



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 MISSION TRAIL

JANUARY, 1978

Begin the New Year Right!

Radio Broadcast for December 18, 1977

Good morning, friends! How happy we are to be coming your way once again. With the new year just around the corner it is important that we begin it right. Just think how many new year resolutions will be broken before the sun sets on the evening of the first day of January. But before we go further, listen to this poem:

ANOTHER YEAR

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with thee;

Another year of leaning
Upon thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet, happy rest;

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of thy face;

Another year of progress;
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy blessing "all the days";

Another year of service,
Of witness for thy love;
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
On earth or else in heaven,
Another year for thee!

And now this scripture: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits." Matt. 7:13-16.

There are two ways along the journey of life, each leading directly to eternity, but the ends thereof are widely different. Both these ways are easily found, but only one can be traveled at a time, as they lead in opposite directions. The one leads to the regions of the lost into "everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25:41, and those who end their pilgrimage here on earth on this road will reap the reward of the wicked throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity in the torments of hell. This scene cannot be overdrawn. No pen can truly picture the bitter remorse felt, nor describe the horrors and untold agonies of lost souls who have gone

their own ways to the pit of destruction.

The other way leads to a blessed place of inheritance prepared for the righteous. Listen: "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:" Matt. 25:34. Sounds wonderful, doesn't it? They shall forever dwell in the realms of peace and glory in the presence of God, to swell the chorus of the redeemed with the angels, where parting will be no more.

The human heart, before touched by the tender chords of divine love, has a natural inclination towards the things and way that lead from the paths of peace and way of truth. Yet there is also within every bosom something which at some time during life, if not always, makes one conscious of the existence of a divine being who has power to deliver from the iniquities of a sinful life. Even the savage in his wild, ignorant, and uncultured state, roaming the forests and sweeping over plains, hunting and scouting, acknowledges a higher power whom he worships according to his understanding. While it seems natural for people to wander into the ways of sin as soon as they reach the age of accountability, it is also natural among all nations of the earth to have some form of worship. In heathen lands, where they never have heard of Christ the Lord, they have chosen gods of their own; while some worship the sun, moon or stars, others make gods out of wood, stone, or metal, or select something else fully as powerless to which they bow in humble submission, or do penance, and imagine these things possess supernatural power. Many heathen worshippers are led to perform some frightful deeds,

and some sad scenes are witnessed among them, even to the sacrificing of human life to appease the wrath of their false, lifeless god. Many sad, but true experiences have been told of their superstitious performances, which only show to us the great need of helping in some manner to point them to a better way.

But we are dealing more directly now with those who have had at least some knowledge of the God of heaven and his Son Jesus Christ, who came into the world as a Savior from sin, to redeem such as were willing to forsake their evil ways. There are millions who have heard of Christ; who believe in Christ, that he has power to forgive sins, yet they are without a knowledge of a real heart experience, only having a head belief, or an inclination of the mind toward the living God; and to be plain about the matter, they are on the broad way to destruction, going on in the ways of sin. Many of that number are professing to be saved, but are not awakened to their real condition. There are some who try to identify God with nature, and would like to believe that there is no God to render judgment against the wicked; but their pet theories and views are swept away like chaff before the wind, by the eternal truths of his word.

It is human nature to drift into the ways of the world and seek such pleasures as have a tendency to gratify the desires of a graceless heart, even though there may be strong religious inclinations implanted in the heart. So, it is human nature to thus drift in the wrong direction. It might be better to say, that because of the depraved condition of the heart through the fall of man, humanity is led onward and governed to a great extent by the carnal mind instead of by

the divine, and continues in this way until the heart is changed by the power of God.

Many go along their way for years, and thus spend the greater part of their lives and seem to enjoy the pleasures of the world and have but little concern about the future until brought to a point where death stares them in the face; then is when they begin as never before to realize that their worldly pleasures have only been as dross in comparison to the bliss of heaven, which they miss if hurled into eternity in such a condition. But all people do not even have the enjoyment of worldly pleasures enough to make them happy, even though they do travel the ways of sin.

God has said in his word that "the way of the transgressor is hard;" and if they do not fully realize it in this world, they will not fail to do so in the world to come. However, we find generally as people plunge into the depths of sin and walk in disobedience to God, transgressing his laws, the way is rugged, filled with disappointments, griefs, sorrows that cannot be fully described nor told. Oh, how dark the way is for such as have not chosen the "better way"! Misery and woe seem to stare them in the face on every hand. It seems as if the "doors of the shadow of death" are being closed in upon them, shutting out the last ray of light. But to be sure, as long as there is life there is hope, unless that hope is rejected unto the end.

Then, there are those who do not go so deep in sin, yet are on the dark way, drifting along with the crowd of evil doers on the broad way of sin that leads to everlasting destruction. Many of this class would be insulted if placed in line with the murderers, thieves, and adulterers of the land; nevertheless

they are on the same road, and will receive the same sentence in the great judgment day if such a life is prolonged until the end of their pilgrimage here on earth. The one who chooses this way and continues to walk therein must certainly abide the consequences and finally be cast into "outer darkness."

But friends, we are persuaded better things of you if you will really seek and strive to enter in at the strait gate.

May we all have as our prayer the old familiar hymn: "Abide with me" written by Henry Francis Lyte:

"Abide with me: fast falls the eventide,
The darkness deepens: Lord, with me
abide!

When other helpers fail and comforts
flee,

Help of the helpless, oh, abide with
me!"

The last verse goes on to say:

"I fear no foe: with thee at hand to
bless,

Ills have no weight and tears no bitter-
ness;

Where is Death's sting? where, Grave,
thy victory?

I triumph still if thou abide with me."

It is reported that this song was written in 1847, in the author's fifty-fourth year, when he felt the eventide of life approaching. For twenty years he had ministered to a lowly congregation in Devonshire. His life was filled with disappointments and afflictions. His ambitions were crossed, his affections were betrayed, and his health failed. He decided to spend a winter in Italy. On a Sunday in September he preached -- in weakness -- a farewell sermon to his much-loved people, and in the evening of the same day he wrote this immortal hymn. It proved to be his own

death-song of holy faith, for soon after arriving in Italy he fell asleep in Jesus.

So, may the coming new year find you pressing hard to enter into and keep on the road that leads from this vale of sorrow to the crown of righteousness laid up for those who love Him, the Saviour of the world. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matt. 5:6.

Our Father, we ask for every listener, the blessing of peace and happiness which is found only by walking in the paths of righteousness. Deliver from sin, wickedness, and yes, from affliction also, for thine is the power and glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Friends, we sincerely pray that your life may be filled with happiness and joy, not only through the holiday season, but throughout the coming days, months and years ahead! Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always, and a very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Calif.: "Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Frances, I send greetings of Christian love in the precious name of our dear Lord. As we are nearing the end of the way both physically and literally, I am made to appreciate the great sacrifice that heaven made for a lost world, even me. I feel so unworthy of that great love. But I thank God that He was willing to give Heaven's best for us. And He was willing to submit to the Father's will all because of that great love He had for mankind. I trust you are feeling much better than when I last saw you in the Home here. I still need your prayers"--Sis. Agnes Huskey

From Okla.: "I'm thankful for this wonderful salvation that satisfies, feeds and leads the soul. I can never get over the wonder of it. It seems I feel the least worthy and the most unworthy of his notice. Then I hear him say, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden." Oh, I'm glad Jesus took notice of me. I want to sing and shout his praises for all eternity. I want to be worthy of my hire. There is work to do for my Lord." --Sis. Doris Bowers

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Calif.: "Dear Mission Trail Readers: This morning finds me very happy and encouraged in my soul. I am daily praising the Lord for His blessing and in every way that He answers prayer for our needs. I am so thankful that there isn't anything too big or anything too small for us to take to the Lord, and ask Him for. As some of you know, my mother passed away in June, and I took two weeks off from work, and went to her funeral at Hammond, La. The few services I got to be in at Loranger and the first three days of the Hammond camp meeting were really food to my soul. How I did enjoy all the services and the singing. It was so hard to give mama up, but I've thanked the Lord so many times for giving me a wonderful mom and dad that taught us the true way, and how to live for the Lord, and have a special love for each other. Some of you at the camp meeting knew about some very heavy burdens on my heart, and I am so very happy to be able to tell you how the Lord has undertaken and answered our prayers for several of them. I just feel I can't thank Him enough for His goodness to us. I pray for all of God's children the world over, and keep praying for me that I will keep true and faithful to Him, and be a real example every day to every one I'm with. With much Christian love, "

--Sis. Hazel Savage

From Jamaica: "I am trying to write you a few lines, so long since I have written. As you will understand it is a hard thing for me to write a letter. Bro. Smalling used to do all writing. Now he is gone. I am here at Frankfield since August 17 and am doing much better. ... When I wrote you concerning Bro. Smalling's death I failed to mention something. I did not mention the help the Church gave both in his sickness and funeral. I was in such a bad state when I was writing ... Yes, the Church helped and did their part both in cash and otherwise and I thank them all ... Well, Bro. Murphey, your letter brings back memories of our stay over there ... There are some things in life we only get but one time and never have a chance of getting again. That is why we have to strive so hard for the things eternal--that's the only thing that really lasts. Please continue to pray for me. Greet the saints for me."

--Sis. Olga Smalling

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From N. Mex.: "I am writing to tell you I sure want my little paper Mission Trail. I would miss it so much and get help from it in many ways ... I am sending my gift to help some. This year is different for me missing my dear one, but I do thank God for helping me in every way, praise Him ... Christian love,"

--Sis. Ruth Doolittle

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From Pa.: "Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord! I am so glad He is ever near when we need Him. I want to thank each one who prayed for me during my illness. God is still on the throne and He is the same yesterday, today and forever. I've found it so. He has been so good to bring me back from my nervous condition and He is healing my body daily. Praise His Name! ... I do enjoy the paper so much."

--Sis. Eva Cox

From S. Car.: "This leaves all as well as we can look for, but brother O'Neal Pratt is just here at this time. That is all we can say, not what God says. So please pray for all back here. As for me, my all and all is in God's hand. I am determined to live for God to all I know and understand. He said in his Word he would not leave us nor forsake us. And I do believe every word. I do love the Mission Trail paper. Enclosed you will find offering..."

--Sis. Lurline Scott

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From Tenn.: "I enjoy The Mission Trail. May the good Lord bless, encourage and reward you and yours as you walk humbly and carefully before him and endeavor to uphold the truth and promote his cause in the world. Nothing is so rewarding as a peaceful, faithful and holy life, obedient and bearing fruit for the Master day by day. It's a self denial way as Saint Paul expressed it in Gal. 2:20, but it's the good and right way, lived, taught and left by Jesus for us to walk therein. We thank him for his love, mercy and help extended to us over the years. All praise and honor to him who gave all that we might be saved." --Bro. Charles B. Williams

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From Mo.: "I write this and send the donation in the name of our dear Lord and Savior ... what a wonderful Lord and Savior He is, for He is so good to me, even. I am 82 years old, and feel like I should praise Him each day. Just to realize it's wonderful to be able physically to have strength to get up each morning and do my work. So many ladies my age are bedfast and are cared for as a baby. That is why I can thank and praise my precious Lord for His love and care. I'm losing my vision gradually, so I ask all of the saints who read the request to pray for me."

--Sis. Lillian Dinkens

From Calif.: "We surely love the Lord with all our hearts and want to please Him with our lives. We are satisfied with the dealings of our Lord and we want Him to be satisfied with us. Bro. Gene is yet in the furnace of affliction. We do not always understand the whys! but we do know God knows what is best for us. The Lord so wonderfully comes in and touches him and relieves him of all pain, but then at times it returns so we need your prayers continually. We have many burdens that only the Lord can take us through. Our little congregation here is very precious and we have a burden for them. We truly enjoy the little gospel "Mission Trail". We trust you can continue sending it. I'm sure all the readers enjoy it, so keep encouraged. The Lord will work out every thing. Thowe don't hear the messages on the air of course, but we trust you can keep putting them on. The devil has so much going over the air, we are so glad God's children can have a voice on the air also proclaiming His truths. We will never know perhaps all the good which is being done through these messages as they reach out to precious souls but one precious soul won is worth all the sacrifice. We are praying for you... Yours in Him,"

--Bro. & Sis. Gene Harmon

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From Okla.: "I still love the Lord and His ways. It has proven a great blessing to me as I serve Him. The richness and sweetness of His abiding spirit keeps us with courage to press the battle on. He's done much for me. I was awful sick in Oct. with a serious throat affliction and He definitely healed me. When it looked as though I could almost choke to death, in answer to the saints' prayer, God touched me instantly and I am healed today... Sis. Pinkerton from Hammond, La. is in the Home now."

--Sis. Malinda Penner

Funeral for Sister Rada Watkins, of the Golden Rule Home, Shawnee, Okla., was held Wednesday, Dec. 14, 1977.

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From Ill.: "I still love the Lord and want to do His will always and I am so thankful for salvation tonight. God is so good to me. I could never thank Him for all He has done. I am feeling lots better. My arm doesn't bother me too much... Please keep the Mission Trail coming. I sure enjoy it, don't put it down until I have read it... Come see us sometime."

--Sis. Mildred Snell

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From S. Car.: "This finds me still enjoying this Bible truth of full salvation, praise the Lord... I will be praying for you as you pray for me."

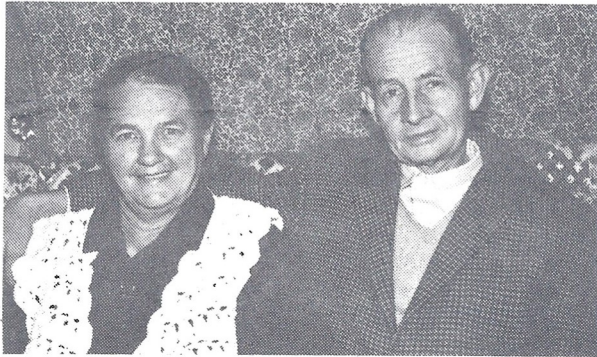
--Bro. Eddie Driggers

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From Okla.: "I think it's time I wrote you again, and let you know I still enjoy The Mission Trail. I can't get you on radio, and couldn't understand the words if I could. I have to lip read most time, and my eyes are so bad (my close vision) I have to be real close to one to see their lips. Keep praying for me. I go to church on Sunday, even if I don't hear much. I go to worship the Lord with other saints. I am glad the Mission Trail is large print. I can read it by using my glasses and a magnifying glass. ... I am happy in the Lord, so glad I know Him. I praise Him for all the good things He has given me, and also for all the bad He has permitted to come my way, for hard things put us on our knees more in prayer ... I had a fine 85th birthday. Relatives and friends came in on Oct. 9th (Sunday) afternoon, gave me a money shower... God knew I need it, so He sent it, quite a surprise, but isn't that just like the Lord. He has surprised me so many times with His goodness." --Sis. Minnie Adcock

at press time

we understand:



Sis. Beatrice and Bro. Waldo Eck

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Psa. 116:15. How true this scripture proved to be on the evening of Dec. 10 as Bro. Waldo Eck slipped quietly from this earthly shore to join in the singing with the redeemed gone on before. His age was 61. He and his companion commemorated their 40th wedding anniversary earlier this year. Bro. Waldo had not been well for some time. Saints visited, praying with him, but the Heavenly Father saw that his labor on earth was completed and called him to come up higher. After memorial service in Guthrie Monday night the body was taken to Enid for the funeral on Tuesday, Dec. 13. Many attended showing their love and respect. He will surely be missed from the congregation as well as by his family and friends. Remember his companion in this time of sorrow: Sis. Beatrice Eck, 1305 N. Walnut, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

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The Lord has been blessing Sis. Aquila Benson, but she still desires the earnest prayers of the saints for her healing.

Others in need of prayer for healing include Sis. Ruby Marken's father in Idaho; Sis. Katie Gibson in Mo.; Bro. L. D. Chrisman, Enid, Okla.; as well as all the unsaved everywhere!

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Due to what seemed an unreasonable increase in the rates of KBOA, that station was dropped from our list at the end of December.

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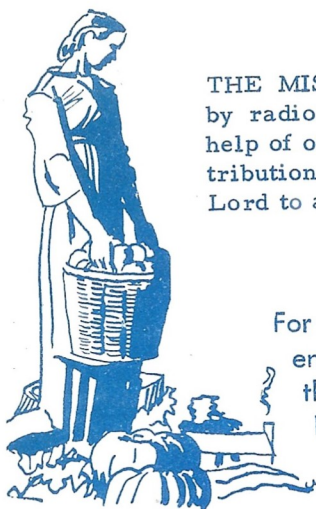
The saints who have been worshipping in the Miles schoolhouse north of Vinita, Oklahoma have begun work on a new chapel located at "Four Corners" not far from Bluejacket, Okla. Those who would like to contribute to this worthy effort may send to: Miles Church of God, c/o Anne Young, Route 1, Box 181, Vinita, Okla. 74301, or Bro. Kenneth Probst, pastor, R. 1, Bluejacket, Okla. 74333.

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Bro. Clarence Brant from Michigan and Sis. Etta Davis of Guthrie were quietly married Dec. 8. We wish them much happiness.

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As we look back over the thirteen years of broadcasting the truth by radio, we can truly say they have been wonderful. There have been some tests and trials, but "hitherto hath the Lord helped us." To God be the glory, and a heartfelt thanks to all who help to make it possible by their contributions and prayers. We are much encouraged to press on! We pray for all our listeners and readers that each may have a happy new year in 1978 and in the years ahead!



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 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.
KBOA	Kennett, Missouri	830 kc.	Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

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