



The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

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"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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. . . A very cheerful greeting to all who are listening to radio station XEG. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma with your speaker Willie Murphey. We indeed count it a wonderful privilege to be back with you again for this Friday evening visit. We certainly appreciate those who have taken the time to write us a few lines and to let us know that you have been enjoying the broadcast. In fact, we have heard from some new listeners and we certainly welcome you to be with us each Friday night.

Then, too, I would like to personally express our gratitude to those who have helped make this program possible because of their prayers and their support. We have been praying for those whom we have heard from and hope that God will continue to shower you with his richest blessings as we lift our eyes and look on the fields.

Consider now these words which Jesus taught his disciples to pray. In Matthew, chapter 6 and beginning at verse 9 we read. "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION,

but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen"

remote islands of the sea.

It seems almost incomprehensible to realize that today there are certain public officials who would object to this prayer being said in public schools. I for one, am of the opinion that this prayer would be good for the president of our great country to repeat or for the lowest paid citizen in this country. I believe that it would be good for men of all nations to remember this prayer and to say it often. It should be repeated in every home and should be known by every student, regardless of where they go to school or what their religious background may be. These words were spoken by the master himself and should be upon the lips of people both in our own beloved country and the people of the most

This is true because it teaches us a way whereby we may make our approach unto God. It teaches us that God is our father and we should come to him for our daily needs and the needs of those around us. It also teaches us how we may receive forgiveness for our trespasses. It goes further than this, it teaches us that in order for us to receive this forgiveness from God, we must have a willingness to forgive others. In this way it teaches us how to live with others.

Now especially am I concerned with one request which is given in this prayer: "Lead us not into temptation."

Temptation is that which is attractive and appealing and alluring. Usually this attraction

is offered by Satan himself and leads one into wickedness by enticing them to partake of that which is either immoral or unlawful and contrary to sound doctrine. So Christ taught his disciples to pray that they might be kept from the hour of temptation and that they might have grace and courage to say no at the time when temptation would overwhelm them.

But, on the other hand, the thing which makes an individual spiritually strong is the power to resist temptation regardless of how attractive it may appear. Patsy is going to assist us with this broadcast by giving us some quotations from others. Listen now to this quotation from James Stalker.

"There will come times when you are tempted to great sin which will appear to you absolutely safe from discovery and not likely to inflict the slightest injury on your fortunes. In such circumstances nothing will sustain you if you do not respect your own nature and stand in awe of your own conscience. Nay, even this is not enough; the only effective defense is that of one who sorely tempted in this very way, said: "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" There are secret battles fought and victories won on this ground, never heard of on earth, but essentially more glorious than many victories which are trumpeted far and wide by the breath of fame. There is more of courage and manhood needed for them than for walking up to the cannon's mouth. Walking up to the cannon's mouth! Many a soldier could do that who could not say "No" to two or three companions pressing him to enter the canteen. Not long ago I was speaking to a soldier who told me that many a time in the barracks he was the only man to go down on his knees out of twenty or thirty, and he did it among showers of oaths and derision. Do you think walking up the cannon's mouth would have been difficult to that man? Such victories have no record on earth; but be sure of this, they are widely heard of in heaven, and there is One there who will not forget them."

--James Stalker

Yes, this is true, friends, it takes courage to resist temptation and stand for that which is right in the face of opposition. But we should always remember that God is standing by to be our helper and we should act always with the thought in mind that he is present and knows our every weakness. He also knows how to give us the victory over our weakness for in II Peter 2:9 we read, "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation." But listen to what Spurgeon had to say about temptation.

"Temptation vanishes before a sight of the dying Redeemer. . . . Sometimes a raging corruption or a strong habit wars upon us, and then we conquer by the might of the sanctifying Spirit of God, who is with us and shall be in us evermore. Or else it is the world which tempts, and our feet have almost gone; but we overcome the world through the victory of faith.

"If Satan raises against us the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life, all at once, we are still delivered, for the Lord is a wall of fire round about us. The inward life bravely resists all sin, and God's help is given to believers to preserve them from all evil in the moment of urgent need; even as he helped His martyrs and confessors to speak the right word when called unprepared to confront their adversaries. Care not, therefore, O thou truster in the Lord Jesus, how fierce thine enemy may be on this day! As young David slew the lion and the bear and smote the Philistines, even so shalt thou go from victory to victory."

--Spurgeon

That should be encouraging to every one who may be waging a fierce battle with temptations. Then take a look at this scripture in I Corinthians, chapter 10 and verse 13: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." This indeed

should give you each one renewed hope.
Now hear this statement from Emerson.

"They can conquer who believe they can.
He has not learned the lessons of life who
does not every day surmount a fear."

--Emerson

Then the one from Theodore Roosevelt.

"To do right at all times, in all places,
and under all conditions, may take courage,
but it pays."

--Theodore Roosevelt

Then there might be those who feel that
they can run away from temptation and never
have to face it. To those who believe this,
the advice from Stephenson might well be
the means of causing you to withstand in the
time of temptation.

"You cannot run away from a weakness;
you must some time fight it out or perish; and
if that be so, why not now, and where you
stand?"

--Stephenson

And, of course, the one by Wilson would
add even greater courage to stand.

"Dare to do right! Dare to be true!
The failings of others can never save you;
Stand by your conscience, your honor,
your faith,
Stand like a hero and battle to death!"

--Wilson

This is surely true, friends. We must re-
ceive grace and courage to be overcomers in
the hour of temptation. In doing so we move
forward for God. We must not, cannot, dare
not stand still. We must move forward. As
we overcome daily we move a little nearer
to our eternal goal. Listen to this quotation
from Oliver Wendell Holmes.

"I find the great thing in this world is not
so much where we stand as in what direction
we are moving; to reach the port of heaven
we must sail, sometimes with the wind and
sometimes against it--but we must sail, and

not drift nor lie at anchor."

--Oliver Wendell Holmes

But then perhaps there are some listening
to this broadcast tonight who are oppressed
by the hand of affliction or no doubt there
are some who are shut-ins and are unable to
lead normal lives. This perhaps has been a
trial to you and you have often asked your-
self, "Why am I faced with these trying
temptations?" To you, I hope this quotation
from Alice Wellington Rollins will prove a
comfort.

"The inner half of every cloud
Is bright and shining;
I therefore turn my clouds about,
And always wear them inside out
To show the lining."

--Alice Wellington Rollins

Then just to add a little more comfort and
consolation to those who are called upon to
daily suffer temptations, listen now to this
quotation from Longfellow.

Build a little fence of trust
Just around to-day
Fill the space with loving deeds
And therein stay.
Look not thru the sheltering bars
Upon to-morrow
God will help thee bear, whatever comes
Of joy or sorrow.
Oh, fear not in a world like this
And thou shalt know ere long--
Know how sublime a thing it is
To suffer and be strong.

--Longfellow

Let us spend a moment in prayer.

Our Father,

Bless those today who have not yet learned
how to find the strength which they daily need
from the great storehouse of God to overcome
their temptations. We pray that this message
may serve the good and noble purpose to point
them to the word of God and the spirit of God
which is able to make us all overcomers in
Christ's name. Amen

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Until next Friday night at 11:00, this is Willie Murphey and Patsy saying may God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant goodnight!

--O--

Bro. Mart Samons has been in meeting with the saints of the Neosho, Mo. congregation this week and he feels the Lord may be directing him for the coming week to be in meeting in Swifton, Arkansas.

--O--

While in Tulsa I spoke briefly on the phone to Bro. Sam Barton. He and Sis. Barton are fairly well and bravely pressing onward to their eternal reward even though their recent loss and sorrow has been so great.

--O--

From Penn: Dear Saints of the Mission Trail, It has taken me a long time to write about the sermons you have sent each week; have been enjoying them so very much. I live next door to Mother, so I read them to her. . . Your sister in His service, Eva Cox

--O--

Bro. Archie Souder of Oklahoma City is improving from his injury of a broken arm.

Last Sunday it was our privilege to be in services with the saints at Springfield, Mo. Those present made our hearts rejoice to see and feel their interest in the gospel. Bro. and Sis. McIntosh had made preparations for us to have dinner in their home. Also Bro. and Sis. Busbee were present, and we enjoyed the good things of the Lord together that day.

For the evening service we were at the congregation known as Pea Ridge. Here we met Bro. and Sis. Wilson Plaster and their daughter Linda and their son Don with his wife and family. With the additional fortification of Leo and Mildred McIntosh and their children, Don, Joan, and Ladonna, there were enough present to stand on Matt. 18:20: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." The return trip home on Monday was a dangerous one with ice on the highways and rain freezing on the windshield. Many were having trouble on the glazed roads, some cars were in the ditches, and we saw one injured man being carried on a stretcher to the ambulance. Through it all God's protecting hand was upon us and we give him thanks.

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