



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 a real pleasure to be coming to the listeners of radio station XEG once again with another gospel broadcast. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and your speaker is Willie Murphey. It is with a feeling of debt and obligation both to God and His people that we bring to you another weekly message. We hope you look forward with as much anticipation in hearing the message as we do in hearing from you when you write and tell us how you look forward to The Mission Trail.

For the information of our new listeners and all who may care to write us, I will give you this address once again. It is: The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma. If we may be of any spiritual help to you, be sure to let us know.

Listen now to the reading of the scripture from the 4th chapter of Acts. I will begin with verse 18. "And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

FOR WE CANNOT BUT SPEAK

the things which we have seen and heard."

We see then a very interesting report here of some of the things which happened in the early morning church.

Just before this time Peter and John had performed a notable miracle upon a man who had been lame in his ankles for life. Through his faith and the healing power of the New Testament Church which had recently been set in order on the day of Pentecost when the disciples were filled with the Holy Ghost, this man was made to leap and walk. But please observe this: with the coming of greater power to the church came also greater opposition from her enemies.

Let me ask you a question right here. Why do you think the Sadducees objected to the healing of the lame man? Was it because they were interested in the crippled and the sick? Well, I hardly think so. Rather we might say, they were stirred to resist the power of God which had been manifested by Peter and John.

Therefore, Peter and John were in for trouble. In fact, we are told in chapter 4 and verse 3 that "They laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now even-tide." I understand from this verse that Peter and John were put in prison overnight. I wonder how many listening to the sound of my voice have ever been in prison.

This was, no doubt, a very dark outlook for those who are endeavoring to do the will of God. But I think they were not the least discouraged, even though the next day they were brought forth and threatened that they should henceforth speak no more in this name of Jesus Christ. Now to some people this would certainly be the end of their speaking for the Lord. But not so in the case of Peter and John, for I would like for you to especially notice my text again in verse 20. It says: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

Of course, one must live a consistent life to bear out the fruits of the spirit. Otherwise nothing which they could say would merit them any favor in the sight of God. But a part of Godly living is also speaking the truth. There is a time to be silent and there is a time to speak. Therefore, one cannot always be silent and be a good witness for the Lord. The time will come when one must speak up for his Lord or else the displeasure of his Master will be upon him.

Listen to this admonition given by Jesus himself in Mark 8:38. It says, "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."

I am sure that most of us would not want Christ to be ashamed of us. Therefore, we should not be ashamed of Him. We should be ready to speak up in defense of the gospel. These apostles said, we cannot but speak.

Perhaps they were somewhat like the writer of the 39th chapter of Psalms. This man made the resolve to hold his peace when the wicked was before him,

but he finally decided that in holding his peace his heart was hot within him and he said, "while I was musing the fire burned:" Therefore we see in verse 3 that he said, "then spake I with my tongue."

We might consider the prophet Jeremiah who had been receiving quite a bit of opposition. Some mocked him and made light of him. We read in chapter 20 and verse 9 how this affected him. "Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay."

So you see when Jeremiah made such a decision to keep quiet and not to speak any more in the name of the Lord, it was as though he had a burning fire within his bosom. Then he realized that he could not forbear, but was willing and ready to speak in the name of the Lord and for his cause regardless of all the opposition which might come.

I would to God that each and everyone of his children would so catch a glimpse of the need for them to speak in defense of the gospel that their neighbors, their friends, their relatives and all who knew them, both far and near, would be thoroughly convinced that they have been with Jesus.

Remember again the text which I first read. It says, "we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Therefore, if you have heard and seen the things of God, why not speak up? Listen now to the poem entitled:

Reproducing The Master

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work today;

He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how He died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to His side.
We are the only Bible
The careless world will read;
We are the sinner's gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message
Given in deed and word--
What if the line is crooked?
What if the type is blurred?
What if our hands are busy
With other work than His?
What if our feet are walking
Where sin's allurements is?
What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him
Unless from Him we learn? -Selected

Let us reverence our Father as we
agree in a few words of prayer.

Our Father,

We pray that you would help each
and everyone of thy people to live a
life which is becoming to the gospel of
Christ and then, just as the angel bid
the women who were in sorrow as they
came to the tomb of our Lord to come
and see the place where the Lord lay
and then go quickly and tell my disci-
ples, even so, Lord, help us to go
quickly and speak forth the words of
our master, for we ask it in the name
of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

Friends, I hope that we have been a
blessing to you today. If so, we would
be very pleased to hear from you, and
if we may help you, be sure to let us
know your requests for prayer when
you write.

We trust that God will help each and
everyone of us to do more for him, to
be willing to give a sacrifice, make our

lives an offering unto God that he may
use in the way he would have it used to
his glory. I'm sure that when we do
this, not only will our friends at home
know about our consecration to the Lord
and our devotion to him, but I am per-
suaded that we will be convinced that
God would have us arise and go into all
the world and preach the gospel to
every creature. This would not only
include those of our beloved land, but
this would include those in the lands
across the sea. May we catch a glimpse
and a vision of the work which God has
before us to do.

Now here is a song entitled "Until
Then" and is sung by Margaretta
Kennedy, Dixie Hand, Kenneth Abbott,
and Willie Murphey.

This message has been brought to
you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie,
Oklahoma. If you would like to have a
printed copy of today's message free of
charge, you may have one by simply
sending us your request. Address it to
The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.
And now 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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SPEAK THE TRUTH

Have courage, saints, to speak and win;
Walk in the good old way;
Strive day by day to conquer sin,
And ever watch and pray.
Success will come--still persevere,
And keep the prize in sight;
Help from on high your heart will cheer
While speaking for the right.
Have courage, saints, to speak the right!
Be bold, be brave, be strong!
By doing right we get the might
To overthrow the wrong.
'Tis only those who evil do
That need a coward fear;
So let your lives be good and true,
And keep your conscience clear.

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

Gospel singing is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p. m. CST on Friday, September 23rd in the Church of God chapel, 421 South Devon, Webb City, Missouri.

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Congratulations to Brother and Sister Willard Underdown of Dayton, Ohio on the birth of their daughter Cheryl Esther on September 3rd.

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We extend our best wishes to Melvin Doolittle and Elaine (Laub) who were married Thursday, September 15.

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"Dear Bro. Willie & your consecrated family: We send greetings of love to you all in Jesus dear name. We were so glad to receive the Mission Trail before leaving home Sept. 2 for South Carolina. We appreciate your work for God and pray he will continue to bless you and help you to spread the gospel by the printed page and over the air. We are now conducting a meeting near Ridgeville where Bro. O'Neil Pratt is pastor. Having extra good attendance. Some have sought and found help at the altar -- others under conviction and desiring help and salvation. Remember us in prayer. . . ." -- Brother and Sister S. E. Abbott, Route 5, Somerset, Kentucky.

On Friday, Sept. 16th we visited many of the saints in the Golden Rule Home near Shawnee. Sister Ruth Murphey who recently suffered a complete nervous breakdown, seems to be slowly improving but still desires the prayers of the saints for her complete recovery. It was encouraging to see more than forty get-well cards in her room.

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Notices of general interest to the saints can usually be printed on this page the same week we receive them if they reach us before Wednesday.

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Space is not sufficient for Frances and me to tell all the experiences and fellowship we recently enjoyed while in services in a number of locations in Arkansas and Louisiana. Included in these stops was the Pea Ridge community near Garfield, Arkansas, Zion Hill near Benton, Arkansas, West Monroe, Louisiana and Midway, Louisiana. Some people we met for the first time and to others whom we have known for many years we were drawn more closely as we became better acquainted and united in the common cause of fighting the good fight of faith and spreading the gospel. Much work was awaiting us when we returned home today.

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