



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

# The Mission Trail

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

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

Radio Broadcast for September 2, 1979

Good morning to one and all! I am so happy to be coming your way again with some more thoughts on Job! I like 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.

### ONE STEP MORE

What though before me it is dark,  
Too dark for one to see  
I ask but light for one step more;  
'Tis quite enough for me.

Each little humble step I take,  
The gloom clears from the next;  
So, though 'tis very dark beyond,  
I never am perplexed.

And if sometimes the mist hangs close,  
So close I fear to stray,  
Patiently I wait a little while,  
And soon it clears away.

I would not see my further path,  
For mercy veils it so;  
My present steps might harder be  
Did I the future know.

It may be that my path is rough,  
Thorny and hard and steep;  
And, knowing this my strength might fail  
Through fear and terror deep.

It may be that it winds along  
A smooth and flowery way:  
But, seeing this, I might despise,  
The journey of today.

Perhaps my path is very short,  
My journey nearly done,  
And I might tremble at the thought  
Of ending it so soon.

Or, if I saw a weary length  
Of road that I must wend,  
Fainting, I'd think, "My feeble powers  
Will fail me 'ere the end."

And so I do not wish to see  
My journey or its length,  
Assured that, through my Father's love,  
Each step will bring its strength.

Thus step by step I onward go,  
Not looking far before,  
Trusting that I shall always have  
Light for just "one step more."

In speaking of Job we might refer to James. He mentioned Job. So Job's life was a blessing to others. His suffering is an inspiration to those who may wonder when the end to their suffering will come. "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." James 5:11.

We have considered five tests so far which Job has successfully past ... I know God by this time must be pouring in more grace preparing Job for the final tests. And of course, Satan was doing his best to cause him to fall from the favor of God. So an abundance of grace was needed:

#### PATIENCE

How smooth the sea-beach pebbles are!  
But--do you know?  
The ocean worked a hundred years  
To make them so!

JOB'S SIXTH TEST WAS INTELLECTUAL! One of the most subtle tests is the bewilderment of doubt. Job had friends which came to him hurling accusations and insinuating questions at him. They attempted to show him that he was bad and there was nothing to his faith, for adversity had come to him. Apparently, the religions of the east held that prosperity is a mark of divine pleasure but adversity is evidence of a wicked life. So they tried to make him out bad because of his changed conditions. And they had that air of superiority. At first, they did not come right up to Job to comfort as a friend would, but instead stood off at a distance and looked at Job and then turned away! Of course, they were supposed to be superior with a great deal of intellect. They had learning!

And this brings another thought--the young folks of our day are faced with educated professors having this air of superiority about them and they are endeavoring (quite often with great success) to instill into the thoughts and minds of young students the theories of evolution, of sexual permissiveness, which would lift the Bible restrictions on loose living and let them have so-called "freedom" of thought and action!

The devil is competing for the minds of folks today. This is so very deceptive. He comes as an angel of light, but in reality he is a demon and the god of this world. Be reminded that not everyone who can speak smoothly is of God. Listen: "For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error." 2 Pet. 2:18. The 19th verse goes on to say: "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."

It has been said there are no fools like educated fools. These are those educators who know little or nothing of God in their own lives. They have never been born from above. That touch of the Holy Spirit that quickens and illuminates they have never experienced. They have never been converted nor spiritually awakened from their dead state of a life in sin.

So today many highly educated "deviates" if I may so call them, appear so wise to the young people that they are listened to by many who often make shipwreck of their faith in God. One may ask, how can you tell when you meet one like this? Let me give you some clues: These unregenerated and inexperienced people, having had no touch of God, state (in an air of great intellectual superiority) that the Bible is no more than an almanac; that there is nothing to prayer; that Jesus was just a good man; that the hereafter is but a myth.

Dear ones, the need of our day, is not more psychology, in order to "reason" things out, but more faith in God that



we may believe the Bible, and to know that God is going to bring the world into judgment and that all shall give account to God for their deeds and thoughts. So these "wise" men came to instruct Job that he was apparently a hypocrite. Now Job was not only fighting this battle with the afflictions and loss of his property and loved ones, but was in deadly conflict with the "intellect" of these smart men who would fill his mind with doubts of the reality of God and His care for Job. This battle of the intellect is no small thing. It has been known to overthrow great and talented folks. Where temptation fails or adversity, Satan calls in his smart and educated agents. God and the sacred things of the Bible are scoffed at.

So, what is to be done with these doubts when they come? Let me tell you. Put them behind you. Human reasoning will not produce a spiritual relationship with God to the saving of the soul. Lay them aside and keep going on by faith. This is what Job did. If one can be made to doubt there is a God, and that the moral code of right and wrong is only for extremists, then the next question is: "Why should not I take my fling in sin? And so often, this is what happens.

Instead of surrendering our intellect to doubts, let us keep going and then say with Paul, "...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." 2 Tim. 1:12. As Job began to grasp more faith from all those doubts projected by the so-called "friends" he said, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, "...and then he went on to say, "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." So Job passed this sixth test of the intellect!

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent." 1 Cor. 1:18-19.

**THE SEVENTH AND CROWNING TEST OF JOB WAS THE SPIRITUAL TEST!** It is indeed a wonderful thing for God to manifest his presence to us in the tests and battles of life, but quite another for us to keep going by faith when apparently God has withdrawn from us and we are abandoned to our own fate! Listen to the complaint of Job:

"Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him." Job 23:8-9.

In spite of all this spiritual conflict yet Job said: "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Verse 10. In the crucial seventh test of his spiritual battle Job seemed to be utterly forsaken of God. Jesus experienced the same when he cried: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matt. 27:46.

Dear ones, are you passing through a trial of some such nature as Job went through? Then, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." 1 Pet. 4:12-13. Are you aware, that Christ,

"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;" Heb. 5:8. So just remember, "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." Heb. 10:38-39.

Our Father, as we conclude this series on Job, we ask the Spirit of understanding to accompany each one and make them a comfort and blessing to every listener and thine shall be the praise in Jesus name. Amen. ....

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"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:" Ps. 50:14

### THANKFULNESS

My God, I thank thee, who hast made  
The earth so bright,  
So full of splendor and of joy,  
Beauty and light;  
So many glorious things are here,  
Noble and right!

I thank thee, too, that thou hast made  
Joy to abound;  
So many gentle thoughts and deeds  
Circling us round,  
That in the darkest spot of earth  
Some love is found.

I thank thee more that all our joy  
Is touched with pain;  
That shadows fall on brightest hours;  
That thorns remain;  
So that earth's bliss may be our guide,  
And not our chain.

For thou who knowest, Lord, how soon  
Our weak heart clings,  
Hast given us joys, tender and true,  
Yet all with wings,  
So that we see, gleaming on high,  
Diviner things.

## Testimonies

From Mo.: "I always enjoy getting the Mission Trail. The message in this October issue was so rich and good, brought out so many spiritual truths. I just thanked and praised the Lord for it. I always enjoy hearing from the dear saints...I haven't been able to go to Monark Springs Camp meeting for years but keep in touch with the saints from their letters of testimony in the papers. I pray that God will richly bless you and supply your every need. We need to pray much for God's people everywhere, that we may be able to stand as the word tells us "and having done all to stand." Eph. 6:13. Oh! it means much to stand firm for the Lord at all times, not being tossed about with every wind of doctrine but standing firm on God's holy word, trusting and obeying His precious word and not being moved by anything. The word tells us to be steadfast unmoveable. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:58. And the verse before that, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 15:57. Praise the Lord. We are so thankful for His precious promises. Ephesians 3:20, "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us," Thank the Lord and praise his holy name forever. So be encouraged dear saints, everywhere and keep looking to the Lord for as the Psalmist says our help cometh from the Lord. God bless you each one. Pray for us that God may use us to His glory, for our heart's desire is to be in the center of His will and to be "complete in Him." --Sis. Lena Bowman



From Okla.: "I love the truth as it is in Jesus. Yes, God is true, as we read in 2 Cor. 1:20-22, "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now, he which establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." Then the next scripture is in 1 John 2:27, 28: "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming." Yes, as I meditate upon these truths it makes me see myself as a little child. But I rejoice in the Comforter the Holy Spirit. Jesus says, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth:" John 16:13a. I love that beautiful song 468--"Send the Power Down." Second verse: "Purify each heart with refining fire. Let perfect love in us abound. With all dross removed and each vain desire, O Father send the power down."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Okla.: "This is a beautiful cold morning after the wind yesterday... The Lord is so good to us, it seems, I can't find words to thank Him enough for all He does... He saves our soul, sanctifies our nature, heals our body and keeps us free from condemnation day by day. Surely we do appreciate His dealings with us. I want to please Him in everything I do or say. Oh, how I love Him and want to see Him face to face when I'm through down here. I want to be faithful to the end."

--Sis. Emma Dilley

## Sunday School Thoughts

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

Some would gather money  
Along the path of life;  
Some would gather roses  
And rest from worldly strife.

But I would gather children,  
From among the thorns of sin;  
I would seek a golden curl  
And a freckled toothless grin.

For money cannot enter  
In that land of endless day  
And the roses that are gathered  
Soon will wilt along the way.

But oh the laughing children  
As I cross the Sunset Sea:  
As the gates swing wide to Heaven,  
I can take them in with me.

I saw tomorrow look at me  
From little children's eyes,  
And thought how carefully we'd teach  
If we were really wise!

I thought this rich, especially primaries and smaller group ages... I have taught Sunday School most of my life. In my home, in Shawnee when about 19 to 20 years of age I taught Ella McMakin's children. I taught in Klamath Falls in a community Sunday School in my front yard. I taught children in the neighborhood in LaGrande, Oregon when I lived there and many places. I love children. I understand them and try to talk in their language and in their thinking. They seem to love me and tell me things that bother them. I always have time to listen to them. They are God's precious gems."

--Sis. Grace Jones

From Calif.: "I am yet saved and happy in the Lord. The Lord has blest me with a reasonable portion of health. The Lord willing I hope to be in Okmulgee meetings... May God continue to bless you all..." --Sis. Katie Gaines

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From Calif.: "I read the Mission Trail about Job's tests. It was real good... The testimonies are all real good and the poem... thanks for all you have given me to encourage me, for I have the enemy to fight too. I have to sing and be cheerful." --Sis. Opal Williams

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From Okla.: "Thanks so much for the poem 'Now'! It is very encouraging and challenging as we truly believe we are on the brink of eternity. We can truly say to-day is here. Use it to God's glory. Yesterday is gone; forget it. Tomorrow may never come, so now is the only time we have. Please continue to pray for us as we do for you."

--Sis. Theresa Gaines

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From Calif.: "Dear Mission Trail Family, Greetings of love. Oh! may God ever lead and bless His Word as it goes forth by mouth or pen. What is done for Christ must be done quickly; for the end of all things of this material world is even at the door. God help us all to be wide awake to the signs of His near coming: 'Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God,' 2 Pet. 3:11, 12a. Yes, the end is very near. We all should be sure that our lamps are trimmed and burning. What is done for Christ must be done quickly. Pray for us, especially wife. This smog has been very bad here this month and Sept. was our hottest... do request prayer for her."

--Your Bro. & Sis. Huskey

From Calif.: "This is beautiful fall weather, and I always get so lonesome for my childhood days and family, as the fall has always been my favorite time of the year. This morning finds me happy and encouraged in my soul. I surely love the Lord and my desire and daily prayer is to draw closer to him daily and be a help to others. I thank him much for keeping me with health and strength to my body... Do hope this finds both of you well and happy in your soul. I have some heavy burdens I would love for you to pray with me for. With Christian love,"

--Sis. Hazel Savage

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From Minn.: "This finds me well in soul and body at my age. I am looking for the Lord's coming. I am still happy in the Lord who has done so much for all in Christ... The love of Christ Jesus has never departed from me since I know He has forgiven me of my sins and I love Him more and more as time passes by. Much love and prayers that the gospel can go forth with power."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

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From Okla.: "Greetings in Jesus dear and holy name this lovely fall evening at the end of a lovely day the Lord gave us. I enjoy the broadcast. It helps us thru the days and over rough places. I especially enjoy the poem (Little Things) and the last 2 lines is my prayer, 'Then oh for strength to meet the stings that arm the points of little things.' We pray this finds you both well. We are able to be up and do our work, that which has to be done. How very thankful we are for that... The boys hope to have us in our little warm house they have built for us this summer... by cold weather. The girls will be painting inside this week end. The children have all been so faithful and good to come and do for us."

--Sis. Doris Bowers



# at press time

we understand:

From La.: "It's been almost a year since I wrote you dear ones, but it only seems a few months. Doesn't time pass so fast. Just makes us realize that our time here on earth will soon be over. Time is short but eternity is long, no end to it. So it pays us to be ready at all times to meet the dear Lord. We are in a battle against the enemy of our souls... We enjoy the messages and get food for our soul. We pray the Lord will continue this good work for the righteous cause." --Sis. Effie Miller

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Congratulations to Delmar and Brenda Wilkins on the birth of their son, Brent Delmar on October 7th.

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Wichita, Kans. -- "I can still report victory and am more determined than ever to get to Heaven no matter what it cost, because I am thoroughly convinced that Heaven will be worth whatever we have to pay to get there. Time surely moves swiftly on and in a little over 3 weeks it will be meeting time here. [Oct. 26--Nov. 4] We are praying for God to have His way in it and bless according to His will."

--Sis. Shirley Knight

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It was a pleasure to have Bro. Ralph and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins eat lunch with us Thursday, Oct. 11 before they returned to their home in Michigan.

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Congratulations to Bobby Huskey and Lisa Loftis who have set their wedding date for October 20th. We wish them much happiness and God's blessings.

From Mo.: "Greetings in the name of Jesus. My heart goes up in praise to Him today, for all His goodness and mercy to me. He loved me before I knew Him and cared for me all these many years and led me into His precious truth. I hope to always live that my life may speak of Him to others. Pray for me and my family."

--Sis. Zella Dollins

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Bro. Egbert Allen and Bro. Roman Deforth had an auto mishap near Marshalltown, Iowa on October 1 while returning from the Wisconsin meeting. Bro. Egbert suffered a fractured vertebra and breastbone as well as bruises. Bro. Roman was also bruised and suffers considerable pain in his leg and back. Both are presently home and would appreciate the prayers of saints.

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The Church of God at Four Corners north of Vinita, Okla., invites every one to an All-day Meeting Sunday, Nov. 4th. The afternoon service will be especially open for the young people to exercise themselves in the Lord. There will be revival services the rest of the week or longer. Bro. Leslie Busbee is planning to be with us in the meeting. All are welcome. --Sis. Margaret Eck

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We pray that each reader may have a "Thanksgiving" filled with the bountiful blessings of the Lord for soul and body. And thanks to each one who has shared in order that we may continue to send forth the spiritual food of the gospel by radio and print.



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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*

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