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The

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THREEPENCE

MARCH 6TH, 1954.



A Peaceful Scene in the Lake District

Photo by]

[James Frame

Witnessing to the fulness of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

"FAITHFULNESS" By Hilda M. Hawes

(Elim Church, Thornton Heath)

WE READ REPEATEDLY of the faithfulness of God, consoling ourselves with the grand assurance that "He abideth faithful." It is our boast that He will not put us to shame, neither allow us to be tempted above that which we are able to bear. With the temptation comes

The Way of Escape

brought about by His faithfulness. The rainbow in the cloud of our difficulties bears witness to us again and again that "when thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee."

Early in Holy Writ, we are given the promise of the Redeemer, even the coming of the Holy One, the Only Begotten of God. The shepherds, as they heard the angelic declaration of His birth, rejoiced in the faithfulness of God: "We have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." Later, Simeon exclaimed: "Mine eyes have seen the salvation of the Lord," God's wonderful faithfulness to the sons of men. "He sent His Son, to be the Saviour of the world."

The writer to the Hebrews says: "Let us consider Him, who was faithful to Him that appointed Him." His life amongst men was not easy. He is still rejected by His own. Yet in the face of rejection,

He is faithful

His is a faithful ministry. He is faithful to His appointment. A High Priest for ever, His faithfulness stretches into the untouched realms of eternity. There is no variable-ness or shadow of turning in Him.

As followers of Christ, we are told to be faithful unto death. It is a Divine expectation and appointment! In the everyday task of life, faithful service is expected of us. It should be nothing exceptional, just a joyous fulfilment of duty. Alas. That is not always the attitude people adopt, and often the consequences to them are serious. So much depends upon the individual trust. As we look at

Our Great Example

we see that He was not side-tracked by public opinion, desire for popularity, persecution, suffering, or temptation. He knew no sin, He did no sin, He was faithful! If it were true that He could not sin, then He could not be tempted. Had He yielded to temptation, salvation's plan would be ruined, but He was faithful in His appointment. He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin.

We are told that Moses also was faithful in all his house. Though he at first doubted his own ability to lead the people of God, he was faithful to his appointment to such an extent that his faithfulness is coupled with Christ's faithfulness (Heb. iii. 2). What a wonderful epitaph to

Moses! Faithful to the work which God called him to do. A faithful servant, faithful in his own heart toward God, faithful in his

Domestic Witness

and faithful to the household of God.

We are all called to be faithful servants. Oh! that we might make our calling sure. So much depends upon it. A work is committed to our trust. We need to know what it is. We need to pray for grace and strength to do it. We need to be faithful to do it properly, not with eye service as men-pleasers, but as unto God. A servant needs to be faithful in obedience. Obedience is important to God; it is better than sacrifice. Obedience comes only with knowledge; but the knowledge of God's will brings with it responsibility and this responsibility calls forth faithfulness to fulfil it. A faithful servant must always be ready. As the eyes of the handmaid wait upon her mistress, so may our eyes wait upon our God, readily taking orders without waiting: living in

Such Close Communion

that the desires of His heart are imparted to us by the breathings of the Holy Ghost.

"Thine is an unchanging love,
Higher than the heights above;
Deeper than the depths beneath,
Free and faithful, strong as death."

So often we miss opportunities because we are not faithful in readiness. May we ever be on the alert, always prepared for Him.

A servant must be reliable. God must be able to depend upon us. Faithful in reliability. Not just at one period in our life, but from conversion up to translation. In our contacts with life, we admire and expect reliability. A reliable cycle, typewriter, carpet-sweeper, or any other product, is all the better if reliable. We like to see the word "reliable" printed on a guarantee with the goods we purchase. May God see it on us, we who have been bought at

So Great a Price

As the years of our service increase, so may we become more and more reliable; not given to breaking down, to running away, to falling out, or caving in. Ever clothed in the whole armour of God and found faithful in the day of battle.

Just as faithlessness in affection brings sorrow and havoc to our human relationships, so does faithfulness bring joy. We cannot serve God and mammon, we must love the Lord our God with all our heart. He is a jealous God and seeks to have us for Himself. He desires a faithfulness in our

affection, to love and to go on loving Him out of the depths of a faithful heart. How true is the hymn which says :

“ Oh ! make me quick to do Thy will,
To hasten at Thy call ;
To leave the empty things of life,
To find in Thee my all.”

With true response we can say that it is our chief complaint that our love is weak and faint. It should not be so ; our love should take us anywhere, when we consider His faithfulness. Devotion to Him, faithfully given, has kept the people of God together in all ages and dispensations. It supplied the martyrs with

Courage and Fortitude

to face the burning stake. “ Faithful unto death.” Faithful in all things pertaining to righteousness. God delights in a faithful love ; a love that burns. “ I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot : I will spue thee out of My mouth.” In other words, He says : “ If you were cold, I could fire you, if you were hot, I could use you.” God finds pleasure in the faithful soul. The Apostles and Martyrs were faithful. Shall we also be faithful unto death, thus sharing the appointed ministry and finally receiving the crown of life ? Let us respond with the words of the hymn, our answer being ‘ Yes ! Lord, by Thy grace ’.”

“ May the Lord depend on you,
Loyalty is but His due ;
Say, O spirit, brave and true,
That He may depend on you.”



A touchstone in every time of sorrow and of need

London Crusader Choir at Grendon Hall Prison

by
Pastor Leon C. Quest

It was from a warm church and the atmosphere of a blessed time of fellowship round the Lord's Table that a Church officer and I stepped out into the snow and rain and slippery places to meet the coach on London Road, Watford by-pass, taking the London Crusader Choir to Grendon Hall Prison, some twelve miles north of Aylesbury.

It was the warmheartedness of the Choir that brought them together that morning to travel so far on such an errand for Christ. My friend and I snuggled down into a rug and waited for the time when we would stop for sandwiches. A little wayside Transport Cafe, called “ The Shanty ”, invited us off the main road for a respite. Out came our nicely-packed light snack and individual flasks of tea and coffee. My friend said to me, “ I did enjoy that ” as we looked through our coach windows and saw the cyclists enjoying their two-course lunch, after riding along the cold wintry roads in shorts.

Off the Aylesbury road, we found ourselves coasting along the narrow lanes to Grendon Hall. Once a fine mansion, now a home for those who are about to face a suspicious world after their imprisonment. The Governor (Major N. H. Golding) and staff gave Pastor D. B. Gray and the Choir a warm welcome. We thawed out and made for the Hall where the fellows had gathered. They themselves had done a lot to make the Hall comfortable and warm, all done in their spare time. After an introduction by the Governor, Pastor Gray led his choir in song. I shall never forget the sincere interest the men showed, sometimes a smile, sometimes a tear here and there. Their appreciation was shown between each item with intense applause, but followed by immediate silence for the next item. The Gospel of Jesus Christ was going home all right, with conviction, as the Choir sang, and musical items were rendered.

No grander words could sum up such a visit than those of one of the men, who spoke with a gentle and moving tone : “ It's the likes of you good folk that come along to us like this, and help us want to be good.” It was true, I personally saw the young man make for the back of the stage full and deeply moved.

The sincere invitation to come again, and come soon, surely indicates the need of such a ministry among such people. The Choir, I am sure, left Grendon Hall with a joy in their hearts, knowing this labour of love was worth it all.

The London Crusader Choir then returned to Watford to bring the evening service to a large congregation. Thank you, Pastor Gray and the Choir. Your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

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EDITORIAL

Invasion of London

Never in the history of the Metropolis has there been so much publicity and planning for an evangelical event as there has been for the coming of the Billy Graham party from the United States for this Great Crusade in Greater London.

Invasion it is right enough. The platforms of Waterloo Station were crowded with enthusiastic supporters who gathered to welcome Billy Graham and the party when they arrived midday on Wednesday, February 24th. London will see fresh waves of the invasion each day from the opening of the Crusade, as thousands upon thousands converge on the Stadium in Harringay for the meetings.

Some sections of the press have been kind and generous, but others have been caustic and critical. After all, no evangelist expects the plaudits of every crowd. Those who are keenly interested in the advance of the Kingdom of Christ will acclaim him as God's anointed man for the moment, but those who only seek the downfall of that Kingdom will oppose the evangelist and seek to thwart all his plans. He will get no applause from that section of the crowd anyway.

But despite all the Devil can do, his doom is determined by the rise of the Glorious Kingdom of Christ, and before the Crusade comes to a close, many hundreds, perhaps thousands, will have been won to the side of the Saviour. So, pray on you faithful remembrancers. Labour on, you stalwarts of the Cross. Preach on, you men and women of God. The trumpet will sound the grand finale to all your efforts only when the Archangel sounds it as the Herald of His Advent.

The two pictures on this page are : **Top.** The Rice Stadium, Houston, Texas, filled to capacity in June, 1952, when in one meeting no fewer than 1,200 decisions for Christ were recorded. **Bottom.** Billy Graham, back to the camera, preaching to 50,000 in the open air on Boston Common.

These pictures are taken from a well-got-up book entitled "Billy Graham," containing intimate studies of the Evangelist at home, at leisure, at the microphone, and preaching to countless thousands in his great campaigns. The price is 2/6 (by post 2/8). It is obtainable from the Victory Press, Clapham, London, S.W.4.



Spotlight on the churches

Farewell at Cheltenham

On Thursday, January 21st, a farewell service for Pastor and Mrs. S. Rawlings was conducted by Pastor G. Stormont, Superintendent of the Elim Pentecostal Churches. This was followed by the presentation of a full tea-set by Mr. C. Weaver, on behalf of the assembly.

Pastor Rawlings, who had ministered in Cheltenham for five-and-a-half years, will be greatly missed by the Church, which has grown both spiritually and numerically under his care.

We wish them God's abundant blessings as they take over their new ministry in Colchester.

—H. Lyon.

Prize-giving at Worthing

On Sunday, January 31st, the Annual Prize-giving service for the Sunday School was held, when many parents and friends turned out, instead of turning over, to see their children receive the prizes. This was in spite of the bad weather and the very cold conditions. Mrs. Walker gave a delightful talk and inspired both grown-ups and children alike to do their very best in the future for Jesus Christ. The books selected by the Superintendent, Mrs. Smith, were excellent literature, and it is hoped that many of the children will be led to Christ and live for Him, because of these books.

—Miss P. E. Furze.

Canadian Evangelist In Ulster Temple

A very successful campaign was conducted in the Ulster Temple by Russel Richardson and his wife from Western Canada. During the three weeks of the campaign, which commenced on the first Sunday of the New Year, the Lord richly blessed the ministry of His Word, resulting in the salvation of many souls and the healing of bodies, including two from deafness, one from epilepsy, two from heart trouble, one from varicose ulcer, one from catarrh, and another from eye trouble.

One brother testified to being saved, healed of deafness, and baptised in the Holy Spirit, all inside ten days. He was afterwards baptised in water.

In the receiving meetings quite a large number were filled with the Holy Spirit according to Acts ii. 4. The campaign concluded with a baptismal service when thirteen brothers and eleven sisters were immersed in water by Pastor J. Smith.

The Ulster Temple folks praise God for the ministry of this brother and sister, and although the campaign was of short duration, yet the blessing of God which it brought to the assembly still remains. May God's richest blessing be with them in their future endeavours in the Gospel.

—J. J. Henderson.

Miss Freda Grossen at Sowerby Bridge

The Elim folks in this Yorkshire town were pleased to welcome Miss Freda Grossen, missionary from the Transvaal, South Africa, to Sowerby Bridge.

Miss Grossen was the first missionary to come to the new church, and all were greatly impressed by what she had to tell of the work out there; it was a direct challenge to all; especially the young people.

She made everyone realise afresh that God is the Father of all, black, brown, yellow, or white, and that the loving heart of Jesus yearns over His children everywhere.

Miss Grossen showed filmstrips of the type of country in which her work is situated and the kind of people with which she comes into contact on her rounds of visiting.

The pictures showed how at one campaign, where many souls were won for Christ, those who had been converted burned all their native jewellery in a large fire in the centre of the crowd.

Miss Grossen's visit will long be remembered in Sowerby Bridge, and as she returns the prayers and thoughts of the folks here will be with her and the work that God has chosen her to do.

—Betty Brooks.

Thanksgiving Rally at Guildford

On a recent Saturday the members of the Guildford Church assembled in their recently-acquired building for a Special Thanksgiving Rally.

The Rally was supported by a number of friends from neighbouring churches, who were welcomed by Pastor G. M. Porter.

The special speaker was Pastor J. McBurney of Portsmouth, and testimonies in word and song were given by members of the Portsmouth Church.

Pastor McBurney reminded the Assembly from Ezekiel xxxvii. of the power of God to make dry bones live again, and of the need of God's people to be on fire for Him.

There were over one hundred present at the evening Rally, and the Lord's presence was much felt in the meeting.

The Guildford assembly believe that the Lord who has so wonderfully undertaken in the provision of the church building, will richly bless the Elim work in Guildford during the coming days.

—E. E. M. Downer.

I WAS BORN on August 29th, 1792, and in 1818 went to Adams to study law, being almost as ignorant of religion, which is obedience to God, as a heathen. In studying elementary law, I found the old authors frequently quoted the Scriptures, so I purchased my first Bible.

Conviction

As I read my Bible I became very restless, and a little consideration convinced me that I was by no means in a state of mind to go to heaven if I should die. I read that God is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than earthly parents are to give good gifts to their children. So on a Sabbath evening in the autumn of 1821 I made up my mind that I would settle the question of my soul's salvation at once, and if it were possible would make my peace with God.

Then the whole question of Gospel salvation opened to my mind in a manner most marvellous. I saw clearly the reality and fulness of the atonement of Christ. I saw that His work was a finished work and that, instead of having or needing any righteousness of my own to recommend me to God, I had to submit myself to the righteousness of God through Christ. Gospel salvation seemed to be an offer of something to be accepted, that it was full and complete, and that all that was necessary on my part was to get my own consent to give up my sins and accept Christ. Salvation instead of being a thing to be wrought out by my own works, was a thing to be found entirely in the Lord Jesus Christ, who presented Himself as my God and my Saviour.

Conversion

After this distinct revelation, the question seemed to be put, "Will you accept it now, today?" I replied, "Yes, I will accept it today or I will die in the attempt." Another passage of Scripture then dropped into my mind with a flood of light :

"Then shall ye go and pray unto Me and I will hearken unto you. Then shall ye seek Me and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart."

I instantly seized hold of this with all my heart. I had intellectually believed the Bible before, but never had the truth been in my mind that faith was a voluntary trust instead of an intellectual state. I was conscious, as I was of my existence, of trusting at that moment in God's veracity. Somehow I knew that that was a passage of Scripture though I do not think I had ever read it. I cried : "Lord, I take Thee at Thy word. Now Thou knowest that I do search for Thee with all my heart and that I have come here to pray to Thee, and Thou hast promised to hear me."

All sense of sin, all consciousness of present sin or guilt departed from me. I was so quiet and peaceful. The repose of my mind was unspeakably great. I can never describe it in words. The thought of God was sweet to my mind and the most profound spiritual tranquillity had taken full possession of me. I rushed into the room behind the front office to pray.

A Vision of Christ

There was no fire and no light in this room, nevertheless it appeared as if it were perfectly light. As I went in and shut the door it seemed as if I met the Lord Jesus Christ face to face. It seemed that I saw Him as I would see any other man. He said nothing, but looked at me in such a manner as to break me right down at His feet. It seemed that He stood before me, and I fell down at His feet and



Charles G. F Baptism with

"Tarry ye . . . until ye b



poured out my soul to Him. I wept like a child and made such confessions as I could with my choked utterance.

Baptism with the Holy Ghost

As soon as my mind became calm, I returned to the front office and was about to take a seat when I received a mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost. Without any expectation of it, without ever having the thought in my mind that there was any such thing for me, without any recollection that I had ever heard this experience mentioned by any person in the world, the Holy Spirit descended upon me in a manner that seemed to go through me body and soul.

No words can express the wonderful love that was shed abroad in my heart. I wept aloud with joy and love ; I literally shouted the unutterable gushings of my heart. The waves came over me, and over me, and over me, one after another, until I cried out, "I shall die if these waves continue to pass over me." I said, "Lord, I cannot bear any more" : yet I had no fear of death.

It was late when a member of the choir came to see me, found me in this state of loud weeping and said : "Mr. Finney, what ails you ?" I could make him no answer for some time. He then said : "Are you in pain ?" I gathered myself up and replied : "No, but so happy that I cannot live."

When I awoke next morning the sun had risen and was pouring a clear light into my room. Words cannot express the impression that the sunlight made upon me. Instantly the baptism that I had received the night before returned upon me in the same manner. I arose to my knees in the bed and wept aloud with joy, and I remained for some time too much overwhelmed with the baptism of the Spirit to do anything but pour out my soul to God.

It seemed as if this morning's baptism was accompanied with a gentle reproof, and the Spirit seemed to say to me: "Will you doubt? Will you doubt?" I cried: "No, I will not doubt: I cannot doubt." He then cleared the subject up so much to my mind that it was in fact impossible for me to doubt that the Spirit of God had taken possession of my soul. My sense of guilt was gone; my sins were gone; and I do not think I felt any more sense of guilt than if I had never sinned.

They and the Holy Ghost

and with power from on high"

Then I went down to the office. But even there I was still having the renewal of these mighty waves of love and salvation flowing over me: so I soon sallied forth to converse with those whom I should meet about their souls. I had the impression, which has never left my mind, that God wanted me to preach the gospel and that I must begin immediately. After these baptisms of the Spirit I was quite willing to preach the gospel. Nay, I found that I was unwilling to do anything else. My whole mind was taken up with Jesus and His salvation; and the world seemed to me to be of very little consequence.

My words seemed to fasten like barbed arrows in the souls of men. They cut like a sword. They broke the heart like a hammer. Multitudes can attest to this. Oft-times a word dropped without my remembering it would fasten conviction and often result in almost immediate conversion.

But sometimes I would find myself in a great measure empty of this power. I would go out and visit and find that I made no saving impression. I would then set apart a day for private fasting and prayer, fearing this power had departed from me, and enquire anxiously after the reason of this apparent emptiness. After humbling myself and crying for help, the power would return upon me with all its freshness. This has been the experience of my life.

Power from on High

This power is a great marvel. I have many times seen people unable to endure the word. The most simple and ordinary statements would cut men off from their seats as with a sword, would take their bodily strength and render them almost as helpless as dead men. Several times it has been true in my experience that I could not raise my voice or say anything in prayer or exhortation, except in the

mildest manner, without entirely overcoming those who were present. This was not because I was preaching terror to the people: even the sweetest sounds of the gospel would overcome them.

This power seems sometimes to pervade the atmosphere of one who is highly charged with it. Many times great numbers of persons in a community will be clothed with this power, when the very atmosphere of the whole place seems to be charged with the life of God. Strangers coming into it and passing through the place, will be instantly smitten with conviction of sin and in many instances be converted to Christ.

When Christians humble themselves, consecrate their all afresh to Christ and seek His power, they will often receive such a baptism that they will be instrumental in converting more souls in a day than in all their lifetime before. While Christians remain humble enough to retain this power, the work of conversion will go on until whole communities and regions are converted to Christ.

The Glory of God

I began a habit of rising early and spending a season of prayer alone in the meeting-house. Then a considerable number of brethren used to meet me there in the morning for a prayer meeting, generally before it was light enough to see to read. One morning all at once the glory of God shone round about me in a manner which was most marvelous. The day was just beginning to dawn; but all at once a light perfectly ineffable shone in my soul and almost prostrated me to the ground. In this light it seemed as if I could see that all nature praised and worshipped God except man. It was too intense for the eyes. I recollect breaking into a flood of tears in view of the fact that mankind did not praise God. I think I knew something then, by actual experience, of that light which prostrated Paul on the way to Damascus. It was surely a light such as I could not have endured long. I could not endure to think of the manner in which He was treated by men. I wept it out, and the vision passed away and left my mind calm.

The Power of God

While preaching in America, I came to Antwerp, and there, as I was entering the pulpit, an aged man came and asked if I would preach in a village three miles distant where they had never had any service. I chose the next day at 5 p.m.

As I was preaching there the people became very angry and looked ready to beat me; but I told them that, as they never had a religious meeting, I had a right to take it for granted that they were an ungodly people.

I had not spoken in this strain for more than a quarter of an hour, when an awful solemnity—the Power of God—settled upon them, and the congregation began to fall from their seats in every direction, crying for mercy. If I had had a sword in each hand I could not have cut them down

(Continued on page 116)

◀ MIDNIGHT APPROACHES ▶

By **Idris J. Stevens**, Assistant minister, Elim Church,
Graham Street, Birmingham.

WE LIVE IN PERILOUS TIMES. One has only to read their newspapers or magazines to be aware of the danger, to realise that the end is drawing near. The return of the Jews to Palestine, the spread of Communistic forces, the increasing numbers of Roman Catholics, the discovery of the atomic bomb, the ceaseless degeneration in the world—all these are signs pointing to the near return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Never before were the signs of His appearing so clear and unmistakable. Never before was there a greater and more urgent need for the Church to sound forth in clarion tones His coming again to the earth.

One would have thought,

considering that there are over 300 references to the personal return of the Lord Jesus in the New Testament, this doctrine would have been preached with, at any rate, as equal fervour as a Communist declaims his politics. But on turning to Christian leaders for teaching on this most vital subject one finds either that they are silent, or else are droning it out as if the likelihood of His imminent return was very remote.

This appalling condition reveals that what is needed most in our churches today is a sense of urgency regarding the Second Coming of Christ. The early Christians were commanded to live in the light of His return, and so must we. This hope alone will inspire us to holy living. This hope alone, burning in our hearts, will rekindle the dying embers of Christian witness all over the country. If the Church is to succeed in her God-given task in this land, then it is necessary that we should all live as if Christ might come at any moment.

Nobody can tell

the day or the hour when He will come. I offer you, therefore, no dates. It may be thirty years, it may be three weeks, it may be three hours, or . . . it may be less than that. We do not know. But of one thing we can be sure: Christ is coming again. The midnight hour approaches.

Surely then in such a time as this it is silly to waste time arguing whether the Church will go through the Great Tribulation, or whether she will be taken out of the world before that terrible and tremendous event takes place. Surely, instead of bickering about debatable issues, it is time that the Church should devote her talents, her energies, her money in a united resolve to spread the Gospel over all the world. The great question we shall doubtless have to face at the Bema seat is this: "How many souls have you tried to win for Me?"

In these last days,

therefore, our efforts must be concentrated primarily upon evangelism. Indeed, if we sincerely believe the distinctive

doctrine of the near return of Jesus Christ, this will be the practical outcome. The idea that we are here to absorb God's blessing, like a sponge absorbs water, without letting the blessing flow to other people, will be recognised as being quite a false idea, and one that contradicts the whole teaching of the New Testament. The person who believes in Christ's near return will endeavour always to "hold forth the Word of Life" to men and women dying without Christ in their sins.

Let us then while we may, seek to uplift Christ wherever we go. The days are short; the end of the age is drawing near; the door of grace is fast closing. Let us make sure that, when the midnight-hour strikes, we shall be found waiting to meet Him with our lamps trimmed.

CHAS. G. FINNEY AND THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY GHOST—Continued

as fast as they fell. Soon nearly the whole congregation were either on their knees or prostrate, everyone praying who was able to speak at all.

So I stopped preaching, for they no longer paid any attention to me. Then I called out as loud as I could: "You are not in hell yet: let me direct you to Christ." But still they heeded me not.

Presently the time arrived for me to leave and fulfil another appointment, but, after I left, the meeting went on all night. In the morning there were still those who could not get away and they were carried to a private house to make room for the school. But I had to return, for in the afternoon they still could not break up the meeting. And it was then I learnt that the place was called Sodom and that the one pious man in it—he who had invited me to come—they called Lot. Hence their anger, because I had been moved to preach on: "Up, get you out of this place: for the Lord will destroy this city."

Then I remembered that two days before I had given myself to prayer and persisted therein until I had the answer: "Be not afraid, but speak; for I am with thee and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee."

When I came to Le Ray, there was an old man, who was an infidel and railer against Christianity. He became very angry at the revival and I heard each day of his blasphemy, but took no public notice of it. He refused to attend any meeting, and, in the midst of his opposition, he fell in a fit of apoplexy, from which he died. Thus his opposition was stopped.

—*Extracts by P. St. G. Kirke, M.A.*

Delayed answers to prayer are not only trials of faith, but they give us opportunities of honouring God by our steadfast confidence in Him under apparent repulses.

—*Spurgeon.*

Present suffering is not enjoyable, but life would be worth little without it. The difference between iron and steel is fire, but steel is worth all it costs."

Elim Youth Page

We are Crusading for Christ

"We Fight the good fight"

Conducted by Pastor J. HYWEL DAVIES (National Youth Secretary)

Would you do it ?



Pastor L. C. Quest

This week's feature is written by Pastor Leon C. Quest, a member of the Elim Youth Committee. He was born in the first year of the 20th century! Dedicated by General William Booth (founder of the Salvation Army). Converted in 1918, entered Elim ministry in 1927. Ordained at the first public ordination service in Elim, 1929. Mr. Quest is a lecturer at the Elim Bible College on Sunday School and Youth Work. Always actively engaged in Youth Work. One of 1954's Crusader House Party Leaders.

Mary Jones of Llanfihangel did it—walked barefooted twenty-five miles to purchase a Bible! That very same Bible can now be seen at the Bible House, London.

It was in December of 1802 that the Rev. T. Charles went to London, and at the meeting of the Religious Tract Society, he told the story of Mary Jones. So it happened on December 7th, 1802, that the British and Foreign Bible Society was conceived, and on March 7th, 1804, the British and Foreign Bible Society was actually established, and now millions of Christians will be commemorating the third Jubilee of this Society on this Sunday (March 7th, 1954).

The Rev. Thomas Charles was deeply concerned about the children of Wales during his day; in many parishes in Wales not ten persons could read. He paid every teacher 12/- a year to teach the children to read the Bible in Welsh; then he visited the schools in turn and catechised publicly. Boys and girls from eight to sixteen learned whole books of the Bible. Young men often spent part of the night in learning chapters. Mary Jones was one of the young people who walked some two miles to Albergynolwyn to Mrs. Evans, a teacher, to learn to read. After six years of hard saving by selling eggs, taking in needlework, and other odd jobs, Mary Jones, hearing of Mr. Charles at Bala and Welsh Bibles for sale, set off (walking barefoot and carrying her only pair of shoes so that she could put them on when she reached Bala) in search of a Bible. It is a long and thrilling story, but that journey was made easier as she quoted aloud the many scriptures she had memorised. Although Mr. Charles had only three Bibles, all of them ordered, he could not resist Mary's plea. Back over the hills she walked, happily saying, "I am so glad to have a Bible of my very own."

There are two questions I would ask all our young

people. Do you treasure your Bible like Mary Jones? Do you read it regularly? Or,

Do you like to play at Bible,

Dip and dabble, here and there,

Just before you kneel, aweary,

And yawn through a hurried prayer?

Are you guilty? Can you answer Satan like Jesus, "It is written"? Can you test your temptations and pleasures by the Scriptures? Can you point a backslider to chapter and verse? Can you kneel and show the new convert verses of Scripture which give assurance? Have you a Scriptural answer to your workmates who bombard you with questions? Have you to look to the front of your Bible index to find Jeremiah or Hosea? Are you sufficiently familiar with the Scriptures that you can illustrate any Bible doctrine with a Bible story? Forgiveness, courage, meekness, patience, faith; what Bible stories illustrate such and other subjects? Are you familiar with Bible biography? Do you know to what books and chapters you should refer when looking for Abraham, Moses, Aaron, David, Solomon or any of the kings of Israel? Do you spend as much time reading the Bible as you do those Weekly Magazines and that serial? The Psalmist wrote, "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against Thee." One can only hide when one has discovered, and the way to discover is to search the Scriptures daily.

The story of the Bible which was left by a colporteur in a small village in eastern Poland demonstrates what the Word of God can do when it is used. Through this Bible, two hundred came to believe in Jesus as their Saviour. Fearing they would either lose the Bible or have it taken away by their enemies they memorised the Scriptures. The colporteur was amazed to find "One



The Family Altar and Elim Prayer Circle

A page for your daily meditations
and prayer

Scripture Union Portions. Notes by Pastor T. W. Walker.

SUNDAY, March 7th. John vi. 15-27.

"The meat which perisheth" (v. 27).

Souvenir-hunters and people who will persist in carving their initials all over the place will understand what Christ was getting at. People nowadays, and, sad to say, many young people among them, clamour for a film star's photograph or even a lock of hair or a piece of clothing. Christ was not interested in passing popularity. Was there temptation in it even for Him?—for He went away alone to pray (v. 15). He wanted even that His miracles should be kept quiet; He did not want to be a seven days' wonder. How discerning we need to be in a day of high-pressure publicity and phantom-following.

MONDAY, March 8th. John vi. 28-40.

"Never hunger . . . never thirst" (v. 35).

Our Saviour has satisfied our deepest longing if we are born again of the Spirit, and for this we should be eternally thankful. "He satisfies me so" we sing and it is superbly true. So many in the world restlessly wander here and there, seeking they know not what. The words of Jeremiah apply very literally to our times, "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?" (Jer. ii. 36). We found Him whom our souls love; He has found us. "I am my Beloved's, my Beloved is mine." What a contrast there is between "the meat which perisheth" (v. 27) and "the Bread of Life" (v. 35).

TUESDAY, March 9th. John vi. 41-59.

"The bread . . . is My flesh" (v. 51).

Here is a clear foretelling of Calvary. It was only after the Crucifixion that the disciples remembered such words as these and understood them. He was to die that we might live, to be chained that we might go free, to be deserted that we might never be without a Friend. Public clamour could not make Him a King, neither could it divert Him from His purpose. Other religious systems boast of great philosophers and mystics who bequeathed to mankind intricate systems of belief and conduct, but this Man died for me! He gave Himself for me! "A body hast Thou prepared Me" (Heb. x. 5)—that is the secret of Divine love in redemption.

YOUTH PAGE—Continued.

knew all the Psalms, thirteen knew the Gospels of Matthew and Luke; two knew parts of Genesis, and one knew Isaiah." So it was reported that the two hundred believers had memorised practically the whole Bible.

Such zeal and love for God's Word may put us to shame. After all, it only takes 70 hours and 40 minutes to read the Bible through at pulpit rate. The O.T. 52 hours and 20 minutes. The N.T. 18 hours and 20 minutes. The Psalms take the longest, 4 hours and 21 minutes. The Gospels, 2 hours and 43 minutes. Try it! You may set up a record. Remember this! The Bible is the Crusader's armoury. How can a Crusader "Fight the good fight" without weapons? Doubts, temptations, evil imaginations; unclean, unholy and vain thoughts; all must be met with the Word of God. Our weapons and ammunition are found in the Scriptures. Keep your Powder dry! You need it always.

DID YOU KNOW?

That Field Marshal Lord Montgomery once said, "Gentlemen, I read my Bible every day, and I recommend you to do the same."

WEDNESDAY, March 10th. John vi. 60-71.

"We believe and are sure" (v. 69).

From this passage, we can readily understand the parable of the sower. How soon so many deserted the Lord when He made clear that His message was eternal and not temporal. We often think of the weak moments and the infidelity of the disciples, and it is well for us to read Peter's sublime statement; it must have come as a word of encouragement to the Master; it was a reminder of His Father's commission and partnership (Matt. xvi. 16-17). We know that Peter denied, Judas betrayed, and they all forsook, but there is encouragement in knowing that these failing men were yet part of the foundation of the Church (Eph. ii. 19-22).

THURSDAY, March 11th. John vii. 1-13.

"Where is He?" (v. 11).

The presence of Christ in a community and the preaching of His Evangel always make an impact. "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?" queried the wise men and immediately set the cat amongst the sparrows as far as Herod was concerned. There is another very heart-searching way we can think of this question. Could men say of us "We see and hear plenty about you, but where is He?" In our passage, Jesus was there but the people did not know (v. 10). Never let it be our shameful aim to keep Jesus secret in our lives and witness.

FRIDAY, March 12th. John vii. 14-24.

"Judge not according to the appearance" (v. 24).

Here again is a revelation of the reasoning and approach of the Jewish leaders. The letter of the law truly kills; it is an ever-increasing burden. Remember that it was not the pure law of the Old Testament only but all the interpretations, escape clauses and opinions of the elders which formed the law then in use (compare Matt. xxiii. 13-33). A human approach resulted in puffed-up pride and brought the most scorching rebukes from the Master. Outward religion is anathema—indeed, the Lord found more faith in the Sycophenician woman (Matt. xv. 21-28) and the centurion (Matt. viii. 10) than in the Pharisees. Take care not to judge things and people by outward appearances.

SATURDAY, March 13th. John vii. 25-26.

"His hour was not yet come" (v. 30).

This phrase recurs repeatedly in the Gospels. Men would have got rid of Jesus much earlier than Calvary if they could. They tried to stone Him, to thrust Him over a cliff, to press Him in the crush, and many times, as here, to take Him by force. He offended against tradition, disturbed the peace and roused the rabble. Pretending to be religious, He rebuked the Pharisee and hob-nobbed with the publican! Not understanding Him, men now assassinate Him by erudition and complicated theories. Recall the majestic words, "No man taketh it from Me" (John x. 17-18).

That the world circulation of Scriptures has reached the staggering figure of some 23,000,000 copies a year.

That the best way to make use of the Bible is to read it through, pray it in, work it out, note it down, and pass it on.

TRY THIS SOME TIME.

When people seem unkind, read John, chapter xv.

If you have the blues, read Psalm xxvii.

If you don't know where to look for your rent, read Psalm xxxvii.

If you are out of sorts, try Hebrews, chapter xii.

If you are losing your confidence in men, what about I. Corinthians, chapter xiii.

If you find the world getting small and yourself becoming great, read Psalm xix.

If you are discouraged about your work, Psalm cxxvi. will be a tonic.

New Crusader Branches.

Welcome to new Crusader Branches at Aberystwyth and Mansfield (reports to be published later).

Forthcoming Elim Events

ABERTYSSWG. March 6-8. Elim Church. Special Services. Speaker: Pastor W. J. Patterson, and visit of Sparkbrook Choir on Saturday.

BIRMINGHAM. March 6. Elim Church, Graham Street. Presbytery Youth Rally, 7 p.m. Guest speaker: Pastor A. Rowland Smith. Convener: Pastor Frank Shadlock, Youth Commissioner.

BIRMINGHAM. March 13-21. Elim Tabernacle, Graham Street, off Newhall Hill. Evangelistic Campaign conducted by Pastor David Ayling. Sundays 11 and 6.30. Week-nights (except Fri.), 7.30.

CAMBERWELL. March 13. Elim Church, Benhill Road. South London District Presbytery Rally. 7 p.m. Special speaker: Pastor G. Stormont. Musical ministry by the Woodlands Trio.

CANNING TOWN. Commencing March 20, Elim Hall, Bethel Avenue. Special meetings conducted by Pastor Harry Fisher (ex-missionary to Tibet, formerly pastor of Canning Town), supported by witnesses from Chadwell Heath and Dagenham (A.O.G.), Becontree (E.P.C.), and Barking, Ilford, East Ham, Leyton, Woolwich, and Islington (Elim). Sat., March 20th, 3 and 6.30, Sun. 6.30. Mon., 7.30, and each week-night with Pastor Fisher at 7.30 (Fridays excepted) to end of March.

CLAPHAM. Feb. 27-March 10. Carfax Square, S.W.4. Revival and Prophetic campaign conducted by Pastor Samuel Gorman. Week-nights, 7.30; Sundays, 11 and 6.30.

EALING. March 13. Elim Church, Northfield Ave. (1 minute Northfield underground). N. London Presbytery, Saturday 2.30, Business. 6.30, Rally. Pastor Herbert Ward, B.D.

EASTBOURNE.—April 6 to 13. Elim Guest House. Special Bible Week with talks each morning, 9.30 to 10.30, on Devotional and Prophetic subjects by Pastor S. Gorman. Apply to Miss D. Phillips, Lascelles Private Hotel, Lascelles Terrace, Eastbourne, Sussex. Telephone: Eastbourne 633. (Pastor Gorman will also speak at the Elim Church, Hartfield Road, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday.)

LOWESTOFT. March 20-22. Elim Church, Milton Road. Pastor's fifteenth anniversary services. Special speaker Pastor F. A. Hodge. Sat. and Mon., 7.30 p.m. Sun., 11 a.m., 3 (Divine Healing) and 6.30 p.m.

PORTH. March 6-8. Elim Church, Pontypridd Road. Annual Sisterhood Week-end. Sat. and Mon. 7 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Guest speaker: Mrs. S. Gorman.

SOUTHPORT. March 6-10. Elim Church, Manchester Road. Annual Spring Convention. Sun. 10.45 and 6.30. Week-nights 7.30. Speakers: Pastor and Mrs. A. V. Gorton.

PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY

The President will visit the following churches:
Bournemouth and District Presbytery, March 7, Salisbury. 8, Merriot. 9, Yeovil. 10, Christchurch. 11, Wimborne. 13, Winton. 14, Springbourne.

NATIONAL YOUTH SECRETARY'S VISITS

The National Youth Secretary will visit the following churches: Mar. 6, Watford. 11, Swansea. 12, Tonypanydy. 13, Cardiff. 14, a.m., Barry; p.m., Pontypridd. 27-28, Hove. 30-31, Bristol.

MISSIONARY FILM

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Phillips will visit the following Elim Churches with the Transvaal Film:
March 6-7, Brecon. 8, Pantywaun. 10, Abercynon. 11, Dowlais (missionary talk only). 14, Mountain Ash. 15, Porth. 16, Treharris. 17, Tonypanydy. 18, Pontypridd. 19, Treherbert. 20, Cardiff. 21, Newport. 22, Caerphilly. 23, Barry. 24, Aberdare. 25, Briton Ferry.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS—Continued.

Pease.—Suddenly, on her 56th birthday, Alice Pease, beloved wife of W. Pease (Church Secretary) and Secretary of the Sisterhood, Knottingley. Funeral conducted by Pastor J. H. Gee.

Jude.—On February 1st, Bessie Matilda Jude, aged 79. Funeral conducted by Pastor George Backhouse at Beccles. "With Christ—Far better."

Skilton.—On February 1st, Henry Victor Skilton, aged 56, passed suddenly into the Lord's presence. He was a faithful member and Trustee of Elim Church, Caterham, from its inception. Funeral conducted by Pastor R. A. Gordon.

Wilson.—On February 14th, Ida Wilson, aged 83, faithful member of Elim Church, Graham Street, Birmingham. Funeral conducted by Pastor John Dyke.

York.—On February 4th, Elizabeth Beatrice York, aged 79, faithful member of Elim Church, Sparkbrook, from its inception. Funeral conducted by Pastor William J. Patterson.

WISDOM FROM A LAUNDRYMAN

By C. M. Hilton

YEARs ago when I was driving for a certain laundry a most amusing thing happened on my route. I had called to pick up the laundry at a home where two sisters were living together. One of them who had just finished gathering the bundle together called out to the other: "Sarah! Are there any more dirty clothes in there?" And Sarah answered very heatedly: "Soiled clothes! I have no dirty clothes." And she was indignant. I could hear her still correcting her sister as I was on the way to my truck.

Between you and me, the clothes were dirty, and when they arrived at the laundry they had to go through the same process as all the other clothes, because the laundry has only **one way** of washing, whether dirty or merely soiled, i.e. three soap suds and five rinse waters.

Likewise, God has only **one way** of cleansing. Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (John xiv. 6). Jesus said, "I am the Door: by ME if any man enter in, he shall be saved" (x. 7-9). Salvation is not in a religion, a ceremony, or even a church membership, but a **Person**. All must come and all can come to God by Him. To "as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name" (i. 12). "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I. John i. 9).

My friends, let me ask you, what is your standing before God? Isaiah lxiv. 6 says: "We are all as an unclean thing,

and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." Not soiled, not dirty, but **filthy**. "There is none righteous, no not one" (Rom. iii. 10). "There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not" (Eccl. vii. 20). "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. iii. 23).

The sisters were wise and agreed on this point; they sent the clothes to the laundry and received them back clean. Will you receive Jesus Christ, and let Him give you His perfect cleansing and eternal life? "I give unto them eternal life" (John x. 28).

We must be found in Him, not having our own righteousness, which is of the law, but the **righteousness of God** which is by **faith** in Jesus Christ (Phil. iii. 9). "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II. Cor. v. 21). "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the **washing** of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus iii. 5).

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. x. 9, 10). "If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin" (I. John i. 7).

Classified Advertisements

All advertisements should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, Elim Publishing Co., Ltd., Clapham Crescent, London, S.W.4, and should arrive **WEDNESDAY** mornings for issue a week the following Saturday.

30 words (minimum) 5s. per insertion and 2d. for every additional word. Box number 6d. per insertion extra; also allow for 6 words to be added to your advertisement. Series discounts: 5 per cent for 6 insertions, 10 per cent for 13 insertions. Classified advertisements MUST be prepaid.

Advertisers under "Board-Residence, etc.," must send with the advertisement the name of an Elim minister to whom we can write for reference. These advertisements should reach us a few days early to give us time to take up the reference. The insertion of an advertisement in this column does not imply any guarantee from us.

BOARD-RESIDENCE, ETC.

Bangor, N. Ireland.—Rathmore House, 194, Sealcliffe Road. Sea-front; adjacent sandy beach, putting and tennis greens; h. & c., spring interiors; superior catering. Special quotations for parties. Enquiries: Pastor and Mrs. Wesley Gilpin. 'Phone 1405. C.10

Bournemouth.—Bed-breakfast, evening meal; ground flat; recommended; Elim Member. Miss Thorpe, Flat 2, 6, Bryanstone Road, Winton. C.37

Bournemouth.—Board-residence; private house; homely; moderate terms; full board, or breakfast and evening meal; well recommended; 10 minutes from assembly. Mrs. Lillington, "Elim," 34, Curzon Road. C.44

Bournemouth.—Crosbie Hall, Florence Road, Boscombe; open all year; homely, Christian fellowship; moderate inclusive terms; good food; h. & c., gas fires, interior springs, all rooms; few minutes sea; 'Phone 34714. Brown. C.12

Bridlington.—Booking now at the house of many happy returns; sea front. H. & c., spring interiors; good food; personal supervision; terms reasonable. Pensioners £3 10s. 0d. per week—May 22nd to June 5th. Barraclough & Riley, 21, Albion Terrace. 'Phone: 5276. C.4

Eastbourne.—The Elim Guest House is open all the year round; one minute from sea, with views of both sea and Downs; spiritual fellowship and home comforts; hot water and gas fires in bedrooms; special off-season rates. A limited number of residents can be received. Illustrated brochure from: Miss Phillips, Lascelles Private Hotel, Lascelles Terrace, Eastbourne. 'Phone: 633.

Guernsey.—Come to sunny Guernsey. Christian fellowship; central, near bays, town, Elim Church, bus routes; h. & c., bath-

room. Mrs. Ogier, Minden Villa Guest House, Rocquettes, St. Peter Port. 'Phone: Guernsey 489. C.11

Ilfracombe, Devon.—Restful holidays; happy Christian fellowship; almost level with sea-front; near shops, and places of worship; highly recommended. Please write for illustrated brochure to Mr. and Mrs. Puddicombe, "Maranatha," Torrs Park. C.1

Newquay, Cornwall.—Delightfully situated Christian Guest House; happy fellowship; excellent catering; own farm produce; Guernsey cows; modern amenities; tennis, putting. Special welcome to the Lord's people. Apply:—Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hooper, The Place, Newquay. 'Phone: Newquay 2526. C.8

Walton-on-Naze, Essex.—Christian Fellowship Guest House, Naze End; family resort, 2 minutes sea; homely; recommended; S.A.E. brochure. L. Pick, 59, Naze Park Road. C.14

Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset.—"Beachlands" Uphill Road. Telephone 601. Recommended comfortable Guest House; residential area; minute sea, buses; personal service; farm produce; good cooking; interior mattresses; h. & c. Book early. Mr. and Mrs. Hilton. Late members of Graham Street, Birmingham. C.15

MARRIAGE

Talbot: Suett.—On February 6th, at Elim Church, Becontree, by Pastor John Eaton; William Albert Talbot to Mildred Lillian Suett (both Elim Crusaders).

WITH CHRIST

Allen.—On February 12th, suddenly, Lily, aged 63, wife of the late Mr. T. Allen, faithful member of Elim Church, Clapham. Funeral on February 18th, conducted by Pastor F. A. Hodge.

Farley.—On February 14th, John Farley, aged 79, of West Bromwich. Funeral conducted by Pastor H. Fisher.

Finney.—On February 6th, Miss R. Finney, a faithful member of Elim Church, Ashbourne, passed into the presence of Jesus. Funeral conducted by Pastor J. E. Burston. C.43

Gordon.—On December 26th, 1953, Norman Gordon, aged 86, beloved father of Pastor R. A. Gordon, and former member of Elim Church, Eastbourne, from its inception. Funeral conducted by Pastor H. B. Haynes.

(Continued on previous page)

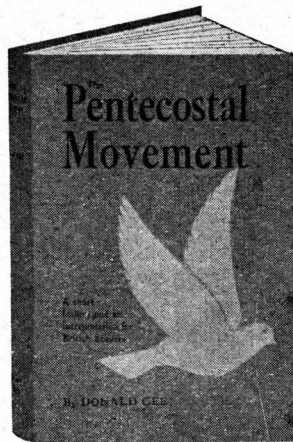
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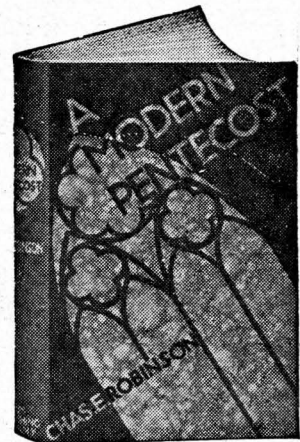
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