



# 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 ~~~~~

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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## The SEVEN Tests of JOB - - - Part ONE

Radio Broadcast for August 19, 1979

Good morning to one and all! I am so happy to be coming your way with a short gospel message. I hope you will devote some time to Bible reading as we deal with the book of Job. First this text: "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil." Job 1:1.

So often in the great struggle of this universe, we are prone to ask the question, "why" this or that! And it is only human to ask questions, since we cannot always see the full purpose of God for our lives! But He has three reasons for us to learn in our school of struggles upon the battlefields of life:

One--that we may learn to walk by faith.

Two -- that we may learn the truth through great experiences on the battlefields of life.

Three--that we may be a help to others going through similar battles.

And so we find that life is a battle, a school, a struggle from the cradle to the grave. There are lessons to be learned, temptations to be resisted, struggles to be endured, tests to be met, opportunities to be embraced, and experiences to be had which will help us grow strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. And all the while, we find there are helps along the way:

We have a Saviour to befriend us, a

Bible to comfort and inspire us, the Holy Spirit to guide us, prayer to uplift and strengthen us, friends to love us; God's family, the Church of God, to minister to our needs, spiritual songs to inspire us, opportunities to be of service and God's hand to bless all for our good.

God is ever seeking to build men and women with a strong faith in Him. And in order to do so, they must pass the tests of His school. To become a farmer one must get hold of the plow and actually use it to turn the sod. Reading books on agriculture alone will never make a farmer. To know truth one must experience it. One must get out on the battlefields of life and have experiences to know truth more fully. One may read all the books ever published on the Bible and spiritual living, but this alone will not acquaint him with God. God's power, deliverance, guidance and comfort come through experiences.

When one has walked up the hill of sacrifice with his Isaac and finds a lamb in the thicket for the sacrifice; then he knows God will provide. When one has lost

his Joseph and finally bids even his Benjamin "goodbye" and travels on with God through years of painful sacrifice until finally he finds his Joseph who has been kept and preserved by the providence of the Lord and again clasps his Benjamin to his heart in comfort and consolation: then does he know the wonders of God's never failing power and care. When one stands at his Red Sea with mountains on either side with the hosts of Pharaoh pressing down the valley and sees a path open through the waters, then does one know the glorious deliverance of God. As one meets some great Goliath of temptation and selects smooth stones of truth and hurls them into his brow and sees him fall beneath his feet, then does he know how God makes right to triumph. As one is in his lion's den and sees the angels close their mouths; as one is in his fiery furnace, heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated and finds "the form of the fourth" by his side and comes forth without the smell of fire on his garments, then does he really know God's mighty protecting hand.

As one has his Philippian jail experience; sings his song at midnight, prays his prayer of triumph and feels the jail tremble, finds his jail doors open and is led forth by his delivering angel, then does he know how great God is as a deliverer.

When one has met God on many battlefields and experienced His protecting love and care through storms and sunshine; when one has been through sorrows and has known His sweet comfort; when one has had his fiery trials and has known the never failing consolations of His grace; when one has had bitter experiences of disappointments and has learned the great precious lessons of

life under God's patient and tender care--then when that soldier of the cross meets God face to face, they will need no introduction to Him. We know Him now for we have met him in storm and tempest and on life's battlefields. We will not be strangers then.

I believe we can come to the place where we think not strange of fiery trials, but know God is working out everything for our good because we love Him. It is wonderful to patiently face life's storms and be ever conscious that God never forgets. All things do work together for good to those who love God. Some folks refuse to face the realities of life and become complainers and murmurers because of what others do. It is wonderful to keep going on and on even though we suffer and cannot understand. It pays to refuse to be discouraged! "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." Psa. 103:13-14.

In order that we may have a record of someone passing through the tests and struggles of life with victory we have, given to us, the book of Job. Job went through the tests, such as is known to the human spirits. In it he was patient and trusted God. Let us now consider the SEVEN TESTS OF JOB:

FIRST--The test of prosperity! So few successfully endure this test! But Job was devout and faithful even in wealth. Often those who may successfully make it through poverty fail when prosperity comes. Few people can stand prosperity. Job was wealthy. He had vast estates and many servants. He was held in high esteem. People did not thoughtlessly rush into his presence. They whispered when he was present.



He was considered the greatest man in the east. Yet with all his prosperity he remained humble, thoughtful and worshipful. He was devoted to his family. He had them constantly on his heart. Wealth did not hide his dear ones from his heart, or affections.

Did you know "...the love of money is the root of all evil"? 1 Tim. 6:10, and there is a great restlessness which accompanies those who are caught up in its clutches? So many, if given the choice of their desires, would readily say: give me more wealth, more land, more oilfields, not realizing they would be asking this to their own hurt and destruction. Such a turn of affairs would certainly ruin many families and homes as has been proven in the past.

Many years ago a certain man named Hart P. Danks lived happily with his wife and children. It is reported they were a very happy couple. He was a song writer. They had visions of journeying down the pathway of life and of growing old together. He wrote the song: "Silver Threads Among the Gold" and dedicated it to his wife. It was a big hit! Royalties began to roll in. Dissensions arose and separation followed. He was found dead kneeling beside his bed. On an old copy of the song he had written, "It's hard to grow old alone." He was living alone in a rooming house in Philadelphia. The song had brought riches to the home of the Danks, but with that prosperity came grief. Peace and happiness had fled. The family was ruined with prosperity. This is only one example. There are many more. A family, a city, a nation, cannot last as a money-making mob, going on without regard to the Word of the Lord. It will certainly come to ruin and destruction. Rome did! They were mad with pleasures and riches, but it

did not last! "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." 1 Tim. 6:9.

Job stood this test of wealth. He was not taken by it, but I believe used it to the glory of God. Money can be a blessing if used wisely. Listen:

#### I AM MONEY

Dug from the mountainside, washed in the glen,  
Servant am I, or the master of men;  
Steal me, I curse you,  
Earn me, I bless you,  
Grasp me and hoard me, a fiend shall possess you.  
Lie for me, die for me,  
Covet me, take me,  
Angel or devil, I am what you make me,  
MONEY!

THE SECOND TEST FOR JOB WAS PROSPERITY! --Job went from wealth to poverty in such a short time! This within itself would be a sore trial. There are many who have had similar experiences. By hard work and toil they have saved a few dollars or even thousands of dollars. Then in ways for which they were not wholly responsible they lost it all, or nearly so! The banks go down, a friend proves untrue and unfaithful! They stand by a friend only to be crushed beneath his feet. Storms, hail, fire, drought or perhaps sickness destroys their little nest-egg. Men toil early and late to get something for their families or to lay up for old age and it is taken from them without warning. Thus they are caught up in the midst of adversity. Then what are they going to do? Forsake God, turn away from the right? No, not Job. He said, "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away;

blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." Job 1:21-22.

Again and again the crash comes in one way or another. Then the struggler must pull his belt a little tighter, swallow the lump in his throat, brush away a tear perhaps, give his companion an encouraging word and bravely go ahead, with no thought of giving up the Lord. To forsake the Lord is utter folly. In this broad field of experience there are great lessons to be learned. Year in and year out, the struggle to make an honest living requires courage to go on and on in the real test of life.

Time has allowed us to cover only two of these seven tests of Job. So we will continue comments on Job another time and make them a series of printed copies. Be sure to keep listening.

We surely do appreciate those who help us keep the messages going forth. May they indeed prove a blessing.

Our Father, we are so thankful that the dear man of ancient times, Job, didn't fail the Lord in the tests of life. Help us, who have even more light and encouragement, to be faithful in all our tests. Bless each listener this day in the which they need for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.

Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphy saying, God bless and keep you always, and a very cheerful goodbye!



### Looking Unto Jesus

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:2).

## Testimonies

From Ark.: "Greetings of love in Christ. We were able to attend some of the campmeeting at Myrtle and it was good. It would have been good to have stayed on the grounds so we could have visited more. We had a motel room... Mother Loftis' condition with her hands is still about the same. Dad Loftis came down with a pretty serious ailment but went to the campmeeting any way. He was anointed and prayed for but still has some trouble with it. It's a kidney problem of some sort. Please help us pray for them. They surely have been a blessing, help, and inspiration to us. The Lord has blessed us here with several different ones of the saints visiting this summer and we have really enjoyed it. We would encourage others to come if they can... Pray for us. We want the Lord's approval in all we do and to be a vessel he can use."

--Doug and Barbara Walters

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From Kans.: "It was nice to get to see you at Monark. We did not go to the National meeting last year so it was good to get to go this time... This has been a very trying, perplexing and pressure filled year, but I thank the Lord he has not left us nor has he forsaken us. ... I am convinced that if we get to heaven we are going to have to press all the way and seek for greater spiritual depths than we have ever had and then do all we know to do to stand fast and not be moved. The devil has so many tricky, sly ways of fooling people these days and it is rather frightening to see how many people are not aware of what is happening to them. May the Lord help and awaken every soul that is willing to pay the whole price to obtain the precious crown that is promised to us."

--Sis. Shirley Knight



From Canada: "Greetings to you again in Jesus' precious name, who by virtue of His blood has made us free from sin and holy and given us a hope of eternal glory. We truly thank Him for what He has done to us ... I am sorry to have been unable to attend this year's national campmeeting at Neosho. It truly would have been a pleasure for me to meet you all again. Let us remain faithful in whatever much or little we do for the Lord and also for sinners' sake. The gospel message is a glorious one ... May the Lord help us to live righteous and holy, so we can make it to heaven and not fail."--Bro. Reinhard Mueller

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From Pa.: "Greetings in Jesus' name. I'm one of your readers of "The Mission Trail." I've been receiving it for quite a while, but I haven't sent in a donation. I enjoy the sermons very much. Many times the message has been a blessing to me. So enclosed is a love gift. God bless you and wife. You'll be hearing from me again."

--Sis. Helen Ayers

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From Okla.: "It's great to know you are ready to meet the Lord, for His coming must be soon. It seems the signs are coming to pass very fast. "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28. So we must walk humbly before the Lord each day, as if it was our last, and keep ourselves unspotted from the world. We can't do that alone. It takes the power of God in our lives. Prayer and Bible reading is to our spiritual life what sun and rain is to the plant life... I thank God I am still able to walk and go where I need to go, even if I will be 87 Oct. 10th. I know it is God who keeps me well, for without Jesus I can do nothing.

--Sis. Minnie A. Adcock

From Mo.: "I really enjoyed The Mission Trail this month and your radio message of July 15th, The Power of Prayer. I have re-read it and do enjoy it so very much... I can sit on the back porch in evening and enjoy the beauty of the flowers in the yard and also the lovely little red birds who come up near by and almost beg for food and my neighbor feeds them chopped nuts and they really do eat them. Isn't it wonderful the many things God made for our enjoyment... Just think here is fall of the year coming in and as the song says, Time rolls on, Eternity and then the beauty we will see if we keep ready for eternity. And another song, Oh that will be glory for me, and I do want to be ready for his coming."

--Sis. J. Edw. Leach

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From Okla.: "How it blesses my soul to know of the goodness and lovingkindness of the Lord. It was truly good to be in campmeeting. The Lord is my helper. In Heb. 13:6a, "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper." I think the radio broadcast of July 15 is very precious, The Power of Prayer."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Okla.: "I have been slow in responding to your labor of love to all the saints of God. I do enjoy the Mission Trail paper, also the message over the air. I am sending the offering to help you stay on."

--Sis. Mentie Nurse

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From Okla.: "Greetings of love in Jesus dear and lovely name, the name that is above every name on earth. Prov. 18:10 says the name of the Lord is a strong tower. It is high and strong. No matter how high Satan tries to blow things out of proportion it never gets too high that the loving name of Jesus can't be called and the problem solved through faith in him."

--Sis. Theresa Gaines

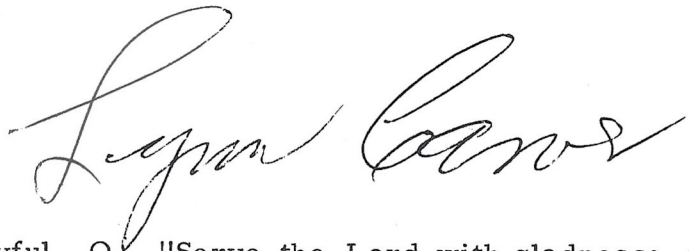
Dear Brother Willie Murphey:

The Carver Family has made a LP Record in memory of our Mother, Sister May Carver, wife of C. C. Carver, titled "Songs Mother Loved". Interested persons may have this record for \$6.00 postage paid by writing to Lynn Carver, 836 Drexel Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana, 71106.

On the front of the record jacket is a picture of Mother encircled by a border of flowers drawn by my brother Arnett, and on the back excerpts of her life history she was writing the year she died. Any profits realized will be used in Church work.

I am sending you a complimentary copy and hope you enjoy it. We have heard Bro. Ostis Wilson singing the song Deliverance Will Come, years ago, and we thought of him when recording that song.

With Christian Love,



"Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted." Isaiah 49:13.

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"Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away." Isaiah 51:11.

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"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12.

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"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" Ephesians 5:19.

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Psa. 100:2-5.

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"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice even with joy and singing:" Isa. 35:1-2.

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"Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;" Psa. 149:5-6.



# at press time

we understand:

## WISCONSIN CAMPMEETING !

Our camp meeting will be Sept. 26-30th, Lord willing. There will be services at 2:00 in the afternoon and 8:00 in the evening. Meals will be served 3 times daily. Some lodging is available and campers are welcome. Come and share the good things of God with us. Pray the Lord to send the ministers of his choosing and that man might seek God while he might be found... Remember our little school in prayer, too. It will start Sept. 4. -- Duane and Sue LaVeau, Route 1, Shell Lake, Wisconsin 54871, Phone (715) 468-2798.

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"This has been a very hard year for our family. Frank died very suddenly with a heart attack on Good Friday. We were talking and planning our week-end and in the middle of a sentence he was gone. Life is sure uncertain. But through all this, God has been so good. On the day of the funeral I asked God for a promise for the day. I opened my Bible and a verse just stood out, "Fear not for I am with thee, be not dismayed for I am your God." Isa. 41:10."

--Anna (Fetters) Swann, 816 N. Oak, Ponca City, Okla. 74601.

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Congratulations to Ricky Cox and Dianna (Abbott) Cox who were married Aug. 11. Send mail to them: c/o Kenneth Abbott, 488 Conard Drive, Xenia, Ohio 45385.

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Also congratulations to Timothy and Rhonda McMillan who were married on Aug. 11. Their address is: 1817 Travis Victoria, Texas 77901.

It came as a great shock and loss to Sis. Gladys Piper whose husband, Raymond Piper, died quite suddenly Aug. 7. Sis. Gladys will surely miss Raymond in so many ways. Please remember her in this time of great sorrow. Her address is Longton, Kansas 67352.

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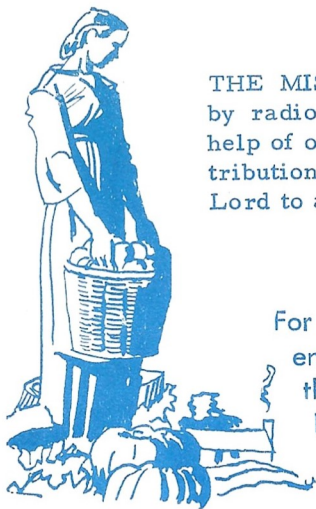
Pray for George Patterson, Anthony, Kansas. Although greatly afflicted, he is looking to the Lord for his help.

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Frances and I were glad we could spend a few days at the Monark meeting to enjoy the blessings with the saints who attended there. Many came from far away, and some were there for their first time. What a pleasure it is to be there when the saints come "marching in" to participate in the great spiritual feast of the Lord. The blessings of the Lord were many and we trust the souls who received help at the altar will grow in grace and become established in the truth.

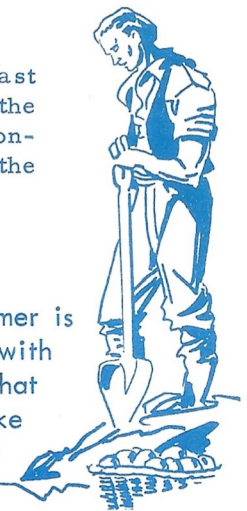
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The summer also brought a renewal of family ties with the coming of our children from Oregon. Clifford and Patsy Smith with their three, Julie, Rodney, and Michael attended Monark meeting and a part of the Myrtle meeting. Our other children who live closer by, we see a little more often, including Alvin and Kathleen McMurrin and their two, James and Janet from Arkansas as well as Willie Eugene and Neta from Enid and Wayne, Mary and their son Jason living in Guthrie! We ask the prayers of all as we endeavor to send forth the truth!



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

RADIO  
STATION  
**KGGF**

LOCATION  
Coffeyville, Kansas

DIAL  
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TIME  
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