

# 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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... Indeed it is a pleasure to come to those who listen to radio station XEG for our Friday evening visit. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast and your speaker is Willie Murphey of Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are very happy to speak to you once again in behalf of the gospel of Jesus Christ and to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints. We count it a privilege to speak in behalf of the truth of God's word. We also appreciate hearing from those who listen to the broadcast and desire that we may be faithful to continue on with this work of the Lord. We are now in our second year of broadcasting on XEG. If you have never written to us, why not let us know you are receiving THE MISSION TRAIL.

Now since we are facing the realities of life and death, and our hearts are often filled with sorrow when we remember those whom we loved in this world, it seems good that we should consider the teaching of the Holy Scriptures in regard to life after death.

Listen to this verse in II Corinthians, chapter five, and verse one, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God,

## AN HOUSE NOT MADE WITH HANDS,

eternal in the heavens." Now, let me first explain that we have no book of rules to follow except the scriptures. Upon this we base all of our hopes of life hereafter.

Let me further explain. No where in the Holy Bible is taught anything which will serve as a foundation and bear out the thought that a person after death returns to this world in the form of a lower animal or a higher form of life. In other words we might call this reincarnation. Such teaching would lead one to believe that after death, the spirit of man enters into the form of an animal such as a cow or a horse or perhaps even a grasshopper. Because of this,

a cow might be considered sacred. Now friends, let us be honest with ourselves. The Bible teaches no such theory. This sort of teaching, no doubt, comes from someone with a vivid imagination. It certainly is not based upon the scriptures.

Let us go one step further. There are those that would like to make themselves believe as well as teach others to believe that when a person comes to death, he merely falls asleep and knows nothing from there on. In other words, he is annihilated and soon forgotten in this world, and, of course, they would like to believe that there is no life in the world to come. Here again let me

plainly declare to you upon the authority of the word of God that this teaching is not true. It is false and erroneous regardless of who tries to support it and regardless of what reason they may have to uphold such a doctrine. What more could Satan desire than to have one to believe when this life is over there is no hereafter, there is no soul of man, and no resurrection from the dead?

In believing such falsehoods, one would feel justified in doing almost anything under the sun were there no life hereafter. Living with such a haphazard plan in life one might well remember this scripture of the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians, chapter 15 and verse 19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

Yes, one might feel justified under such conditions to do whatever their fancy led them to do while in this world with the thought in mind that there would never be a day of reckoning before God. But I come to you at this time in defense of the word of God. No such theories are supported in its teachings, no such relief is given for a guilty conscience. No such freedom is allowed to excuse one from the judgments of God.

Now, let us go back to the text I first read in II Corinthians, chapter 5, and verse 1. I quote, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved," There is no question but what here the Apostle Paul meant his earthly body. Now since a house is considered a home only when it is occupied, this is also true of our bodies. Within our bodies dwells that eternal part of man, the soul or spirit.

Immediately upon the death of a person, his spirit or soul departs from

his body. Listen to this verse in Philippians 1:21. I quote. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Now if there was no place for departed spirits to rest while awaiting the judgment how could the Apostle Paul say to die is gain? But he went on to say in verse 23, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better:" He said this because he knew that when he departed from this life his soul or spirit would have a resting place in the presence of Christ.

Listen to this testimony of the first Christian martyr, Stephen. When he was being stoned to death by the adversaries of the early Christians, he "looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:55, 56.

The scriptures go on to teach us in verses 59 and 60: "And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep." Yes, friends, his body was dissolved but his spirit returned unto God, there to await the resurrection of the dead and the final judgment.

Perhaps there are some who would agree indeed that the soul of the righteous return to God, but this question then arises concerning the existence of the souls of the wicked dead. Let us analyze this for a moment. In order for us to properly do so, we must again return to the scripture. When I say that we are going to read from the 16th chapter of Luke about the beggar who died when he laid at the gate of the rich man, immediately those who advance

this theory of no life after death for the wicked people, would be ready to say, "Well this is merely a parable which Jesus spoke, it did not really happen." To this let me say, the scriptures do not teach that this was a parable. It says in Luke, chapter 16 and verse 19, I quote: "There was a certain rich man which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:" It very positively says that there was this rich man. The next verse says, "And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores," Again let me repeat it does not say this was a parable, but it does say "there was a certain beggar".

Nevertheless, be that as it may, this scripture plainly teaches the condition and the abiding place after death of the spirit or soul of those who are righteous and also of those who were wicked.

In the broadcast next week I hope to bring to you a message concerning life after death. This will include what becomes of the soul of the righteous and also the soul of the wicked dead. Be sure to hear the broadcast next Friday night at 11:00 over this same radio station XEG.

But now let us pause for a moment of prayer.

Our gracious Father,

We humbly pray that you would cause the truth of the teaching of thy word to be magnified both in our lives and in the lives of those who listen to this broadcast. We pray that you would help us to cast aside every false doctrine and every commandment of men which is contrary to the sound teaching of thy word, for we ask it in Christ's name. Amen

Here then is a message in song from

Bro. and Sis. Dan Kroker from the state of Oregon in the great northwest. We hope this will be of interest to you.

Thank you Bro. and Sis. Dan Kroker from Bend, Oregon. Friends, this message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you would like to have a copy in print free of charge, just send us your address. There is no obligation on your part. Until next Friday night at 11:00, this is Willie Murphey wishing you each and everyone the very richest of God's blessings and a very pleasant goodnight!

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### YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECTION

by Kathleen and Patsy

Of late we have been thinking of what a mighty God we serve. In Eph. 3:20 it says, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

We ask many things of God and he has said that we would be rewarded for asking. Perhaps God may not always send the answer in the way which we think he should. But our God is so great that he knows just when and how he should answer our requests.

Sometimes we wonder if God will do for us things like he did for those who lived during the Bible times, but in Hebrews 13:8 we read that He is just "the same yesterday, today, and forever." So we can be assured that our God can and will do the same for us today--more than we can ask or think.

He maketh worlds by his command,  
Weighs the mountain great and high.  
He metes the waters in his hand,  
Spans the lofty, starlit sky.

--Clara M. Brooks

## AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

Oklahoma has had a little relief from the extreme cold weather and snow which has been so prevalent in the last few weeks. We enjoyed the warming trend as we made our trip to Anthony, Kansas, for the services Sunday.

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We extend our sympathy to Evelyn Linch upon the death of her husband, Eldie Linch, last week. Bro. Ira D. Stover, who is Evelyn's uncle attended the funeral in California. We pray that God will give grace and comfort to sustain in this hour of grief and sorrow.

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Congratulations to Leslie Busbee and his wife Sylvia upon the arrival of Jeanne Marie, Tuesday, February 1, 1966.

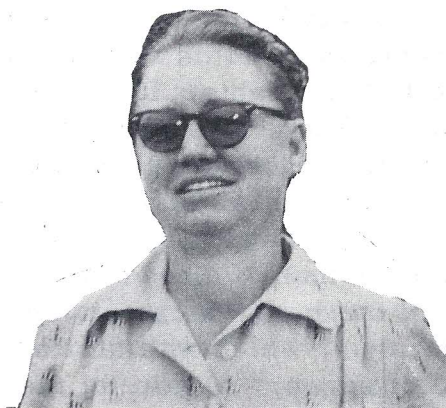
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Word has been received that Sis. Gertrude Bunting was killed in an automobile accident Friday, February 4, near the home of her sister, Ruth Taylor, in California. Another sister, Dorothy Wilson of Guthrie, and Maybelle Pruitt of Guthrie, left by plane for California, Saturday, February 5. Gertrude's son, Johnny, was critically injured.

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A report from Mexico: "Hello dear ones-- . . . It was so kind of you to remember us at Christmas time. . . I really enjoyed the tapes especially of Bro. Carver's piece you put on it and of the broadcast that time. . . Pray for us. . ." Edith Cole and Carrie Sheppard

In loving remembrance of Sister Dorothy Barton who died January 23, 1966:



Sister Dorothy Barton

Just below is a verse of poetry clipped from a birthday autograph book with Dorothy's own signature as it was written for Frances about 25 years ago:

October 6th

This day of toil will soon be gone,  
Then a better day will dawn; keep holding on.

*Dorothy L. Barton* Adger M. Pace

## IN APPRECIATION

To all concerned in the loss of our dear daughter, We want to thank one and all for the offerings, flowers, and cards. Surely we feel we didn't deserve all the attention the saints and friends showed us. May God bless them all for being so kind in our loss which was heaven's gain. --Bro. and Sis. Sam Barton

## The Mission Trail

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