



Herald of HOLINESS



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THANKSGIVING, 1963

*Offer unto God thanksgiving;
and pay thy vows (Psalms 50:14).*

November 27, 1963

Sullenness *or* *Faith*

WHEN the writer was a young man he heard some of the older saints tell how they “praised their way through” when they found it nearly impossible to “pray their way through.” Later reflection convinces us that praise and faith are not unrelated, for praise itself springs from the heart that has learned to look at everything in the light of God and thus exults in Him, regardless of present circumstances.

How easy for us to blame despondency on our moods, and in turn to blame our moods upon a peculiar temperament that we cannot avoid, or upon illness that has overtaken us! This might be an accurate description or genesis of some afflictions, but most of us would do well to re-examine our moods and discover their true source. Our sullenness could be a disguised form of pouting. At heart, it could be emotional unbelief that blames God for our dilemma. The Psalmist dared to face himself in his soliloquy. “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance” (Psalms 42:5).

The spirit of praise is the spirit of the New Testament Christian. Can't you feel the lift in Paul's exhortation to the church at Thessalonica? “Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (I Thessalonians 5:16-18).

This is not a denial of evil or of the forces that are arrayed against us, for sometimes we may be “in heaviness through manifold temptations.” But the Word of God does teach that we may

choose the atmosphere in which to live. Hear Paul again: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Philippians 4:8).

A good, clear view of God himself purifies the atmosphere and lends perspective to daily living. John, the Revelator, wrote of a day of judgment that was to come, but he also identified it as a day of praise for the saints. John heard the voices of many people in heaven as they cried out: “Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God.” Then he records later, “And again they said, Alleluia.”

Bunyan, in his famous allegory, observed, “Patience was willing to wait.”

*General
Superintendent
Young*



But our need for today is to praise while we wait. Another poet wrote:

Faith can never reach its consummation,

Till the victor's thankful song we raise.

*In the glorious city of salvation,
God has told us all the gates are praise.*

PEN CAP



to success

By HOWARD B. BORGESON

BEFORE a large group of businessmen, a public relations representative of one of America's large corporations was strongly urging honesty and integrity in business affairs. "This," he frankly admitted, "will be possible only insofar as we are men of honesty and integrity ourselves." He reasoned that any cutting of corners, any deception or taking advantage of the public can only come back to hurt. Short cuts are not pathways to success.

To clinch his appeal he cited an illustration from abroad. A fountain pen manufacturer received an order from a distributing company in southern India for hundreds of fountain pen caps only. Following shortly came another order, not for fountain pens, but caps. Inquisitive, if not perturbed, over such an order, the company began an investigation. The solution was not difficult to come by, and for the sake of profit the orders were continually honored.

You too may want to know how hundreds of pen caps could have been lost or broken in one area. They weren't.

India has been cursed by the caste system, which for centuries has branded men and women with a fixed classification, thus stifling ability, initiative, and even grace. Strong efforts have been made to overthrow such a system. Literacy has been one of the weapons in fighting the caste system. So high has been the premium on education that to be able to read and write has given new status to hundreds of men and women. The fountain pen, worn conspicuously, became a ready identifying *status symbol*.

An enterprising (if not conniving) merchant, knowing the weakness of human nature, began to sell the illiterates on the idea that they too could have status with all the honors and privileges accompanying, not by hard years of studying to learn to read and write, but simply by wearing the status symbol—the fountain pen. He readily sold dozens of pens, but many could not afford even the purchase of a fountain pen. The merchant had the solution. For about one-third the price they could purchase just the cap. It looked just like a complete pen when clipped to the pocket—and what good was the pen since the wearer couldn't even sign his name? Hundreds of caps were sold—to status seekers.

In matters religious I wonder how many are interested only in *status*. The impression that we are able to make upon people which springs from a forced front, the big splash at one's debut, the concealed emptiness of the heart are all efforts of the status seeker to convince men of our merits and gain the advantages of their approval. All this can be done in the name of religion, but without the approval or blessing of God upon our lives. Think of the awful emptiness of pursuing religion from ulterior motives.

The writer to the Hebrews asserts that the only God-pleasing course we can take is to be sanctified wholly. This overthrows the egocentric mind to the extent that we are more concerned about what God knows and thinks about us than what men think.

Christ's standard of discipleship has always been the changed life, and though His concern for a lost world is that it might be saved, His great concern for the Church has been that she might be sanctified through the truth (John 17:17). This heart-cleansing, motive-purifying, love-impelling experience is not just for display, as a status symbol, but permeates our lives with divine glory and makes us suitable agents of God's kingdom.

Ostracism and ridicule may be our lot as holiness people, but such reaction can come only from those who are out of touch with God. We can well afford to forfeit man's approval if only we are assured that God's smile is upon us. Jesus died that we might be sanctified wholly. The Holy Spirit executes the work in the believer's heart, and God the Father rejoices in the completed work of salvation in His children's hearts.

There is no short cut to the experience. One must come through the blood of Calvary and the baptism of the Holy Spirit to obtain heaven's assurance of victory.

"... he is not ashamed to call them brethren" (Hebrews 2:11).

"The outpouring of the Spirit is the earthly reflection of the exaltation of Christ in heaven. It is the participation He gives His friends in the glory which He now has with the Father."
—Andrew Murray.

THANKFUL

... for what?

By CHARLES R. GAILEY

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WHO, except perhaps a Charles Dickens' Scrooge, would say he has nothing for which to be thankful? We have proclaimed our desire to be thankful by establishing a national holiday for such a purpose. We believe the Bible indicates that we should be grateful to God. But for what *do* we give thanks on Thanksgiving Day, 1963? Thankful—for what?

We thank God for life, for in the very beginning He gave it to man. The average span of life is being gradually lengthened, from forty years in 1860 to over seventy years today. The world is filled with beautiful living things—plants and flowers. We are thankful for life—

But what if, through accident or age, life is extinguished?

We are thankful for *health*. At no other time in the history of mankind has there been more said and done in the interests of health. We live in a land with more pills, more doctors, more clinics, more hospitals and drugstores than any other country. And the healed thank God, and rightly so—

But what if health should ebb away?

We are thankful for *wealth*. Our average income for every man, woman, and child today exceeds \$2,790.00 per year. In many countries of the world this same figure is below \$100.00 and in some dips to nearly \$50.00. Our storage bins and grain elevators burst with surplus. We are able to surround ourselves with more automobiles, more refrigerators, more telephones, and we are thankful—

But what if we became poor?

We are thankful for *peace* this fall. Our hearts are lightened by the alleviation of international tension. The possibility of international warfare seems diminished, and we are honestly grateful—

But what if missiles should appear in the northern sky?

We are thankful for *loved ones*, as well. They bring joy and happiness into our lives. Encouragement and fellowship are found with loved ones, and we are rightfully thankful for these—

But what if we should lose our loved ones?

Some years ago a farmer had a weather vane on the top of his barn, with the words, "God Is Love," affixed to it. A passing traveler stopped

to question the appropriateness of such a design. The farmer explained that in his life "God is love whatever way the wind blows." This simple story demonstrates a truth that many of us desperately need in our abundance of today. For in reality, our reason for thankfulness is *God*, not *things*.

If we base our gratitude only on things, then when things disappear, our reason for thanks is gone, and our gratitude with it. Things and others will fail—He will not. God is an absolute, a spiritual fulcrum for existence.

Perhaps, then, our question needs to be revised. For in the last analysis, it is not "Thankful—for *what?*" but rather, "Thankful—for *whom?*" For God himself must be the basis of thankfulness that is lasting. All He gives us is secondary to himself. Life, health, wealth, world peace, loved ones—these all may vanish from our experience. Only God remains changeless and eternal. Habakkuk has given us a testimony of basic thankfulness:

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord is my strength, . . . (3:17-19).

When all else fails, God remains. He is the basis of our thankfulness.

"Sometimes the evil may be hidden even in what at a cursory glance would look like good. Beneath apparent zeal for the truth, may be hidden a judging spirit, or a subtle leaning to our own understanding. Beneath apparent Christian faithfulness may be hidden an absence of Christian love. Beneath an apparently rightful care for our affairs may be hidden a great want of trust in God."—*Hannah Whitall Smith*.

The Cover . . .

Thanksgiving embraces many gifts from the hand of a bountiful God. There are the fruits of the field, and the many material advantages that come to us all. And there is, above all, the overshadowing of His grace. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17).

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A Psalm of Perfect Praise: **PSALMS 103**

(A Thanksgiving Message)

By E. E. WORDSWORTH, Retired Nazarene Elder, Redmond, Washington



PSALMS 103 is a great psalm of perfect praise; it is a glad outpouring of gratitude to Jehovah for His ways with men, His infinite mercy, His faithfulness, and for the order and perfection of His government.

The Psalmist would have us worship God with "all that is within" us—our perceptions, emotions, intellects, wills, as well as with our imaginations and memories.

Worship is not involuntary nor automatic. It calls for the co-ordination of all our powers and complete dedication to God. Neither the sanctuary nor the heart must be a lounge, a place of relaxation, but a beehive making sweet honey.

A blind man may go through an art gallery and not find anything that thrills him, but a true and devoted saint sees God in everything. A thankless person cultivates the noxious weeds of malice, hatred, envy, jealousy, selfishness, and base ingratitude, but the "pure in heart" see God in all things. Therefore let us cultivate the fine flower of gratitude more and more.

Look at the gorgeous splendor of the sunrise, the ordered seasons of the year, the bloom of variegated flowers. Listen to the song of lovely birds and hear the music of the spheres. Remember the warm handclaps of friends, the tender love of the home circle, and the inspiration and help of the sanctuary. Give God praise for His benefits.

Some years ago we vacationed in Yellowstone National Park. We purchased a plaque that hangs upon a wall in our home which reads as follows: "I had no shoes and complained, until I met a man who had no feet."

We are either thankful or thankless. The poet says, "Forget not all his benefits." He did not say remember every one, for they are innumerable, but forget not." "Think," he says, and then you will be thankful.

Bunyan, you will recall, with his keen spiritual insight, picked out "Forgetful Green" as the most dangerous bit of road between the City of Destruction and Mount Zion. The way to heartfelt gratitude, says the wise poet, is not to catalogue what

we have not, but what we have. We are to think of benefits, blessings, possessions.

What are some of the benefits mentioned in this psalm of praise? The Psalmist does not mention the day-by-day mercies that we too often think of as commonplace because of their constancy. He begins by thanking God for his own personal experience: "O my soul." Forgiveness of his iniquities, healing of his diseases, preservation of his life, loving-kindness and tender mercies, sustenance of his physical needs, and life renewal like an eagle are grouped together in a general way.

But in verse 12 he especially emphasizes the removal of our transgressions, "as far as the east is from the west." The distance from north to south is measurable. It is about twelve thousand miles, but the Psalmist did not say, "from north to south," but "*from east to west.*" There are no eastern or western poles, and the traveler going westward would be forever chasing the west without coming nearer to it.

He also mentions the fatherhood of God. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." He tells us that the most tender love of an affectionate father is only a dim and blurred copy of our Heavenly Father's love.

The Psalmist is also thankful to God because he has found the secret of perpetual youth. "Thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." He refers to the appearance of the bird with its new plumage. The bird has been without proper food for many days. Eagles have been known to subsist for several weeks in this condition in the molting season. But now its strength is renewed and the bird is invigorated and ready for flight. The poet omits reference to the molting period and only mentions renewal. He pinpoints strength, not weakness, drooping, and hunger.

Again the poet speaks of satisfaction: "Who satisfieth." On the west coast of England there is the grave of a man who while he lived moved about in his community with a radiant personality. Like a rich, rare, and sweet perfume he gave forth sweetness. His tomb bears this inscription: "Here

lies ———, a man who was satisfied with Jesus." What an epitaph! What a blessed influence! What a lasting testimony for Christ!

In the camphor tree every part is impregnated with the precious perfume; from the highest twig to the lowest root the powerful gum will exude. Thus grace should permeate our whole nature.

"Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than hardening of the arteries."—Selected.

Every faculty, word, desire, thought, action, and influence should radiate God's love and grace.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and *all that is within me*, bless his holy name."

A season of **REDISTRIBUTION** *Is upon Us!*

By W. M. LYNCH, Pastor, First Church, Waco, Texas

WHAT A JOYOUS SEASON! It is a special season that revives at least three phrases that lie dormant too long between use. These expressions of gratitude are embodied in the words "Thank you," "thankful," and "thanksgiving."

Thank You

is the natural response of a recipient. A gift is endowed; a courtesy is extended; a kindness is expressed! The immediate and natural reaction is expressed in the words, "Thank you." Our danger is that the more we find ourselves speaking these words, the less we hear them. We find ourselves receiving but retaining, accepting but keeping, taking but holding. Through such practices many become citizens without service, companions without compassion, Christians without crosses.

Such philosophies could well make us a land of material giants but leave us spiritual dwarfs. Through such practices we could develop educational strength but degenerate into moral weaklings. God grant that our generosity of spirit, deeds of service, and actions of sharing will give reason for us to hear more as well as speak often these words of gratitude, "Thank you!"

Thankful

adequately measures the response for that retained. It seems that this word becomes a personal attitude more than a verbal expression, an inner feeling more than an outward revelation. It is what we are, not what we appear to be! It becomes the apex of our emotions, the motivation of our deeds. It is an attitude that challenges sleeping churches, disturbs lethargic Christians, and revives lost souls. Coupled with God's power, it produces messages for the minister, songs for the singer, testimonies for the teacher, salvation for the sinner.

In its power, weakness is overcome by strength, indifference is overwhelmed by interest, and unconcern is overrun by compassion. Fostering freedom for our fellow man and contributing to Chris-

tianity for all peoples everywhere is that inner spirit of yours explained in one word, *thankfulness!*

Thanksgiving

is the redistribution of our receipts and resources. This is the season of the year that gives an opportunity to share with others the blessings enjoyed. One of the rewards of receiving is the privilege of redistribution. In providence, God has provided the plenty which is enjoyed. Now He depends upon the blessed to bestow, the enlightened to instruct, the prosperous to propagate, the sanctified to share.

It is not that God has just given "to" man, but that He gives "through" man. God is seeking a channel through which to work now. There is sincere satisfaction in sharing, gratification in giving, elation in dividing. There is compliance above command when giving becomes joyous. There is dividing beyond demand, for sharing produces personal happiness.

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus . . ." (I Thessalonians 5:18). In joy because of life's goodness? Give thanks! In sorrow over life's gloom? Give thanks! Blessed with life's material prosperity? Give thanks! Suffering because of life's magnified poverty? Give thanks!

The weak may give a hearty thanks

When life has smiled with naught but gain;

But loss will cause the broken ranks

*And prove that wealth is all in vain
Unless it's blessed of God.*

The strong have found there's added strength

That comes when life is marred with loss;

And give themselves to any length

*That they may bear with Christ the cross,
Until they're home with God.*

We have said, "Thank you," more than we have heard it, long enough! The "thankfulness" that rises up within us cries for release and finds response only through "thanksgiving."

“Let Us Give THANKS”

***I will praise thee with my whole heart:
before the gods will I sing praise unto thee (Psalms 138:1).***

By CARL S. HALL, Pastor, First Church, Brunswick, Georgia

THIS, the first in a cluster of eight Davidic psalms (138–145), is a beautiful Thanksgiving melody. Before we consider this song, crowded with jubilant occasions for gratitude, let us linger a moment in the vestibule of the first verse to note the implication taught.

Scholars have questioned the precise meaning of the clause, “before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.” Some take “gods” here to mean angels. Matthew Henry believes it to mean princes, judges, and great men. Spurgeon felt that David referred to neighboring nations, and the deities of the surviving Canaanites. At any rate, nothing is more trying to a true man’s soul than to be surrounded with vile counterfeits or secondary deities. But the Psalmist determines these idols shall not rob God of his praises!

Very few of the psalms have so much packed into such small compass. David, with a few dashes of his pen, delineates those features of the character of God which make Him the worthy Object of praise. How pregnant is this psalm with reasons for thanksgiving!

Let us give thanks for divine *promise*: “For thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name” (v. 2). The “word of promise” made to David was, in his eyes, more glorious than all else he had seen of the Most High. Revelation excels creation in the clearness, definiteness, and fullness of its teaching.

In His Word, God has given many exceeding great and precious promises, and they all are worthy of acceptance, for God in His fulfillment is better even than in His promises. What God freely promised, He has faithfully performed; what He has spoken with His mouth, He has fulfilled with His hand. God has manifested His loving-kindness and faithfulness to us in His Word. Our revelation is much fuller and richer than David’s; therefore our praise should be heartier than was his.

Let us give thanks for divine *pity*: “In the day when I cried thou answeredst me” (v. 3). No proof more effectively convinces than experience. One cannot doubt the power of prayer after receiving an answer to his own supplication. It is the distinguishing mark of the true and living God that He hears and answers the prayers of His people. “In the day when I cried” seems to suggest that the

answer came almost as soon as it was uttered.

Let us give thanks for divine *power*: “And strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.” It is one gracious way of answering prayer when God bestows upon us spiritual strength to overcome an obstacle rather than removing it. Perowne gives an interesting slant: “Thou madest me courageous with strength in my soul.” If God does not remove Paul’s “thorn in the flesh,” he develops Paul’s character by proving to him that His “grace is sufficient.” God has not forgotten you. He will supply an inner strength with which to meet demands.

Let us give thanks for divine *protection*: “Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me” (v. 7). When it appears that the air of trouble will suffocate the Christian, God puts into it the oxygen of His sustaining grace. God air-conditioned the fiery furnace until Nebuchadnezzar, the persecutor of the three Hebrew youths, said, “Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God” (Daniel 3:25). “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee” (Isaiah 43:2).

He is in a blessed condition who can confidently use the language of David—“Thou wilt revive me.” How often the Lord quickens us by our sorrows and troubles! Are they not God’s most effective means of exciting to fullness of energy the holy life which dwells within us? If we receive revivification, we need not regret affliction.

Let us give thanks for divine *persistence*: “The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me” (v. 8). The Lord will not leave His work unfinished; He will complete what He has begun in the Christian. We are “confident . . . that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6). All our interests are safe in His hands. God is concerned with all that concerns His children. He will see that nothing pertaining to our full and final salvation fails of completion.

*The work which His goodness began,
The arm of His strength will complete;
His promise is Yea and Amen,
And never was forfeited yet.*

CHRIST and Your Home

By E. B. HARTLEY, Pastor, First Church, Boise, Idaho



CHRIST is the Designer and Creator of the home. Since it is a result of His plan, He should be its Cornerstone, its Foundation, its very Heart and Core. Whenever this is true, the home fulfills its destiny—but wherever Christ is relegated to second place or even ruled out, home slips from its destined lofty place or influence to varying levels of degeneration.

Irving Engle says, "Keep God in the home and the coals of love will ever glow on the altars of your hearth." When Christ is truly the Head of our house, the unseen Guest at every meal, the silent Listener to every conversation, Heaven's benediction is upon our lives, uniting our hearts and bringing a constant increase in joy and blessedness.

If the problems of life are solved at the Master's feet, the love and unity of the home are deepened and increased by the very forces that would have otherwise impaired them. God's divine love operating in human hearts is the solution to the home problems of our complex age. This kind of love for God and for each other makes our home a fortress that no howling wind can tear down or pull apart.

Since Christian homes carry such boundless influence, I'd like to deal briefly with some purposes which should guide a Christ-centered home. I can list only those that seem foremost to me.

I

Our first purpose is *to glorify God and do His will in the world*. This was the cry of the Master himself when He said, "Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God" (Hebrews 10:7). If that was His highest purpose, then a Christ-centered home will make that its paramount purpose also.

For a home to succeed in its mission, it must have a purpose great enough to enlist the highest potential of each of its members. It must have goals worthy of the best possible response of each personality. To glorify God and do His will puts each of us on tiptoe and lifts our horizons to such heights that many lesser things are seen in right proportion and relegated to their proper place of importance.

Putting Christ first in the home is not idealism remote from everyday living. Christ-centeredness

operates in every problem and on every age level. It arrests the inroads of secularism, gives direction at the crossroads of decision, seeps into the thinking of a bewildered teen-ager, offers motivation when distress and disappointment have invaded the life—and lifts the heart to higher plateaus when temptation to selfishness or sin has knocked at the door of attention. Oh! to have as a purpose for our homes—"That God shall be glorified"! To do His will in the world, as a family unit, as well as individuals, makes teamwork both a joyous experience—and a necessity. The home that has a challenge of discipleship great enough to enlist every member in its endeavor will fulfill its destiny.

II

If we are to have a truly Christ-centered home, then we must strive for the second goal: *to help each member of the family experience a personal relationship to Christ*—not only for forgiveness of sins, but on to a personal commitment to Christ that involves unreserved surrender to the Master culminating with the cleansing and infilling of the Holy Spirit.

I realize this cannot be accomplished by human pressure—but it should be such a high purpose in our hearts and home that it is never lost sight of. It must be such a consuming objective that we do not relegate it to other agencies or other people, feeling the church or the Sunday school teacher should see it through. By thus "passing the buck," parents side-step the responsibility of the home to do its work.

Personally, we were always restless until we saw evidence of a personal acceptance of Christ as Saviour and Sanctifier, Lord and Master, operating in the lives of our children. We could not be content until we saw indications that each had established a personal prayer life that touched God—a devotional life that was not based alone upon habit or parental suggestion—an acceptance at the teen-age level of personal responsibility to settle issues alone with God and His Word and to *accept His verdict*. The highest privilege of life is to know God and to be identified with Him and His kingdom. This concept needs to be transmitted to our children.

III

Now we turn to another glorious opportunity of the home—to build Christian character. A Christ-centered home is a workshop where many things are being done—consciously or otherwise—but the high mountain peak of character building lifts its lofty head and calls us to its magnificent ascent. Here through months and years of countless life situations ebbs and flows the business of living. It is our privilege to gear them all to the work of building Christian character, instilling His principles and attitudes, guiding young, receptive hearts and minds into the Word and the will of God.

You remember the old story of the men who, working by the day, were asked what they were doing. One man answered he was working for Saturday night and payday; the other replied, "I am building a cathedral." What are we building in these priceless years, when our children are with us? The glorious experience of being born again by God's Spirit may come in a brief period of time—a transformation! But the building of Christian character demands the honest effort and constant application of a lifetime. The foundations for this structure are laid in the early years in the home—"precept upon precept; line upon line . . . : here



Thank You, Lord!

*Thank You, Lord! I never knew
Morning skies could seem so blue,
Or the sun so fair and bright
Till I spent a lonely night.*

*Thank You, Lord! I realize
Labor is a precious prize.
Sad my lot if I should be
Forced to inactivity.*

*Friends have failed, and I have wept
For the vows that were not kept.
Thank You for the priceless few
Who remain steadfast and true.*

*Thank You, Lord! The song I heard
From a little crippled bird
Taught my heart to hide its care,
And my cross to lightly bear.*

*Thank You, Lord, for teaching me
Through my days so patiently.
Slow am I of heart and mind—
Thou art wise, and wondrous kind.*

*Teach me still, and lead me on
Till the lessons all are done.
Then my raptured soul shall sing,
"Thank You, Lord, for everything!"*

By **KATHRYN BLACKBURN PECK**

a little, and there a little"—but always we are building a cathedral—a character.

IV

Life is very real and sometimes exceedingly rugged. In our blindness we would spare ourselves and our children the struggle God uses to make us channels of great blessing here, thus enabling us to enjoy His fellowship both now and forever. In a Christ-centered home we need to make preparation for life. We need to prepare our children:

- (a) to find the will of God;
- (b) to learn to make difficult decisions;
- (c) to face life's problems squarely;
- (d) to find God's enablement for right attitudes under pressures of all kinds—the world is full of pressures;
- (e) to put into practice in life situations the ethics of Christian principles.

In short, we must teach them and ourselves discipline, without which there can be no building of Christian character or adequate preparation for life. Perhaps we have too often understood discipline as some drastic outward demonstration—as spanking a child, or a calamity in the life of an adult. This is sometimes true and necessary—but I wonder if the greatest disciplines are not those which teach us to pursue to completion a given objective; to graciously follow suggestions given by those in authority over us; to accept responsibility unflinchingly; to respect the rights and feelings of other people; to face our weaknesses without blaming others for our failures; to seek to improve ourselves; to cultivate a thankful heart, an open mind, and a humble spirit.

These day-by-day disciplines prepare us for His highest purposes and for life itself. It is not what life brings to us, but the attitude with which we meet it, that determines both our usefulness and our destiny. May our Christ-centered homes give much attention to this preparation.

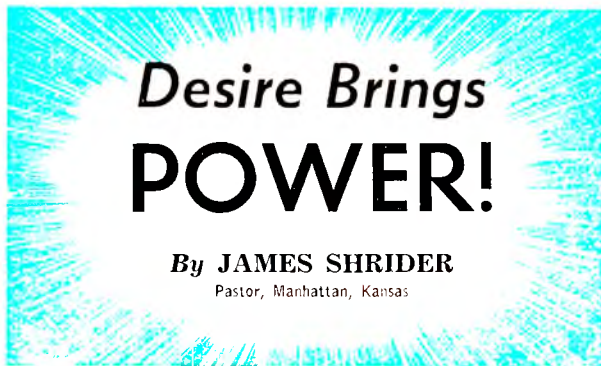
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The final purpose to which I wish to call attention is that our homes should be havens from the storm. This is one of the highest and holiest purposes of our homes. What a refuge is a love-filled home! What a shelter from the storm! Here there are comfort, assurance, peace—not the calm of inactivity; for who can say a modern home is a quiet place? But it can have always the fellowship of kindred minds, the peace of deep purposes, the security of love, the provision for physical, emotional, and spiritual needs for those who live within its portals. A poem by Blanche Bane Kuder expresses a measure of this thought—

THE BLUE BOWL

*All day I did the little things,
The little things that do not show.
I brought the kindling for the fire;
I set the candles in a row;
I filled a bowl with marigolds,
The shallow bowl you love the best—*

*And made the house a pleasant place
Where weariness might take its rest. . . .
You came into the quiet room
That glowed enchanted with the bloom
Of yellow flame. I saw your face,
Illumined by the firelit space,
Slowly grow still and comforted—
"It's good to be at home," you said.*



WHILE CALLING one evening shortly after Christmas, a little boy proudly displayed all the gifts he had received. Among the array of toys was a miniature steam engine, with wheel and piston attached. As this caught my interest more than the others, he proceeded to explain its operation. Finally, deciding I was really interested, he measured out the water for the tank, poured denatured alcohol into its container, and set it on fire. After waiting for about a minute, he spun the wheel with his finger, but it soon stopped. When another minute had passed, he spun the wheel again, and this time it continued to spin. As the water heated, more steam was produced and the wheel spun faster and faster.

One could not watch this without thinking about power. When we see a large steam engine the remark is always, "What power!" The same power was exhibited in this miniature engine. But where did it lie? Was it in the fire beneath the tank? There was nothing to point to and say, "This is the power." Power was present, however, because the tiny engine, idle only moments earlier, was now going so fast the table on which it rested was vibrating.

Suddenly it came to me! Power lies dormant around us most of the time, but power is only as effective as the desire to make it come alive. This little engine would not produce power until the boy had a desire to place the ingredients in their proper places and strike a match.

How true this is in every area of life! Automobiles have power but remain idle until someone's desire for their power turns the ignition. Politicians gain their power through a desire for it. The government, also, gains its power through a desire for more controls and influence. The Church is powerful, as a witness, only as the people have a desire for it to be.

The early Christians greatly desired their movement to be powerful and wrought of God. Closing themselves off from the world, they prayed for days until the power came and rested on each one in the person of the Holy Spirit. What power could be upon our churches if the prayer meeting hour was devoted primarily to prayer! Not only did they pray for the power to come, but prayed so it would remain. When someone was sick, in prison, or touched by some other calamity, the people prayed until power was manifested.

These Christian workers were mere fishermen, farmers, shopkeepers, and common laborers. They were facing kings, trained soldiers, and entire governments. What were they against such odds? Nothing, unless endowed with power! Power was so desired that they prayed and worked to get it. Power was always present. Their desire released it.

Our church will be exactly what individuals desire it to be. If people sit back in chairs of ease and criticize saying, "We're losing the fire and power of the old days," then we will. However, if we desire the church to be as powerful, spiritual, and forceful as in any other age, we can help to make it so by our own prayer life and witnessing. Our prayer should be, "O God, help me to have the proper attitude and desire to make my church a powerful moving force in today's world."



Oratorio of Eternity

*the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19b)
"Singing and making melody in your heart to*

*Oh, may I make such music unto God,
Glad gratitude's transcendent melody,
For my salvation through Christ's precious blood,
Atoning Blood which flowed on Calvary!
They sing that song in New Jerusalem,
Redemption's hosts who on Mount Zion stand,
Each crowned with triumph's radiant diadem;
No sweeter song is heard in all that land.
To Christ the four-and-twenty elders sing,
While glory's banners o'er them are unfurled,
" 'Twas by Thy blood Thou to this bliss didst bring
That Blood which Thou hast shed for all th
world!'"**

*Oh, would we join that oratorio
Of victors who will sing that hymn sublime?
We first must learn to sing it here below,
Knowing Christ's cleansing blood in days of time*

*Revelation 5:8-9.

By E. WAYNE STAHL



EDITORIALS

By W. T. PURKISER

A Long Way Behind

There is one area in the spiritual life where most of us can honestly confess that we are a long way behind. It is in the whole realm of praise and thanksgiving for what God is to us and for what He does for us.

Ours is basically a thankless age. Gratitude is a lost art. We are a spoiled generation, grasping everything that comes and grasping for what may not come as if we had the divine right to it all. We have been so long nurtured on the idea of our rights, we assume the right to everything and the responsibility for nothing.

And all this is the spirit of antichrist, "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped" (II Thessalonians 2:4). It is a sickness of the soul well-nigh to death. The only cure is to give to God the praise and thanksgiving due His holy name.

WE OWE THANKSGIVING for what God does for us. He is the Source of every good and perfect gift. His is the bountiful Hand that supplies every need—not *want*, mind you, but *need*. We brought nothing into this world. We can take nothing out. Everything we have to enjoy in our pilgrimage from the cradle to the grave is God's gift. When we honestly face Paul's question, "What hast thou that thou didst not receive?" (I Corinthians 4:7) we have to answer, "Nothing."

The Old Testament has a beautiful name for God which sums up all of this. It is the name "El Shaddai," translated, "God Almighty." It really measures the fullness and riches of His grace, His abounding sufficiency, a God more willing to give than His people are to receive. It is interesting to note that in the majority of the forty-eight times this name is found in the Bible it refers to God as the bountiful Giver.

All men, regardless of creed or lack of creed, no matter their spiritual condition, owe God thanks for what He gives. In the realm of nature He gives His gifts without distinction of moral quality, making His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sending rain on the just and on the unjust.

BUT EVERY CHRISTIAN has special obligation to thanksgiving and praise. Far beyond goods is the grace God gives in Christ Jesus through His

Holy Spirit. He who gave His only begotten Son to redeem a lost race has "with him also freely" given us "all things" (Romans 8:32).

He has given us pardon. It is not by works of righteousness which we have done but according to His mercy that He saved us. He has wiped the slate clean. He has put the past from us as far as the east is from the west. He has made us indeed new creatures in Christ Jesus. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

He has given us peace. "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." "My peace I give unto you;" Jesus said, "not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

He has given us more. He has given us His presence. Speaking of the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; . . . If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:15-23).

THIS IS the almost unbelievable promise that in the person of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, God the Father and God the Son come to make their dwelling with the sanctified believer. And this Presence is the gift of God. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" (Luke 11:13)

I have been literally appalled in correspondence concerning unknown tongues to find some identifying "the gift of the Holy Ghost" with an ecstatic and incomprehensible utterance. No, no—a thousand times. No! The gift of the Holy Ghost is His own infinitely precious, abiding Presence—himself. It is not any manifestation which may exist without Him—for it is possible to "speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love"—and he who is devoid of love is without the Spirit of God, who *is* Love.

And this leads to the highest truth of all. As much as we thank and praise God for what He has done for us in both material and spiritual ways, we ought to thank and praise Him even more for what He is.

In one of Dr. T. M. Anderson's unforgettable illustrations, he asks us to imagine a very wealthy young man who comes to court the young lady of his choice. He showers her with his attentions; he gives her valuable gifts; he puts at her disposal things she never would have dreamed of in her poverty. At last he asks for her love and her hand in marriage. Suppose she were to say: "I appreciate your wealth, and your gifts, and all that your money can buy and provide. But I'm not the least bit interested in you. I like what you give, but I'm bored with you."

This is a searching question. Could it be that we are more interested in what God has to give us than we are in what He is? Is it possible that in this day of grace, with Calvary before our eyes, we have not even reached the level of devotion of those in the Old Testament who were reduced to poverty and rags, oppressed and persecuted, afflicted and sick, with no very clear hope of eternity, who could yet say, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him"?

Happy indeed are those at this Thanksgiving

Beautiful Words of Jesus

Beautiful words of Jesus

*Reaching across the years
With power and peace and pardon,
Drying the penitent's tears!*

Beautiful words of Jesus

*Dispelling the shadows of night,
Lifting the veil from blinded hearts
With glorious gospel light!*

Beautiful words of Jesus

*Calming the turbulent sea,
Calling the heavy laden,
"Come, oh, come unto Me!"*

Beautiful words of Jesus.

*Spoken so long ago,
But written for me, and living still,
Causing my heart to glow!*

And so I walk, daily, relying

*On His words, like a banner unfurled:
"I o, I am with you always,
Even unto the end of the world."*

Beautiful words of Jesus!

*They've stood—and are standing—the test;
That is why in the midst of chaos
The heart of a Christian can rest.*

By ALICE HANSCH MORTENSON

season who can rejoice in the Giver more than the gifts, and who can say with the Psalmist:

As the hart panteth after the water brooks,

So panteth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God:

When shall I come and appear before God?

Psalms 42:1-2

We are a long way behind. May we take this Thanksgiving season as an occasion to begin to catch up in praise to Him who above all is praiseworthy.

National Survival

Historians claim that no nation has ever survived the decay of its religious faith. One great civilization after another has gone down into the dust of the centuries, and in every case the coming doom has been prefaced with a tragic decline of morals and religion.

While the cynic claims that nobody ever learns anything from history except the fact that nobody has ever learned anything from history, it is time for us to take a lesson from the record of the ages.

The true source of national greatness is not the size of our armies, the magnitude of our national budget (and even larger national debt), or the vastness of untapped natural resources. The true source of national greatness is the moral fiber and religious faith of our people.

When we apply this standard to ourselves, we have real cause for uneasiness. The rising rate of crime and juvenile delinquency, the increasing flood of drunkenness and organized vice, the reckless disregard for public health in the tobacco industry, the diminishing capacity for indignation with public corruption—these are all signs of a sick society.

NOR IS THE RELIGIOUS PICTURE any more favorable. Millions take their religious freedom to be freedom from religion in any way, shape, or form. Their vague faith in a God somewhere makes no difference in the way they live. While theoretical atheism cannot be ignored, the real threat today is the practical atheism which stops short of saying, "There is no God," but simply concludes, "If there is, He doesn't matter."

Within the church world itself, there is every reason to believe that the faith of multitudes is more nominal than real. There is no vitality or strength in the spiritual life—only a "make-believe of piety" without the reality, as Weymouth has translated II Timothy 3:5.

These are days when we can well remember in prayer, not only for ourselves but as a matter of national survival, God's great promise: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (II Chronicles 7:14).

THE CHURCH AT WORK

FOREIGN MISSIONS

GEORGE COULTER *Swaziland*

A Welcome Addition

By AVINELL McNABB, Swaziland
Recently we opened a new wing to the African Nurses' Home. It is really a beautiful place and is such a contrast to the older part of the building. We also opened an addition to the private wards, which is very nice and modern. We had been very crowded in the former ward, so this is a very welcome addition. Actually, when I think about it, this is hardly the same mission station in appearance as it was when I arrived ten years ago. We had only about four different wards then, and some of them were ready to tumble down. Now there are eight, and all are well equipped and are made to last for many years. Instead of having so many patients on the floor, we now have beds, and this is better both for the patients and all who take care of them. For several years some pieces of equipment were just something that we wished for and remembered from days in America. We appreciate all that the church has done to make these things a reality in our own hospital.

Evangelism Brings Results

By JACK L. RILEY, Transvaal

This past year was a blessed time for us all in the field of evangelism. God blessed in a wonderful way in the 6 campaigns we had in various locations. Many, many people sought the Lord in those meetings. In one meeting alone over a span of three weeks there were over 900 seekers. In a similar meeting 645 men and women bowed at the altar in our big tent to seek God. In all of these places we have men and women in our membership class as testimonies to the grace of God which they received in these tent meetings.

We would especially request an interest in your prayers for the coming year. We have scheduled ten three-week meetings with the gospel tent on our district. The doors are open to us now in the locations as never before. There is an apparent hunger among the people for the gospel. Our prayer is that God will help us to rise to the challenge and enter into the open doors that are before us in these days. Please pray for us.

Just now Brother Hayse is completing our new church and parsonage in Pot-

chefstroom. It certainly is a lovely building in a needy area. Our plans are to open the church through an evangelistic campaign as soon as we have a worker available.

Revivals

By BOYD SKINNER, Chile

We just finished two weeks of revivals with Brother and Sister Adkins and Miss Primrose. It was held in three of our churches: four nights at First Church; three nights at San Jose; three nights at Las Maitas, Ozapa Valley; and the closing night at First Church. Betty Adkins and Margaret held vacation Bible school with the children, while Brother Adkins preached to the youth and adults. Great altar services. The four nights at First Church were sponsored by the youth, with more than forty young people present in the congregation.

Moving Missionaries

Rev. and Mrs. Maurice Rhoden, Jr., are now living in southern Japan. Their address is: Tagamachi 7, Kumi-503, Fukuoka, Japan.

Rev. and Mrs. Alexander Wachtel, on furlough from Israel, are living at 401 N. Boulevard St., Edmond, Oklahoma.

Rev. and Mrs. Allen Wilson, on furlough from Guatemala, are living at Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Illinois.

Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Wissbroecker will arrive in the U.S. around December 10, on furlough. They will live temporarily, c/o Mr. and Mrs. Art Wissbroecker, 326 Aurora, Antigo, Wisconsin.

Rev. and Mrs. Marshall Griffith have moved to Apartado 44, Leon, Nicaragua, Central America.

Miss Sylvia Oiness has returned to Africa from her furlough in the States. Her address is Box 14, Manzini, Swaziland, South Africa.

Miss Fairy Cochlin is home on furlough from the Republic of South Africa. Her address is c/o Rev. Jesse Drinen, 218 E. Broadway, Stafford, Kansas.

Prayer Requests

Korea

The economic situation in Korea is very serious. Many of our Korean Nazarenes are able to have only one or two meals a day. Mission families are feeling the pinch of the high cost of living.

Haiti

Word has been received that at least 18 from our Nazarene Haitian families

lost their lives in the recent hurricane. Pray for these families in their sorrow, and for the many others who suffered loss of homes and belongings in the storm. Our Nazarene mission station received relatively minor damage from the hurricane, and all the missionary families are safe.

SERVICEMEN'S COMMISSION

PAUL STEEN, DISTRICT

MEET OUR CHAPLAINS



Lt. Col. John T. Donnelly

A native of Cambridge, Ohio, and presently a member of the Church of the Nazarene at Roversford, Pennsylvania.

He attended Roberts Wesleyan College, and entered the chaplaincy in June, 1941. He served until 1946 in the South Pacific, Hawaii, and at several bases in the United States.

He was recalled to active duty in April, 1952, and has been in the active chaplaincy since that time. During a tour of duty in Berlin he began a series of broadcasts with the famed Tempelhof Choir, which was so well received that it was broadcast by the entire Armed Forces Network in Europe.

He went to Osan, Korea, in 1958, where his unit was very active in the work with twelve orphanages in the area. He had the responsibility of dispersing surplus materials, in addition to other duties.

Since his return to the States he has served at Goodfellow Air Force Base, and is now the Center Chaplain at Amarillo Air Force Base, Texas.

His first pastorates were in New York; he pastored in Ohio, and in Pennsylvania before his call to return to the active chaplaincy. Chaplain and Mrs. Donnelly have two sons, John Mark and Timothy Lee.

REALITY

Impressed by incandescent bulbs and neon lights, many moderns forget the stars. Overwhelmed by vastness and complexity, surrounded by wretchedness and need, convinced of the failure of most human endeavors, they regard religion as a refuge from reality. They believe that we leave the real world behind us when we enter the church to pray. These people believe that only the material, and all too frequently the sordid, can be real. This type of realism fails to appreciate spiritual values; skeptical of human achievement, there is no appreciation of divine creation and inspiration.

Faith rests upon something objective. It is not mere aspiration, pious wish, or beautiful ideal. Faith is an adventure, but an adventure with map in hand, compass in heart, and a Voice to guide. God lives and loves and speaks first of all. Because He is, we are; because He has spoken, we believe. Such a revelation undergirds our faith and empowers our lives. Back of all that we can think or do is the Divine Personality, the eternal God. Back of all the manifold phenomena of life there are eternal values: truth, beauty, goodness. Back of all the power there is a Person. This Person is to be adored, loved, and obeyed—the Heavenly Father of us all, who invites our worship and trust.

Faith which calls forth worship is more than philosophic speculation. Faith whose revelation rests upon reality demonstrates power in experience.

Back of all common prayer is the common faith of believers. Back of the common faith is the revelation of God, the daring confidence in the unmerited love and favor of the Almighty, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. Such faith changes us and causes us to be born anew of God.

Any faith which does not accept the

historic revelation of God in Jesus Christ as the Light of all our seeing will never be able to sustain itself in the force of present currents.

Essentially faith is life, in its finest, fullest, and most harmonious spiritual development. It fills the house of God with melody and beauty and carries the inspiration of the sanctuary into the home, the community, and everyday life. Faith builds, and prays, and sings.

CHAPLAIN JOHN T. DONNELLY
United States Air Force

GENERAL INTERESTS

Echoes from Augustine Pine Ridge

Augustine Pine Ridge, in the midst of a British Honduran forest reservation, was the scene of the eighteenth meeting of the British Honduras Missionary Council. The record of the meeting, October 7 through 11, can be summed up in five words: excitement, exhilaration, fellowship, work, and vision.

There was the excitement of the Bible College pickup truck running off a bridge overflowed with water, happily with little damage done, and also of the introduction of an uninvited visitor in the form of a five-foot snake into the men's dormitory.

There was the exhilaration of the bracing mountain air with its contrast to the heat and more heat which is the usual climate in our different areas of labor.

Worthy of underlining was the delightful fellowship of the missionary group, a dozen strong plus children, coming from the northern, southern, western, and central sections of the country.

Of course the main agenda morning, afternoon, and night, during sessions, before, after, and in between, under the challenging leadership of District Superintendent L. Edward Green, was just plain, humble, homely, useful, needful work.

Finally, there was vision—with expanding plans and a daring faith, many of the details of which we trust will be spelled out, worked out, prayed out, and carried out in the work of the British Honduras Missionary District in the months and years ahead.—EDWARD G. WYMAN, *Reporter*.

THE LOCAL CHURCHES

One of our Nazarene pastors, Chaplain (LCDR) C. Leonard Newbert USNR, recently served as Protestant chaplain for Task Group 89.9, which was in search for the nuclear submarine U.S.S. "Thresher," lost last April 10 off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Chaplain Newbert was stationed aboard the U.S.S. "Fort Snelling" during the search which located the final resting place of the ill-fated submarine. Rear Admiral J. W. Kelly, director of Chaplains' Division, described the Millinocket, Maine, pastor's efforts as follows: "I am confident

that your spiritual contribution during these two weeks will be long-lasting in the lives of the personnel to whom you ministered. We received a telephonic call from Captain Andrews when he reported the results of the search to the Secretary of the Navy, and he was very laudatory in his remarks of your service on board." Mr. Newbert is chaplain of the USNRTC of Bangor, Maine, and pastor of the Millinocket Church of the Nazarene.

Shippensburg, Pennsylvania—We completed our fifth year as pastor here on Sunday, October 13. God has been good to us and the people of the church again honored us with an old-fashioned "harvest-home," presenting many gifts of love for the cupboard. The church has shown real progress in these five years; finances have more than doubled, and we have completed a beautiful new church edifice valued at more than \$65,000, with an indebtedness of less than \$22,000. The people have sacrificed, stood loyally by the entire program, and are united in a forward movement for God and souls. God blessed in the recent anniversary revival service with the Pickering Evangelistic team.—W. J. TURNER, *Pastor*.

Toledo, (Oregon) Ohio—First Church recently enjoyed the best revival in many years. The preaching of Evangelist Paul J. Stewart was eloquent and far-reaching. We had the largest attendance of our four-year ministry here, and God blessed in lining the altar night after night, with some hard cases solved. Our assistant pastor, Rev. Charles Davidson, did fine work with the music. Many new homes were reached during the meeting. Mrs. Wells and I are enjoying our work with these folks in what was for years the East Broadway Church; now on the line between Toledo and Oregon, Ohio, in a new plant with about fourteen thousand square feet of floor space. We were given a four-year recall this year.—J. G. WELLS, *Pastor*.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles A. Gibson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on October 24. Their children gave a reception in their honor, on that date, in the parlors of the College Church, Kankakee, Illinois. The home address is 192 Olivet Street, Bourbonnais, Illinois.

Evangelist W. C. Raker writes: "During a six-week tent revival this past summer in Illinois we saw the largest attendance and some of the greatest victories we have seen for years. On the closing night, following a great altar service, we anointed and prayed for my wife's healing; God touched her and took her 'off' her walker. She has been singing and playing in all of our meetings. We give God praise for the recovery she has made. On February 9 we close a revival meeting in Sunnyslope Church, Phoenix, and have an open date following that we would like to slate in Arizona. Write us, Box 106, Lewistown, Illinois."

NOTICE

to Church Treasurers



It will assist us greatly if all of our church treasurers will send in the Thanksgiving Offering as soon as possible to our General Treasurer, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri 64131.

Plainfield, Indiana—In October we had a revival with Rev. Betty Wagner, evangelist, and the Ashby Family, singers—the best meeting “in thirty years,” one remarked. New people were reached, people sought and found God in saving and sanctifying power, with real, old-fashioned victories. We greatly appreciated the Spirit-anointed ministry of these workers in preaching and singing, and conviction gripped the hearts of the unsaved. On two occasions altar services preceded the preaching. We have been given a unanimous call as pastor for the twelfth year.—S. F. Cook, *Pastor*.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Robert William Short (nee Reno Rosetta Traxler) entertained in honor of their parents' golden wedding anniversary on November 22 in Edmonton, Alberta. The couple, who were married in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, have four daughters, one son, and fourteen grandchildren. Mrs. Short, an active member of South Side Church in Edmonton, is also known for her years of service in the W.C.T.U. of Alberta.

Costa Mesa, California—Evangelist Fred Lester was used of the Lord in our recent revival meeting. There was good attendance at the services; there were some outstanding conversions, and a number of people sanctified. Back tithes have been coming in, and real spiritual victory prevails. Brother Lester is a man of God, and we appreciated his ministry with us.—ELDON COBLE, *Pastor*.

Evangelists Stewart P. and Ruth G. Fox write, as of October 22: “The services are being well attended at the meeting in Forrest Park Church here in Muncie, Indiana. A wonderful spirit prevails, and a number of seekers are praying through to victory. We have some open time in April and May of 1964 which we shall be glad to slate anywhere the Lord may lead. Write us, R.D. 2, Box 221, Leesburg, Virginia 22075.”

Rev. John W. Esterline writes: “We have had a good, two-year pastorate with our church in Reedley and I am now serving on a three-year call, but am returning to the field of evangelism. Write me, P.O. Box 565, Reedley, California.”

Topeka, Kansas—On Sunday, October 27, First Church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with Dr. Orville Jenkins, former pastor and now district superintendent, bringing the morning message. Rev. A. S. Howard, another former pastor, spoke in the afternoon; with Rev. Forrest Nash, pastor when the present building was erected, bringing the evening message. The church was organized fifty years ago by Dr. H. F. Reynolds with 7 charter members. God has blessed through the years. Rev. Ralph Jared came as pastor in November of 1957, and during these six years the Lord has given many victories. Present buildings and properties are valued at \$200,000; membership is now over the 200 mark, with Sunday school average

attendance near the 250 mark. Local Choir Director Alex Cubic had charge of the music during the day, with special singing by Dick Everette, soloist, and the Mellowtones (local church quartet). Three other strong churches have been organized from First Church.—*Reporter*.

Goshen, Ohio—In October our church had a profitable, one-week revival with Rev. Charles E. Keel as the evangelist. The people of the church were definitely helped and uplifted by Brother Keel's inspiring and heart-stirring messages. We greatly appreciated the ministry of Brother Keel with us.—DORIS GUNTER, *Reporter*.

Wollaston, Massachusetts—After five years with our church, Dr. T. E. Martin resigned to accept the pastorate of First Church in Nashville, Tennessee. We have been fortunate in securing Rev. Milton Poole of Lubbock, Texas, as our new pastor. The associate pastor of Wollaston church, Rev. Gordon Wetmore, has ably carried on in the interim.—KENT GOODNOW, *Secretary*.

Anniston, Alabama—Recently our church closed the most successful revival of its history. Evangelist Forrest McCullough was mightily used of God, preaching rugged Bible truth with tenderness and compassion. The attendance was better than in any recent meeting, and fifty-one different people sought God at the altar of prayer. On the closing Sunday, God came in power and every unsaved person of our church found the Lord in forgiveness of sins. Several adult members have been added to the church on profession of faith. We give God thanks for this outpouring of His Spirit.—HENRY M. TERRY, *Pastor*.

Waterford, California—In October we had a marvelous revival with Rev. N. B. Graham as evangelist—the greatest revival in the history of the church. Brother Graham preached with the anointing of the Spirit, and in service after service God came in mighty power, with Holy Ghost conviction. His timely messages lifted all our hearts, and about thirty souls sought God to be saved or sanctified. On Saturday night we had a wonderful healing service with some definite results.—WILLIAM L. SWEETIN, *Pastor*.

District Superintendent Raymond W. Hurn sends word of the following pastoral changes on the Abilene District:

Rev. James R. Bell, pastor of First Church, Ashland, Kentucky, has accepted the call to pastor First Church, Lubbock, Texas.

Rev. Albert Neuschwanger, pastor of First Church in Pueblo, Colorado, has accepted the call to Fort Worth River Oaks Church, Texas.

Rev. Lowell Bell, pastor of Fort Worth White Settlement Church, has accepted the call to the Slaton, Texas, church.

.....
Religion that is pure is a hot thing; and it usually burns the fingers of those that fight against it.—John Bunyan.

.....
“SHOWERS of BLESSING”
Program Schedule

December 1—“Not to Destroy, but to Fulfill,” by L. Guy Nees

December 8—“That They Might Live,” by L. Guy Nees

December 15—“To Save Sinners,” by L. Guy Nees

.....
Sunday School Evangelist Frank McConnell reports: “During July and August it was my privilege to spend five weeks on the Alabama District with L. S. Oliver, superintendent. Personal work revivals were held at Panama City, Florida, with Rev. T. A. Shirley; at Fort Walton Beach, Florida, with Rev. Wallace Bell, Jr.; and in Alabama, at Birmingham Tarrant with Rev. A. M. Pruitt; at Brewton with Rev. C. J. Ishee; and at Selma, with Rev. George Privett. Each pastor had his church well organized, and the combined ‘countable’ results were: 2,619 calls made, 395 visitors brought in, 62 professions at the altar of prayer, and the churches pledged to make 395 calls per week for the next year. These pastors are boosters for the general and district program.”

Evangelist Daniel C. Hoffman writes that he has left the field to accept a call to pastor and build a new church at Cleveland, Richmond Heights, Ohio.

Evangelist T. O. Weatherby writes that he is leaving the field to accept the pastorate of the church in Ewan, Washington, as of November 15.

THE BIBLE LESSON
By BARBARA S. HANNA

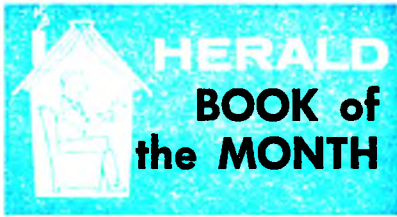
Topic for December 1:
“We Are Ambassadors for Christ”

SCRIPTURE: II Corinthians 5:7 (Printed: II Corinthians 5:11-21)

GOLDEN TEXT: *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, . . . and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:19).*

Today's printed lesson is one of the most tender and beautiful portions of the writings of St. Paul, ranking with his great love essay, I Corinthians 13. In preparation for the Sunday school session we should read it over and over so as to catch the spirit of it. Some of St. Paul's choicest sayings are found here: verses 11, 14, 17, 19, 20. One is made to think of the words of Jesus: “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God” (Matthew 5:9).

Two things stand out in this lesson. First, the Christian's God is a seeking God—He seeks to save. He was incarnate in Christ and through Him has provided the means whereby man may be reconciled to the One against whom



CULTS AND ISMS

Russell Spittler
Baker Book House, Cloth, \$2.95

IT IS EASY to dodge issues. Many who are members of a cult are merely stepping the simple truths of the gospel.

Cults and Isms, by Russell Spittler, deals with twenty alternatives to evangelical Christianity. The author has done a lot of research on these false teachings, and has put the information on the level of all of us.

He doesn't overlook the earnestness, sincerity, and honesty with which these people approach us. But he points out that they either (1) confuse what man does with what God did, or (2) confuse human goodness with spiritual righteousness, or (3) confuse intellectual with experimental knowledge.

He has also spotted some humor in the cults. The chapter title on Mormonism is: "Saints Alive—in Utah." And he entitles Spiritualism as: "Out of This World." For Unity: "Earth Has No Sorrow." And for Jehovah's Witnesses: "Armageddon Ahead."

Another interesting feature is the chart in the end sheets. Eighteen groups are analyzed, including evangelical Christianity, according to membership, number of local churches, what each group use as their source of authority, what they believe about the Godhead, about human nature and sin, about the way of salvation, and finally, about the future. You can determine easily and quickly how we differ from all the rest.

This is a good book the entire family will read—and talk about.—ELDEN RAWLINGS.

he has sinned. In these few words are caught up all the wonders of the Incarnation: the Virgin Birth, the wondrous ministry of Christ, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. And to these the events of Pentecost must be added. Back of everything was the incomparable love of God.

In the second place, those who are reconciled to God become in turn reconcilers. This is God's plan and He has "committed unto us the word of reconciliation." It has been thrust upon the Christian as part of the covenant of his own reconciliation. Paul named two great motives, two driving forces which claimed him for the task—fear and love. He had a deep, reverential fear for God which kept him humble; and he had a dreadful fear of God's judgment—the judgment of love. At the same time there was the constraining power of the love of Christ. It is as if he fled from fear into the arms of love, and both the fear and the love made an evangelist of him. The fear of the Lord drove him to snatch men as brands from the burning. The love of God drew him to implore, "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." He stood, as it were, where Christ stood, suffering His pain, enduring His sorrow, experiencing His love, on behalf of fallen men.

Paul, like Christ, sought to woo and to win men from the life of sin. The winsomeness of the gospel became a winsomeness in Paul, the drawing power of love. It is the one universal quality which still draws men today.

Lesson material is based on International Sunday School Lessons, the International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and is used by its permission.

Announcements

RECOMMENDATION

I am happy to recommend Rev. John Esterline to any of our churches who may be in need of an evangelist. He has had considerable experience, both as pastor and evangelist, and is well qualified to conduct meetings in any of our churches. He is a strong evangelistic preacher with a well-balanced emphasis on all phases of doctrine and experience. He is entering the field February 1, 1964; write him, P.O. Box 565, Reedley, California.—Eugene L. Stowe, Superintendent of Central California District.

WEDDING BELLS

Miss Sandra Newport of Stanton, North Dakota, and Mr. Carl Rosebrock of the U.S. Air Force were united in marriage on October 12 in the Fort Clark Church of the Nazarene with the pastor, Rev. W. A. Cunningham, officiating.

Sharon Sylvia Petersen and Robert William Craig, both of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, were united in marriage on October 12 in the Reformed Baptist church of the city with the bride's father, Rev. A. E. Petersen, Nazarene pastor, officiating.

Miss Sandra Schoeger of Santa Monica and Raymond J. Foster of Glendale, California, were united in marriage on August 31 in the Santa Monica Church of the Nazarene with Rev. M. J. Foster, father of the groom, officiating, assisted by Rev. A. J. Edwards.

Miss Nancy Jean Strong of Malden, Massachusetts, and Gerald Baumgartner of Yardley, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage on August 17 in the Malden Church of the Nazarene with Rev. Donald H. Strong, father of the bride, officiating, assisted by Dr. Ted Martin.

BORN

—to Vernon and Rosella (Scott) Fischer of Aurora, Illinois, a son, Jon Vernon, on October 16.

—to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Street, Jr., of Hutchinson, Kansas, a daughter, Willene Louise, on October 14.

—to Mr. and Mrs. David Wells of Lewistown, Illinois, a son, Timothy Mark, on September 28.

—to Rev. and Mrs. Wm. J. Nichols of Fort Wayne, Indiana, a daughter, Sally Gail, on September 17.

ADOPTED

—by Rev. and Mrs. Bill F. Lambert of Silvan Springs, Arkansas, a daughter, Darla Kay, on October 24; she was born April 10, 1963.

SPECIAL PRAYER IS REQUESTED

by a Nazarene in Colorado "for my health, as I have sick spells," and also for my husband, who is out of work—needs it badly;

by a Christian friend in Arkansas for a lady friend in New York who is unsaved and needs God;

by a Christian lady in Texas that her husband may continue to have work;

by a Christian friend in Kansas for her husband to be saved and sanctified, that their home may not be broken up, and for the healing of her sister and the salvation of other members of the family.

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the Answer corner

Conducted by W. T. PURKISER, Editor

Which experience, regeneration or sanctification, do you think is represented by the "wedding garment" in Matthew 22:11-14?

This is the parable of the king and the wedding feast. Among the guests who had accepted the invitation to the marriage there was one who had neglected or refused to put on the wedding garment provided. I would agree with Adam Clarke that this represents holiness of heart and life taken in the sense of the fullness of salvation God has provided. It would therefore represent

both regeneration, which is holiness begun, and entire sanctification, which is holiness completed. The man in question would be a member of the Visible Church who refused or neglected the salvation provided through Christ. If you are interested in reading more about this, see Clarke's *Commentary*, V, 210-11; and Wesley's *Explanatory Notes*, p. 105.

I heard a preacher say that he believes we'll see Ananias and Sapphira in heaven. Could you give me your view on this?

I have no hope whatever of seeing Ananias and Sapphira in heaven (Acts 5:1-11). Satan filled their hearts; they lied to the Holy Ghost (v. 3); and when judgment fell on them, "great fear came upon all the church" (v. 11), not normally the reaction when "saints" are "taken to heaven." The Bible states that "all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).

death" in I John 5:16 that this is only physical death as a result of "sin in a believer's life so serious that God cannot permit such an one to continue to live on earth."

This sounds like a desperate dodge to protect some theory that once a person has been saved he is always saved. Advocates of this view sometimes go to almost unbelievable lengths to bolster their theory. One such preacher actually wrote concerning "the sin unto

August Van Ryn said of this, "This may mean for such to be taken away by death, because they so dishonor the name of Christ that they can no longer be permitted to remain on earth. They are redeemed by the blood of Christ and thus fit to go to heaven, but their lives are so displeasing to God that they cannot be allowed to remain on earth."

Against all such notions we may simply affirm the Word of God: "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (I John 2:4).

We have a new pastor, and he is just wonderful. I am not meaning to find fault, but ever since I can remember we always knelt to pray in worship service. I know we can worship God in any position, but I love to kneel. This disturbs me. It seems there is a void in this part of the service. I have been praying about it. What would you say?

I respect your feelings, and I am sure if you continue to make this a matter of prayer, your Christlike spirit will be a help and not a hindrance. Although you do not say so, I assume that now your congregation is asked to stand for prayer.

(Micah 6:6), lying (Psalms 63:6; 42:8), sitting (Acts 2:2), and walking (Genesis 24:63, 65).

If a change from kneeling to standing would seem desirable—perhaps because a number would be unable to kneel, or the pews are too close together, as is often the case—it could be that the change should not be made abruptly and completely, but the practice varied until all had become more accustomed to standing in prayer.

You are, of course, correct in stating that the posture of the body is not the really important thing. In the Bible, almost every posture is mentioned in connection with prayer—kneeling (Acts 9:10), standing (Mark 11:25), bowing

About how long was it from the creation of Adam and Eve until the Flood?

There is no way to know exactly. Archbishop Usher (1581-1656) attempted to construct a chronology from the tables of genealogy in Genesis, and placed the time at 1,656 years. Others point out that Biblical genealogies were not intended to be complete records of all generations, as can be seen in Mat-

thew 1:8, where three generations are omitted between Jehoram and Uzziah. Another method of dealing with the genealogies of Genesis yields a total of 8,225 years from Adam to the Flood. In view of these uncertainties, it is best not to be dogmatic or to pretend to certainty one cannot have.

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- SPANISH EAST, U.S.A.—Harold Hampton, 16-09 Georgia Street, Fairlawn, New Jersey
- TEXAS-MEXICAN—Everette Howard, 1007 Alamosa Street, San Antonio 1, Texas
- NORTHWEST LATIN-AMERICAN—Juan Madrid, 1490 N. Wesley Ave., Pasadena 7, California

Rapid Growth in Mexico

The three Nazarene districts in the Republic of Mexico report outstanding gains for the past year according to Dr. Honorato Reza, head of the Spanish Department, who served as interpreter for General Superintendent V. H. Lewis at the district assemblies just concluded. Net gain in membership was 1,145, bringing the total to approximately 16,000.

Missionary giving more than doubled, a fact Dr. Reza attributes in part to the visits to the field of Mrs. Louise Chapman, general president of the N.E.M.S., and Dr. George Coulter, executive secretary of the Department of Foreign Missions.

The large increase in reception of members by profession of faith is reported as due to a large extent to the work of graduates of the Nazarene Bible Institute in San Antonio, of whom twenty-six now serve in the Southeast District alone. The Southeast Assembly was held in the capital city of Oaxaca, where four years ago there was not a single Nazarene. Persecution has been great, but the local congregation now possesses a building seating 500, which was filled in each service of the assembly.

National Superintendent in Guatemala

Rev. Federico Guillermo has just been appointed as the first national superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene in Guatemala. Dr. Hardy C. Powers, general superintendent in jurisdiction, made the appointment on his recent visit to the field. Mr. Guillermo is pastor of Guatemala City First Church. He had served as assistant district superintendent previously.

Lesper Heflin Returns to Field

Missionary Lesper Heflin, whose physical examination while on furlough showed early stages of glaucoma, the blinding eye disease, has now been cleared for return to Nicaragua after medical treatment in the States. The latest examination shows no trace of the disease. November 18 was the date set for Miss Heflin's return.

New Record per Capita Giving

Per capita giving rose to a new high throughout the Church of the Nazarene during the past year, according to the report just released by Mr. R. R. Hodges in the office of General Secretary S. T. Ludwig. As against the 1962 total of \$147.78 the figure for 1963 is \$153.50, a net increase of \$5.78.

Of the increase, \$1.03 went to local expenses, \$0.65 to district, and \$1.10 to general interests, including the fast-growing missionary enterprise of the church. Per capita giving for general interests stands at \$16.23, or about 10.6 per cent of the total. General giving made the highest percentage gain over last year, 7 per cent as compared with 5 per cent for district and 3 per cent for local costs.

The full statistics for the year will appear in the *Herald of Holiness* for December 25.

Bethany First Tops Sunday School Record

Bethany (Oklahoma) First Church topped all records with 1,874 in Sunday school on the last Sunday of the fall revival for the church and Bethany Nazarene College, conducted by Dr. C. William Fisher, according to word received from Pastor E. S. Phillips. Scores of seekers were reported in both morning and evening services of the closing Sunday.

Hicks to Ashland

Dr. Lawrence B. Hicks has resigned as pastor of the First Church of the Nazarene, Chattanooga, Tennessee, to accept the pastorate of Ashland, Kentucky, First Church. Rev. James Bell, Ashland pastor, is moving to Lubbock, Texas, First Church.

Rev. John R. Andrus, associate pastor under Dr. Hicks, was named recently to succeed him at Chattanooga First.

Four More Nazarenes Dead in Hurricane

Field Superintendent Paul Orjala has reported the deaths of four additional Nazarenes in Haiti in Hurricane Flora, bringing the total loss of life in Nazarene families to eighteen. Two entire families, numbering twelve of the total, were swept away by the flash floods in the mountains. It is thought they were trying to reach safety crossing a stream at the time, since no trace of their remains has been found. Property damage also has been heavy. Many outstations were completely destroyed, and one permanent church structure demolished.

Ford Resigns Post as General Director of N.A.E.

WINONA, ILL. (CNS)—Dr. George L. Ford has resigned as general director of the National Association of Evangelicals effective January 1, 1964. He will become president of the Winona Lake, Indiana, Christian Assembly, one of America's largest Christian conference centers.

Dr. Ford has headed the two-million-

member evangelical organization for ten years. His successor is not expected to be named until the association meets next spring in Chicago for its annual convention.

Court Ruling May Increase Christmas Eve Bible Reading

NEW YORK—An expected rise in Bible reading in homes, stimulated in part by the Supreme Court decision which limits such reading in public schools, may result in a record number of families participating in the nationwide reading of the Christmas message on Christmas Eve, being sponsored for the fifth successive year by the American Bible Society.

"The Society always has emphasized the need for reading the Scriptures in the home," says Rev. Dr. Laton E. Holmgren, general secretary. "Recent Supreme Court decisions have thrown the spotlight on this need, and ministers everywhere are trying to encourage the practice.

"We expect a larger number of churches than ever before to urge their members and others to sit down quietly in their own homes this Christmas Eve and read aloud together, from the Bible, the beautiful and inspiring story of Jesus' birth."

Compliance with Sunday Law Reported Throughout Missouri

ST. LOUIS, MO. (EP)—A new Sunday sales law has gone into effect in Missouri, and stores here and throughout the state obeyed the new law almost without exception.

Although the law was challenged repeatedly earlier this year by discount houses, the large chains in the St. Louis area remained closed on the first Sunday the new law went into effect. Those which did open did not sell items forbidden by the law.

Greece Bars Evangelical Pastor as "Undesirable"

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MNS)—Rev. Argos Zodiates, for sixteen years pastor of the Evangelical Church of Katerini, has been barred from Greece. Immigration officers took him off a train at the Yugoslav Greek border on July 26, in the middle of the night, as he was returning from a vacation in England. The Greek government had promised him a return permit in April but denied it in July.

The Security Police Section of the government has charged the pastor, a British citizen, is "undesirable." He is accused of proselytizing Greek Orthodox Christians. Neither the Orthodox church nor the Greek government has been able to prove the charge. Nevertheless, as a result of pressure by the local bishop, supported by the archbishop of Athens, Zodiates is being denied re-entry to Greece.

The Katerini church, numbering 600 families, is the largest evangelical church in Greece.

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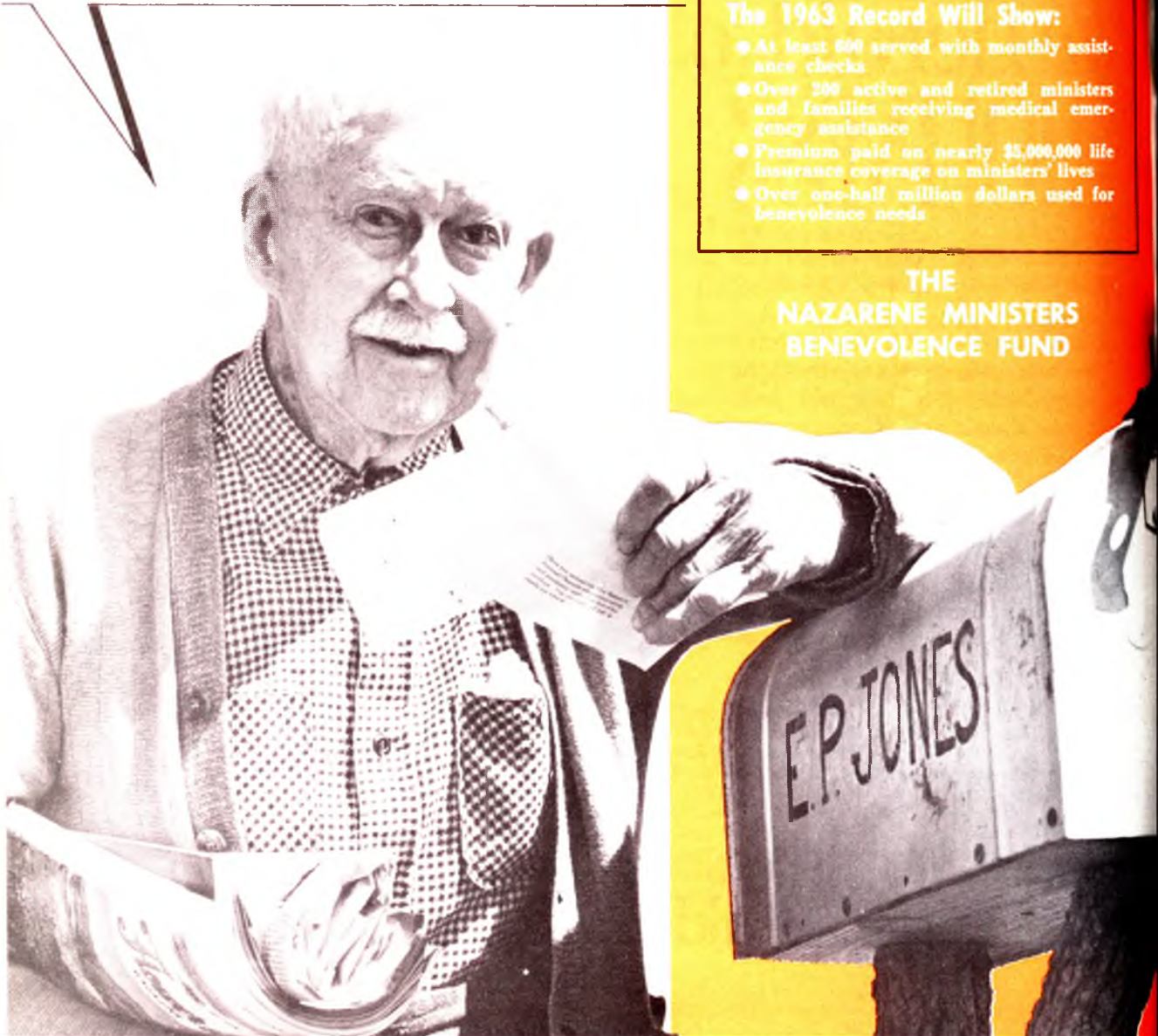
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- At least 600 served with monthly assistance checks
- Over 200 active and retired ministers and families receiving medical emergency assistance
- Premium paid on nearly \$5,000,000 life insurance coverage on ministers' lives
- Over one-half million dollars used for benevolence needs

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