



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 coming to you once again with another gospel broadcast. We want to thank each one who has had a part in helping us to spread this gospel, both by radio and by the printed page.

From time to time we get letters which prove very interesting and give us renewed courage to press our fight against the wrong and proclaim the saving grace of Christ our Saviour. It is our plan to share one of these letters with you today, and we believe it will really touch your heart, so please stay tuned for the next fifteen minutes, and, we believe, you will realize even greater the need which is so prevalent in the world today for the gospel.

Listen now to this verse from Proverbs, chapter 26, and verse 2. I quote: "As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying,

SO THE CURSE CAUSELESS SHALL NOT COME."

It is an easy matter to point out many of the things which are wrong with the people in the world today. We see the results of wickedness abounding on every hand. It is not uncommon to pick up the newspaper and read the story of a tragedy of an automobile accident where a number of lives were lost at one time. Neither is it uncommon to read of some man who chose to kill as many people at one time as he could. We hear of riots in many cities across the country, and we know there are many sad and lonely hearts as a result of sin abounding both far and near.

But it is one thing to see the results of a sinful life, and quite another thing to pinpoint the trouble and to get at the motivating factor which may prompt such actions. Notice again our scrip-

ture text. It says: "The curse causeless shall not come." Therefore, we may rest assured that if a curse comes upon our beloved nation and the people who inhabit our cities and homes, then there must be a cause for it. This is exactly what I want to speak to you about today.

Our forefathers, realizing the evils which result from strong drink, were sufficiently agreed to pass legislation forbidding the sale to the public of whiskey, wine and strong drink. This was known as the 18th amendment and was made a part of the constitution of the United States of America. I am of the opinion that they were absolutely correct in passing such legislation. It is well founded upon the teachings of the Holy Bible, but a good many years ago this amendment was repealed.

Listen to this verse from Isaiah 5:11. It says: "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!" Listen again to verse 22 of the same chapter. It says: "Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink."

We would do well to give heed to these scriptures, for strong drink, wine, whiskey, and related alcoholic beverages are some of the causes which bring the curse upon our nation. Thus, it is largely responsible for much of the trouble which is so prevalent on every hand.

Then one might ask the question, "If this be true, why do we allow it to be sold?" The answer is simple. They tell us we need the money which we derive therefrom in the form of taxes. Yet, it is a known fact that a large percentage of the highway accidents which take many lives each year are caused by drivers who have been drinking.

Let me ask you this question. "Is it worth it?" Much of the money which our nation and states receive from the taxation thereof is quickly swallowed up by the expense which is incurred in trying to control those who are inflamed by this habit of drink. Needless lives are lost, homes are wrecked, and children are left without the proper care and teaching of their parents because of this deadly evil. I say, that we cannot measure in dollars and cents the value of morality, righteous living and happy homes which are wrecked by this evil. Remember the text. It says, "The curse causeless shall not come." This is one of the causes of many troubles which prevail.

Then let me point out a second cause. In fact, there is some question whether

or not it would be the second or the first cause of many crimes and heart-aches. This is the use of narcotics and habit-forming drugs. More and more people each day turn to the use of these things, hoping to find the way out of their problems. Friends, let me warn you here and now, this is not the way out of your problems. This is the gateway by which you enter into a life which goes further and further upon the downward road and will lead you away from those things which will bring happiness and contentment.

Many young people who begin the use of narcotics by the taking of what seems to them a "harmless pill" have found themselves overcome by habits which are almost impossible to break. Then, too, these habits do not stop here for they lead to many related forms of sin into which the user goes deeper and deeper, finding no way to recover himself from the snare of the enemy.

Don't forget the text. It says: "The curse causeless shall not come." I believe, I am pointing out to you some of the direct causes which create many of the troubles. If these causes can be prevented then the results will also improve.

The third thing which may seem so small, will, undoubtedly, prove to be one of the most expensive habits in common use today. It is not only used by grown men, but it is also common among women of all ages. And furthermore, it is used by the teenage boys and girls today of our public schools. That is the use of tobacco. Now you might say, "That's a very small thing." Well, really it is a small thing, but millions of dollars are spent on this habit annually.

And then let us look at it this way. If it is such a small thing and such a

little habit, then why bother to indulge in it at all? Why not just leave it alone and do without the use of tobacco in every form? There are many who would like to do this, but they find it is no easy thing to stop the use of smoking when once it has become a part of their lives. In spite of all the warnings of the American Medical Association, people go right on with its use.

Listen now to this heart-touching letter which we recently received from this one for whom we are praying. Patsy is going to read this for you.

"Sept. 1, 1966, Dear Bro. Willie Murphey, Will you do me a favor? I have been using tobacco for about 35 or 40 years and know it's a sin. And I want to quit them cigarettes. It can send me to hell, and I don't want to go there. Can you print this in your Mission Trail paper for me? Can you print these few lines for me--a lost sinner. A lost sinner wishes to quit tobacco. Perhaps some saint can reach the throne of God and get something done for me. Your truly, Earl Edward Spencer, 815 Grand Street, Joplin, Missouri."

Thank you, Patsy. We also would like for you to give us the quotation which you have regarding cigarettes.

"Cigarettes make the child careless; weaken his conscience, lower his moral standards; cause him to fail in school work; grow disobedient; seek like companions; become untruthful; steal; lose interest in church which makes him an undesirable citizen."

Let us have an agreement of prayer.

Our Father,

We pray that you would take the words of the message today, and as some of the causes have been pointed out to those who hear this message, we

pray that you would give each one who is bound by these habits the courage and determination to arise and come to thee with a repenting heart that they may receive the grace to overcome these habits and obtain the joy and pardon of thy forgiveness. Especially do we pray for Earl Spencer in Joplin, Missouri, who realizes the evil of the use of tobacco. We pray that you will give him complete victory over this habit which he has had for 35 or 40 years, and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Listen now to the quartet singing, "My Sins Are Gone."

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. 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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SCEPTRE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

During King Ahasuerus' reign it was death for a person to come uninvited unto his presence in the inner court unless the golden sceptre was held out to him. When Queen Esther went in to make supplication for the Jews, it was this golden sceptre that she touched as a sign she had gained favor with the king.

Today it is necessary for us to touch the sceptre of God that we may gain favor and eternal life. It says of Christ in Hebrews 1:8 that: "A sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

Christ died for us that the sceptre of God's righteousness might be extended for us to touch. Unless we touch this sceptre it will be impossible for us to reign in the presence of our King. -PM

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

More information concerning the opening day of the Senior Citizen's Home of Pacoima, Calif. : "Dear Bro. and Sis. Willie Murphey, Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Hope this finds all well your way. . . We are having our opening day Sunday, Oct. 9th. . . We will have. . . dinner at 2 p.m. and then let all visit the home. We have 13 in the home now and two more may come in this week. All say they are happy and like the food. . . Remember us in prayer. Sincerely yours,"

--Evelyn Linch

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We enjoyed the singing in Webb City last Friday night. It was well attended and the Lord's blessings were felt. We visited Sister Ersa Carrick who did not feel well enough to attend the singing. She desires a special interest in the prayers of the saints for her healing. The Neosho congregation plans to have a singing there. The date is to be announced later.

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From Louisiana a listener writes: "I heard you on the air. We enjoy it. . . I and my family are looking to hear from you. . . I want to learn about our Lord Saviour, Jesus Christ."

--Herlon Harris

From Ohio: "Dear Bro. Willie, Sis. Frances, and Family, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This is a beautiful day and we know the Lord has made it. So we will rejoice in it. . . We surely do miss being out in the tent meetings. . . . We sure did enjoy it so much and we also feel that much good was accomplished. We pray the Lord will water the seed that was sown. . . Bro. Curtis (Williams) is feeling stronger in his body but still has that trouble in his lung. Bro. Carver was there a couple of days last week. That was so encouraging to the family and him, too. He says he feels much better since he was there. Bro. Curtis's father is very sick. He had a stroke last Wed. a.m. and then yesterday a.m. he had another one. They called all the children in yesterday. Do pray for him. . . I'm sure you're enjoying being out in the full time gospel work. I've thought different times how I would like to have Mart back home working 8 or 10 hrs. a day, and then when I go out and see how that God uses him to encourage the dear people of God, I rejoice that I can be willing for him to go. . . Well I must close and get busy. I've got quite a bit to do. Do pray for us. Love and prayers," --Sis. Verna Samons

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