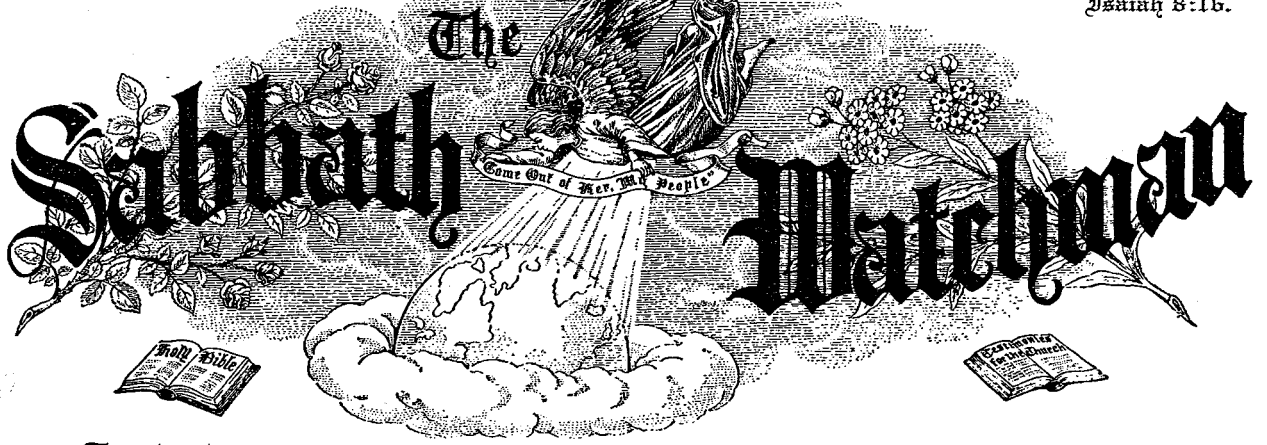


"The Lord is King."
Psalm 10:16.

"Bind up the testimony, seal
the law among My disciples."
Isaiah 8:16.



"To the law —

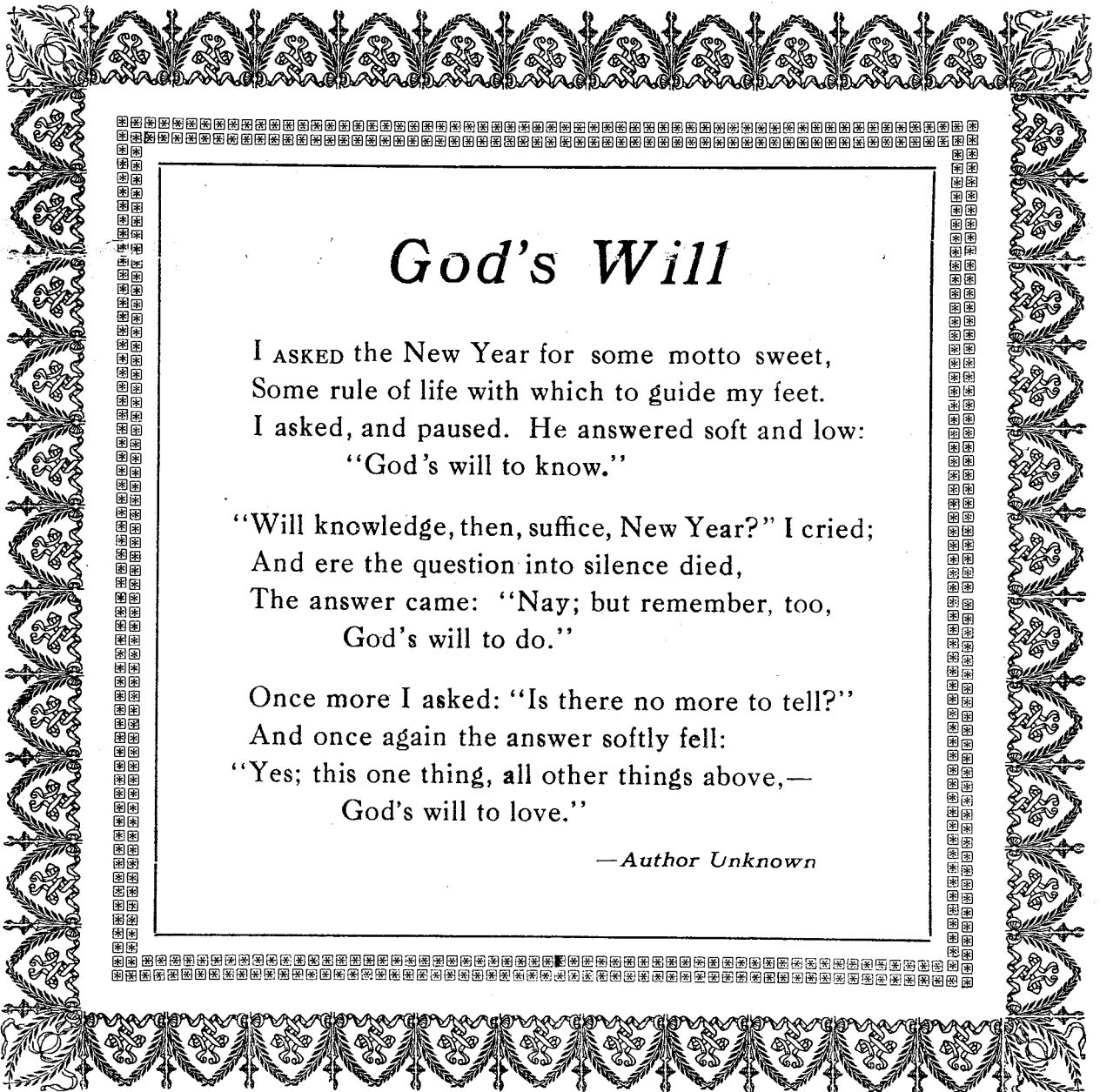
REVELATION 10:1-4.

— and to the testimony."

VOL. 6

KALAMAZOO, MICH., FIRST QUARTER, 1931

No.'s 1-3



God's Will

I ASKED the New Year for some motto sweet,
Some rule of life with which to guide my feet.
I asked, and paused. He answered soft and low:
"God's will to know."

"Will knowledge, then, suffice, New Year?" I cried;
And ere the question into silence died,
The answer came: "Nay; but remember, too,
God's will to do."

Once more I asked: "Is there no more to tell?"
And once again the answer softly fell:
"Yes; this one thing, all other things above,—
God's will to love."

—Author Unknown

“Lo, I am With You Alway”

THE burden of Jesus' last hours with His disciples seems to have been the one of impressing their hearts with the truth that His presence would continue to abide with them. He told them that He would be betrayed into the hands of wicked men, die, and rise again. But these last remaining hours with His loved ones were used in reiterating in different ways, and enforcing by striking illustrations, the comforting assurance that He would live with them, and that they would dwell in Him.

“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in My Father, and ye in Me, and I in you. . . . 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 14:18-20, 23.

Shortly before taking His departure, Jesus said, “If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.” This, we are told, “spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given.” (John 7:37-39.) Not until Pentecost was the Spirit bestowed in His fulness. The early disciples had first to make room for Him. When they realized their helpless and hopeless state without Christ and confessed their sins, then it was that “they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.” (Acts 2:4.)

And this promised blessing brought every other needed blessing with it. It was by reception of the Holy Ghost that the love of God was shed abroad in their hearts. (Rom. 5:5.) They now manifested a love which had never before been witnessed. They themselves were conscious of the great change that had taken place in their lives, for they saw reflected in each other the divine life. No glory was given to man. Paul declared that he no longer lived to himself. “The life which I now live in the flesh,” he said, “I live by the faith of the Son of God.” Christ was enthroned within, living His life and manifesting His faith through Paul. To Christ, not to Paul, belonged the glory.

The burden of believers from that time forth was that others should have a similar experience. When on the day of Pentecost the multitude inquired, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Peter pointed out to them the way by which they, too, might become partakers of the same divine Spirit and power:

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” Acts 2:38.

The reception of the Holy Spirit was to the apostles the all-important object. Everywhere they preached, this was their theme. When at Ephesus a company of believers was found who had been baptized with water, but who were not conscious

of the presence of the Holy Ghost, Paul could not rest until they, too, had received this heavenly gift.

Today, as then, this should be the objective of all our teaching. Every member of the church of Christ should be pleading with God for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. “Ye have not, because ye ask not.” “Every one that asketh receiveth.” (Luke 11:13, 10.) After this promise is claimed, the language of the heart must be, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” (Gal. 2:20.)

“Abide in Me”

Jesus has given us an illustration to help us comprehend the blessed, all-important truth of His promise. He set forth the vine for us to study. “I am the vine, ye are the branches.” (John 15:5.) We know there is a life-giving current running through the vine into the branches. No one can explain all the qualities and virtues of this nourishment; but every one knows that no branch can live severed from the vine. Cut off from this life-producing current of the vine, how soon it withers and dies. “He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing.” (John 15:5.)

“‘Abide in Me, and I in you.’ Abiding in Christ means a constant receiving of His Spirit, a life of unreserved surrender to His service. This union with Christ, once formed, must be maintained. Christ said, ‘Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in Me.’ This is no casual touch, no off-and-on connection. The branch becomes a part of the living vine. The communication of life, strength, and fruitfulness from the root to the branches is unobstructed and constant. Separated from the vine, the branch cannot live. No more, said Jesus, can you live apart from Me. The life you have received from Me can be preserved only by continual communion. Without Me ye cannot overcome one sin, or resist one temptation.”—“The Desire of Ages,” p. 676.

This is the only way we can live the victorious life. It comes by our abiding in Him. The praise and glory for it all is due “unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”

The Greatest Need

What is the greatest need of today? If you could make but one request of God, for what would you ask? Would it be for money, for pleasure, for honor, for long life, or for the blessed power of the Spirit of God to cleanse the heart and keep you from sin?

Surely our greatest need at this time is a fuller measure of the power and efficiency of the Spirit of God, for it is through this mighty agency that the heart is made clean and the soul strengthened against temptation and overmastering passions, that the power of sin is broken and an indwelling Christ enthroned in the heart. We have been instructed

(Concluded on Page 6.)



Our Homes and Our Health



The Atmosphere of the Home

IN choosing a home, God would have us consider, first of all, the moral and religious influences that will surround us and our families. We may be placed in trying positions, for many cannot have their surroundings what they would; and wherever duty calls us. God will enable us to stand uncorrupted, if we watch and pray, trusting in the grace of Christ. But we should not needlessly expose ourselves to influences that are unfavorable to the formation of Christian character. When we voluntarily place ourselves in an atmosphere of worldliness, and unbelief, we displease God, and drive holy angels from our homes. Those who secure for their children worldly wealth and honor at the expense of their eternal interests, will find in the end that these advantages are a terrible loss. Like Lot, many see their children ruined, and barely save their own souls. Their life work is lost; their life is a sad failure. Had they exercised true wisdom, their children might have had less of worldly prosperity, but they would have made sure of a title to the immortal inheritance.—“*Patriarchs and Prophets*,” p. 169.

“Be Ye Not Conformed to This World”

Relation of Dress to Education

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.” 1 John 2:15-17.

“No education can be complete that does not teach right principles in regard to dress. Without such teaching, the work of education is too often retarded and perverted.”—“*Education*,” p. 246.

“Self-denial in dress is a part of our Christian duty. To dress plainly, and abstain from display of jewelry and ornaments of every kind, is in keeping with our faith.”—“*Testimonies*,” Vol. 3, p. 366.

“Said the angel, ‘God’s people are peculiar; such He is purifying unto Himself.’ I saw that the outside appearance is an index to the heart.”—“*Testimonies*,” Vol. 1, p. 136.

“A person’s character is judged by his style of dress. A refined taste, a cultivated mind, will be revealed in the choice of simply and appropriate attire. Chaste simplicity in dress, when united with modesty of demeanor, will go far toward surrounding a young woman with that atmosphere of sacred reserve which will be to her a shield from a thousand perils.”—“*Education*,” p. 248.

“Our words, our action, and our dress are daily, living preachers, gathering with Christ, or scattering abroad. This is no trivial matter, to be passed off with a jest. The subject of dress demands serious reflection and much prayer.”—“*Testimonies*,” Vol. 4, p. 641.

“In order to secure the most healthful clothing, the needs of every part of the body must be carefully studied. The character of the climate, the surroundings, the condition of health, the age and the occupation must be considered. Every article of dress should fit easily, obstructing neither the circulation of the blood, nor a free, full natural respiration. Everything worn should be loose that when the arms are raised, the clothing will be correspondingly lifted.”—“*Ministry of Healing*,” p. 293.

“The Bible teaches modesty in dress. ‘In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel.’ This forbids display in dress, gaudy colors, profuse ornamentation. Any device designed to attract attention to the wearer or to excite admiration is excluded from the modest apparel which God’s word enjoins.”—“*Ministry of Healing*,” p. 287.

“Let the youth and the little children be taught to choose for themselves that royal robe woven in heaven’s loom,—the ‘fine linen, clean and white,’ which all the holy ones of earth will wear. This robe, Christ’s own spotless character, is freely offered to every human being. But all who receive it will receive and wear it here.”—“*Education*,” p. 249.

“They shall walk with Me in white; for they are worthy.” Rev. 3:4.

*We shall walk with Him in white,
In that country pure and bright,
Where shall enter not that may defile,
Where the daybeam ne'er declines,
For the blessed light that shines
Is the glory of the Saviour's smile.*

BRIEF NEWS OF THE REFORM AND THE REFORMERS

CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICE AT LEHR, NORTH DAKOTA

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Eph. 1:3. Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praise unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely. The Lord doth build up Jerusalem: He gathered together the outcasts of Israel. He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. He telleth the number of the stars; He called them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite. The Lord lifted up the meek: He casteth the wicked down to the ground." Ps. 147:1-6.

WHEN we think of the many-fold blessings our heavenly Father bestowed upon us, these and similar words of praise and thanksgiving shall be the language of our hearts. How wonderful are His ways. Though this last summer has been dry and sultry that we had very little hope for a harvest, yet He hath blessed our fields above our expectations. Today we feel that God has wrought in the same marvelous way on the spiritual field. In the past months dear souls have been found willing to accept this blessed truth of reformation. Though Satan and his agencies have tried very hard to hinder this work, the Lord has overruled, and we give Him all the glory. It was especially encouraging to us to see the work of the Holy Spirit at Lehr, N. Dak. Here a nice group of believers were organized, and it is remarkable how these believers in the spirit of unity "received a mind to work."

It was the desire of this little company "to build a house unto the Lord," and for this purpose a small church building was purchased in a nearby village. The building now had to be moved to Lehr, a distance of about seventeen miles. There was much work to be done, but each one of the brethren and sisters devoted their time very willingly for this good work. The church was ready for dedication before the middle of November. The brethren Doerschler and Welp of Kalamazoo, Mich., were invited for this purpose. When the brethren arrived at Lehr, they were very much surprised to see how beautiful a place it was, for it was above their expectations. Several meetings were held, and the Lord was with us. On Sunday the 16th of November at one-thirty the dedication service took place. A large number of friends gathered with our brethren and sisters for a spiritual feast, and the house was filled to overflowing. The meeting was opened by Elder Welp. Wonderful songs of praise were rendered by the choir. After the brethren Welp, Haas and Reiley invoked the blessings of the Lord upon this service, the writer of these lines read Psalm 132, and the prayer of Solomon in 2 Chronicles, chapter 6. Thereupon Elder Doerschler delivered the sermon, and all listened very earnestly to the solemn message for this time. The Lord dwelt among us with His Holy Spirit, and it felt good to our souls to breathe the atmosphere of heaven. After the sermon the brethren Haas, Reiley, Welp, and the undersigned were asked to speak a few words of encouragement to the congregation. The meeting closed with prayer and several songs by the choir, and we parted with the deepest convictions that the Spirit of God had been with us.

It is my earnest prayer that God may bless the company of believers at Lehr, and grant that many honest souls may be led to find and accept Jesus in this newly dedicated place. We are also thankful to God that these dear souls have sacrificed their uttermost in order that this house of God could be erected. May the Lord bless this work of reformation everywhere is my prayer.

Your brother in Christ,

D. D. Kurtz.

"A CHARACTER formed according to the divine likeness is the only treasure that we can take from this world to the next."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 332.

REPORT OF OUR EXPERIENCES IN OKLAHOMA AND FLORIDA

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Psalm 126:5, 6; Isaiah 55:10, 11.

It is the great aim of the gospel to win souls to Christ—the truth. For this only reason gave Christ up His life as a sacrifice. He was truth, and He came to testify of the truth. His promise is: "Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." (John 18:37.) The apostles and prophets in the past have fought and suffered because of the truth. Many millions of martyrs were willing to give up their lives for the truth, and we praise God that even in this time—the time of the end—there are faithful soldiers under the cross of Christ who fearlessly bear witness of Christ—the pure truth. The whole heavenly universe is interested in the cause of salvation, and it will not cease its efforts until the last soul has been won to Christ. We pray God earnestly that this day might not be in the far future, let us therefore labor as long as day shall last, for soon the night cometh where no man can labor.

When a voice from heaven proclaims "it is finished," then will it be forever too late for those who have been careless and indifferent while probation was still lingering. On the cross of Calvary the Son of God made the same above statement: "It is finished," but this announcement brought glad tidings to humanity. The great plan of redemption was finished on the cross, but the question for you and me to answer is: Has the work of redemption been fully completed in my life? Are I am saved by the blood of the Lamb? O, how precious it is to be saved. What a peace and joy will then enter our hearts. May such who have not yet fully surrendered their lives to Jesus do so before it is too late. "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (2 Cor. 6:2.) Soon we shall hear that other voice from heaven saying: "It is finished," and then will it be forever, forever, too late.

As long as we are active in the cause of God on earth, and work faithfully for the salvation of souls, we will be found happy in Jesus. We may then also have the assurance that God is with us, and He giveth victory. David proclaims: "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly." (Psalms 118:15.) This rejoicing will only be seen in the tabernacles of the righteous who live and testify for the truth, but on the other hand let us see what the fate will be of those who are careless and slothful in the cause of God.

"Those who are not interested in the cause of God on earth, can never sing the song of redeeming love above."—"Early Writings," p. 50.

O, what solemn words! Those who are not interested in the cause of God on earth will never enter the pearly gate. Our interest in God's cause on earth does not only assure us eternal life if we remain faithful, but already here we will receive a reward. The Psalmist tells us wherein we will receive a reward, and he says: "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." This reaping means nothing else than to see souls willing to accept and obey the truth. The Lord proclaimed through Isaiah, my word that goeth forth out of my mouth shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please. O, what gladness it brings to our hearts if we see souls fully converted to Jesus. This was also the joy of apostle Paul, for he says:

"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For ye are our glory and joy." 1 Thess. 2:19, 20.

We will now give a brief report of that which God has done for us and to Him alone be all the glory. The Lord made it possible for us to make a mission-trip to Oklahoma and Florida, and our experiences have been most wonderful. In Oklahoma we have some believers who were very anxious to see us once more, and it was our aim to

strengthen these souls in the present truth, and labor among the interested ones in that State. After traveling for about 1200 miles we reached our destination, and we found our believers very happy in this message. Despite the fact that these souls stand alone against hard opposition, the Lord is blessing them wonderfully, and we rejoiced to listen to their experiences. For about one week we had the privilege of being among them, and in all the meetings held the Holy Spirit came very near. We praise God that He made other souls willing to listen to the message of reformation, and it is our prayer that He may lead them on step by step into the greater light for this time.

It was now necessary for us to leave these dear believers in order to labor among the interested ones, which were living about 100 miles farther west in Oklahoma. We prayed the Lord earnestly that He might bless us in the work just before us, and the Lord answered our prayers. When we reached the place we found that the enemy had done their uttermost to darken the precious light of this reformation, but with confidence in God who has promised that every honest soul will be gathered, we began our meetings. A little church building from another congregation was found ready for our use. The attendance was small in the beginning, but we were made glad to see it continually grow, until at last every seat was filled. The interest in this reform message was once more awakened, and soon every honest soul could see clearly the great apostasy existing in Loadicea, and the precious light of reformation. During the day-time we visited the souls in their homes, and in this way were able to do a good work for the Lord.

Though the enemy was not idle, the Lord gave us victory. The Holy Spirit wrought mightily, and the Sabbath school superintendent and Diakon laid down their offices in the conference in order to obey the truth. Our hearts were full of rejoicing to see the souls step out in the light. A minister from the conference was now called to the place. Those souls standing in their decisions requested him very earnestly to attend our meetings, and show where we have erred in the truth. But all requests were fruitless. This shows, of course, that the ministers have fear because of the truth, but among their members they try to spread lying reports about this movement. Praise be to God that we need not to have fear for the truth.

It was on Sunday afternoon when we were assembled together to organize a little company, and celebrate the Lord's supper. Precious were the hours which we could spend on that day in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. O, how sweet it is for God's children to dwell together in unity. This is the only desire of our dear Saviour, and only where unity exists can Christ in His fulness dwell. The word presented brought a refreshing to everyone, and eight dear souls were found ready to take their stand with God's remnant people. About twelve other souls who were present at this meeting testified also that they were fully in harmony with us, and they promised before God that from now on they would attend the meetings of the newly organized company.

The day of separation drew near, and it was very hard for all to separate. We thought, how wonderful will it be when God's work on earth is finished and we can forever be united with the Lord. No separation will then take place. Before we departed we encouraged each other to stand firm for God and His truth, so that we may be found faithful when He shall appear. Leaving our brethren and sisters in the care of our heavenly Father we went on our way to Florida. We had to travel nearly 2000 miles, and though the roads were often so bad that we could hardly pass through, the Lord protected us on our way.

It was our plan to visit one family in Florida who was deeply interested in this message, and we hoped to God that He might awaken some souls in this part of the country as true light bearers for this reformation. When we reached this family we were greatly surprised to find a family of reformers from Philadelphia, Pa., there, who had arrived just a few days ahead of us. (It is the plan of this family to make Florida their home now.) Yes, the joy on both sides was very great, and we saw also in this

the wonderful leadings of our heavenly Father. We were also glad to learn that the friends who were interested in this message, were found to be fully in harmony with us. We had the privilege of holding some meetings among them, and the Lord blessed our little gathering wonderfully. Again and again, our hearts were filled with praise to God. It was also our privilege to organize them into a little group, and we pray God that through these dear souls the light may shine round about them.

This was the first time we have been in Florida, and it was, therefore, very interesting for us to see the beautiful sceneries of nature. Here we saw the beautiful Palm trees, there the Orange and Grapefruit trees, etc., and it was wonderful to behold this with our eyes. When we beheld all these beauties of nature we thought at once how beautiful the new earth will be. Our desire grew more intense that we soon may be forever with the Lord. Yes, how precious it will be when the battle has been fought, the victory won, and we can enter the earth made new. May God help us one and all to pay the full price, and at last receive the reward.

From here we started on our home-ward journey, and after traveling for 1500 miles we reached our loved ones. We were most happy to find them all well and happy in Jesus, and we praised God that He had so wonderfully protected us on our way. The brethren and sisters here were also very happy to hear about the wonderful experiences we had in the work, and they praised God with us. In the office we found already some mail from our new believers in Oklahoma, and they told us about their new experiences. The Lord is marvelously among them, and the message goes forward with power. The conference has disfellowshipped all those who have attended our meetings while we were among them, and this action of course has been a great help to those standing in their decision, and they now rejoice in the liberty which is in Christ Jesus. The brethren and sisters report that between 30-40 souls are every Sabbath assembled, and the Lord with His Spirit is among them. We realize more and more that the Lord is doing His work on earth, and He will soon cut it short in righteousness. The souls already write us to come back and labor further among them. Other urgent calls are coming to the office. Yes, the harvest is ripe, and the laborers are few. The brethren and sisters in North Dakota write that they have a little church building ready for dedication, and they also want us soon to come. May God grant us health and strength to go forward with the work is our prayer. Let us pray much for the cause of God on earth that His people may soon receive the latter rain, and be fitted for translation.

Greetings from your brethren in Christ,

A. W. Doerschler, W. O. Welp.

News from Canada and Russia

Your welcome letter of October 21, and the literature have reached us in due time, and we are very happy to learn that the cause of God is progressing. I understand in a partial way the good fight which every soul must encounter who is willing to accept and obey the blessed truth of reformation. I remember the time when I accepted the third angel's message, and my experience was very similar as that of David, for he said: "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." (Ps. 27:10.) But when I accepted the truth of reformation my trials were much more severe. A few dear believers and myself and family were about the first ones in Russia who took a firm and decided stand on the side of truth, and therefore our persecution was very hard. We are now all alone here in Canada, but we know that God is with us. It is our longing and desire that soon the work of God may be finished on earth, and we can worship the Lord from Sabbath to Sabbath with all His faithful ones in the new Jerusalem.

From time to time we receive letters from our dear brethren and sisters in Russia, and they inform us that persecution is very great. Many of our dear believers in

Russia are behind prison bars, suffering for the sake of truth. We are now awaiting news about our brethren U. and R., who have nearly spent three years in prison. We are really anxious to know if they will receive liberty, or if the same course will be taken with them as with our brother N., who received three more years after the first three years had passed. We are praying very earnestly to God for these souls, and it is our desire that all those who read these lines may join our prayers.

O, how we long for the time when God's children on earth reach that state of the first believers at the day of Pentecost. They were all one heart, and one soul. May this be soon the experience of every child of God, so that the Lord can visit us with the outpouring of the latter rain. We are looking forward to the week of prayer for a special refreshing from the throne of grace. I may try sometimes to write in detail about our experiences in Russia, and how the Lord opened the way for us to come to Canada. May the Lord bless all His children is my prayer.

Greetings to all the faithful ones from your

brother in Christ,

C. Unger.

NEWS FROM INDIA

Dear Brethren:

I AM duly in receipt of your "Sabbath Watchman" and your favorable letter together with some interesting tracts, and thank you very much for the same.

I praise God for His reach blessing toward our small reform church, and I am very happy that our Lord Jesus is working through the power of the Holy Spirit. I am working this side more vigorously, and the believers and people of India are getting more interested in our last reform message. So I am weekly going to them encouraging them. As I wrote in my previous letter we are all pulling on very nicely with our work here.

Dear Brethren, I suggest you to start a station here at your earliest convenience, and send some strong workers for the management of the work. I believe that you know perfectly well about our India need, so let me know everything in details as soon as possible. Please tell us also how we can work here, and under what instructions.

Pray for our progress and for our work. The end is near, and we approach day by day the end of the world. Greetings from your brother in Christ.

C. P.

(Note: While putting this new issue of "The Sabbath Watchman" on the press, we are in receipt of another letter from India. As we know that India is under great distress, we are thankful to God that He is blessing the work. Our Brother writes that the believers in this solemn reform message are all of good courage. Let us remember the work in India in our prayers.)

AFRICA

Dear Brethren:

It is now almost a long time since you have last heard from me here in Africa, and I hope you may be thinking otherwise. I can assure you that we are all well, and still of good courage in the faith of this reformation which once was delivered to the saints. We, though in obscurity, still have a firm hope and believe that the Lord, in His own time, will open the way for His messengers of reform to come and labor with us in the African field.

I received an invitation to attend the forth-coming session of the General Conference to be held in Germany, next year in the month of August. I have just applied to the Government for a passport, and I am waiting for a reply. Please pray the Lord to overrule matters to His glory

I remain with Christian love to you all, your brother in the love of truth,

Thomas Ndhlovu.

(Continued from page two)

that "this promised blessing, received by faith, brings all other blessings in its train."

Under the administration of the Holy Spirit after Pentecost, a great work was quickly done. Men's hearts were touched; a deep conviction of sin resulted; believers were added and multiplied by thousands; those who were possessors of this world's goods, instead of buying more land, and increasing their deposit in the bank, sold out and put their property into the cause; the church was cleansed from hypocrites who made vows and failed to fulfill them. Cripples were healed, and even the dead were raised to life.

This was the result of the "former rain" in the early church. In the remnant church the "latter rain" is to fall, and a similar work to be accomplished.

"Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth." Hosea 6:3.

"The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost was the former rain, but the latter rain will be more abundant. The Spirit awaits our demand and reception. Christ is again to be revealed in His fullness by the Holy Spirit's power."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 121.

If the presence of the Holy Spirit was necessary in apostolic times in order that the gospel might be carried to all the world, it is our greatest need today when the mystery of God is to be finished, when the power of the Spirit must be manifested in our own hearts.

"Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 671.

The Endowment of the Holy Spirit

To all who will make and maintain this full and constant surrender the Holy Spirit is promised as a blessed endowment, affording to the believers both physical and mental power.

"All who consecrate soul, body, and spirit to God, will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical and mental power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them the breath of His own Spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth its highest energies to work in heart and mind. The grace of God enlarges and multiplies their faculties, and every perfection of the divine nature comes to their assistance in the work of saving souls. Through co-operation with Christ they are complete in Him, and in their human weakness they are enabled to do the deeds of omnipotence."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 827.

It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. If we are willing, He will cleanse the heart from every defilement.

Think of it! The God who stretched out the heavens, and spoke into existence the earth and all the shining orbs on high, offers to come in unto us and take His abode with us! This seems too wonderful to be true. But here is Jesus' promise, made to us before He left the world, that it should be even so with the one who truly loved Him and kept His words.

A. W. D.

"The highest of all science is the science of soul saving."

The Children's Friend

The Blind Men of Jericho

And How Jesus Helped Them to See

"SUPPOSE you were to lose your sight and go blind. Wouldn't that be terrible? If you do not think so, close your eyes, and then tell yourself that to be blind means to keep them closed like that all your life, never to see the sunshine, or the flowers, or mother's face again.

Many years ago, near the village of Jericho in Palestine, there were two poor blind men. Dressed in rags, they sat by the side of the road, calling to passers-by to put money into their little boxes to help them buy food.

Thus they lived, very sad and miserable, talking together of the happy days of long ago when they were able to see.

One day some one came by and told them that he had heard that there was a Man living up at Nazareth who was healing all the sick people in the villages, and it had been said that He had helped blind people to see.

The two blind men talked about this wonderful Man for weeks. Could the story be true? O that they could walk to Nazareth and find out for themselves! But Nazareth was sixty miles away, the road was rough and dangerous, and there was no one to lead them there. Perhaps the great Healer would come to Jericho some day. A new hope sprang up in their hearts.

Weeks passed. Then one day the blind men heard a strange noise coming from the direction of Jericho. It was the sound of men and women shouting excitedly. Gradually the noise drew nearer and nearer to where the blind men were sitting. Now they could hear the scuffling of hundreds of feet on the dusty roadway.

What could it mean? Was the Roman governor visiting Jericho?

"Who is coming? Who is it?" cried Bartimæus, hoping some one would answer his question.

Excitedly a voice replied, "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by!"

Bartimæus jumped to his feet. Jesus of Nazareth! Why, that was surely the great Healer of whom he had heard so much. Now Jesus was

coming right by him. Would Jesus heal *him*? Could he?

The crowd was surging by. What could the blind men do? They could not see where Jesus was, and it was impossible to move through the throng. Soon Jesus would be gone, perhaps forever. There was but one thing to do.

"Jesus!" cried Bartimæus at the top of his voice. "Jesus! Thou Son of David, have mercy on me!"

"Be quiet!" shouted some unkind people in the crowd. "The Master is busy with others."

But Bartimæus felt that his great opportunity had come.

"Jesus! Jesus!" he cried still more loudly, "Thou Son of David, have mercy on *me*!"

Jesus stood still. Above the shouting of the crowd the voice of the poor blind man had reached Him.

"Somebody called Me," He said. "Bring the man here."

Then the men who had just told Bartimæus to be quiet came back to him and said, "Be of good comfort, arise; He calleth thee."

While the crowd looked on in wonder, Bartimæus and his friend were led to where Jesus was standing.

"What do you want Me to do for you?" said Jesus kindly.

"Lord," said Bartimæus, "give me my sight!"

Jesus' loving heart was touched by the earnest appeal.

"Your faith has made you whole," He said to them both, touching their eyes. "Receive your sight."

Immediately the darkness vanished, the men's eyes were opened, and they saw Jesus.

How happy they were! Again they could see their friends, the little children, the beautiful trees, the rocky mountains, and the unclouded skies. Their hearts were full of gratitude, and they could do nothing but keep on telling everybody they met how thankful they were to God for what He had done for them.

GOOD NIGHT . . . GOOD MORNING

*Good night, Old Year! We lay thee down to rest,
And fold thy passive hands upon thy breast.
Thy brow is furrowed deep with care and pain;
No loss we grieve, nor wish thee back again.
For thy dead hopes and for thy love of right
We give thee a caress, and say, Good night!*

*Good morning, glad New Year! The dawn of grace,
Of courage, hope, and cheer, beams in thy face.
Few more good mornings lie 'twixt us and heaven,
Yet for our good this new delight is given,
To greet with joy sincere—thy smile adorning
Our simple life of love,—and say, Good morning!*

—Worthie Harris Holden.

The Sabbath Watchman

With

The Children's Friend

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Announcement for Week of Prayer

WORD has been received from the General Conference to the end that the week of prayer will be held on the following days: December 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28. We pray that the Lord may bless His people throughout the world in a special way. Let us especially pray earnestly that God may soon give His people the fulness of His Spirit, and finish His work on earth.

UNION COMMITTEE.

STOP AND CONSIDER

ANOTHER year of grace has passed into eternity. We should stop for a moment and look back into the life of ourselves, and we must acknowledge that we still come far short of reaching God's ideal for us. But those precious moments passed by unnoticed can never be recalled. We must live on. Therefore our looking back can only learn us a lesson for the future. The words of Paul the inspired apostle should come home to every soul.

"Brethren, I count not myself yet to have lay hold; but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13, 14.

Is this the language of our heart? Are we possessed with new zeal to press forward? May we never grow weary in our Christian life, and fight the good fight of faith *till* we have reached the goal. Let us steadfastly look unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. May this year to come find us heartily engaged in the blessed work of saving souls, and let us always remember that only the faithful, who live a Christ-like life on this earth, will hear the words of Jesus, "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matt. 25:21.

W. O. W.

"HEAVEN is to begin on this earth. When the Lord's people are filled with meekness and tenderness, they will realize that His baner over them is love, and His fruit will be sweet to their taste. They will make a heaven below in which to prepare for a heaven above."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 131.

ONE VICE UNSURRENDERED

THIS is taken from "Mount of Blessings": "The strongest bulwark of vice in our world is not the iniquitous life of the abandoned sinner or the degraded outcast." I suppose it was until I read this. "It is that life which otherwise appears virtuous, honorable, and noble, but in which one sin is fostered, one vice indulged."

That is a very strong statement—that the strongest bulwark of vice in the world is to have in the life one vice that is unsundered. I tell you it means something to live a Christian life.

Here is another statement, taken from "Testimonies," volume 4, page 158:

"I would not dishonor my Master so much as to admit that a careless, trifling, prayerless person is a Christian. No; a Christian has victory over his besetments."

This says a Christian has victory over his besetments. Every time I read that, I say to myself, Am I a Christian? What do *you* say?

"We can overcome, yes, fully, entirely. Jesus died to make a way of escape for us, that we might overcome every evil, every sin, every temptation, and sit down at last with Him."—Id., page 144.

Thank God! How can this great victory come to us? Of course that is a study of itself. Just this thought, however. The text says, "Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory *through* our Lord Jesus Christ."

Paul says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Galatians 2:20.

My dear friends, the life of Christ is a life of victory. When He lives in us, we shall have victory. That is the secret of a victorious life. You cannot overcome. I cannot overcome. No man can, in himself. But, my brethren, when we surrender, and let Christ in, and let Him live in us, control us, have His way in us, He will give us the victory.

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