



The Mission Trail

BOX 101

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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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 pleasant greeting to all the listeners of radio station XEG. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and your speaker is Willie Murphey. It brings us great joy to be coming your way once again over the airways with another gospel message of the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We appreciate the response of those who look forward to the weekly message of The Mission Trail, and we trust that God will reward each one a hundredfold who have helped us maintain this radio program.

If you are not yet receiving the weekly printed copies, be sure to send us your name and address that we may begin mailing them to you at once. There is no subscription price or obligation on your part, but we do desire your sincere prayers that God will help us to spread his word to the ends of the world, for we know that it is the gospel which will bring peace of mind and heart to men and women who live in a troubled world.

Last week we commented briefly on the text of the Apostle Paul in regard to forgetting those things which are past. This week we would like to go another step further and consider the next thing to do after we have been able to commit the past into the hands of God. But listen to the scripture reading once again from Philippians, chapter 3 and verses 13 and 14. I quote: "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and

REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. "

The part of these two verses in which I am particularly interested today is that which says, "reaching forth unto those things which are before." We are speaking now about the motivating power within the life of a child of God. They have tasted the sweetness of the pardon of forgiveness. Therefore they are persuaded that greater things yet await them.

I like to think of the meaning of the word "reaching". When an infant child begins to learn to walk the delighted parents will hold objects up before them to entice them to take another step. Therefore, it is only natural for the new babe to reach with an outstretched arm to obtain the object held before them.

This I believe should be the ever-present desire of God's children to reach for and obtain everything that God has to offer in his great plan of

salvation. But one may ask what are the things before us to which we should be reaching? Well, briefly, there are many things before us for which we should be earnestly striving to obtain.

First, we should be seeking as much grace and courage as possible to meet those things which confront us that we may be able to stand. For all of the things which lie before us are not pleasant. There will be some difficult places over which our pathway will lead. We should ever endeavor to have a sufficient amount of grace on hands to meet these trials.

Now in speaking of the things which lie before us, listen to this scripture in Acts 20 and beginning with verse 22. For Paul seemed to catch a glimpse through the Holy Ghost of the things which awaited him. I quote: "And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

So you see, friends, the apostle realized that some of the things which awaited him were not going to be pleasant. Again he said in II Timothy, chapter 3 and verse 12. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Now someone might ask, "were these the things that Paul were reaching for?" I am sure that these things were not the ultimate goal the Apostle had in mind. But this is the pathway which would lead him to that final crowning day which he mentioned in II Timothy

2:8 when he said, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Let me ask you this question, Are you so living each moment and each day with this goal forever in view? If so, God has promised grace for every trial and affliction and is able to safely lead you each step of the way. But let me point out some things which lie in your pathway and this is true whether you have this goal in mind or not.

In Hebrews 9:24 we read, ". . . It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" Here are two appointments which await all of us regardless of how we may spend our lives—two obligations which we are bound to meet whether we are ready or not. One is death and the other is the judgment.

Those who lightly pass over these truths should consider the words of Jesus himself as recorded in John 5:28, 29. He said, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice. And shall come forth they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

Now think of what this will mean to those who are unsaved in that resurrection day! Some will be brought forth to hear their final sentence when they are eternally separated from God and the saints. Others who have been faithful will be resurrected to receive a crown of life which fadeth not away. I see in these two verses no time or opportunity for another chance to make peace with God after death.

Friends, if this is not your goal in

life we hope that from this moment on you will be reaching forth unto the things which are before you, endeavoring to do the will of the Master.

Many of you are well acquainted with Bro. Ostis Wilson and will remember how that God called his beloved wife, Opal, home to himself while they were on their missionary journey in Nigeria almost two years ago. We understand that one of her favorite poems expressed the thought of forgetting the past. I count it a real privilege to have Bro. Ostis Wilson bring you this poem. Bro. Ostis:

"This is a poem that I often heard my wife repeat. The title of it is:"

JUST FORGET IT

If you've not been treated right,
Just forget it.
Don't get ready for a fight,
But forget it.

Life's too short to hold a grudge,
'Twill your happiness besmudge,
Anyway you're not the judge,
So forget it.

If you've been misunderstood,
Just forget it.
Say, "I did the best I could."
Then forget it.

If you can't have your own way,
Don't be small enough to say,
"Well, I guess I just won't play."
But forget it.

If somebody slanders you,
Just forget it.
Say, "I'm glad it isn't true."
Then forget it.

Even if you lose a friend,
And the breach you cannot mend
It will pay you in the end,
To just forget it.

Thank you, Bro. Ostis Wilson. Friends, let us spend a moment in prayer.

Our Father,

Take the words of the message today and cause them to fall into good and honest hearts of those who are willing and ready to forget the things of the past and reach forth unto those things which are before them that they may fulfill your purpose and will in their lives, to the glory of God and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Saviour. Amen

Listen now to the song entitled: "The Echoes of Calvary" as sung by Kenneth Abbott and Lois Abbott.

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you would like a printed copy free of charge, you may have one by simply sending us your request. Until next Friday night at 10:45 this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant goodnight!

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GOOD DECISIONS

Many times things happen which make us wonder "What should I do? Would it be best to do this or that?" Decisions are often hard to make. But when they are made with the will of God in view, we are bound to receive a blessing.

The best thing we can do at times is to ask the Lord, "What would you do?" Sometimes it would seem as though we ought to do things a certain way, but the Lord has a better plan for our lives than we understand. Often we cannot see all the plan of God. As we follow His will we know that truly "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. --KM

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

Sister Josephine Taylor's funeral was held Saturday, August 20th in the chapel in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, with Bro. Woodrow Warren officiating, assisted by others. The large attendance of the saints present was a good indication of the Godly life which she had lived.

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Bro. Curtis Williams was in services in Bro. and Sis. McEndree's home in Lamar, Colorado, from Wednesday, August 24th through Sunday. Bro. and Sis. Waldo Eck were also present and report a good meeting.

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From North Carolina: "We will leave here Thursday for New Castle, Indiana. The meeting starts Monday, Aug. the 22nd. . . Love to all,"

--The Samons family

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Earnest prayer is requested for the healing of: Sister Viva LaCroix, Bro. Curtis Williams, Bro. Darius Gibson, Bro. Sam Abbott, with many other requests which we often receive.

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From Minnesota: ". . . We don't know what the future holds for us as time is swiftly passing away. The Lord bless your efforts to spread the gospel."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

After final inspections were made on the senior citizens' home in Pacoima, Calif. a number of aged saints, who had waited so long, moved in on Monday, Aug. 22.

Dover, Okla. meeting begins Sept. 2nd.

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Frances and I enjoyed the fellowship and the hospitality of the saints in Boley, Oklahoma at the beginning of their meeting last Friday and Saturday.

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Bro. Murphy Allen is being used of the Lord to preach the gospel in many places. A recent letter from him reads: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, Greetings in Jesus dear name. We appreciate your efforts in the work of the Lord. We pray the Lord will direct you in the field of labor and give you wisdom to reach many souls. We need your prayers that we might know the will of God in all things. May God bless you is our prayers." Yours in the service of the Lord, Murphy, Natilie Allen and family, 218 S. Locust Street, Carterville, Missouri.

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The saints in the Midwest states have been enjoying the deep truths presented in the sermons by Bro. Ostis Wilson in recent weeks. Sunday morning, Aug. 21, he was in Anthony, Kansas, and Sunday night he met with the saints in Enid, Oklahoma. This week revival services are being held in the Shawnee chapel.

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