

MENNONITE  
HISTORICAL LIBRARY  
JAN 3 1950

GOSHEEN COLLEGE  
LIBRARY



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

VOL. 7, NO. 2

GRABILL, INDIANA

DECEMBER, 1949

## Sound In Faith

(Continued)

"Now when he (Jesus) was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did.

"But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man." (John 2:23-25).

This unique passage of scripture could conceivably be somewhat of a surprise to those who are inclined to look upon every confession of **Faith in the Name of Jesus**, including their own and the many everywhere, as genuine, unfeigned, justifying, and saving Faith. Our text sets forth with awe-ful frankness the heart-searching Truth that it is possible to **believe in the Name of Jesus**, and yet there is a serious defect somewhere and somehow in that Faith. And its deficiency does not appear to have been only in quantity, the "little faith" His disciples often displayed, but the lack was in quality of character and soundness, for Jesus would not commit himself unto them, because "he knew what was **in man**." And what was in **them** evidently was not that dependable, trustworthy, rock-like, and God-revealed Faith, which will prevail against the gates of hell, and which will be **earnestly contended for** and kept to the end in the **fighting of a good fight**. And yet, what is **IN MAN**

(Continued on page 11)

## "Ask for the Old Paths"

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of God:*"

"What *doth it* profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? . . . faith, if it hath not works,

### BREAK FORTH INTO JOY

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

*Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.*

*Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he had redeemed Jerusalem.*

*The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. . . . For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

"In those days came John the Bap-

tist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. . . . Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."

"Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: . . . From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

"And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard *that*, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what *that* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not

sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

"A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it."

"And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

"And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible."

"And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half

of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. 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 said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained."

"And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house."

"That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:"

"And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed."

"... the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance"

"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls."—From *God's Word*.

### INVENTORY

As we are now drawing near the end of another year, (and the approach of another) in general, business now takes inventory of the past year and sees whether they have made progress or have sustained loss. So it also behooves us all to look back over the past year and take inventory of our spiritual life and see whether we have gained any and been to the honor of our dear Lord and Saviour, become more like unto His likeness and image, or whether we might have possibly been a little slack in our calling. Let us resolve in the new year to put forth more effort and be more earnest in our calling, so that when the final call comes, we will not be found wanting, and that we never forget that we have no promise for tomorrow, but to make good use of today.

Aaron A. Sauder

When you're passing through the waters,

They shall never overflow.

God will open up a passage,

On dry land your feet shall go.

Do not ask Him how or wherefore,

Simply trust in Him and know

When you're passing through the waters,

They shall never overflow.

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

## God's Will for You

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose." If we see God's planning in every circumstance that happens to us, we can rest more securely in His love. We can go forward, trusting in our Lord, listening to His word, obeying His commandments.

God, through the apostle Paul, speaks to His children. His words are life, a lamp unto our feet. To know that all things—not one excepted—work together for our good is wonderful. If we love God, we will also be striving to please him. We will want to be rid of those things which are displeasing to Him and which are holding up His will. Obedience is essential to accomplish this good.

How far this all things reaches! Do you have a sorrow you are carrying now? Has one who was very near and dear to you been taken from you? Fear not, for this also is a part of the all things. When your heart aches and your soul longs for the loved one, go to Jesus and ask for comfort. He will fill you with more of His divine goodness; drink deep, beloved. In His love for us, He does His perfect will. Sometime we will understand in full. Until then, resting on His bosom, looking through our eyes of faith to Him, and counting on His presence at all times, we will go onward.

And how about those little things of life? How about those days we have when we are on edge and it is so easy to speak unkind words or lose our temper? These are the times when the greatest victories can be achieved. Fear not, for He doth hold thy hand. Remember, "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up", Let this love of Jesus work its fullest through and in you. Let patience have her perfect work. Whatever happens to you has been allowed to happen.

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct

thy paths." To believe these words to be true and to rest on them as unshakeable is to find God's plan for you. He does not ask us to know His complete plan for our life, or even for the day. He says, "Trust." To trust is to hold the faithfulness of God. Knowing that He is with us and that He said that He will never leave us nor forsake us, we only need to believe Him. Count on His presence through fair weather and rainy, though the way be steep, or the going easy. "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety." Doing this we see the meaning of how all things work together for good for those who love God. When I go out to my daily task, nothing can befall me but what God will allow.

Trusting in the Lord goes beyond a mind trust. It envelopes the entire soul and spirit. It so permeates our soul that we love to be obedient to our Master. We would hate to do anything that would grieve Him. And we have crucified the body with its lusts. With each step of obedience we see God's perfect will coming into more complete fulfillment.

So if someone says something unkind to us, if we are taken advantage of, if we do not get the respect we should, if we have those who dislike us, or whatever circumstance we meet, remember what Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Let us ask the Lord to give us grace for every trial. The Psalmist writes of Joseph: "Whose feet they hurt with fetters: he was laid in iron: Until the time that his word came: the word of the LORD tried him." Your greatest victories are won on the battlefield of everyday, commonplace life. Our Master Potter is molding everyone of His children. He lets these everyday trials come upon us for His purpose.

Whatever we do for Him will not go amiss. In Paul's letter to the Ephesians he writes: "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord,

whether *he* be bond or free." So whatever we do, let us examine ourselves if we are doing it for the Lord. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

We should be in a definite place in God's planning. Let us not get away from the leadings of Christ. Let us do what our Redeemer has ordained we do. Let us hold on to our precious teachings! We should rejoice in that we can be obeying the teaching of Christ and the apostles, Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. We do have a blessed fellowship throughout our churches. However, let us be very, very careful that we do not judge or become exalted in any way.

When the Lord calls you or me into a particular church, He will also enable you or me to work with His children. If there is a lot of confusion, we had better examine ourselves and see if perhaps we are at fault. "Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called." So if we are in this church, we will also find God has also provided means by which to live at peace and fulfill His will.

God's command is to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you."

Know this, the Lord will use you for His service if you trust and obey. The Lord is working great things! It is our duty to go out onto the Jericho road and speak the word of the Lord to lost souls. We can sow and we can water, but God giveth the increase. "And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how." Many will not heed the call; few are chosen.

You can by your actions aid in drawing your church together. There is a definite place and a definite responsibility in God's planning for you. Do not shirk it!

Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

## Let Your Light Shine Before Men

### Alabama

If **there be** therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, **being** of one accord, of one mind.

Raburn Bradford, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bradford, passed away at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stricklin, on November 7. He had been ill from birth. "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

We were happy to have Matt and Kate Wackerle return to us for a few days' visit. We are always blessed by their presence with us.

The death of Bois Stricklin, husband of Sister Elizabeth Stricklin, came rather suddenly on Monday, November 21, at the Moulton Hospital. He was taken to the hospital on Thursday and passed away as a result of a stroke which partially paralyzed him the last few days of his life. We extend our sincere sympathy to Sister Stricklin. Services were conducted at Johnson's Chapel by Brother Henry Sabo of Mansfield, O.

Thanksgiving services were held at the church on Thanksgiving Day by Henry Sabo. Several of the members and friends assembled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Brooks for Thanksgiving dinner. We rejoice at the blessed fellowship we can have through His precious love. Night services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith. We were so thankful to have both Brother Sabo and the Wackerles with us. "Blessed **be** the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly **places** in Christ:"

We have been much blessed by being able to listen to the beautiful praises in song and the helpful sermons which were sent to us along with a record player. Arthur Gasser of Rittman sent us the machine and records. It is really a blessing to be able to hear the glorious gospel in such a wonderful way. It has proved

to be a real comfort to those who are unable to go to church anymore, as well as to all of us. May the Lord bless the efforts of those who made this possible and also bless the use of it that it may help to strengthen each of us.

We also rejoice to have Rudolph Graf, Noah Bauman, with his wife, and Isaac Rufener, with his wife, with us over the weekend of November 27. Saturday night services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Borden. Services were held at the church on Sunday morning and afternoon, and at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Kyle on Sunday night. We were also blessed by the service which was held at the church on Monday night. We can be truly thankful that the Lord gives us such opportunities to fellowship with His children.

Sister Lois Goode has been quite ill, but is now improving. May the Lord ever grant us grace to "count it all joy".

"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

"Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not."

### Bremen

**Let nothing be done** through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

The Bremen Sunday School spent a very enjoyable Sunday, November 13, at Toledo.

Robert Hueni was home from college for the Thanksgiving week end.

A group of young folks from Roanoke spent the week end of November 28 with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Schmidgall and Adam Schmidgall from Tremont, Illinois, spent several days with relatives here.

Sister Clara Wenger is still on the sick list; our prayers and thoughts are with her.

Mrs. Henry Frey of Remington visited her daughter, Mrs. Don Buck.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zeltwanger are the parents of a baby girl, Susan

Kay, born December 2. We wish them God's rich blessing.

### Burlington

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Miss Emma Bahr of Mission, Kansas, spent the week-end of November 6 with her sister, Mrs. John Brown.

Eli Somerhalder spent Sunday, November 6, in Harper, Kansas.

Those attending the brothers' conference were Eli Somerhalder, Roy Farney, and Joseph Aberle. Mrs. Somerhalder and Mrs. Farney accompanied them.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brown spent some time at Hot Springs, Arkansas, where Mr. Brown went for his health.

We had many from a distance visiting our community during the Thanksgiving season. Those visiting were: Mr. and Mrs. Dan Miller of Fort Scott, Kansas; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Banwart and daughter, Joan, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Marti and Robert of Lamar, Missouri; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schrock of Sabetha, Kansas; and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kokanovich of Mesa, Arizona.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Schrock announce the birth of a son, Steven Kent, born November 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hodel and daughter, Barbara, of Roanoke, Illinois, spent Sunday, November 27, in our midst. They are en route to Arizona and California.

Mr. and Mrs. William Schock of Morton, Illinois, spent a week and Thanksgiving with their daughter, Mrs. Richard Guthrie, of Kiowa, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stieglitz and Mr. and Mrs. William C. Roecker of Morton, Illinois, spent Sunday, November 20, in our community, on their trips from California and Ariz.

Several from here witnessed the proving and baptism of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Langhoffer of Wichita, Kansas. We welcome them in the fold as our dear brother and sister in faith.

### Chicago

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and

was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Eli Winzeler conducted the services on Sunday, November 6, in the absence of Al Fisher. Eunice Feucht and Hulda Martin spent the day with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Funk of Gridley, Illinois, and Mr. and Mrs. Simon Weigand of Congerville visited us on Sunday, November 13. A group of young folks from Milford, Indiana, spent the week-end in Chicago.

On Sunday, November 20, Henry Bahr and his wife of Gridley, Kansas, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schmidt of Elgin, Illinois, were in our midst.

Our visitors on Sunday, November 27, included: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stoller and family from Bluffton; Mr. and Mrs. George Stoller and family, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Stoller and family, Mr. and Mrs. Alph Stoller and family, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Stoller and family, and Emil Stoller, all of Gridley, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Graff of Elgin, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Schmidt, and Mr. and Mrs. John Brenner of Cissna Park.

Florence Steiner of Sabetha, Kansas, who has been in nurses' training in Elgin, is now in Chicago for several months.

#### Fairbury

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

There have been a number of farewell gatherings for Albert Kaisner and his wife, who are leaving for California to make their home there. We all wish them God's blessings.

Joseph Klopfenstein with his wife and a group from Gridley visited the South Apostolic Christian Church on Sunday, November 13.

Our Sunday School visited the Tremont Sunday School on Sunday, November 13.

John Somerhalder with his wife,

from Gridley, Kansas, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Huber on November 15; Brother Somerhalder conducted services that evening at the Fairbury congregation.

Brother John Zimmerman passed away Sunday morning, November 13, and funeral services were held Wednesday morning, November 16, with Jonas Virkler from Croghan, New York, conducting the services.

#### Fort Scott

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Sunday, November 6, Mr. and Mrs. Dutch Schlupp and Larry of Lamar, Missouri, visited our church and were evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. David Massner.

November 15, Eli Somerhalder and his wife, Roy Farney and his wife, and Joseph Aberle of Burlington, Oklahoma, visited our congregation. Blessed services were enjoyed by all.

We enjoyed having Fred Marti of Lamar, Missouri, for evening services November 23. Other visitors were Mrs. Fred Marti and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Schrock, Charlene, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wagenbach and son, of Oakville, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Marti and son of Lamar, Missouri, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Banwart and family of West Bend, Iowa.

Those that visited Thanksgiving and over the week end were Robert Young, accompanied by Mrs. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Verne Banwart and family, of Wichita, Mrs. Elizabeth Cordill of Lamar, Missouri. We received rich blessings from the services conducted by Robert Young on Sunday.

Lester Sinn returned home November 19 from Roanoke, Illinois, where he had been helping Earl Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Miller returned home, after spending the Thanksgiving holidays in Harper, Kansas, and Burlington, Oklahoma.

#### Francesville

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Sister Dorothy Pelsy, daughter of Brother and Sister Emil Pelsy, and

Brother John Martin, son of Sam Martins of Roanoke, Illinois, were married November 6 with Brother David Mangold officiating. The couple left for a trip through the West and will make their home on a farm near Roanoke. We wish them God's many blessings.

The community of Francesville welcomes two baby boys: Michael Thomas, son of Brother and Sister Lester Bucher, born November 13, and Darrel Gene, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Erb, born November 16.

The engagement of Brother Merle Yaggie, son of Brother and Sister Joseph Yaggie, to Sister Louise Heiniger, daughter of Brother and Sister Henry Heiniger of La Crosse, Indiana, was announced November 27.

The congregation and friends here wish to welcome Mr. Joseph Stephen and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Diener of Europe to our community. They will make their home here at Francesville.

Brother Sam Anliker from Lamont, Kansas, and Brother and Sister Emil Anliker from Fairbury, Illinois, visited friends and relatives in our community November 18. Brother Sam Anliker conducted services in the evening. We all received a blessing from God's precious words.

We thank God for the wonderful evening of November 20, when we gathered together for our Children's Thanksgiving program. Our theme was Thanksgiving. "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods." Psalm 95:2, 3. Through this thanksgiving season, may we consider more what our blessed Lord Jesus Christ has done for us on the cross at Calvary. Christ died for all people, that we might have everlasting life. Haven't we every reason to say with the Psalmist of old, "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker." Psalm 95:6.

Mr. Sam Diethrich, carpenter and contractor, suffered a factured leg and a badly crushed ankle when he jumped from a scaffold to avoid being struck by falling I-beams. Sam will be confined for several weeks, but is improving nicely.

**Lamar**

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Rose Beyer of Fort Scott spent Sunday, November 6, with us.

Peter Fankhouser, accompanied by Mrs. Fankhouser, was here for the week end of November 13.

On November 20, Virgil Frieden and Bernice Braker were united in marriage by Jacob Pfister of Fort Scott, Kansas. There were friends and relatives here for the day from Oakville, Iowa; Sabetha, Gridley, and Fort Scott, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. John Strahm and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Strahm and family of Sabetha, Kansas, came to spend Thanksgiving week end with relatives.

Robert Young, accompanied by his wife; Mr. and Mrs. Vern Banwart and Nancy of Wichita, Kansas, were here. Evening church was held on November 25.

**Lamont**

Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

November 13, the young members and friends, accompanied by Samuel Anliker, visited the Wichita church to witness the baptism of Mr. and Mrs. Al Langhoffer. Noah Schrock had the services. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

A group of our congregation traveled to Lamar, Missouri, November 20, to witness the wedding of Bernice Braker to Virgil Frieden.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schwab and family of Wolcott, Indiana, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schwab and Sandra of Topeka visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam Schwab and family over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Vernon Schwab returned to Indiana with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schwab to visit relatives and friends.

**Leo**

Let brotherly love continue.

James Winzeler, son of Elias and Ida Winzeler, of our church, and Marie Beery of Rittman, Ohio, were united in marriage on November 20. After their brief wedding trip, the newlyweds are living at New Haven. We are glad to have Marie with us.

A group gathered at the church dining room Tuesday, December 6, and packed boxes for the children of our Alabama members and friends. Let us never become weary in well-doing and let us always share what we have with those who are in need.

Henry Beer was a Grabill caller December 7.

Aaron and Bina Bertsch of Tremont and Dorothy Bertschi and daughter of Roanoke spent Sunday, December 4, with their son and family, Elias David Bertschs', and other relatives.

Philip and Emma Clauss and some of their children of Fort Wayne visited relatives and friends in Illinois.

Our Young People's Meeting for November was held on the 13th. Contentment was one of the things stressed. We are thankful that the Lord has given us everlasting contentment, that no longer our soul need roam in vanishing pleasures. "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing."

**Lester**

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Ernst Knoblock and his wife, Henry Mogler and his wife, Henry Kellenberger and his wife, Chris Kellenberger, and Elmer Metzger attended the Brother Meeting at Cissna Park. Ernst Knoblock, with his wife, remained in Illinois a few days longer to visit relatives at Princeville, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kellenberger, Elgeva, Salome, and Viola, Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Kellenberger, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Metzger, and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Moser spent Sunday, November 13, at West Bend.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Metzger were blessed with a baby daughter, Kathleen Ann, born to them November 24.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Metzger and children and Phil Mogler spent the week-end of November 6 at Sabetha, Kansas.

A group of young folks and John Moser, Sr., enjoyed the Sunday of November 27 at Winthrop, Minnesota.

John Moser, Sr., is spending several weeks here with his son, John, and family.

**Mansfield**

Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Brother Victor Stavenik passed away November 6, after a lingering illness; he was almost 80 years old at the time of his death. Brother Rudolph Graf and Brother Theo Beer conducted the funeral services. Many from Rittman, Akron, Youngstown, and Toledo, Ohio; Leo, Bremen, and Milford, Indiana, attended the services. Brother Beer remained with us and held church services Tuesday evening; we enjoyed his inspiring sermon very much.

We will miss Sister Stavenik and her daughter, Sister Louise, who have left our midst to make their home with Sister Mildred Stavenik Schlatter at Leo. We wish them the help and blessings of God in their home, and may He comfort her.

On Sunday, November 20, Brother and Sister Henry Dotterer and Brother and Sister Kaehr of Bluffton, Indiana, visited our congregation. Brother Dotterer conducted services in both morning and afternoon; we enjoyed them very much. Brother Dotterer came to visit his sister, Sarah Dotterer, who had fallen down the steps of her home. We are glad to report that she is recuperating nicely.

Brother Albert Pfister has returned home, after visiting his children in Winthrop, Minnesota, for six weeks.

Church services, which we greatly enjoyed, were conducted by Brother Jonas Virkler of Croghan, New York, and Brother John Bahler of Rockville, Connecticut, on Monday evening, November 21. Other visitors included Brother Rudolph Graf, Brother Noah Bauman of Rittman, Broth-

er and Sister Ben Steffen of Fairbury, Illinois, and Brother and Sister Irvin Bahler of Remington, Indiana.

Brother and Sister Albert Kaisner and sons of Fairbury, Illinois, spent several days here visiting with relatives and friends before leaving for their new home in California.

Several from our congregation attended the wedding of Marie Beery of Rittman and James Winzeler of New Haven, Indiana, which was solemnized at Rittman, Sunday, Nov. 20.

Brother Henry Sabo was called to Alabama recently to conduct funeral services of Bois Stricklin.

We extend congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sauder, who are the parents of a new daughter, Judy Kay.

#### Milford

But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Mr. and Mrs. Urban Bauer, Arlene Winger, and Aldine and Iola Knapp of Cissna Park spent November 6 here. They were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Haab.

On November 6, proving and baptismal service was for Raymond Levy. Elias Dotterer of Junction, Ohio, officiated.

Evelyn and Lois Beer, Kathryn, Clara, and Phyllis Graff, Edna Lehman, Mildred Rapp, Marian Altvater, Dorothy and Phyllis Haab, Elizabeth and Bill Stieglitz, Philip Beer, Lowell Rassi, Richard Kaiser, Frank Beer, Jr., and Arthur Moser spent the week-end of November 12 and 13 in Chicago.

Theo and Naomi Beer and Mrs. Fred Moser left Wednesday, November 16, for Peoria, Illinois. Mrs. Eliza Haab accompanied them to Watseka.

On Sunday, November 12, we enjoyed a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hofer; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grimm; Mr. and Mrs. George Griener and son, Philip; and Matilda Rassi, all of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Steffen and Fred Moser were in Roanoke the week-end of November 20.

We enjoyed a visit from Andrew Nussbaum and his wife on Thanksgiving Day.

Several young folks from Milford attended the wedding of Dorothy Pelsy and John Martin.

On November 27, we had visitors from Princeville, Illinois; Latty, Ohio; Bluffton and Leo, Indiana.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 1, for our brother, Frank S. Beer, who died of complications, after two weeks' illness. The officiating ministers were Herman Hueni of Bremen and George Yergler of La Crosse. He is survived by his wife, nine children, ten grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

Henry and Alice Beer spent December 4 in Tremont, Illinois.

Those who attended the General Conference at Cissna Park from Milford were Theo and Henry Beer, Amos and Luther Steffen, Jesse and Elmer Haab, Carl Frautschi, Elmer Hartter, Eli Pfister, and Arthur Moser.

#### Morris and Hancock

Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

A buffet supper and miscellaneous shower was given at the John Schmidgall home December 2 in honor of Ila Zeltwanger, whose marriage to Harold Gramm of Gridley, Illinois, will take place December 18.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Joos and daughters spent Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. August Greiner, in Elgin, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Knobloch of Lester, Iowa, were home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kellenberger, over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Jonathan Sommers is quite ill at this writing.

Visiting in our community the week end of November 20 were Louise and Philip Mogler of Lester, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Louie Messner and Cedric returned to their home December 5, after a week's visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob J. Meier, in Peoria, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Nohl and Mr. and Mrs. Noah Nohl visited relatives and friends in Illinois a couple weeks during November.

Since November 13, we are able to have services in our own church. Until it is completely remodeled, we will just have services in the afternoon.

The engagement of Alice Moser,

daughter of Mrs. Clara Moser, to Jacob Wulf of Lester, Iowa, was made known December 5.

Having peace with God and man, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Nohl and Nola Schmidgall were able to give very interesting testimonies Sunday, December 5. Attending the baptismal services were relatives and friends from Sabetha, Kansas; West Bend, Iowa; and Winthrop, Minnesota.

#### Morton

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Brother Ernest Bauer died at his home in Morton on Saturday, November 12, at the age of 74 years. He was the son of Peter and Christine Sacken Reuter Bauer and was born in Butten, Alsace Lorraine, on December 30, 1875. He came to the United States in 1889 and was married to Catherine Stieglitz in Peoria on September 14, 1915, and she survives. He was engaged in farming until three months prior to his death. Joseph A. Getz delivered the sermon for his funeral.

Sister Katie Staker of Morton has gone to Peoria for the winter. She will be at the home of her son, Chris, at 310 Thrush Avenue. She has been a sufferer with a severe form of arthritis for a number of years. She enjoys visitors and those who visit her also enjoy her company. She is friendly and cheerful and bears her cross without complaining. Being unable to walk, she must spend her time in bed and in her wheel chair.

Mrs. Margaret Kipfer, one of Morton's oldest residents, and much loved, died on November 18 at the age of 92 years, after having been bedridden for two years. Her husband preceded her in death in 1941, and he also reached the age of 92 years. Surviving are six children, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Her funeral was held on Sunday, November 20. Roy Farney read the beautiful chapter contained in the Proverbs concerning the virtuous woman. The text for the sermon was contained in the 7th chapter in the Revelation, starting with the 9th verse.

Roy Farney and Eli Somerhalder of Burlington, Oklahoma, and John Somerhalder of Gridley, Kansas, visited the Morton church on Sunday evening, November 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Easterling and son, Jack, Mrs. Al Wiedman and daughter, Jean, Mrs. Henry Zeller and son Eric, and Mrs. Henry Grimm spent Friday, November 25, in Oakville, Iowa, with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gerst and Mr. and Mrs. Orttie Rocke and families.

On Saturday, November 12, Ben Heiniger, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Heiniger, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Strahm drove to Sabetha, Kansas, to attend the funeral of Miss Rosie Heiniger.

Mrs. Lena Nuest and daughters, Irene, Pearl, and Lucille, Mrs. Mary Wuthrich and daughters, Helen, Ruth, and Elva, Mrs. Chris Heiniger, Erma and Lorene Moser, and Elizabeth Flederer of La Crosse, Indiana, spent Sunday, November 27, in Morton. Following the afternoon services, they called at the Arthur Heiniger residence and had dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Moser. The evening was spent in the usual enjoyable and edifying manner, namely, the singing of hymns, scripture reading, and a prayer. A group of Morton members were also present to assist in entertaining the guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach and children of Detroit, Michigan, spent Thanksgiving Day and several days following at the J. C. Belsley home in Morton. They were entertained by the George Getzs' on Monday evening, November 28. Mrs. Maibach is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Belsley.

Mrs. Rose Musselman, aged 75 years, died on November 26 at her home in Morton, following a lingering illness. She resided in the Morton area for the last 55 years and moved to town from the farm in 1939. Born in Castorland, New York, on February 26, 1874, she was the daughter of Martin Beyer and Elizabeth Schiffer Beyer. She married Christian Musselman on April 19, 1896, in Morton. He died on December 5, 1942. She is survived by nine children, twenty-five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, November 29. Ministers

officiating were David Mangold of Roanoke and Meno Steiner of Sabetha, Kansas.

On Sunday, December 4, announcement was made of the coming marriage of Robert Grimm, son of Henry Grimms of Morton, and Elna Feller, daughter of Ezra Fellers' of Cissna Park.

Mrs. Pauline Feucht Schick, the wife of John Schick, Jr., was proved and baptized on December 4.

On Sunday, November 27, Harold and Gene Witzig, Shirley Witzig, Louise Birkey, and Mary Frintz spent the day in Fairbury. In the evening they were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bechtold.

A group of Morton's young members spent the day in Princeville on December 4. They were served dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Streitmatter and spent the evening there.

**Naumburg-Croghan**

Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

Mrs. Chester O'Brien has returned home from the hospital much improved; we are glad to hear this.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Fehr and daughters, Eunice and Frances, of Roanoke, Illinois, visited in our community on November 9 and 10.

Peter Rohr returned home from Watertown Hospital on November 7 somewhat improved, but was again taken by ambulance to the House of the Good Samaritan, Watertown, on November 25, and underwent an operation the following day.

Adam Gutwein and Mrs. Gutwein of Francesville, Indiana, made us a short visit. He held services in Naumburg church Thursday evening, November 10; which were much appreciated.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Virkler of Baldwinsville, New York, were visiting among relatives and friends.

Jonas Virkler and Mrs. Virkler left Friday, November 11, in company with John Bahler and Mrs. Bahler of Rockville, Connecticut; the brothers attended the General Conference held in Cissna Park, November 15-17. They visited and the brothers held services in several other churches.

Mr. and Mrs. John Merz, their son Paul, and Kermit Lyendecker left Monday, November 21, for an extended trip by car and trailer to the Pacific coast and other points en route.

John Bahler had a very inspiring sermon Thursday at union Thanksgiving at Croghan church.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gutwein of Francesville, Indiana, spent some time in our community en route to Rockville, Connecticut, and Union City.

Henry Goutremout of Lowville was accepted into the fellowship Sunday, November 27, at the Croghan church. Philip Beyer held baptismal service.

**Peoria**

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

On November 15, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Unsicker became the parents of their first child, a boy. The mother was the former Eunice Sinn.

Visitors at Oakville, Iowa, on the week end of November 12 were the Misses Charlotte, Inez, and Marie Steiner, Pauline and Ida Witzig, and Wilma Huber. They were guests at the Orttie Rocke and Carl Gerst homes.

Our congregation enjoyed a blessed day on Sunday, November 27, when David Mangold and Joseph A. Getz of Morton delivered inspiring messages. Emil Schubert, who has been our shepherd many years, has given up his duties to Brothers Mangold and Getz on account of his health.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Martin entertained the latter's sisters and families on November 27.

Edith Wagenbach submitted to two operations recently. We are happy to report that she is making a satisfactory recovery.

Mrs. Carl Feucht of Lester, Iowa, has been visiting her daughters, Mrs. Lester Wagenbach and Lydia Feucht.

**Princeville, Illinois**

Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Knoblock and Mr. and Mrs. Chris Feucht spent the week-end of October 30 in Lester, Ia.

Mrs. George Asal submitted to an operation for the removal of a cataract from her eye October 31. She is recovering nicely in her home.

Alfred Streitmatter and Louie Wieland were seriously injured in an auto accident October 31. Mr. Streitmatter received severe internal injuries and Mr. Wieland suffered a broken jaw. Both were recently released from the hospital. Mrs. Alfred Streitmatter, who fell sometime ago fracturing her leg, is recovering and is able to be about in her home. Norman Wieland, son of Louie Wieland, was released from the hospital recently, where he had been a patient for seven weeks following an accident. We are very glad to report all are recovering as well as possible and sincerely hope they will soon be in our midst again.

Silas Leuthold and a number from our congregation spent November 6 with the congregation at Roanoke, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Karl Baer and Mr. and Mrs. Haas of Elgin, Illinois, spent the afternoon in our midst.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Endress are the parents of a son, born November 7.

Evening services were held November 9, as Noah Schrock of Oakville, Iowa, and David Mangold of Roanoke were here.

A number from the Roanoke congregation spent November 13 with us and were entertained in the home of Albert Herrmann in the evening.

A blessed day was enjoyed November 20 when we had with us a number of visitors from various congregations. Among them were Clarence Yackley of Wichita, Kansas, Ernest Knoblock of Lester, Iowa, and Joseph Klopfenstein of Gridley, Illinois. Evening services were also held.

A large attendance was present for services held Thanksgiving day.

We were very happy to have Meno Steiner of Sabetha, Kansas, spend November 27 with us.

#### **Pulaski**

We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

Henry Bahr, with Mrs. Bahr, from Gridley, Kansas, visited Albert Wuthrichs' home.

Raymond Young, Vernon Martin, Bud Maul, and Teddy Kupferschmid from Cissna Park, Illinois, spent four days with the Harry Wagler and Albert Wuthrich families.

Kenneth Stevig, Keith Stevig, and Rebecca Kinsinger from Morton, Illinois, spent Sunday, November 27, with us.

We are happy to have Dannie Kupferschmid from Cissna Park, Illinois, employed in our community.

Lena, Katie, Anna, and Chris Ackerman and Mrs. Joseph Getz from Morton, Illinois, spent Sunday, November 20, with the Pulaski church.

#### **Remington**

Obeys them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

A group of young folks from Leo visited with us on November 6. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ifft; Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Koehl; and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Roth and children of Fairbury were with us and were evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kilgus.

Many from Francesville, Cissna Park, and Fairbury spent Sunday, November 13, with us. We had our Thanksgiving program in the evening, with the Francesville young folks taking part.

We had a blessed evening on Monday, November 14, when John Bahler of Rockville, Connecticut; Jonas Virkler, Croghan, New York; and Noah Bauman of Rittman, Ohio, were with us.

The Wolcott congregation gathered with us for services on Thanksgiving Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schieler and children, Al Knochel, and Robert Schieler spent the week-end of the 26th in Bay City, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Bahler and son, Raymond, and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gude-man and son, Willis, of Francesville also spent the week end in Bay City.

Misses Letty and Betty Frey, Lucille Knochel, and Amelia Scharlach spent Sunday, November 27, in Latty, Ohio.

#### **Roanoke**

Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

Jack Sauder, who suffered the loss of his right arm in a corn picker last month, has returned home from the hospital and is reported improving at his home in Roanoke.

On November 5, many friends and relatives from Roanoke attended the wedding of John Martin and Dorothy Pelsy in Francesville. The couple are on their wedding trip out west, after which they will be at home on a farm near Roanoke.

Joseph Zimmermans had as their guests a number of couples from Cissna Park on November 5. They returned home that evening.

Irma Pfister has been honored at various showers this month. She will become the bride of Lenny Luginbuhl of Rockville, Connecticut, next month.

November 23 marked the passing of one of Roanoke's very old brothers. Matt Aeschleman departed this life at his home in Roanoke; his funeral was Saturday, November 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hodel and daughter, Barbara, left November 25 on a trip through the Western States. They plan to visit Mrs. Hodel's mother, Mrs. Dan Sauder, and daughter, Lois, who are living in Phoenix, Arizona, also.

A group of young folks spent the week end of November 26 and 27 in Bremen, Indiana. They were guests of Carolyn Schumacher Saturday evening. On Sunday they called on Robert Hueni and were Sunday evening guests of Earl Zeltwanger.

New births: A daughter, Virginia, to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Schumacher, of Eureka. A daughter, Sandra Kay, to Mr. and Mrs. Don Leman of Benson.

#### **West Bend**

Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kuntz and family of Gridley, Illinois, visited the Bruellman families November 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kellenberger and family of Lester visited relatives here November 6.

Mrs. Louis Schafter, Sr., is now

home from Rochester, Minnesota, where she spent several weeks in a hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kellenberger and Viola, Salome and Elgeva, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kellenberger and Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Metzger and Roy, and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Moser spent Sunday, November 13, with relatives here.

On November 20, Mr. and Mrs. John Mogler of Lester visited relatives here.

Paul and Mrs. Banwart attended the Brotherhood meeting at Cissna Park, Illinois. While gone, he and Mrs. Banwart visited at Elgin, Illinois; Clara Banwart and Mrs. Elmer Steffen returned with them for a week's visit. Several other brothers also attended the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Martin and Jerry and Ellsworth Martin of Princeville, Illinois, spent Thanksgiving Day with the Eli Grimm family.

#### Wolcott

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Mr. and Mrs. Theo Reuter of Silverton, Oregon, are now living here with their son, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reuter. We welcome them to our congregation and hope they will decide to make their permanent home here.

On November 15, Jonas Virkler of New York conducted evening services. A number of Remington folks were also with us.

Our congregation assembled with Remington for Thanksgiving services.

Irvin Lehman, his wife and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gudeman, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kyburz and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Le Roy Kyburz and family spent November 13 with the congregation at North Fairbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Furrer and Jack, Mr. and Mrs. Winsford Wood, Edward Widmer, and Gladys and Arles Kropf spent November 13 with relatives and friends at La Crosse.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Furrer and Mrs. Ida Nussbaum and Pauline recently visited relatives in Kansas. Mary Nussbaum of Forrest also accompanied them.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Farney and son

## Not Disobedient Unto the Heavenly Vision

You, through God's help, can do a lot for our beloved church and for those still lost in sin. You can do much for your individual church. Even for the smallest thing you do for our Master you have His promise, "Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free."

God has taught what He wants a soul to do when that soul repents. We are happy that our church is following the teachings of our Lord. We have a most precious heritage in the teachings our church. Many today fail to speak the whole counsel of God. Paul says, "... I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." This repentance takes in the whole of soul and spirit, and crucifies the body.

It was only when we saw ourselves hopelessly lost and cried to the Lord that we were saved. And this same conviction of sins is necessary for all who want to be saved. The teachings of our church should not be shelved; they are God's teachings.

With this inward godly sorrow for our sins comes an outward showing. Those who came to John confessed their sins. In the Acts we read of others: "And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds." Believing on the Lord Jesus Christ means trusting and obeying Him. A true belief will bring a soul into repentance. Faith without works is dead. Jesus said, "for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." If someone does not show outwardly

and Mrs. Louise Drayer and children of Cissna Park visited relatives here on December 4.

Mrs. Alfred Thomas and two children of Peoria spent December 3 here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hofstetter.

that he is a lost sinner (and this is shown by a specific confession of sins and a willingness to make restitution), we have reason to doubt his sincerity.

God's plan of salvation is freely revealed to any one who will be obedient to His purpose. John the Baptist was "To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins." One truly sorrowing for his sins will acknowledge it. "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner."

Our teaching should be that of Paul's: "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:" Jesus said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

There are many today who have been added to membership rolls, but have never been born again; however, there are other fellow pilgrims beside our church. Paul writes definitely, "Be ye not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? ... be ye separate ..." Of those who do righteousness (I John 3:7), we should not forbid, still doing the works the Lord has ordained we do, walking in our separate pathway. "And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part."

**SOUND IN FAITH***(Continued from page 1)*

is what the Lord looks upon and "with the heart man believeth unto righteousness" first, and then "with the mouth confession is made (in good Faith) unto salvation." (Rom. 10:10) "For of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."

Many there were who believed in His Name in a fashion in nominal Judaism while the Lord was here, and many there are today in nominal Christianity, who likewise believe in His Name in some fashion, but would Christ, and does Christ, commit Himself unto the many more freely today than in Judaea at the time? And what is more important and a matter for me and for you to consider: Can and will the Lord **commit Himself to me and to you TODAY?** Can He safely **TRUST** us, can He depend on us, come into our hearts and make His abode within us? He longs to do so, and desires to us "make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **CHRIST IN YOU**, the hope of glory:" (Col. 1:27).

Is our **FAITH** so scriptural and **SOUND** that "God, which knoweth the hearts . . ." can **PURIFY our hearts by that FAITH** (Acts 15:8-9), and thus make it inviting for Christ to commit Himself to us and make His abode in us, **That Christ may DWELL IN OUR HEARTS BY FAITH;** (Eph. 3:17).

Then again this matter of **TRUSTING** is a mutual and not a one-sided one. "We should be to the praise of his glory, who first **TRUSTED IN CHRIST.**" In whom we should also **TRUST,** after that we heard the **WORD OF TRUTH, the GOSPEL OF OUR SALVATION:** in whom also, after that we **BELIEVED,** we were sealed with that Holy Spirit of **PROMISE** (Eph. 1:12-13).

But if we do not **TRUST HIM,** how can He trust us? If we do not **COMMIT OURSELVES** with our all wholly and unreserved **UNTO HIM,** how can He **COMMIT HIMSELF UNTO US?** Yes "many believed in his name" — and yet Jesus knew that their heart was not right, "for he knew what was in man." He did not

commit himself unto them, for their kind of Faith, based upon the sight of miracles which Jesus did, would make Him their King today by force, and reject and crucify their King tomorrow.

The Lord Jesus had this **KNOWLEDGE** as to what was in man without the need "that any should testify of man", by virtue of His deity. He exercised this knowledge continually and by it He elected His disciples and spoke of Nathaniel as "an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile", and on the other hand denounced the Scribes and Pharisees as serpents and a generation of vipers. It is possible and even probable that this **KNOWLEDGE** is referred to as a gift of the Spirit of God in 1 Cor. 12:8 and which knowledge it was said "shall vanish away" in chapter 13:8, together with some other gifts, as the first Churches left behind them their initial organizational period and childhood stage (verse 11). During this early period of separating and gathering true believers into Church groups and assemblies or fellowships (Acts 2:40-42) which were still predominately Jewish, it is interesting to observe how Peter exercised this gift of Knowledge in dealing with Ananias and Sapphira. He had no need "that any should testify of man": for he **KNEW** what Ananias had conceived in his heart, and how that Sapphira was privy to it. The Apostle Paul likewise exposed the inner and utterly depraved condition of Bar-jesus, the false prophet, in awful terms when he called him a **child of the devil, full of all subtilty and all mischief, and an enemy of all righteousness** (Acts 13:10). Only one who has a positive and full **KNOWLEDGE** of what is **IN MAN** would dare to pronounce, as Peter and Paul did, such a sweeping judgment upon his fellow man, without the **need of any testimony from men** and have that judgment heaven-approved and at once and miraculously executed.

Since the time of the temporary setting aside of National Israel, perhaps with the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple about 70 A.D., the emphasis in God's program for the Church shifted from the visible and

temporal to the invisible and eternal, and from Jewish to Gentile predominance. The **diversities of gifts by the same Spirit,** given for the edification of the body of Christ, were narrowed down in number, to make room for the "**MORE EXCELLENT WAY**" (1 Cor. 12:31), until there remained only the **THREE BEST GIFTS** for our dispensation; as it is written "And now **abideth FAITH, HOPE, CHARITY,** these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

It is thus that the saying is true: "**NOW I KNOW IN PART**" (1 Cor. 13:9, 12). **NOW** we do not know what is in man, and even for a knowledge in part, we have need of the testimony of man, of words and of works. "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? . . ." (1 Cor. 2:11). And even then yet may a "man deceive **HIMSELF**" (1 Cor. 3:18) and is exhorted to "prove your **OWN SELVES.**" "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith . . . **KNOW ye not YOUR OWN SELVES . . . ?**" (2 Cor. 13:5).

If it then be necessary that we continually **examine ourselves, whether we be IN THE FAITH** and **prove our own selves** that we may **KNOW OUR OWN SELVES** and not deceive our own heart and have a vain religion (Jas. 1:26), why should we be so forward and hasty to judge our fellowman and members of other denominational Churches to be **Our Brethren in Faith** simply upon their assertion that they too **Believe in the Name of Jesus** and do it without due **examination and proving** in the approved manner before local assemblies, duly recognizing the limitations of our knowledge as to what is **IN MAN** and the need for a concerted testimony of Brethren, who already stand in the fellowship of our "common Faith." In a **CLOSED FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS IN CHRIST,** such as ours has been for over a century, one is the brother of all, and all are the brothers of one, and an individual brother's judgment cannot replace the concerted judgment, as to who may be the brother of **ALL.**

For **ALL** are members of one body, who "have obtained like precious

Faith with us" . . . and "have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

Again if we on the one hand point to a judgment which sees and accepts **Brethren in Faith** here and there and anywhere in nominal Christianity, based simply upon their claim of **Faith in the Name of Jesus**, as hasty, premature, and improper, it is, on the other hand, likewise premature and unscriptural to judge their Faith and standing before God. "For what have I to do to judge them that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?" (1 Cor. 5:12). "But them that are without God judgeth . . ." (1 Cor. 5:13) "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ . . ." (Romans 2:16). "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God." (1 Cor. 4:5).

While we do not know what is in man, oft scarcely what is in ourselves, the Lord knows what is in every heart and knows the soundness of the Faith of them **who believe in the Name of Jesus**. And as ever, so today . . . "the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." (2 Tim. 2:19). We hope and pray that there may be many around us and in our generation who are among the Lord's **OWN** and by Him recognized as such. As indeed John, in his prophetic vision, beheld . . . "a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues," which "stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands" (Rev. 7:9).

But for us the fact remains and must be realistically faced, that as the Lord Jesus lived in days of **Nominal Judaism**, so do we now live in days of Nominal Christianity. And when the Lord Jesus, who **KNEW** what was in man, did not commit Himself to many who "believed in his name," then we, who **KNOW NOT** what is in man, should be the more

reserved and follow His example. The Lord was humble, He looked down on no one and was kind and considerate toward all, and yet He was not indiscriminate as to whom He called His brother: "whosoever **shall do** the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." The Lord Jesus readily acknowledged that the leaders of Judaism, the religion of the Jews,—the Scribes and Pharisees, sitting in Moses' seat, occupied a place of responsibility and accountability, and had much knowledge in the Law: "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, **that observe and DO**; but do not yet after their works: for they say and **DO NOT**." They observed the form and outward appearance of their religion and enhanced the appearance of it by adding many commandments of their own, but they lacked the substance of it and denied the power thereof. Under such circumstances, the Lord found it necessary to **SEPARATE** his "little flock" into a sheepfold of His own. He drew a rather sharp line of distinction between His own and the "world." (John 17:9). The Apostles followed His example, which resulted in the establishment of the various local Churches (at Rome, Corinth, etc.) as bodies of **Believers**. Such Churches as **closed fellowships of Believers** have a definite and scriptural place in today's nominal Christianity. If we abandon this separated place and accept as brothers in the Faith indiscriminately anywhere upon our individual judgment on the basis that they **believe in the Name of Jesus**, we will soon lose ourselves in the confusion of nominal Christianity, as many once separated bodies of **Believers** have in the past.

The other extreme is not without its equally great dangers, when a closed fellowship assumes the self-righteous attitude of denouncing everything and everybody because "he followeth **NOT US**." (Mark 9:38). This likewise expresses a judgment "before the time" and may be "unrighteous," because we **know not what is in man** and must needs judge according to appearance (John 7:24). We judge not if we leave the status of our fellowman, who is outside of our fellowship, where God sees him and places him.

### A letter of Thanks from an uprooted homeless displaced widow.

Sept. 12, 1949.

Greeting of God

Dear and kind givers:

As a joyful surprise I received your valuable packages, the contents of which greatly improved our condition in this hard time. Is the need the greatest, is God's help the nearest.

For more than five years we aimlessly stray around in the world as homeless and unwanted. Grief and care-weariness make us sorrowful, and only our hope and faith in God can lift us up again. To many of the homeless, life does not seem worth living, for we had to forsake home and farm and all that we had, and stand now stripped of everything as beggars in a strange world, bearing innocently such a hard lot.

Now will I say thank you a thousand times for all the good and nice things. I had to weep for joy that there still are such kind people who have compassion on us. For I am always sickly, and already went through very much. My dear husband died already 13 years ago, and on the 5th of July 1945, while on the way of our flight, my daughter died, and I had to leave her behind and hasten on. That was a hard blow for me, and yet I will thank God, the dear Lord, and believe on Him and trust Him, for praised be the Lord daily. God lays a burden upon us, but He also helps us.

"Seek Jesus and His light; Naught else makes burdens light."

May God bless you, dear and kind folks, for your readiness to help and your efforts to give aid, and to bring joy to the poorest of the poor in the world.

Again with hearty thanks to all the givers, I remain within a memory of thanks-indebtedness, signed:

**Katharina Fritz.**

"Bless the **LORD**, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name. Bless the **LORD**, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

Greet all who love us in the Faith. The Grace of God be with you all. Amen — A joyful Christmas and a blessed New Year we wish to all of you.

**Katharina Fritz.**

Bollegässle 3, Maestadt, Kr. Böblingen, (14a) Württemberg, Germany, U. S. Zone.