This was the affirmation of those amazing men of the Upper Room. They had little to boast of that was weighty with the worldly-wise. Those who heard them described them as unlearned and unlettered men. Yet under most adverse circumstances they won the case for Christ with greater success than any others have ever done. They won a recommendation of tolerance from great Gamaliel. From among their bitter opponents they won the young intellectual known as Saul of Tarsus, who became their scholar, theologian, and valiant defender of the faith. They also numbered converts by thousands from among the multitudes.

They enjoyed this success because they were witnesses whose testimony would have been valid in any court. They spoke confidently of the things they had seen and heard. Their very bearing of boldness was convincing evidence that they had been with Jesus. They had heard Him teach until the Jews inquired, “How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?” And the officers murmured, “Never man spake like this man.” They listened as He proclaimed the timeless truth.

They saw the miracles which He did from turning water into wine to the raising of Lazarus, who had been dead four days. They had seen Him hanged on a tree, slain by wicked hands. Yet “by many infallible proofs” they knew He had risen and was alive forevermore! “With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.” And now the Holy Spirit had come to give the inward illumination and confirmation which transfigured their lives and kindled their passion until they could not be silenced. Their irrefutable arguments were matched by their irrepresible zeal to tell the good news.

Disciples of today have not heard Jesus teach nor seen His mighty works as did Peter and John. But by an experience which is essentially like that which came to them in the Upper Room, the things they saw and heard are known by faith’s full assurance and may be declared with equal certainty and persuasive power.
Evangelist Mason Lee writes, "I have a heart condition and will be out of service six months or longer, by orders of my doctor. Please pray for me."

Evangelist Ralph Gray, of 625 Military Road, Columbus, Mississippi, writes that he plans to enter the hospital early in January for eye surgery; the removal of a cataract on the left eye. He will be unable to be in the field through January and February, but will resume his evangelistic slate the first of March. He plans the same operation on the right eye the first of June. Please remember him in prayer.

Ready to Meet God
By LOUISE JOHNSON

During vacation time some travel by bus, train, car, boat, or plane. Some go far over water, land, sea, and mountains, while others stay in their back yards.

Many return feeling much refreshed, while some say, "I wish we had never taken that vacation trip because we would not have had that accident if we had stayed home." We read or hear of those who never return, for they lost their lives on the trip.

Are you fearful each year when you start out? Why? Where is your faith? Did you leave it at church the last time you were there?

My friend Clara went on a trip to California a few years ago, her first plane trip. She was much concerned and somewhat uneasy about what might happen. I have never taken such a trip, but if you have perhaps you felt much the same way.

The other week end she flew to Spokane, Washington, from Seattle. Some how this trip was much different. You many say, "How could it be so when flying in a plane is usually about the same?" She and I have often spoken about various things and how God could and would call us home to Him when He was ready for us, regardless of where we were or what we were doing.

It was beautiful weather for both flights. When she came back to work the following Monday she told me she had the most outstanding and wonderful trip she had ever had. She placed her hands in His, saying, "I am in Thy hands, dear Lord; take and do with my life what You want." Do you wonder that her trip was so outstanding and wonderful? How could it have been otherwise under those circumstances?

If all of us would do the same thing when leaving on a trip we could never doubt that any of the things which happened were not for the best. With our lives completely in His will, ready to meet Him, why would it make any difference if we met Him on the mountains, at the bottom of the sea, or on the highway? God is real; He is everywhere—if we belong to Him.

Failure to confess Christ now will bring eternal shame down upon us in the end, for we shall be denounced as traitors when we might have been acclaimed as heroes.—SELECTED.

"He Giveth His Beloved Sleep"
(Psalms 127:2)

By JESSIE HARTMAN

Last night I was weary
And longed for rest;
My soul was troubled,
My thoughts depressed;
For mundane cares disturbed my brain
To rob me of slumber again and again.

I recalled the words
Of a favorite psalm,
Which brought to my heart
A comforting calm.
From those words of life my soul drank deep—
"So he giveth his beloved sleep."

Next Week . . .
Those Liberating Fences, Richard S. Taylor
Aunt Abbie’s Wonderful Triumph, Grace V. Watkins

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1 “We Are His Witnesses,” General Superintendent Williamson
3 Prayer Answered—Surprisingly, John T. Donnelly, Chaplain
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New churches:
Lockport, New York, Albany District; Southmead Bristol, British Isles South; St. Cloud, Florida; Lawrenceburg, Missouri; Joplin District; Hattiesburg Grace, Mississippi; West Asheville, North Carolina; Orangeburg, South Carolina; Groesbeck, Western Ohio; Ingalls, Wisconsin District; Kaneake, Hawaii.
God may answer our prayers, but the answer may come in a quite extraordinary way. His merciful sight has long range. That is why our immediate circumstances are so often contradictory to our aspirations and our prayers.

The Apostle Paul had a great longing to visit Rome. He had an extreme and eager desire for the privilege of preaching the gospel in the metropolis of the world, “Making request that ... I might come unto you” (Romans 1:10). He knew that from Rome the story of God’s glorious grace might be sent out along the great highways to the ends of the earth. “After that I must visit Rome.” “I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also” (Romans 1:15). Thus he prayed that his heart’s sincere desire might be realized. His prayer was answered. But God granted his request in such a startlingly unexpected way! “When we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners” (Acts 28:16), and Paul was one of them! He thought to enter the imperial city an ambassador in glorious freedom. He entered the city of his dreams a prisoner in restraining bonds. The prayer was answered surprisingly! The great Apostle reached Rome, but such an arrival had never been imagined. He was in bonds, yet the Word of God was not bound.

It might well be supposed that if Paul had never been taken to Rome we might never have had the Epistles of the captivity. The Apostle Paul told the Ephesians that they were fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God. He told the Philippians that their conversation (citizenship) was in heaven—the ... of spiritual fruits, was produced in searing servitude. The Colossians were told that they were delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God—Colossians, with its glorious proclamation of the sole headship and mediatorship of Jesus Christ, was born in bondage. What rare treasures there are in these and other prison letters! What gems we might never have known had the inspired writer always been free! The experience expressed by the Psalmist, “Thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress,” was surely the actual living impression of the Apostle too. We are heirs to the splendid fruit developed from his distress and out of his enlargement. Paul entered Rome fettered, but in his restriction he sent out letters which have enriched the world with spiritual freedom and infinite blessedness.

God answers our prayers, but the answer may come in a most unexpected way. Our hearts’ sincere desires unfold in reality. We get where we desire to be, but by God’s own path! It might seem as though it would have been better for everyone if Paul could have been in Rome and at the same time could have been perfectly free. But it is not so certain that we could have had those immortal letters. What a life Paul would have had had he been free to experience livingness as he pleased, and to go wherever he liked! But who knows, if this great Apostle had had more temporary freedom, whether we might have had less permanent enrichment? Because he was restricted—more shut-in—he was more given to keen inner inspection. The seismographic trembling of his emotions had a wider radius and a finer differentiation. Limited physical activity became an aid to unimpaired spiritual contemplation. It may be said of him that, although he was in bonds, he liberated himself through Kingdom work and experienced that “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (II Corinthians 3:17).

The Lord permits our loneliness in order that we may possess a more sensitive awareness. Our circumscribed conditions may be productive of a large work. Those who are bored with the emptiness of their feelings or are afraid of them, or who do not know what to do with the surplus of “time on their hands,” or who just feel lonely and out-of-touch, may borrow from the example of St. Paul. The Lord sees beyond the temporary trial to the expensive experience. He looks beyond the burdensome bondage to the ultimate uplift of the felicific freedom. There is no experience so dark but from it we can obtain the stuff of noble character. When the unattractive things bring forth perfume, the scent is sensed to be of a superlative kind. We are to make manifest that “the things which happened unto me [us] have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel” (Philippians 1:12). Even the dark things and the lonely hours may become the ground-bed of everlasting beneficence!
NAPOLEON BONAPARTE and the Apostle Paul are the most renowned prisoners of history. One was in prison because the peace of the world demanded it; the other, because he sought to give to men that peace which the world cannot give and which the world cannot take away. One had the recollection of cities and homes which he had wasted and devastated; the other had the recollection of homes and cities and nations which had been blessed by his presence and cheered by his message. One had shed rivers of blood upon which to float his ambitions. The only blood the other had shed was that which had flowed from his own wounds for Christ's sake. One could trace his path to glory by ghastly trails of the dead which stretched from the Pyrenees to Moscow and from the pyramids to Mount Tabor. The other could trace his path to prison, death, and immortal glory by the hearts that he had loved and the souls that he had gathered into the kingdom of God.

Napoleon once said, "I love nobody, not even my own brothers." It is not strange, therefore, that at the end of his life, on his rock prison in the South Atlantic, he said, "I wonder if there is anyone in the world who really loves me." But Paul loved all men. His heart was the heart of the world, and from his lonely prison at Rome he sent out messages which glow with love unquenchable and throb with fadeless hope.

Paul's Three Friends

When a man enters the straits of life, he is fortunate if he has a few friends upon whom he can count to the uttermost. Paul had three such friends. The first of these three, whose name needs no mention, was that One who would be the Friend of every man, the Friend who laid down his life for us all. The second was that man whose face is almost the first, and almost the last, we see in life—the physician. This friend Paul handed down to immortality with that imperishable encomium, "Luke, the beloved physician," and again, "Only Luke is with me." The third of these friends was the Lycaonian youth Timothy, half Hebrew and half Greek, whom Paul affectionately called "My son in the faith." When Paul had been stoned by the mob at Lystra in the highlands of Asia Minor and was dragged out of the city gates and left for dead, perhaps it was Timothy who, when the night had come down, and the passions of the mob had subsided, went out of the city gates to search amid stones and rubbish until he found the wounded, bleeding body of Paul and, putting his arm about the Apostle's neck, wiped the blood stains from his face, comforted him, and then took him home to the house of his godly grandmother, Lois, and his pious mother, Eunice. If you form a friendship in a shipwreck, you never forget the friend. The hammer of adversity welds human hearts into an indissoluble amalgamation. Paul and Timothy each had in the other a friend who was born for adversity.

Paul's last letter is to this dearest of his friends, Timothy, whom he has left in charge of the church at far-off Ephesus. He tells Timothy that he wants him to come and be with him at Rome. He is to stop at Troas on the way and pick up his books, for Paul is a scholar even to the end. Make friends with good books. They will never leave you nor forsake you. Timothy is to bring the cloak, too, which Paul had left at the house of Carpus, in Troas. What a robe the Church would weave for Paul today if it had that opportunity! But this is the only robe that Paul possesses. It has been wet with the brine of the Mediterranean, white with the snows of Galatia, yellow with the dust of the Egnatian Way, and crimson with the blood of his wounds for the sake of Christ. It is getting cold at Rome, for the summer is waning, and Paul wants his robe to keep him warm. But most of all Paul wants Timothy to bring himself. "Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me," he writes; and then, just before the close of the letter, he says, "Do thy diligence to come before winter."

**Come Before Winter**

Why "before winter"? Because when winter set in, the season for navigation closed in the Mediterranean and it was dangerous for ships to venture out to sea. How dangerous it was, the story of Paul's last shipwreck tells us. If Timothy waits until winter, he will have to wait until spring; and Paul has a premonition that he will not last out the winter, for he says, "The time of my departure
is at hand.” We like to think that Timothy did not wait a single day after that letter from Paul reached him at Ephesus, but started at once to Troas, where he picked up the books and the old cloak in the house of Carpus, then sailed past Samothrace to Neapolis, and thence traveled by the Egnatian Way across the plains of Philippi and through Macedonia to the Adriatic, where he took ship to Brundisium, and then went up the Appian Way to Rome, where he found Paul in his prison, read to him from the Old Testament, wrote his last letters, walked with him to the place of execution near the Pyramid of Cestius, and saw him receive the crown of glory.

Before winter or never! There are some things which will never be done unless they are done “before winter.” The winter will come and the winter will pass, and the flowers of the springtime will deck the breast of the earth, and the graves of some of our opportunities, perhaps the grave of our dearest friend. There are golden gates wide open on this autumn day, but next October they will be forever shut. There are tides of opportunity running now at the flood. Next October they will be at the ebb. There are voices speaking today which a year from now will be silent. Before winter or never!

I like all seasons. I like winter with its clear, cold nights and the stars like silver-headed nails driven into the vault of heaven. I like spring with its green growth, its flowing streams, its reviviscent hope. I like summer with the litany of gentle winds in the tops of the trees, its long evenings, and the songs of its birds. But best of all I like autumn. I like its mist and haze, its cool morning air, its field strewn with the blue aster and the goldenrod; the radiant livery of the forests—“yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red.” But how quickly the autumn passes! It is the perfect parable of all that fades. Yesterday I saw the forests in all their splendor, and Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

But tomorrow the rain will fall, the winds will blow, and the trees will be stripped and barren. Therefore, every returning autumn brings home to me the sense of the preciousness of life’s opportunities—their beauty, but also their brevity. It fills me with the desire to say not merely something about the way that leads to life eternal but, with the help of God, something which shall move men to take the way of life now, today. Taking our suggestion, then, from this message of Paul in the prison at Rome to Timothy in far-off Ephesus—“Come before winter”—let us listen to some of those voices which now are speaking so earnestly to us, and which a year from today may be forever silent.

The Voice Which Calls for Reformation

Your character can be amended and improved, but not at just any time. There are favorable seasons. In the town of my boyhood I delighted to watch on a winter’s night the streams of molten metal writhing and twisting like lost spirits as they poured from the furnaces of the wire mill. Before the furnace doors stood men in leather aprons, with iron tongs in their hands ready to seize the fiery coils and direct them to the molds. But if the iron was permitted to cool below a certain temperature, it refused the mold. There are times when life’s metal is, as it were, molten, and can be worked into any design that is desired. But if it is permitted to cool, it tends toward a state of fixation, in which it is possible neither to do nor even to plan a good work. When the angel came down to trouble the pool at Jerusalem, then was the time for the sick to step in and be healed. There are moments when the pool of life is troubled by the angel of opportunity. Then a man, if he will, can go down and be made whole; but if he waits until the waters are still, it is too late.

God’s Forgetting

( of Jeremiah 31:34c)

By E. WAYNE STAHL

Sweeter than the sweetest music
Which on land or sea has sounded
Are the words I now am hearing;
In my soul is golden rapture,
As I hear the Lord God saying,
In His oceanic mercy,
“1 their sins no more remember.”

It is of the pardoned people,
Who through grace have been forgiven,
That our “glorious Lord” is speaking.

Praises for the great amnesia
Of the heavenly Forgetter!
We shall evermore remember
That our sins He has forgotten,
Since the Prince of our salvation
Shed His blood, His blood so precious,
That oblivion might cover
Multitudinous transgressions.

That amnesia is meaning
Amnesty for those rebelling
Once against the King of Heaven;
But, repenting, they were granted
Through His grace abundant pardon!

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A man who had been under the bondage of an evil habit relates how one night, sitting in his room in a hotel, he was assailed by his old enemy, his besetting sin, and was about to yield to it. He was reaching out his hand to ring the bell for a waiter, when suddenly, as if an angel stood before him, a voice seemed to say, "This is your hour. If you yield to this temptation now, it will destroy you. If you conquer now, you are its master forever." He obeyed the angel's voice, refused the tempter, and came off victorious over his enemy.

That man was not unique in his experience, for to many a man there comes the hour when destiny knocks at his door and the angel waits to see whether he will obey him or reject him. These are precious and critical moments in the history of the soul. In your life there may be that which you know to be wrong, and sinful. In His mercy God has awakened conscience, or has flooded your heart with a sudden wave of contrition and sorrow. This is the hour of opportunity, for now chains of evil habit can be broken which, if not broken, will bind us forever. Now golden goals can be chosen and decisions made which shall affect our destiny forever.

The Voice of Friendship and Affection

Suppose that Timothy, when he received that letter from Paul asking him to come before winter, had said to himself: Yes, I shall start for Rome; but first of all I must clear up some matters here at Ephesus, and then go down to Miletus to ordain elders there, and thence over to Colossae to celebrate the Communion there. When he has attended to these matters, he starts for Troas, and there inquires when he can get a ship which will carry him across to Macedonia, and thence to Italy, or one that is sailing around Greece into the Mediterranean. He is told that the season for navigation is over and that no vessels will sail till springtime. "No ships for Italy till April!"

All through that anxious winter we can imagine Timothy reproaching himself that he did not go at once when he received Paul's letter, and wondering how it fares with the Apostle. When the first vessel sails in the springtime, Timothy is a passenger on it. I can see him landing at Neapolis, or Brundisium, and hurrying up to Rome. There he seeks out Paul's prison, only to be cursed and repulsed by the guard. Then he goes to the house of Claudia, or Pudens, or Narcissus, or Mary, or Ampliatus, and asks where he can find Paul. I can hear them say: "And are you Timothy? Don't you know that Paul was beheaded last December? Every time the jailer put the key in the door of his cell, Paul thought you were coming. His last message was for you, 'Give my love to Timothy, my beloved son in the faith, when he comes.'"

How Timothy then must have wished that he had come before winter!

Before winter or never! Ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always, said Jesus when the disciples complained that Mary's costly and beautiful gift of ointment might have been expended in behalf of the poor (Matthew 26:11). "Me ye have not always." That is true of all the friends we love. We cannot name them now, but next winter we shall know their names. With them, as far as our ministry is concerned, it is before winter or never.

In the Old Abbey Kirk at Haddington one can read over the grave of Jane Welsh the first of many pathetic and regretful tributes paid by Thomas Carlyle to his neglected wife: "For forty years she was a true and loving helpmate of her husband, and by act and word worthily forwarded him as none else could in all worthy he did or attempted. She died at London the 21st of April, 1866, suddenly snatched from him, and the light of his life as if gone out." It has been said that the saddest sentence in English literature is that sentence written in his diary, "Oh, that I had you yet for five minutes by my side, that I might tell you all." Hear, then, careless soul, who art dealing with loved ones as if thou wouldst have them always with thee, these solemn words of warning from Carlyle: "Cherish what is dearest while you have it near you, and wait not till it is far away. Blind and deaf that we are, O think, if thou yet love anybody living, wait not till death sweep down the paltry little dust clouds and dissonances of the moment, and all be made at last so mournfully clear and beautiful, when it is too late."

On one of the early occasions when I preached on this text in Philadelphia, there was present at the service a student in the Jefferson Medical College (Dr. Arnot Walker, New Galilee, Pennsylvania). When the service was over he went back to his room on Arch Street, where the text kept repeating itself in his mind, "Come before winter." Perhaps, he thought to himself, I had better write a letter to my mother. He sat down and wrote a letter such as a mother delights to receive from her son. He took the letter down the street, dropped it into a mailbox, and returned to his room. The next day in the midst of his studies a telegram was placed in his hand. Tearing it open, he read these words: "Come home at once. Your mother is dying." He took the train that night for Pitts­burgh, and then another train to the town near the farm where his home was. Arriving at the town, he was driven to the farm and, hurrying up the stairs, found his mother still living, with a smile of recognition and satisfaction on her face—the smile which, if a man has once seen, he can never forget. Under her pillow was the letter he had written her after the Sunday night service, her viaticum and heartsease as she went down into the river. The next time he met me in Philadelphia
he said, "I am glad you preached that sermon, 'Come Before Winter.'"

Twice coming to the sleeping disciples whom He had asked to watch with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane, Christ awakened them and said with sad surprise, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? (Matthew 26:40) When He came the third time and found them sleeping, He looked sadly down upon them and said, Sleep on now, and take your rest (Matthew 26:45). One of these three, James, was the first of the twelve apostles to die for Christ and seal his faith with his heart's blood. Another, John, was to suffer imprisonment for the sake of Christ on the island that is called Patmos. And Peter was to be crucified for His sake. But never again could those three sleeping disciples ever watch with Jesus in His hour of agony. That opportunity was gone forever! You say, when you hear that a friend has gone, "Why, it cannot be possible! I saw him only yesterday on the corner of Smithfield and Sixth Avenue!" Yes, you saw him there yesterday, but you will never see him there again. You say you intended to do this thing, to speak this word of ... now the vacant chair, the unlifted book, the empty place will speak to you with a reproach which your heart can hardly endure, "Sleep on now, and take your rest! Sleep! Sleep forever!"

The Voice of Christ

More eager, more wistful, more tender than any other voice is the voice of Christ, which now I hear calling men to come to Him, and to come before winter. I wish I had been there when Christ called His disciples, Andrew and Peter, and James and John, by the Sea of Galilee, or Matthew as he was sitting at the receipt of custom. There must have been a note not only of love and authority but of immediacy and urgency in His voice, for we read that they "forsook all, and followed him." The greatest subject which can engage the mind and attention of man is eternal life. Hence the Holy Spirit, when He invites men to come to Christ, never says, "Believe in Christ tomorrow," or "Repent and be saved tomorrow," but always, "Today." If you can find me one place in the Bible where the Holy Spirit says, "Believe in Christ tomorrow," or "Repent and be saved tomorrow," I will come down out of the pulpit and stay out of it, for I would have no gospel to preach. But the Spirit always says, "Today," never, "Tomorrow." Now is the accepted time ... now is the day of salvation (II Corinthians 6:2). To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Hebrews 3:15). While it is called To day (Hebrews 3:13).

The reason for this urgency is twofold. First, the uncertainty of human life. A long time ago David, in his last interview with Jonathan, said, "As thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death." That is true of every one of us. But a step! What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue!

An old rabbi used to say to his people, "Repent the day before you die."

"But," they said to him, "Rabbi, we know not the day of our death."

"Then," he answered, "repent today." Come before winter!

The second reason why Christ, when He calls a man, always says, "Today," and never, "Tomorrow," is that tomorrow the disposition of a man's heart may have changed. There is a time to plant, and a time to reap. The heart, like the soil, has its favorable seasons. "Speak to my brother now! His heart is tender now!" a man once said to me concerning his brother, who was not a believer. Today a man may hear this sermon and be interested, impressed, almost persuaded, ready to take his stand for Christ and enter into eternal life. But he postpones his decision and says, "Not tonight, but tomorrow." A week hence, a month hence, a year hence, he may come back and hear the same call to repentance ... preacher might as well preach to a stone or scatter seed on the marble pavement below this pulpit. Oh, if the story of this one church could be told, if the stone should cry out of the wall and the beam out of the timber should answer, what a story they could tell of those who once were almost persuaded but who now are

God's Memory

(Isaiah 49:14-16)

By E. WAYNE STAHL

I see my name in crimson letters shine,
The very one which was bestowed on me;
Faith sees it on the hands of One divine.
'Tis written in the blood of Calvary.
I hear a voice sweeter than harps of gold,
Which makes love's music, and it will declare,
"Your name is graven on My hands; behold
My palms, and you will find it there."

Around our fingers we will bind a string,
That it may serve as aid to memory.
Oh, truly is herein a marvelous thing;
I never shall by God forgotten be!
On both His palms my name is graven clear;
A double certainty is this for me
That I to Him shall be forever dear.
Oh, now where is thy sting, Anxiety?

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far from the kingdom of God! Christ said, "Today!" They answered, "Tomorrow!"

**Come!**

Once again, then, I repeat these words of the Apostle, "Come before winter"; and as I pronounce them, common sense, experience, conscience, Scripture, the Holy Spirit, the souls of just men made perfect, and the Lord Jesus Christ all repeat with me, "Come before winter." Come before the haze of Indian summer has faded from the fields! Come before the November wind strips the leaves from the trees and sends them whirling over the fields! Come before the snow lies on the uplands and the meadow brook is turned to ice! Come before the heart is cold! Come before desire has failed! Come before life is over and your probation ended, and you stand before God to give an account of the use you have made of the opportunities which in His grace He has granted to you! Come before winter!

Christian Stewardship:

**Will a Man Rob God**

By **CARL W. GRAY**

Pastor, Wheeling, West Virginia

The Prophet Malachi makes this inquiry concerning tithes and offerings. Also, we see that the underlying principle involves more than money. The enlightened non-tither places certain restrictions upon the hand of God. Therefore God is robbed, not only in dollars and cents, but of glory and honor. Let us notice some of the ways that a person can rob God by not being a faithful steward.

**God's Work Is Robbed of Efficiency**

Any thriving enterprise operates on a financial budget. The efficiency of operation is determined by the financial income. The work of the Lord does not operate on money alone, but the work cannot be carried on effectively without an adequate amount to care for the material necessities.

God presents this fact when He requests, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house..." (Malachi 3:10). Tithing is God's financial plan for His work. Systematic tithing is more reliable than spasmodic giving.

If a person withholds the tithes that belong to God, he is not only being selfish but he is not sincerely concerned about the progress of God's work. Tithing is a real test of our Christian stewardship. Our consideration of God's work being worthy of our financial support reveals our appreciation of God's many rich blessings.

If a non-tither could be made to realize how much the work of the Lord suffers as a result of his negligence, he would become a faithful tither. God's work can be robbed of efficiency in buildings, equipment, and even in world-wide evangelism by a selfish attitude.

The Christian attitude should be a desire for God's work to accomplish more, expand more, and win more souls for the glory of God. Therefore every genuinely saved and sanctified Christian who has a regular income should be honest and loyal enough to be a systematic tither. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come" (I Corinthians 16:2).

**God's Promises Are Robbed of Fulfillment**

Every promise of God involves a recipient. The confidence that we exhibit in the promises of God determines the power of the promises to us. God will not do any more than what we say He can do. In reality our God is no greater than our faith.

Abraham was a man that permitted the promises...
of God to become alive in his own life as a result of his own obedience. It is said of him, “He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform” (Romans 4:20-21). Our willingness to step out on the promises of God releases the giant resources behind each promise.

Here again God challenges His people when He declared, “Bring ye all the tithes ... and prove me” (Malachi 3:10b). He is asking for an opportunity to prove His promises. When a Christian fails to honor this request, he robs God of this privilege. God needs human instrumentality to fulfill His promises. The writer of Hebrews reminds us, “God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect” (Hebrews 11:40). Christian stewardship is a means of our co-operating with the plan of God. If we fail, God is robbed of the opportunity to bring honor and glory to His wonderful name.

God’s Grace Is Robbed of Sufficiency

Christian stewardship enriches Christian experience. The sufficiency of God’s grace is revealed by the demands of our individual faith. Each Christian either magnifies or limits the grace of God.

The greatest beneficiary of God’s grace is the Christian’s own life. God assures this fact when He pledges, “Bring ye all the tithes ... saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10).

The dividends of stewardship enrich our life more than they increase our possessions. St. Luke writes, “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again” (Luke 6:38).

The spirit of giving governs the sufficiency of God’s grace in our own lives. The Apostle Paul states, “He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully” (II Corinthians 9:6). God’s grace matches our stewardship. God is obligated to bless us only according to our generosity toward Him.

The growth of Christian experience progresses with our attitude of giving. A Christian that gives to God liberally and sacrificially, exhibits the all-sufficiency of God’s grace. The person that is a miser in his giving requires little of the grace of God. Therefore God’s grace is robbed of sufficiency when an individual withholds his tithes, he being the loser.

Paul admonished the Christians to enrich their lives by trusting the sufficiency of God’s grace. He instructed them to be generous stewards when he wrote, “Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And...
God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (II Corinthians 9:7-8).

God does not need our money, but if He possesses our heart His work will have our whole-hearted support. His promises are void until we meet the conditions to claim them, and His grace is obligated to enrich our Christian experience only according to our stewardship.

The thrill of sanctified living is to see the mighty hand of God unfold the mysterious boundaries of His work, His promises, and His grace. Genuine Christian stewardship of a truly consecrated man will not "rob God" of this opportunity.

**CONSISTENCY: Our Greatest Witness**

*By NEIL STRAIT*

The great commission of our Lord, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel," must ever be an echoing call within the Christian's heart. The gospel must be presented from the pulpit, through the printed page, by radio, and, most important, by every Christian, as the "ye" of this commission so emphatically announces.

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**Hear, Lord!**

*(My prayer)*

A thousand things, O Lord, our hearts would say;  
A thousand mercies ask of Thee today;  
Yet one petition, hear above the rest:  
Help us to feel Thy presence—and be blest!

The hearts bowed down with burdens none can know,  
Beset with problems that would lay them low;  
O Great Physician, come, each hurt place bind,  
For Thou art close to humankind.

Oh, touch the souls bowed down with cruel wrong,  
Companion those who find the going long,  
Bring comfort when the darkness would appall;  
Thy love can reach beyond the prison wall.

Consider, Lord, our special need of Thee—  
Remember us—and guide our destiny!  
—FLORA E. BRECK

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Yes, in daily association, office, school, factory, or home, the Christian is on display to the unchurched, atheists, and critics. Of course, to these the pulpit message and other means of propagation seldom, if ever, penetrate their thinking or bring awakening. They pass by with little knowledge that a merciful Saviour awaits their penitence. But the Christian who lives daily the Christian life without wavering or compromise, displaying the Christlike graces in every situation, can be the loudest note sounded in declaring the redemptive message.

Every born-again and completely sanctified church member must realize his personal responsibility as a constituent of the Christian faith. Such responsibility can be realized only when one walks daily with Christ in constant communion.

Consistency is the very strength of the Church, insofar as it is carried out by each member. It must be maintained by appropriate means: Bible reading, prayer, and devotion. Consistency must be channeled through humble efforts and challenged by situations.

The world looks for proof beyond verbal pronouncement. Our only means of proof is a life victorious above all opposition—a life that triumphs over evil, resists temptation, shuns sinful environment, and displays the assurance, trust, and peace offered through Jesus Christ; a life that loves in the moment of criticism, that illuminates the depth of the Christian hope in the hour of trial; a life that shows respect and courtesy for others in any situation; a life that proves the Christian principles by putting them to test in the realm of daily living without compromise or apology.

Yes, consistency in the Christian life is our greatest witness. It can reach into areas the pulpit cannot touch and cross lines where other methods fall short. May God grant unto us, in this day, a faith that will not stumble and fall, but that will be strong and courageous in proving to others the essence of the Christian life.
GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 1958

CHURCHES
United States ........................................... 4,300
British Commonwealth 269
U.S. Possessions 18
Total (Domestic) 4,587
Net Gain 90
Churches on Foreign Mission Fields 793
Main Stations and Outstations on Foreign Missions Fields 816

CHURCH MEMBERS
United States ........................................... 290,641
British Commonwealth 10,201
U.S. Possessions 833
Total (Domestic) 301,675
Net Gain (3.24 per cent) 9,481
Churches on Foreign Mission Fields 46,493 (Full and Probationary)

MINISTERS
Ordained Ministers 5,767
Licensed Ministers 1,859
Missionaries (Under Department of Foreign Missions) 388
Native Workers on Foreign Missions Fields 1,460

CHURCH PROPERTY
Value of Church Property (Local) $130,276,921
Value of Parsonage (Local) $ 28,213,176
Total (Local) $158,490,097
Value of Parsonages (District) $ 1,298,765
Value of District Centers $ 4,243,694
Value Other District Property $ 851,445
Total (District) $ 6,393,904
Value of Headquarters Property $ 511,839
Value of Nazarene Publishing House $ 750,000
Total (General) $ 6,943,743
Value of Educational Institutions $ 9,253,547
Value of Property on Foreign Missions Fields $ 5,961,387
Grand Total (All Property) $181,343,174
Indebtedness on Church and Parsonage Property (Local) $ 29,763,643
Indebtedness on All Property (District) $ 1,255,763
Indebtedness on Educational Institutions and Hospitals $ 1,143,241
Total Indebtedness on All Property $ 32,162,647

CHURCH FINANCES
Paid Local Interests $ 32,759,252
Increase $ 713,262
Paid District Interests $ 3,158,634
Increase $ 53,332
Paid General Interests $ 4,222,334
Increase $ 288,176
Total Paid All Purposes $ 40,140,220
Increase $1,054,770

ANALYSIS OF GRAND TOTAL
Paid by the Church $ 34,174,679
Paid by the Church School $ 2,946,874
Paid by the Junior Society $ 58,116
Paid by the N.Y.P.S. $ 561,877
Paid by the N.F.M.S. $ 2,398,674

PER CAPITA GIVING
Local Interests $ 108.59
District Interests $ 10.47
General Interests $ 13.99
All Purposes $ 138.65

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Number of Sunday Schools 4,509
Increase 63
Number of Branch Sunday Schools 157
Enrollment:
Active Members 545,081
Officers and Teachers 55,655
Cradle Roll Members 60,310
Home Department Members 12,689
Branch Schools 5,005
Total (Domestic) 678,830
Increase 46,705
Average Weekly Attendance (Incl. Branch) 405,549
Increase 1,320
Number on Foreign Missions Fields 1,425
Enrollment on Foreign Missions Fields 78,364
Attendance on Foreign Missions Fields 55,065

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Number of V.B.S.'s 2,512
Increase 185
Membership (Incl. Off. & Teach.) 237,921
Increase 20,602
Number of Foreign Missions Fields 294
Membership on Foreign Missions Fields 19,010

JUNIOR SOCIETY
Number of Societies 2,153
Increase 148
Membership 36,402
Increase 2,229
Number of Foreign Missions Fields 297
Membership on Foreign Missions Fields 7,556

NAZARENE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY
Number of Societies 3,593
Increase 34
Membership 78,654
Increase 14,415
Total 93,069
Increase 2,775
Number of Foreign Missions Fields 408
Membership on Foreign Missions Fields 8,938

NAZARENE FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
Number of Societies 4,109
Increase 102
Membership Active 137,779
Associate 17,999
Total 155,778
Increase 18,857
Number of Foreign Missions Fields 9,117
Membership on Foreign Missions Fields 19,124
Members Prayer and Fasting League
Domestic 108,519
Foreign Missions Fields 8,132

S. T. Ludwig, General Church Secretary

DECEMBER 31, 1958 ◆ (1095) 11
Man Is “Fearfully and Wonderfully Made”

Somewhere recently I read that the number of cells in the brain is exactly equal to the number of stars in the universe. Of course this is only an estimation! You say, Is it based on study? Yes, and also on imagination. If this is true, then it means that, as there are many, many trillions of cells in the brain, so there are many, many trillions of stars in the universe. The writer then went on to let the brain represent the soul, the inner man, and the stars in the universe the outer man. It is needless to say that the size of the brain and the size of the universe are incomparable. The latter is infinitely larger than the former. In fact, the brain of some of the greatest men has been found to be very small. In an autopsy after his death, Henri Bergson, the famous French philosopher, was found to have had a very small brain. The sense you have, if I might put it that way, does not depend upon the size of your brain so much as upon its texture.

Coming back to our comparison, the writer said that just as the size of that which represents the inner man is infinitesimal compared with the magnitude of the universe, so the permanency of the universe, likely, is not anything to compare with the permanency of the soul, or the inner man, which is represented by the brain cells.

When we turn to the Bible and the teaching of even many of the greatest philosophers, we learn that the soul of man is immortal. It will never end. Worlds may cease to exist, stars may go out of existence, but not so with a human soul. Once it has been started on its journey, it will never die. The permanency of the inner man, which is represented by the trillions, trillions, and trillions of brain cells, is very much greater than the permanency of the planets which move on in their orbits.

As we proceed in this comparison, we find that the inner man, which is represented by the tiny, invisible brain cells, far outstrips nature in importance, power, and capacity for imagination and invention. Nature sometimes overruns man, but little by little man overruns nature. The inner man is the source of all inventions; it is also the source of all conscious control. All of the other parts of the universe are blind. Their power may be tremendous, as represented by the combined forces of nature, but their power, let me say again, is blind. This is not the case with the inner man, the soul, the true finite reality which inhabits the earth. It has not only the capacity for creative imagination but also for foresight and self-control. Here man can direct his actions and worship God; he can build up an intellectual, moral, and spiritual universe from within which, in the long run, can conquer the physical universe without—that which has no inner soul or self.

Man is “fearfully and wonderfully made,” and if he lives as he should he moves from within out, and not from without in. I mean by this, he conquers and controls his environment. He doesn’t permit his environment to master him. Mere bigness from the standpoint of spatial extension and weight is not significant in itself. It is the soul, the inner man, which is represented by the brain, which finally counts in the universe. Out of the heart “are the issues of life.” Never was this more true than it is today. We can never afford in this
scientific age to overemphasize that which is external. The man who lives within is the power behind the throne. Man's wonder, his majesty, his glory, when fashioned according to God's plan, outshine anything and everything within nature or the world about him. Once more we are reminded of the fact that man is "fearfully and wonderfully made."

By Stephen S. White

God Have Mercy on Us!

By this time most of you have read either in the secular or religious press about the stand of the Episcopal church as to social drinking. Here are some of the headlines which appeared in various newspapers about this stand of the Episcopal church: "Liquor Is a Gift of God, Episcopal Bishops Declare," "'Right' Drinking Given O.K. by Episcopalians," "'Right' Use of Alcohol Gets Episcopal O.K." "Bishops Call Liquor Gift from God," "Social Drinking as a Church Has O.K." Understand, please, that I did not write these headlines—they appeared in outstanding dailies over the country. Here are some words from the actual content of this twenty-eight page printed report, entitled "Alcoholism and Social Drinking," prepared by the Episcopal Church's Joint Commission on Alcoholism:

"A Christian who drinks moderately with due regard for the feelings of his fellow men and with a conscientious care for the claims of God, can drink with thanksgiving to Him for these blessings," the report declared. "The prevailing tradition of the Episcopal Church," it said "opposes all abuses of beverage alcohol, but does not insist that the only remedy for this abuse is total abstinence for all Christian people at all times."

This presents the position of a supposedly Christian church, given in the face of the fact that most Christian churches, at least within Protestantism, have taken a definite stand against the drinking of liquor at all.

I might add also that one is a bit surprised at some of the statistics which this report sets forth. "About 70,000,000 Americans drink, and spend about $10 billion annually on it—an average of $150 a year each. There are about 4,000,000 alcoholics whose 'distressing situation cries out for help,' " according to the report.

How any church, Protestant or Roman Catholic, which claims to be Christian could sanction the use of liquor in any form in the face of these facts, without any other considerations, is certainly not easily understood. I don't remember that any report as to the statements of this booklet indicates any good results which come from the use of intoxicating liquors.

Of course this stand of the Episcopal church is nothing new. I belonged to a ministerial alliance when I was a pastor, some years ago. A matter was presented before that ministerial alliance as to a statement against liquor, and immediately a minister from an Episcopal church arose and said that he was against the sale of liquor in taverns, but he was not against the sale of it in regular liquor stores. In fact, he said he kept a good supply of it on hand himself, and used it. I was in the group and heard these words myself; they didn't come to me secondhand. I do not wish to be misunderstood here; there are many laymen and ministers in the Episcopal church who would not sanction this position which was taken by their church. There are some wonderful Christians in this church among both ministers and laymen, men and women who stand 100 per cent against the use of liquor in any form by anyone.

I am glad that I belong to a church that is against the use of intoxicating liquors in any form. More than that, I am delighted that there are many of our sister churches in the Protestant ranks which take the same position. The evil of alcohol is growing in our midst, and it's difficult to believe that reasonable people can sanction its use at all. In fact, it is far from easy to understand how a loyal American would take the position that this church has taken. What a colossal waste of money all liquor spending is, in the face of the fact that we live in a world where millions are in need physically, mentally, and spiritually!

God have mercy upon us!

The First Church of the Nazarene Between Chicago and Spokane*

The Church of the Nazarene at Sawyer, North Dakota, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary during 1958. The foundation for this church was laid by the holiness movement which began in North Dakota during June of 1905. The Sawyer church

*The above is a brief summary of an interesting six-page history of the holiness movement in North Dakota. It was written by Mrs. Tom Joy and submitted to Dr. S. T. Ludwig by Rev. Theodore Rosenau, the present pastor of the Church of the Nazarene at Sawyer.
was the first organized by our denomination between Chicago, Illinois, and Spokane, Washington. Rev. H. D. Brown of Seattle, Washington, who was superintendent of a district in the Church of the Nazarene which included "the states from Chicago to the West Coast," organized this church at Sawyer. At this time Brother Brown was on his way back from the union meeting at Pilot Point, Texas. While in this section he also organized the churches at Surrey and Center. In addition he dedicated the church buildings at Sawyer and Surrey. The following ministers, as well as others, had to do with the rise and development of the holiness work in North Dakota: E. M. Isaac, Beverly Carradine, S. A. Danford, W. C. Ehlers, C. A. Thompson, C. J. Fowler, Lyman Brough, L. C. Pounds, and, of course, H. D. Brown.

Musical Instruments Needed

By BETTY SEDAT, Guatemala

We would like very much to take back some used musical instruments for the Indian Bible School and the Williamsson Bible Institute. If anyone has any used musical instruments that he would like to give to mission field work, we would be happy for him to send them to us here at 6355 No. Oak Avenue, Temple City, California, before the end of May, 1959.

Address packages to:
REV. AND MRS. WILLIAM SEDAT
6355 No. Oak Avenue
Temple City, California

A Prayer Request—Formosa

Rev. R. R. Miller, missionary to Formosa, has recently undergone surgery for the removal of one eye, which was infected by glaucoma. The doctors hope to save the sight in his other eye. Please pray much for Brother Miller during these days of recuperation.

Missionaries on the Move

Rev. and Mrs. Alexander Wachtel have returned to Jerusalem, Israel, for their second term of service. Until further notice, their address will be: Church of the Nazarene, 2 Abraham Lincoln Street, Jerusalem, Israel.

Mrs. Ruth Ainsworth, retired missionary worker among the Mexican people, is now living at 201 North Lake Street, Avon Park, Florida.

Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Pease are now at: Mission House, Chikhli, Buldana District, Bombay State, India.

Rev. and Mrs. William Sedat are home on furlough from Guatemala. Their address is: 6355 No. Oak Avenue, Temple City, California.

Rev. and Mrs. Norman Zurcher will sail for Africa on January 2, 1959. Their

Foreign Missions

REMISS REHFELDT, Secretary

African Council Meeting

For the first time in thirty-five years the African Mission Council meeting was held at a different location; the Arthursat Mission Station near Acorn-hoek in the Eastern Transvaal.

The staff of missionaries in the Acorn-hoek vicinity contrived sufficient undercover sleeping space for all, though it took a good deal of ingenuity and not a little imagination. By using every available house room, veranda, garage, tool shed, and supply rooms 103 missionaries and guests and 41 children were under cover for the meetings. The tabernacle became the dining hall with seven long tables improvised from twenty-foot timbers borrowed from the hospital reconstruction material. A missionary friend from the South African General Mission became our cook for the time, and we were well fed.

Meetings were held in the spacious native church, with Dr. Samuel Young guiding the progress of business with genial efficiency.

Reports from heads of stations and departments revealed anew that God has been blessing and there were many gains during the past year. Heartening reports came from our new frontiers, and we were well fed.

Meetings were held in the spacious native church, with Dr. Samuel Young guiding the progress of business with genial efficiency.

Reports from heads of stations and departments revealed anew that God has been blessing and there were many gains during the past year. Heartening reports came from our new frontiers, and we saw again the many hands that are still stretched out, begging us to bring them the gospel.

The entire missionary force went back to their spheres of service, encouraged to wave the banner of holiness high, and spare not in snatching the "brands from the burning."—REGINALD JONES, Reporter.

Thank You

"Could you put a note of thanks in the Herald to thank all our friends in the homeland for the wonderful response in sending secondhand clothes, so folks will know we really have appreciated all the things? Our native people, particularly the workers and families, have just been thrilled during this past year to have enough clothes for their families. It really has been wonderful! It makes me happy, too, to see them actually have enough. If boxes of this kind keep coming, it will be fine, for it is really hard for our preachers in cities to clothe their families; and with more churches going up, there are more families to help. Beginning churches is no easy job financially for our people."—Mrs. George Hayse, Johannesburg, South Africa.

British Guiana

Mission Council

The British Guiana Mission Council met October 6 to 10. The blessing of the Lord was upon the sessions.

"Some good gains were realized during the year, for which we thank God. There was a 53 per cent gain in N.F.M.S. members, and a gain of 11 new Sunday schools, making a total of 51, with an enrollment of 3,272. This is a great day of challenge before our church in British Guiana. The reaping time is upon us. Our sessions came to a close with all hearts burning to see God's glory in the midst of the people."—MRS. ELIZABETH BROWNING, Reporter.

Revival Fires Still Burn

Revival fires have continued to burn in Portuguese East Africa. On the Sunday afternoon of the closing of the Youth (Patrulhas) Institute, at the close of a wonderful testimony service, heaven opened upon the service. Many young people and Bible school students who had not seen the great revival in June met God in a wonderful way! The afternoon service which began at three
Services of Your Nazarene Servicemen's Commission:

There is a Nazarene chaplain or a Nazarene post pastor at each of the following locations. By phone, letter, and personal contacts, he seeks to serve your young people in the nearby military base.

Every serviceman registered with our Service­men's Commission is placed on our mailing list. He receives Conquest, our youth periodical, free of charge. He may also receive, free, others of our periodicals, including the Herald of Holiness, when he personally requests them. If there is a young person from your church who is not on our list, please speak to your pastor and have him send us the name and address. (This listing of bases began in the November 26 issue of the Herald.)

Olathe Naval Station, Kansas
Opa Locka Marine Base, Florida
Orange Naval Base, Texas
Fort Ord, California
Orlando, Florida
Otis Air Base, Massachusetts
Oxnard, California
Palm Beach Air Force Base, Florida
Park Air Force Base, California
Parris Island, South Carolina
Patrick Air Force Base, Florida
Pease Air Force Base, Maine
Camp Pendleton, California
Pensacola, Florida
Perrin Air Force Base, Texas
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Pinecastle Air Force Base, Florida
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Plattsburg Air Force Base, New York
Fort Polk, Louisiana
Port Angeles, Washington
Port Chicago, Concord, California
Portland, Oregon
Port O'Connor, Texas
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
Portsmouth, Rhode Island
Portsmouth, Virginia
Puget Sound Ship Yard, Washington
Pyote Air Force Base, Texas
Quantico, Virginia
Quonset Point, Rhode Island
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas
Rapid City, South Dakota
Ravenna Arsenal, Ohio
Ream Field, California
Redstone Arsenal, Alabama
Reese Air Force Base, Texas
Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Missouri
Fort Riley, Kansas
Fort Ripley, Minnesota

NAZARENE SERVICEMEN'S COMMISSION

Ronald W. Gittendan, DIRECTOR

o'clock did not close until almost 10:00 p.m. On Monday morning in the Bible school, as students testified to wonderful victory in their hearts, six more students made their way to an altar of prayer and were wonderfully sanctified! Our fifteen-minute devotional period lasted for almost two hours. How we praise God for what He is doing for us here in Gaza! Continue to pray for us.

Since this is my quarterly report, I want to tell you that God is giving us wonderful victories here in P.E.A. The Bible school is changed since the June revival! God has worked wonders! We now have forty-eight students enrolled, eleven more than at any previous time in the history of the school. I am glad to report victory in my own heart too. I love Africa and could not ask for a more wonderful place to work than in our Bible school training our future workers.—Lorraine Schultz, Portuguese East Africa.

Review of Religion—1958

In the closing days of the year it seems appropriate to take a retrospective view of events which made news in the world of religion during the past twelve months. As we glance back through this column and through religious news magazines, it appears that in the main the news was good.

AT HOME

Among the most noteworthy events on the American scene are the successful completion of the Billy Graham crusades in San Francisco, California, and in Charlotte, North Carolina, with multiplied thousands making professions of faith and additions to membership in the churches.

Encouraging also was the growing awareness of our home missionary needs. Of significance were several conferences to study ways of meeting the religious needs of the suburban areas around the larger cities. Conservative Baptists sought to establish new churches at the rate of “408 in ’58” without the use of a denominational budget, depending on local congregations to finance the effort. The goal of the Church of the Nazarene to establish a church a day in the Golden Anniversary year has been noted.
The year has also brought all-time records in increase in church giving and membership, although there was a somber note in the fact that the population grew faster than church membership, decreasing the percentage of church membership from 62 per cent to 61 per cent of the total population. Another sobering note was the growth of groups such as the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Church of the Latter-day Saints. In spite of their unorthodox theologies, they seem to flourish through using Jesus' method of carrying their message from house to house. We need to take a lesson from them.

A growing awareness of the sacredness of the Sabbath was evidenced both through passing of laws to prevent certain types of merchandising on the Lord's day and through the chorus of protests against the attempted launching of the first moon rocket on a Sunday.

New ideas for spreading the gospel were seen, including an organization of private pilots pledging to use their planes "any time, anywhere, for the purpose of spreading the gospel," and the organization of a group of commercial artists to make their talents available free of charge to missionary publications.

Strong steps were taken to combat the spread of objectionable literature. At the same time three missionary books became nonfiction best sellers. The Bible, of course, maintained its position as the Best Seller of both the year and all time.

The trends to unite churches continued with the uniting of two Presbyterian bodies. Preliminary steps were taken to unite the Pilgrim Holiness and the Wesleyan Methodist churches.

OVERSEAS

In other lands the news was similarly good. The establishment of a Protestant pavilion at the Brussels' World's Fair, in a country where Protestantism is scarcely known, was good news indeed. Easter church attendance in Russia reached an all-time high.

Outstanding revivals were held in such unlikely places as Paris and Hong Kong.

Foreign missionary work continued to grow, with special attention given to the Auca Indian tribe, where five young missionaries had formerly lost their lives in an attempt to introduce the gospel. The death of Pope Pius XII, the coronation of John XXIII, and the increase in the number in the College of Cardinals to seventy-five were of special interest to the Roman Catholics.

All in all, it was an encouraging year.

Final and Personal: This column brings to an end my year's assignment as its compiler. It has been one of those pleasant experiences, although one performed in minutes snatched from other pressing duties. Expressions of appreciation of the column have been most gratifying. I commend my successor to the wonderful readers of the Herald of Holiness.

The Sunday School Lesson

MENDELL TAYLOR

Topic for January 11:

Jesus Demands Complete Commitment

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:17-31 (Printed: Mark 10:17-27)

GOLDEN TEXT: The things which are impossible with men are possible with God (Luke 18:27).

An inquiring mind: A young man wanted to know the answer to one of the basic issues of life. His question was, "How can I make my life worthwhile enough to justify its continuing for an eternity?" He implied that he was missing something, that he lacked what it takes to make a go of this business of living, that he felt empty and futile in spite of his feverish activity of going places and seeing things. He wanted to probe the area of reality enough to feel that he was receiving a satisfying return from the effort he was putting out to have a good time. He knew that whatever it took to be prepared to live eternally would grip him to live life at its best in the here and now.

An interested Master: Jesus was deeply interested in the question posed by the young man. Jesus is always approachable. He makes himself personally available and intimately accessible to everyone who has a need. He is never too busy to take time off to find out what is on our minds. He seems to welcome the moment when we come into His presence. He never appears preoccupied or overscheduled with other affairs when we come to Him with a problem. He is always ready to take under consideration anything that we bring to His attention.

An intriguing message: Jesus came right to the point and placed His finger on the trouble spot. He questioned the young man regarding his relationship with his fellow man. After the examination, an A grade was given, for the inquirer had kept all of these requirements from his youth up. Then Jesus raised questions about his relationship with God. Was the Lord first in his affections, supreme in his loyalties, and master over his motives? A failing grade was made, for the young man put his affections on things rather than God. He was more concerned about his possessions than the poverty of those about him; he was more wrapped up in his security than in the suffering of his neighbors. He must be willing to forego all these comforts in order to make a complete commitment to the will of God. His affections were centered in material gain rather than masterful goals.

An inescapableness: The young man "caught the wrong bus" at what might have been his finest hour. When he refused to give up that which stood between him and the Lord, he lost his grip on life. Sorrow invaded his soul. He became a slave to that to which he held on to, in preference to following the Lord's plan for his life. His possessions possessed him, and so monopolized his life that he could not enjoy what he had for wanting more.

Whatever keeps us from making an all-out surrender to Christ always causes us to be traitors to Him. This will turn around and become our worst enemy. The loss sustained by this betrayal follows in the course of events. These consequences can no more be changed than we can reach up and pull the sun out of the sky at noonday. The inescapable afterwards always comes when we choose a lesser path than that which represents our highest possibilities.

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Thought for the Day

by BERTHA MUNRO

"I WISH YOU"

(Ruskin's New Year wish—and Paul's)

Monday: "Some new love of lovely things." "Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us"—then looking with His loving eyes, you will find lovely many things, and people, that you had written off as unpleasant. And you will find a new sort of beauty in the old lovely things, His gifts. "Whatsoever things are true, ...
honest... just... pure... lovely...
of good report... think on these things.” (Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 4:8)

Tuesday:

“Some new forgetfulness of the teasing things.” The teasing, nettling, hounding things are sure to come. Paul says the irritations are but for a moment, to be swallowed up in the glory yet to be. And the regrets of the past are buried with Christ. So “forgetting those things which are behind,” and “looking unto Jesus,” run. (II Corinthians 4:17-18; Philippians 3:13; Hebrews 12:2.)

Wednesday:

“And some higher pride in the praising things.” God’s world—the mountains and the hills magnifying their Creator, the heavens declaring the glory of God, exult in their richness and grandeur and their testimony to His power and love. “All things are yours.” And exult with those ten thousands time ten thousands, and thousands of thousands, who cry, “Worthy is the Lamb.” You are to join their chorus; keep in tune. Let your heart shout with the old Scotchman, “I’m proud o’ my Father!” (Isaiah 55:12; Psalms 19:1; Revelation 5:11-12.)

Thursday:

“And some sense of peace from the hurrying things.” “He that believeth shall not make haste.” Refuse to be stampeded by the rush of our age. Take time (or you will not have it) to meditate and listen to God—and the peace will come, quiet and sweet.

Then hold thee still, O restless heart, For I shall wait His lead.

Friday:

“And some closer fence from the worrying things.” The fence is your will to trust. May you learn unhesitatingly, resolutely, to place in God’s hands every worry—“with thanksgiving... And the peace of God... shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” You can will effectively to give thanks for all things if the things are in His hands. (Philippians 4:6.)

Saturday:

So far, Ruskin’s wishes completed by Paul’s. Now two big prayers of Paul’s for the new year.

“That God will think you worthy of this calling, and that He will effect in you all that His goodness desires to do and that your faith makes possible.”

To have God consider you a good investment risk, using for capital all His limitless stores of blessing, for expert counsel His judgment guided and controlled by His desires for your happiness—the only unknown quantity is the quality of your faith. (II Thessalonians 1:11.)

Sunday:

“That the name of the Lord Jesus Christ may become more glorious (Continued on page 18)

What is the “second death”?

What is the “second death”? This expression is peculiar to the Book of Revelation (2:11; 20:6, 14, and 21:8). It describes the final penalty of the unrighteous and means “everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord.” It parallels “the lake of fire” which is found in Revelation 20:14 and 21:8.

What is hell?

Hell is, as everlasting punishment, the final abode of the wicked. As used in this sense, it is a synonym of the second death, which has been explained in the question above.

If God is good and kind, why should He subject His children to such a horrible fate as everlasting punishment, hell, or the second death?

What a deceptive question you have asked! It is full of dangerous teaching. In the first place, the sinner is not God’s child. He is by nature the child of wrath (Ephesians 2:3). This is true of all men who have not been saved by repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus said to a group of such people, “Ye are of your father the devil...” (John 8:44). In John 1:12-13 we are told how to become sons of God. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God, and in so doing we placed ourselves outside of the family of God. The children of God do not go to hell; it is only the children of the devil who make their bed in the lake of fire. Further, we need to remember that God is, above everything else, holy. His holiness takes precedence over every other attribute which He has. A holy God could not be God and take sin lightly. He is everlastingly and forever against sin, and no sin can ever enter heaven. Sin made hell, and the sinner gravitates to his own place. If God should disregard sin, He would imperil His own character and undermine the structure of His universe. He who tries to separate suffering from sin here or hereafter makes a mockery of the Cross and the Godhead, which participated in it directly or indirectly. “Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully” (Psalms 24:3-4).

Are God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit separate or one?

They are both, They are one in substance, essence, or being and separate in that they are three eternally distinct personal consciousnesses. As the old historic formula stated it, “We are not to divide the substance nor confuse the persons.” The doctrine of the Trinity is not easy to understand. However, the Bible teaches it very definitely. Read John 14, 15, and 16 and you will find it taught there. Jesus said, “If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you” (John 14:15-16). Here we have the Son, a Person, promising to pray to the Father, a Person, to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, a Person, to the Christian. This is one of many passages in the Bible which point to the eternal threeness of the one Godhead. In other words, the distinctions in the one Godhead which the Bible teaches or implies in many places are eternal and personal.

What do we have to look forward to after death?

Immediately, we have the judgment to look forward to. Hebrews 9:27 says: “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” This is not all. After the judgment come everlasting punishment and everlasting blessing. For the wicked, there will be everlasting punishment, and this doesn’t mean annihilation. It is something which is conscious. On this solemn fact, Jesus is our main Teacher. Read Mark 9:43-48 and Luke 16:19-31. There are many people who try to ignore these words or misinterpret them, but there they are, and there is no way to escape them. We’ll all have to meet them in the future if our sins are not covered by the blood of Jesus Christ. In contrast, the righteous will enter into everlasting joy in the life to come. He need not fear death and the future!

DECEMBER 31, 1958  •  (1101) 17
Home Mission Church Plans

Ten new plans for the first building of the mission congregation have been well received this year. Designed with the new congregation with meager financial resources in mind, they offer a wide variety in style and planning. Some of the buildings may be constructed, with donated labor, for $10,000. The plans were drawn by seven architects.

Seating in these plans varies from 60 to 200. Six of them also provide for some overflow seating. Construction materials include frame, frame with brick veneer, block, block and brick, and steel.

New congregations often decide that the services of a skilled architect cannot be afforded. As a result, the first buildings erected may be a disappointment to them and a handicap to their growth for several years. These plans will help many young congregations to secure an attractive, adequate building that will later fit in with future building plans. The descriptive brochure of the ten plans will be sent to any pastor without charge. Write to the Division of Church Extension, Box 6076, Kansas City 10, Missouri.

Thought for the Day
(Continued from page 17)

Through you, and that you may share something of His glory—all through the grace of our God and Jesus Christ our Lord. *Prayer for a grace beyond all measure, this adding to Christ's glory. Possible—certain—as we cultivate His constant presence.

The good wishes and the great prayers for you—and me—depend on us for fulfillment. Not luck, but choice. I choose to be rich this coming year. (II Thessalonians 1:12.)

*Letters to Young Churches, the New Testament in Modern English, by the Macmillan Company, used by their permission; copyright 1958 by J. B. Phillips.

Loan Funds Near Goal

It will be too late, when this issue is received, to send in a savings deposit to the General Church Loan Fund to count in our Golden Anniversary year, but we are glad to show below our record from the General Treasurer's monthly report at the end of November. We are getting very near to our goal of one million dollars by the end of the year.

Of course savings deposits may still be sent in after the first of the year, for applications for loans are being received right along and more funds are needed.

A card or letter to the Division of Church Extension will bring full information on the plan for these savings.

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Watch the Home Missions column in the January 28, 1959, issue of the Herald of Holiness for the final report on the loan funds on December 31 of our Golden Anniversary year.

Nazarene Ministers Benevolent Fund

Each year the Department of Ministerial Benevolence sends an "extra" check at Christmas time. These checks are sincerely appreciated, as the following letter indicates:

To all of our beloved Nazarenes who help to make possible the help you are giving us,

I don't know how to put in words my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all you do for me, especially the extra check that helps to make Christmas more joyous . . . for it did enable me to do just a little for some who are so dear to me and who have done so many wonderful things for me. . . . It has helped to make my living just a little more comfortable, which I trust will help me to be a bit more useful in the service of the church.

Thank you again for all that you are doing for us who have had to retire to the "rear" of the battle line. May God help you all.

You who gave so faithfully last year to your local N.M.B.F. budget, said, "Merry Christmas," to nearly five hundred who appreciated your sharing with them just as much as the one whose letter we have read.

18 (1102) • HERALD OF HOLINESS
Lakeland, Florida—In November, First Church experienced a great revival with Rev. J. C. Dobson as evangelist, and special music furnished by the local church. The attendance was wonderful throughout the meeting, and on the last Sunday morning we broke the Sunday school attendance record set during the meeting. Therefore our pastor, Rev. I. W. Justice, and Evangelist Dobson gave a most unusual special number—Brother Dobson sang while Brother Justice showed his ability as a chalk artist. We thank God for the soul-stirring messages of Brother Dobson, and also the inspiring pictures he drew from night to night. Souls were saved, believers sanctified, the church built up, and a fine class of fifteen new members received.

—Mrs. Evelyn Duncan, Reporter.

Darbydale, Ohio—In November we had a good anniversary revival with Ralph and Joann Dunmire as song evangelists; they are among the very best. Thirteen souls prayed through to God and four new members were added to the church. The pastor served as the evangelist. We give God praise for His blessings.—J. N. Lakin, Pastor.

Albion, Pennsylvania—On Sunday afternoon of November 30 our church was destroyed by fire. We held the Sunday night service at the parsonage, with twenty-one members. Our beloved pastor, Rev. Donald Hennen, spoke on faith and we had a victorious service. The people of Albion have offered us help in every way. The Reverend Mr. Boyd, of the Methodist church, and also the Reverend Mr. Atkins of the Evangelical United Brethren church, have offered us the materials to complete this project. The parsonage has been re-decorated throughout, and many improvements made on the church auditorium. We give God praise for this faithful, spiritual, tithing people, and for His Spirit in our midst.

—Mrs. George W. Graff, Secretary.

Evangelists Billy and Helen Smith report: "We praise the Lord for another year of service in the field of evangelism. We have seen many souls saved and sanctified, and God has permitted us to be the evangelists where eight new churches have been organized—on the Pittsburgh, West Virginia, Tennessee, Illinois, Akron, and Central Ohio districts. At this writing we are in a meeting at South Canton, Ohio, with Rev. and Mrs. Mervin Hershberger, and God is blessing. We have an open date in January for either a youth or regular revival. After the middle of January we will be in Lakeland (c/o General Delivery), Florida, until April 1, and will be available for week-end meetings or revivals while in the South. Mrs. Smith specializes in children's work, and we can care for the whole program, including preaching and music. Write us, 816 McKinley, Cambridge, Ohio."

Pastor C. Marion Jones reports: "After our spending fifteen years in the Midwest in pastoral work, five years at Chanute, Kansas, God directed us one year ago to Springfield, California. Here we have found a loyal and faithful people. New people have been reached and God is helping the church establish its influence. Although finances were low last year, at assembly time last May we were able to report all budgets paid in full. The church is promptly meeting their monthly payments to the district for their building loan. We had an increase of seventeen members. In the spring we had a fine revival with Evangelists C. C. and Flora Chartfield, with thirty-five souls finding real victory at the altar of prayer. For our fall revival we had Evangelist and Mrs. J. B. Miller as the special workers. Brother Miller preaches the gospel with the anointing of God, and Mrs. Miller is a consecrated and faithful altar worker. They were a real blessing and encouragement to our people, and souls sought and found God. Finances have more than tripled in the last ten months, and our September Alabaster offering tripled that of one year ago. All departments are active and efficient. Recently the laymen donated their labor in finishing our Sunday school annex; a fine Christian man of the community donated the flooring and materials to complete this project. The parsonage has been re-decorated throughout, and many improvements made on the church auditorium. We give God praise for this faithful, spiritual, tithing people, and for His Spirit in our midst."

South Dakota Preachers' Meeting

In October the pastors on the South Dakota District, together with our wives, and our district superintendent and his wife, met at the Blue Bell Lodge in the beautiful Black Hills for a preachers' convention.

On that first Tuesday evening as we sat down together in the dining room of the lodge, and Rev. Crawford Vanderpool, district superintendent, offered thanks to God for the appetizing roast buffalo dinner, a sense of oneness swept through us. At the close of the dinner the chairs were rearranged for an evening service, and Dr. D. I. Vanderpool spoke to us quietly. A log burned slowly in the fireplace; the warmth of the fire was diffused throughout the room. But as Dr. Vanderpool spoke, a different kind of warmth crept into our already united hearts. The Holy Spirit came!

The next day we had breakfast together, then a time of fellowship followed by a business meeting, some choruses, prayer, and another message by Dr. Vanderpool. Mrs. D. I. Vanderpool spoke to the preachers' wives while District Superintendent Vanderpool conducted the business meeting.

On Wednesday afternoon some of the preachers' wives drove out into the hills to see a large herd of buffalo. The rest of us spent the afternoon riding horseback, marveling at the ever-changing scenery—the tall, straight pines, the timid deer that came down to the stream to drink, the wooden bridge, the cabins, the winding trail and the rugged heights in the distance.

It was suppertime when we returned to the lodge. Even though it had been a beautiful day accented by friendly conversation and happy laughter, it was good to be back in the lodge again to hear Dr. Vanderpool bring another inspiring message, and feel the Holy Spirit come and embrace us with His tender love.

Evangelists Billy and Helen Smith report: "We praise the Lord for another year of service in the field of evangelism. We have seen many souls saved and sanctified, and God has permitted us to be the evangelists where eight new churches have been organized—on the Pittsburgh, West Virginia, Tennessee, Illinois, Akron, and Central Ohio districts. At this writing we are in a meeting at South Canton, Ohio, with Rev. and Mrs. Mervin Hershberger, and God is blessing. We have an open date in January for either a youth or regular revival. After the middle of January we will be in Lakeland (c/o General Delivery), Florida, until April 1, and will be available for week-end meetings or revivals while in the South. Mrs. Smith specializes in children's work, and we can care for the whole program, including preaching and music. Write us, 816 McKinley, Cambridge, Ohio."

THANKSGIVING OFFERING
$100,000 above last year
(first 17 days)

If each church sends balance on hand by December 31, we should have $1,000,000 before the General Board meets.

JOHN STOCKTON
General Treasurer

DECEMBER 31, 1958 • (1103) 19
Thursday morning after a short talk by each of the heads of the departments, Dr. Vanderpool spoke on II Timothy 2:1-7.

We left Blue Bell Lodge and the Black Hills that afternoon relaxed in body and renewed in spirit, ready to render a more acceptable service to our people and to God.—Clinton J. Wickham, Reporter.

South Arkansas Youth Rally

The young people of the South Arkansas District met for their annual holiday rally at the Waldron church on November 6, with services beginning at 10:00 a.m.

We appreciated two inspiring and challenging messages by Rev. Boyd Hancock, pastor of Fort Smith First Church, and an impressive evangelistic skit in the evening service presented by the young people of Texarkana First Church.

There were 230 young people and pastors who enjoyed a wonderful day of fellowship and spiritual blessing.

The climax came at the close of the evening service when a number of young people bowed at the altar and prayed through to definite victory.—Reporter.

Sunday School Evangelists Lyle and Lois Potter report: "The Golden Anniversary year has been the best of our entire ministry—over thirty thousand happy miles, touring eleven districts, speaking at three conventions with one or more districts co-operating, also serving as speaker at eleven district-sponsored, five-day zone conventions.

Besides this, we held nine local church crusades with a combination of evangelism and Sunday school promotion. Also it has been our privilege to serve as director of camps and saving with the Department of Church Schools at Kansas City on a part-time basis. Our association with Dr. A. F. Harper and the other members of the Church Schools staff has been most enjoyable. Our travels this year have taken us to some of the finest districts of our great denomination. Surely God is leading us on our beloved Zion. We feel very humble and happy because of His blessing these days. Never have we seen the Spirit of God working in a more definite way, and we thrill that we are privileged to be 'workers together with him.' We enter 1959 with faith in our God."

Louisville, Kentucky—Sunday, November 16, was a historic day for First Church—ground was broken for our lovely new church building. The days preceding November 16 were full of color, blessings, and victory. First Church is celebrating its Golden Anniversary as a local church. Two years ago Dr. P. F. Bresee came to Louisville, conducted a week-end meeting, and helped to get First Church started—the first church of our denomination to be organized in the state of Kentucky and this area. It has been the "mother" of many of the churches organized in the city, across the Ohio in Indiana, and in this part of Kentucky. Our church celebrated with a Golden Anniversary banquet, a homecoming, a revival, and a financial campaign to raise funds for a new building as we accept the challenge of our leaders to "Prepare for a Greater Tomorrow."

That was our slogan throughout the campaign, and God has wonderfully helped. The building will be of red brick and cut stone, with a seating capacity of around 600 and Sunday school facilities for 550. Thanks to one of our Nazarene elders who is a good building contractor, we will get the building finished for less than the original bid of $179,000; but it will have a value of at least $175,000. Our people are giving liberally and sacrificially in the first weeks of the campaign. In all the planning there has not been one negative vote by a committee, board, or the congregation, to any phase of the program. Thank God for a united, congenial, and harmonious people. Recently the church board gave the pastor a $300 love offering, also voted him a ten-dollar-per-week car and expense allowance. We have a tremendous job, but are happy in the will of God, His blessing, and the co-operation of our people.—Harley Hall, Pastor.

Denver, Colorado—Edgemont Church had a most successful Golden Anniversary revival meeting with Evangelists Alva O. and Gladys Estep. Many souls sought and found God in saving and sanctifying grace. The presence of God was very real throughout the meeting, and in one service the evangelist did not have opportunity to preach, as souls came to the altar. It was felt this was the best revival in our eleven years' ministry here. Attendance was unusually

1959 Scripture Text Calendar

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good, and the offering came easily, with a nice class of members added to the church, all by profession of faith. On the closing night over five hundred dollars was raised to complete the much-needed Sunday school rooms. The Spirit-anointed ministry of Brother and Sister Estep was greatly appreciated. The work at Edgemont Church is going forward; the people have a mind to work. If you have friends here, write us (1340 Simms Street).—E. E. and Velma Moses, Pastors.

The Forgotten Are Remembered by Radio

Our veterans' hospitals are filled with men who have given their good health and sacrificed their futures that we might continue to live lives of freedom and blessing. Yet many of these have been forgotten by most of us and they suffer handicap and discouragement unnoticed and so often unappreciated. We have been able to minister to a few of them via "Showers of Blessing," as evidenced by these quotations from their chaplains:

"I am requesting a number of copies of recent messages aired on this marvelous religious radio program. Some veterans at this hospital ask and receive great help in their spiritual life from these inspiring messages. I am personally able to use many of these meditations in my ministry and particularly derive stimulating strength to help from Dr. R. V. DeLong's masterful messages."

Another chaplain says:

"Many of the patients are regular listeners to your radio program, 'Showers of Blessing,' and receive much help for daily Christian living. I would like to add that I personally receive considerable help in bringing practical, meaningful messages to our veterans through the thought-provoking sermons of Dr. DeLong."

Another shut-in writes:

"For some time I have been unable to attend church, but the blessings of the radio bring messages right to our bedside. I shared my radio with those who come to my room and we would all like a copy of Dr. DeLong's recent sermon."

The scripture says, "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters." Join us in prayer that "Showers of Blessing" may reach more of the thousands of earth's neglected and forgotten with the good news.

Nazarene Radio League

Owensboro, Kentucky—First Church recently enjoyed a great revival with Evangelist C. B. Fugett. God used this dynamic gospel preacher to give us one of the greatest revivals this church has had in years. Time after time the presence of the Lord was manifested as many souls sought and found God at the altar. Brother White proved himself to be a sincere and godly man, and a wonderful preacher of full salvation. Under his anointed ministry, many souls found personal help and victory, a number of new folk were reached, backsliders were reclaimed, and the whole spiritual tone of the church was lifted. In all, it was a most profitable meeting.—Harold M. Sorweide, Pastor.

Confluence, Pennsylvania—Truly this has been an "anniversary" year in the history of our church. God came in Pentecostal power to visit this rural church in the recent revival with Evangelist Ottis Smith. In a wonderful service on November 23, twenty new members were added to the church by profession of faith. In a town of eight hundred population, our Sunday school is pushing two hundred in attendance; we will soon need more room.—Ray Huffman, Pastor.

Ravenna, Ohio—The Lord is blessing here at First Church as we labor among some of the finest Nazarenes to be found anywhere. Since our assembly we have had two good revivals—the first with Evangelists Jimmy and Fern Hasley, in which the Lord gave nearly one hundred professions. Recently we had a very good revival with Evangelist R. T. Sellick and Professor DeVerne Mullen as special workers. We had excellent attendance, with many seeking the Lord. We have received forty new members since we came; also our budgets were paid to date. During the last few months we have purchased 4½ acres of land in a fine location, for a new church building in the future. We will be making our third report at the coming assembly. It is a thrill to have fine people, and our successful district superintendent, Rev. C. D. Taylor.—W. B. Walker, Pastor.

Flora, Illinois—All our members and friends are praising God for the old-fashioned revival we enjoyed recently under the ministry of Evangelists C. C. and Flora Chatfield. Many needy hearts sought and found God in saving and sanctifying grace. We are thrilled with our people and thank God for their faith, love, and dedication to Christ and the church. If you have friends in this area, write us (108 E. South).—O. G. Green, Pastor.

Burbank, California—In November, First Church had a very fine revival with Rev. W. T. White, evangelist, and Harold Ransom as singer. Brother White proved himself to be a sincere and godly man, and a wonderful preacher of full salvation. Under his anointed ministry, many souls found personal help and victory, a number of new folk were reached, backsliders were reclaimed, and the whole spiritual tone of the church was lifted. In all, it was a most profitable meeting.—Harold M. Sorweide, Pastor.

Elyria, Ohio—This church recently witnessed one of the best revivals in its history of twenty-six years, according to the testimony of several of its members. Special prayer meetings and flying services were conducted prior to this Golden Anniversary revival, and God marvelously answered prayer. Several young married couples were at the altar seeking God, some for the first time. Rev. James Holstein was the evangelist, and his musical talent as well as his sane, spiritual messages moved the unsaved to Christ, filling the altar in several services. A beautiful spirit prevailed throughout the meeting.—J. E. Hansen, Pastor.

Bourbonnais, Illinois—College Church recently enjoyed a most successful revival with Rev. Harold Daniels, superintendent of the Illinois District, as the evangelist. Both students and community felt the impact of this campaign. Several hundred students during the chapel services and for the three meetings experienced a genuine transformation of divine grace in saving and sanctifying power. This wonderful response is one of the many evidences of the fine spiritual tone which is being felt throughout the campus of Olivet Nazarene College during this current year. We are thankful for the excellent
For Times Like These

It means an approximate tax loss to the government of $525,000,000 for the current fiscal year alone. No wonder the stock of one of the principal distillery beneficiaries increased in value by about $3,000,000 within two or three hours after the Senate finance committee had given its approval.

Senator Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.), chairman of that committee, fought the provision all the way through, but the pressure tactics and smooth lobbying techniques of the distillers won out. Byrd told his colleagues on the floor of the Senate, "Frankly, I have never seen the pressure for a change in this law reach the extremes taken this time."

Why not write Senator Byrd, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., expressing your appreciation for his stand. You might also write President Eisenhower, expressing your belief that he ought to have vetoed the bill. J. KENNETH GRIDER for the Committee on Public Morals

ministry of Brother Daniels, and for the prayerful support of the faculty and student leaders.—FARRELL W. NASH, Pastor.

Evangelist H. T. Lummus writes: "On December 1, I arrived home from a six-thousand-mile tour in the evangelistic field. God gave three wonderful revivals: with Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Anderson; at First Church, Sulphur, Louisiana, with Brother and Sister Mundell; and at McKinleyville, California, where God gave an old-fashioned camp meeting with 96 seekers at the altar, counting as they came. On the closing Sunday they broke their former Sunday school record, with 124 present. I have some open time now and will go anywhere for freewill offerings and entertainment. Write me, 507 S. Fourth Street, Albion, Nebraska."

Nashville, Tennessee—Grace Church broke all previous records on Thanksgiving Sunday in both attendance and the Thanksgiving offering. The Sunday school attendance was 427, with $2,070.65 in the offering. The church is making great gains under the capable leadership of Rev. George Scott. The people are united and progress is being made in all departments of the work.—Church Secretary.

Highland, Indiana—Our church has been helped a great deal in the last three revivals held here and at Hammond First at the time of the zone re-vival. Last April we were privileged to have Evangelist D. C. Van Slyke with us; God blessed and gave many seekers and good victories. In October our church co-operated in the wonderful Anniversary zone revival, with Dr. Gene D. Phillips and Dr. M. I. Vanderpool, evangelists, and Mr. Paul Skiles and the Speer Family, singers. Then in November we experienced a week of good victories with Rev. Roy Hendley, evangelist, and local talent singing the songs. A number of new people were reached for the Lord. We have just transferred two of our families to the new church being organized in Griffith. —L. D. LOCKWOOD, Pastor.

Rev. Henry B. Jensen writes: "After pastoring churches in Illinois for forty-three years, including Nazarene churches since 1928, I resigned as pastor of the Hill West Church, Alton, Illinois, in November of 1956 and moved to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. For about one year I pastored the new Northwest Church in Ft. Lauderdale. Since then I have supplied for a number of our pastors in south Florida. The average Sunday school attendance at the Northwest Church was 105 for October. Write me, 600 N.E. Fifteenth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida."

Clifton, Illinois—In November we had a revival with Evangelists Jack and Ruby Carter, and God used them to give a revival of Pentecostal proportions. There were thirty-one seekers at the altar, and the entire family of six were converted, and four of them returned to be sanctified. We received thirteen members by profession of faith, and the revival spirit continues. One young mother in the hospital was definitely healed, and doctors said there was no need of the surgery which had been planned. We give God praise.—WALTER L. FRAMES, Pastor.

Rev. Leslie C. Poe writes: "After being out of the active ministry for a while, I am entering the evangelistic field. During the time of my illness I have served as supply at times for a number of our churches. Recently I conducted a revival for our Collegeville Church at Little Rock, Arkansas, and God gave some victories. At this writing I am in a meeting with our church in Avon Park, Florida. I shall be glad to go anywhere the Lord may lead. I am an elder on the South Arkansas District. Write me, Hulbert, Arkansas."

Announcements

WEDDING BELLS

Miss Vickie Renette Frederick of Orlando, Florida, and A. J. S. C. W. Powell of Warrenville, South Carolina, were united in marriage on November 28 at the Colonial Church of the Nazarene in Orlando, with Rev. J. V. Frederick, father of the bride, officiating.

Miss Lilace Apgren of Litchfield, Minnesota, and Mr. Vernon Keech of Spring Lake, Michigan, were united in marriage on January 17 at Litchfield Church of the Nazarene, with the pastor, Rev. Harry E. Grimshaw, officiating.

BORN—to Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Johansen of Kansas City, Kansas, a son, Normand Eric, on December 4.
To Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Leavel of Gainesville, Florida, a daughter, Rochelle Jeanine, on November 15.

To Rev. and Mrs. James C. Langford of Malvern, Arkansas, a son, James Cleyon II, on November 6.

To Dr. and Mrs. (Eleanor Watkins) L. D. Whitsett of Chillicothe, Ohio, a son, John Lowell, on October 23.

Special Prayer is requested by Christian friends in Ohio for a special unspoken request and for their son to find help from God in a problem he faces.

Deaths

Rev. Russell Charles Gray, elder in the Church of the Nazarene, died September 10, 1958, after an illness of several months. He was born in Princeton, Indiana, March 26, 1890. Converted at the age of fourteen, he felt the call of God for service and soon began working with Rev. E. E. Harding in evangelistic meetings. Later at college he met Sabra Foster, who became his wife. He joined the Church of the Nazarene and was ordained in 1919. He organized and pastored the church at Elkhart, Indiana; also served as pastor in Bakersfield, California, and several churches in the Southern California District. He was active in district work. He was faithful to God and the church. He is survived by his wife, Sabra; two daughters: Esther Asbill, of Kobe, Japan; and Nazarene Spier, of Downey, California; and two sons: Russell C. Jr., of Duarte; and Robert Louis, of Mexico City. One son, James Loyd, died in infancy. He is also survived by a brother, Ralph C. Gray, evangelist, with whom he traveled in meetings during the early years of their ministry. Funeral service was held at Downey, where he was assistant pastor, with the pastor, Rev. Royal C. Warner, in charge, assisted by Rev. J. Shocke and Dr. A. E. Sanner. Committal service was held in Pasadena, with Rev. W. W. Hess, Rev. Leroy Daniel, and Rev. I. W. Young participating.

Rev. Howard G. King, elder in the Church of the Nazarene since 1928, died in Pasadena, California, January 29, 1958, at the age of seventy-five. He pastored churches in Roseville and Red Bluff, California, residing in Pasadena since 1928, when he was married. He organized and pastored two other churches in the Southern California District. He was active in district work. He was faithful to God and the church. He is survived by his wife, Pearl; a son, Harold, in New York; and three grandchildren. Funeral service was held in the church, where he was assistant pastor, with the pastor, Rev. Royal C. Warner, in charge, assisted by Rev. J. Shocke and Dr. A. E. Sanner. Committal service was held in Pasadena, with Rev. W. W. Hess, Rev. Leroy Daniel, and Rev. I. W. Young participating.

Edward Biberstein of Bluffton, Indiana, died suddenly on August 3, 1958. Due to injuries received in a fall, he was forced to retire from the church. He had been a faithful member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Bluffton for over thirty years. He was preparing to attend Sunday school when the fatal heart attack came. He was born near Decatur, Indiana, in 1897. In 1920 he was united in marriage to Martha Michel, who survives; also surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Arthur Harris, and three sons, Eugene, Morris, and Richard. Funeral service was held in Bluffton First Church with Rev. Vance Davison and Rev. Walter Grinton officiating in the Six Mile Cemetery southwest of Bluffton.

Mrs. Lillian J. Rowe was born July 17, 1867, at New York City, and died August 30, 1958, after several weeks of suffering. She was converted in 1891 and sanctified three years later. She was married to Rev. Benjamin Rowe and they both became charter members of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene in Bedford Tabernacle in Brooklyn, N. Y. They gave themselves unstinted to the work of the Lord. Funeral service was held in Kansas City, conducted by Dr. A. Milton Smith assisted by Dr. S. S. White. She was buried by the side of her husband in Greenlawn Cemetery, Kansas City, Missouri. She is survived by her son, Rev. G. Howard Rowe, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Beaverton, Michigan.

Rev. Alvin Thomas, son of Rev. David and Rogena (Chatfield) Thomas, Nazarene pastors at Newport, Rhode Island, died August 28, 1958, by accidental drowning while swimming, at the age of thirteen years. The Thomases had been spending their vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Chatfield, of Leicester, Vermont. David was born January 31, 1945, in Burlington, Vermont. He was a good student, an obedient son, and a sincere Christian. On the evening of August 28, as he was with other youth who were swimming, he was drowned at the age of thirteen years. The Thomases had been spending their vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Chatfield, of Leicester, Vermont. David was born January 31, 1945, in Burlington, Vermont. He was a good student, an obedient son, and a sincere Christian. On the evening of August 28, as he was with other youth who were swimming, he was drowned at the age of thirteen years.

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