



The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

—Psalm 34:22.

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.—I Timothy 4:16.

## An Open Door . . . A Little Strength

“And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: *Am I my brother’s keeper?*”

“Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. *I am the LORD.*”

“Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.”

“He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.”

“They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him.*”

“There is that maketh himself rich, yet *hath* nothing: *there is* that maketh himself poor, yet *hath* great riches.”

“He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.”

“He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.”

“If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we know it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it?”

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## SOUND IN FAITH (Continued)

“And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree . . . cursed is the ground . . .” (Gen. 3:17).

“And in thy seed (Abraham’s) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.” (Gen. 22:18).

As we have pointed out previously in these articles, Faith in God must rest upon promises of God. We have seen that ‘Abrahamic Faith’ accepts the Word of Promise, given by God, as positive evidence of things not yet seen, and doubts not in the least the certain performance of that promise. When the fulfilment of a promise is delayed, then we hope for that we see not, and do with patience wait for it. With “the full assurance of hope unto the end . . . Faith and patience in-

herit the promises.” (Heb. 6:11-19). “For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could not swear by no greater, he swore by himself,” though “it was impossible for God to lie” and not keep His promise. So we have a hope as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.

We also pointed to the promises of God to include both temporal blessings in earthly things, and “all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.” (Eph. 1:3). The temporal blessings, such as health, long life, peace, prosperity, and security, center largely around a future converted Israel, the natural or ‘sand seed’ of Abraham, with their ‘promised land’ and their Kingdom restored to them, under their long-awaited Messiah, the great Son of David, seated upon the Throne of his father David, in the coming millennial dispensation of the Glory and Power of the reigning Lion of the tribe of Judah, who (strangely enough) is both “the root of David” and His Son.

The “spiritual blessings in heavenly places” are heavenly, invisible, and eternal things,—such as the gift of imputed Righteousness, the Forgiveness of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit, the gift of Eternal Life, etc. These blessings, being spiritual and eternal, are not visible and material, as the temporal blessings are. Faith alone, resting upon the promises of God, can know them, see them, re-

### Knowledge of Salvation

*And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;*

*To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,*

*Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,*

*To give light to them that sit in darkness and IN the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.—St. Luke 1:76-79.*



ceive them as verities and possess them, like Moses, as being greater riches "than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."

They are for the "NEW MAN," which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him who created him: a NEW CREATION in Christ, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, nor any other standing or relationship according to the flesh; but Christ is all and in all. (Col. 3:10-11 and 2 Cor. 5:16-17). It is the spiritual or 'star seed' of Abraham, born from above, pilgrims and strangers in the earth, like father Abraham; they have their conversation in heaven (Phil. 3:20) and **know in themselves that they have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.** (Heb. 10:34). They have a Name written in heaven, a Kingdom within them, and a King now, who is **set down with His Father in His Throne** (Rev. 3:21). They look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"—"the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords."

These then are a peculiar race and people; theirs is a unique and dual family relationship: by virtue of their 'Abrahamic Faith' they are the **Children of Abraham** (Gal. 3:7-9); by virtue of their 'Faith in Christ Jesus,' they are the **Children of God** also; and being Christ's, they are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the PROMISE. (Gal. 3:26-29).

However, before we proceed to consider further spiritual blessings, to which the believer with 'Abrahamic Faith' is heir according to the promise, we would like to explore another quality of this 'Abrahamic Faith' in the light of the verses of scripture, quoted above from Genesis. And by way of contrast, we will also take a look at, what we might term, 'Adamic Faith.' Both are 'Fathers' and both have many children; both had an inheritance for their children, and it may be assumed that Adam, like Abraham, had a Faith. But notice the vast difference in the inheritance these two fathers left to their prosperity. Adam, acting out his faith, brought a CURSE upon the earth, involving all the nations of the earth;

Abraham, acting out his Faith, brought a BLESSING for all the nations of the earth.

The assumption that Adam had a true Faith and fully believed the Word of God, which forbade him to eat of a certain tree under pain of sure death, is justified, in view of Paul's statement that "Adam was not deceived" (1 Tim. 2:14). Adam was (created) **righteous and believed God.** Abraham was no better when he **believed God** and was **righteous** before God (Gen. 15:6). So far they had an even break: they were both believers, and they were both righteous, although they possessed these things in reverse order.

However, under the pressure of perhaps the greatest temptation which can come to men, involving their heartstrings of human love, and a fiery trial of Faith, which 'put them on the spot' and face to face with the 'crisis' of their lives, demanding a fateful decision, the record says of Adam: "Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife . . ." while of Abraham it says: "Because thou hast obeyed my voice."

Abraham believed God, and also OBEYED the voice he BELIEVED. We have here the "obedience of faith" (Rom. 16:26), a working, a living, a justifying, and saving faith. A faith that not only BELIEVETH the WORD and VOICE OF GOD, but also OBEYETH the WORD and the VOICE OF GOD. OBEDIENCE to the Word and Voice of God, as against any other word or voice, even that of human reason and human love, is ever a test of true and SOUND FAITH.

Adam, on the other hand, if he was not deceived and the Scriptures say he was not, likewise BELIEVED the Word and the Voice of God, but OBEYED NOT what he believed, and with open eyes and deliberate will, he transgressed, with a full knowledge of the consequences of his act of disobedience. Thus Adam set the pattern for a numerous class of 'Believers' so-called, who 'believe' and yet DISOBEY. As a class, the word calls them "children of disobedience" rather than children of unbelief, because according to their own testimony,

they do 'believe' but according to the testimony of their works, they disobey.

If Adam really believed the Word and the Voice of God saying concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil: "in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die," then how is it, you ask, that he did eat and transgress, knowing that he **shall surely die**? Did he not just come from the hands of his Maker a perfect creature, with his faculties wholly unimpaired, and his will wholly uncoerced by sin and its ravages upon the human constitution? The flesh was not then "sinful flesh," in which **no good thing dwelleth**, and the Law or the Commandment was not then "weak through the flesh." He was more perfect and beautiful in his manhood and spotless virtues and nobility of character, reflecting his maker's glory, than any of his sons after him.

What then? Did he deliberately make light of the commandment and trifle with death? Certainly not, but seeing his bride deceived, and in the transgression, and under the sentence of death, he preferred to DIE together WITH her, than to LIVE WITHOUT her. In this he, the FIRST Adam, became "the figure of him that was to come" (Rom. 5:14), that is Christ, the last Adam. He **forsook his father God**, and did "cleave to his wife." LOVE is a greater power than FEAR.

Thus we may say: Abraham believed, became righteous, and obeyed. And note: he became righteous FIRST and then he OBEYED. He did not first obey and then become righteous, as it were, by his obedience, which would seem more reasonable to the human mind. For if righteousness would follow obedience, rather than precede it, then would righteousness be **attained** by works and not **obtained** as a "free gift" by imputation "to him that worketh not, but believeth on him (God) that justifieth the ungodly, his Faith is counted for righteousness." (Rom. 4:5).

Thus the scriptures clearly foresee and state that "by the obedience of one (even of Christ) shall many be



made righteous" and not by THEIR OWN obedience (Rom. 5:19). It is therefore not THEIR OWN Righteousness, which they may claim, as a "reward of debt," but CHRIST'S Righteousness which is imputed unto them as a **free Gift of Grace**.

Under Grace, God can never become indebted to men to owe us anything, and yet **shall He freely give us ALL THINGS with Christ** (Rom. 8:32). Under the Law, God, the righteous Judge, is honour bound to reward him that worketh with a "just recompense of reward," be that a blessing to him that "worketh good" or a curse to him that "doeth evil." Under Grace the man is blessed "to whom the Lord will not impute sin." (Rom. 4:8).

OBEDIENCE is ever given expression BY WORKS, regardless whether we be under the Law or under Grace. But there is this difference: under the Law, works precede and produce righteousness as we OBEY; under Grace, righteousness precedeth works; they are the **works of Faith**, produced in "obedience of faith" (Rom. 16:26).

OBEDIENCE to another is the subjection of the WILL to another WILL. Faith is in the realm of the invisible, in the heart, and God knows its genuineness with or without works; but if Faith, in testing and trials, fails to produce works in OBEDIENCE to the Word and the voice it claims to BELIEVE, that Faith does not fit the pattern of Abrahamic Faith and does not "justify" or have "righteousness imputed," and leaves the possessor of such Faith without the forgiveness of sins and without Peace with God (Rom. 5:1).

It is still 'Adamic Faith,' which believes but OBEYS NOT the Word of God. It believes one Voice and obeys another voice. As to mother Eve, she "being deceived," **believed NOT** and therefore **obeyed NOT** the Word of God. Among her children, perhaps the largest number follow in her footsteps: they DO NOT BELIEVE and DO NOT OBEY the Word and the Will of God. Only he that doeth the Will of God abideth forever.

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own

selves." Do you stand and walk in the steps of that Faith of father Abraham, or of father Adam, or in the steps of mother Eve?

Philip Gutwein, Jr.

### CONFESSION

(Continued from page 12)

great day of the Lord to be openly uncovered in all one's ugliness, in disgrace and shame, and to stand and receive judgment without having a chance then of receiving salvation. What is better?

We call in friendliness to all closed and hardened hearts: Go to God still today! A Father-heart is open to you.

—Henry Michel, submitted by Rev. Andrew Nussbaum.

### Note to Readers of the Silver Lining:

"As it is written, He that **had gathered** much had ~~and~~ nothing over; and he that **had gathered** little had no lack." The financial policy of the Silver Lining will rest entirely on donations. There will be no subscription price, but "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, **so let him give**; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all **things**, may abound to every good work:"

### THE LAND OF NO HOPE

There's a land of no hope  
Without stars and the sun  
That lighten our night and our day,  
Where there is no new year,  
No springtime, no birds,  
Where no little children play.

There's a land of no hope  
Past the Lord's mercyseat,  
Past His manger, His cross, and His tomb,  
A land of no music,  
No promise, no peace—  
Where no love ever lightens the gloom.

There's a land of lost souls  
Past the portals of life—  
Past the home for the soul prepared—  
There with demons to dwell!  
Past the portals of hell  
Where iniquity and hatred is shared.

—Oliva C. Campbell.

### THOUGHTS IN THE NIGHT

This life is like a garden, fair to see,  
With flowers to cultivate and weeds to kill.

The Master Gardener plans each task  
for you and me.

O may we strive to do His Holy Will.

Sometimes the thorns may scratch  
our unskilled hands;

A crown of thorns was on His Royal  
Head.

The nail-pierced Hands will soothe  
our smarting wounds;

Our sins required the sacrifice He  
made.

Our Savior had to meet His Calvary  
Before the resurrection morn could  
dawn.

So we must follow Him where e'er  
He leads

Before we hear Him say, "My child,  
well done."

If you or I into our gardens go  
And pluck a bud—the fairest we can  
find—

Can we deny our Lord a blossom—  
fresh and sweet—

To keep for us — in that Celestial  
Clime?

Or if a full-blown lily, pure and  
white,

And spotless in her beauty, be His  
choice;

Shall we not yield to His benign de-  
mand,

And say, "Thy will be done"—and  
still rejoice?

Perhaps a staunch Perennial, now  
bending low

With frost of autumn, and with petals  
gone

Is it not mercy, if He removes him to  
a better land

Where storms of winter nevermore  
can come?

The sweetest roses have the sharpest  
thorns;

We wonder here why suffering must  
be.

The sharpest thorns protect the  
sweetest flowers,

And up in Heaven we'll say, "I see—I  
see."

—Joel Barnett.



# NEWS

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

"Dear Christian friends and brothers, if we could only know how faithfully the world records just what we say and do, Oh! we would make our record plain, and labor hard to see, Our worldly neighbors won to Christ, while reading you and me."

(Selected)

(Scripture verses at the beginning of each localities' news from St. John 15.)

## Bremen

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman."

We had company from Wayne County, Ohio, recently: John Bauman and family, Ben Bauman and Martha Bauman, and Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Maibach. A singing was enjoyed at Joseph Baumans' Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Zeltwanger and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frey have returned from their trip out West. They visited various congregations. They were gone nearly six weeks.

Mrs. Andrew Wenger of Mishawaka has undergone a serious operation and is improving as well as can be expected. She was baptized on Labor Day; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stoller of Wolcott and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Yergler of Cissna Park were here.

Rev. and Mrs. Herman Hueni and family visited Herman's brother in Detroit recently.

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Souder and Mr. and Mrs. William Leman visited at Oakville, Iowa, with friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Zeltwanger are parents of a boy, named Philip Carl, born September 27.

We welcome Stanley Gudeman of Francesville to Bremen, where he is working.

## Burlington, Oklahoma

"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every

branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit."

Elder Noah Schrock of Oakville, Iowa, and Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gerber and Miss Kathryn Gerber of Bluffton, Indiana, spent a blessed Sunday, September 11, in our community. Evening services were held in Wichita, Kansas, and many from this community attended.

The adult Sunday School Class, sponsored by Brother Donald Kircher, spent Sunday, September 18, with the Wichita Sunday School.

Mises Ada Kisling, Emma Michél, Dorothy, Kathryn and Erma Miller visited the Wichita church, September 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Kircher and family and Rev. and Mrs. Eli Sommerhalder spent a few days in Oakville, Iowa, and Morton, Illinois, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Diel and Mr. and Mrs. George Diel are visiting in Iowa and Illinois.

Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Yackley and family of Wichita, Kansas, were recent visitors in our community.

Mrs. Raymond Roth is critically ill at the St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City.

"And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises." (Hebrews 6:11-12.)

## Chicago

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schlatter and children of Toledo visited us Sunday, September 4.

Marjorie Barth, Marjorie Getz, and Marianne Woerner of Peoria spent the week-end of September 11 in Chicago, visiting friends and relatives.

Our visitors on Sunday, September 18, included Mr. and Mrs. Will Yergler, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knapp, and

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clauss of Cissna Park, Ada Schrock of Congerville, and many more from Elgin, Eureka, Roanoke, Remington, and La Crosse.

Rev. Arthur Gudeman and Rev. Roy Sauder held services on Sunday, September 25, in the absence of Rev. Al Fisher. A blessed day was enjoyed by all.

The engagement of Martha Heiniger and Carl Peters of Kouts, Indiana, was made known on September 4. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

The Thursday evening services have been resumed in Chicago.

## Cissna Park

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."

On September 11, Marjorie Rinkemberger and Edward Alt were united in marriage. Many guests attending the wedding were from Chicago, Gridley, Fairbury, and Alto.

On September 15, Josephine and Marion Zimmerman, Alice Kilgus, Gilgian and Elmer Stoller, Ervin Maurer, Byron Nussbaum, Richard Leman, Wayne and Eileen Honegger, and Wayne Nussbaum of Forrest attended our Bible school, after which they were guests of the Ezra Fellers'.

On the 18th of September, Mr. and Mrs. Christ Gerst and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gerst and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ortie Rocke, Mr. and Mrs. Orel Steiner, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Anliker of Oakville, Louise and Sarah Waibel of Remington, Mrs. Ida Bachtold and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bachtold, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bachtold, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Bachtold, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Koehl, and Mr. and Mrs. William Kupferschmid of Forrest visited us. They were supper guests of Elder and Mrs. Phil Sauder.

On Wednesday evening, September 21, Letty and Betty Frey, Amelia Scharlach, Lucille Knochel, and Louise and Sarah Waibel attended our Bible school. They were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alph Eisenmann.

Marjorie, Carolyn, Lloyd Frey,



Mabel, Walter, and Raymond Bahler of Remington were with us for a wiener roast at the home of Harriet Walder, September 13.

The Lord willing, we plan to enter our new church October 9. Dedication services are to be held October 23.

#### Croghan-Naumberg

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Our community was deeply saddened over the death of Rev. Harvey Virkler, who passed away on Saturday morning, September 24, at the age of 62 years. Three days before his death he was taken to the hospital with a heart condition. He leaves to mourn his wife, Isabelle; two sons, Kenneth of Rockville, Connecticut, Bernard of Castorland; two daughters, Mrs. David Schambach (Lois) of Beaver Falls and Mrs. Robert Luginbuhl (Pauline) of Rockville, Connecticut; seven grandchildren; and three brothers, Ezra of Black River, Nelson and Carl of Castorland. Those from away who attended the funeral services were: Elder and Mrs. John Bahler, Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Luginbuhl, Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Gerber, of Rockville, Connecticut; Rev. and Mrs. Lucas Sabo, Rev. and Mrs. Henry Sabo of Mansfield, Ohio; Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Nussbaum of Remington, Indiana; Rev. Charles Kroszner, William Kroszner, and John Diggelman of Union City, New Jersey; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schambach and son, George, and Mrs. William Schambach of Elgin, Illinois; Mrs. Marie Schieler, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schieler and daughter, Carol Kay, of Remington, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Luginbuhl, Adolph Lanz, Helen Lanz, Anna Thompson, Gottlieb Zahner, Rose Zahner, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gerber, Pauline Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. John Schneider, Mrs. Rose Schneider, Mrs. Lena Ludwick, Mr. and Mrs. John Gottier and Mother, and John Stockburger of Rockville, Connecticut; Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Virkler and son, War-

ren, and Frank Brothers of Syracuse, New York.

"He is just away"

He would not want the ones he loves  
To grieve for him today  
We must not say that he is dead  
For he is just away

Away upon a journey  
To a land that's bright and fair  
And though we all will miss him here  
We know he's happy there

And memories of him will bring  
New comfort every day  
As we recall—he is not dead  
For he is just away.

Mr. and Mrs. Aquila Braun of Syracuse visited our community and were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. George Lehman.

Misses Lois, Hannah, Mildred, and La Vina Schneider and Roy and Emanuel Schneider of Rockville, Connecticut, spent Labor Day week end with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Virkler.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Wagler and daughter, Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wagler of Chicago spent a week with Mr. and Mrs. Ben Farney and other relatives the second week of September.

Mrs. John Hany has returned home from a visit through the midwestern states.

Carl Schultz and Misses Martha and Antinette Schultz visited Rockville, Connecticut.

Misses Ella and Augusta Einbeck have left on an extended trip to the West Coast.

Ralph Schultz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schultz, had the misfortune of breaking his arm at school.

Mrs. John Merz received a broken arm and bruises in an automobile accident.

#### Fairbury

"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Huber and daughters, Virginia and Joyce, returned Tuesday, September 13, from a 9,000-mile trip through the West, visiting Pike's Peak, Carlsbad Cav-

erns; Grand Canyon; Yellowstone; Old Mexico; Portland, Oregon; Maywood, California; Kiowa, Kansas; and Washington.

The engagement of Miss Elna Wiegand of Peoria and Willis Nussbaum of Forrest was announced September 11. Also, the engagement of Miss Rozetta Gerber of Rockville, Connecticut, and Elmer Stoller of Forrest was announced September 25.

Young folks from Fairbury visited the Francesville congregation, Sunday, September 25, and were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Huber.

We are happy to have Louise Steffen added to our fold. She was baptized Sunday, September 4.

#### Fort Scott

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

Misses Ida Sinn, Clara Banwart, Bertha Sauder, and Marie Hugh of Elgin, Illinois, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schwind and Cynthia of Peoria spent the Labor Day vacation with us.

On September 5, we had the pleasure of having Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber, and Katie Gerber of Bluffton, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Banwart and Joan, Mrs. Sarah Braker, and Raymond Braker of Lamar, Missouri, with us. We shall remember the evening services of blessings with gratitude.

Miss Emma Bahr of Kansas City spent Sunday, September 11, with us.

Rev. and Mrs. Ben Banwart and daughters, Pearl and Marie, visited our congregation on September 18.

Rev. Walter Koehl and Mary Koehl, Sam Steffen and daughter, Louise, of Fairbury, Illinois, and Rev. Sam Kilgus of Remington, Indiana, Rev. and Mrs. John Somerhalder, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kraft of Gridley, Kansas, and Rev. Eli Somerhalder of Burlington, Oklahoma, visited our congregation the evening of September 28. We received a rich blessing through their visit and welcome them back soon.

Rev. and Mrs. Jacob Pfister are visiting several weeks in Morris, Minnesota.



### Francesville

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

Miss Natalie Gudeman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gudeman, former news reporter for the Silver Lining, is attending North Manchester College. She is enrolled in elementary education.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Westphal are the proud parents of a baby girl named Jacqueline Sue. Mrs. Westphal was formerly Miss Mary Ann Getz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Getz.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloter of Rockville, Connecticut, Conrod Beckley, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Beckley, and Mrs. Sam Kilgus of Remington visited friends in our community Friday, September 23.

### Sunday School and Bible School Projects:

"Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?" . . . "Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (From Matthew 25th chapter)

For our present Sunday School project, we are sending the money we have collected for the past three months in the Beginners and Primary classes to Paul Kambly (European Aid). This money is to be used for a building to house refugees, and one room of the building will be used for holding church services and Sunday School classes.

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."—Rom. 10:17. Realizing from the Scriptures that faith in the Lord Jesus comes from the Word of God, and with a sense of the God-given responsibility that Christians have toward the unevangelized portions of the world, our Wednesday evening Bible Class has arisen, at least in a small way, to meet the challenge. Dating from February 16, 1949, to the present time, \$800.00 has been given toward Bible distribution in lands

where the Gospel has never before gone or to those war-ravaged countries where the precious Word has been ruthlessly stamped out. Besides this, \$90.00 has recently been given to aid Brother Don Schlatter and his wife, Janet, who are laboring with the gospel among the people attending our Alabama church. Oh, that God would awaken His people to give more so that everyone for whom Christ died may at least hear it once during their lifetime. Over 600,000,000 precious souls are living today who are facing a Christless eternity because they have never once heard that God loves them and that Jesus died for them on the cross.

### Lamar

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love."

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Banwart, Joan, Mrs. Sarah Braker, and Raymond and Irene Banwart spent the weekend of September 4 in Sabetha, Kansas.

Rev. and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber from Bluffton, Indiana, were here for evening services September 6. There were also quite a number from Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marti report a wonderful trip through Iowa, Minnesota, and the Yellowstone National Park. They made the trip with Mr. and Mrs. John Schrock of Oakville, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bell and Mr. and Mrs. Levi Banwart of West Bend, Iowa, visited here for a few days with their many friends and relatives.

Rev. and Mrs. Warner Moore and Reuben and Bert Butikofer of Elgin, Iowa, were here for evening services September 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Lou Marti, Mother Cordill, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lanz attended the funeral of Lydia Meyer at Sabetha, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lanz left September 23 for Milford, Indiana, to attend the funeral of Fred's brother-in-law, Henry Ruch.

Rev. Sam Kilgus of Remington, Indiana, Rev. Walter and Mary Koehl,

Sam and Louise Steffen of Fairbury, Illinois, were here for evening services September 27.

We were well blessed this month and wish to thank all who took the time to stop in to visit with us and to hold services for us.

### Lamont

"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love."

September 7, Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman and Miss Katie Gerber of Bluffton, Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber of Decatur, Indiana, and Rev. and Mrs. Ben Banwart of Lamar, Missouri, visited our congregation.

Elders Noah Schrock and Sam Aeschliman conducted baptismal services for Rudolph and Ray Bahr and Mary Reisbig at Gridley, September 8. Visitors were Elder Noah Schrock, Oakville, Iowa; Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman and Miss Katie Gerber of Bluffton, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber of Decatur, Indiana; Rev. and Mrs. Ben Banwart of Lamar, Missouri; Mr. and Mrs. Massner, Lillian and Ethel, Miss Ruth Dikeman, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sinn of Fort Scott, Kansas; Rev. and Mrs. Lewis Bahr, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bahr, Mr. and Mrs. Lehman, and Miss Luetta Marti of Sabetha.

Rev. Peter Fankhauser, Rev. and Mrs. Sam Anliker, Ione and Glen, Mrs. Hulda Jacobs and Lloyd, Roy Wernli, Glen and Lloyd Luthi, Vernon, Dorothy, and Leonard Schwab, Mr. and Mrs. John Ott, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Imthurn of our congregation traveled to the Wichita church Sunday evening to hear the blessed gospel proclaimed through Elders Noah Schrock and Sam Aeschliman.

Rev. and Mrs. Peter Fankhauser are taking a trip through Minnesota to visit relatives and friends. We wish them God's grace and protection.

With the Lord's help and grace, we are endeavoring to hold church services at Emporia every first and third Friday of each month. Rev. and Mrs. Robert Young of Wichita and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Strahm of



Sabetha were visitors at our first meeting, September 30. We pray the Lord will bless this much needed ministry.

#### Latty

"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

Many young members and friends from here spent the day in Francesville, Indiana, September 11.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Stoller, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Stoller, Mr. and Mrs. George Stoller, and Louise Sinn spent September 11 in Leo.

Misses Irene and Dorothy Hodel of Roanoke, Illinois, spent nearly two weeks with sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gerber, at New Haven, Indiana. They visited in Bluffton September 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gudeman and son, Allan, of Wolcott, visited in Latty, September 18. Their daughter, Mary Ellen, of Fort Wayne, returned home with them to spend a week's vacation.

Many of the members from here spent the afternoon in Junction, September 18.

Miss Ruth Emery from Akron, Ohio, spent several days visiting with her sister, Mrs. Merrill Laukhuf.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stettner and children and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Aeschliman of Bluffton and the Misses Marcella Gutwein and Adeline Novotny of Fort Wayne visited us September 25. Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Stoller entertained with a song service at their home in New Haven in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Stoller and family of Van Wert, Mrs. Clara Stoller and children, and Miss Anna Sinn visited in Bluffton, October 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Gerber and son, James, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gerber visited in Rittman October 2, with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bauman and their new daughter, Carol Jean. Mrs. Bauman is the former Bernice Gerber of Fort Wayne.

#### Leo

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."

**Correction:** Elizabeth Poe is improving in health in her home. She will not have to go to the Irene Byron sanatorium, as stated in the August

Silver Lining that she intended to go.

Rev. and Mrs. Henry Souder of Bremen called on relatives and friends in Grabill.

Reverend Philip Gutwein Jr. held services on Wednesday evening, September 2, at the mid-week gathering at Fort Wayne. Many were in attendance, including Reverend Henry Beer from Milford.

Elder Joshua Broquard of Fairbury and Elder Elias Dotterer of Junction were here for Sunday evening services September 18.

The Young People's Meeting was held in the church auditorium September 25. The title of the program was God's Creation.

The choir met at the home of Robert Norr October 3. The next meeting was at Philip Schlatter's home October 10.

George Stieglitz is improving, after under-going a serious operation on September 26. Mrs. Elias Souder is convalescing at her home after under-going a major operation at the Lutheran hospital September 16.

We are happy to have Brother Elmer Schlatter with us again after recovering from a fracture.

On Sunday, October 9, Irma Joy Steiner, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Steiner, was married to Wayne Rennecker.

On Sunday, October 9, the engagement of Marie Beery of the Rittman church and James Winzeler, son of Rev. and Mrs. Elias Winzeler, of the Leo church was announced.

Many people attended the John Conrad estate sale on September 29. The home site has been owned by the Conrad family for a century.

#### Lester

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

On September 4, Elder and Mrs. Henry Koehl, Mr. and Mrs. Will Feuchtenburger of Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Will Metzger and Marie, Mrs. Mike Schmidt of West Bend were with us. We were happy to have two friends, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Moser, added to the fold on that day.

September 2 was the wedding day for Joan Kellenberger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Kellenberger of

Morris, Minnesota, to Gilbert Knobloch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Knobloch, of here. Quite a number of relatives from here attended the wedding in Morris.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Metzger and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Metzger, Lydiann and Pearline Metzger, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Knobloch and family spent the week-end of September 24 visiting in Sabetha, Kansas, at the Wilhelm Metzger home and with other relatives.

Mrs. Chris Moser is slowly recovering from a fall from a step ladder about a month ago. She is able to sit in a wheel chair a short time.

Jacob Metzger, 35, was taken seriously ill with polio on September 25. He was taken to the St. Joseph Hospital in Sioux City. His condition is still serious at this writing.

#### Mansfield

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pfister of Bluffton and Miss Emma Pfister attended the funeral of their aunt, Miss Christine Von Bergen, who passed away at the age of 93 years.

Rev. and Mrs. Philip Gutwein, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gutwein, and Mrs. Paul Von Tobel of Francesville attended the funeral of Gust Maliz.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schneider and children of Remington and Miss Madaline Schneider of Fairbury attended the funeral of Mrs. Anna Schneider.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman and many others from Bluffton and a number from Latty and Junction visited us Sunday, September 25. We had a blessed day. Two souls were baptized and added to the fold, Emma and Martha Fuhrer. We wish them much joy in the Lord.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Sauder, Esther Matthes and Aaron and Charles Sauder spent Sunday, September 4, with the Latty congregation.

Albert and Jacob Pfister, John Konves and Aaron and Charles Sauder spent Sunday, September 11, in Francesville.

Quite a number from here spent Sunday, September 18, in Rittman, Ohio.

Robert Beer and Robert Hartzler spent Sunday, September 4, in New



Martinsville, West Virginia.

Rev. Lucas Sabo and Rev. Henry Sabo and several others attended the funeral of Rev. Harvey Virkler in Croghan, New York.

John Fuhrer and Rev. Henry Sabo attended the Brotherhood Aid Meeting in Oakville, Iowa.

#### Morton

"Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you."

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Getz entertained at dinner October 6 in honor of Rev. and Mrs. William Virkler and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloter of Rockville, Connecticut, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Diel of Burlington, Oklahoma, and Mr. and Mrs. George Diel of Burlington, Oklahoma.

Miss Gladys Zobrist has recently been baptized and taken into church.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Diel and the George Diels will be dinner guests Saturday on October 8 at the William C. Roecker home.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Banwart, daughter Eileen, and Alfred Lee were dinner and over-night guests on October 5 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Rapp. Mrs. Banwart is a relative. The Banwarts were on their way to Detroit to visit Mr. Banwart's brother.

Sunday, October 2, Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Zimmerman of Roanoke and Rev. and Mrs. Henry Grimm of Morton and Mrs. George Getz visited in Detroit.

Howard Rapp, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Rapp, Sr., was married to Miss Dolores Beyer of Morton on August 27.

#### Peoria

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

Mrs. John Maibach, Mrs. Lillian Beery and daughters, Marie and Ruth, of Rittman, Ohio, and Miss Wilma Hartzler of Akron, Ohio, were Peoria visitors on September 11. They were dinner guests of Mr. and

Mrs. Ezra Hohulin.

The engagement of Elna Wiegand, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wiegand, of Peoria and Willis Nussbaum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Nussbaum, of Forrest was announced September 11. Their wedding plans are still indefinite.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hohulin are the parents of a son, born September 11. He was named Keith Richard.

Misses La Verne Kaufman, Jerry and Elna Feller, and Marian and Charlene Reutter were Peoria visitors September 25.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloter of Rockville, Connecticut, visited among relatives and friends here recently.

#### Princeville

"These things I command you, that ye love one another."

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Streitmatter are the parents of a daughter, born August 27. Mrs. Streitmatter was the former Esther Ehnlé.

Mr. and Mrs. Alphie Edelman and family of Sabetha, Kansas, spent a few days the first of the month with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Stahl and family.

Mrs. Rudolf Dallinger had the misfortune of a fall at her home September 1, receiving a broken hip. She is recovering at her home after several weeks in the hospital. Her many friends wish her a speedy recovery, as she just recently underwent a major operation.

Mrs. Josephine Endress submitted to a mastoid operation a few weeks ago. She is convalescing at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Anliker and family of Francesville, Indiana, and the Misses Louise, Lena, and Matilda Steiner of Elgin, Illinois, spent the week-end of Labor Day in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Grimm.

Rev. and Mrs. George Wagenbach, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Herrmann, and a number of our young members spent the day of September 18 in Oakville, Iowa. Rev. Ben Heiniger of Morton spent the day with us and conducted services. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Blunier and son and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Blunier and son of Roanoke were also in our midst.

Rev. and Mrs. Silas Leuthold returned to their home September 24,

after spending the past few weeks visiting friends and relatives in Iowa, Kansas, Oregon, and California.

Mrs. Alfred Streitmatter fell at her home recently and fractured a bone in her leg. Her many friends wish her a speedy recovery.

#### Pulaski

"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you."

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schlatter and daughter Esther, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Winninger from Latty, Ohio, visited us September 2.

Julia Wuthrich, Elizabeth Metzger, Viola Moser, and Clara Lou Schmidgall from Elgin, Illinois, spent the week end of September 3 with us.

Sunday, September 4, young folks from Morton, Illinois, and Taylor, Missouri, spent the day with us. Supper was served at the Albert Wuthrich home.

Rev. and Mrs. Werner Moore, Bert Butikofer, and Mr. Ruben Butikofer from Elgin, Iowa, spent the evening of September 10 with the Albert Wuthrich family.

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gerber, and Katie Gerber from Bluffton, Indiana, visited us September 12. We enjoyed the evening.

September 14, Mr. and Mrs. John Kuntz from Burlington, Iowa, visited the Albert Wuthrich home.

Elder and Mrs. Noah Schrock, and Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Anliker from Burlington, Iowa, and some from Taylor, Missouri, visited us September 28. Mary Elizabeth Wuthrich was baptized that Sunday.

Mrs. Albert Wuthrich spent a week with her father, Rev. Joseph Banwart of West Bend, Iowa, who is ill.

#### Remington

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

We had a number of visitors from Bluffton, including Rev. and Mrs. Will Feichter, September 4. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wieland and son, Mark, from Bay City and Dan and Dorothy Knochel from Detroit visited with many friends over the Labor Day week-end.



We enjoyed the company of many from Roanoke and Eureka, September 11. Those from Roanoke were: Mr. and Mrs. Louie Zimmerman, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Hodel, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Luginbuhl, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fehr, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Leman. From Eureka were: Mr. and Mrs. Alf Leman, Mr. and Mrs. John Widmer, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fehr, Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Rocke, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schumacher. They were supper guests at the Erwin Bahler home.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Schlatter and daughter of Latty, Ohio, visited in Remington, September 10.

On September 25, we had a number of visitors from various congregations. We enjoyed having Rev. and Mrs. Conrad Gutwein, Rev. Philip Gutwein Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gude-man, Mr. and Mrs. Will Kahler, and Mr. and Mrs. John Gutwein, all from Francesville; also Mr. and Mrs. Will Knapp, and Mrs. John Scharlach and daughters of Cissna Park, and Mr. and Mrs. Al Isch from Bluffton. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloter of Rockville, Connecticut, also visited in Remington.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schieler, Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Nussbaum, and Mrs. Marie Schieler attended the funeral of Rev. Harvey Virkler at Croghan.

#### Roanoke

"Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also."

Mrs. Joseph Pfister has announced the engagement of her daughter, Irma, to Leonard Luginbuhl, of Rockville, Connecticut. The couple plan a late fall wedding.

On September 25, the wedding of Myra Sauder and James Leman, both of Roanoke, was solemnized in the presence of a host of friends and relatives. After their two weeks honeymoon in Florida, they will live in their new home in Roanoke.

Sam Miller passed away at his home in Roanoke, September 30. Funeral services were held, October 3 at Roanoke.

Mrs. Joseph Rocke of Roanoke passed away at her home October 1. Funeral services were held October 4, at Roanoke.

New arrivals are: A daughter, Marilyn Elizabeth, born to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Klaus on September 27; a daughter, Dianne Marie, born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Klaus, October 1, and a daughter, Christine Ann, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fehr.

Mrs. Caesar Klaus, Sr., has returned to her home in Eureka, after spending some time in the hospital because of a broken hip. She is reported doing well.

Guests at Roanoke, Sunday, October 2, were: Rev. William Cottrell of Taylor, Missouri; Rev. William Virkler of Croghan, New York; Rev. Ben Hartzler and Elder Noah Bauman of Rittman, Ohio. Rev. Cottrell and family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Leman on Sunday evening. The other three were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Mangold on Sunday evening.

#### Taylor

"But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me."

A number of our congregation drove to Pulaski, Iowa, Sunday, September 18. We enjoyed the sermon of Elder Noah Schrock and the baptismal service of Mary Elizabeth Wuthrich. It is comforting to know that God is still calling and, if His will is done, that some day that rest, which is promised, shall be given. "Jesus answered and said . . . "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." From St. Matthew 11th chapter.

Miss Marjorie Wennicker and Gerald Sutter were married Sunday, September 11. A wedding reception was held at the groom's home, after which the couple went to the Ozarks on a wedding trip. They will make their home in Quincy.

#### Tremont

"If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin."

Rev. and Mrs. Otto Norr from Leo and Mary Wuethrich of Francesville visited with us September 6 and 7.

Brother Norr held church services here on Tuesday evening. We enjoyed their visit very much. They visited our dear sister, Adella Herzog, who has not been able to attend services at church for so many years.

The marriage of Emanuel Sinn and Elsie Miller was solemnized by Elder J. A. Getz on Sunday, September 11.

Mr. and Mrs. John Laidig and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Klopfenstein of Bremen visited friends and relatives in Tremont over the week end of September 11.

On Sunday, July 3, the engagement of Carol Sauder and Dan Koch was announced. On Sunday, August 28, the coming marriage of Anna Marie Plattner and Eugene Koch was announced.

Funeral services for Ernest Bowald were held here August 15. Elder David Mangold and Rev. Theo Beer held the services.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Laidig and daughter, Dorothy, returned home from Germany September 7. They visited the former's mother, sisters, and brothers who live there. They made the trip by plane.

#### West Bend

"He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But **this cometh to pass**, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause."

Elder and Mrs. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton, Indiana, spent the evening of August 29 with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Banwart and Sidney, Leona, and Edwin Banwart spent Labor Day week-end in Sabetha, Kansas.

A group of young folks spent September 4 and 5 at Hancock and Morris, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moser, Sr., of Morris, Minnesota, spent September 25 at the Noah Gerber home and with other relatives.

Sunday, September 11, we enjoyed having with us Elder and Mrs. Joseph Wittmer and Lola and Rev. and Mrs. Lester Hartter and Lynn of Sabetha, Kansas, and many others from Sa-



betha, Kansas; Elgin, Illinois; Elgin, Iowa; Lester, Iowa; Winthrop, Minnesota; and Princeville, Illinois. Three friends were proved and baptized. They were Mabel Schmidt, Mrs. Ervin Banwart, and Estellyn Banwart.

Rev. and Mrs. Albert Wuthrich, Russell, Lois, and Delores, of Pulaski, Iowa, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wuthrich of Des Moines, Iowa, spent Sunday, September 25, here.

#### Wolcott

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me."

Misses Myra and Twylla Farney, Aldine and Arlene Knapp, and Arlene Winger of Cissna Park, spent September 4, here and were supper guests at the Will Furrer home.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Kropf, Velma and Arles, spent the week end of September 18 with relatives at Morton.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reuter and Miss Lena Knochel spent September 25, at Bluffton.

On September 15, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Oberlander entertained the Senior Sunday School Class at an outdoor supper and an evening of singing.

Andrew Farney is a patient at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lafayette, where he is undergoing observation.

Mr. and Mrs. John Anker and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dunker left on a trip to Burlington, Oklahoma, to take Mrs. Maggie Zehr to her home. Mrs. Zehr has spent several weeks here with relatives.

#### ACQUAINTED WITH GOD

An infidel, on learning that a distinguished and intelligent lady was a believer in the Holy Scriptures, professed to be surprised, and asked her, "Do you believe in the Bible?"

"Most certainly I do," was the reply.

"Why do you believe it?" he inquired again.

"Because I am acquainted with the author!"

This was her testimony, and all his talk went for nothing in view of the calm confidence born of the personal acquaintance with God.—Selected.

## The Lord's Supper

Moses commanded the children of Israel to keep the Passover, that they might be spared the judgment which had been prepared for the Egyptians (Exodus 12). The outward sign, which Moses had instituted at God's command for this protection, was the eating of the Passover lamb and the blood of the lamb which was to be spread over the door-posts of the Israelite homes. In every home in which this blood-sign was lacking, the angel of the Lord struck down the firstborn. It was, therefore, the seal for Israel as the chosen people of God. Annually the Passover was to be celebrated as a memorial of the redemption of Israel from the bondage of Egypt.

Christ observed the Passover; the last was with His disciples shortly before His suffering and death and He then instituted the Lord's Supper of the new covenant. "And he said unto them, With desire, I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:" (Luke 22:15). Referring to His impending suffering, death, and resurrection, Jesus united the hearts of His disciples in their love to Him and toward each other. "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Jesus is our Passover and through faith in His atonement our sins are passed over. The Lord's Supper, therefore, for His converted ones is a remembrance of the sacrificial death of the Lord for our redemption. It should bring a renewal of love for the Lord, a new life through the remembrance of the experience of salvation, and thereby a strengthening. A glorious privilege it is for us to be following the commandments of our risen Redeemer! It is wonderful how Christ would nurture this bond with His Church on earth through The Lord's Supper till He comes again. It is His testament to His Church. In the breaking of the bread as His body and the drinking of the wine as His blood, Jesus has created something that ever and anew, in the most intimate manner,

unites our hearts with Him and His church. According to I Corinthians 11:26 we should thereby partake of the Lord's death till He come.

Taking part in The Lord's Supper is a very earnest occasion, a matter of conscience, as we see from I Corinthians 11:27-29.

When the Lord Jesus instituted The Lord's Supper with His disciples, suffering and death were immediately before Him. Of this the true Christian will remind himself and shall so go to The Lord's Supper—calling to remembrance the Lord and His death for him.

Announcement is made beforehand when the congregation is to partake of The Lord's Supper; the members are held to self-examination of their state of faith and are admonished to come to The Lord's Supper in reconciling state of love and peace. If love has suffered or the peace has been disturbed, the responsible ones are first to be reconciled.

The keeping of The Lord's Supper shall not be neglected and the believer shall make every effort to remove hindrances (lack of love, disharmony, an unreconciling spirit, offense). The urge to have the Lord's Supper should not come only from the elder, but rather, if possible, from the bosom of the congregation.

"And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight." Are we listening to our Master and are we showing His death till He comes? By means of the observance of the Lord's Supper, love and fellowship are newly strengthened, and the soul is more intimately united with its God and Lord, with renewed courage of faith to continue fighting the good fight.

The Lord's Supper is not observed in order to receive the forgiveness of sins in some mysterious manner; the certainty of this forgiveness must have previously been attained by every participant in this Supper. Whoever is unworthy, that is, whoever is unclean or leavened in heart,



or irreconcilable, and thus receives The Lord's Supper, receives no blessing, and what is more, he heaps guilt upon himself, because he does not discern the Lord's body.

Let us rejoice in that we have been redeemed by our Lord. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation **received** by tradition . . . But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." With willingness of heart and with peace with our brother, let us keep this sacred ordinance. We know that those who live in Him are spotless, and His promise is "and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Much of this article was taken from "Apostolic Christian Church History Volume I."

#### AN OPEN DOOR

(Continued from page 1)

"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candle-stick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

"How think ye? If a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the

ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that **sheep**, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish."

"And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

"And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded **him**, and departed, leaving **him** half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked **on him**, and passed by on the other side. "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion **on him**, And went to **him**, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave **them** to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise."

"And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you."

"And the Lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and **compel** them to come in, that my house may be filled."

"And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and **that** your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them."

"And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I **am** pure from the blood of all **men**. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

"For there is no respect of persons with God. For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law."

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

"I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."

"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold **water** only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

From God's Word.

"And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning."



# CONFESSION

"And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins."—Matthew 3:6.

"Then they shall confess their sin which they have done . . ."—Numbers 5:7.

"I acknowledged my sin unto thee . . . and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin."—Psalm 32:5.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."—I John 1:9.

"Confess **your** faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed . . ."—James 5:16.

". . . pour out your heart before him . . ."—Psalm 62:8.

Here a delicate subject is broached. Here the Word of God touches the most sensitive spot of the human heart.

A peculiar timidity against revealing what is in its depths lies in the human heart. Adam, already, tried to hide from the all-seeing eye of God.

And this aversion against the disclosure of what is in the innermost part of the heart, this false pride, has unfortunately deterred many people from conversion or has retarded them in it.

From whence does this timidity come? Is it not awakened and nursed by the power of darkness because it knows that thereby it can check people on their way to salvation?

Since it is true that a person feels that confession comes too near to him, what is more natural than that he seeks to deny its necessity? Yet what does contention help, and how far does philosophizing bring a person? What does the Word say—the Word which is the unchangeable foundation of truth, and to which we are not permitted to add nor yet to take anything from it. The Bible passages quoted are only a few out of many, and they show most clearly that it is God's will.

Moses already taught the people that they should confess their sins. David who, as no other, could describe the inner conflict of the soul was also led through confession.

The result of the fiery preaching of John the Baptist was repentance, and

the fruit of repentance was confession. (Matt. 3:6.) It was not something that was manifested in several individuals merely, but rather all that were seized by the Word went this way.

James says plainly: "Confess **your** faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed" (James 5:16), and thereby he tells us plainly that a confession that is made to God only, without the presence of a witness, is not the way that God has chosen.

It is not possible to attain the fulfillment of the promises of salvation without being obedient to the Word of God. And if we do not follow that guiding line, we are blind and shortsighted. Many examples out of life show that he who keeps his bosom locked stands as before a mountain and gradually becomes hardened, while on the other hand a pouring out of one's heart would smooth the way.

Nothing is ordained of God without having a definite good purpose. Also, confession is not given as a command of God for the purpose of showing His superior power, but rather confession undoubtedly serves to further our salvation.

An unrepentant heart excuses its evil deeds, glosses over them, or denies them. The fundamental requirement to redemption, however, is sincerity, for only to the upright does God give success in attaining this. The clear proof and the first fruit of uprightness consists in this, and that a person acknowledges his sins with a broken heart, and admits them freely and without adornment. "I acknowledged my sin unto thee."

Nothing is more dangerous than a tightly closed heart; no where else has the power of darkness such an opportunity to exercise its power. A heart that is thus tightly closed is obstinate, proud, and lacking in uprightness—all unpraiseworthy qualities which repel grace; thereby Satan's power has the opportunity to assert itself. The opening of the heart breaks this might; grace finds entry and works wonders. James points out plainly that a person then has an in-

creased strength at his disposal, for then people can pray together about the matter in order to be healed.

Necessary and God-pleasing as confession is, it is in no wise a work through which forgiveness can be earned, as is often falsely proclaimed. Forgiveness is and remains an unmerited gift, and it must be credited solely to the merit of Christ. It is true that confession brings a great relief, but this relief is not to be confused with the peace of God which comes into the heart only through forgiveness.

It is, however, very true that a person cannot open his heart to everyone. Trust is necessary for this, and trust cannot be forced. He who receives confession must be especially equipped for it by God. He must be fatherly, loving and discreet, and must be filled by the Spirit of God to forgive and forget.

We have, however, not only done wrong in regard to God; we have also grieved or injured or in various ways harmed people. We can give no better testimony of the grace of God than humbly to acknowledge our wrongdoing and to apologize for it. It is good, however, not to neglect that opportunity of testifying of Christ's wonderful way of salvation.

If people were given their choice whether or not to confess, it would be easier to understand the fact that they hold back as they do. But the choice is a different one: Either to acknowledge honestly and to find forgiveness and be saved—or on the

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## OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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THOUGHTS IN THE NIGHT

Joel Barnett

THE LORD'S SUPPER

CONFESSION

Henry Michel

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