



# The Mission Trail

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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 MISSION TRAIL

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## Character and Reputation

Radio Broadcast for August 11, 1974

"But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."  
1 Sam. 16:7

Good morning, friends. We are happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio. What a privilege to have the gospel ride the air waves and go into homes and cars over the nation. I consider this a sacred trust of the Lord. To those who make it possible I am greatly indebted.

Now, consider this: Samuel was going to anoint a king. He went to the home town of Jesse as the Lord had directed. In fact it was Bethlehem. When Samuel saw the oldest son he thought surely this is the fine young man whom the Lord has chosen to be king instead of Saul. But then came this admonition from the Lord, Don't look on his outward appearance. You see, there is sometimes a great difference between outward appearance and inward condition. The way a person is known in his community is reputation, but what he actually is, inwardly, is character. One may be well thought of and have a good reputation, but inwardly his character may be stained with the marks of sin and shame.

I have been thinking of different people whom the Bible mentions and the kind of portrait they present according to what they really are at heart. First, let us get the profile and then we will see if we can find the character.

Listen: "Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools." Eccl. 7:9. Now get this picture. I am speaking about anger. Listen again: "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Prov. 15:1. That leads me to believe anger can cause lots of trouble and that is so true. Grievous words stir up anger and anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

There is another characteristic which often accompanies anger. It is known as jealousy. Here is what it will do. "...jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame." Solomon's Song 8:6

Can you think of anyone in the Bible who fits this description? How about these two brothers, Cain and Abel? How often is this the case with brothers. Listen:

"And in process of time it came to pass,

that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him." Gen. 4:3-8

Here we see jealousy and anger combined into a very wicked thing--murder! In 1 John we find these words: "For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." 1 John 3:11-15. This is strong language but it is the truth.

Let me draw another picture of greed and covetousness. God had been blessing the preaching in Samaria which Philip had done. Sinners were saved, people were delivered of unclean spirits, and bodies were healed. "And there was great joy in that city. But there was a certain man, called Simon, which be-

foretime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries." Acts 8:8-11. Well, to get at the heart of this, let us hasten on. This Simon believed Philip's preaching and was baptized. He also paid particular attention to those miracles and signs which were done by Philip.

The church heard of how God had blessed the folks in Samaria and saved so many of them. They sent Peter and John to continue preaching to them. So Peter and John came and preached unto them of the Holy Ghost. They laid hands on them and the Holy Ghost was given.

"And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God." Acts. 8:18-21. The true state of Simon's heart was one of greed and covetousness.

In the early church there were some others who displayed deceitfulness.

Think of Ananias and Sapphira. They were going along with the saints, sold some property as perhaps others had been doing, and were giving it to the church. But the thing of it was, they pretended to give all and yet held back a sum for their own use. It had been



theirs and they could have done with it what they wished. They could have even kept all of it for their own use, but they were not honest with it. Here is where the trouble came in. Because of it, both of them fell dead and were taken out and buried. The heart of Ananias and Sapphira was corrupt.

Let us also consider Judas. He had the same opportunity as the other disciples had. Judas had been with Jesus and knew of the miracles and healings. But somewhere along the line his heart had become corrupted. When the opportunity to make some real money appeared Judas was ready to betray the Christ whom he pretended to love. Listen:

"Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him." Matt. 26:14-16. Let me assure you, if you are looking for an opportunity to be crooked and dishonest, you will surely find it.

There was Elymas the sorcerer who sought to turn away the deputy from the truth. Paul pronounced a curse upon him and he went about blind for a season seeking someone to lead him by the hand. Listen to those solemn words of Paul: "O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?" That was a hard saying but it was the truth and God honored it.

This prophet Balaam kept asking the Lord if he could go at the request of Balak who wanted him to curse the people of God. The Lord told him no, but he

was like a persistent child and kept asking. You see, Balak was ready to give him plenty of money if he would only come and curse the people of God. Well, it wasn't the will of God at all that such a curse should be pronounced, but oh, that money looked so good. Finally Balaam got permission to go. But it was to his own sorrow. Even the dumb ass talked to him and reproved him for his anger and misconduct.

Friend, let us be like the writer of those verses in Psa. 139:23-24. Listen: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Let us pray.

Our Father, we thank thee for all the blessings which you send us daily. Help us to walk worthy of the great calling you have given us. We ask that you would search, cleanse and lead each one day by day. Especially we pray for those who are troubled and perplexed. Many are sick and afflicted. We pray for them. Give victory and deliverance and thine shall be the praise for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen

Dear ones, if we may be of some help to you in finding God be sure to let us know. You may write us by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. And thanks to all who make the broadcast possible from week to week.

And now this song, "If You Believe". The singers are Bob and Dorrall Forbes, Randall Flynn and Melvin Doolittle.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphy saying God bless and keep you and a very cheerful good bye!

## Testimonies

From Okla.: "Dear Bro. Murphey... I hope you are still enjoying the blessings of the dear Lord. I am for sure. I am having some trouble with my knee. It seems it is from the wreck I had some time back. Thank God that I am still trusting Him fully for the outcome... I want to commend you for the subject you brought in July issue--The Heart is Deceitful--so true. People are being deceived and are deceiving others right among the camp of the saints. A person that has been deceived, the right seems wrong and the wrong seems right. Then they feel that it is all right to bring worldly things into the church of God. Not so! That is in the congregation and not in the Church of God. She has her own laws and rules so why let the world come in and defile the laws of the church? Deceit is a tool of the devil. It is causing much trouble and division... Read Matt. 24:24. False Christs and prophets if possible would deceive the very elect... Deception is causing reproach. It needs to be exposed and reprov'd." --Bro. M. L. Reed

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From Calif.: "This is to let you know that I am still interested in The Mission Trail... I sure enjoy reading whenever I get one and I yet have many old ones that I re-read from time to time. The messages, poems etc. are food to my soul. Also the testimonies I enjoy much. I sure thank the Lord for salvation. I'm sure glad and thankful to be saved in these evil days. I am thankful for the Lord's dealing with me, for his goodness, mercy and love and kindness and how he helps me out in tests and trials. I am thankful for the people of God that are trying to help hungry thirsty souls. May the good Lord continue to bless you in your work for Him."

--Sister Geneva Pierro

From Jamaica: "Holy greetings in the name of our precious saviour, trusting that all with you are keeping well. At present we are all fairly well. Twice since this year brother Ferguson was very ill. Especially the first attack in January was very serious, but thank God, prayer was offered and the Dear Lord turned him back. It is so sweet to trust in Jesus, who is a present help in time of trouble. We decide to serve Him all our days... I enjoy reading the Mission Trail papers. They are of great help to me. Keep on with the good work and be faithful to the end. Kindly convey special greetings to Kathleen and family, also your newly wed son and wife. We wish them God's richest blessings." --Bro. and Sis. Ferguson

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From Mo.: "It's just so wonderful what the dear Lord has done for me. I feel so little and unworthy of it all, but am so thankful I'm so much better in my body. Praise the dear Lord... We do love and appreciate you dear ones. Pray for us." --Ralph and Vena Sell

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From Illinois: "I'm sure many are encouraged by your messages and others testimonies so trust it will continue. We are growing spiritually as we unite in spirit with others on Wednesday at the hour of prayer. The Lord has been very near and precious as we have surmounted several tests of faith this year. We are still expecting victory--thru His divine touch--over this physical need. Pray with us." --The Reineking

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From Calif.: "Greetings of God's great love to all the saints everywhere, glad to report I am determined to live the best I can by God's help. I am very well only shaky. Sometimes I can hardly write my name, but that's not too bad for a seventy year old... Please remember me and mine." --Edna Murry



## All-Day Meeting

I would like for you to print a notice of our all day meetings through September, October and November. Weather conditions are uncertain through December, January and February due to our winters in Ohio. But through September, October and November we would like to have all day meetings on the second Sunday in each month. A hearty welcome to all who love the truth!" --Bro. & Sis. McCoy, 619 Tyron Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

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From Colo.: "My only desire is live to be ready at all times and help others to get ready. Would like to have been at Guthrie for the camp but wasn't possible this year." --Sis. Addie McEndree

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From W. Va.: "This finds us encouraged and happy in the Lord. Sorry we've been so long in letting you hear from us. We had a real good tent meeting here at Green Bank and one at Monterey, Virginia also. We got some much needed help. We get to see Nancy Waggoner. She makes it over sometimes. I know you folks were praying for her also." --Karen Lambert

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From Ill.: "Thought I would take time out and write a few lines this morning to let you know God came to my aid when I called out there for prayer. That was on Thursday night and Friday morning I was able to go to work. I told my husband I would just work 3 hours then come home, but God blessed me and I worked from that day on till vacation. And this is the last week of it. But after all I do enjoy serving the Lord for He has been so good to husband and me. ...Bro. Simmon past away Friday nite and was put to rest yesterday. So pray for the family...May God bless all."

--Bro. & Sis. Matlock

From Pa.: "I receive 'The Mission Trail', and enjoy it very much...I'm yet saved, sanctified and happy in my soul. In spite of all of the tests and trials of life I'm very much encouraged to go all the way with the Lord. Please pray for my three unsaved young adult sons, and all of the lost in my family, and everywhere." --Sis. Agnes Gaston

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From La.: "God has surely been good to us in so many ways. He watches over us by night and day...We stand in need of your prayers very much. We are not too well. I am lots better since I sent in request for prayer. I know God did hear and answer prayer. My husband needs prayer very much. He has had 2 strokes...I know He can heal him. I am so glad he is serving him now...Today is my birthday. I am sixty-seven." --Sis. Beulah Johnson

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From S. Car.: "Brother Willie, I am so glad I got to meet you and your wife one time...I sure did enjoy that camp-meeting. I felt the presence of God in every service. I sure did enjoy all of it while I was there. I got a chance to testify on Thursday and sing the song 'When He Reached Down His Hand For Me.' Pray much for me."

--Bro. Eddie Driggers

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"This leaves us much encouraged to press the battle on. Surely thank the Lord for His many wonderful blessings and above all for the plan of salvation. May these few lines find the family and the saints of Guthrie doing well."

--Sister LaVern Shaw

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From Minn.: "This finds me well in soul and body, going on till the Lord calls me home. The Lord bless you all for your faithfulness in carrying the word to this dying world."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

From Calif.: "Praise our mighty God this morning for his wonderful love and tender care over us and we also thank Him for every trial and test as we need these to perfect us for heaven. They make us good soldiers for Christ. Our God is getting us ready for heaven so may we be very thankful that He loves us so much that He gives us time individually to perfect us into earthen vessels, fit for our Master's use. Our prayer is that God stir us as we have never been stirred before. We enjoy The Mission Trail very much and we wish it could be a bigger paper. Enclosed is an offering to help in your work for our Lord. Christian love,"

--Sis. Letha Reece

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From Oregon: "We sure had a good campmeeting--so many good messages and all on just what was needed. If we all obey what was preached there should be lots of good worked out in our congregation and by the Lord's help I mean to do all I know to do... We enjoyed Bro. John and Bro. Hammond the few days they were with us... We are so thankful for victory in our soul and for all the Lord has done for our body..."

--Sis. Emma Busch

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From Wisc.: "We send you Christian greetings \*once again in the precious name of our dear Saviour. We are quite well but old age is creeping up on us and some things are not as easy as they used to be. We are holding forth the word of truth to the best of our ability. Today I believe is the first day of the Monark campmeeting. We are praying that it will be a profitable one spiritually. God still has a people who are listening to his message and are obedient to his word. Trust you are all well and on the side of victory. Keep up the good work. May the Lord bless you..."

--Bro. & Sis. Frank Dietrich

From W. Va.: "I am glad I can greet you once again in Jesus dear name. It has been quite awhile since I wrote you. Many things have happened during that time. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose". So I feel there has been some good accomplished. "For our light afflictions which is but for a moment worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." I trust all are well and encouraged in the Lord. These are trying times, but God is able to carry us over all the rough places. His grace is sufficient. May the Lord bless and supply all your needs for both soul and body. Christian love,"

--Sis. Olive Keene

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From Oregon: "We do enjoy The Mission Trail, the letters and testimonies of the saints. As we read about some that hear your broadcast we wish we could hear it also. We have much to be thankful for. We had such a good camp meeting... it is truly wonderful how the dear Lord gives me strength... must close now asking you to remember me in prayer."

--Sis. Beatrice Spaur

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From Okla.: "...so many are going easy. We can't get to heaven on flowers of ease. It takes fasting and prayer to reach the throne of God and get our prayers answered... time is so short for people to get right with God. Jesus is coming soon. By God's grace I mean to serve God. One day I am going to my final reward. There is so much sin all around me..."

--Sis. Della Harrison

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From Okla.: "I am rejoicing in the Living God. He is not dead. I know He lives. We have sweet communion together. Our Heavenly Father is so kind to us. He gave us rain last night."

--Sis. Eva Penner



# at press time

we understand:

REVIVAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED to begin in the Pine Branch School house August 30 and continue as the Lord may direct. Bro. Egbert Allen plans to be in this meeting near Bogota, Texas. There is plenty of room for parking campers and trailers under shade trees with water and electricity available. Follow highway 909 about 6 miles east of Bogota (toward Clarksville). Turn south, go about one-half mile. School house is on west side of road. For further information contact Sister Nellie Lovell, 141 NW 7th St., R. 1, Bogota, Texas 75417.

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The National campmeeting of the Church of God is a matter of record now as it is past and over, but we trust the good accomplished will live on for years to come. God blessed in the services. Time after time many were found at the altar of prayer where peace, pardon and grace was freely given. It was like a dream come true for Bro. John Varghese from India. This young brother has visited many of the congregations this summer with the assistance of Bro. George Hammond who has driven his car many thousands of miles to make this possible. Bro. John returns to India this month. Pray that God may bless and prosper the work of God in India.

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Our hearts were saddened at the news of the death of Bro. Reinhart Wollert whom we had learned to know and love. Remember in this time of sorrow, his dear companion Sis. Wollert, 301 S. 3rd St., Lamar, Colo. 81052.

Sister Thelma LaFaver of Sapulpa congregation died quite unexpectedly in July. Pray the Lord to comfort her loved ones and especially her husband, Danny LaFaver. Also Sister Pauline Lowe suffered much in her last days but the Lord called for her during the Monark meeting. Remember her family and husband Bro. O. O. Lowe, 728 N. Kansas, Springfield, Mo. 65802.

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Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the relatives and loved ones of Dennis Bliss, who was killed in an auto accident near Jet, Okla. July 28 while his parents were attending campmeeting at Monark. Funeral was held in Enid on August 1st. Parents: Glen and Frances Bliss, 215 E. Princeton, Enid, Okla. 73701.

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CONGRATULATIONS to Bro. and Sis. Sam E. Abbott on their 50th (Golden) wedding anniversary August 26, 1974. We pray the Lord to revive their spirits and strengthen their bodies to continue in the work of the Lord as they have done for so many years in the past. Mailing address 3210 Mesmer Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45410.

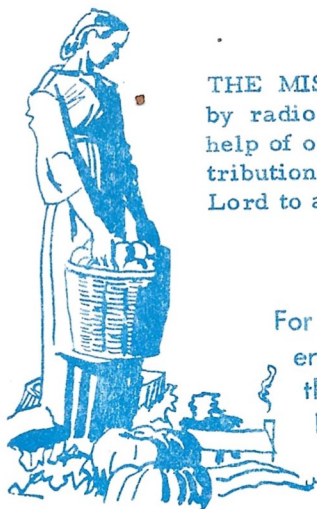
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Congratulations to David Marler and Pamela Sue Stover whose wedding has been announced for Saturday, August 24 in the Church of God chapel, Sapulpa, Oklahoma. We wish them happiness.

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"The Mission Trail is a blessing to me and I do thank you for sending it to me"

--Lena Bowman



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published in printed form by Willie Murphey with the help of others. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who are led by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to:

THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma 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<br>STATION | LOCATION            | DIAL<br>SETTING | TIME               |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| KGGF             | Coffeyville, Kansas | 690 kc.         | Sunday, 8:00 a. m. |
| KCKW             | Jena, Louisiana     | 1480 kc.        | Sunday, 7:30 a. m. |
| WFPR             | Hammond, Louisiana  | 1400 kc.        | Sunday, 7:45 a. m. |

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