn View is committed to Christian Training for the ministry of the Word of God. Penn View is also committed to stand for the purpose for which it began back 20 years ago, God being our Helper.



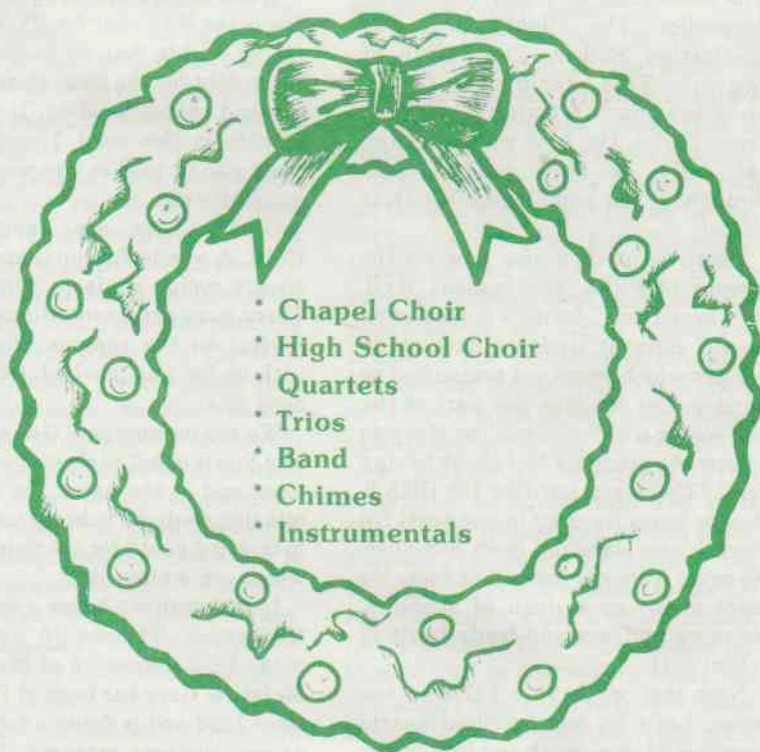


## Annual Christmas Candlelight Service

COME AND HEAR . . .

*an evening of  
quality Christmas music*

# Sounds Of The Season



December 13, 1986

Prelude 7:15 p.m.

Service 7:30 p.m.

*Held in the beautifully decorated Tabernacle Building*

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