



But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.—JOHN 4:14.

Call upon me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.—JEREMIAH 33:3.

TIMELY WARNING

By Albert N. Wuthrich

I wonder if we as Christians are aware how Satan is trying to make inroads into our churches. I believe this is a very serious question in this present time. The modern tendency is to find a way to please both God and mammon. Pulpit theatricals, church basement bingo games, and a bloodless Christ are the inevitable result of a streamlined religion, faith made easy.

This I am willing to believe will grow until it has all but the true believer in its grip. This evil which is entering into the various faiths is also preparing the field for the anti-christ and the beast of which we read in the Revelation.

Therefore, we ought to keep ourselves unspotted from the world, so the Lord can commend us, as He instructed John to write to the Philadelphia church, and not have to say unto us as he wrote to the Laodicean church. "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. . . . So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do

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Something for the New Year

By Philip Getz

The year of 1947 has gone except in memory. There are many things about 1947 that we will want to remember and many things that we will want to forget.

A father who lost his son in this last war said that in the disappointment of his great loss he felt the all-

TREASURED VERSES

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *that* the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *there is* no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to ~~them that have~~ no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.—Isa. 40:28-31.

powerful hand of God, and it gave him comfort to have the power of prayer. He, an immigrant, appreciated our America even more than some of us who have known nothing but America. He speaks of it as the land of great opportunity where everybody can succeed.

Sometimes when we seem to have everything we want within our grasp, it is hard for us to picture ourselves in any other way. Let us strive in the year of 1948 to so live that we can always be close to our God.

The last night of December the clock struck twelve. It was midnight. How like a strange dream warped with troubles and woofed with tears the year 1947 did vanish over the great precipice. Yes, gone down the tomb of time with its bright prospects, high aspirations, great events to some, bitter disappointments to others. One by one, those days have gone by. The New Year did come. Another year, another flake covering the past with forgetfulness; another balance sheet for or against us. The record has been perfectly kept, and on that great day will be opened to our eyes how we have lived during the year.

Let us think for one moment what a battle life is, how the hand of time closes its grasp, bearing its gatherings to the searcher of all hearts: good and bad acts, hopes, fears, treachery, tears, sobs, smiles, injuries, promises kept and broken, envy, rejoicing, pain, pleasure, sin; all woven together like a tangled thread, unravelled by the "All-seeing Eye." Let us look back through the past year and see what was strewn: — good intentions and resolutions lie bleeding and torn, hard words were spoken, when soft

SALVATION (Cont. 22)

Philip Gutwein, Jr.

and gentle ones would have been much better.

'Tis a wonderful stream, this river of time which is allotted to each one of us. With its burden of years, it still rolls on; while shadows have darkened some of our happy homes, misfortunes, and sorrows have come upon us, we often have golden, bright dreams of our fair hopes. The Christian's hope is of rare promises of pure joys in this world, but that glorious hope will never depart from those who strive to do right in this time.

As we have now entered upon the New Year, we ask, "Were we a light or a good example to our children and fellowmen in the past year?"

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16. So let us brighten our homes and always have pleasant, cheerful words for our fellowmen, partake of their joys, and sympathize with their sorrows. Let us look back and reflect for the future as we bid farewell to the old year and greet the new year. Let us begin with tender words; let good wishes and liberality of sentiment expand all our hearts during the year, for they are blessed influences.

The Reward of Faith

By Victor Stavenik, Sr.

Christ died on the cross for all of us, to pay for our sins, and His resurrection gives life unto all true believers in Him. As the Scripture says, "many are called but few are chosen." Why is this? The answer should come from many. It is because man loves the things of this world more than our Saviour. The tumult and pleasures of the world separates from God and His promises. Many do not see nor believe this that we must pray and strive for the grace and love which Jesus gives to those who follow His teachings, which lead us into His kingdom and everlasting life.

(Editor's note: Let us aim to become what Jesus would want us to become—)

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." (I Pet. 1:10-11).

"Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed . . . the mystery, which from the beginning of the world (all ages) hath been hid in God." (Eph. 3:4, 5, 9).

The reader will recall that the objective which we still have before us is to find the God-approved and scripturally correct setting for the peculiar verses in Mark 16:15-18, a setting which would appear to be in harmony with—and fit into some larger overall prophetic program set forth in Holy Scripture. The right setting will enhance the beauty of the program and picture, while the wrong setting would only confuse and mar it. As stated before, we hope to do this by "rightly dividing (handling aright) the word of truth."

The above verses of Scripture from First Peter suggest a division of Old Testament prophecies into two very distinct and separate groups, while the verses in Ephesians suggest a third group or body of Truth, distinct from the other two, in that it was not a subject of Old Testament prophecy, but a late New Testament reve-

lation after Christ had ascended to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in Heaven. Thus we will proceed, God willing, under the following three-way division of the Word of Truth:

- 1) The beforehand sufferings of Christ,
- 2) The glory that should follow, and
- 3) The mystery of Christ.

The prophecies of the first group, concerning the sufferings of Christ, were all confirmed and literally fulfilled in His rejection as "King of the Jews" by His own, in His agony of soul and sorrow even unto death in Gethsemane, in His deep public humiliation, mockery and stripes, in His crucifixion in "weakness" and shame, in his being numbered among the transgressors, and in His burial in a grave with the wicked. These efficacious, beforehand sufferings of Christ once for sin, the "just for the unjust," were concentrated into the hour which had come with His betrayal (Mark 14:41) and ended when He cried on the cross with a loud voice: "It is finished." The delivery pain of the "travail of his soul," the crisis of his sufferings, was a few moments before, when the Holy One cried out in immeasurable agony: "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" These intense sufferings for sin, which reconciled God unto the world and are in fact the judicial basis for the forgiveness of sins, were probably accomplished in less than twenty-four hours, though

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for

they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile (reproach) you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Matthew 5:3-12.

the shadow of the Cross was upon His whole mature life, and the forebodings of His rejection were often manifest, but especially, when He officially presented Himself to His nation and people "the daughter of Zion," as their King and long awaited Messiah, the blessed son of David, coming in the name of the Lord, (Matt. 21:9), and the blessed "kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Blessed be the kingdom that cometh, the kingdom of our father David.) (Mark 11:10).

A typical example of Old Testament prophetic testimony of the sufferings of Christ is Isaiah 53. The bruised heel of the seed of the woman, the blood sacrifice of Abel, the offering of Isaac, the sacrifices and the shedding of blood under the Mosaic Law, and prophecies in the Psalms, all point to the sufferings and the death of Christ, as the Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the world. The Lord Himself confirmed that His suffering was according to a design and blue print (well defined in the Old Prophetic Scriptures), by such statements: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself." (Luke 24:25-27 and 44).

It will be noticed that we have made no mention of the resurrection of Christ while enumerating the above details of His sufferings. For strictly speaking His tomb was the dividing line between the *beforehand sufferings of Christ* and the *glory that should follow*, and His resurrection does not belong under the heading of *suffering*, but that of *glory*. Death is an "enemy," it destroys until itself is destroyed. (I Cor. 15:26). The resurrection of the dead, — and first and most of all—is the resurrection of Christ a glorious victory over the grave, a "swallowing up of death in victory" (vs. 54:57), and a routing defeat by a superior Power, of him "that had the power of death, that is, the devil." (Heb. 2:14). Christ was raised from the dead by the direct intervention of God the Father working an "exceeding greatness of his power" (Eph. 1:19), crowning

the suffering Christ with the glory of victory and "all power (authority) in heaven and in earth." (Matt. 28:18).

The death of Christ and His resurrection are in Scripture often mentioned together: "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." (Rom. 4:25), and we do it here and now because the foundation and the essence of the gospel of salvation is "that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." (I Cor. 15:1-4, Eph. 1:13). As sin is the cause of that curse which plights the creation under the "first Adam" and makes it groan and travail in pain together until now in hope of deliverance in a dispensation of glory that should follow (Rom. 8:17-24), yea, in "the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:21),—even so is the forgiveness of sin, made possible through the suffering Christ,—the initial blessing and step toward the removal of that curse and plight in the dispensation of the glory of Christ, the "last Adam" which is to follow.

You say that has reference to Christ's Heavenly Glory? Remember, dear reader, He had a glory with the Father in the Heavens "before the world was" (John 17:5), and He is now at the right hand of the Majesty in Heaven in a Glory which cannot be excelled, in a "far more exceeding and eternal weight of Glory" (II Cor. 4:17), but until there is "peace on earth" as well as in Heaven, "Glory to God in the highest" is not complete. No, here on earth, here where Adam the first, created by Him in the image of His own glory, fell in sin, and together with him an entire creation fell into the ruin and the dust of vanity,—here, upon the scene of His sufferings, the Lord of lords and King of kings will yet be crowned with glory and honour by God and men, and in the name of Jesus, and in adoration of that Name, will yet bow every knee on earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the

glory of God the Father. (Phil. 2:9-11).

All of this refers to nothing less than the millennial reign of Christ on earth, as the Jewish Messiah, and Son of David, upon the throne of his father David in a kingdom of glory and great power, of righteousness and peace and its blessings extended to all nations and to the ends of the earth.

Our verses in Mark 16 blend harmoniously into this over-all prophetic program of the earthly kingdom of glory and more particularly constitute the world-wide proclamation and heralding of the again at handness of that Kingdom. It backs up and protects the messengers with the powers of that Kingdom and its King, so nothing shall by any means hurt them (Luke 10:19), and to make their message effective, they have delegated to them the power to cast out demons to weaken the opposition of the devil, "they shall speak with new tongues" to enable them to speak their message to any tribe or kindred or tongue or nation, and as they preach "every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20), such as the gift of healing.

(To be continued)

CORRECTION: In the December, 1947 Silver Lining, in the writing on "Salvation"—first page, column two, second to the last line, should have read:

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned (condemned).

And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

(Editor's note: condemned is the American revised translation.)

Editor's note: The address of Lydia Miller Botteron is: 801 Illinois Avenue, Elgin, Illinois.

When God pardons, He consigns the offense to everlasting forgetfulness. We are to forgive others as God forgives us.

NEWS

Bluffton, Indiana

Rev. and Mrs. John Yergler, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Gerber and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. L. Isch, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Isch, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Isch, Mrs. James Baine, Mrs. Ernest Isch, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. John Baumgartner, Miss Clara Isch, and Alvin and Justine Fiechter spent Sunday, December 14, in La Crosse, Indiana.

Rev. and Mrs. William Fiechter, Mr. and Mrs. John Fiechter, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Fiechter spent Sunday, November 30, in Latty, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Steffen, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Steffen, and Miss Marcella Steffen from Milford, Indiana, visited us Sunday, December 28.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Kaehr are parents of a baby daughter, born December 31.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Joel Maller, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hurt, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Jehu Gerber, and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Gerber spent the week-end of December 7 in Elgin, Illinois.

Several cars of young folks from Cissna Park, Illinois, visited us over the week-end of November 30 and were guests Sunday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Meyer.

Many from Roanoke, Illinois, visited us December 7, and were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gerber Sunday evening.

We again wish to welcome in our community Mr. and Mrs. Amos Meyer and family, who have moved here from Gridley, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gerber and daughters, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Joan, attended the wedding of Alberta Huber and Morris Stoller at Francesville, Indiana, December 14.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman, Rev. and Mrs. Theo Beer, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stoller visited churches in Ohio over the week-end of January 4.

Bremen, Indiana

The Sunday School presented a very enjoyable Christmas program

on Christmas Eve. It was very well attended.

Rev. Michael Weyeneth of Peoria visitor Bremen on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Elder Eli Dotterer and Brother Dan Stoller were in Bremen Sunday, December 4. The Germann sisters were married to the Stoller brethren.

Carolyn Schumacher was announced as having peace.

Burlington, Oklahoma

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Farney and daughter, Lena Lou, and Miss Lena Knochel of Ft. Wayne, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Farney and son, Le Roy, of Wolcott, Indiana; Mrs. George Waibel and son, Leon, of Remington, Indiana; and Mrs. Marie Swab of Madison, Kansas, were visiting relatives and friends in this community November 30.

Mr. and Mr. George Miller, Sr., and daughters, Kathryn and Erma, spent Sunday, December 17, in Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Banwart of Lamar, Missouri, were here visiting Mrs. Banwart's mother, Mrs. Sam Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Domnick left for California to spend the holidays with Mrs. Domnick's sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Bessler of Groveland, Illinois, were here visiting Mrs. Bessler's mother, Maggie Zehr.

Mrs. John Anker is spending a few weeks with her mother and sister, Mrs. Zehr and Mrs. Schurter.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Farney and family left December 17, for Mesa, Arizona, to spend the winter.

A Christmas program held by the Sunday school was enjoyed by everyone Sunday, December 21.

Mrs. Mary Gleichman and daughter and granddaughter left December 25 for California to spend a few weeks.

Croghan, New York

Sunday, December 7, three were added to our membership.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ramsier and son from Bay City, Michigan, visited her mother and family, Mrs. Amanda Virkler, over Thanksgiving.

The Sunday School classes of the

Croghan Church held their Christmas exercises on Sunday evening, December 21.

Those who spent the Christmas holidays with their folks were: Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Farney from Syracuse, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Ebersole from Samson Navy School; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Virkler, Ithaca, N. Y.; Allen Farney, who is in the Navy; and Douglas Farney from Paul Smith.

Fairbury, Illinois

Three cars from here visited the Gridley church on Sunday, December 7, and were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alpha Stoller of El Paso.

Our Sunday School Christmas program was held Sunday evening, December 21, with a very large attendance. The program was very impressive.

Rev. Frank Woertz from Goodfield held services here on Sunday, December 28. We were very happy to have Rev. Al Fisher from Chicago, Illinois, remain with us in the evening after having held services at the North and South churches during the day.

Misses Martha Maibach and Mabel Bauman of Sterling, Ohio, Miss Laverne Farney, Richard Ehman, and Donald Walder from Cissna Park, Illinois, visited here the week end of December 27 and 28.

Francesville, Indiana

Memorial services were held for John Pfledderer, December 11, with Rev. Philip Gutwein, Jr., officiating.

The engagement of Ruth Gudeman to Solomon Rapp was announced Christmas Day.

Rev. Conrad Gutwein announced the engagement of his daughter, Carolyn, to Alvin Kaufman, Sunday, December 28.

Mr. and Mrs. James Gutwein received as a Christmas gift—a baby son.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Pelsy are the happy parents of a son, born December 30.

Lamont, Kansas

Rev. and Mrs. Peter Fankhouser spent Christmas in Lamar, Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ott celebrated their forty-third wedding anniversary, December 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Luthi and son,

Raymond, spent the week end of December 28 in Peoria, Illinois.

Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Anliker, Glen and Ione, Mrs. Sam Schwab, and Mrs. Hulda Jacobs spent the week end of December 14 in Sabetha, Kansas.

Joe, Leah and Dena Fetcher spent December 28 in Sabetha, Kansas.

Leo, Indiana

D. Paul Gancwajch, a converted Jew, (Ed. note: soon to be—and possibly now) on his way back to Jerusalem, attended church services, December 9, at the Leo church. Elder Elias Dotterer conducted services and Elder Sam Aeschliman assisted.

Percidia Conrad left for several weeks to visit with relatives at Altadena, California.

Irma Joy Steiner and Matilda Bertsch, who have been on our sick list, are improved.

The Sunday School held their Christmas program Sunday evening, December 21. Guests from Bluffton, Indiana, were present.

Wanda Bahr of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and Albert Norr of Grabill, Indiana, were married Saturday, December 20.

About 125 guests attended the wedding reception for Mr. and Mrs. Edward Souder held on Christmas Eve at the home of Elias Souder. Mrs. Souder was the former Irma Fahling of Ft. Wayne.

Grave side services for Sharon Elaine, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kipfer, were conducted at the Leo cemetery, December 28.

James L. Martin, father of Oscar Martin, died January 6 at his home in Ft. Wayne. Funeral services were conducted at the Sloan and Sons Funeral Home.

Mrs. Robert Norr and their children attended the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Knaps of Cissna Park, Illinois. Mrs. Knaps was formerly Verena Meiss, a sister to Mrs. Norr.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman had Christmas dinner with the Otto Norr family.

Friends here received the news that Mr. and Mrs. Victor R. Kaisner of Morton, Illinois, are parents of a baby girl named Joyce Lynne. Mrs. Kaisner was the former Ruth Zimmerman.

The Leo and Grabill Sewing Circle met at the church dining hall December 11 for the last sewing for European relief for 1947. Through the year many pieces of old clothing were mended and repaired—the workers sewed 413 ladies' and childrens' garments, knotted 40 comforters, 4 baby blankets, 96 sheets, pillow cases, and dish towels of feed sacks. Through summer and fall, apples, pears, and sweet corn were dried, and soap was made. All was sent to Francesville Packing Unit at Francesville, Indiana.

Lester, Iowa

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Metzger and family and Mr. and Mrs. Silas Metzger and Gloria Jean from West Bend visited in the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kellenberger, over the Christmas Holiday.

August Knobloch, Jr., Alfred and Pauline Feucht, and Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Banwart returned to their homes safely after a three-weeks' visit in various places in Illinois and Iowa.

Mr. August Mogler, who is employed in Peoria, Illinois, came to spend several weeks with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mogler.

Mr. and Mrs. Adrain Kellenberger of Elgin visited with Henry Moglers Christmas Day. Mrs. Kellenberger is a daughter of the Moglers.

Mansfield, Ohio

Mr. Joel Beer spent several days with relatives and friends at Milford, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Beery and little son, of Rittman, visited relatives here Sunday, December 20.

Elders Samuel Aeschliman of Bluffton and Rudolf Graf of Akron, and Rev. Theo Beer of Milford, Indiana, visited us on New Year's Day. Services were held in the afternoon and evening. After the afternoon services, we had baptismal services. Arnold Webber, who is past 81 years, was added to the fold.

Mrs. Mary Marks Kisling, widow of C. Kisling, passed away December 3, at the age of 87 years.

Milford, Indiana

Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Urban Bauer of Cissna Park, Illinois, and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Sorg of Bloomington, Illinois.

The annual Christmas devotional

program was held on Sunday evening, December 21. Visitors from Elgin, Illinois, and Bremen were present.

The farm residence of Fred Haab was completely destroyed by fire on the morning of December 27. Cause of the fire is unknown. The community is saddened and sympathy is extended to them in their loss.

Amos Steffen and family visited brethren and relatives at Bluffton, December 28.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Beer spent Christmas at Remington with the Philip Getz family.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoerr of Peoria, Illinois, spent Christmas and the week end with Theo Beer and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weyeneth of Goshen, Indiana, are the parents of a son born December 23 at the Goshen Hospital.

Peoria, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roth of Kiowa, Kansas were present for the baptismal services held December 14 for Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Ziegenhorn.

Our Sunday school held their Christmas program Sunday evening, December 21.

Elder and Mrs. Emil Schubert, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Hoerr, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Hoerr, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leman visited the new church at Oakville, Iowa, on December 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Oral Steiner and family and Miss Anna Miller of Oakville, Iowa, visited relatives here on Christmas.

Christmas guests at the Rudolph Hoerr home were their sons and their wives—Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Hoerr of Taylor, Missouri, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hoerr of Cissna Park, Illinois.

Wilbur Hoerr of Chicago is a holiday guest at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hoerr.

Mrs. Henry Binkele entered the hospital November 21 because of burns caused by a pressure cooker. She was able to spend Christmas day at home, but she must go back to the hospital a little while. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hoerr, Kenny and Marilyn, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Beaver and Patricia spent Christmas at Mrs. Binkele's. Mrs. Hoerr and Mrs. Bea-

ver are her daughters. She writes: "I would like to thank everyone who so kindly remembered me with cards and gifts." Her address is: Mrs. Henry Binkele, 509 E Maywood Ave., Peoria, Illinois.

Princeville, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Endress are the proud parents of a son, born December 13. Mrs. Endress is the former Lois Miller of Pulaski, Iowa.

Members of our Bible class spent a very enjoyable day in Oakville, Iowa, December 7. Sunday evening, December 14, the class took part in singing at Tremont, Illinois. Other schools represented were Morton, Peoria, and Goodfield.

A large attendance was present at the church Sunday evening, December 21, to hear the Christmas Program presented by the children of the Sunday School.

Miss Miriam Hemmer, who attends college at Monmouth, Illinois, spent the holidays here with relatives.

Pulaski, Iowa

Rev. Noah Schrock and daughter, Ada, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lanz, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Moser, Ruth Moser, Roger Moser, Mary Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Wagler, Mr. Ben Wagler, Paul Wagonbach, Paul Wagler, Albert Wiegand—all from Oakville; Mr. and Mrs. Emil Strahm and family, Mr. and Mrs. Oren Strahm, Mr. and Mrs. Will Strahm, and Julius Strahm all of Sabetha, Kansas; and Mrs. Katie Wuthrich and daughter, Julia, from Elgin, Illinois, spent Sunday, December 28, with us to be here for the baptismal services conducted by Rev. Noah Schrock for Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Kinsinger and Mrs. Lina Sommers. We had a blessed day.

Remington, Indiana

Miss Jeanette Wasner, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wasner, was united in marriage to Mr. Glen Knapp of Goodfield, Illinois, on Sunday, December 7, in the presence of many relatives and friends including the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Knapp, and the groom's uncle, Rev. Henry Grimm and family of Morton, Illinois. Elder George Yergler performed the ceremony.

A number from here attended the funeral of Edward Troxel at La Crosse.

Quite a number attended the funeral of John Alt at Cissna Park, Sunday, December 14; it was attended by many from various congregations.

We are glad to mention that Phil Getz has returned home from St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lafayette, where he underwent an operation.

Miss Dorothy Knochel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Knochel, has returned home from the same hospital after undergoing an appendectomy December 17.

Russel Wasner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wasner, also had an appendectomy and has returned home again.

We are also glad to mention that Edward Siebenthal is recovering at his home in Goodland from a recent serious heart attack. We are glad for all of them and wish them good health again.

The Sunday School Classes gave their annual Christmas Program on Sunday evening, December 21, in the church auditorium. It was well attended and enjoyed by all present.

Roanoke, Illinois

Sunday, December 7, we were privileged to have a group of young people from Leo and Milford, Indiana visit us.

Our annual Christmas Sunday School Program was held Sunday, December 21, with many songs and speeches by the Sunday School members.

The body of Ray Wittmer arrived in Eureka, Wednesday, December 10. Ray was killed in the Battle of the Bulge. Short services were held at the home and grave December 11.

Elder Jos. Klopfenstein visited us Sunday, December 28. After the services, we were privileged to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Open house was held by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Zimmerman of Eureka after returning from their wedding trip in California. Mrs. Zimmerman was the former Clara Feldman of Peoria.

Rittman, Ohio

Elder Rudolph Graf visited us Sunday, November 23. One friend was baptized. Ben Hartzler and Joseph Ramsier were appointed to the ministry.

TIMELY WARNING

(Continued from page 1)

not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Rev. 3:15-22.

To be as the Philadelphian church and to carry on in that direction we must be truly converted. And as we carry on our home life, we must see that our home is a godly one, filled with the true LOVE of God, and that we LOVE our brethren. We must be sure the atmosphere in our home is one of LOVE and OBEDIENCE unto God, and not to see how much of the worldly we can possess and still remain in the church. Our homes are the foundation of our churches and nation.

So let us reverence him "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people (a people for his own possession), zealous of good works." Titus 2:14.

WORDS TO LIVE BY FOR THE NEW YEAR 1948

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. And where there is sadness, joy.

"O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much as seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." — by St. Francis of Assisi.

Note: This prayer, written more than 700 years ago. We feel it is most fitting for the new year and through our pilgrim's journey through life.

When I Met the Master

FROM "MOUNTAIN TRAILWAYS FOR YOUTH" by
Mrs. Chas. Cowman, with permission

I had walked life's way with an easy
tread,

Had followed where comforts and
pleasure led,

Until one day, in a quiet place,
I met the Master, face to face.

With station and rank and wealth for
my goal,

Much thought for my body, but
none for my soul,

I had entered to win in life's big race,
When I met the Master, face to face.

I had built my castles and reared
them high,

With their towers had pierced the
blue of the sky,

I had sworn to rule with an iron mace,
When I met the Master, face to
face.

I met Him and knew Him, and blush-
ed to see

That His eyes full of sorrow were
fixed on me,

And I faltered and fell at His feet
that day,

While my castles melted and van-
ished away.

Melted and vanished, and in their
place

Naught else did I see but the Mas-

ter's face,

And I cried aloud, Oh, make me meet
To follow the steps of Thy wounded
feet!"

My thought is now for the souls of
men,

I have lost my life to find it again,
E'er since that day in a quiet place,
When I met the Master, face to
face. —Sel.

New Year Prayer

Lord, Thou hast given me a clean,
new year.

Help me to keep its pages pure, un-
spoiled;

To write upon its scroll but kindly
thoughts,

With no unsightly blots to have it
soiled.

Let me not mar, in thought or word
or deed,

This page, so white, so pure, un-
sullied, fair.

Help me to know that when I stand
in need

Of help from Thee, Thou'rt always
standing there.

When duty calls me, Lord, let pleas-
ure wait.

Let me fulfill my calling. Let Thy
will,

Not mine, be done. Oh, let me ever
hear

Thy calm, approving voice, Thy
guidance still.

Lead me, dear Lord, in paths of peace-
fulness.

But if, perchance, Thy paths should
ever lie

O'er mountain trails, though they be
rough and bleak,

Then may I answer, "Master, here
am I."

—I. S. Ellis.

From MOUNTAIN TRAILWAYS FOR YOUTH by
Mrs. Chas. Cowman.

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Mrs. Chas. Cowman.

HYMN OF THE MONTH**MY TREASURES**

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I have treasures laid up in the city of God,
Bright jewels that never can rust;
For a-while they were dwellers in caskets of clay,
But those caskets are now in the dust.
And as here in the light of that beautiful morn,
I number them all o'er and o'er,
I say to myself, "in that city above,
I will find my lost jewels once more."

The feet that went down in the river of death,
As I stood on life's desolate sand,
Are walking in gladness the streets of bright gold,
That run thru the beautiful land.
The lips that so tenderly whispered my name,
E'er they closed in the silence of death;
Will speak to me yet in the Eden of love,
When life is no longer a breath.

The hands that once lovingly clung to my own,
As they grew in death pulseless and cold,
Are bearing fresh palms thru the city of God,
Or sweeping o'er harpstrings of gold.
The eyes that turned on me with love to the last,
Now beam in eternity's light,
They see in His beauty the King on His throne,
And gaze on His face with delight.

Old earth, with its fragrance, and beauty, and bloom,
To me is exquisitely fair,
But heaven is dearer and sweeter to me,
For my treasures so precious are there.
The dear Father who gave them and took them away,
Will not leave me forever alone,
He will give them all back to my bosom again,
When I stand on that shore by the throne.

Editor's note: When scripture is
quoted, words in parenthesis are
American Revised version transla-
tions. They are very probably more
correct.

A Thought for the New Year

LOOKING UNTO JESUS

"Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher [perfecter] of our faith." Heb. 12:1-2.

A Christian is not to look backward, but to press forward. However, as the old year passes forever away, most of us do look back and wish we had done something differently. We can see failures, and a great many imperfections in ourselves. But on the whole this year that is past should see much improvement in our spiritual lives. God, through Jesus Christ is always at hand to help us in every trial and testing. He also has made a way of escape from temptation.

Many Christians become discouraged because they do not fully realize or appreciate the wonders of His love and goodness and power. We are His, if we have come to the place where we admit that we are sinners and have confessed it to Him and have forsaken those sins and are trusting in His atonement and the work He did on Calvary. The things that awaken the deepest well of gratitude in a human being is that God has forgiven sin.

How can we doubt Him and be unhappy or uncertain when it isn't our own righteousness we are trusting in, but His? It is not our own power for victory, but His. It is not our wisdom in the time of need for a right decision but His. It is not our strength in weakness, but His. We can trust in Him for everything. Let us not be discouraged, even as we look back but let us look forward with joy to the coming year.

We want the New Year to be a happy one, and it can be, if we are taking a cleansed heart into the New Year, a heart cleansed by His precious blood. Some may not feel their need of cleansing, they may believe they can enter Heaven on their own goodness. But the very fact that God found it necessary to send His Son to die for our sins, that sin might be put away by His forever, makes it necessary for us to take His way and not try to substitute our own.

Let us not be like the man who dreamed he was going up to Heaven on a ladder of his own manufacture. Every good deed he did was a step on the ladder, and when he did an especially good deed he went up higher, and if he gave large sums to the poor he went up several steps until at last he seemed to be at the top of the ladder, and was ready to step off into Heaven, when—crash! the ladder gave way and down he came. Realizing as he awoke, that he could not rest on his own works alone for salvation, but on the finished work of Christ on the cross, he sought His forgiveness, and received a heart cleansed from sin, and began the blessed life—the happy life.

We can go into the New Year with joy and confidence for Jesus has gone before.

We say to the Man, who stood at the gate—

The gate of the coming year—

Give us a light that we may walk safely

Into the new and unknown Year."

—Submitted by **Chris Weuthrich**.

If a son gets right up at the father's first call

Not hard 'tis for him to rise at all,
But if he says "yes" and turns around
How quick again sleeps yea even more sound.

The other calls he may even not hear,
The rod that is coming he does not fear,

Because he is now so fast asleep
Not being aware he soon will weep.

But take this in a spiritual way,
Far more important it is we say
When Christ calls to a soul in their early youth

To forsake the world and seek the truth.

If such a soul this call will obey
From world and sin will turn away,
They will never regret but blest will be
Here and in all eternity.

But if a soul listens to Satan's lies
How quick again he will blind their eyes

He'll lull them to sleep with his cunning song,
You must wait awhile yet, you are yet too young.

So deeper and deeper in sleep are led,
Satan keeps them on a chain or thread,
Again then he will come with a cunning lie
You are too old now, you need not try.

But when Christ comes and says,
Now this call is the last,
A great fear then on a soul is cast,
How then could it be otherwise
When the last chance to be saved now in this call lies.

But not to all He speaks in this way,
Unexpected some pass away,
In deep remorse and pain to be
In endless long eternity.

So dear souls one and all
Today when you hear the Saviour call,
Give to Him your soul and heart
Before from you He will depart.

He never again may come your way,
So while He is calling to you today
Obey His warning, loving call,
This I would say to one and all.

Mary Ammann

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Please pray for the contributors and the staff of the **Silver Lining**, and for God's blessing on its contents.

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