



After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
—Rev. 7:9

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
—St. Mark 16:16.

MARAH, ELIM, JORDAN, AND HOME

By Jacob Frautschi

We would choose that life be always pleasant, yet bitter experiences become a large portion of our lot. We have glad and joyous times, happy fellowships, and pleasant surprises. Then, often suddenly, we are plunged into bitter days, which surely we do not like. As the fathers of old had disappointments, so we too must endure them and know that things do not just happen; they are sent by a merciful God who considers our weakness. He sends trials no greater than our strength and faith. Our position before God is dependent on our character.

Israel has always been an example for God's people. Gladly they went out of Egypt through the Red Sea into the wilderness. They were a happy people and were free. Then they were allowed to become real thirsty. After a long time they found water, but it was bitter and very disappointing. Faith and trust in God were forgotten. They were proved there and found wanting. We too must endure trials—even as steel must go through fire and water or oil before it becomes useful and precious. We all have qualities in us that would not stand such trials at first. Only by becoming acquainted with the ways of God can we fit ourselves in-

(Continued on page 2)

BLESSED ARE THEY WHO OBEY GOD'S WORD

By Samuel Aeschliman

When we consider how God from beginning of time ask the children of men to keep His word, that He would then bless them, but if His

of temporal, and much more, eternal blessings.

Let us consider some of the men of old. In Genesis, chapter thirteen, we find how Abram dealt with his nephew for peace sake when there was strife between the servants of Abram and Lot, he said to Lot, "If thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left," . . . and all this after the Almighty God had spoken to Abram and said, "I will make of thee a great nation, and in thee will all families of the earth be blessed." We might think that God greatly favored Abram, but He did so only because Abram regarded and applied the golden rule to do unto others as he wished for them to do to him. We can believe that it was quite a test for Abram to say "you choose" for he knew just as well as Lot where the rich grazing ground was, and an abundance of water, but more important, he knew that not in the richness of the soil nor in the abundance of water, but in the blessing of God alone could he expect the increase. By what followed we know Abram was right and Lot wrong, for with the fertile soil and abundance of water he also had many ungodly people to contend with who vexed the righteous man, and finally Lot lost his earthly possessions and even most regrettable of all he lost his

TREASURED VERSES

And He said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

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 Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

And while they looked steadfastly towards heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

—Acts 1:7-11.

word was disregarded they would receive a just recompense of reward for their evil deeds, let us then in Godly fear serve the all Seeing One and by so doing we have the promise

SALVATION (Cont. 15)

Philip Gutwein, Jr.

"For the **good** that I would I do **not**: but the **evil** which I would not, **that I do.**" (Rom. 7:19)

Even though God is **good**—and Man is **evil** in his nature—, and as such they are of necessity opposites and at enmity, yet there remaineth between God and Man, even the fallen **natural man**, a common ground to meet upon, namely, as God **knoweth good and evil, so does Man**. This is a **truth** of tremendous implications. This **knowledge** at once lifts Man ^a potentially to the highest level among God's Creatures: the level of **reason** and **choice**, to be exercised in an environment of things **good and evil** and upon the moral basis of **right or wrong, true or false**. The **knowledge of good and evil** makes it the duty of Man to continually **do the good and not to do the evil**. It makes him responsible and accountable to God, not only for the major wrongs he does, but for **every deed and every word** (Matt. 12:36-37), and even **every secret purpose** of the heart (Matt. 5:28, Rom. 2:16). Likewise, **every neglect to do good**, is sin (Jas. 4:17). All this is recorded in God's books and Man's Conscience, and except it was all brought into judgment on Calvary by **faith** in Him, who bore the judgment of our sins in His own Body on the tree, it will all be brought into judgment in a future day, which God has appointed (Acts 10:42, 17:31). To be sure, it is **true** that Christ and Him crucified is the propitiation for the sins of the **whole world** (I John 2:2), but what I **do not** believe, that **does not** exist for me, for I brand it as a lie and Him who spoke it, I make a liar. God verily **cannot** lie, His **word is ever truth**, but to me is done, even as I **have believed it**. (Matt. 8:13)

The knowledge of **good and evil**, in the sense that our text refers to, and in which we have considered it in previous articles, is that knowledge

Even there we will be given the final examinations which we surely don't want to fail in. AMEN.

and discernment which is implanted and written in the heart of every man, even the "natural man," the man who, being born of the flesh, is but flesh. This **knowledge** became part of Adam's **nature** after he ate of the forbidden tree, and Adam transmitted to all his Sons, what he had and what he was, his **nature** and his **kind**, according to the Law of nature (Gen. 1:11 etc.), no more and no less.—including his **knowledge** and his **sin**, and mortality, etc. This **knowledge**, therefore, is a part of Man's inherited Nature, a law **unto** himself and contraineth him **to do the work** of that law and "**do by nature** the things contained in the Law" (Rom. 2:14-15), even though he never read a Bible, or, living in an African jungle, he never heard of a Bible and a Law. Be that Man far or near, he is **duty bound** to live up to the light which that **knowledge** gives him, and when a Son of Adam, be he the most "ignorant" and illiterate in darkest Africa, covets, steals, commits adultery, lies, or kills, his heart trembles for his Conscience also bearing witness, and his thoughts the mean while **accusing** or else **excusing** one another. Of course: "Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required" . . . and there even Men will ask the more (Luke 12:48). To be sure, Man can silence his conscience, become hardened to **do evil** without trembling for the moment, but when even the Devils tremble (Jas. 2:19), then Men much more sometime will tremble. When convicted by their Conscience, and crushed by the record of their **evil deeds**, Men must face and fear their **judge** on His Throne and say: ". . . Mountains and rocks, **fall on us**, and **hide us** from the Face of Him that sitteth on the Throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come: and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:16-17). "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (The same **kind**, only greatly multiplied.)

life's companion who became a pillar of salt.

So on through the ages we find that whoever applied the golden rule was often blessed not alone with temporal gifts and blessings, but even more could expect eternal favors from the Almighty God.

What can we expect if we then heed the teachings of the Lamb of God? Let us briefly consider only a few of the sacred words that proceeded from the lips of Jesus, our Lord, when He sojourned here on this earth, in the sermon on the mount (Luke 6:27-39) Oh, what food for thought and great reason for self examination for God's people. Do you love your enemies and do good to them that hate you? If so, we are truly receiving from our God that which is needed to be able to obey His blessed teachings for without grace we cannot serve God. Do we bless those who curse us and pray for those who spitefully use us? If smitten on one cheek, do we offer the other? If, upon self examination we find that we are able to do these things which were taught and practiced by our Lord when upon earth, if we do unto others as we desire them to do onto us, we can then say "We thank Thee, Father and Lord, who has made it possible for us to obey Thy teachings and to apply the golden rule."

MARAH, ELIM, JORDAN and HOME

(Continued from page 1)

to His Plan. Israel was not alone in the desert.

After Marah, the people of Israel got to a beautiful place of rest—Elim's Palms. We too find these places of rest if we seek them, perhaps in a garden or other place of quiet. There the unseen voices can speak to us, and they listen to our prayers and cares. Often the answer to these visits are precious because we learn as is written, "Be still, and know that I am God."

After Israel left Elim's Palms, they had to travel round and round in the desert until God had sifted them and chosen those that were fit to enter into the Promised Land. We today are a chosen people, and all of us must make our election sure, so we can enter the Home of the Soul.

Men sow the "Wind" of evil and reap the "cyclone" of Judgment.

This work of the Law written in the hearts and obtained by the "natural Man," apart from Faith and the Spirit of God, but inherited by virtue of His Adamic nature of knowing good and evil,—this, we say, must not be confused with the deeper and personal revelation of redemption and salvation truth. This is obtained by faith in the written word of God and Obedience to it, as God's testimony and Witness concerning His Son and the conviction of the Holy Spirit, using that Word as the incorruptible Seed of the new birth of the Spirit and of God, "Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again . . ." and made us partakers of His divine nature (1 Pet. 1:3, 23, 2 Pet. 1:4). Which things . . . not Man's wisdom, but the Holy Ghost teacheth; but the "natural Man" receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Cor. 2:12-14). But he does know good and evil! or he would not be without excuse.

(To be continued)

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

Beyond the trials of this life the Christian sees the home in Heaven. He knows that the Lord Jesus has gone to prepare a place for him, and that he has a "building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." One Sunday night a few months ago Charles E. Fuller, of Los Angeles announced that the following Sunday, in his coast-to-coast broadcast he would speak on Heaven. During the week a beautiful letter was received from an old man who was very ill, and in the "Heart to Heart Talk" sent March 4 to his radio listeners Mr. Fuller quoted the following from that letter:

"Next Sunday you are to talk about Heaven. I am interested in that land, because I have held a clear title to a bit of property there over fifty-five years. I did not buy it. It was given to me without money and without price. But the donor pur-

chased it for me at tremendous sacrifice. I am not holding it for speculation since the title is not transferable. It is not a vacant lot. For more than half a century I have been sending materials out, which the greatest architect and builder of the universe has been building a home for me, which will never need to be remodeled nor repaired because it will suit me perfectly, individually, and will never grow old. Termites can never undermine its foundations, for they rest upon the Rock of Ages. Fire cannot destroy it. Floods cannot wash it away. No locks nor bolts will ever be placed upon its doors, for no vicious persons can ever enter that land where my dwelling stands, now almost completed, and almost ready for me to enter in and abide in peace eternally, without fear of being ejected.

"There is a valley of deep shadows between the place where I live in California and that to which I shall journey in a very short time. I cannot reach my home in that city of gold, without passing through this dark valley of shadows. But I am not afraid, because the best friend I ever had went through the same valley long, long ago and drove away all its gloom. He has stuck by me through thick and thin since we first became acquainted fifty-five years ago, and I hold His promise in printed form, never to forsake me nor to leave me alone. He will be with me as I walk through the valley of shadows, and I shall not lose my way when He is with me.

"I hope to hear your talk on Heaven next Sunday from my home in Los Angeles, but I have no assurance that I shall be able to do so. My ticket to Heaven has no date marked for the journey—no return coupon—and no permit for baggage; yes, I am all ready to go, and I may not be here while you are talking next Sunday evening, but I shall meet you there some day."—Selected.

"The Bible is not a logbook recording man's search after God, but rather it is a chart, showing us the way to Heaven."

LETTERS

Dear Silver Lining Staff,

Our nine-year-old daughter who is attending a Summer Bible Class came home one day and asked what the meaning was of the first verse of the sixth chapter in St. Matthew. When I tried to explain it to her I had to think of the Silver Lining Staff as an example. They do not receive their rewards of men for time and efforts they put forth to give us this Christian paper. We believe they will have their reward of their Father which is in Heaven.

An Appreciative Reader.

* * *

Silver Lining Staff,

Rev. and Mrs. Guy Miller of Gridley, Illinois, Miss Minnie Bertsch of Grabill, Indiana, Mrs. Cornelius Bertsch and Miss Steffen of Bluffton, Indiana enjoyed wonderful scenery of the West, precious fellowship, the kindness and hospitality of brethren and friends at Phoenix, Arizona, Rev. and Mrs. John Goettle, the Philip Goettles and Urschlers; at Altadena, Pasadena, Los Angeles, California, the Dappers, the Batchler sisters, Mingers, Mr. and Mrs. William Schwartz, the Si Bahlers, brother Lorenz, Diana Conrad, Traubs, and Stollers; at San Francisco, Brother Schick, his wife and Amanda Bingham; at Portland, Oregon, Duriwachters, the Theo Conrads, Sam. Bill and Martha Conrad, the Andersons and the Reitus.

ENDURANCE

In relating a friend's experience, someone has said, "Instead of looking chiefly for consolations, and judging of the amount of her joy, her true and chief consolation was in enduring and doing God's will; accepting with an equal and thankful mind, the cloud and the sunshine, the suffering and the pleasure.

The Holy Spirit proceeds gently but constantly in His operations, unbinding every tie of natures; cutting loose every ligament which fastens the soul to earth, until in its freedom from the slavery of the world, it expands and rejoices in the liberty of God.

NEWS

Local News

William Klopfenstein, Jr. was baptized May 4 and communion services, also were conducted by Elders Samuel Aeschliman and Elias Dotterer.

Funeral services for Mrs. Osie Wysong of Crestline, Ohio, mother of Roy Wysong were conducted on May 6 at Albion, Indiana by Elder Elias Dotterer.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Souder, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Easle and Rev. Henry Sabo of Mansfield visited the Leo church Tuesday, May 6. Rev. Henry Sabo conducted services.

Rev. Theo Beer of Milford, Indiana, was in charge of funeral services for Johnnie Philip, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Clause of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Burial was in the Leo Memorial Cemetery.

Rev. Henry Beer conducted Thursday evening services at the Leo church on May 15.

A son, Philip Allen, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Martin on May 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Winzler are the proud parents of a son, James John born on May 25.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Belsy, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Maibach of Detroit, Michigan, were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kipfer on May 24.

Groups from eight different Sunday Schools were represented at the Leo Young People's Meeting on May 25. The program was largely attended. Rev. Philip Gutwein was the guest speaker. The Francesville and Remington Sunday Schools gave splendid contributions to our program.

Rev. Elias Winzler visited the Chicago church on Sunday, May 25.

Rev. Jacob Frautschi conducted Sunday services at the Leo church on June 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Klopfenstein and their three children from Southington, Connecticut, recently visited with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Klopfenstein, relatives and friends.

Miss Diana Conrad of Pasadena,

California, arrived at the Conrad Acres Thursday evening, May 28, to spend an extended visit with her relatives and many friends here. On Memorial day the John Conrad family gathered for three days of reminiscing with Diana. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Frautschi and daughters Mary and Emily and son Arthur and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Reinick and children of Toledo, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Frautschi and Janice Kay of Goshen, Indiana, were among those who came to spend the week end with the Conrads. Saturday was spent with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Troxel of Fort Wayne and Sunday with the Al Frautschi family. We welcome Diana and hope she will make her extended visit a continued one.

Remington, Indiana

Caroline Waibel passed away at the age of 78 years and 9 months after an illness of over three years. Coming here from Cissna Park she lived in this community about forty years. Her husband, Fred Waibel, passed away in 1929. She leaves to mourn her departure, four sons and four daughters, all of this community except one residing in Fort Wayne, Indiana and one brother, Herman Lehman of Forrest, Illinois, besides many friends. Elder George Yergler conducted services May 21.

Rev. and Mrs. Al Fisher and several others from Chicago spent the evening with us at our mid-week services on May 22. Rev. Fisher held services which were enjoyed by the congregations. We wish to thank Rev. Fisher for his visit.

Elders George Yergler and Phil Aschliman conducted baptismal May 17. We now have a total of twenty-three who have been converted and added to the fold since January. We are thankful for the increase.

The work on our new church building has been progressing quite well although somewhat delayed because of the rainy weather.

Roanoke, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Harley Mangold are the proud parents of a boy, Jonathan, born Thursday, May 15.

Jim Klaus, son of Mrs. Arthur Klaus, arrived home from Japan, May 16. He has received his discharged.

Mrs. Caesar Klaus, Sr. fell at her home and broke her hip last week. She is improving at the Methodist Hospital in Peoria.

Eleanor Schumacher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schumacher, of Eureka underwent an appendectomy during the past week.

Toledo, Ohio

Mr. and Mrs. George Laidig are the proud parents of a son, David Lee.

On May 6 a group from Toledo were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach, Sr. Everyone had an enjoyable time.

Sunday, May 11, Elder Elias Dotterer held communion services in the Toledo Church. Other visitors that day were Mrs. Anna Manz, Mrs. Martha Laukhaf and Miss Huldah Manz from Junction, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach, Jr. and family, and Mr. Ben Belsley from Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Frautschi and son of Grabill, Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Troxel and family of Fort Wayne, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Frautschi and daughter, and Mrs. Sigmund Sorg of Goshen, Indiana visited the Jacob Frautschi family the week-end of May 11.

Visitors in Toledo on Sunday, May 18, were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Laukhaf and son, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lantz and son, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sinn and daughter, Mr. Albert Zeltwanger, Mr. Donald Wenninger, and Misses Marian Zeltwanger, Mildred Wenninger and Clara Feltman, all from Latty, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Clark and Bob Kaehr from Bluffton, Indiana, visited relatives and friends in Toledo the week-end of May 18 and joined with a group from Toledo who had dinner and spent the evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach, Jr., in Detroit, Michigan.

West Bend, Iowa

A baby girl, Jane Alice, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Metzger May 12.

Rev. Paul Banwart, Will Metzger, Eleanor Grimm, Berniece and Lela

Banwart visited in Elgin, Iowa the week-end of May 18.

Visitors in West Bend on May 18 were Mr. and Mrs. August Knoblock, Mr. and Mrs. John Moser and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Metzger and two sons, Raymond and Pauline Feucht, and Philip Mogler of Lester, Iowa and John Moser of Kansas.

Visitors here on May 25 were Mr. and Mrs. Carl Feucht and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Feucht and two sons of Lester, Iowa.

Rev. Joe Banwart, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Banwart and Leona Banwart visited in Pulaski on Sunday, May 25. Joe Banwart plans to stay a few days there and the others accompanied by Clara Banwart of Elgin, Illinois, will spend a week's vacation in the Ozarks, Lamar, Missouri and Sabetha, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Grim and Delano and Carole went to Cedar Falls, May 27. Their daughter, Lorane, graduated on that day from Iowa State Teachers College.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Keller returned from Rochester, May 26 where the former underwent a major operation.

Francesville, Indiana

Three cars of people came from Cissna Park on Wednesday, May 21, in the help of packing relief boxes. We are very appreciative to them as well as the neighboring congregations and all who help in this great cause.

Mrs. Joe Gudeman underwent an operation on May 7, but at this writing we are glad to say she is improving nicely.

Little Betty Sue Wuethrich, two year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wuethrich, was seriously ill with a bronchial infection and had to be confined to a hospital for six days. Oxygen was given her to aid in breathing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Getz are the happy parents of a baby boy born May 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Leman and daughter, Hilda, and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hohulin of Goodfield visited here May 25.

We had a very pleasant Sunday with the Leo Congregation, May 25.

Mansfield, Ohio

Rev. Henry Beer of Milford, Indiana, held services Friday evening, May 23. We enjoyed his short visit here.

We extend sincere sympathy to the family of Mrs. Mary Witchie who passed away May 22, at the age of 74. We also extend our sympathy to the family of Mrs. Wysong, who recently passed away at the home of her son, Roy. The body was taken to Indiana for burial.

Among those who visited our congregation on Sunday, May 25 were Rev. and Mrs. Henry Dotterer, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dotterer and children, Mr. and Mrs. John Carr, Mr. and Mrs. William Pfister and family, all from Bluffton, and the Misses Wilma Hartzler and Margaret Dockus from Akron. We appreciated the sermons delivered by Rev. Dotterer.

Mr. Aaron Sauder and son, Charles, spent the week-end of May 18 near Bluffton, Indiana, where they visited Mr. Sauder's brother, Lewis Sauder, and his family.

The week-end of May 4, Mr. Elmer Graf, Jr. of Akron visited Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beery.

Mrs. Marquette, who has been making her home at the Apostolic Christian Home in Mansfield, has gone to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to live with her granddaughter.

Bluffton, Indiana

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Dotterer and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dotterer visited in Tremont, Illinois, over the week-end of April 20.

Evening services were conducted here on Wednesday, April 23, by Rev. Henry Beer.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Steffen and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kipfer visited relatives and friends in Milford, Indiana, on Sunday, April 20.

Rev. and Mrs. Joe Klopfenstein from Gridley, Illinois, visited in our congregation Sunday April 27.

Elder and Mrs. Philip Aeschliman from Cissna Park, Illinois visited here over the week-end of April 27 during which time baptismal services were held for Max Steffen, Ralph Steffen, Charles Neuenschwander, Frederick Gerber, Joyce Moser, Doris Fiechter and Betty Neuenschwander.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Kipfer and daughter spent Sunday, May 4, in Leo, Indiana.

Mr. and Matt Wieland, Mr. Sam Wieland, James and Roy Wieland, Florence Wieland, Neola Wackerle, and Miriam Ramsier from Bay City, Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Will Maibach from Peoria, Illinois visited us over the week-end of May 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Haab and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kipfer visited relatives and friends in Milford, Indiana on May 4.

Elder Otto Ramsier from Bay City, Michigan visited our congregation over the week-end of May 11.

Rev. Joe Klopfenstein of Gridley, Illinois conducted evening services here on Sunday, May 11.

Misses Irene Isch, Alice Troxel, Doris Gilliom, and Joyce and Dorothy Moser were among those who visited the Remington, Indiana congregation on May 11.

Morton, Illinois

The marriage of Miss Marie Eunice Grimm, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Grimm, and Robert Norman Taufer, son of T. A. Taufer of Los Angeles, California, was solemnized at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, May 4, at the Morton Apostolic Christian Church. The Rev. Carl Rassi officiated.

The marriage of Miss Wilma Belsley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Belsley and Donald Sauder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sauder of Roanoke, Illinois was solemnized at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, May 18 at the Morton Apostolic Christian Church. The Rev. David Mangold of Roanoke, Illinois officiated.

The funeral service for Miss Sophia Heinold was held Sunday, May 18. The services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Getz. She had lived in Morton all her life. Her death was attributed to a heart attack.

Peoria, Illinois

The engagement of Miss Lena Sauder to Mr. Chris Sauder both of Peoria was announced April 27. They were married on June 1.

The Young People's Meeting was held in Peoria on May 4. We enjoy-

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Letters from War-Stricken Europe

The following is a copy from a fellow-believer in Europe, coming from Sivac, Jugoslavia now a war refugee in Germany, who, like Job, lost his family and every earthly possession. Observe his Faith and patience.

Heinrich Hunszinger,
RIMBACH, i/Odenwald,
Fckgasse b. Martin Schuster.

Rimbach, Jan. 18, 1947.

Dear Brother in the Lord,

First of all I thank you for your love gifts, which you have shared unto me. May our loving Father in heaven, bless you richly for it, dear brother, and also bless all of our hearts and to the glory of our Lord and Saviour.

Dear brother: I presume that you have knowledge of my sorrowful fate. Now I stand alone. My dear wife died Feb. 23, 1942. Two sons were conscripted, one died, the second is supposedly living, according to information through the Red Cross. But up to this time, I am without information from him. On July 23, 1944, when we were yet at home (Sivac), the partisans (Communist Soldiers) came and called my two girls (they were members) to help dig potatoes, and they never came back. They were kidnapped to Russia. On Sept. 6, 1946 (after 25 months) I received the first word from them. At that time they were still living and well.

I ask you now, dear brother, how my girls could possibly obtain their liberty through a petition? For they, too, are innocent, were members of no party or any "Bund" Organization. What do you think about it? In trying only the petition and what it cost, could be lost, I believe. Forgive me, my dear brother, because I come with such a question. My anxiety for my believing children torments me. I feel it my duty to consult. For a long time I have received no mail from the children. I write, and every week, mail for them goes from here through the Red Cross. Whether the girls receive my letters, is questionable. How will they be faring? It causes me worry and grief.

My dear brother, I have a sister in Canada, no doubt you knew that. She writes me that she was asked the question (the writer asked her) if she would be willing and able to give me the transportation costs for over there. I would like to come together with brother and sister and family Walter. My sister and brother-in-law are kind enough to help. And if our loving heavenly Father gives me Grace, and will keep me well, I will gladly work to pay my debt back—so also my dear children from Russia. If the almighty God will permit it that we can find ourselves together again in good health, then we will gladly work and be content. Then we also will not murmur about the fate which has befallen us, nor will we look back on what we had to leave behind and could not take along.

I am willing to bear my Cross patiently! and look up to our Lord and Saviour, who trod the way before us. May God give us Grace that we will not become weary in all of our trials.

So we will commit ourselves unto the Grace of God with hearty greet-

Hymn of the Month

GATHERING FLOWERS FOR THE MASTER'S BOUQUET

Death is an angel sent down from above,
Sent for the buds and the flowers we love;
Truly 'tis so, for in heaven's own way
Each soul is a flow'r in the Master's bouquet.

Loved ones are passing each day and each hour,
Passing away "as the life of a flow'r,"
But ev'ry bud and each blossom some day
Will bloom as a flow'r in the Master's bouquet.

Let us be faithful till life's work is done,
Blooming with love till the reaper shall come;
Then we'll be gathered together for aye,
Transplanted to bloom in the Master's bouquet.

Chorus:

Gathering flow'rs for the Master's bouquet,
Beautiful flow'rs that will never decay;
Gathered by angels and carried away
For ever to bloom in the Master's bouquet.

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ings. Also to all your loved ones, that are with you, hearty greetings.

signed: Heinrich Hunszinger.

P.S. Just now I received mail. Christine, one of my girls came from Russia. But is down sick and in misery in a hospital. (in some zone where we cannot go to see her at will) Now I must see to obtain a permit to move her, so I can take her to myself. Elizabeth still had to stay in Russia, because she is still able to work.

Bayreuth, Germany, Dec. 1, 1946.

In the Lord, beloved brother and sister,

To begin our letter, we wish for you from God, the loving heavenly Father, much Grace and Comfort, Peace and Joy in the Holy Spirit, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

We thank the Lord and also you loved ones for your service of love which you have done in God the Lord in that you have sent to my address Filip Haug already three packages and also to Family Sister M. Deer and Jakob Schne, you have already sent numerous packages with food and clothing from F. . . Indiana.

The Lord be unto all of you a rich rewarder, O, already here in this time and also in eternity, for He has such comforting promises for those who feed his hungry ones and clothe the naked and whosoever giveth but a cup of water to them that are the Lord's, he shall in no wise lose his reward. And the Lord is faithful in all His promises,—He will also do it, for such sacrifices are well pleasing unto Him.

Loved ones, and blessed is he, who cares for the needy and destitute and he who has compassion on the poor he lendeth to the Lord, who will again reward him with good. Beloved, through this war we became very poor and in addition we are also scattered in every direction. But we would not murmur nor would we complain for God, the Lord, already in Daniel 12:7 prophesied concerning the dispersion of His Saints in the end of time. All such is to happen yet

to us to give us the more assurance and to arouse us in the Faith that at all time we be watchful unto prayer always, "that we may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

Ye beloved, remember us also in your prayers for our best, that the Lord God would soon gather us again, for love also will have fellowship, she seeks a faithful brother heart. Yet evermore may the Lord's will be done O beloved, we will gladly wait upon the Lord and command unto Him ourselves together with all his children, where ever they are and under whatever circumstances they be: "wo Sie hier zerstreuet wohnen, unter allen Nationen, Du Sie kennest, Herr und weisst."—"Scattered over all creation, and in every clime and nation, Thou dost know them, one and all." (Hym 189). Yes He knows their manifold and dire need on earth and helps so gladly and delivers out of trouble. Unto Him we will commit everything: "Der uns bis jetzt gefuehret, Ihm auch allein gebuehret, dass Fr uns ferner Gut's erweist."... "His Love to us He proveth, To Him alone behooveth, Good Gifts to send us from above." (Hym 234:1).

And unto Him even now be much Praise and Thanksgiving, adoration, Glory, and Honour for all the good He has done unto us for body and spirit and life, in Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, already here in this time and also in all eternity.

Again we thank the Lord and also you, our loved ones all for your labour of love, and greet you all in love heartily with all the loved ones in the Lord, as your lowly brother and sister. Filip u. Magdalene Haug and Family. Lager Hammerstadt, B. Z. (13a) Bayreuth, Bayern, U. S. Zone, Germany.

This letter was recently received by bro. Ben Anliker. The expense for sending the packages referred to above,—and possibly some 15,000 others is all taken care of out of the Apostolic Christian Aid Fund to which all our Churches voluntarily contribute.

Please note the implicit trust in

God, the patient and humble yielding, and the praise and thankfulness, which fills the heart of the writer, in the face of the loss of every earthly possession.

Under date of Nov. 15, a mother writes us: from Rimbach, Hessen, Germany.

The good and merciful heavenly Father give you the grace and power to strive forward to the eternal home; may he be with you upon all your ways and bless you according to body and soul.

My dear ones, My heart is heavy whenever I consider our afflictions. It is really so hard for me to be here so separated from the members and the church and be so lonely. But I am also thankful to God that He has kept us through all the tribulation, all the want, deprivation, fear and danger through which we went and finally led us again together. I must again and again take new courage and anew trust God. He can help us again.

We are so fearful of hunger here in Germany. Here one must always hunger some. We often say as we leave the table that we did eat but we are still hungry. Often we wish if we only could have cornmeal cooked, in place of the better eats, if only for once we could eat again to fully satisfy our hunger; but that also one cannot obtain here. This is unspeakably hard for us because we cannot give our poor children which is needful for them as children who are just in their growing years. Now they should have the opportunity to recover after a long time of suffering want, but unfortunately again there is a lack of food. Our main item of food is potatoes, mostly without fats or other additions, for we are in want of most everything.

The country here is very poor. Nothing can be bought from the farmers. My husband, too, worked hard with little food and lost much weight. If I look upon my loved ones, I could almost despair and oft I feel as though it would tear my heart. But I cannot change anything. So we will put our trust in God and not despair. He has helped over dark ways in the

past, He will not forsake us even though it goes through suffering and affliction.

..... My heart is weeping and bleeding for my dear sisters and old Father. He was very sick. Tinka and Hermina still have no word from their husbands (over two years ago they were shipped into Russian slave labor). They themselves with their little ones are still in the camp, (where some of their children died) (Jugoslave camps) in great distress. O that the good Lord would turn their captivity. He alone can deliver them out of their oppression.

Here we receive no flour allotment, lard hardly worth mentioning, no vegetables, not even an onion, to give the daily ration of potatoes a taste. We tried to get some cabbage, but it cannot be had. We are all so hungry for some vegetables or fruit. On our farm at home we had almost 200 fruit trees with all kinds of fruit and melons and strawberries. Now when the children come to me for a small slice of bread I must say to them, "We do not have any bread and we do not get any until day after tomorrow." Then they say, "O I am so hungry, so very hungry for bread. (And they would need plenty of good wholesome food for they are undernourished and under-weight.)"

Mariska (her cousin in Paks, Hungary) also goes to church and wants to repent. Josef and Gyula are members, Lydia also wants to get ahead but cannot yet use violence to press in. The husband of Mariska, the Russians abducted to Russia; she has not heard from him since. Out of all towns the Russians abducted the German women from 17 to 32 years to Russia; also the men from 17 to 45 years, only those who could hide themselves remained back. Br. Hunsiger's two daughters, who are members, they also took along. My dear sisters, Tina and Hermina, know nothing of their husbands. It is feared they fell into the hands of the partisans who committed cruel murders. They suffered terribly. O may the good Lord hear their signs and prayers and stand by them. We greet you and all heartily in fervent love and also the holy Church of God.

NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

ed group singing by the Morton, Tremont, Princeville, Roanoke, Goodfield, Gridley and Peoria Sunday Schools. The next meeting will be held in Gridley on July 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloter, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Kloter and daughter, Marcia and Miss LaVina Kloter of Rockville, Connecticut, visited friends and relatives here recently. Their trip west was made especially to attend the wedding of the former's youngest son, Edmund, who was married to Miss Lorene Huber at Fairbury on May 11.

The engagement of Miss Alva Miller to Mr. Edward Unsiker both of Peoria was announced May 18.

Princeville, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Will Feueht and Mr. Chris Martin visited in Elgin, Iowa, April 27.

On May 4 we enjoyed a group of young people from Elgin, Illinois, who later in the evening participated in the Sunday School program in Peoria.

We are happy to welcome home another of our young men, Nate Stoller, who has returned from several months in Korea. On May 18 he became affiliated with our church; baptismal services were performed by Elder Emil Schubert.

Joseph Stoller, who has been critically ill for several months is slightly improved.

A number of young people of Cissna Park visited us on May 18.

Geraldine Stohler, daughter of Joseph Stohler, (he is very ill in the Methodist hospital in Peoria,) was united in marriage June 1 to Edwin Rinker from Gridley by Rev. Frank Mortz.

Brother Al Fisher from Chicago visited our church June 1.

Brother David Mangold and his wife visited here Friday. Brother Silas Leuthold took his wife to Ottawa to a clinic.

Chicago, Illinois

Eldon Schurter, who recently suffered injury in an accident is recuperating at his home in Oklahoma. He returned there with his mother who had been here with him.

Visitors in Chicago Church on Sun-

day, May 11, included Rev. and Mrs. Eli Winzler and family of Leo, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hartman, Mabel and Melvin, of Fairbury, Mr. and Mrs. Will Feller of Cissna Park and Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Scharlach of Remington.

Rev. Will Stettner of Elgin spent Sunday, May 18, with us.

Elder George Yergler and Rev. Eli Winzler visited us on Sunday, May 25. We also has as guests Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wiegand and Joan Wiegand of Oakville, Iowa.

On Thursday evening May 22, Rev. and Mrs. Al Fisher and others from here attended mid-week services at Remington.

Croghan, New York

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Virkler spent ten days at Rockville, Connecticut with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Luginbuhl.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Virkler spent the week-end of May 11 with their sister Mr. and Mrs. William Schneider, Rockville, Connecticut.

Elder and Mrs. Philip Beyer left for Rockville, Connecticut, May 23, to spend the week-end.

William Schleider, age 87, died April 30, at his home in Naumburg, New York.

Michael M. Zehr, age 86, a lifelong resident of Croghan, died May 20. Surviving are three daughters and two sons.

Mrs. Martha Schurter is seriously ill at the Lewis County Hospital.

Fairbury, Illinois

Funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Hirstein Farr were held at Fairbury, May 5. She was 45 years old.

Miss Lorene Huber of Fairbury and Edmund Klopter of Rockville, Connecticut were married Sunday, May 11 with Rev. Joshua Broquard officiating.

We are happy to have Miss Arlene Leonhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ifft, and William Strieb among the converted. They have all been baptized and are taken into the fold of Christ.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bahler of Remington, Indiana and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Fehr of Roanoke, Illinois were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ifft, Sunday, May 18.

Wolcott, Indiana

Mrs. Joshua Nohl and daughter Alice, George Knapp of Goodfield, and Miss Wilma Klopfenstein of Bloomington spent May 24 and 25 with relatives and friends here.

Miss Arles Kropf visited friends and relatives in LaCrosse on May 17 and 18.

Miss Ruth Hofstetter of Chicago spent Sunday, June 1, here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hofstetter and sons. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Thomas and children of Peoria were Memorial Day visitors of the Hofstetters.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kyburz, Mrs. Ed Kyburz and son, Paul, and Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Klopfenstein spent Sunday, May 17 with relatives and friends at Morton and Goodfield.

Mrs. Ida Nussbaum and daughter, Wilma, Mr. and Mrs. Winsford Wood, Miss Gladys Kropf, and Carl and Herman Furrer attended commencement exercises at the Mennonite Hospital, Bloomington, Ill., on June 1. Miss Pauline Nussbaum was one of the graduates.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Lehman and children visited the Chicago congregation recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Kropf and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Furrer, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kyburz attended the funeral of Mrs. Kropf's sister, Mrs. Eric Farr, at Fairbury on May 5. We are glad to have Lavern Stoller back with us. He has been in service overseas and is the last of our boys to return home.

Miss Mary Ellen Gudeman of Ft. Wayne visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Gudeman on June 1.

Mrs. Will Furrer is recuperating at her home after a recent operation.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

BLESSED ARE THEY WHO OBEY GOD'S WORD

Samuel Aeschliman, Elder
Bluffton, Ind.

MARAH, ELIM, JORDAN, AND HOME

Jacob Frautschi, Pastor

Toledo, Ohio

SALVATION (Cont. 15)

Philip Gutwein, Jr., Pastor

Francesville, Ind.

THE SILVER LINING

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