



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.

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IF I HAD PRAYED

Perhaps the day would not have seemed so long,
The skies would not have seemed so gray,
If on my knees in humble prayer
I had begun the day.
Perhaps the fight would not have seemed so hard —
Prepared, I might have faced the fray
If I had been alone with Him,
Upon my knees, to pray.

Perhaps I might have cheered a broken heart,
Or helped a wand'rer on the way,
If I had asked to be a light
To some dark soul today.
I would remember just the pleasant things,
The hard words that I meant to say
I would forget, if I had prayed
When I began the day.

I think I could have met life's harder trials
With hopeful heart and cheerful smile
If I had spoken with my Lord
Just for a little while.
And, if I pray, I find that all goes well,
All care at His dear feet is laid;
My heart is glad — the load is light
Because I first have prayed.

— M. Joyce Raders

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Do You Have The Gift of Helps?

Some men live dramatic and colorful lives with impact upon many thousands or millions. Other live out their lives in relative solitude but are able to change the stream of lives through their quiet but firm influence. During the horrible days of World War II such a man was Felix Kersten.

Dr. Kersten was the personal physician and manual therapist to Heinrich Himmler, Germany's number two man. He used his amazing influence over Himmler to rescue thousands of Jews from concentration camps and gas chambers. Quietly but so thoroughly did he do his job that the World Jewish Council credits him with saving 60,000 Jews.

The Apostle Paul is known to nearly every inhabitant of the free world, certainly to every Christian. Yet Paul was assisted in his ministry through the able assistance of little-known or recognized Onesiphorus. Paul writes his last note just before his execution to Timothy and recalls the blessing of this man's life and his role as a fellowhelper in the ministry: "The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: But when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. The Lord grant unto that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well." II Tim. 1:16-18.

When many others had deserted Paul in the time of his deepest crisis, Onesiphorus risked ridicule or perhaps even capture to go to Paul in his chains and encourage him in the Lord.

The great Apostle, when writing to the church at Corinth regarding spiritual gifts, lists the big gifts first. Those such as apostles, prophets, teachers are noted. But Paul continues by including "those able to help others..." NIV I Cor. 12:28 The King James Version simply says "helps."

How many times I have been grateful for those who have the gift of "helps." It may be just whispering in someone's ear, "I'm praying for you." It may be taking in a meal when the evangelist's family is staying in the parsonage. It may be helping to get an old car running again. Oh what a difference such quiet influence can have in our lives.

Do not be discouraged if your name is not in the bright lights. Do not feel that God has no place of service for you though you seem not to be gifted with speaking or singing ability. God is keeping track of each and every effort. As Jesus taught "Inasmuch as you have done unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40.

Do you have the gift of helps? Do not despise it, but rather allow the Lord to continue to make you a blessing to His Kingdom!

DLF

by William Ozzane

Early Morning Prayers

"Be ready in the morning and come up...and present yourself before me. No one is to come with you." (See Ex. 34:2, 3.)

An early morning prayer session is a top priority in the life of every true godly man. Why is dawn prayer of so paramount importance? Joseph Parker, a saintly preacher, gives a sound reason: "The morning is the time fixed for my meeting the Lord. This very word **morning** is a cluster of grapes. Let me crush them and drink the sacred wine. In the night I buried yesterday's fatigue, and in the morning I take a new lease of energy. Blessed is the day whose morning is sanctified! Successful is the day whose first victory is won in prayer! Holy is the day whose dawn finds thee on the top of the mount! The light is brightest in the morning. 'Wake psalter and harp; I will myself awake early.' The reinforcements gathered in the quiet season turn the tide of the battle. Ralph Cushman exquisitely presents the beneficial outcome of early morning communion with God:

*I met God in the morning
When the day was at its best,
And His presence came like glory
Of the sunrise in my breast.*

*All day long the Presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed in perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.*

*Other ships were blown and battered,
Other ships were sore distressed,
But the winds that seemed to drive them,
Brought to us a peace and rest.*

*Then I thought of other mornings,
With a keen remorse of mind,
When I too, had loosed the moorings
With the Presence left behind.*

*And I think I know the secret,
Learned from many a troubled way:
You must seek God in the morning
If you want Him through the day.*

"In the morning ye shall see the glory of the Lord."

Commence each day with communion with God.

From personal spiritual enjoyment and enrichment the writer of Lamentations bursts into praise and thanksgiving: "His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." (Lam. 3:22, 23.) When we are all alone with God at the break of the day, we are privileged with highest moments of spiritual

exhilaration, revelation, and inspiration. These sacred moments of intimate communion with God are the choicest hours of life. We must, therefore, forego any thing that would intrude the sanctity or interfere with the privacy of the vital time of fellowship with God — the soul's restoring, reviving, and refreshing season. There are scattered fountains in the deserts, at which the fainting traveller revives his strength and courage. Then heavenly voices speak, and happy is he who gives heed to the heavenly vision which is from God and conducts to God.

Such is the hour, this silent hour with Thee!

*The trouble of the restless heart is still;
And every swaying wish breathes reverently*

The whisper of Thy will.

*Wrapped in the peace, that follows prayer,
I fold my hands in perfect trust,
Forgetful of the cross I bear,
Through the noonday heat and dust.*

Commence the day with God in fresh consecration

Each day a fresh offering of our bodies, minds and spirit, is an acceptable morning sacrifice unto God. Men of all ages have renewed daily their consecration. "Moses rose up early in the morning and built an altar" (Ex. 24:4). "And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. And he called the name of the place Bethel" (presence of God) (Gen. 28:18, 19). Andrew Murray taught that "the morning watch is the key to the position in which the surrender to Christ and the Holy Spirit at the start of the day will determine the believer's Christlike attitude throughout the whole day. Next to accepting Christ as our Saviour and Lord, there is nothing so beneficial to ourselves, so fruitful in the service of others as the 'formation of an undiscourageable resolution to keep the morning watch and to spend the first half hour of the day in close communion with God, all alone'."

Commence each day with God receiving His instructions

In response to God's gracious, personal invitation, every earnest Christian's attitude will accord with the Psalmist's fervent desire to know and to do God's will. "Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee" (Ps. 143:8). (Knox: "Show me the path I should follow.") In those sacred moments of solitary intercourse, God reveals to us His blueprint for ourselves and our service. The monumental daybreak when the Almighty God entrusted Moses with the Ten Commandments teaches us God's **modus operandi** for all time: any momentous, indeed any, however seemingly insignificant mission God entrusts to His servants, He does so in the place and at the time of solitude and communion with Him. Early in the morning Moses went up to the Mount of Sinai as the Eternal ordered him. The Eternal came down in the cloud. Especially important to preachers, but also to all Christ's servants, is the truth that in the dawn meditation God's unmistakeable voice is heard by His alert and expectant messengers. "In the morning the word of the Eternal came to me, 'Son of man give them this message from the Lord Eternal.'" (See Ezek. 12:8) This is assuredly the sole secret of effective preaching and successful soul-saving.

Commence each fresh day offering supplication and intercession

In the morning of each new day, let us offer up our petitions that we may have adequate resources to meet all the physical, temporal, and spiritual requirements of the day from the God of "all grace" who is abundantly able "to provide you richly with every good gift; thus you will have ample means in yourselves to meet each and every situation with enough and to spare . . ." (2 Cor. 9:8 N.E.B.) In quiet communion with God daily, we must offer up intercession for the spiritual and temporal welfare of our loved ones, our friends, all we visualize in our minds and feel upon our hearts.

(Continued on Page 5)

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Youth Rally News

December 5, 1986 was the date for the General Christmas Youth Rally at Sunbury, Pa. What a night! How exciting it was to see Pastors and their people gathering together to make a crowd of 242 people, packing the sanctuary rather full. In all there were 17 of our churches represented as well as two other neighboring churches. Pastors, we as a Youth board, commend you for your help and your interest in youth. God bless you and your young people.

The Program? Well, it was filled with many interesting selections from the young people of our churches. The Lewistown Stoner girls started the evening with a lovely reed trio. Nine other presentations were given: Liberty Valley Wesley Stahl quoted scripture from the Christmas story;

Spring Garden John and Joel, keyboard artists, capably presented a duet; Rebersburg Doug Grove played the recorder; Centre Union Heidi Straub rendered a violin medley; Weaversville Paul and Linda Clough sang "Redeemng Love"; Bellefonte Tad Lucas strummed guitar and sang "O Holy Night"; Milesburg Cliff Sarver read a poem; Sunbury Sue Espenshade "tickled the ivories" in recital style; and the Helfenstein Youth Choir capped the evening with the spirited singing on "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, Shine On." The Christmas was begun well and hearts were blessed with the presence of the Lord. To Him be all Praise!

Andrew Cooley
Missionary
Crusaders President

SPRING YOUTH DAY

Rev. Robert Thornton - Speaker

MARCH 7, 1987

at

Lewistown

God's Missionary Church

10:00 a.m.

2:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Special Subjects To Be Announced

FULLERS Have Open Dates

The Fuller Family Singers have some open dates in March. If you are interested in a week-end meeting or full revival within driving distance of Penns Creek, PA please contact Rev. David Fuller at Box 970, Penns Creek, PA 17862. Telephone: Office - 717-837-1855, Home - 717-837-3546.

Those dates are: March 7 & 8; March 13-15; March 20-22.

Psalm 23 — A Meditation

David, out of his experience as a shepherd and his many hours of meditating on the ways God is like a Shepherd to us, wrote this song in language a sheep might use to testify of the tender care his shepherd provides. It is a testimony of which any shepherd would be justly proud, if his sheep could speak when the shepherds gather together to regale each other with stories of their bravery. How many times David may have wished his sheep could express their confidence in his care! That was impossible, but David *could* speak, and he determined to give praise to his Shepherd.

Jehovah, the Self-Existent, Eternal One who reveals Himself and who enters into covenant relationship with His people—Jehovah the God of Israel is my personal Shepherd. He tends, feeds, and guards me. I am as a sheep, defenseless, undiscerning, easily distracted from the right way, snared and destroyed by the evil one. I need a Shepherd—not just a leader or a commander. I need someone to lead the way, to make sure I follow, to tenderly care for me, and to protect me. My God does all of this and more.

Jehovah is the Shepherd who meets all my needs. I will lack for nothing. He cares for me and provides so much that I lie down in complete contentment. I have more than heart could wish. Others wander in search of satisfaction, but my Shepherd completely satisfies my deepest desires. I am content. The enticements of the evil one lose their attraction when I meditate on the satisfaction He gives to me.

He leads me to refreshing water. The thirst of my soul is quenched. There are times when life seems so dry. My soul thirsts for the refreshment of His presence, the fellowship of His Spirit, the warmth of assurance that I am His (Rom. 8:16) and He is mine (Cp. Song 2:16). He provides "quiet times" of assurance. He knows that sheep are afraid of rapid currents, so He provides "quiet waters." He may have to dam up a stream or dig out a place and divert the water into it. He is so considerate. He never overlooks even my slightest fears. In

the heat of the day, in the pressures of life, I am calmed. I am refreshed.

My Shepherd knows when I am weary—exhausted. He never allows more than I can bear. Just when it seems I will faint, just when I think I will be overcome, He revives me. He renews my strength.

The many possibilities in life would bewilder me. I cannot see far down the road. I cannot foresee all the results of my choices. I need a Guide, One who knows the way, One who has been there before. He knows the best for me. He leads me in the right path (Ps. 16:11). After all, His name and reputation are at stake!

Even though He leads through darkness, difficulty and danger, I have no cause for fear and anxiety. *He* is with me through it all. He protects me from those who would destroy me. He corrects me if I err. He rescues me if I stray. A good shepherd would give his life to protect his sheep, and my Shepherd has already gladly died for me!

He continues His care for me in spite of my worst enemies. Right in their presence, He sustains me, feeds me, and prevents them from harming me. Perhaps you have never seen a shepherd "prepare a table." He does it by pulling out the poisonous weeds and stopping up the snake holes so the snakes will not strike the sheep on the nose. He goes through the grass and checks everything first. He also makes certain there are no animals hiding in obscure places. I do not have to fear my enemies; they are powerless against *Him*!

He anoints me with the oil of His Spirit. He heals my wounds. He makes my face shine with the oil of gladness. My cup, or portion in life, is abundant blessing and joy.

I know that His goodness and kind mercy—His forgiveness—will always be mine. I can testify that I have lack of nothing. I have no cause for fear or anxiety. In every circumstance of life, He is sufficient. Indeed, I intend to remain in His care forever.

Don't you want Him to be your Shepherd?

EARLY MORNING PRAYERS

(Continued from Page 3)

whose names are remembered before God.

What a sublime example as an effectual intercessor is Job: "And it was so, when the days of their (his children) feasting were gone about, . . . that Job rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually." (Job 1:5.) Knox: "Never would he let the day pass without burnt sacrifice." We must also earnestly entreat God's blessing upon His appointed messengers for the prosperity of His preached Word.

Looking upon this troublous world, as we tarry with God in His holy sanctuary, we must offer up intense intercession for the hastening of the second coming of Christ, when He, as King of kings, will take up Himself the government of the world, and will thoroughly terminate the reign of evil and terror, and establish throughout the earth His kingdom of righteousness and peace. "Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20). **Thy will be done, thy kingdom come**, must be the keynote of all our intercessory petitions.

As clearly and significantly indicated in our text, our gracious God Himself takes the initiative by inviting every believer to commence each new day in His holy presence for communion, consecration, instruction, and intercession. Let us copy our Supreme Example: "**And in the morning**, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, **and there prayed**" (Mk. 1:35). Habitually and consistently Christ observed this time and place of close and constant communion with God: this was the secret of His victorious and vicarious life: so let us take heed! Let us respond promptly and wholeheartedly to God's superlative invitation as we pray with the Psalmist: "My King, and my God, Give ear to my appeal, for I am calling out to thee; oh, hear my morning prayer, for in the morning I set forth my plea, waiting thine answer." (See Ps. 5:1-3).



— Timothy L. Cooley



Missionaries Are Ordinary People

A common misconception many people have about missionaries is that they are somehow super people or have extraordinary talents or abilities. Being missionaries, we can say that this is not true for all missionaries because we are not super people. We have met some who seem to have extraordinary abilities and cut quite dashing figures. However, on the whole, the missionaries we know seem to be well-just plain people. Entirely human. If you ever want to see just how human, work with a few fellow missionaries. Even saved and sanctified missionaries remain human. We are subject to highs and lows. We get bursts of energy and at times we get utterly fatigued. Sometimes we can believe God for everything and then we can wonder is God even interested in what we are doing. Missionaries are people-ordinary people who have exciting lives. Some of the time-that is. Other times (would you believe the majority of the time?) there are routine, mundane tasks that seem endless that need to be done. Tasks that require self discipline to get done. Tasks that

require ordinary people with ordinary abilities. How then do missionaries perform some of the great exciting things we read about? It's because of the extraordinary God these ordinary people serve.

While still in college I took for my motto "I can only do my best-I'll trust God to do the rest." This is the secret missionaries have, learned from that great missionary St. Paul. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthenth me." He learned to be content in any condition or state. God makes the difference. He is the power and the intelligence behind everything. Missionaries are like surgeon's gloves; useless unless He fills and directs us. Some very complicated and intricate, news making procedures are done using ordinary latex gloves. It's the hands and mind of the filler of the gloves that makes the difference. All the gloves need to do is to remain pure (sterile) and flexible. So you can see although missionaries face some extraordinary situations, in the final analysis it is reliance on God that makes the difference.

So you wonder why tell us all this. Let people think missionaries are super people if they want. I have two good reasons for wishing people to know missionaries are people just like them. (1) Because we are ordinary people, when others on the home front neglect to support with prayer, etc. we being people, can become discouraged and lose our drive for seeing things done. This may be one factor in the failure of many missionaries to stick on the field. We are human and Satan fights us just like every other Christian. If you can realize how human we are it will help you pray better for us. Imagine yourself in our place! (2) is that people may reject a call to the mission field because they feel they just don't "have it." They feel too ordinary-no special talents or abilities-God surely doesn't want me for an extraordinary thing like being a missionary. I want you all to understand that it's ordinary people God wants and needs. Look at all 12 disciples. Everyone unlettered in the things of the world-ordinary-but those ordinary men doing their best and trusting God to do the rest changed the world. Don't think you're too ordinary! God may be calling you! He has promised that His grace is sufficient for you. His strengths are more than able to make up for your weaknesses. The challenge has been issued. It's up to us the ordinary people to carry it out. It will be worth it all when we receive our extraordinary reward for our ordinary labor.

Rex and Karen Evans

LEWISTOWN

CURIOSITY - A desire to know or learn. This was the principal thought in many minds as people began arriving for the late October youth rally at the Lewistown church. What is on the blanket covered easel occupying a prominent spot at the front of the church? After all, this rally was held on halloween night, so, who knew if the blanket covered a trick or a treat.

Upon removal of the blanket, a rather eerie halloween sign came to view. Rev. Nathan Shaffer, speaker of the evening, in his own inimitable way, brought forth the falseness of the halloween scene in our lives. He used anything from apples to garbage to get his points across. The comparisons were proficiently applied. Rev. Shaffer closed by reminding us that Satan will only trick us in every way he can, but, we receive all the best treats from God. Are you being

tricked or treated?

This rally was well attended with approximately 150 in attendance. The majority of the western zone churches were well represented with the host church, Lewistown, claiming the attendance banner.

The March rally will also be held at the Lewistown church on March 7, 1987 at 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. This is a conference wide rally, so bring your lunch and join with us for a day of information, challenge, and blessing.

REVIVAL - A series of meetings for the purpose of reawakening religious faith. This is an apt description of the Lewistown winter revival. Our series of meetings began on January 2, 1987 with Rev. & Mrs. Rex Keaton as the workers. God helped them in a special way as they ministered in song and word from

night to night as God directed. This revival was one of the most outstanding revivals the Lewistown church has ever experienced!

Outstanding because God wasn't just an occasional visitor, but because His presence was manifested in every service in such a special way. Outstanding because of the God anointed and God directed singing, preaching, praying, and obedience.

Outstanding because of the attendance. It was one of the best attended revivals ever held in Lewistown. Many fellow God's Missionary churches were represented as well as neighboring churches and visitors from the community. Thank you one and all for your support. The days of revival are not all in the past; God has proven that at Lewistown and He can do it for you.

For The Boys and Girls

An African Hero

By Amelia O. Stott

McTamba lived in a small village built of mud huts on the banks of an African lake which looked like an inland sea. The surrounding country was low lying, and when the tropical rains came, the lake often overflowed its banks and swept everything away. Still the people clung to their flimsy huts, although their losses were so great.

On a certain day each year the people all turned out to watch a canoe race in which the boys of the village took part, and the best and most skilful paddler was rewarded, and a feast given in his honor.

McTamba was very good at paddling his canoe, and he could swim like a fish. Unfortunately, on a certain race day, he met with a terrible accident. A crocodile, cleverly hidden in the tall reeds near the lakeside, attacked and sank his canoe, and if the men on the bank had not succeeded in making the crocodile drop its prey, poor McTamba would have perished. As it was, he was badly mauled and his legs almost bitten off.

"Call the witch doctor," cried the men, and McTamba's father was quite distracted by all the shouting and excitement.

"Take him at once to the white man's healing place at Behini," said one, having heard wonderful stories of marvelous cures there, the father decided this was the best thing to do. McTamba was his only son, and he apparently was very seriously injured; so it seemed his only hope of life.

What a terrible journey of suffering it was to the distant hospital! McTamba was a very brave boy, and he tried to stifle his cries and groans as they carried him in a rough hammock through the dense jungle country. The hospital was reached at last after ten days of travelling, which caused the unfortunate boy untold agony. Parched with fever, his wounds poisoned with the filthy stuff people had applied in their ignorance, the boy

was in a pitiable condition. The mission doctor was seldom unsuccessful. His faith in God was great, but now he felt that it would be no easy task to save McTamba's life.

Anxious weeks followed before the boy began to improve and take an interest in the things around him. He heard a lot in the hospital which astonished him, for it seemed too wonderful to be true. How could the great God these white people worshipped love a poor little African boy so as to die for his sins? Indeed, it was almost impossible to believe, except that McTamba was surprised at the lovingkindness every one received, as if they belonged to some great African chief's family.

"I mean to worship the white man's God when I come home," said McTamba to his father.

"But, my son, I have heard that the followers of this Lord Jesus must never fight against their enemies, and they give up many of their old customs. Our people will not permit us to do that without persecuting us and burning down our hut."

McTamba knew this to be a fact. He had always hoped to be a brave fighter and make others admire his spirit, and his father was an exceptionally fearless warrior.

When at last McTamba was able to go home, he resolved by God's help, to be a good soldier of the Lord Jesus, although he knew the cost would not be light.

Very soon, the village people were treating him and his family as if they were lepers, despising and shunning them as outcasts. The other boys were forbidden to speak to McTamba, and as time went on, things went from bad to worse. The boy's resolve however, did not weaken, and his father was so grateful to the white man for healing his only son and saving his life, that he did not oppose McTamba, but allowed him to follow his new faith.

About a year after McTamba's return home, an abnormal rainy season caused the lake to overflow its banks in a flood of unusual depth. A village across the waters was "drowned," and the people sent out a cry for help on their African drums. The squalls of wind were so tremendous that the lake was lashed into huge waves and no canoe or boat could be launched.

Suddenly McTamba said to his father, "I will try to go across with food. The Lord Jesus will protect me, and if it is not His will, then I am not afraid to perish." In vain his father tried to dissuade him. McTamba was determined and the villagers looked on, certain he was going to his death. "O Lord Jesus, help me now," he cried. "Perhaps our people will believe in Thy power if Thou dost enable me to get through."

It seemed impossible that the canoe could stay afloat, and it was soon lost to view. The hours passed slowly. When McTamba had been gone long enough for the people to expect his return, they scanned the distance for a sight of him.

Suddenly his father gave a great shout of joy. There was a whole fleet of canoes coming toward them. The people had been saved by McTamba's courage. He had taken them food, and the women and children had been willing to be paddled away to safety.

"Tell us why you risked your life to help us," they asked. Now the people in McTamba's own village, admiring his great courage, were suddenly his friends again.

"It was all through the power of the Lord Jesus," the boy said. "If you will hear His word and believe in Him, you will be braver than ever before because He can hear you and strengthen your spirit."

And so the village by that African lakeside became willing to hear and to receive the Christian Gospel.

— The Sunday School Times.

CHRIST MANIFESTED

by F.J. Goins

"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" (I John 3:8).

Sin is the same deadly foe it has always been. It must be reckoned with and destroyed, or it will become the destroyer. In this chapter, John sets forth the divine plan to destroy sin.

What are the works of the Devil?

In the Apostle Paul's Galatian letter, he enumerates seventeen things as works of the flesh, and then he adds, "and such like," indicating that this is only a part of sin's works. While the works of sin are multitudinous, they may be classed as follows:

The work of sin is a work of estrangement.

The term implies a separation with consequent hostilities. A more beautiful fellowship never existed than that between Adam and his Creator. A sweeter harmony was never enjoyed. But Satan sowed the seed of discontent, and sin alienated man's love and affection from God. From that day until now Satan has been sowing discord. This is demonstrated in international affairs. It stands out glaringly in the national pattern. The thousands of broken homes and orphaned children give evidence that the home has not escaped. Even the church, the organization ordained of God to bring blessing, inspiration and joy to the hearts of men, has not evaded this insidious influence.

Sin manifests itself in corruption and defilement.

Having entered the heart of man, sin immediately began corrupting, debasing and degenerating. Every faculty of man has come under its deadly influence, as it corrupts the understanding, warps the judgment, perverts the will, desecrates the affections and deadens the conscience.

This principle of Sin has made big business for sin's pleasure houses, the producers of obscene literature, the tobacco industry, the liquor interests, and all those intent on commercializing on the inherent weakness of man. Sin contaminates every fiber of man's moral nature. It is loathsome, incurable disease, a running putrifying sore. (See Isa. 1:6.)

Sin is a work of enslavement.

Millions today are prisoners of carnal tempers. They are slaves of ugly dispositions and are held in the vise-like grip of sensual desires. Sin has so bound men with corrupted principles until they lie, steal, cheat and commit any sin which accommodates their base desires. Perhaps in no realm is this slavery more pronounced than in the area of sinful habits. The cursing, swearing, off-color remarks as well as filthy conversation give evidence of such enslavement.

Sin is also a work of impoverishment.

God gave Adam his Edenic home, a wife to love and cherish, the animals to govern and rule and the garden to keep and enjoy. Adam's heart was pure, his life immortal, but sin robbed him of it all. Satan has long since been in such business. He robbed Cain of his brotherly love, Esau of his birthright, Saul of his kingship and his privileges in grace. He stole from Samson his manly strength, robbed David of his joy and the rich man of his soul.

Satan would steal the joy of your heart, your love for fellowship and worship. He would deprive you of the purity and integrity of your life, as sin saps the moral strength, drains the virtue, dwarfs the intellect and beggars the spirituality.

A work of death.

Many are the terse statements which stand out in the Book of God in which sin is related to death. "Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." (Jas. 1:15). "For to be carnally minded is death." (Rom. 8:6). "The wages of sin is death" (6:23). "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." (Ezek. 18:4.) Sin is death to good influence, noble purposes, the checks of the Spirit, and to the soul.

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested.

Christ was manifest initially in the first promise, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head..." (Gen. 3:15.) Christ was manifest personally in the incar-

nation. So thrilled was the heart of Simeon that he cried, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation" (Luke 2:29, 30). Christ is manifest efficaciously in the salvation of the sinner from sin's power and influence. It is quite clear that the purpose of Christ's manifestation was to destroy the works of the devil.

Christ did not come to limit, to alleviate, or to neutralize sin. Salvation is not a mere moral reform. It is not a culturing influence alone, nor is it grace to subdue the sinful nature. Salvation is not a disciplinary measure or a training process, but a destructive agency. Christ destroys the actual or volitional sins by the complete justification of the penitent heart, and He destroys the inherent nature of sin with the fiery baptism of the Holy Ghost in which the carnal self is crucified and the heart cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. So long as one lives with faith in Christ's saving power, sin has no authority over him.

Christ destroys the estrangement of sin by the reconciliation of the Cross.

In Eph. 2:16 we read, "That he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby." The late Rev. George Huff told of an incident where a father ordered his belligerent son to leave home and said, "I never want to see you again." The boy's mother became quite ill. Her dying request was to see her wayward son. At first the father refused, but for the sake of his dying wife, he said, "My son may come and see his mother but I refuse to lay eyes upon him."

The boy returned to his mother's side. With compassion and love she reached out with a weak hand and gripped that of her wayward son, then begged the husband to come to her bedside. After much persuasion, he entered the room. The dying wife with her other hand gripped that of her husband. As life ebbed from her body, she pulled their hands together.

(Continued on Page 11)



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

March, the month of contrasts is upon us. Today may be sunny, warm and pleasant, while tomorrow may dawn cold, blustery and snowy. The old cliché, "IN like a lion, out like a lamb," does not always hold true. One thing is certain, March is certainly an unpredictable month. But while it is unpredictable, it is the threshold to better things. When this time of the year rolls around, we know it won't be too much longer until warm weather arrives. I trust that the bursting of Spring will also cause some "bursting" in our spiritual lives. May there be some "budding" of enthusiasm for the work of God! Our love for God should cause us to "plant" some new seeds of compassion and concern for lost souls all around us. Home and Foreign Missions alike are counting on your continual prayers and financial support.

May I ask you a personal question? Do we really love the work of missions as we should? Missions, Home and Foreign, is the hand of God reaching out to the oppressed and afflicted. I read a poem recently that stirred me as I was considering what God would have us do in the coming month for Him.

"When May I Cease To Love Missions?"

When may I cease to love missions?
 When I have ceased to love Him;
 When the Father no longer loves sinners;

When stars in their paths have burned dim.

When the blossoms no longer need showers,

Or the wild birds their sheltering nests;

When men have no need for a Saviour;

When time ceases flying and rests.

When brotherly love has encompassed

The earth and all men are as one;
 When Jesus is loved and exalted
 In all lands where shineth the sun—
 Then may I rest from my labors,
 For missions their course shall have

run.

We must never lose our interest in the work of missions! It must be an obsession with us if we are to be effective in winning men to Christ. We thank the Lord for the way that He is helping in the area of missions at home. There seems to be an awakening among our people to the need of taking the gospel to others. Oh, let us love the work of missions, both foreign and at home.

On the Home Mission front, Pastor David Musser reports that the work at Steamburg is experiencing a spirit of revival. The Spirit has been present in the services at the church, as well as working among the community. Both are vital for the existence of the church. A great deal of progress has been made under Bro. Musser's leadership. We were in Steamburg just recently for a service with the good folk there, and were very pleased to see all the improvements that have been made. The skirting under the new trailer is on and really makes it attractive. A new wood stove was also added to the trailer, and is very efficient in the heating. At the church and school, a new copy machine has been purchased to help with the Administration and Secretarial responsibilities of both the church and the school. I praise God for the Way He is helping the work there in Steamburg! Will you pray with us that a mighty revival will sweep the Seneca Nation and that many will be won to Jesus? I believe that as the Musser's continue to be faithful, God will move and help in a special way. Bro & Sis Musser are dedicated to God, and I deeply appreciate their sacrificial living and willingness to do without some thing that may consider necessary, to labor for the Lord.

In Atlantic, North Carolina, Pastor David Walter reports that things are going well there. Plans are being made to have new pews installed at the church. It is a much needed addition and one that will greatly help the appearance of the church. Bro Walter reports that approximately \$2000.00 is needed yet to fully pay for the pews. Maybe the Lord is laying it on your heart to give to help put the pews in. If so, would you let us hear from you today? Your figure, whether large or small will be deeply appreciated by the folk at Atlantic. Let us be investors together in the work of this project accordingly so we will be sure it gets to the proper place. God bless you for your help in this project.

In closing, may I take a minute to remind you that Easter is traditionally the time for a special offering for the Home Mission Department. It is just a little more than a month until Easter and so would you begin to pray and ask God what He would have you to give to this special project this year? I trust that every church will participate in this endeavor. We will give you full details on the project for which the offerings will be used in our next report to you!

Thank you for your prayers and support to the Department. May God richly bless you in our prayer!



The Isle of Prayer

Do you ever feel discouraged

With the story of the past?

Have you tried to do your duty —

Tried and tried, and failed at last?

Does your life seem vain and useless,

Crushed and desolate your heart?

Would you give earth's richest treasure

Just to get another start?

Then I know a little island

That is just the place for you,

Where your soul may find refreshment

And your life begin anew.

I have often found fresh courage

In its purifying air,

In the place where God meets mortals

'Tis the sacred Isle of Prayer.

There the sunbeams of forgiveness

Will dispel each cloud of gloom;

From our deep tears of repentance

Flowers of hope begin to bloom.

From the crystal streams of mercy,

Rising washed and purified,

We begin our lives all over

With a living Friend and Guide.

Let us often seek the pleasures

Of this happy little Isle,

And forget our cares and worries

In the sunshine of God's smile.

He has given us many blessings,

But no privilege so rare

As a full and free admission

To this golden Isle of Prayer.

— Winifred Davidson

Solemn Facts About ETERNITY

W. M. Tidwell

It is not so long since the creation of man, approximately 6,000 years. Only 2,190,000 days, 52,560,000 hours and 3,153,600,000 minutes since Adam lived. Not so long! If Adam had lived and saved ten dollars a day he would not be classed among the very wealthy men. Time had a beginning and will have an end. The angel set one foot on the land and one on the sea and swore that, "time should be no longer" (Rev. 10:6, 7). Yes, time will soon pass away, but eternity, never.

But how long is eternity? Unanswerable. Maybe we can get some faint idea, though that is absolutely imperfect. We speak of great numbers, and they have lost their meaning today. You say, "How much is a million?" "How long is a million years?" A million is a thousand thousand. (A million years or a million dollars, of course.) A billion is a thousand million. Think of it! A trillion is a thousand billions. A quadrillion is a thousand trillions. A quintillion is a thousand quadrillions. Baffling!

You say, "Staggering!" "Incomprehensible!" Certainly, but so is eternity. After this bewildering duration just mentioned has flown by, eternity has not begun. No. Eternity is endless. It had no beginning and will have no end. Eternity is duration without beginning or end.

Some inconceivable things can be done. For example, give a mighty angel a thimble and say to him, "Drain all the lakes, seas and oceans in the world. Dip up a thimble-full at a time. Transport it to some distant clime. Let this be so far away that it will require 1,000 years to make one round trip." He begins — a maddening task. But as the millions, billions, trillions, quadrillions and quintillions of years pass, the gigantic task would finally be accomplished. Finally all the lakes, seas, and five mighty oceans would be drained. But then eternity would still

be young and roll on unabated. Shuddering thought!

Astronomers tell us that it is 93,000,000 miles from the earth to the sun. Traveling at the rate of 100 miles per hour it would require 930,000 hours or 38,750 days to reach it. They tell us that the planet Neptune is 2,770,000,000 miles from the earth. He is one of our near neighbors, belonging to our solar system. But it would require a cannon ball with a speed of 1,500 miles per minutes, years to reach it. They tell us of stars so far away that it would require light, at the rate of 186,000 miles per second, 40,000,000 years to reach the earth.

Something that cannot be done: That is to discover the bounds of infinite space. Suppose you charter some mighty airplane that is self-generating, is capable of making 500 miles per hour, and let this mighty monster of the air be manned by some immortal pilot. Then he is commanded "to find the East." He begins this eventful journey. He flies on for a million, billion, trillion, quadrillion and quintillion of years. Thus we behold him far out in this strange realm and he contacts some strange creatures and inquires, "Is this the East?" But, to his dismay, he finds he is just as far from the East as when he began. The same could be said of the other pilots who had been instructed to find the other points of the compass: North, South, West. They have not made the discovery. They are as far from it as when they began.

We are now creatures of time, but will soon be creatures of eternity. All must spend this awful eternity somewhere. There is no annihilation either in the material or spiritual realm. Whatever is, shall always be. It may change form, but no cessation. We shall exist consciously. (We cannot say **through** eternity, for we shall never get **through** eternity.) And God's inspired Word declares that

this shall be in one of two places, and they are both places. One is the good world above, and the other is the lost world below. One is heaven, the other is hell — with God, the holy angels and the redeemed, or with the devil, fallen angels and the lost and damned of earth.

Just one worthwhile question in life, and that is, "Where shall I spend this fearful eternity?" The Word of God is positive, unmistakable. If we repent, trust Christ as our personal Savior and are made holy through the Blood, and endure to the end, then heaven is the eternal home. If we reject Christ and His salvation, it is hell, and we must remember that death does not, in any wise, change the moral nature. It is heart purity, holiness now, or hell hereafter (Matt. 5:8; Heb. 12:14). It is present salvation, or eternal damnation. No second chance. When the old-fashioned ships would pass each other on the high seas the trumpeter would call out, "Whither bound?" We would call to you, O fellow-traveler to eternity, "Whither bound?" Heaven, or Hell? yes, eternity draws apace. Hear her solemn footsteps.

In a little country cemetery there was an epitaph which read, "Reader, stop and think. I am in eternity and you are on the brink." O soul, prepare to meet thy God.

I lingered, and silently listened
To the dull, heavy tread of the years,
And tho't of the fate of the guilty,
When Christ in His glory appears.
A shudder came over my spirit,
As I tho't what a moment

I lingered, and silently listened
To the dull, heavy tread of the years,
And tho't of the fate of the guilty,
When Christ in His glory appears.
A shudder came over my spirit,
As I tho't what a moment might cost:
If to Christ my ALL I have given —
Or if not, my soul would be lost!

School News, *Penn View*

Penn View Visuals

Penn View Visuals is a new department of Penn View Bible Institute. We are publishing visualized stories and Bible lessons for children and youth. We also have five visualized songs for children. Our stories are printed on Pellon, a fabric type of material, and are available in U-COLOR and FULL-COLOR styles. They are available in both short and continued story forms. We have been very pleased with the response to our materials and we would welcome any inquiries concerning Penn View Visuals.

Also available from Penn View Bible Institute is our **ADVENTURE THROUGH SONG AND STORY** records and tapes. They are available in Volumes I, II, and III as well as a new tape entitled, **ADVENTURE SONGS**.

If you are involved in youth or children ministries, or perhaps would like to get involved, **March 27 and 28** will be an important date for you to place on your calendar. Penn View Visuals in planning a **PENN VIEW VISUALS TEACHING WEEKEND** on the campus of Penn View Bible Institute. This weekend will begin on Friday evening at 7:00 and will continue through 4:30 on Saturday. We had a good response last year to our workshops and we are expecting an even greater weekend this year. The workshops will include: The Story Time; It's Memory Time; Songs, a Teaching Time; The Game and Quiz Time; It's Time for Creative Teaching; It's Time For New and Attractive Visuals; A Sharing Time; and Making Visuals Time. This weekend is much different than last year. We will have new materials. We hope to see you. Meals will be provided on campus and we will need to know if lodging is needed. More information is available upon request.

Are you looking for children's workers or Vacation Bible School workers for the summer or fall? The Child Evangelism Team from Penn View is now scheduling their summer. Please contact the school office. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Mason, Directors

of Penn View Visuals, still have about two weeks open for Vacation Bible Schools this summer. They may be contacted at the Penn View Visuals office.

Our address is: PENN VIEW VISUALS, P.O. Box 970, Mountain Road, Penns Creek, PA 17862.

CHRIST MANIFESTED..... (Continued from Page 8)

The wayward son fell weeping and confessing into the arms of his father who was lavish in his forgiveness.

On the cross, Jesus, with one hand on a lost world and another on a just God, by His death reconciled God to man. Thus, any sinner who confesses his sin and comes to God in Jesus' name may find peace.

Christ destroys the corrupting influence of sin by the quickening power of the divine Spirit.

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1). Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life..." (John 10:10). The Apostle Paul says, "In him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

Christ destroys the enslavement of sin.

By the glorious emancipation, He hath delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son. The Bible declares, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). In a meeting a school teacher, after faithfully seeking God, arose and shouted, "I'm free, I'm free." No wonder we sing "Glorious Freedom."

The impoverishment of sin is destroyed by the lavishness of divine grace.

With joy we sing "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!" A pilgrim lady in one of my services, testified that the

pressure was so great she told God she must have more grace. She said God showed her mountains and mountains of grace, and then directed her to throw away her teaspoon and get her a scoop shovel. Paul said, "God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8).

Christ destroys the work and influence of death by His counteraction of the law of sin and death.

Jesus subjected Himself to death that He might destroy him that hath the power of death. Christ entered the valley of the shadow of death; He grappled with death itself, extracted its sting and destroyed its power and ascended on high, shouting, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore" (Rev. 1:18). Jesus said, "Because I live, ye shall live also" (John 14:18).

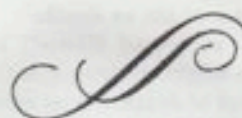
Many today, as far as sin is concerned, are trying to taper off, to restrict and restrain the sin of their life. They put great emphasis on personal effort. They form resolutions, subject themselves to strict discipline, yet it ever remains a domineering force. Let it be known, shout it loud and long, Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord, was manifested to destroy the works of the devil. He who admits his sin, confesses the same to God, can be made free through Him!

P.V.B.I.'S SPRING MUSIC ITINERARY

March 4	7:30 p.m.
Rebersburg, PA - G.M.C.	
Rev. Ronald Neese, Quintet	
March 15	9:30 a.m.
Hanover, PA - G.M.C.	
Rev. Alvin Shaffer, Quintet	
March 15	7:00 p.m.
Pleasant Valley, PA - B.C.	
Rev. Mervin Pottinger, Quintet	
March 29	9:30 a.m.
Salunga, PA - G.M.C.	
Rev. Michael Hoskins, Quintet	
March 29	7:00 p.m.
Camp Hill, PA - G.M.C.	
Rev. Jacob Martin, Quintet	
April 4-5	7:30 p.m.
Steamburg, NY - G.M.C.	
Rev. David Musser, Quintet	

The Changeless Christ

Dr. T.M. Anderson



"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8).

The changeless Christ is presented in the clear light of divine revelation of encourage the faithful believers to persevere in the new and living way of true holiness. The gracious Holy Spirit enables us to understand that the Christ who has sustained His trusting people in former times is the same today and would be the same forever. The preservation of Christ's resolute saints is founded in His immutability. If our great Redeemer were fickle, vacillating, and changeable in His character, there would be nothing to encourage us to overcome our fears and triumph in our faith.

Throughout the entire epistle, the Apostle has emphasized the fact that the Son of God gave Himself that He might sanctify the people with His own precious blood. When Jesus carried His heavy cross through the gate, it signified the end of the Old Covenant of works, and the beginning of the New Covenant of grace. When the lowly Son of God went forth bearing a Roman gibbet, it signified that the Aaronic priesthood had been superseded by the Priesthood of the Immortal Son, and that the sacrifices made under the law had been superseded by the one offering of the body and blood of the Christ.

The Holy Spirit brought the expiatory sacrifice of Jesus to a focal point when He said, "... Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate" (Heb. 13:12). The word "sanctify" as used here by the Holy Spirit refers to the cleansing of God's people.

When the inspired writer affirms



that Jesus suffered to sanctify the people, he is speaking of an epochal work of grace that means far more than mere dedication. "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." This strong appeal to go unto Jesus without the camp signifies that the believers must reject the whole system of religious observances contained in the Mosaic economy. This is to say, they were instructed to look beyond the **shadow** and behold the **substance**. When they saw the superior sacrifice of Christ, they were moved to reject a vain religion and receive a victorious Redeemer. When once we receive the experience of complete cleansing from inbred sin, we will suffer reproach, from preachers and people who, in their unbelief, oppose the doctrine of true holiness.

Note the words, "...Be content with such things as ye have" (13:5). Nothing less than the grace of entire sanctification can free the heart of mortal man from his desire for earthly gain and give him complete contentment with his lot in life. We do well to consider the deeper meaning of the words, "such things as ye have." Let us look beyond the transitory things of life and fix our gaze upon eternal possessions. Perhaps we have been so concerned about things of least importance that we have failed to consider the things of greatest importance. An inventory of our spiritual possessions reveals that we have Christ's promises, His power, and His peace to comfort us in this world. We have His fullness, His faithfulness, His favor, His faith, and His fellowship to satisfy

the desires of our yearning hearts. We have an honorable heritage, a hallowed hope, a holy heart, and a heavenly home. We possess these eternal things by virtue of our relationship to Christ. It is written, "All things are yours" (I Cor. 3:21). For Christians to be content with such things as they have does not mean that they have no interest in possessing the things pertaining to life in this world. "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content" (I Tim. 6:6-8).

Note the courage of Christ's people, "We may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man can do unto me" (Heb. 13:6). The amazing word "helper" presents the Lord as one who runs hurriedly to aid those who cry to Him for help. The import of the word "helper" emphasizes the fact that our loving Lord does not hesitate one moment to advance to the assistance of any trusting saint. He never arrives one moment too late and with too little when His suffering people cry unto Him for help in an hour of distress or imminent danger. The fact the Lord is our helper does not imply that He will prevent evil men troubling us in this unfriendly world. The persecutions, rebuffs, and insults of ungodly persons can be expected so long as we live in full obedience to the will of God in Christ Jesus. The Lord's messengers of the good news of full salvation will discover that evil men can do many things to hinder the message of saving truth. If our blessed Lord did not help us, our courage would fail, and our fears would overwhelm us in times of trouble. Let each Christian consider the truth that the Lord will hurry to help His people in a time of trouble.

— Advocate