



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

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

VOL. 7 NO. 8

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MARCH 12, 1971

Christian Trials - - Part 2

Radio Broadcast for week of March 7, 1971 (See back page for list of stations.)

Good morning, friends. It is a pleasure indeed to be coming your way another time by means of radio. I hope that each of you are keeping the victory over the enemy and letting the Lord have full right of way in your life. I believe when one does that he will be greatly enriched in the things of God. We certainly appreciate those who remember us from time to time in their prayers and with their offerings as we endeavor to keep the word going forth over the air and through the mail. May God himself reward you in a way beyond your fondest expectation. I trust that your reward will be great in heaven also.

Last week I didn't have time to finish this subject of "Christian trials" so I want to discuss it further on this broadcast. Have you ever seriously asked yourself "why are God's people persecuted?" Would you really like to know the answer to that question? I believe the word will enlighten us. Jesus said, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Mark 13:13 So from that verse it seems that godly folks are going to be persecuted for the sake of Christ and for that for which he stood. Again he said in John 15:19, "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

So there is a principle involved here. A true child of God has the spirit of Christ and stands for the things which are true, honest, and of good report. The world is an enemy to these things. The folks of the world have a worldly

spirit. They don't receive and accept the truth as it is in Christ. This brings about a conflict and I believe the world persecutes the godly just because they stand for the truth. But, dear ones, don't let this discourage you. There are others who have endured tribulation also. Perhaps that verse of John the Beloved who was banished to the Isle of Patmos will be an encouragement to you. He wrote, "I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 1:9 So you see, he stood for the testimony of Christ and for the truth but what did they do with him? They wanted him out of their sight so they banished him to the Isle of Patmos.

Do you suppose worldly minded people don't like the truth because it condemns them? Peter sums up the situation this way. "For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked

in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you". I Peter 4:3, 4 Then the Apostle Paul came forth with the solemn declaration "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution". II Tim. 3:12

Well, someone might ask "Just what am I supposed to do then? If for no particular reason at all I am persecuted what am I to do?" Dear ones, Jesus knew this so he gave us the instruction of what to do. Here it is. Matt. 5:44 "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you". Do you find that hard to do? Well, it takes divine love. Here is another scripture that ought to be a blessing to you, "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets." Luke 6:22, 23

Then, let us go back to the book of I Peter again. This time in the 4th chapter and the 19th verse we find these words, "Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." Other scriptures tell us that trials really prove a blessing to those who are exercised therein. And also that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom.

8:28 And furthermore these trials prove something after all. They really prove our salvation. Listen, "And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake". Phil. 1:28, 29

I was much impressed by a recent letter from Sis. Thelma Sprague. She wrote: "I am reading some books by John Bunyan. . . they are good books!. . . I want to send you a quote from Advice to Sufferers. It is found in the heading of the book 'To the Christian Reader.' Here 'tis.

"A Christian is a child in the kingdom of God, and that kingdom (take it as it begins is grace, or as it is perfected in glory), is not of this world, but of that which is to come: and though (as men of old) some may now be afraid of that kingdom, yet that kingdom will hurt no man, neither with its principles, or by itself. To instance some what. Faith in law, what hurt is in that? Rejoicing in spirit for the hope of the life that is to come, by Christ who will that harm? Nor is the instituted worship of our Lord of any evil tendency. Christianity teaches us also to do our enemies good: to love them that hate us, and to pray for them that despitefully use us and persecute us: and what evil can be in that? This is the sum of the Christian religion, (as by the word may be plainly made to appear), wherefore I counsel thee to keep close to those things, and touch nothing that jostleth therewith."

Thank you, Sis. Thelma, for that encouraging letter including the quotation from John Bunyan. And now this poem:

God's Anvil

Pain's furnace-heat within me
quivers,
God's breath upon the flame doth
blow,
And all my heart in anguish shivers
And trembles at the fiery glow;
And yet I whisper, "As God will!"
And in his hottest fire hold still.

He comes and lays my heart, all
heated,
On his hard anvil minded so
Into his own fair shape to beat it,
With his great hammer, blow by blow;
And yet I whisper, "As God will!"
And 'neath his heaviest blows hold
still.

He takes my softened heart and beats
it;
The sparks fly off at every blow;
He turns it o'er and o'er and heats it,
And lets it cool, and makes it glow:
And yet I whisper, "As God will!"
And in his mighty hand hold still.

He kindles, for my profit purely,
Afflictions' glowing, fiery brand;
For all his heaviest blows are surely
Inflicted by a Master hand:
So I say, praying "As God will!"
And hope in him, and suffer still.

I will not murmur at the sorrow
That only longer-lived would be;
The end may come, and that
tomorrow,
When God hath wrought his will
in me;
So I say, trusting, "As God will!"
And, trusting to the end, hold still.

Dear ones, if you are called to suffer
for the name of Christ, don't be ashamed
Rejoice inasmuch as you are counted
worthy to suffer for him.

Let us pray.

Our Father,

Bless and strengthen those upon whom
you call to endure persecutions for the
sake of Christ. Deal tenderly with
those who ignorantly stand against the
truth. Bless each listener of the broad-
cast in the way which they need most
and to thee we will give the praise
through Christ our Lord. Amen

Thank you, friends, for allowing me
to share with you a portion of the word.
We hope it will prove an encourage-
ment. If you would like to write us you
may do so by addressing your letter to
The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. Do
be with us again next Sunday at this
same time. Here is a song, "Glorious
Peace". The singers are Bob Forbes,
Randall Flynn, Melvin Doolittle, and
Dale Doolittle.

Until we meet again this is Willie Mur-
phey saying may God's richest bless-
ings be with you and a very cheerful
good-bye!

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Testimonies

From Calif.: "May God bless each of
you in the Lord's work. I enjoy the
Mission Trail very much. It just isn't
large enough." --Letha Reece

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From N. M.: "Hope every thing is so
well with you this beautiful morning
after a snow, pretty bad day yesterday
here. God bless you each one. Will
send an offering in the service there.
Want to do a small deed any way for
the dear Lord who does so much for
us. Thanks so very much for your
prayers as I know God heard and an-
swered prayer. . . thank and praise
him for every time."

--Ruth Doolittle

From Texas: 'Sure hope and trust you all are OK and enjoying the good things of the Lord. Praise the Lord for divine healing. I am doing just fine, cough some, not much. The Lord is so good to us, to save, sanctify, heal, and supply all our needs. What a mighty God we serve. We've had a good rain for our gardens. I am writing you to see if I could get you to talk a little louder on Coffeyville, Kansas. I can get you and hear you but it's so far away, the others so close. If I turn the radio up, that turns them up. I'm staying home now and can get you most every Sunday. Last Sunday was cloudy, static. I couldn't get you. But when it's calm, I get you good. . . May God bless you all, keep you in the center of his will.'

--Sis. Nellie Lovell

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From Ark.: "The Psalmist said, 'Trust in him at all times, ye people, pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us'. I sure have found him to be a refuge and help to me in every way. I want to tell how God healed Derek of a cough he had. He had been coughing about two weeks. Then it seem to have started getting better. Then one night after putting him to bed he started coughing more than usual. The next morning I thought he would be alright so I sent him on to school. Then about 9:00 the teacher called and said Derek had been coughing ever since he had been there. I went to get him and brought him home. He coughed and coughed with no relief at all, vomiting and spitting up at different times. I kept holding on to God to heal this cough and about 12:00 the Lord showed me he had heard my prayer. I felt so wonderfully blessed. I got up from praying even though he was still coughing as hard as ever. Then about 1:00 his coughing started to slowing and soon he was quiet. How I do thank and

praise the dear Lord for this and all the many things he does for me each day. I feel so unworthy of all his blessing. I thank the Lord for all his dealing with me and desire to live better for him. Just want to say I thank the Lord for your little paper. It always is an encouragement and blessing to me. May God bless you in every needed way. Christian love,"

--Nellie Henderson

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From Ark.: "Greetings of love to you yes, in Jesus dear name. He means everything to me. He is all I need. My strength, my joy, my very source of living. Each day he permits me to be a part of, I thank Him. May I say 'God knows the secret of the things he can do for the world by using my hand.' My desire is not to fail and be a pleasure to Him. I need your prayers. . . Do remember our work here. We all desire to grow and live closer to the dear Lord."

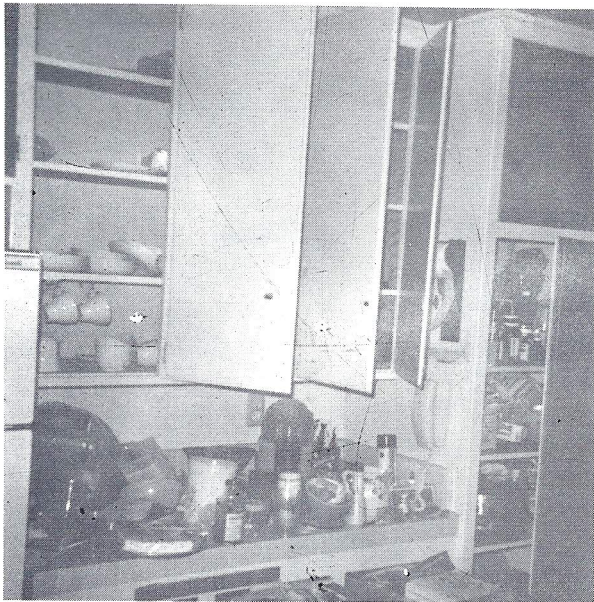
--Sis. Lou Bray

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From Wisc.: "Never before has Christ's last request to 'go into all the world' with the gospel held more appeal to the hearts of His obedient believers than in this age when His coming is imminent. I'm so happy to share. . . to aid you in spreading God's word to trembling souls who are searching for truth and security in these days of confusing, frightening events. We, here in Wisconsin, are experiencing one of the worst winters we have ever had with mountains of snow. . . right now one of those ice-storms is making walking and travelling very hazardous. . . I read the Mission Trail paper through when I get it and I pray for the many requests and for you folks too. May God continue to bless and use you mightily as you strive to win precious souls for Him! Prayerfully yours,"

--Sis. Myrtle Baerenwald

A California Earthquake



"Just to let you see we had a earthquake. This was taken after we picked up a lot but was as empty as my cupboard was--only 5 dishes that came down didn't break. Every room in the house was like this."



"I do try to keep house better than this. We had picked up the furniture and lamps before this was taken. I lost 3 lamps, my chime clock and Ostis' razor, etc. There was not one thing on any table in house--all on floor. It broke my sewing machine cabinet and so much other. But thankful to be alive."

From Calif. : 'I'm sending you a couple snaps of our damage but this wasn't the worst of it as we had picked up things for over a day when we decided to take this. Every room was a mess and we are just now getting it all cleaned up. We were without water for 10 days and no gas for 6 days. We are so thankful for the good Lord being with us when we see how much some of our neighbors have lost. . . Our mountain moved up 3 feet higher and over 4 feet. So we know what it is like to be on the top of the mountain in more ways than one. Where the mountain started down--there is where the ground broke and the earth just overlapped. Some driveways are 3 feet higher now and cars can not get in them yet. It moved the earth up. Ostis said it was like riding a horse. Jim's room was hit the worst. It looks like his wall moved. He won't stay up here at all. It makes chills up our back to think of it. We awoke up out of a sleep with things flying in the air and coming out of the closets--not one book in the bookcase and nothing on any table and some furniture over and broke. . . Hello to all. Pray for us. . . Christian love,'

--Ostis and Evelyn Wilson

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From Ohio: "We were especially blessed with the 'Diary of the Bible'. After reading it I took my Bible and held it close. We sang the song 'The Christian Guide' page 355 in the Evening Light Songs. The words of the chorus, 'Holy Bible, How I love thee!' were wonderful to us! I'm so glad that not only could I hold my Bible close to my bosom, but that Father has made a way to place His blessed Word IN US! We are so thankful for His abiding presence. There is such a calmness and a serenity in my soul. . . Pray for us. We desire to endure until the end."

--Kay Williams

