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THE BIBLE VISION

*A
Blessed
Christmas
1945*



DECEMBER, 1945 - JANUARY, 1946



The Bible Vision

DECEMBER, 1945 - JANUARY, 1946

CONTENTS

Editorials Loyal R. Ringenberg
 The Issues of the Judgment
 The Challenge of 1946
 How Christians May Help
 Chiang-Kai-Shek Steadfast
 Bishop Shaw's Challenge
 Great Commission Essay Contest
How the Great Commission Can Be
 Carried Out A Symposium
The Modern Issue Safara A. Witmer
Why a Christian Should Be Interested
 in Foreign Missions ... Robert H. Glover
Savages in Silk Hats and Cutaway
 Coats Weldon O. Klopfenstein
The Christian Way
 of Life Clarence I. Huffman
From Prison to
 Presidency Reginald E. Shepley
I Was Just Thinking David Siemens
With the Fellowship Circle .. Luella Miller



THE BIBLE VISION

A Bi-monthly Journal Reflecting the Light of the Bible On Us and Our Times

Volume X

DECEMBER, 1945-JANUARY, 1946

Number 2

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EDITORIALS

The Issues of the Judgment

When Christ takes the throne of His glory and the nations are gathered before Him He will bestow the inheritance of the kingdom to people of a certain moral quality. It will be bestowed upon those people who have manifested compassion to their fellow men—who have fed the hungry and given drink to the thirsty; who have had hospitality for strangers; who have visited the sick; who have ministered to those in prison. Those who thus minister have the promise of everlasting life in the kingdom of the Father. Those withholding such service from their fellow men are faced with the ultimatum of everlasting punishment.

The Challenge of 1946

The world has never called more pitifully for a manifestation of Christian compassion than it does as we face the January of 1946. The war-stricken nations of Europe as well as the greater numbers of China, Manchuria, Japan, and other eastern areas call for immediate relief from hunger, cold, and disease. This relief in order to be effective must come in such quantities as united effort on the part of all who *have* can give. In view of this condition it is bitterly disappointing that the U. N. N. R. A. is stalling at the job. Certainly this is inexcusable. If the thousands of tons of materials needed to execute the war could be transported promptly to the place of need there is no reason why the victors cannot promptly and effectively sustain the lives of the peoples who are the victims of devastation.

America, particularly, is in the year ahead challenged with a

greater task than that of winning a war. The seeds of the next war will be sown in the hearts of many embittered peoples if we allow selfishness to prevent us from ministering to the *needy* of these nations. On the other hand, there was never a greater opportunity for planting real faith and gratitude in the hearts of many peoples. We may go far toward the solution of international political problems, and certainly we may make it much more favorable for gaining faith in our God, if we will have the compassion of heart and the good sense to minister copiously to *all needy* now.

How Christians May Help

If the United Nations War Relief agencies bicker and stall at the task which belongs to them there is certainly no question but that true Christians must nevertheless do all in their power to alleviate need.

All evangelical Christians should know that aid may be given through the *War Relief Commission* of the National Association of Evangelicals. This agency sends its relief materials to evangelical agencies in Europe so that there is the advantage of having them distributed in connection with a spiritual ministry. The N. A. E. Commission writes:

WE NEED MORE CLOTHING, all the used clothing you can send us. We must continue this Christian missionary work of meeting bodily needs with a Gospel message.

WE NEED YOUR GIFTS, TOO. Every bit of clothing must be prepared for shipment and there are processing expenses we must meet daily.

Holland, especially, is desperate. They are looking to us. Will you help?

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE: Frank D. Lombar, Executive Director, 2124 Lincoln-Liberty Building, Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Chiang Kai-Shek Steadfast

Considering the derogatory propaganda against the character of China's Christian General which gained currency in this country some months ago, it is very satisfying to have first hand word from Reverend Charles Culver, missionary in China for fifteen years, utterly condemning the reports as false. When confronted by Christian bishops with the rumors, the Generalissimo is said to have replied with an unhesitating confirmation that his heart was pure before God. Corresponding to this testimony is the fact that Chiang Kai Shek is unflinching in his devotional habits and in his policy of submitting his problems to God through prayer. Also, his record in public service stands to his credit. It is reported that of the sixteen portfolios in

his government fourteen are filled by men professing the Christian faith. It would appear that from the standpoint of leadership his government is more deserving of the name Christian than any other in the world today.

There is no more important item for prayer in the Christian's missionary prayer list than for the preservation of the faith in this Christian party in China. The whole history of this party, particularly of the rise of Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai Shek, bears the stamp of God's providence. We may be sure that God in His great mercy desires to bring a great deliverance of China's millions from the age-old tyranny of paganism.

Bishop Shaw Gives Challenge to Biblical Evangelism

Bishop Alexander Shaw, of the Baltimore area, in speaking to a gathering of the Methodist ministers of the north Indiana conference delivered a most commendable challenge to evangelism. Getting to the heart of the matter he said, "I fear that we have not searched the Word sufficiently to find out what our God wants to do. . . . Notice to what the Scriptures are dedicated: 'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.' . . . God's objective in thus working through the church is expressed in the prayer, 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.'"

This singular recognition of the Scriptures in the preparation of the evangel has come to be sadly lacking in some of the larger schools for ministerial training of the great denomination which Bishop Shaw represents. The same thing must be said for other American denominations which have been great channels of blessing in the past. If Bishop Shaw is right, and we believe he is, then it is in order for Christians who are concerned about spiritual revival and about the coming of the Kingdom of Christ to protest against theological professors and liberal ministers who ridicule the Bible by relegating it to the category of mythology.

Great Commission Essay Contest Brings Positive Results

Of the seventy-six essays received on the subject, "How the Great Commission Can Be Carried Out in This Generation" not one had any element of doubt as to the duty and the possibility of fulfilling the Commission. Perhaps the most conspicuous feature in the essays was their strong element of exhortation to full consecration for the completion of the task. This common feature is indeed commendable for it shows that our constituency is spiritually alive.

The question of "How" was answered with less uniformity." Factors stressed included prayer, obedience, faith, repentance, giving, sacrifice, love, greater vision, and greater burden. Agencies and means stressed included the revival of the Sunday School, Youth for Christ, reading the Bible in the Public Schools, Children's Work, radio, air-travel, personal evangelism, and tract work. Some papers stressed the power of the Spirit in the church as the solution of the problem; others stressed forms of ministry and endeavor regarded as particularly important for our generation.

Perhaps it is too much to expect that the outworking of such a campaign as world evangelization should be fully comprehended and set forth by a single writer. Perhaps all together may fail to do so. After all, the work is God's and it is enough that He knows. Yet, it would be strange if all Christians should be so lacking in interest in this campaign that they did not concern themselves with its outworking. "God made known His *ways* unto Moses and His *acts* unto the children of Israel." God must be pleased to have us keen in our attempt to co-operate with Him and to give our consecration the full backing of our intelligence.

Comment or further clarification of the "How" of the Great Commission from our readers will be welcomed.

CHRISTIAN WORKERS NEEDED

1. A matron to be in charge of girls from ten to twenty years of age in a Kentucky Christian School.
2. A music teacher for the same school. One individual might fill both vacancies.
3. A director for the Junior Church in a city Presbyterian church. Other duties include assistance in the various duties of the pastor. Full time employment.
4. A Christian lady to work in a children's home in western Pennsylvania.
5. A Christian Education director in a Colorado Presbyterian church. A young man of evangelical faith and spirit is desired.
6. A qualified Voice teacher in an eastern Bible Institute.
7. Pastor of a large city Baptist church desires to employ a full time Musical Director and Pastor's Assistant.

Applicants for any of the above positions are invited to write to The Bible Vision, Fort Wayne Bible Institute, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.

How the Great Commission Can Be Carried Out in this Generation— A Symposium of Four Prize Winning Bible Vision Essays FIRST RANKING ESSAY

By PAUL A. ERDEL

Mr. Erdel is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Erdel of Lafayette, Indiana, a member of the Missionary Church at Frankfort, Indiana, and a theological student of the Fort Wayne Bible Institute.

The Great Commission will never be fulfilled unless the people who call themselves Christians are wholly consecrated to God. As long as the majority refuse to completely separate their lives from the world, and continue to reject the power they can receive by the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the world will remain unevangelized. This truth is expressed very plainly in the fifty-first Psalm. Here David asks the Lord to restore unto him His salvation and His free spirit; so that he might then teach transgressors and see sinners converted.

There are four things which those Christians who have presented their bodies as living sacrifices unto the Lord must realize and pray for. First of all, they need a vision of the awful price Christ paid when He suffered for us on the cross. This should stir every one of His followers to new heights of activity. Then they must actually comprehend what it means when one soul is lost without Christ, and have the ability to multiply this one lost soul, in their reasoning, by the two billion lost souls in the world. Thirdly, they must pray for an ever deepening burden for lost souls. Finally, it is important for Christians to remember the soul winner's reward and the shamefulness of appearing before the Master empty-handed.

If these preceding qualifications are heeded there will be no failure among Christians in witnessing to the unsaved. When there is true consecration and an actual burden for lost souls, their testimony will be spontaneous. No longer will young people reject the call to the mission field or to the pulpit. The financial support of Christian work will cease to be a problem, for Christians will give as the Lord directs.

The radio and the airplane are two inventions that can be profitably employed in obeying the Great Commission. Through the radio millions can hear the message at the same time, and it can be made to resound in every isolated hamlet and village. The airplane enables workers to reach every valley, island, or desert in a marvelously short time. Yet nothing can ever take the place that personal evangelism must fill in the spreading of the gospel. It

must be a combination of new methods with old truths and practices.

To sum it all up: consecrated Christians, who have a deep burden for the millions of lost souls, must use every means from the oldest proven practices to the most recent invention to tell every person the story of redemption. Then the Great Commission will be fulfilled.

SECOND RANKING ESSAY

By JAMES WADE PARKER

Mr. Parker is the son of Reverend and Mrs. Marvin R. Parker of Ontario, California, a member of the Missionary Church Association, and a theological student at the Fort Wayne Bible Institute.

While seizing every opportunity to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ into lands now open to evangelism, there is the great need of immediate action for a world-wide evangelistic effort in this generation. Christ's commission must be carried out to those who have never heard.

Though we have no assurance of tomorrow, yet we must plan carefully for the furtherance of the Gospel while it is day, and before the night cometh when no man can work. Our task in this dispensation of grace is to "visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for His name." World vision, with burdened hearts, is the need of the hour. We must say with Paul, "Woe is me, if I preach not the Gospel."

There must be a campaign of intensive missionary education in the church. The church is not only the home base, but also the channel through which missions function. "There is no record anywhere of the Holy Spirit's power remaining with any church which did not use it in witnessing for Christ." The church that is not a missionary church will soon become a mission field.

Until one is stirred with a sense of his own spiritual need, he cannot take the Gospel to others in distant lands. There must be a searching of the Scriptures, a new fear of the Lord, and a keen sensitiveness to the Holy Spirit's ministry—until the heart throbs with a new sense of God's redeeming love and the yearning for the souls of men. The rate at which foreign missions grow will depend on the depth of the spiritual life in Christians, and on their effort to see souls saved today.

The urgency of the world's need can be forcefully and effectively presented to the people by broadcasts of missionary programs, through the courtesy of those who conduct regular Gospel programs over the many radio stations and networks of our land.

Furthermore, there must be a combination of believing and

persistent prayer. It has been well said, "When we rely upon prayer, we get what God can do." The fact of the mighty power of prayer, ever the greatest factor in missions, calls for faithful intercessors who will "move the hand that moves the world, to bring salvation down." The evangelism of the world is a challenge to be met in this our own generation.

THIRD RANKING ESSAY

By FAYTHE RINGENBERG

Miss Ringenberg is the daughter of Reverend J. A. Ringenberg of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a student in the field of Christian Education at the Fort Wayne Bible Institute.

The preaching of the gospel to all the world in this generation can be realized only as believers individually and the church collectively are moved by certain fundamental factors.

The first of these is a vision of a world that is lost in sin and is perishing unless an adequate remedy can be found for its deliverance. This vision must include the conviction that it is not God's will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Another of these factors is the persuasion that God has made a provision that includes every man, and that He has committed the proclamation of this fact to His disciples.

On the eve of Jesus' departure to go to the Father He commanded His disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He followed it with a specific statement as to how this should be accomplished. Acts 1:8 gives the formula for the accomplishment of this task. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." This passage specifically states that this witnessing will reach to the uttermost *part* of the world. The focal point is the fact that when the Holy Spirit is come, they will become witnesses. This witnessing will not cease until it has reached the entire world.

Just as the Holy Spirit was the power by which Jesus accomplished salvation for all men; so we can fulfill our ministry of proclaiming this to the world as the Holy Spirit empowers and directs us. In the early church the gospel was carried into all the known world by this kind of witnessing in one generation even though the facilities for accomplishing this were very limited. With all our modern facilities the task should be easily accomplished if there is the same whole-hearted abandonment to the leadership of the Holy Spirit,

FOURTH RANKING ESSAY

By BERNADETTE HOWER

Miss Hower is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Hower of Goshen, Ind., a member of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church of Goshen, and a student in the field of Christian Education at the Fort Wayne Bible Institute.

Every Christian should help carry out the great commission. Those God is calling to foreign lands should obey the call and go. Every convenience of travel is theirs; thus no time should be lost in getting to their harvest-field. Not all will have the opportunity and privilege of carrying the gospel to other lands. To those, marvelous opportunities and great needs are presented in the homeland.

The radio has a great ministry in getting the gospel to people who do not darken a church door. Now the Word is being short-waved around the world. There is need for more such work to be done.

Christian parents have a great privilege and responsibility in training and leading their children to Jesus. Great is the need for the family altar to be restored. Many more souls and lives could be saved were the family worship period a part of every home.

Special meetings for children, held after school hours or on Sunday afternoons, with the songs and hymns children like to sing and a message spoken in the language of a child, are of untold value in the saving of boys and girls. The boys and girls of today must be saved if the next generation is to walk in the ways of the Lord.

I firmly believe the Bible should be taught in the public schools; however, that is not the case in most school systems of today. Nevertheless, the Christian teacher has an excellent opportunity to carry out the great commission in the classroom as he can be a missionary to the boys and girls and young people in his classroom.

An excellent plan would be to have services during the lunch hour in the factories and offices of our cities. If that cannot be arranged, the Christian workers must be faithful in witnessing and leading their fellow workmen to Christ.

The distribution of appropriate gospel tracts to those on the street corner, in hospitals, and the conducting of services in jails is a profitable ministry. God's Word, whether spoken or in tract form, shall not return to Him void.

The shut-in can have a share in carrying out the great commission. His consecrated pen, and much prayer, can be used to the glory of God. Many a person has been led to Christ through the letters of earnest and praying Christians who obeyed God in the writing of a letter.

GREAT COMMISSION ESSAY GLEANINGS

"To see people really saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost is one of the most marvelous things that a person can ever witness."—*Frances Prough.*

* * * * *

"One does not need to be a preacher or a missionary to carry out the commission of the Lord, he just has to be willing to be used of God."—*Helena Oman.*

* * * * *

"What the world needs today is young people who are filled with the Holy Spirit to go out and tell the good tidings of Salvation. . . . The older people or those who cannot go should pray that the Lord will send forth laborers."—*Betty Stucky.*

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"The great commission may be carried out today through complete obedience and deep trust in God."—*Letha Snyder.*

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"The work of the Holy Spirit here on earth, could be greatly furthered if the people who call themselves by the name of Christ would seek His leadership and guidance in their daily living."—*Shirley Schray.*

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"We can't all be foreign missionaries but we can be missionaries."—*Pauline Berg.*

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"The Bible looks forward to a redeemed earth."—*James Bell.*

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"Prayer is the main factor in any Christian service."—*Glenda Greear.*

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"It may seem impossible to reach all nations but with God all things are possible."—*Helen B. Wade.*

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"Remember that your next door neighbor is also a part of the globe."—*Nila Bossard.*

"If only one per cent of the world's population were Christian, and each Christian would win one soul to Christ per year, it would take only seven years to bring the whole world to Christ."—*Paul Grabill*.

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"Too long have we been regarding Christ's Great Commission as a mere suggestion."—*Betty Sims*.

* * * * *

"Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God."—*Joyce Lawson*.

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"This generation needs to unite in a new fellowship of the Spirit to evangelize the world and thus carry out the Great Commission."—*Margaret Packer*.

* * * * *

"The Word of God is just as much afire today as it was in the days of the early disciples."—*Harry McElhone*.

* * * * *

"Personal evangelism may be done at any time, any place and by all Christians."—*Isabelle Bennett*.

* * * * *

"We must all bow down to God, humble ourselves, find the true will of God, and then by His grace, do it."—*Frank Deninger*.

* * * * *

"God has not only commanded us to go, but He has promised to be with us to the end."—*Helen Rueger*.

BIBLE INSTITUTE CHORUSES TO TOUR

The Men's and Women's choruses of the Fort Wayne Bible Institute have been authorized to make tours again this year. Present plans are for the groups to be out from April 12 to 22. Churches or groups of churches desiring to have a concert are invited to make application at once. Address: The President, The Fort Wayne Bible Institute, Fort Wayne (6), Indiana.

I. The Modern Issue

Naturalism Versus Supernaturalism

By SAFARA A. WITMER

President of The Fort Wayne Bible Institute

Many young people trained in modern science have difficulty believing Biblical Christianity. Even some who are followers of Christ confess that they are at times troubled by doubts concerning the foundation of our faith. Some onlookers who do not stop to think pass over the whole tragic situation by the glib remark that all young people pass through a period of skepticism in later adolescence and hence there is no cause for alarm. While young people normally exchange childhood credulity for reasoning conviction, yet it is a fact that many youth today never come to have vital faith in Jesus Christ and they face the battle of life without the sure footing of faith in abiding realities.

There is a good reason for this tragedy: One cannot at the same time hold to the Christian position and that of modern intellectualism. In fact, if one will think through his position, it means he must repudiate one or the other. They stand at opposite poles. There can be no compromise between Christian faith and assumptions of modernism. One cancels out the other.

Some have tried to hold to both, but it has only resulted in confusion and conflict. Some

have eased the tension by resorting to the compartment type of mind; that is, they put their religion in one room of their minds and their science in another, but the twain never meet. This division is defended by asserting that religion and historical and scientific knowledge have nothing in common.

It is, therefore, necessary to state the issue clearly, for the issue is drawn and the outcome is life or death. In a word, it is **NATURALISM** versus **SUPERNATURALISM**.

All types of modern intellectualism, whether materialistic science, religious liberalism, destructive criticism, or evolution, have one principle in common, the principle of **naturalism**. Nature is considered uniform, and all events, all experiences, all phenomena, are produced by natural causes.

This takes us to the basic principle of modern science, which tempers the thinking of this generation. Moulton, in his **Introduction to Astronomy**, states it thus: "The foundation on which all science rests is the principle that the universe is orderly and that all phenomena succeed one another in harmony

with invariable laws." As a working principle in scientific investigation, it has been a valuable tool and has produced valuable results. But when it is stepped up to a philosophic principle admitting of no exceptions and governing every area of being, it leaves one with a closed universe made up of cause-effect sequences. God, then, is either confined to or identified with natural law. Miracles, answers to prayer, conversion, divine judgments must all be explained by natural causes.

Christianity, on the other hand, holds to **supernaturalism**. All of the great truths of our faith rest upon supernatural events. The Bible has a supernatural origin. "Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Pet. 1:21). All Scripture is inspired, literally, God-breathed (II Tim. 3:16). In other words, God took the initiative in revealing Himself to man. The Incarnation was a miracle, for Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. The supreme fact upon which our faith rests is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; there the whole process of nature was reversed. Dead flesh became animated and the resurrected body came forth from the grave. There followed the Ascension, Pentecost, the conversion of multitudes, their endowment with power from "on high,"—all supernatural events.

Apart from the supernatural, we have no faith, no hope, and we are poor, deluded fools, groping in a dark, cold universe for a Heavenly Father who turns out to be a myth!

But, thank God, we know "whom we have believed!"

There need be no contradiction between natural causation and supernaturalism. The difficulty comes when men assert that natural causes explain everything. After all, there is only one Cause, God Himself. His ordinary mode of activity as He by the Son "upholds all things by the word of his power," is called nature. **Nature** is simply God's ordinary way of doing things. But God is not limited to the ordinary, regular mode of operation; He is greater than natural processes, and He may use extraordinary means to accomplish a worthy end. That is the supernatural. The miracle, therefore, is God's extraordinary way of doing things.

Christianity is a supernatural religion which is confirmed by supernatural phenomena, which we call miracles.

Have faith in God! He is a great God,—far transcending the petty conceptions of men!

Watch for **The Modern Issue**, number two, in the next issue of **The Bible Vision**.

Why A Christian Should Be Interested In Foreign Missions

By ROBERT HALL GLOVER

Home Director Emeritus of the China Inland Mission

For many of you this question is superfluous, because your interest and effort in Missions have already been enlisted, and you are finding joy and satisfaction in doing all you can to promote this enterprise. But it is possible that some readers are not interested, but indifferent and perhaps even prejudiced in regard to what is termed foreign missionary work. I have repeatedly met people, and professing Christians among them, who ask the question, "Why foreign missions?" "Why," they say, "should we be concerned about races on the other side of the globe, so far away and so different from ourselves in every respect? Surely there are needs and problems enough in our own country!" It is the old and familiar argument—**work enough to do at home!** But this is an utterly erroneous and unworthy conclusion for any Christian to form. There are a number of convincing reasons why every Christian should be vitally interested in foreign missions. Let me cite a few of these.

1. Personal Spiritual Experience. Every true Christian has been burdened with a sense of sin, and has found in Christ pardon, peace, joy, and eternal hope. How can anyone who has had such a blessed experience

fail to desire to share it with others! The word "Gospel" means "good news," and the first impulse in every healthy mind on receiving good news is to pass it on. That is how Christianity spread from the very beginning. We read of how John the Baptist pointed out Jesus to two of His disciples and bade them "Behold the Lamb of God." They followed Him, spent a never-to-be-forgotten hour in His presence, and then each ran to find his own brother and bring him to Jesus. The sinful woman at Jacob's well, as soon as Jesus had revealed Himself to her as Saviour, left her water-pots and hastened back to tell the good news to her townsfolk and lead them to Him. Peter and John, when solemnly warned by the Sanhedrin, not to dare to preach again in the name of Jesus replied, "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Out of the abundance of their hearts their mouths must give utterance.

When Paul the Apostle in his letter to the Romans wrote, "I am ready to preach the gospel to you also, for I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ," he was simply speaking out of personal experience. Why was he "not ashamed of the gospel"—which

was only a negative way of saying that he had overwhelming confidence in the Gospel? It was because of what he had experienced of the Gospel's mighty power in his own heart, changing the proud, blaspheming, persecuting Pharisee into a humble believer and an impassioned witness and soul winner for Christ.

The trouble with churches and Christians that "do not believe in missions" is the unreality or poverty of their own spiritual experience. If Jesus Christ means little to me, I shall not be enthusiastic to tell others of Him. But if I have found Him as my personal Saviour and Friend, filling my heart with joy and peace and satisfying my every need and desire, I shall long and seek to make Him known to everyone near and far.

And so, even had Christ never given any explicit Great Commission to preach the Gospel to every creature, I submit that in the very nature of things, the Christian Gospel being what it is, every Christian should ardently desire and zealously strive to spread the knowledge of it throughout the world.

2. The Command of Christ. I have just said that even had there been no Great Commission, it would still be incumbent upon Christians to make known the Gospel to men everywhere, because of the very nature of this Gospel. But let me now remind

you that there IS a Great Commission directly from the lips of the risen Christ. He did not merely express a wish or offer a suggestion. He uttered a command—clear, explicit, peremptory, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." His very last recorded words, spoken just before He ascended back to heaven, were "Ye shall be my witnesses . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth." This reiterated command constitutes the marching orders of the Christian Church, its one supreme aim and business on earth. Moreover, it concerned not merely that first little group that heard it from the Saviour's lips, but likewise every subsequent group of His followers and every individual Christian. He puts us all "in trust with the gospel" for the whole world for whose redemption He laid down His life.

Christ did not purpose that His disciples should selfishly appropriate their spiritual privileges while neglecting their corresponding responsibilities. He expected them to "GO" in obedience to Him. Those first disciples promptly obeyed and went. They toiled, and suffered, and laid down their lives to give the Gospel to their generation, while the early Church backed them up with prevailing prayer and sacrificial gift. And well may we thank God that they did go, for otherwise the Gospel would never have entered Europe, the home

of our ancestors, nor later crossed the ocean to this continent, and these western lands would today be lying in darkness and superstition instead of enjoying Christian light and liberty. Have we been as obedient and faithful in our generation as they were in theirs? Our Lord said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." How can we profess love and loyalty to Him and yet not do our utmost to carry out His

last wish and command? How can we escape the charge of being selfish ingrates if we rest content in enjoying the blessings which have come to us through His infinite grace, and through others' faithful obedience, and yet fail to do our part in reaching with the only message of hope and salvation the millions today who have never yet heard of the Saviour?

(To be continued)

Above and Beyond Nature

By C. E. ROBERTSON

To the human mind how utterly impossible it all was. The Messiah, the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Almighty One, came to redeem and rule His people—and was found in a stable.

The wise men from the East had seemingly misread the prophets and made the natural mistake of seeking Him "that is born King of the Jews" in Jerusalem. A king of the Jews would surely be found there. How often men are misled by their own suppositions. They looked for a king in a palace—and why not?

How baffling were the prophets! "Behold a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son"; "Out of Egypt have I called my son"; "He shall be called a Nazarene"; "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end upon the throne of David," they said. Yet the chief priests and scribes on demand of King Herod, answered "In Bethlehem of Judea" will be born the Christ, for "thus is it written by the prophet."

Was there a palace in Bethlehem? Where shall they find the King? In the house of the rich or at least in the best inn surely? One can easily imagine the conversation, the questioning of the natural mind as the wise men start out once more. But the event was not a "natural" one, and the natural mind could not solve it. The whole journey had been guided by the supernatural. In the East the Star, on the outskirts of Jerusalem the Star once more. "Lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them." Then surely it dawned upon them that this was no ordinary birth, for "when they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." A supernatural event in the sky, a star, led them to the very spot and there "stood over where the young child was."

(Continued on page 25)

Savages In Silk Hats and Cutaway Coats

By WELDON O. KLOPHENSTEIN

Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Momence, Illinois

Dr. Albert Edward Wiggam recently asked this question in his illustrated newspaper feature: "When a bandit is shot and killed, crowds, laughing and cheering, rush to see the body. Is this normal?" The answer he gave was rather startling. Here it is: "We are descended from men who hunted until their quarry was killed. Civilization is a thin veneer—scratch a college professor or a column writer, and you will find a savage underneath!"

Coming from a psychologist, such an admission is, as I say, startling. It reveals an unflattering picture of essential human nature, as well as a confession of the utter impotence of modern science to effect any deep and abiding change in human character.

Now if a mere preacher had said that he would at once have been airily dismissed as a "mediaeval obscurantist." But the preacher, taking his cue from the Holy Scriptures, says substantially the same thing when he follows the prophet Jeremiah, who said: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (17:9); or when he takes his stand with the apostle Paul, who declared: "There is none righteous, no not one. . . . They are all gone out of the way . . .

there is none that doeth good, no not one" (Rom. 3:10, 12); or, finally, when he accepts the verdict of our Saviour who insisted: "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). Incidentally, Christ's great imperative was spoken to Dr. Nicodemus, a first century college professor! Beneath his veneer of piety and culture there was a human heart that had not as yet experienced the transforming touch of the divine Spirit.

Nations as well as individuals illustrate the truth of Dr. Wiggam's proposition. Perhaps no nation in history has ever made such phenomenal strides toward what we blithely call civilization as Japan. During the past ninety years Japan has rapidly assimilated western ideas and appropriated western scientific inventions; in short, Japan has literally covered herself with a thin veneer of so-called civilization. Yet the past few years have exposed beneath this cracking veneer the heart of a monstrous savage. The essential soul of the nation was still that of a mediaeval barbarian. When the Japanese emissaries came aboard the battleship "Missouri" on the morning of September 2, 1945, to sign the articles of unconditional surrender, they came—some of them resplendent in gold braid uniforms and others in silk top

hats and cutaway coats. Yet these were some of the very men whose evil minds had raked the gutters of hell to discover new and more bestial methods of torturing their fellow men!

And Germany, with one of the highest literacy rates in the world, was no better. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the present European catastrophe can be traced directly to the Ph. D's of Germany, who long ago banished the thought of personal responsibility to a personal God from their minds. An educated mind and a warped conscience always constitute a dangerous potential! In any event, we know that neither Germany's scientific excellence nor Japan's conventional decorum could long conceal the surging savage soul that throbbed beneath attractive civilized fronts. Now that these false fronts have been demolished, let us not allow ourselves to be deceived by quick and easy signs of reformation. There are, in fact, no short cuts to the transformation of human character. For a nation to exchange one brand of externalism for another will not avail. The essential soul beneath must experience a moral rebirth!

But we need not look across the seas for proof of abnormal human behaviour. A few years ago a notorious scoundrel named Dillinger was shot down by the F. B. I. in an ally in near-by Chi-

cago. In spite of the fact that this Dillinger was the nation's first enemy at the time, the human herd actually fought among themselves for the privilege of dipping handkerchiefs in the reprobate's blood. Some even tore up the blood-stained cobblestones as souvenirs. To make the sordid picture even more nauseating, the most of that clawing, screaming mob were women and girls!

Now if you had met any of those people, singly, upon the street an hour before, you would have taken for granted that they were decent and civilized. Upon this occasion, however, these decent and civilized folk, though strangers to one another, were attracted to a common center by the smell of human blood. As individuals they unconsciously surrendered their judgment to that irrational something called a "mob mind." And then, in their corporate capacity, they behaved like fiends. And unfortunately, it must be said that the behaviour of some of our citizens in certain areas of racial and economic tension just now is almost as loathsome! **Just how civilized are we?**

Although civilization in itself is powerless to change the essential nature of man, whether in Japan, in Germany, in America, or anywhere else, we need not lose hope. Humanity cannot save itself, that is true; but there is a power that can trans-

form the human heart. God has the remedy we need! He has the answer to this problem which man admittedly cannot solve in his own strength or wisdom. The world with all of its wisdom knows not God; indeed, the very simplicity of the Gospel is still an offence unto some, and foolishness to others. "But," says Paul, "unto them which are called," this Gospel is at once and forever, "the power of God and the wisdom of God" (I Cor. 1: 23-24).

What mankind needs today is not a new coat of gloss on the

thin veneer we call civilization, but a new heart; and God's Word insists that this new heart can come only through personal regeneration. The psychologist admits the utter impotence of modern science to save mankind. And General MacArthur, the military strategist, solemnly declares that humanity's deepest need is not political, nor economic, not cultural, but spiritual. "It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh!" Here, in a word, is the supreme task of the Christian—preacher and layman alike!

ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN? (Anonymous)

I think ofttimes as the night
draws nigh
Of an old house on the hill,
Of a yard all wide and blossom-
starred
Where the children played at
will.
And when the night at last came
down,
Hushing the merry din,
Mother would look around and
ask,
"Are all the children in?"

'Tis many and many a year since
then,
And the old house on the hill
No longer echoes to childish feet,
And the yard is still, so still.
But I see it all, as the shadows
creep,

And though many the years have
been
Since then, I can hear mother
ask,
"Are all the children in?"

I wonder if when the shadows
fall
On the last short, earthly day,
When we say good-bye to the
world outside,
All tired with our childish play,
When we step out into that Other
Land
Where mother so long has been,
Will we hear her ask, just as of
old,
"Are all the children in?"

* * *

He knows, He loves, He cares,
Nothing this truth can dim;
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to Him.

The Christian Way Of Life

By CLARENCE I. HUFFMAN

Professor in Bible and Personal Evangelism at the Fort Wayne Bible Institute

“Let us run with patience the race that is before us” (Heb. 12:1). The setting of this exhortation is found in the preceding chapter, the Hall of Fame for men of great faith. We are told that each of the personages spoken of in chapter eleven are recorded there because of their faith.

The previous clauses of this verse bring before us the runner’s position as “compassed about with a cloud of witnesses” and his preparation as “laying aside every weight and . . . sin.” The language of our text, which was readily understood in the Roman world, shows us the company of runners standing ready, stripped, and straining at the starting post, with the long course stretching before them.

The metaphor of the Christian life as a race is so common that it may seem trite, but it is doubtful if it has sunk too deeply into the practice of any of us. It is a very noble metaphor, and contains a concept of the Christian life which we should often think upon and realize. It might stimulate us and it might even shame us.

We ask ourselves what meaning does this figure of speech have for us. In other Scripture references our Christian life is compared to a walk and a jour-

ney; but here it is a race. Where ever figures of speech are found in Biblical terminology they have a definite purpose and should convey a special meaning to the mind of the reader.

In speaking of this Christian Life as a race, the writer of the Hebrews makes only one qualification for this race—it shall be run with patience or steadfastness.

In the highly figurative language of this passage four things are suggested which may have meaning for us. Now, let us ask ourselves the question, “Do they correspond to anything in my Christian life?”

We have suggested here:

I. A DEFINITE AIM. No race was ever run without an aim. Most men have aims. If you ask the average man in life what he is living for he will generally be able to give you a quick answer, or at any rate his life will show his answer if he cannot put it into words. But in many instances these are means rather than ends; “I am living to make a fortune, I am living to rear a respected family, I am living for enjoyment, I am living in preparation for the tomorrows.”

But what is the answer if you should follow the first question, “Well and what then?” And then we often bring men to a realiza-

tion that they are really without true aims in life. A life lived without true aims is as meaningful as a barrel floating down the current of a large river. The shabby, immediate aims often given as such are not worth calling so.

What then is the aim of the Christian runner? The only aim, that it is worthy of a man to live for, as his supreme and dominant one, is that he should be completely moulded in character, disposition, nature, heart, and will into the likeness of Jesus Christ, who is the image of God. (II Tim. 3:17.) The complete development of human character into divine image and the complete union of the human with the divine, is the aim that God's Word sets ever before us.

What we want most is a Christian consciousness in the church, and individuals which apprehend that great supreme purpose and follow it persistently through every realm of their lives. We may sell bread for a living but we sell it to the glory of God. It may be our task in life to follow the plow, to spend six days each week at a workbench, to wear the uniform of our country, but this must not dim our large aim in life—to live for Him and to be like Him.

Notice, also, the power that comes into a life from this unity. A man of one aim is always formidable. Unity of life will gather together the whole power of

our nature, and bring it into a point, and it will heat it as well as concentrate it. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith."

II. A PATH CHOSEN BY GOD. The race is "set before us." Our course is staked out and determined by the Judge of the games. We need this truth to fasten itself upon us. Our duties are appointed by God, and if only we realize that and bring the thought of His will and His purpose, it will change our occupations, relationships, and duties so that even the trivial chores and tasks of life will be of meaning.

We are not here because of a series of circumstances, not by accident, not by chance. We are being led day by day by an infinitely wise God. We are in this situation for a divine purpose. God has prepared a path for us, and ordained that we should walk therein. That elevates, that sweetens, that calms us, that smooths the road, makes the rough place plain and the crooked things straight.

It may be that in the course which God has outlined for us there is some difficult terrain, some barriers, some enemies seemingly in the midst of our path, perhaps some lions of opposition confronting us. This does not mean that we can choose a path of our own choosing. He has set before us a course

which we are to follow with implicit faith and trust in His divine wisdom. Our race may at times seem like an obstacle race but there is a certain reward for our faithfulness.

We want with the clear vision of the aim the equally clear and abiding persuasion that God has appointed the path. "Created unto good works which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

III. A STEADY PROGRESS. "Let us run with patience." The word which is translated "patience" might be better understood if it were made to read, "Let us run with steadfastness."

If you have attended a long-distance track meet you will readily understand the importance of this "steadfast" element. In the Christian race we are not running a short distance and then stop, but we are running a race which embraces all of life.

Continual advance is the very salt of the Christian life and unless there be such progress there is something fatally wrong. An unprogressive Christianity is very apt to become a stagnant and dead Christianity.

There is no middle ground, either we are progressing or we are losing the race.

We may have experienced the grace of God working in heart and life in regeneration and sanctification; but can we stop

with any epochal experience along the way? The answer is NO. Any teaching that fails to emphasize this vital message of progress in Grace is woefully falling short.

Ask yourself the question, "Am I further on than I was this day last year?" If not, why not? Let us run with steadiness.

IV. STRENUOUS EFFORT. A race is a contest. We are not merely marking time; we have competition and opposition. Opposition — where does opposition come from? The Apostle Paul asked the Christians at Galatia that once. "Ye did well; what did hinder you?" And the answers are many; flowers by the roadside, golden apples flung across the course, siren voices tempting us, the pressure of wind on our faces.

There are some games where one may lie down on the job. One can ease up and still win because of his teammates' ability. But, not so, in a race. There is the utmost need for exertion. Effort, effort, effort is the secret of all noble lives, in all departments, and it is the secret of advancing Christian life.

"O Jesus, I have promised To
serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, My
Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle If
Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If
Thou wilt be my Guide."

From Prison To Presidency

By REGINALD E. SHEPLEY

Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Warsaw, Indiana

Joseph is one of the great characters of Scripture. He is the universal favorite both of old and young. His strenuous and useful life of 110 years is divided into three unequal periods. First, there is a period of seventeen years, during which his occupation was pastoral in character. Second, there is a period of thirteen years, during which he is a prisoner either of his brethren, the Ishmaelites, or the Egyptians. Third, there is a period of eighty years during which he is president of Egypt.

Let us look briefly at these three periods in the life of Joseph.

I

The first period need not detain us long. The whole seventeen years is described in two brief passages: They are Genesis 30:22-24 and Genesis 37:2. The first passage recounts his birth. The second records an instance which occurred when he was seventeen. The years between are silent. Nothing is recounted or recorded regarding them.

This fact reminds us of Jesus Christ of whom Joseph is a type. From the time of His birth till the beginning of His ministry, the whole of our knowledge of Jesus Christ is compressed into two brief passages of Scripture. They are Luke 2:21 and Luke 2:41-51. The first passage recounts

the circumcision of Jesus Christ. The second records His first trip to Jerusalem. The rest of the thirty year period is summarized by the two statements: Luke 2:40, 52.

These two statements may well summarize for us in New Testament language the life of Joseph during the first seventeen years of his life. Joseph "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." He "grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him," Luke 2:40, 52.

During the second period of thirteen years, Joseph was either a prisoner of his brethren, the Ishmaelites, or the Egyptians. It was thirteen years of trouble and sorrow. These thirteen years, however, were years in which he experienced the presence of the Lord and tasted and enjoyed His prosperity to the full.

As one reviews this period, three utterances, repeated many times each, arrest the reader's attention. Look at them:

1. The direction in which Joseph continuously and progressively moved was downward. He goes down into the pit, Gen. 37:24. He is sold into Egypt, 37:25. He descends into the Egyptian prison, 39:20.

2. Joseph was afforded the presence of the Lord during this

downward process. Many times it is simply said: "And the Lord was with Joseph." Cf. 39:2, 3, 21, 23.

3. Joseph was accompanied by the prosperity of the Lord where ever he went. The result was the same whether Joseph was residing in his master's house or languishing in an Egyptian prison. While he was dwelling in his master's house, it is said: Joseph "was a prosperous man," 39:2. "The Lord made all that he did to prosper," 39:3. "It came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field," 39:5. Recounting Joseph's adversity in prison, it is written: "And that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper," 39:23.

This particular period of Joseph's life is summarized for us by Joseph himself when he came to name his two sons. His first-born son was named Manasseh, that is, "forgetting." The second son was named Ephraim, that is "fruitful." Is it not possible that in Manasseh Joseph aimed to **forget** the envy and jealousy, the bitterness and the trails of past experiences? Is it not possible that in Ephraim he determined to **remember** the goodness of the Lord as well as His presence and prosperity which made him fruitful? We think so!

III.

During a period of eighty years, Joseph was president of Egypt. The thirty years which had preceded it were preparatory years. Without them, irrespective of their trials and sorrows, this crowning event of his life and the fulfillment of God's purposes through him, would have been impossible. Look at three of these divine purposes:

1. Because of Joseph's presence in Egypt by the devious pathway of trouble and trial, God was able to save the Egyptians as well as the Israelites from extinction by famine. Think of it, a godless nation is saved from death by a creature of God's providence. In this respect Joseph was an ancient Hoover.

2. Through Joseph, God was able to bring to a successful fulfillment his immediate purpose in the entrance of Israel into Egypt as well as their exodus from it. Cf. Genesis 15:13, 14.

3. As the result of Israel's entrance into Egypt through Joseph, and their exodus from it under Moses, God was able to bring to a successful fulfillment His distant purpose of bringing His own son, Jesus Christ, into the world by the incarnation.

All of these were the eternal purposes of God. But apart from human participation, they lacked fulfillment. Joseph, then, by the relationship which he sustained toward God, created the opportunity for God to fulfill His purposes through him.

Here, then, are the human values of his life:

1. There's a divine purpose for every life.

2. The thing which counts is the end and not the means.

3. God's way up is down.

4. The work we do for God is going to be complemented by others until all of God's eternal purposes are fulfilled and forever established among men.

ABOVE AND BEYOND NATURE

(Continued from page 16)

The shepherds had been there before them. About their ordinary, natural duties in the fields they, too, had seen the supernatural. "The glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid." They saw more than the wise men. They saw "the Angel of the Lord." They saw suddenly "a multitude of the heavenly host." They heard more than the wise men heard. They heard the music of eternity, the sweetest song of praise to God. Yes, more, they heard the notes of the melody of heaven expressing the deepest longing of the earth's Creator, "peace on earth, good-will to men."

Like the wise men of the East they too needed direction. Not from the lips of the chief priests and the scribes did it come, but from the lips of "the Angel of the Lord." "Unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." So it has happened in Bethlehem; "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet!" But where shall we find Him? "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." No difficulty now. In Bethlehem, yes; but in a manger? That is not so easy to understand. "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see," they said one to another.

At the end of the road to Bethlehem what an amazing sight met the eyes of the searchers. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" said the wise men, and "when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshipped him." They poured out their treasure and gave gifts to the King. They knew they had found the King of the Jews—else why the gifts?

And the shepherds, "came with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger." They, too, knew they had found "the Saviour which is Christ the Lord" for was it not exactly "the saying which was told them concerning the child"? The supernatural—"the Angel of the Lord," had said, "ye shall find the babe lying in a manger." Christ the Lord in a manger! It seemed unbelievable but it was true. No wonder they returned "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them."

(Continued on page 32)

I Was Just Thinking

By DAVID F. SIEMENS, *Foreign Secretary of the Missionary Church Association*

This article is a missionary reminiscence significant of new life in the Missionary Church Association. Let us hope that this forward advance may continue and that it may be depuplicated in many branches of the Church of Christ.

None of us will ever fully realize just how far reaching our decisions may be. "And their works do follow them" are words that we might very profitably ponder. Some one recently told us that one of the reasons God does not reward mankind at the time of death is because the interest, the results, and the consequences and products of our life's influence will not terminate until the end of time. In the light of such realities, what manner of persons ought we to be!

As I am writing these lines I think back almost exactly two years to the day. We had returned from our first missionary survey to the West Indies, and I was bringing my report. I felt that it was my part to present the report and that it was the part of the General Committee to make the decisions. In order to make the point clear that the Dominican-Haitian Frontier did present a needy and I hoped a profitable field for us to enter as a missionary venture for God, I explained to the Brethren that I hardly thought it large enough to occupy all of our en-

ergies as an Association of Missionary Churches. I then heard what I believe I shall always cherish, from the lips of President Ramseyer, who has since gone to be with the Lord. He said, "Bro. Siemens, I expect this to be but the beginning of greater things to be undertaken for God." Brother Ramseyer did not live to see even the first group of missionaries leave for that field, but our hearts thrill as we think of the results that that decision has already produced.

Within two years after that decision was made, we have either on or en route to the mission fields:—nine new missionaries in the Dominican-Haitian Frontier, five new missionaries in the Esmeraldas, Ecuador work, and others in the Sierra Leone field, besides those who are and have gone into missionary service as in years past under the direction of co-operating missionary societies. And what is even more blessed to note is the increase in souls that the Lord is giving our missionaries for their hire. May God grant that we ever make our decisions and purposes of life in the light of eternity.

WITH THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE at home and abroad

By LUELLA MILLER

With holiday vacations so near at hand, how can we be expected to give you a very clear word picture of happenings at the Institute? Former students and staff members will recall the high pitch of excitement that prevails at this time of year as students anticipate re-union with loved ones and friends. And after all, it is a blessed time for all God's children as we review God's leading throughout another year and recall to heart and mind His great love Gift to us. May we have learned from the past year's experiences and be better fitted to do His will more perfectly in the new year.

There has been a commendable interest in studies among the 267 enrolled students—a record number for the Institute. The Spirit of the Lord has been working in many hearts in various special services. Quite a number of attendants were saved, and many were filled with the Spirit in the recent Youth Conference. The half days of prayer have been times of spiritual refreshing to all who attended.

YOUTH CONFERENCE

October 19, 20, 21 were the dates of the sixth annual Youth Conference held in Founders' Memorial auditorium. The services were inspirational, evangelistic, missionary and devotional throughout. The evangelist was Rev. Elmer D. Piper of Chattanooga, Tennessee; and the missionary speaker was Rev. Walter Arnold of French West Africa. Both speakers were definitely used of God to make this one of the best Youth Conferences that the students of the Institute have sponsored. The musical talent was well received under the direction of Rev. Dwight L. Niswander of Lima, Ohio, with Miss Berdaline Gerig as pianist and Mr. Lyndell Cash as organist.

NEW DORMITORY

The new dormitory built to house 70 students has turned out to be a larger and more substantial building than was first planned. It will be a comfortable building and a valuable addition to the campus. We regret that due to jurisdictional strikes in foundries, the installation of the heating equipment has been held up. The remainder of the building is completed. We hope the young women students may very soon be able to move into their new "home."

Miss Louise Wenger of Salem, Oregon is to be the hostess of the new dormitory. Miss Wenger is a graduate of Pacific Bible College, Huntington Park, California, has traveled in a gospel team in the interest of the College for one year, and served as assistant to the pastor in the Salem Church of the Nazarene. She took studies at the Institute during the past summer and will continue with a few classes this winter. We are happy to have Miss Wenger as a member of the Institute staff.

DEDICATION SERVICE

The new dormitory is to be dedicated on Sunday afternoon, January 13th, in a special service to be held in Founders' Memorial. All friends of the Institute are invited. The new dormitory will be opened for inspection during the afternoon.

The Committee on Administration is deeply grateful to God for the gifts that have come in recently for the new dormitory. We trust that others will share in this undertaking by their offerings. Gifts or pledges may be sent to the Treasurer, Rev. P. L. Eicher, 3820 South Wayne Avenue, Bible Institute, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.

THE MESSIAH TO BE RENDERED

The Fort Wayne Bible Institute Chorus will give the second annual presentation of Handel's The Messiah

on Sunday, December 16th in Founders' Memorial. The program will begin at 2:30 o'clock Central Standard Time.

The Chorus is under the direction of Professor Oliver E. Steiner. More than one hundred voices are being trained for the rendition. Selected soloists include Helen Limbert, soprano; Julia Beitler, alto; Carlton Eldridge, tenor; and Paul Fuller, baritone.

Friends are advised to arrive early in order to secure seats. There are no charges and no reservations. A free will offering will be received.

THE B. I. CAMPUS

The Institute campus is having a "face lifting" under the direction of our new superintendent of buildings and grounds, Mr. Carl Parlee. New side walks have been built, stone paths have been laid, landscaping is being done, shrubs are being planted, and an orderly parking lot for cars has been arranged. All of this has taken much planning and a great deal of hard work on the part of many, but it is making a much needed improvement in the appearance of the entire campus for which all are deeply grateful.

NEW ENLISTMENTS

During a period of approximately one year thirty-three Bible Institute men and women will have left for their first term of service as foreign missionaries. This number reflects the interdenominational character of the F. W. B. I. in that they are affiliated with eight different missionary societies. They are stationed in nine fields in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Let this be a call for prayer help in behalf of our representatives in darkened lands. They will be expecting the home folks to "hold the ropes as they go down." We hope to have letters from them for this column from time to time.

MISSIONARY PIONEER GUEST

Rev. J. E. Jaderquist visited the Institute recently and brought a very impressive chapel message on "Paul a Bond-servant of Jesus Christ." Dr.

Jaderquist has been a friend of the Institute for years. He was a missionary pioneer in the Sierra Leone field of the Christian and Missionary Alliance known as the White Man's Graveyard and has been on the faculty at Nyack. He has also taught at Gordon College and at the Moody Bible Institute. He is now Executive Secretary of the Bible House of Los Angeles.

A MISSIONARY CHALLENGE

Addressing the Students' Mission Band on November 16, Rev. Paul Bartel called attention to a startling situation. Bible Institutes have had capacity enrollments for several years, yet at the present time Missionary Societies report that there is a real shortage of qualified missionary candidates.

VIOLIN-PIANO RECITAL

Mr. Al Zahlout, of the class of 1939, returned with Mrs. Zahlout and gave a public violin-piano recital in Founders' Memorial. Mr. Zahlout has been associated with Rev. Percy Crawford for a number of years since leaving the Bible Institute. He has also recently toured with Gil Dodds, world champion in track and now noted youth speaker.

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

From Artimese Church Eicher ('31), Akola, Berar, India:

"Studying in the Bible Institute grounded me in the Word of God, and gave me a vision for Missions. While at the Institute I learned to pray, and in praying never to be ashamed of taking even the smallest things to the Lord.

"I came to the Institute saved—yes, but with many unanswered questions in my mind; doubts which were implanted in an evolutionistic college concerning God, and answers to prayer, coupled with a dangerous application of natural law to make plausible a materialistic philosophy of life. Often while studying Christian Evidences alone in my room, I would praise God aloud for clearing my doubts and establishing my faith."

MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN ACTION

Sgt. George E. Powers ('37), has been awarded the Bronze Star for distinguishing himself by meritorious service in action.

His citation reads in part as follows, "From June 6, 1944, to May 9, 1945, he performed his duties as assistant to the Division Chaplain in an outstanding manner. When the latter was wounded by shell fire aboard the Liberty Ship off the coast of Normandy, Sgt. Powers drove the jeep and trailer with equipment, through strafing, safely to the destination. He carried on his duties as best he could in the absence of the Division Chaplain for the six weeks of the Normandy campaign. Assigned to the Normandy, Holland and Bastogne operations, he consistently attended to the wounded as they were evacuated to the Medical Company. He saved the Division Chaplain from capture near Bastogne when the Medical Company was overrun, by driving a jeep through fog and darkness to safety. His actions were in accordance with the highest standards of military service."

Sgt. Powers has five battle stars in addition to the Bronze Star Award. At present, he is among the students recently enrolled at the Trinity College of Music, in London, where he is studying piano composition. This course is made possible as part of the Army Education Program being conducted through the Information and Education Division.

JUNIOR ALUMNI

Little Dawn Elizabeth Rupp, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Rupp ('43), of Bluffton, Ohio, send us word of the arrival of her baby sister, Joy Elise. She has been with them since Nov. 2. Dawn Elizabeth says: "And I'm no longer the baby!" Mrs. Rupp will be remembered by many of our readers as Harriet Sweeten.

November 13th was an eventful day for Rev. ('37) and Mrs. Kenneth C.

Rupp, now of Fort Wayne. It marked the arrival of a fine baby boy, John Kenneth. Mrs. Rupp was formerly Miss Ruth Camp.

A Mother's Prayer

I wash the dirt from little feet, and as I wash I pray,

"Lord, keep them ever pure and true to walk the narrow way."

I wash the dirt from little hands, and earnestly I ask,

"Lord, may they ever yielded be to do the humblest task."

I wash the dirt from little knees, and pray, "Lord, may they be

The place where victories are won, and orders sought from Thee."

I scrub the clothes that soil so soon, and pray, "Lord, may her dress

Thoughtout eternal ages be Thy robe of righteousness."

E'er many hours shall pass, I know, I'll wash these hands again;

And there'll be dirt upon her dress before the day shall end.

But as she journeys on through life and learns of want and pain,

Lord, keep her precious little heart cleansed from all sin and stain;

For soap and water cannot reach where Thou alone can'st see.

Her hands and feet, these I can wash —I trust her heart to Thee.

—Contributed by Mrs. Stanley Rupp.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

Tsibiri, Colonie Du Niger
Afrique Occidentale Francaise

"I have been living here at Tsibiri for the past 9 weeks. I am about 175 miles north of Kano and about 125 miles south of the southern edge of the Sahara Desert.

" God has truly been helping me in the study of the Hausa language. The rules of grammar are coming all right. The hearing and the speaking of the native sounds themselves, however, have been a difficult pull in the past

and it is probable that it will be that way for a long time in the future. Yet in it all I can say God is helping me to progress. Your prayers explain why God has helped me in the language, and it also explains why God has kept me from physical and spiritual dangers. From a natural point of view there is much which could hinder one's missionary work out here in Hausaland, but how much more so from a spiritual point. Indeed, we come into definite battles with that awful arch enemy of God and of man, Satan himself. But there is one who is stronger, one who is full of grace and truth, one whom we know as the blessed Spirit of the Living God. Amen! Hallelujah! Yes, dear prayer helper. Your prayers have carried me through dark places, and I truly need your prayers even more in the days to come. There were definite times when in a special way I feel God worked in my behalf, and no doubt if I knew, there were many groups who prayed for me. Without a doubt, I am sure that I have been surrounded by the presence of God because of your constant prayers. Thank you for this fact, and may you remember me more and more in the days to come.

"I have received real inspiration from the letters which some of my Christian friends have written. However, if I am going to be honest I will have to say that I have been somewhat disappointed in that the vast majority of you have not dropped me one solitary line of correspondence. It truly does leave an aching void in one's life to see others rejoicing over their letters, but you yourself not receiving one solitary scratch. Yes, a missionary needs encouragement, and thank the Lord for giving this ministry to the dear devoted letter writers. I truly believe that your fellowship in the gospel will be enriched a little if you will drop me a line whenever possible. Thank you for our fellowship in the gospel."

Yours for the Salvation of Needy Souls,
Clarence Rutschman ('40).

Cuenca, Ecuador

"It is with joy unspeakable and full of glory that we greet you from the jungles of southern Ecuador. We do indeed count it all joy to serve our blessed Master in this needy field.

"We want to thank you for sending us the Bible Vision. We have practically devoured it. . . .

"We have thought about our days at the Institute many times and do praise the Lord for the joy we had in attending there. Many and precious are the memories. We especially like to recall our experiences in Gospel Team work. The tenor from the one men's quartet and the alto from the one girls' quartet are still on "team work" and we certainly praise the Lord for the joy of singing His praises in dark places. Our two children, aged six and four, can carry the melody very well, even against our tenor and alto, so we have a family trio.

"Many and varied are our experiences among the Jivaros—our days are indeed full. . . We have a school here for the Indian boys. This means much farming has to be done to provide food for so many. . . A number of our school boys have been saved during the past year and we are hoping to see some of them go into full time gospel work among their own people. The work among the Jivaros has been very hard, with only a few converts, and it is only recently that they have shown any interest. We believe that the future of this work will be through the schools for the children. The older Indians are too hardened in their sins. . .

"Give our greetings to all the Institute friends.

Morris ('35) and Betty Fuller.

* * * *

20, Camp Ahmedabad, B. P. India

After a ten-week hospital experience in the hospital Jesse Ringenberg writes:

"The Lord has met me wonderfully physically. I haven't felt so well for

some years. My weight has returned and the only reminders are tendencies to nervousness, which is improving with time. I am now carrying on with all I have time for in this limitless task. His joy is my strength, Praise the Lord!"

* * * *

The "Go Ye" Mission, Inc.
Warner, Oklahoma

"Thou wilt shew me that path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." Psa. 16:11. Truly we do find fulness of joy in His presence. He is the bread of life and he that cometh to Him shall never hunger.

"The Lord has blessed abundantly in sending forty-five teachers and evangelists to our field this summer. Daily Vacation Bible School or evangelistic meetings were held in 76 communities in two counties reaching 1611 pupils and visiting 930 homes. Some of the teachers walked ten miles in an afternoon, visiting the various homes in the community they were teaching. In these homes a portion of God's Word was read and closing the visit with prayer. Eternity only will reveal the results of these home visits.

"There are eight counties south of our present field asking for the 'Go Ye' Mission to come and serve them. Will you pray with us that He will send forth the needed workers?

"The 'Go Ye' Mission has been praying for some time for a home for the workers, and we praise Him for answering our prayers. He has given friends who are very much interested in the salvation of souls, to give the needed money to complete the deal—a sum of \$2,300.00. May God richly bless them. We praise Him for supplying our need for a home. Last year some of our workers moved four times in six months! This will put an end to so much moving and will give us more time to spend in the schools.

We also praise the Lord for a good well, with an old-fashioned rope and

bucket, just outside our back door. This summer we paid forty cents a barrel for water used for cooking and washing purposes for the fourteen teachers at our apartment over week-ends.

We also praise Him that gas rationing has been lifted and now we will be able to travel many more miles a month, and that way reach more schools for D. V. B. S. and to get the teachers to their destinations.

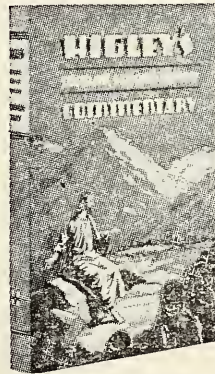
John 14:13-14, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye ask anything in my name, I will do it."

May the Lord richly reward each one of you who have had a part in prayers and gifts that this work may go on and that the boys and girls may know Him.

Yours in Christ until He comes,
Gladys Neuenschwander ('31)

Higley's Sunday School Lesson Commentary

(A Review)



The four Sunday School quarterlies of the year are neatly bound into a single volume in Higley's Commentary of 1946. This commentary combines a number of worthy features. It provides an abundance of material bringing to the reader many sources of scholarship pertinent to each lesson. Its helps are adapted to various types of teaching—

expository, lecture, topical, or question methods. In each lesson the helps are referenced departmentally making the commentary of value to the teacher of adults and children alike.

The editors are unquestionable in doctrinal soundness and evangelical spirit. For sale at the Association Book Room, 3820 South Wayne Ave., Fort Wayne, Indiana. Price, \$1.25.

Wooster, Ohio

"Since my days at the Institute, I have been 'passing through the waters.' But praise God it has been 'through'—He has not allowed me to sink and I am now well on land and singing His praises.

"I have had my seventh operation up to this time, and until a year ago I was practically helpless with arthritis. The Lord has been good to me and has touched my body so that I can again use my hands and am living a very active life, even though I am still in a wheel chair.

"A very dear friend of mine from Kansas came to Wooster for employment. With her help I have been able to reorganize the Junior Bible School that I had to discontinue about eight years ago. It is a real joy to my heart to be able to again teach little ones of the Christ I love.

"Then to add to my happiness I have regained my health enough to open a gift shoppe in Wooster where I sell hand work of other shut-ins. My friend and I live in an apartment adjoining my shoppe. I have been in business since last August. Our neighbors are not Christian people, but three of the children are attending our Junior Bible School and two of the mothers have been showing deep concern.

I feel that God has placed me in this part of His vineyard. I daily praise Him for making it possible for me to help other shut-ins help themselves via of my shoppe.

I am happy in Him."

Lucille Varns ('33)

LATE BULLETINS

From Rev. ('45) and Mrs. Edgar Neuenschwander (nee Juanita Roth), of Yoder, Indiana, comes this interesting bit of verse:

THANKSGIVING JOY

The harvest of autumn is past,
Comes now the cold win'try blast;
But in our home is sunshine bright,
A blessing fair with joy's delight;
A six-pound bundle of cries we heard,
And eleven ounces o'er; it's Edgar the third.
Oh, 'tis a boy.

On November 29th this blessed event occurred at the Methodist Hospital in Fort Wayne. The Neuenschwanders have a pastorate in Yoder.

* * *

On December 10th a six and a half pound boy, Clifford Paul, arrived to gladden the home of Rev. and Mrs. Clarence I. Huffman. Mr. Huffman is instructor of Bible and Personal Evangelism in the Institute this year.

ABOVE AND BEYOND NATURE

(Continued from page 25)

But why wonder at all these things? God Himself had come to Bethlehem. From all eternity He had planned this love-gift to man. The supernatural must, of necessity, surround this birth. "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee, therefore also that Holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God," the Angel had announced to Mary.

Let us bow before God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost and with the wise men of the east worship and pour out our gifts, and with the shepherds give praise and glory for the Christmas gift of Bethlehem—"God with us."—*The Connecting Link.*

