



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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. . . It is indeed a pleasure to greet the listeners of radio station XEG once again with another gospel broadcast. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Your speaker is Willie Murphey. Our hearts are filled to over-flowing with gratitude because of the sincere interest our listeners have taken in this gospel work. Your kind words of appreciation and encouragement have meant so much to us from week to week. We feel deeply indebted to God and to you because of your interest.

Now it seems that we will never be able to repay the debt we owe to God and His people in a material sense, but we hope that the messages may bring comfort and cheer to those who listen and read them both far and near and that some may be saved who otherwise would have never known the saving grace of our Lord. We cannot begin to compare the value of a soul with material wealth. One soul is worth more than all the wealth of the world combined. Therefore, we give thanks to God and take courage.

Listen now to the reading of the scripture from Philippians, the third chapter and beginning with verse thirteen. 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."

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This is now our third message upon this same scripture. In the last two weeks we have discussed the thought of forgetting the past, and also of reaching forth unto the things which are before. I trust that each of you have widened your spiritual insight into the deeper things of God as you lift up your eyes and look upon the fields before you. It is only when we are willing to leave the past in the hands of God and earnestly reach forth with a sincere desire to fulfill His will in our lives for the future that we are able to press

It would be well for us to take a look at the definition of the word "press" from Webster's dictionary. It first says: "to bear down upon; to squeeze". It goes on to further define the term "press" in this manner: "to hurry, to speed up, or the like; as, to press a horse in a race." Therefore, we see this denotes urgency or a compelling force to continue or to win a race.

I believe that it is necessary for one to exert some of his effort even to enter into the kingdom of God. Listen

to this verse found in St. Luke, chapter 16, and verse 16. I quote: "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it."

Some people seem to have the feeling that they don't want to read the Bible too much, or to be too closely associated with those whom they consider to be contaminated with strict rules of daily living, for fear lest their pleasure in this world should be spoiled. In other words, they consider religion to be a contagious disease which might rub off on them perchance at a time when they were unaware. But let me assure you this is not the case with true Bible salvation. First, you must possess an earnest desire to know the will of God. Secondly, you must be willing to forsake every known sin and command the forces of your will to press into the kingdom of God. In other words, you must earnestly seek for His salvation.

Let me illustrate it this way: in St. Mark, the 11th chapter and beginning with verse 46, we read about a blind man called Bartemaus who sat by the highway side begging. One day when Jesus passed along the way nearby, he began to cry out for mercy, while many entreated him to hold his peace. But this is where he used the power of pressing his way to Christ.

The more he was entreated to be quiet, the more he called out, "Thou son of David, have mercy on me." Finally Jesus stood still and commanded that Bartemaus be brought to him. Then Christ asked him, "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" No doubt, it brought him joy to present his case before the Lord for he said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." But listen now to those comforting words which were spoken from the lips of our Saviour

to blind Bartemaus for he said, "Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole."

Friends, do you think that Bartemaus would have received his sight if he had listened to his advisors to be quiet? Of course not! He received his sight because he pressed his case at a time when his need was so great. This brought the desired results and his eyesight was made a reality.

There might be some then, who would get the opinion that after they are made a new creature in the kingdom of God, their pressing is all over with. From here on out things are bound to be smooth sailing. But wait a moment. This is another mistaken opinion. Here is where the forces of evil unite in their efforts and use every conceivable means to hinder and delay your journey as you enter into this spiritual warfare. You will find that it is more necessary than ever before to hold fast to God's unfailing promises as you ever press your way heavenward. The apostle said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Friends, let us each one be thus minded. Let us settle it once and for always, that from here on as our trials become thicker and our obstacles before us greater, that we will ever be found pressing homeward to the prize awaiting for those who are faithful. I seem, in my fancy, to hear the words of the Apostle Paul as they echo back to us through the ages of time, after he made this notable statement in II Timothy, chapter 4, and beginning with verse 6. I quote: "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 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."

Listen to the poetry entitled:

PRESS ON

By B. E. Warren

Press on, my brother, sister,
And face the deadly foe;
Thro' Jesus Christ we'll conquer,
While trav'ling here below.

Press on, and let thy failings
A blessing to thee prove;
No wave of care or sorrow,
Thy trusting soul shall move.

Press on, tho' raging tempests
And fiery billows roll;
While crossing life's rough rapids
He'll safely guide thy soul.

Press on, 'mid strong temptation,
Tell Satan he must flee;
In Jesus' name resist him,
And vict'ry thine shall be.

Press on, forever trusting,
In faith believing too;
In spite of doubt or feeling,
God's word will take you thro'.

Press on, to what's before us,
Forgetting all the past;
The light of heav'n so glorious,
Eternally shall last.

And now let us ask our heavenly father for the needs of those who hear the broadcast tonight.

Our Father,

Thou doest know the heart of each one who has their radio tuned to this broadcast. We pray that along with this message may go the spirit of God to instruct, to reprove, and to comfort those who hear. May each one be en-

couraged to forget the things which are past and as they reach forth to the things which are before them, give them grace to press their way heavenward, for Christ's sake we ask it. Amen

Listen now to the song entitled: "Are You Adorning the Doctrine" as sung by Lynn and Alma Carver, Manuel and Marie Mitchell.

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

NOW

RISE! for the day is passing,
And you lie dreaming on;
The others have buckled their armor,
And forth to the fight are gone:
A place in the ranks awaits you,
Each man has some part to play;
The Past and The Future are nothing,
In the face of the stern Today.
RISE! if the Past detains you,
Her sunshine and storms forget;
No chains so unworthy to hold you
As those of a vain regret:
Sad or bright, she is lifeless ever;
Cast her phantom arms away,
Nor look back, save to learn the lesson
Of a nobler strife Today.
RISE! for the day is passing;
The sound that you scarcely hear
Is the enemy marching to battle:--
Arise! for the foe is here!
Stay not to sharpen your weapons,
Or the hour will strike at last,
When from dreams of a coming battle,
You may wake to find it past!

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AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

This week has been a busy week for us in the Master's service. While Frances remained at home to care for our two sons, Willie and Wayne, who began their new school term, our daughters, Kathleen and Patsy, accompanied me on a trip into Missouri and Arkansas. It was a pleasure to be with the saints on Monday night in the Myrtle congregation and on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in the Senath congregation. We considered it a real privilege to visit with Bro. Albert Eck and Sis. Margaret in Swifton, Arkansas. With them we visited a number of those who attend the services in Grubbs, Arkansas. Surely God is blessing their labors in that field. Bro. N. E. Adams, Route 1, Box 130, Swifton, Arkansas requests that the saints have a special day of prayer and fasting for his healing. This date was set for Wednesday, Sept. 7, and we request that all who will, join in prayer that God will heal Bro. Adams who is sorely afflicted. It was a real joy to hear his testimony and the song which he sang while sitting on his bedside--"In The Cross". A card or letter of encouragement to him, no doubt, will be appreciated. On Thursday night we enjoyed the fellowship of the saints of the Pea Ridge, Missouri congregation.

Texas: ". . . Bro. Ray Key came out here and held meeting after the Guthrie campmeeting. . . It has not been long since he lost his dear companion, but he did not delay in going out in the service of the Lord. . ."--Velda Ellis

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Correction--Last week we mentioned that Bro. Curtis Williams and others were in meeting in Lamar, Colo. and the date was given as Aug. 24. This should have read Aug. 17. The reports from this meeting were very encouraging.

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Sister Ruth Murphey desires the earnest prayers of the saints for her complete healing. She is very sick and is now in her home near Monark Springs, Missouri, where the saints are caring for her.

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An all day meeting will be held, Lord willing, in the chapel at 622 Tyron Avenue, Dayton, Ohio, on September 11th, which is the second Sunday, and will be on the second Sunday each month afterwards until further notice. Phone number at chapel is 233-5393. All are welcome and have a very special invitation to come be with us. William A. and Verga McCoy.

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BOX 101

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Return Requested

Radio Station

X E G

1050 Kilocycles

Each Friday

10:45 pm CST

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