



Fifth Year of Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

The Mission Trail

Box 99

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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## The Afflictions of the Righteous

Radio Broadcast for week of April 27, 1969 (See back page for list of stations.)

. . . and a cheerful greeting to each and every listener of THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast. It is a pleasure to be coming your way once again with a message we hope will be a blessing to you. With the coming of summer folks will be thinking about vacations and where they are going to spend their leisure time. I hope that each of you will consider God's will for your life not only in the days ahead this summer but every day of your life. Here are some sobering thoughts expressed in this poem:

### The Preacher's Vacation

The old man went to meetin',  
For the day was bright and fair;  
Though his step was slow and totterin',  
And 'twas hard to travel there;  
But he hungered for the gospel;  
So he trudged the weary way,  
On the road so hot and dusty,  
'Neath the sun's hot, burning ray.

By and by he reached the building,  
To his soul a holy place;  
Then he paused and wiped the sweat-  
drops  
From off his wrinkled face;  
But he looked around bewildered,  
For the old bell did not toll,  
And the doors were shut and bolted,  
And he did not see a soul.

So he leaned upon his pilgrim staff,  
And said, "What does it mean?"  
And he looked this and that way,  
Till it seemed to him a dream.  
He had walked the dusty highway  
(And he breathed a heavy sigh),  
"Just to go once more to meetin',"  
Ere the summons came to die.

Soon he saw a little notice  
Tacked up on the meetin' door;  
So he limped along to read it,  
And he read it o'er and o'er.  
Then he wiped his dusty glasses,  
And he read it o'er again,  
Till his lips began to tremble  
And his eyes were full of pain.

As the old man read the notice,  
How it made his spirit burn!  
"Pastor absent on vacation  
Church is closed till his return."  
Then he staggered slowly backward,  
And sat him down to think,  
For his soul was stirred within him,  
Till he thought his heart would sink.

So he moved along and wondered;  
To himself soliloquized:  
"I have lived till almost eighty,  
And was never so surprised.  
I have read the oddest notice  
Stuck upon the meetin' door:  
'Pastor absent on vacation'--  
Never heard the like before!

"Why, when I first joined the  
meeting',



Very many years ago,  
Preachers traveled on the circuit,  
In the heat and thro' the snow;  
If they got clothes and victuals,  
'Twas but little cash they got;  
They said nothing 'bout vacation,  
But were happy in their lot.

"Would the farmer leave his cattle,  
Or the shepherd leave his sheep?  
Who would give them care or shelter,  
Or provide them food to eat?  
So it strikes me very sin'lar,  
When a man of holy hands  
Thinks he needs to have vacation,  
And forsake his tender lambs.

"Did Saint Paul get such a notion?  
Did a Wesley or a Knox?  
Did they in the heat of summer  
Turn from their needy flocks?  
Did they shut up their meeting',  
Just to go and lounge about?  
Why, surely then, if this they did,  
Satan would raise a shout.

"Do the taverns close their doors  
Just to take a little rest?  
Why, 'twould be the height of folly,  
For their trade would be distressed.  
Did you ever know it happen,  
Or hear anybody tell,  
'Satan absent on vacation'--  
And closed the doors of hell?

"And shall preachers of the gospel  
Pack their trunks and go away,  
Leaving saints and dying sinners  
To get along as best they may?  
Are the souls of saints and sinners  
Valued less than selling beer?  
Or do preachers tire quicker  
Than the rest of mortals here?

"Why it is I can not answer,  
But my feelings, they are stirred.  
Here I've dragged my tottering  
footsteps

To hear the gospel word;  
But the preacher is atravelin',  
And the meetin'-house is closed.  
I confess it's very trying'--  
Hard to keep composed.

"Tell me, when I tread the valley  
And go up the shinin' heights,  
Will I hear no angels singin'?  
Will I see no gleamin' lights?  
Will the golden harps be silent?  
Will I meet no welcome there?  
Why, the thought is most distressin';  
'Twould be more than I could bear.

"Tell me, when I reach the city  
Over on the other shore,  
Will I find a little notice  
Tacked up on the golden door?  
Telling me, mid dreadful silence,  
Writ in words that cut and burn:  
'Jesus absent on vacation  
Heaven closed till his return'?"

Now, friends, doesn't that poem give you a feeling of responsibility? Each of us have our respective places to fill for God and he is counting on us. Yes, some indeed may be called to travel while others are called to remain at home. One is just as important as the other. The principal thing is to find God's will for your life and do it. I believe that God will give us enough grace to do his will regardless of afflictions, trials, or persecutions.

Here is a verse of scripture found in Psa. 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Consider those words well. It might help us understand some things which are sometimes baffling. Certain diseases are so greatly feared these days and some folks seem to have the opinion that if you are trusting the Lord for soul and body you won't have afflictions. They



seem to think that God will just keep you perfectly free from sickness and afflictions and you will never have any problems along this line. This is far from the truth. Notice again the scripture, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous." Now it is evident to see that many are the afflictions of the people of the world, or we might say, many are the afflictions of the sinners. The beds in the hospitals are filled with patients. Sometimes people are placed on the cots in the hallways. There are afflictions of the stomach, the liver, the lungs, the heart, infections in the glands, the eyes, the ears, and throat. Now because you are trusting God to take care of your body as well as your soul this doesn't mean that you will never have afflictions. Righteous people live in a natural body subject to pain and suffering just like sinner folks do. One scripture mentions "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." II Cor. 4:7

Therefore, I would suggest that you think it not strange concerning the fiery trials which are sent to try your faith. Sickness and afflictions come because of various reasons. Sometimes they are sent as a special trial for our faith. Other times they come merely because we live in an earthen temple. Human bodies are subject to pain and suffering. God's children are not exempt from this and yet there are instances when afflictions are absolutely an imposition of the enemy and should be rebuked in the name of Christ.

But regardless of the cause, God holds the solution to our sickness and problems. The last part of my text said, "but the Lord delivereth him out of

them all." God has the power to heal. This is provided in the atonement of Christ and sometimes he does heal. We are glad for those times. At other times he lets us patiently endure that our lives may prove a greater blessing even in suffering. Some folks seem to think it would simply be tragic if you died while trusting in the Lord. Friends, do you know of a better way to die? Is it going to prevent your death by trusting human instrumentality? Let me answer that question for you. No! We are going to die whether we have faith in God or not but the Word teaches us to "have faith in God." Shall we pray,

Our gracious father,

Bless the words of the message and may they give greater faith to believe that God is and that He is a rewarder of them which diligently seek him. Bless each listener who may be suffering or who is afflicted in any manner. Heal them to the glory of God and work out your will for their lives and give them grace for each and every trial that shall come their way and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Just a brief reminder now to let you know that this message is brought your way over this radio station by The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Okla. Guthrie is spelled G-u-t-h-r-i-e. It is indeed a pleasure to come your way each Sunday by means of radio. If you desire special prayer or if we may be a help to you be sure to let us know! We are depending upon the Lord and those who have a desire to see his word proclaimed to supply the means to keep it going forth. Your prayers and support are appreciated.

Here is a song, "In the light of God".



If you do not have the light of God shining in your life I hope sincerely that you will find him soon. Surely this is the best place for each and every life--in the center of God's will. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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## Testimonies

From Calif. Sunset Home: "Rec'd the Mission Trail today. Enjoy reading. . . . I hear Clifford-Patsy got moved into Harland's house. . . . Every one here in the home are as well as usual. The workers are so busy. Clifford and Patsy were so good to Harland."

--Mattie Smith

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From W. Va.: I still want the Mission Trail to come to me. I sure enjoy reading it. I'm in urgent need of prayer at this time for my body. I have a feeling in one part of my body that makes me so nervous that I feel I can't stand it any longer and still have my mother to take care of. Pray if it's the Lord's will that her mind and speech will clear up, so it will make it easier for me to take care of her. My brother that lives just across the hill from me is so sick. He can hardly do anything and the Devil is holding the drink habit on him till he can't get away from it. Every one that reads this please pray that the Lord will save his soul and if any one feels led to come and see him it would be appreciated. But if anyone would plan to come write me and let me know when you'd be here. All 3 of us surely need the Lord's help. Nearly all rest of the family wants to put him in the hospital but he don't want to go. So pray that the Lord will work this all out his way. . . . --Sis. Carter, 4898 Hillview Add., Huntington, W. Va.

## WORK DAYS

"We feel that the meeting at Decatur, Ill. was a success. If the Lord's will, We'll have another service at YMCA in Decatur second Sunday in May (11th). We would also like to remind the saints of the work days at Myrtle, Mo. campground first 2 weeks in May. So everyone who feels led of the Lord any of these 2 weeks or any other time, feel free to come. We're endeavoring to build cabin units for the campmeeting. There will also be all day meeting first Sun. (May 4th) at Myrtle. . . May God bless you till we meet again. Love,"

--Murphy Allen, Route 1 Box 161, Senath, Mo. 63876

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From Miss.: "Bro. Willie, I still enjoy the little Mission Trail and the contents it has in it. . . Bro. Bobie Forbes will be at our home Thursday evening for an old time prayer meeting, the 24th. We are in earnest prayer for it to be just what the dear Lord would have it to be. I know he is a child of God. Pray for us. Sin is on every hand; it surely does take all the grace of God to stand true but He has never failed his trusting children. May his richest blessing be on you, and the work you are doing."

--Bro. John Watson

--o--

From Calif.: "I am sorry that I am late with my little offering but I have been sick for over a week, not able to do any writing. I am some better so I thought I had better get this in the mail. I do ask you both to pray for my healing. My trust is in the Lord for both soul and body. I am alone out here, just the Lord and me. But He is a present help in time of need. From one that loves the Lord with all my heart, for all the truth,"

--Alpha Daniels



From Ky.: "We attended all of the Dayton meeting while recuperating from the 'flu'. Have been home several days, still need prayer, so weak in body, dizzy, nervous, short of breath etc. God blest in the meeting and we feel much good was done. Appreciate your prayers." --The S. E. Abbotts

--o--

From Pa.: "Greetings to you and all our brothers and sisters in the Lord. As the songwriter says, "I am so happy in Christ today, that I go singing along my way. Yes, I'm so happy to know and say Jesus included me too." It's such a happy feeling to know Christ abides within and to live each day telling the story of salvation to those who will hear. If they don't heed, their blood will not be on our hands, but their own. I have six children, fourteen grandchildren. They are unsaved. My husband just needs to surrender himself completely to God. I feel his accident made him think. We are so happy to report Mother is up part of each day and back at her crocheting afghans. So glad for her will to live and so thankful for all the prayers that went up to the throne of grace for her. Praise His dear Name forever! Enclosed the offering to help you in your work of sending out the message of the gospel to men and women who are lost in sin, going down the road to hell where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Pray for me as I help take care of Mother. She is very weak and could fall again, but we will look to the One who raised her up from what we tho't was her deathbed. Thank all who prayed for her. God bless you each day as you and your family labor in His fields that are white to harvest and the labourers so few. May all your needs be met from the abundance of His great storehouse. Yours for the work to go forward," --Eva Cox

### A Newspaper Clipping

Will you please give me suggestions that would help me become a better Christian and teacher of adults? W. B.

Have you tried the New Testament? I have about every commentary in my library in the English language and I often get some help from them. But I find my greatest help and inspiration in the Bible itself. I'm afraid that too many teachers depend too much on the thoughts and ideas of others.

It is amazing how the Scriptures unfold themselves when we study and meditate upon them. One of the secrets of David's greatness was in the words: "In thy law do I meditate day and night." Job said: "Thy Word is more than my necessary food."

I suggest that you read your commentaries, but meditate on the Scriptural texts of the lesson. Read it prayerfully, and I believe that you will find that God will speak to you through its pages. Thoughts will come to you, and they will be relevant to today's problems. And by so doing, your own soul will be strengthened. By the same token, you will become a stronger and more effective teacher of the Word.

-- Submitted by Lavina Martens



From Kan.: "The Lord bless you this day and always with His great love. We continue to love God's way and His people very much. We were happy you all could be with us Sunday. Since you were here I found a piece of poetry that blesses me, will send it to you that it may bless you too.

### The Eye of the Storm

Fear not that the whirlwind shall  
carry thee hence,  
Nor wait for its onslaught in  
breathless suspense.  
Nor shrink from the whips of the  
terrible hail,  
But pass through the edge of the  
heart of the gale  
For there is a shelter, sunlighted  
and warm  
And Faith sees her God through the  
eyes of the storm.

The passionate tempest with rush and  
wild roar.  
And threatenings of evil may beat on  
the shore  
The waves may be mountains, the  
fields battle plains;  
And the earth be immersed in a  
deluge of ruins.  
Yet the soul stayed on God may sing  
bravely its psalm  
For the heart of the storm is the  
center of calm.

Let hope be not quenched in the  
blackness of night  
Though the cyclone awhile may have  
blotted the light,  
For behind the great darkness the  
stars ever shine  
And the light of God's heavens His  
love shall make thine  
Let no gloom dim thine eyes, but  
uplift them on high  
To the face of thy God and the blue of  
His sky.

The storm is thy shelter from danger  
and sin.  
And God himself takes thee for safety  
within.  
The tempest with Him passeth into  
deep calm  
And the roar of the winds is the sound  
of a psalm.  
Be glad and serene when the tempest  
clouds form;  
God smiles on His child in the eye of  
the storm.

I have found this to be true in my life,  
many times and over again. I mean  
to continue my trust in Him and love  
Him in afflictions as well as in health.  
He is so precious to me. . . I desire  
your prayers that I be faithful till the  
end. Love ye all very much, "

--Lavina Martens

--o--

From Oregon: "I am sending you \$2.00  
more of baby booties money. I keep  
selling them. I have made over \$60.00  
worth of money from pillow cases and  
booties and gave every bit to the Lord's  
work. I am so happy the Lord lets me  
use my hands and eyes for the Lord.  
I will be 88 yrs. old the 25th of this  
month. I can walk too, but suffer from  
arthritis in my legs and knees. But I  
see so many patients here can't walk  
or use their hands or eyes to do much.  
The Lord is so good to me I never can  
praise Him enough. Please remember  
me in your prayers. I try to be a  
blessing here. " --Sis. O. K. Myers

--o--

I have a friend so precious,  
So very dear to me:  
He loves me with such tender love,  
He loves me so faithfully;  
I could not live apart from him,  
I love to feel him nigh,  
And so we dwell together,  
My Lord and I.

--Selected



# at press time

we understand:

## CAMPMEETING

The Bakersfield, Calif. campmeeting will be held July 25-Aug. 3, 1969, (one week earlier than usual.) All are cordially invited. Church is at 1502 Virginia Ave., phone 322-9314. For further information contact the pastor, Bro. I. C. Chandler, 415 11th St., phone, 325-6752; A. W. Sherman, 327-0411; Robert Mays, 325-2730.

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Bro. & Sis. Eddie Driggers of Orangeburg, S. C. were involved in an auto wreck. He has written for prayer and desires that all the saints be agreed in prayer for them. He stated "I sure do believe in God."

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Pray for the Lord to bless Ray White in both soul and body as he is now in the hospital in Oklahoma City.

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From Calif.: "God always will have a people and will establish them in faith that was delivered to saints. I remember once how I loved to read about Jesus--love he had for Mary and Martha-- sisters and Mary was a chosen woman. Jesus said Mary has chosen the good part. . . and John the Beloved that leaned on his breast. Some saints walk close to their saviour and that is what I like to do. The Lord spoke to me years ago and let me walk close to him and talked to me. Now I am being blessed at times with Jesus being close to me. I mean I'm still saved, sanctified, and have committed my soul in his hands."

--Opal Williams

Kansas City--Bro. Samons is here and we have been feasting on some precious truths from the word. --Leta Inman

--o--

Our sympathy is extended to the Chrisman family of Enid, Okla. Dee Chrisman's son, who was about 21 years of age was killed in an auto accident Sat. night, April 26.

--o--

From Mo.: "Sis. Ersa is in a real nice nursing home in Joplin. They are real nice to her and give her good care. They give her physical therapy and hope to get her so she can be on her feet and get around some and perhaps she could be at home with someone staying with her just through the day. Do hope the radio program will be a blessing to souls. I thought the last messages were especially good. May the Lord bless you all."

--Sis. Lula Caughron

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The date of May 30 for the Guthrie campmeeting to begin is somewhat experimental. It is too early for variety of vegetables from gardens which have been a blessing in the past. The meeting is operated on a free will basis. No charge is made for meals. A new and speedier method of serving meals is being planned. It is hoped that each one will do their part to make the meeting a real success in the temporal affairs as well as a downpouring of God's grace and blessings in the spiritual realm. School will be out and we hope the weather will be pleasant so plan to bring the family and come.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."



## Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

| RADIO STATION | LOCATION              | DIAL SETTING | TIME               |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| KGGF          | Coffeyville, Kansas   | 690 kc.      | Sunday, 8:00 a. m. |
| KCKW          | Jena, Louisiana       | 1480 kc.     | Sunday, 7:30 a. m. |
| KCLO          | Leavenworth, Kansas   | 1410 kc.     | Sunday, 3:00 p. m. |
| WFPR          | Hammond, Louisiana    | 1400 kc.     | Sunday, 7:45 a. m. |
| KCIJ          | Shreveport, Louisiana | 980 kc.      | Sunday, 7:30 a. m. |

**The Mission Trail**

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