



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

# The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey •

“LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST.” — JOHN 4:35

VOL. 14, NO. 5

THE MISSION TRAIL

MAY, 1978

## Halting Between Two Opinions

Radio Broadcast for April 16, 1978

Good morning to one and all! There are two scripture texts for our consideration today. Both of them have to do with halting between two opinions. First this one: "And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word." 1 Kings 18:21.

The next is found in Joshua 24:14-16, "Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. And the people answered and said, God forbid that we forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;" But more on this right after the poem:

### DARE AND DO

Dare to think, though others frown;  
Dare in words your thoughts express;  
Dare to rise, though oft cast down;  
Dare the wronged and scorned to bless.

Dare from custom to depart;  
Dare the priceless pearl possess;  
Dare to wear it next your heart;  
Dare, when others curse, to bless.

Dare forsake what you deem wrong;  
Dare to walk in wisdom's way;  
Dare to give where gifts belong;  
Dare God's precepts to obey.

Do what conscience says is right;  
Do what reason says is best;  
Do with all your mind and might;  
Do your duty, and be blest.

Notice the difference in the answer which was given in the above two scriptures. One group of folks didn't answer at all. They were completely silent, although they may have been wondering just who is the true God. The other group said: "God forbid that we should forsake the Lord." That is much better, but it also takes action to be delivered from the halting between two opinions.

The glittering things of the world seem to sparkle and the shining dollars glisten, the worldly pleasures become more attractive as the tide of humanity drifts along the stream of time, recklessly, and unheeding the gentle voice of the Spirit of God which is ever calling, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

But when the Spirit of God touches the heart of the one who is so swiftly gliding along at ease in sin, there is a change in affairs, a wonderful awakening. The things that were so attractive begin to lose their luster, and a burden comes upon the soul which was at ease. Yet the heart seems fixed upon the pleasures of earth.

The heavenly voice calls out, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Yes, that is just what the troubled heart needs; but will he decide? It may be the last call; another sun may never rise until he is hurled into eternity, and soon his lifeless form is laid beneath the sod. It is a critical time; the loss of all things else for Christ. See him pondering over the question. Will he yield for the right, and what conscience tells him to do? Hear the words of the Lord: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." At this point a decision must be made; but how many decide in favor of the wrong and lose their souls in order to have the benefit of worldly pleasure! The peace of God in the soul with the rich blessings which he bestows upon those who serve him in the ways of truth far exceeds the former enjoyments of worldly pleasures.

But while the sin-burdened soul is lingering in the balances, hesitating concerning what kind of a decision to make, the very air around seems filled with voices. The "still small voice" sounds out from the presence of God, "Choose the right;" "This is the way, walk ye in it." But another voice whispers, "Wait until a more convenient time to decide." The voice of truth says: "Behold, now is the day of salvation; behold, now is the accepted time." But still the enemy whispers: "You are not convicted enough yet." So

back and forth the halting goes. Truth says: "He that believeth not is condemned already." John 3:18. It is conviction enough to know that you are not saved; to know that the guilt of sin is upon you, and God requires repentance at your hands.

But when the sinner awakens to the fact that unless his sins are swept away he will be forever lost, it should not matter about his feelings regarding the same. One is not saved by feelings. It is faith that brings the grace of God to the heart, by believing His word. As an earnest petition is sent up to God in fervent prayer from a humble heart with a willingness to do his whole will, it does not take long to have the necessary feeling, and get an answer from God.

A voice whispers, "You do not realize your condition enough." It is the voice of the enemy of souls. If you are a sinner, what more do you want to know? All sinners are doomed to spend eternity with the lost, unless they turn from their evil ways. I realize this kind of preaching is not very popular these days, but dear ones, it is the truth we need. When the enemy finds you about to make a change he may say: "Do penance, torture yourself in some way; throw yourself in the dust, or wallow in the mud and mire; fast a week or so; go dressed like a tramp, or anything to make you feel bad, humble, and convicted." But dear ones, do not listen to the enemy of your soul. Take the word of God as your guide, and come to him in humble earnest prayer, forsaking and confessing your sins. Fasting and praying is good with a determination; and as you believe on him the matter will soon be settled and the name of the Lord glorified, and you can go your way rejoicing with victory over all the powers of Satan, and can then



better see his cunning devices by which he sought to entrap your soul.

The devil is the same old serpent who tempted our forefathers in the garden of Eden. He came to tempt our Savior at one time while he was weak and hungry; but Jesus met him with the words, "It is written," and told him what was written, and not only that, but rebuked him and commanded him to depart. You can do the same in the name of the Lord.

But Satan still comes to tempt in various ways with all the power he can muster, to bring discouragement and throw a depressive feeling over the righteous, when his enticements and allurements fail to attract. He knows that if a person can be discouraged enough so as to give up all hopes of salvation it will answer his purpose just as well as if the poor victim had been led away into some of his pitfalls which were made to destroy him. To follow the ways of the tempter always leads to sorrow, and remorse of conscience. A person may get along well, seemingly, for a time, but sooner or later the crisis will come when the situation will be realized, if not in this world, surely the one to come, after it is too late.

Satan whispers to the convicted soul: "It is no use to make a start; you cannot stand; you will make a failure, you have tried it before," and will then point out some one else who has failed because of some severe temptations, and negligence to follow the advice given in the Bible. Or he may even point out your own failures in the past. Did you ever notice that he does not point out or refer to those who started long ago to serve the Lord and are still standing firm upon the truth, with the real glory of God in their souls? No, he selects

hypocrites, and such as were not willing to follow the ways of the Lord, and tries to get the eyes of the sinner fixed upon such persons as a means of discouragement.

Friends, may the Lord help you to halt no longer between two opinions, for this is a most miserable state to be in. The pleasures of sin fail to charm you, and you cannot enjoy the things of the Lord in this condition. So make a decision and act at once. If we may be of some help to you in making this decision, be sure to let us know.

Our Father, bless the word to the good of every soul. To that soul who is halting speak the word which will tip the scales in favor of the truth and bring everlasting peace and life and thine shall be the praise in Jesus name. Amen.

He wore his rubbers when it rained. He brushed his teeth twice a day. The doctors examined him twice a year. He slept with the windows open. He stuck to a diet with plenty of vegetables. He got at least 8 hours of sleep every night. He never smoked, drank or lost his temper. He was all set to live to be a hundred years old. But he died before he was ready and much sooner than he expected!

He made one mistake. He forgot God! How sad for him! "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Psalms 9:17.

## HIS ONE MISTAKE





## *Feed Me With Food Convenient for Me*

"Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:  
Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches;  
feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee,  
and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the  
name of my God in vain." --Proverbs 30:7-9.

I don't know what folks are going to do with prices sky-rocketing as they are. When I was growing up in the hills of W. Va. we lived in an old log house which belonged to my great Uncle and he had gone to Florida to live with his son. We had a large peach orchard and would sell peaches \$2.00 a bushel. We had our own coal mine about a city block or so from the house. My brother would bore a hole in the coal and put off a shot with black powder, then we would have to wait till the smoke cleared out. Then he would wheel the coal out and pile it in a big pile for winter... This was a yearly program, but the coal didn't cost anything and we could burn all we wanted. We never once thought of conserving coal. We would raise a big garden and put up about all kinds of vegetables and kraut. We would bury potatoes, carrots, beets, and cabbage so when we wanted any of this we just went out and dug them out and covered the hole again. We had chestnuts, walnuts and butternuts a plenty. We picked wild black berries and raspberries and canned them in season. We made gallons of apple butter in a large copper kettle. We lived like kings and took all these things for granted, not realizing they all came from the hand of God. We always had a cow and I did the milking since 7 yrs. old. We had butter and buttermilk all the time, but eggs just in season, because we didn't know how to make the hens lay in the winter as we do now. We had no well of water but had a nice spring where we got our water. We never thought about the water not being

pure, as it came out from under a large rock in the hillside so we couldn't see how it could not be pure. All these things we were raised up with and it was common to sleep on straw ticks, didn't know anything else, but when we came to Anderson and got away from those hills, then civilization started anew. We had a bathroom and running water in the house. Now my Grandmother had running water in the old home place but that was all, as my Grandfather didn't want to see her carrying water in a pail, so he piped the water down from a spring away up in the hillside behind the barn and it sure had a lot of pressure when it got started. We can look back now and see how good God was to us and how simple a life we lived. We walked a couple of miles over the hills to church and prayer-meetings through all kinds of weather, and we were a hardy people because hiking up and down those hills will make you strong and expand your lungs. Now we have such a soft life and 'tis no wonder we are sick and unhealthy, we have it too easy. When we want something we go out and buy it, whether it is good for us or not. We buy the cheaper things and sometimes don't get the right diet. But back then we had everything that was good for our health, even buckwheat pancakes for breakfast and... real maple syrup as my Grandfather had a woods of large maple trees and made the maple syrup... I was thinking how I would like to have one of those old log houses with a coal mine pretty close back up in those hills..."

--Bro. Earl Bliss



## Testimonies

From Ontario, Canada: "We are happy to say that we can worship the Lord in the Bible way, which of course is the only way. When we read in the Mission Trail about the strait gate, it shows how people try to go to heaven on false ways, how true. It also says: "Some profess when they know they are not saved." It surely is true that such are hypocrites, and are not only deceiving themselves, but others also, who do not want to pay the price of salvation. Our desire is to do what is pleasing in his sight."

--Bro. & Sis. Alfons Oppel

--o--

From Miss.: "Greetings of Christian love to you two and every body. I'm sending a small offering. Someone had the Mission Trail sent to me. I read it from cover to cover. It is full of good godly truths. I thank one and all for it. I am so overcome with suffering and afflictions. One of my ears is gone deaf and the other is affected. It roars and rings every heart beat besides the misery. I don't know what the disease is. Have more afflictions. Please pray that God will take it away. I believe I am his property and he desires a clean and healthy temple to dwell in."

--Sis. Ethel Lowery

--o--

From Calif.: "Greetings of Christian love in Jesus dear name, the one that submitted to His Father's will that we might have eternal life. Praise the Lord. I am still rejoicing in this great salvation for I know my sins are under the blood. Praise the Lord. This is a beautiful day. The sun is shining and the trees are putting out their foliage and the lawn is green. God surely must have loved green as He made so many things that color and too, it is so easy to look at."

--Sis. Agnes Huskey

From Kansas: "We are all fine and still enjoying the many blessings of our Great God. The weather has been so nice and spring like and everything is wide awake and getting green. The blossoming trees have been so pretty this year and the tulips and hyacinths also. We are still praying for Sis. Ruby that the Lord will bless her real good. We, the saints, will really miss Bro. Stover but he had earned this blessed rest so I don't begrudge him of it one bit. I thought Bro. Wilson said such good things and exhorted the saints in a precious way to keep the truth marching on in its pureness. I trust we will get a greater vision and all be willing to do our parts to hold the standard high. Christian love,"

--Sis. Shirley Knight

--o--

From Calif.: "I feel led of the Lord to give my testimony how the Lord has blessed me in my body as it may encourage some one to just continue to trust in the Lord. Last year in Jan. and Feb. I was so sick. At times I felt the Lord was ready for me. I could not sleep well night or day although our meeting was on at that time... on Sunday I was anointed and prayed for. Thank the Lord, I haven't had any more symptoms of that since and I had suffered years with my back. The Lord has healed me of that during our winter revival so I meant to press on until the Lord calls me home. Pray for me."

--Sis. Katie Gaines

--o--

From Okla.: "I am still living for the dear Lord. I went to Calif., stayed all winter with my children. I enjoyed myself and hope you all are enjoying the best of health. By the time I got home sickness got me with a fever. I am some better, but not real well. Pray earnestly for me, soul and body... I am still enjoying the Mission Trail."

--Sis. Mary May



## THE SHEPHERD OF THE FLOCK

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He is my guardian. When I pray He is there. His ears are not dull that He cannot hear. His eyes are not dim that He cannot see. He is my guide that I may not get lost. He is my helper that I may rest when weary. He is my rest giver that I may not faint. He is my shield that I may be kept from evil. He is my well of water that I thirst not. He is my light that I stumble not. He is my life that I live on. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures that I hunger not. He leadeth me beside still waters for the comfort thereof. He restoreth my soul for the pleasure thereof. Yea, though I walk through the valley of death I will fear no evil for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. He has a message of salvation that I perish not. His joy is full that I might have joy. My life in Christ is peace and joy. He is the only potentate for our good and pleasure. He is our healer for both soul and body. I am satisfied with Him, JESUS!

--Bro. Gene Harmon

--o--

From Mo.: "I suffered a heart attack Feb. 26th. I phoned our congregation. They had prayer at Sunday School and the three ladies came to my home and prayed for me. While they were praying I felt the touch of God's love of healing. I knew right then I soon would be all right. I praise Him from whom all blessings flow... I feel time is short and we need to be about our Father's business."

--Sis. Lillian Dinkens

--o--

From La.: "The Lord has been very good to us and it is so wonderful to know someone who can and will answer our prayers when we pray. We do thank Him for every answer we have received and for those He still has in store for us."

--Doyle, Cynthia LaCroix and family

From Ark.: "Greetings in Jesus precious name. It is a name to live by and to die by as Bro. Stover's life is an example. We think of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews where "so great a cloud of witnesses" are set forth who lived "by faith" and we are thankful, as we heard Barbara mention in prayer, to have lived and known the examples of the precious older saints. From their experiences that we know of and from the Lord's dealings with us we are sure that "by faith" is the only way to live. I hope this finds you and Sis. Frances well and encouraged in the Lord. All here are well. There have been some afflictions but the Lord has been gracious. The enemy is always nearby seeking to discourage but he has been defeated for we serve one far greater than he. Pray for us here. Things happen in which the enemy tries to take advantage. We feel more and more that our sufficiency is of our Lord and desire the prayers of the saints as we strive to draw nearer to, and be more like him. Bro. & Sis. Herbert Probst, Bro. & Sis. Ralph Beisly, and Bro. Merrill Williamson have all been by during the past weeks. We have been blessed by their coming and by good messages from God... Our prayers are with you in your labor of love. Your brother in the Lord,"

--o--

From Mo.: "I'm still happy in my soul and praise God each day for all He does for me. He has helped me so wonderfully in my affliction of arthritis. This world and its pleasures mean nothing to me. I have something much better to live for and look forward to, something lasting and eternal and this world is not lasting. We are only here for a season and I do desire your prayers to live each day humbly and carefully before God."

--Sis. Zella Dollins



# at press time

we understand:

Another saint, Bro. Homer Fee, of Columbus, Kansas, has crossed the swelling tide, the river of death, and gone on to be with the Lord on March 24th. His final battle has been won and the victory gained. Bro. Orie Young was called to officiate at the funeral. His letter to us of Feb. 1, stated: "The enemy has given your Bro. Homer a rough time 1967-1978, especially since 1969..." "But if God be for us, who can be against us?" which means we have victory even under the most unpleasant circumstances. There is help, from no where, for us, except from God so of necessity we must continually lean on Jesus!" --Your Bro. Homer W. Fee

--o--

Congratulations to Sis. Violet Thomas and her husband who observed their golden wedding anniversary April 10. A number of their friends and loved ones came to see them and joined in to make the reception on Sunday a success.

--o--

From Kansas: "God has surely sent us a beautiful sunshine morning after the rain. I'm going to try to make good use of it... I thank the good Lord that he has given me a determination to live to meet God without a moment's warning. None of us know, but death may come to us that way." --Sis. Mamie Norcutt

--o--

Many thanks to all who help us pay the bills of broadcast time, supplies and postage to keep the messages going out. Your prayers and letters of encouragement are much appreciated. May God bless each one. --Willie and Frances

WELCOME to Oklahoma State camp meeting May 26th through June 4th, in Guthrie, 6th and W. Warner Sts.

--o--

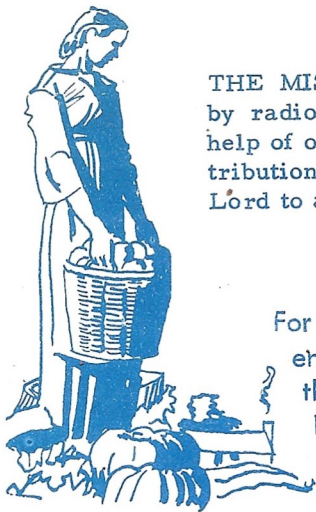
From Minn.: "Thank you for letting me know of the passing of Bro. Stover. Our loss is heaven's gain. The Lord knows best. Our lives are in His hands. And when He calls we must answer the call. Glory to God in the highest. Soon we also shall hear the call and then we will be forever with the Lord and out of this sin-cursed world. Oh that will be glory for me when by His grace I can look on His face, that will be glory for me and all of His saints. I am still in good health but getting older and soon the Lord will be calling. We know not the day nor the hour."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

--o--

From Fla.: "I was sorry to hear of the death of Bro. Stover and Sis. Poulos, but we are all headed the same way and we don't know how soon it will be. We are instructed to be ready, for in such a time as we think not the Son of Man cometh. And the foolish virgins who hadn't taken enough oil. I am so glad that I found the Lord and that He took the things of this world out of my heart. Down here it seems everyone that comes here is seeking a good time and wanting to see everything they have studied up to get their money. Some spend enormous sums trying to take it all in, and they are none the better after they have seen it all and go back home with an empty pocket-book."

--Bro. Earl Bliss



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.

**The Mission Trail**

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Return Postage Guaranteed

BULK RATE  
U. S. POSTAGE  
7.5 ¢ PAID  
Guthrie, Okla.  
Permit No. 133