



And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed ARE the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.—REVELATION 14:13.

... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

—1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

Humble Obedience
By Godfrey Schlatter

The thought has come to me of the Prophet of old whom the Lord told to preach. He answered, "What shall I cry?" The Lord told him to say that all flesh is as grass and the beauty thereof is as the flower of the field. The grass withers and the flower thereof fades.

So is mankind in all his glory. I will glory in my infirmities for the Apostle writes, "... for when I am weak, then am I strong." Throughout all the wonderful happenings set forth in the scriptures we can notice the Lord has always elevated the lowly and the meek. Even our Lord, who has come down from the Father, had a very humble beginning. Through His sojourn here He endured the reproach of sinners. As the Son of God, He had the power to ask of His Heavenly Father for twelve legions of angels.

The Son of God and also the Son of man did not use His power or authority, however, but as one of His least brethren took His refuge unto His Father. He was willing to do the will of the Father in Heaven even to death upon the cross for the Salvation of all that would believe in Him and follow in the footprints that He has left for each one of us.

We can see that His Victory was in His humble obedience. Our victory is also in our obedience to the will of our Father and Savior whose children we are if we become and re-

PRECIOUS WARNINGS
By Noah Hartzler

The Silver Lining is enjoyed by its readers, and when sent to homes where the people do not hear from our brethren and sisters in Christ, we can be of help and encouragement to them if we, first and foremost, worship in spirit and truth our merciful, heavenly Father, Creator of heaven,

selves? This we do enjoy and pray for, secretly and openly.

If our foremost object in view is to worship God, the Lord Jesus is also worshipped. In so doing we will have the child-like, spiritual nature to have entered the Kingdom of God—that everlasting Kingdom of which even King Nebuchadnezzar spoke when he saw the great wonder which came about by the unfeigned love and faith of the three who would not grieve God by falling down and worshipping the golden image.

We, as newborn, converted ones, in childlike faith and love of Christ, can be an honor to our crucified Redeemer if we are not moved too much to follow the course of this world thus lose out in the guidance of the Holy Ghost, that faint whispering voice in our hearts, warning, advising, even chastising us where we have become somewhat careless and forgetting the glory given to the Son of God who is "the brightness of the Glory of God." Hebrews 1.

When we consider the teaching of our Saviour to His followers, when they forgot the true condition of a sincere child of God, we have reason to believe that to this time they had much to learn of the nature of Jesus and the order in heaven that none of His disciples should allow themselves to wish to be great, but in all sincerity ever remember our great

TREASURED VERSES

Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

—REVELATION 7: 15, 16, 17.

earth, and man in His own image. Do we really realize what our foremost object in view should be? Is it to be entertained by the brethren who proclaim the Word of God, being inspired by the Spirit of Christ, and gifted to eloquently express them-

main humble in heart and mind. May grace and mercy be with all that strive for this virtue.

weakness, contrasted to the power of God we can behold in the creation of the earth, sun, moon, and stars. Who will ever think of being **great**, but much rather be humbled to see how we are accepted into His Kingdom now forming upon earth? It is humiliating to see we were blessed with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We must not forget to also write for our children, for we are interested in them. When I was a child I enjoyed having an older person speak to me. Give a friendly word to an innocent child in a way the child can understand.

Encourage our children in their childhood days to take this into their tender hearts to always think they wish to go to heaven, may it cost what it will. Little children enjoy singing, "Jesus loves me; this I know for the Bible tells me so."

The members of our congregation were nearly all born since I first came here as a young man. What would it have been if we would not have had the appearance of the younger generation! Children, never think of any other way to do, but to seek the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness and the needful things shall be added unto you.

Our hearts were saddened to hear of the going home of Elders Peter Bach and Ernest Graff, Sr. Elder Bach passed away suddenly at his home May 4. at Forrest, Illinois. Funeral services were held May 7.

Just before the **Silver Lining** went to press, we were notified of the death of Elder Ernest Graff, Sr. of Akron, Ohio. On June 2 Elder David Mangold of Roanoke, Illinois, and Elder John Bahler of Rockville, Connecticut, presided over the funeral services at Akron. We, the staff of the **Silver Lining**, will deeply feel the loss of his going, but we can feel consoled in the fact that our loss is Heaven's gain. His advice and help to the **Silver Lining** have been very helpful and have been greatly appreciated. We extend our sympathy to the Bach and Graff families in this hour of our mutual loss.

A Message From Guam

Brother Robert Miller of Gridley, Illinois, who is stationed on Saipan, had the blessed privilege of paying a three-day visit to his cousin, Brother Melvin Steffen of Elgin, Illinois, who is stationed on Guam:

"We certainly rejoiced in the Lord to meet and greet one another again. We have been privileged in being stationed together at Camp Barkeley, Texas, and at Camp Crowder, Missouri, and in meeting one another on Saipan; and now, through Brother Bob's three-day pass, we are again united on Guam. For such we truly wish to thank and praise God.

"After singing many beautiful hymns from the Zion's Harp, and through prayer and much meditation, we feel inspired by the Spirit to bring you this message: As weak and needy brothers, we feel led by the Spirit to make this suggestion to the youth in Christ.

"We have been attending weekly Bible classes made up of true Christian boys, and find them very beneficial concerning our spiritual welfare. These meetings are based upon prayer, asking the Lord to reveal and give us a more complete understanding of His Holy Will. Thus we become more acquainted in knowing God's Will.

"We feel assured in our heart that if such classes would be held by the younger generation in Christ, a greater love and joy would be experienced in serving the Lord. **Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.** (1 Tim. 4:12) Read Ecclesiastes 12:1—as we see our older generation diminishing, there lies a

"The Gate of Life"

"We say, 'Good-bye!' but not for evermore;
The Call but summons to yon farther shore.

And when we too embark,

It is not for the dark.

Of unknown seas, but for the welcome meeting

With loved ones gone before, who wait our greeting.

Living in Hope and Faith, we fear not death;

'Tis but the Gate of Life."

From **Consolation**.

greater responsibility upon our shoulders to carry on the Lord's work. Therefore we feel it our duty, as the younger generation, to get together and discuss, meditate, and search in God's precious Word for a more complete spiritual understanding. **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.** (II Tim. 3:16-17)

"We recommend that these classes are prayerfully held in reverence to the Lord. We also recommend that every brother and sister should feel free to take part in these meetings. We would suggest that the proper place and time for these meetings would be at different homes through the week.

"If there is any brother who feels led by the Spirit to conduct such a meeting, let him **Quench not the Spirit**, but use his talents for the Lord. (I Thessalonians 5:19) **Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit.** (I Thessalonians 5:16-19) **Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.** (II Timothy 2:15).

"We trust that this message may be helpful to you as the Lord has laid this upon our hearts. Let us not cease praying for one another as prayer availeth much."

Your least Brothers in Faith,

**Melvin Steffen,
Robert Miller.**

THE CHURCH

(Continued from page 7)

patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." His coming will bring the great harvest-day and reveal the fruit of all the labors for Him and for the salvation of precious souls. In the meantime, let us earnestly sow the good seed of the gospel upon the hearts of young and old everywhere and patiently wait for fruit to spring up, remembering that one genuinely converted soul is better than 100 mere professions of conversions, obtained by human means without the reality and power of the Holy Spirit.

LETTERS

During my illness of a year ago, several sisters of the faith sent my name to you and I have since been the happy recipient of your excellent paper. It has proven a worthwhile and profitable pastime to countless numbers of people. My mother, who is convalescing at present following a two months' illness, looks forward to its arrival also. — **Grace Wormald**, Akron 6, Ohio.

* * *

It is very difficult for me to express in words how much I appreciate reading the Silver Lining which I receive regularly each month.

In it I find spiritual food so essential to the inner man, written experiences of young Christian soldiers from all parts of the earth, songs that I cherish, poems of great inspiration, and also personal news activities taking place within the different churches, many of which I am well acquainted and visited during my Army career.

The Silver Lining seems to lessen those long six thousand miles of water that separate me from my loved ones and those things I long to go back to.

May God richly bless one and all for the splendid and beneficial work you are doing by editing this Christian paper.—**Melvin Steffen**, Guam.

* * *

I received "The Silver Lining" today and appreciate it very much. I wish to express my thanks for it and the good work accomplished by the staff. — **Andy Bauer**, San Francisco, California.

* * *

I wish to thank the Staff of The Silver Lining for the inspiring paper. It gave me hours of enjoyment, and was also enjoyed by my friends.

I have been discharged and wish to receive The Silver Lining at my home.—**Loren Stoller**, Latty, Ohio.

* * *

First of all I want to tell you how very much I enjoy your "Silver Lining"—It certainly has been well named for it has brought much joy to all of us who are far from home and the fellowship of our loved ones. The mes-

sages, poems, and news notes seem to lessen the span between us so that home church ties are not entirely broken.

Regardless of my frequent moving around, I have always received my copies regularly, the last coming through in seven days.

The account of Norman Stoller's trip through Switzerland was most interesting as I was privileged to make the same trip in November.

May the Lord bless all of you in your work for Him and may He so work in us that our lives might be living testimonies for a living God and Risen Saviour. — **Vera Schweigert**, Charleroi, Belgium.

* * *

I certainly do appreciate your splendid work and effort in publishing this paper, "The Silver Lining." I am always glad to receive news of our home churches. This truly has been a blessing to me. May the Lord bless and reward you for it even in this time and much more in all eternity.—**Robert Miller**, Saipan.

* * *

I find your Silver Lining paper an interesting and inspiring accomplishment of those who are concerned with the welfare and personal comfort of others. I would greatly appreciate your sending me this paper and I am enclosing my address. May God bless the effort you have put forth into this worthy cause. — **Cpl. Elmer C. Graf**, Santa Fe, N. M.

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Just a few lines to let you know that I have been receiving the Silver Lining very regularly. The wonderful little paper really reaches me in a hurry. Thanks to the Silver Lining Staff for sending it on its speedy way. **Harold N. Luthi**, San Francisco, Calif.

* * *

I am in Cold Bay, Alaska. The name fits the place pretty well only we have more wind than anything. We still have some snow about every night.

There isn't anything that grows here except moss and a few stringy grass bunches. The surface of the plain (the little we have) is rough like corn rows. One of the nearest moun-

A Tribute To Father

Preceding the harvest of ripe golden grain
The seed must be planted — with sunshine
and rain.

The husbandman waiteth for grain to come
forth

Through the glow of the sunshine, and winds
of the north.

'Tis not in the blade, which is vividly green,
Nor the half ripened harvest where beauty
is seen,

But 'tis in the grain so beautiful, fair,
All golden and bright as it waves in the air.

How blest, when the toil of the day is
complete,

To turn from our labors, our loved ones
meet.

How golden the sun often sets in the west,
The shadows grown long — there's an inner
request

To meet with the Lord of the harvest again
Who gives His reward to the children of men.

My brethren, beloved, so dear in the Lord,
A tribute of love we would gladly record.
Our memory will linger and stay with us
here

Of him, — fellow pilgrim and brother so dear.
A father, whose life was example in deed
Who cared for his own and supplied every
need.

What wonder that parting brings heart-
ache and pain!

Though his days were complete, and ripened
the grain.

Example of faith, and of trust, and of love;
Though living on earth, yet his heart was
above.

Advice for the erring, and zeal for the truth,
He loved his dear brethren in age and in
youth.

His heart was a storehouse of gems pure
and rare,

Which with the worn pilgrim he gladly
would share.

Return, thou dear child, to thy Father's
sweet rest;

Deserving thou art of thy home with the
blest.

—In memory of John Conrad
Written by Henry Beer

tains is Mt. Frosty. It is really pretty when you can see it and that isn't too often.

In times that I'm lonely the Silver Lining surely is a comfort to read I like the verses in it and also the letters some of the other G.I.'s write

I want to thank the people who make it possible for us to receive the Silver Lining. They are doing a wonderful job — **Andy Mogler**, Seattle, Washington.

NEWS

Forty-five young people and parents of the Leo Sunday School spent the Sunday of May 5, at the Toledo Sunday School. The hospitality shown by the Toledo Sunday School members made the visit a most enjoyable one.

The Leo Church was honored on May 26, with a visit by the Rev. Victor Stavenik of Mansfield, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Stavenik and their two children accompanied him and were also our guests.

Sgt. Ephraim Kipfer completed his forty-five day furlough May 28, and reported to Camp Atterbury, Indianapolis. He had expected to be sent overseas again, but he was given an extension in his furlough of eight days. He reported back to Camp McClellan, Alabama, on June 4, and he does not expect to be sent outside the States again.

Edward Souder is now home as a civilian. His release from active duty came as a surprise to him as well as to his family.

On May 5, 1946, Herman Levy was seriously injured in an automobile accident. At the present time he is at his home. His condition is reported as favorable. We hope that he will soon be able to again attend our Sunday School.

Mrs. Walter Gerber had a major surgical operation performed at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne on May 31, 1946. She is at this writing critically ill. Our prayers go with her, and we hope that she will recover very quickly.

The Leo Young People's Meeting was held May 12, at the Leo Church. The theme was centered on Mother's Day.

Joseph A. Bahr was inducted into the Army on January 8, 1945, as a private. He attended electrical school in New York City for three months. He was then sent to South Carolina where he rewired a miniature city which was used as a bombing target. After four months at this station he was sent overseas with the 69th Station Complement Squadron. Several months later this outfit was broken up, and Joseph was sent to the Fifth

Infantry Division. Very luckily he placed an electrician in the 206th Combat Engineer Division. He remained here until the end of the war. After the war Joe spent some time as lifeguard of a swimming pool in Reims, France. He has seen Switzerland, Scotland, Ireland, England, France, Germany, Belgium, and Austria. He returned to the States December 25, 1945, and was discharged December 30, 1945.

Herman H. Drayer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Drayer, received his training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He sailed from San Francisco to Samar in the Philippine Islands. From here he was transferred to N. S. F. Boat Pool at Leyte; then to the P. T. Boat Base No. 17, where he served as an electrician on a P. T. boat until eligible for discharge. He was discharged at Great Lakes on March 21, 1946.

Croghan, New York

Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Virkler were at Rockville, Connecticut, Sunday, June 19.

Miss Leah Ramiseyer and Mr. Earl Ramiseyer from Bay City, Michigan, were visitors the week-end of June 19, at Croghan and Naumburg.

Miss Blanch Virkler who is a patient at the House of Good Samaritan, Watertown, New York, is much better at this writing.

Miss Katie Farney is recovering from a heart attack.

On June 19, Mr. and Mrs. Chester F. O'Brien of Beaver Falls had as dinner guests Mr. and Mrs. Erban Farney and Gladys Farney from Lowville, New York, and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Farney, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Farney and Bettie Farney from Croghan, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Farney are the proud parents of a baby boy.

Peoria, Illinois

Correction: The Silver Lining wishes to correct to the following an engagement announcement in the May issue: Miss Julia Meyer of Peoria, Ill., announced her engagement to Mr. Louie Messner, of Hanock, Minnesota.

We welcome a new couple to Pe-

oria, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wuethrich, who were married on the 19th of May, in Roanoke. Mrs. Wuethrich was formerly Miss Florence Hodel of Roanoke and Mr. Wuethrich is from La Crosse, Ind. He will be employed in Peoria. We hope they both can learn to like our Peoria Church.

The Lord blessed us richly this past month by permitting two ministering brothers to visit our Peoria Church. Rev. Philip Gutwein, Jr., spent a Sunday with us which was enjoyed by everyone. Many of the returned service men commended highly because it was the first time they had heard Rev. Gutwein. We hope it is not too long before he will return again. Elder Philip Aeschliman of Cissna Park, was here also. It was a surprise visit, but a very pleasant surprise.

Brother Chris Schafer is a patient at the hospital, due to a severe poisoning of the stomach. We pray and hope he will soon be able to be up again.

Peoria has been blessed again this past month, entering into the fold of Christ's church one married couple, and two brothers, and two sisters.

Remington, Indiana

Visitors in our church on Sunday, April 28, were Rev. and Mrs. Henry Dotterer, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dotterer, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kaehr, their two daughters, and sons-in-law of Bluffton and Rev. and Mrs. Joe Hodel, their son and daughter, and Mr. Melvin Rocke of Roanoke, Illinois.

On Sunday, May 5, visitors from Gridley, Illinois were Rev. Guy Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Schlipf, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Witzig, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Witzig, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Funk, and the Misses Matilda Witzig, Elberta Jurlinden, Anna, Mary and Neoma Miller, Lydia and Eunice Kammerer, and Mae Hofer, and Lydia Schippert from Cissina Park, Illinois.

A number from here attended the large funeral of Elder Peter Bach at Forrest, Illinois on May 7th.

On Sunday evening, May 12, we had the following visitors: Rev. Ben Heiniger and several others from Morton, Illinois and Rev. Frank Wirtz and others from Goodfield. Evening services were held.

Mrs. Marie Schieler and son, Robert, who was recently discharged

from the Navy, are visiting relatives and friends at Castorland, N. Y. for several weeks.

Roanoke, Illinois

Rev. Mike Weyeneth was our visiting minister on May 19.

Miss Florence Hodel of Roanoke and Mr. Willis Wuethrich of La Crosse, Indiana were married Sunday, May 19.

Jim Leman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leman, Ray Hodel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hodel, both of Roanoke, and Jim Klaus, son of Mrs. Arthur Klaus, of Eureka are home on an eleven-day furlough en route to Camp Stoneman, California.

Mabel Sauder and Dick Getz of Morton were married, May 26, at the Roanoke Church. Dick was recently discharged from the army after having served several years in the European Theater.

Mrs. Sigmund Sorg of Goshen, Indiana, has been visiting relatives at Roanoke this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Leman and Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Leman of Bremen, Indiana, visited relatives in Morton, Roanoke, and Eureka the past few days.

Bluffton, Indiana

On Sunday, April 28, Mr. and Mrs. John Baumgartner, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hurt, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Fiechter attended the rededication of the Alto, Michigan church, which was recently remodeled. Godfrey Schlatter of Toledo, Theo Beer of Milford, and Henry Weckerle of Bay City also were present at the rededication.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Aeschliman have a baby daughter, Lynn Mardel, born April 30. Mrs. Aeschliman was formerly Imogene Bucher of La-Crosse, Indiana.

The engagement of Velma Fiechter and Carl Kipfer was announced in the Bluffton church on May 26.

Mrs. Ida Gerber, wife of Sam H. Gerber, suddenly became ill and passed away May 18.

Bremen, Indiana

A son, Terence Lee, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Miller on Wednesday, May 22. Mrs. Miller is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Schumacher of Bremen.

Wm. Leman, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Leman, spent the week-end at the home of his parents. Wm. Jr., is a student at Indiana University.

Richard Zeltwanger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Zeltwanger, returned home May 21, after receiving an honorable discharge from the Medical Corps in the European Theater for fourteen months.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Leman and Mr. and Mrs. William Leman spent several days in Fairbury, Eureka, and Morton, Illinois visiting relatives and friends. Mrs. Joseph Nussbaum of Fairbury returned to Bremen with them.

Chicago, Illinois

We, of Chicago, are sorry to lose one of our members to Uncle Sam. On May 3, James Winzeler left for Fort Sheridan and from there was sent to San Antonio, Texas, where he is stationed at this writing. We all wish him well and hope that he soon will be here with us again.

On April 28, many visited the Chicago Church. The visitors were Rev. and Mrs. Mike Weyeneth, Bob Weyeneth, Mr. and Mrs. John Hoerr, Jr., of Peoria, Mr. and Mrs. William Knobloch, Irene and Rose Ann Knobloch, and Mr. and Mrs. John Elcessor of Princeville, Illinois.

On May 5, many young people from the Peoria Bible Class attended church here. We enjoyed hearing several Easter hymns which were sung by the group after the evening services.

Mr. and Mrs. William Cottrell welcome a newcomer, William Richard, who was born on May 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hofer entertained a number of Chicago folks for supper at their home Thursday, May 23.

Elgin, Illinois

Sgt. Raymond Steffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Steffen of Elgin, received his discharge from the Army, March 27. He was stationed at Washington D. C., as a clerk in an Army Post Office. A brother, Walter Steffen, will get his physical examination Apr. 29, and will soon enter service. Another brother, Albert Steffen, is stationed at Okinawa.

Rev. Joe Getz and his wife, Elizabeth, August and Mary Roecker, and four other cars of young folks spent, March 31, at Elgin. They visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Steffen.

Charles Schambach of Elgin and Catherine Anliker, formerly of Francesville, Indiana, were married March 10 in Elgin.

Mrs. Lydia Gudeman died March 29, at St. Joseph Hospital, Elgin. Her passing was a great shock and she will be sorely missed by her family and a great number of friends. She is survived by her husband, Joel Gudeman, a daughter, Dorothy, and a son, Billy, stationed in India. She was the former Lydia Lindoerfer. Funeral services were held April first with a large attendance from several out of town churches.

Karl Kachelmus and Katie Wewetzer, both of Elgin, were married, May 19. A wedding dinner for the immediate families was served at the Top Deck Tea Room. A reception was held at the home of the bride in the evening.

Clarence Kachelmus and family and his sisters, Gertrude, Esther, and Catherine, spent the week end of May 27, at Bluffton, Indiana.

Billy Gudeman who is stationed in India, spent a furlough at his home. He left again on, May 30. Guests from Cissna Park visited with Billy on Sunday, May 27, before his return to camp.

Jonathan Steffen and family spent Sunday, May 26th, at Chicago.

Rev. Wackerle from Bay City, Michigan, held evening services Wednesday evening, May 23 in Elgin.

Oakville, Iowa

The families involved in the January flood are back in their homes since March 1st.

Rev. Fred Grimm of Taylor, Missouri, held Easter services at Oakville.

Elder Noah Schrock, John Wagenbach, Gust. Schertlas, Wm. Rauhaus, and Orel Steiner attended the funeral services for Elder Peter Bach at Forrest, Illinois, May 7th.

(Continued on page 8)

SALVATION

**"WOULD GOD I HAD DIED FOR THEE, O ABSALOM, MY SON,
MY SON"**

(2 Samuel 18:33)

Moved, yea constrained, yea COMPELLED by a self-effacing, self-forgetting and a self-sacrificing LOVE and a COMPASSION to the depth of which few fathers' hearts were ever pierced, David, the King of Israel cried out the above words in unspeakable agony of soul. Why that? Was not Absalom a most rebellious, proud, murderous, shameless, and merciless son, who surely would not have spared HIS FATHER, would he have fallen into his hands. And David KNEW IT. (II Samuel 15:14.) Did he not have MANY more GOOD sons to live for? Why should he have prayed to DIE for the rebellious son and in his place? Why, in the Lord's parable, should there be "joy shall be in heaven over ONE SINNER that repenteth, MORE than over ninety and nine JUST persons. . . ." (Luke 15:7). Does then now the prodigal and wayward son deserve a preference over the elder son, who served his father, "lo, these many years and never at any time transgressed his commandment," seeing that the fatted calf was killed to make merry for him, rather than the elder son? To be sure, to return home after "wasting his substance with riotous living," was NO MERIT to make him worthy and give him a place of preference, and by rights and JUSTICE, he belonged on the lowest place of an unprofitable servant, which he realized, and by anything that is FAIR and JUST, the OBEDIENT and SERVING SON, should have enjoyed every preference and pre-eminence in the home. But, alas! LOVE that will not let me go, LOVE so amazing, so divine and so BOUNDLESS, does not recognize unlovely sin-ruined raggedness, nor can it be limited by the undeserving unworthiness of them upon whom it bestows itself, and being PERFECT and INFINITE as GOD IS, it must needs reach out with outstretched arms to embrace the very rebel and deadly enemy.

Love reconciles to itself the irreconcilable, to win him, it forgives and goes ALL THE WAY to make

PEACE with the enemy, at any price, even the price of the "BLOOD OF THE CROSS TO RECONCILE ALL THINGS UNTO HIMSELF" (Col. 1:20). It is a motive that MUST seek and find expression to be KIND and SHIELD, if need be, the very enemy by a VOLUNTARY SUFFERING in his stead, always in a THIRST of being loved instead of hated and in a patience of hope of winning the love of the enemy who "hateth without a cause." (John 15:25). Such LOVE displayed and highlighted in the "SUBSTITUTIONAL SUFFERING of the CROSS, against the dark background of the shame, the hate and the rebellion of the Human Race, symbolized by that Cross, — such LOVE I say, is the expression of a GLORY, which only an infinite God can express or possess. Thus we faintly grasp how that the "Son of man," in his "beforehand sufferings" was GLORIFIED and the Father in Him, (John 13:31), (I Peter 1:11) as He was lifted up on the Cross and the agony that preceded it in Gethsemane. To such a GLORIFIED LOVE, the most intense SUFFERING FOR

Hymn for the Month

LEAD ME GENTLY HOME, FATHER

Lead me gently home, Father, Lead me gently home,
When life's toils are ended And parting days have come;
Sin no more shall tempt me, Ne'er from Thee I'll roam,
If Thou'lt only lead me, Father, lead me gently home.

Lead me gently home, Father, Lead me gently home,
In life's darkest hours, Father, When life's troubles come,
Keep my feet from wand'ring, Lest from Thee I roam,
Lest I fall upon the way-side, Lead me gently home.

Chorus:

Lead me gently home, Father, Lead me gently home,
Lest I fall upon the way-side, Lead me gently home.

and in the STEAD of them on whom it bestows itself, is, because of the "manner of that love," NOT suffering at all to the LOVER, but is as the quenching of an intense thirst to his soul.

"Jesus . . . saith" I THIRST! (St. John 19:28). For what? For water? NO, NO and a thousand times NO! NOT in that most solemn moment would He care and bother about a drink of water when He was about to say, "It is finished," and bow his head in death. He did THIRST for your LOVE and for mine. But man gave him VINEGAR and He received it, and said, "IT IS FINISHED."

DO YOU STILL GIVE HIM VINEGAR INSTEAD OF YOUR LOVE AND AFFECTION?

He cannot and does not COMPEL you to love Him. He wants to WIN it by FIRST having loved YOU with a "LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO." And He desires that you "KNOW THE LOVE OF CHRIST WHICH PASSETH KNOWLEDGE." (Eph. 3:19)

As Christ went into death by a love which passeth knowledge, and in a THIRST for love unquenched and lacking in response, He arose from among the dead with that THIRST still in his soul. Thus it is significant that He asked Peter three times: "Simon, son of Jonas, LOVEST THOU ME?" (John 21:15-17). Unhappily our English translation does not set forth ALL the precious truth in this text. To the three-fold question, LOVEST THOU ME?" meaning with a deep love, Peter three times answered: "Thou knowest that I like Thee" expressing a less deep love, which had to be and was acceptable to the Lord, who cannot compel, but only inspire his kind of divine and perfect love, and when we will not, or as in Peter's case CANNOT respond with the best, he accepts the next best. Peter COULD NOT at that time in truth say that he loved Christ with the same Godly love, with which Christ loved him; his three-fold denial had thoroughly sobered him and stripped him of his self-confidence. He had learned by bitter experience "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think"

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"THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD"

Meetings of the Assembly and Other Meetings

From 1 Cor. 14 it is evident that the Apostolic Church had what we may call "Open Meetings" for edification, exhortation and comfort. That is, they had meetings which were open for any, under scriptural limitations, to speak unto edification as the Spirit of God led. This is clearly set forth in the following verses: "If any man speak . . . let it be by two, or at the most by three . . . Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge: If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted" (vs. 27-31).

Such a meeting is to be limited to two or three speakers, so as not to bring in confusion of thought, and those who take part are exhorted to "Let all things be done unto edifying," and "Let all things be done decently and in order" (vs. 26 and 40). The Open Meeting is an assembly meeting where saints come together as an assembly to wait upon the Lord for ministry, without any prearrangement as to speakers, counting upon Him to edify them by whomsoever He will. If none feel able to give an address to occupy the whole time, several may speak unto edification and profit, as the above scriptures provide for. It is very important that meeting of this character be regularly held for the upbuilding and encouragement of the Assembly.

Those who minister should seek to be faithful and wise stewards and give forth to the Lord's household "their portion of meat in due season." Such the Lord looks for and He says: "Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing" (Luke 12:42, 43). It is not enough to merely speak correctly according to Scripture or to eloquently present a subject. The Lord would have ministry presented that is "meat in due season," the suitable and timely word for the needs of those gathered. This is what is meant by prophesying, which 1 Cor. 14 stresses as most important and that which we should covet (vs. 39). It means to tell forth the mind of the Lord, or as Peter writes: "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles (or mouthpiece) of God" (1 Peter 4:11). It is giving living ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit and meeting present needs.

Other meetings defined—There are, however, other meetings besides assembly meetings which should be held among a gathering of Christians. As already pointed out in section D.—"The Divine Way of Ministry," every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad" (1 Thess. 1:8). The Assembly should be a real base of supply from which the gospel goes forth into a dark world, and from which evangelists and workers launch out into the streets and highways with the glad tidings of salvation, encouraged

by the refreshing fellowship and prayers of those in the Assembly.

As the four Gospels form the firm foundation of the New Testament, and as the reception of the gospel is the foundation of the Christian life, so the preaching of the gospel lies at the foundation of Assembly testimony. Any Assembly that has no heart for the gospel is surely not an Assembly after the divine model in the Scriptures. The Epistle to the Philippians tells us how zealous the Assembly at Philippi was in the gospel. Paul thanked God for their "fellowship in the gospel from the first day" (chp. 1:3, 4), and could say that in the defense and confirmation of the gospel they were all partakers of his grace (1:7).

No individual is in a right condition of soul if he is not seeking in some way to bring souls to Christ, and no Assembly of Christians can be in a right spiritual condition if they are not interested in the salvation of souls and making efforts to bring the gospel of God's grace to them. All believers are not able to preach the gospel, but all can pray for souls to be saved, and for those who proclaim the glad tidings. All can make efforts to bring some one to the Gospel Meetings and all should be able to witness to souls of Christ the Saviour and to give out gospel tracts. It does not matter what a person's gift is, or whether he has any prominent gift at all, he can and ought to cultivate a longing desire for the salvation of souls.

If Assemblies and individuals are satisfied to go on from week to week, month to month and year to year without a single leaf stirring in the gospel and without a single conversion, their state must be certainly very low. On the other hand, where the Assembly is drawn out in earnest prayer for the gospel and for the salvation of souls, there is freshness of spirit and zeal for souls and streams of blessing are bound to follow. Every new convert, truly born again, is a source of new joy and brings new life into the Assembly. Where there is no effort put forth in the gospel and no conversions take place, a deadness and dullness among believers is found and there is bound to be a **dying out** because there is **no going out** with the gospel.

As to **methods of evangelism**, we need to study the Scriptures and meetings are to be held by Christ's gifts to the Church and carried on under their own personal responsibility to the Lord. Such meetings should be entirely in the hands of those who are competent and who assume responsibility for them. These meetings are not to be confused with assembly meetings where all are free to take part as led by the Holy Spirit.

The meetings which Paul held at Ephesus in the synagogue, and in the school of Tryaninus would be an example of meetings conducted by individuals (Acts 19:8-10). Under

this heading would come meetings for the preaching of the gospel, Sunday School, or children's meetings, young people's meetings, Bible classes and special meetings for ministry to Christians. With this word as to the distinction between assembly meetings and meetings carried on by individuals, we may now consider

Evangelistic Meetings and Efforts

Under this section we purpose to consider Gospel Meetings and Sunday Schools and Children's Meetings. Such evangelistic work is most important and should form a vital part of the activities of every Assembly. Though not carried on by the Assembly as such, but by individuals called by the Lord for this work, the Assembly should encourage such meetings and support by prayer and material help all such efforts to reach the unsaved and to bring them in to hear the way of salvation that they might be saved.

In taking up evangelistic meetings last in order, we are not classing them as of lesser importance than those meetings previously considered. We have merely spoken first of the meetings carried on by the Assembly itself and now would take up evangelistic meetings as work carried on by individuals, for the gospel is a personal service, primarily to the unsaved, and secondarily to the saved as instructing them in the truth. This work is primarily for those gifted by the Lord as evangelists, and the special sphere of labor is the world, or more outside of the assembly than within it.

However, every Assembly should have a stated Gospel Meeting and Sunday School for the work of evangelization of young and old. We firmly believe that the Scriptures would teach us that every Assembly should be a thoroughly evangelistic Assembly, warm hearted in the gospel and energetic in seeking to reach the unsaved with the word of life. Paul could write to the Thessalonian Assembly: "For **from you** sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also note the preaching of the apostles and follow them rather than the present day sensational and "high-pressure" evangelism that sometimes seeks to do the Lord's work in the world's way. We need more of God's work and less of man's. Let the preaching be in great earnestness, with the love of Christ constraining souls to be reconciled to God, and the power of the Holy Spirit be counted upon to give the message and cause the unsaved to "repent and believe the gospel." Let us not forget to preach repentance and man's lost and ruined estate and God's full and complete remedy in the gospel of His grace in Christ Jesus.

And for lasting results, may we remember that it is, "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6). Think also of James 5:7: "Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also

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NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

A new church building is under construction since May 1st. We hope it will be completed by winter.

Twenty-five young people accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Orel Steiner, Mr. John Schrock, and Mr. Robert Frank attended the Tremont Sunday School and Young People's Meeting at Tremont in April.

Sunday, May 19th, Elder Noah Schrock united in marriage Brother Solomon Rassi of Morton, Illinois, to Sister Alberta Somerhalder of Burlington, Oklahoma.

Fairbury, Illinois

The entire community was suddenly grief-stricken at the sad news of the passing away of our Elder, the Rev. Peter Bach. His funeral was May 7.

May 19, several families from Fairbury spent the day in Peoria visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Schwind formerly of Fairbury.

Miss Lorene Maurer entertained a group of young Christians at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Maurer, on May 18, in honor of two guests from Michigan. They were the Misses Maybelle and Aldine Wackerle.

Mansfield, Ohio

Mrs. Bertha Matthes, aged eighty-five, died May the 6th, after a long illness. She was a member of our church for seventy-one years. Rev. Rudolf Graf from Akron, Ohio held the services.

Rev. Andy Nussbaum from Remington, Indiana visited our church on Friday evening, May 17th, and held services. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Fuhrer and Mrs. Karl Oesh accompanied him on Saturday to Monroe county, Ohio for Sunday services.

Morton, Illinois

Sunday, May 19th, Philip Gutwein spent the day with us. His sermons were enjoyed and we received many blessings from them. He was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gutwein, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gutwein, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Von Tobel and Mrs. Von Tobel and her daughter, Catherine.

Rev. Edward Yoder is improving at this writing. He had been very sick with pneumonia.

Taylor, Missouri

Mr. and Mrs. George Hoerr and family spent the week end of May 11, in Peoria, Illinois with relatives and friends.

A son, Richard William, was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Cattrell of Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Cattrell is the former Ruth Butikofer of this vicinity.

Mrs. Lena Hoerr attended the wedding of her brother, Solomon Rassi, to Alberta Somerholder, May 19.

Hans Friederick at this writing is bedfast. We hope he will soon be well.

Toledo, Ohio

The Toledo congregation enjoyed the visit of the Leo Sunday School Class on May 5th. We hope they come and see us again.

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Schlatter visited in Junction, Ohio on May 19.

Miss Frances Maibach visited friends in Toledo from May 25 to 29.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Frautschi and daughter visited relatives in Toledo, on May 14 and 15.

Pvt. Edward Stevens is now going to school in Atlanta, Georgia, for a twelve-week course. His address is: Pvt. Edward P. Stevens, 15216059 1st School Co., Brks. 323, Atlanta Ordnance Depot, Atlanta, Georgia.

SALVATION

(Continued from page 6)

and to boast and pretend of something that did not really exist within the heart before him who "knoweth ALL THINGS." He was humble and gave Christ what he had at that time. But later when Christ was glorified and in heaven then the LOVE OF GOD was shed abroad into his heart by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5), enduing him with power. Christ, then, he did not see yet LOVE and believing he rejoiced with joy unspeakable and full of Glory." (I Peter 1:8). "I like you," became the PERFECT: "THOU KNOWEST THAT I LOVE THEE." Do YOU "like Him" or "LOVE HIM"?

David was "a man after the heart of God" and something of the love of God made him wish that he could have died for his rebellious son, who in type is a picture of the rebellious human race, while David is a type of

the Christ and his self-sacrificial love. Joab, the captain of the army, is a type of the Law and its Justice. David could not die for another,—"it cost TOO MUCH" (Ps. 49:7) but Christ could die and did die for all, seeing that, having LIFE in HIMSELF, he had the POWER to lay it DOWN and POWER to TAKE it again.

(To be continued)

ADDRESSES OF OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Killed in Action: Eugene F. Bahr.

T/4 Ephraim Kipfer 35909913

Fort McClellan, Alabama

(Address not complete)

Lt. Richard W. Lantz O-2070664

38th Bomb. Gyp. 822 Bomb. Sqd.

A.P.O. 929 c/o Postmaster

San Francisco, Calif.

Lt. Harry R. Schwartz 0554459

Phil. Detn., & Rehab. Cent.

A.P.O. 72 c/o Postmaster

San Francisco, Calif.

Robert V. Stavenik S 1/c 294-21-00

Div. D-2, U.S.S. Damato

D. D. 871 c/o FPO

New York, N. Y.

Honorably Discharged:

Joseph Bahr

Ted Bahr

David Bertsch

Arthur Blume

Donald R. Bollier

John J. Bollier

Robert W. Bollier

Ted Bollier

Hilmer Drayer

Louis Getz

Arthur Hassig

Louis Kaminer

Henry O. Kipfer

Richard Klopfenstein

Wm. Klopfenstein

Wayne E. Lantz

O. W. Maxfield

Richard H. Murphy

Albert P. Norr

Raymond Pulfer

Phillip Rizzo

Arthur W. Schwartz

Lester D. Smith

Edward G. Souder

Russell R. Stieglitz

Gaylord H. Widner

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

HUMBLE OBEDIENCE

Godfrey Schlatter, Pastor

Toledo, Ohio

SALVATION

"Would God I Had Died For Thee, O

Absalom, My Son, My Son."

Philip Gutwein, Pastor

Francesville, Indiana

"THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD"

Submitted by Noah Schrock, Elder

Oakville, Iowa

PRECIOUS WARNINGS

Noah Hartzler, Elder

Rittman, Ohio

THE SILVER LINING

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