



# The Mission Trail

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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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## The Trial of Your Faith Is Precious

(Radio broadcast on Sunday, October 8, 1967.)

. . . A cheerful greeting to all the listeners of this radio station. It is a real pleasure to be coming your way with a short gospel message. If you enjoy the broadcast, we would be glad to hear from you, or if we may be of help to you, please let us know. Address your correspondence to THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma. This is Willie Murphey speaking to you.

We hope that each of you are striving to live for God. If you are not, I want to be quick to tell you that I believe everyone should consider the fact that life is short at the very best, and you should be concerned about where you are going when you leave this world. Have you ever wondered why the Lord lets so many trials come your way? Do you wonder why, if the Lord loves us so much, He lets us be tested so severely? Then let me give you some scripture here which I hope will be a help to you.

In I Peter the 1st chapter and verse 7 we read, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." You see, these trials and temptations come for a reason. God has a purpose and a plan for our lives, and it can be better fulfilled when we have proven that we love him.

Also in the book of Daniel, the 12th chapter and the 10th verse we read these words, "Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried: but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand."

Let me tell you that God's people are being tried right here and now in this present world. You do not have to

wait for some future time for your faith to be tried. I believe our faith is being tried daily. God is concerned about us this very moment, and He looks on with interest as our faith is tried.

When Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was stoned to death, it is written that he looked up into heaven and saw Jesus standing at the right hand of the throne of God. When we hear of trials and afflictions coming to someone else, it is easy for us to think, "O well, that will never happen to me." But let me remind you that we are not exempt from tribulations, tests, and trials of all sorts.

Let me give you a true example of what was told me to be a fact. There was a man who lived in Kansas. One day when his wife was away from home on an automobile trip, the man re-

ceived word that she had been involved in an accident and was in a hospital in another city. This man and his daughter hurriedly made preparations to go to the hospital. In her haste the daughter failed to unplug the electric iron where she had been ironing. While this man, who seemed to have trouble enough, was visiting his wife who had been injured in the automobile accident he received the word that his house back in his home-town had burned to the ground. So he went back to see about it, and while he was there and had seen the ruins of what was once his home, a call came that another dear relative, I believe this was his mother, in yet a different location had just suddenly dropped dead of a heart attack.

Now any one of these things would seem to have been sufficient trial for his life, but here all three of them came very suddenly upon him. His wife was injured and taken to the hospital, his home was burned to the ground, and then came the death of his close relative.

Consider now some of the life of the great man Job. It is written that "there was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil." I surely believe that this was a man in whom God took delight. It is said that he "feared God and eschewed evil". In other words, he shunned evil or stayed away from it.

Job was a rich man. His possessions were many. The scriptures tell us that he had 7000 sheep, 3000 camels, and 500 yoke of oxen and 500 she asses and a very great household so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. Now along with all this possession, Job loved the Lord, and God took

delight in him. But one day Satan came along in the presence of God, and here is what Satan said, "Doth Job fear God for naught?" He went on to mention to the Lord how that a fence had been built around Job and all of his possessions.

But the Lord gave Satan permission that day to put Job in the furnace. God was going to prove that he did have a man who loved him above all his earthly possessions. You see, Job had seven sons and three daughters, or a total of ten children. Children somehow have a way of getting close to a parent's heart. I think this must have been the case with Job. So there is little wonder that Satan chose to strike his first blow right in Job's family.

The 1st chapter of Job and the 13th verse begins with the story of that tragic heart-rending trial which came upon Job. But let me read it to you in the words directly from the Bible.

"And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

"While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

"While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and

fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

"While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

"Then Job arose, and rent his mantel, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

There it is, my friends, the story directly from the words of the Bible. I would say that this was a trial or a group of trials which none of us will perhaps ever be called upon to go through--that is so much at one time. But Job loved the Lord, and he proved his love by his consecration. Let us prove our love daily by our consecration to God. Even though He should allow us to go through trials, let us not falter or fail, but let us look to Him for strength and grace to help us in the time of need. Let us pray.

Our Father,

There may be some listening to this broadcast today who are going through trials, great trials. We pray that they may have grace sufficient to hold them steady in the time of temptation. Stand by each one, and may they draw their strength from thee, the giver of all good things, and to thee we will give

the praise in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends, let me remind you that we print these messages and mail them free of charge to those who request them. If you are not getting them already, be sure to send us your name and address. The Lord willing, we hope to continue with the life of Job on the broadcast next Sunday. Be with us again at that time. For those who desire to write us, please address your letter to THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Listen to this poem.

#### HE NEVER FAILETH

O thou of little faith,  
 God has not failed thee yet!  
 When all looks dark and gloomy,  
 Thou dost so soon forget--  
 Forget that He has led thee,  
 And gently cleared thy way;  
 On clouds has poured His sunshine,  
 And turned thy night to day.  
 And if He's helped thee hitherto,  
 He will not fail thee now;  
 How it must wound His loving heart  
 To see thy anxious brow!  
 O doubt not any longer,  
 To Him commit thy way,  
 Whom in the past thou trusted,  
 And he is still "the same today".

Here is a song, "It's All Right Now". And it is sung by Bobby and Dorall Forbes, Dale Doolittle, and Randall Flynn.

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Until next Sunday, this is Willie Murphey saying may the Lord's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant good-bye!



*"... and with his stripes we are healed"*

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall." Malachi 4:2

From Louisiana: "Dear Brother Murphey, Sis. Frances and family, Greetings of love to each through the precious name of Jesus who atoned with his blood that we might live free from sin in this present world. It is so precious to look about us and see how He has extended his great hand of mercy and love toward us who choose to serve him in the spirit of holiness. Praise his dear name forever! As we travel along this pathway of life seeing the multitudes of people, even families who claim to be with the saints, who are living in turmoil, confusion so disturbed they do not have the sweet soul rest God has for us, not knowing who they worship or what they even worship for, surely we should have much gratitude in our hearts for the right teaching of God's word. We say we have the truth, but what counts is what we do with the truth. I thank the Lord daily we have the privilege of serving him thus far in freedom and the spirit of holiness.

"I want to keep the fruits of the spirit and stay hid away with Christ, lowly at his feet. . . So pray I will keep my all on the altar from day to day, doing the little things I can do. I want to keep the mind of Christ so heaven will ever be in view and that I can keep that sweet soul rest in my heart and life.

"I have had the shingles for almost 3 months now. Bro. Coffey came and anointed me and prayed the prayer of faith. I felt a definite touch from God. The breaking out is all drying up. I have weak spells and had one chill, but God is able and I feel this has been for some purpose. My healing is at hand.

Praise the Lord! I'm encouraged to keep my trust in the Lord for I am his whether I live or die. I covet the prayers of the saints that I'll be faithful. Wayne is doing real well and has worked some all summer. He is still praising God for his healing. . .

"Trust all the sick and afflicted everywhere are improving. We are still holding on in prayer for their behalf. . . Your sister in Christ,"

--Marie Miller

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From Oklahoma: "To The Mission Trail, We greet you all in Jesus' dear name. I am sending in my testimony as I promised the Lord if He would heal me, I would send it in. I was suffering with an ingrown toe nail. It pained me both night and day, and the Lord healed it. . . The Lord is my doctor and my healer, and I love Him with all of my heart."

--Sister Nancy Jones

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From Missouri: ". . . We send greetings this morning to you all in Jesus' dear name! The Lord is still on His throne answering prayer in our behalf. I have had poison oak on my face again; but the Lord came to my rescue and healed me to His glory. Praise His name! We truly could not praise Him enough if we had 10,000 lives. . . It truly encourages my heart to keep lifting up the precious standard of God's holy Word. It will have an effect in due time if we faint not. Pray for us to be faithful and fill the small place in the body of Christ to the glory of God. . . Love in Jesus,"

--Mildred McIntosh and family

From California: ". . . Greetings in Jesus' dear name. How wonderful is our God unto us in all His ways. It is He who giveth us richly all things to enjoy, and I am enjoying His blessings. Brethren, we have a big task before us. We must never look too long at the conditions of things as they exist today. Jesus endured hard, difficult conditions but never did He allow them to dominate his thinking. We are called to be his ambassadors, therefore, let us not forget to keep the right goals before us. Things may not look so good around us, but we are not to look at things, but to God. We must not forget our mission to the lost and our love for all man kind." --Bro. Charles Reynolds

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From Pennsylvania: ". . . Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour. . . Here is a small offering from our little Sunday school we have each Sunday at Mother's home. Some Sundays we have 15 present. They are learning the books of the Bible, then we read references from different books, both old and new testaments. They range in ages from 1 to 14, so we do enjoy helping them to learn about God and then go on to give their lives to Him. . . Your sister in His service,"

--Eva Cox

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From California: "Dear Saints, Greetings in Jesus' name. The saints here (Orland) are richly blessed of our Lord. . . If people could only realize they would find an answer to every problem if they would choose to serve the Lord! The enemy of their soul makes it look so difficult to serve the Lord that they think they would not be able to enjoy life if they would choose the narrow way. As our hymn says, his yoke is easy and his burden is light. It is a much happier life to walk in the footsteps of Jesus." --Sister Letha Reece

From Washington: ". . . Greetings in Jesus' name, the one I love to trust for both soul and body and every need. He is a wonderful Saviour to me. Here I am in Walla Walla, Wash. My daughter and son-in-law came to Oklahoma for me, and we drove back thru the beautiful mountains and such pretty scenery. I enjoyed it so much. . . If any of the saints read this and know of any living in or around Walla Walla, Wash., I would love to have you call or come by."

--Hattie Gibson

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From Texas: "Dear Bro. & Sister Murphey, Greetings in Jesus' sweet name. This leaves me still saved and encouraged to go all the way with God. He is so good to us and helps in all times of need. He has never failed us. When I see the wickedness all around us, it makes me so glad that God had mercy on me and saved me from my sins. If it hadn't been for him, I would be just like them. Oh, I am so glad I found the true way! . . . Your sister in Christ,"

--Helen Lambright

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From Ohio: ". . . I sure love my Saviour today with my whole heart, soul, mind and spirit and all that is within me. Bless His holy name! . . . I want to take this time to thank the dear saints that signed their names on a beautiful card from the Myrtle camp meeting and every dear one that has written such sweet words of encouragement either through letters or cards. May the great shepherd of the sheep watch over each one and draw us all closer to Him and to each other. . . I'm standing very much in need of prayer for both soul and body. The Lord knoweth those that are His, and I have that assurance today that I am His and He is mine, and I sure want to remain His forever and ever. . . In Christian love,"

--Maudie Sharp

## AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND:

Many will be interested in knowing that Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons are now living in Kentucky. A five year lease has been obtained on a church building there where they plan to have services. It is located on Main Street in Shelby City, Kentucky. Let us pray that God may richly bless their labors in this new field. Their address is: Bro. and Sis. Mart Samons, General Delivery, Junction City, Kentucky 40440. Telephone number (606) 854-3811.

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Congratulations to Tommy and Vonda McMillian on the birth of their son, September 25th.

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Bro. Vada McMillian reports that the saints near Garfield, Arkansas are planning a special singing to be held in the Central Community Building on Saturday, October 21st, beginning at 7:30 p. m. The building is located about 4 miles south of Garfield, Arkansas, or about 10 miles north of Rogers, just off Highway 62 near the Pratt cemetery. Then Sunday, October 22nd, all-day services will be held at the chapel in Neosho, Missouri which is not far away. Lodging is offered to those who can come and stay for these services.

From Kansas: ". . . Greetings to all as we report victory over all the powers of the enemy. Our revival meeting was precious with souls being saved the very 1st day of the meeting. Many others found help and renewed their consecration. We are thankful the Lord sent Bro. Curtis Williams our way. Each service was conducted and anointed by the Holy Spirit with oldtime conviction resting heavy on hearts. Sorry to say, some rejected. Even the last day a soul was brought into the kingdom of God. Six went down to the watery grave for baptism and rose to walk in newness of life. Surely God has visited us. Each service was well attended with visiting saints and others coming in. We appreciate your prayers, and may God bless you. Yours in the service of the Master,"

--Bro. Donald Sharp

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Kathleen and I were glad to be home this week after being gone for ten days. We traveled through the states of Texas, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Nevada, and New Mexico. We visited in quite a number of homes, and several services were held. Last Sunday we were in the Community Church building of Southwick, Idaho.

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Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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