

*A man that hath friends
must shew himself friendly:
and there is a friend
that sticketh closer than a
brother—PR. 18:24.*



*Greater love hath no
man than this, that a man
lay down his life for his
friends.—Jo. 15:13.*

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GRABILL, INDIANA

February 15, 1947

SALVATION

By Philip Gutwein, Jr.

"Knowing this, that the Law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, murderers, liars, . . . and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine." (1 Tim. 1:9-10).

This scripture once more divides men into TWO basically different classes: The righteous man and the sinners. For the first, the Law is not made; he is declared righteous by Faith, apart from the Law and positionally; he is "under Grace." This is THE SAVED MAN. For the second class, the LAW IS MADE, by nature he is "under it" and by its transgression, he became a Sinner. This is THE LOST MAN.

In the last few articles, we cautioned the "Righteous Man," with much emphasis, to steer clear of every Law entanglement, and as Paul says: "Stand fast therefore in the LIBERTY wherewith Christ hath made us FREE. . . ." for we "know this, that the Law is NOT MADE for a righteous man." But now we will place emphasis in the opposite direction and caution every one whom Christ has not made FREE, that there IS A LAW MADE FOR HIM, that he is "under it," is a debtor to it and if he ever transgressed it, he is a Sinner—for "sin is the transgression of the Law" — and "the wages of sin is DEATH." In our world of deception and confusion, it need not seem

(Continued on page 2)

O That Such Will Not Be Forgotten!

By Noah Hartzler

A request has been made that we all together, as followers of our blessed Savior should not only think of the great work of salvation. We should attempt to write and not only to think of the very great seriousness of our lives. To speak of it is necessary, but our words may soon be forgotten. Are we not all glad that the Lord our God had His faithful serv-

their labor for the Lord? Read Jeremiah 1, Chapter from 6 to 12 verse, also 1 Samuel 3 chapter. And One, the greatest of them all, at the age of twelve years, said to His mother, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" I hope all of our dear young people, boys and girls, who are so very fortunate as to have parents who themselves firmly believe on our Lord Jesus, and go on in life on the way which is an honor to our crucified Redeemer, will also take to heart the beautiful teachings of our Saviour. You have often heard that Jesus was thirty years of age when He was baptized, and we as children were taught to do as Jesus did. No one should think, "If the Saviour waited until He was thirty years of age, that goes to show that I may live as a sinner and at the age of thirty years I will repent and be converted to the Lord." The Saviour was never a sinner, and this no one of us could ever say of ourselves for we all did commit sin, some more and some less. But all must be born again, if they live to the time in which they leave innocence, and from there on are held accountable; that is if they do not do as Peter told the people when they asked him what they should do. Peter told them: 'Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sin may be blotted out.' Oh, the glorious way in which a sinner

TREASURED VERSES

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Ch. 7:14.

. . . I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst . . . Job 6:35.

ants to not only tell of how the earth, sun, moon and stars were created, but that God inspired such men as Moses, Joshua, Samuel, and Daniel to write. Yes, many righteous men, servants of God and of our Lord Jesus, such as the four evangelists, wrote of the wonderful works of God and foretold of much which is to this time being fulfilled. At what age did some of these faithful servants of God begin

can be brought to have peace with God, and our loving Saviour! If a sinner sees where he or she has done wrong, and is really sorry for the wrong he has done, this sorrow of heart moves God to forgive the sinners. This is that the grace of Jesus Christ works in the hearts of sinners, reminding them of the unprepared condition in which they are standing. They know they are not prepared to die. They know that if they would be suddenly deprived of their lives, they would have no hope of enjoying the sight about which the Lord Jesus says; "I will have you to be with me, to see the glory which my Father has given unto me. "My dear young friends, and older ones also if you have such thought, or have great uneasiness in your heart, you likely also have another thought as spirit working at the same time. The enemy, Satan, who is the power of darkness and death and who has had the overhand to a certain extent in your hearts, even though many are not great sinners. But the evil enemy would have you to be ashamed to confess that you wish to be cleansed from sin through true repentance, and be set at peace with our worthy Redeemer, and to follow the saying of Christ to John the Baptist: "Thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Oh, how glad we will all be if we here in this life, in a simple child-like manner follow our Saviour. Then when the time comes that we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ, we may appear on the right hand side of the Just Judge to whom is given all judgment. He, in such a loving manner says to day yet, "Come unto me in prayer and I will in no wise cast you out." A blessed invitation to all who have the grace to think of these serious matters: "He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life." But believing means obeying. My dear friends young and old, I can say, you can faithfully depend upon this promise, "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you." He also says, "Heaven and earth will pass away; but my Word will not pass away!" For over four years we were very prayerfully

concerned. Day and night we begged the Lord in behalf of our dear young men, brethren and friends who have left their parents and families, and by our government taken to many parts of the earth. And now at the beginning of the New Year so many are back home! Some silent reader may think they were not in the greatest dangers. But many really were. So we who were at home, interceding for thee, and they who were interceded for alike shall never forget the great favor of Him who says, "He who prayeth in secret shall be rewarded openly!" Perhaps many who were in great danger often prayed to the Lord, making a vow or promise that if the Lord would deliver them they would live for Him, the remaining days of their lives. Oh, that such will not be forgotten!

Hymn of the Month

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

There are friendships that we cherish
In our daily walk of life.

Friends with whom we meet and labor
In our earthly toil and strife.

Friends among the aged and youthful,
Friends that live from us apart
Friends of higher rank and station
Find a place within my heart.

But I prize the friendship highest
Of the one whose heart is true,
Friends who live by truth and goodness
And who live in Him anew

Friends whose hearts are up in heaven
Though their feet traverse this sod,
Find a place of highest merit
In our fellowship with God.

There's a tie of noble kinship
In a soul who loves the Lord,
There's a friendship warm and lasting
If he heeds the Master's Word

There is mutual understanding
And a sympathy so kind
In the tie of Christian friendship,
As on earth we oft-times find.

When at last these ties are riven,
When we're called to go on high,
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven
Friends forever you and I.

When at last these ties are riven
When we're called to go on high,
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven,
Friends forever you and I.

Henry Beer.

SALVATION

(Continued from page 1)

strange, if those who by virtue of their standing "IN CHRIST" are FREE from the bondage of the Law, would especially be tempted to a "desire to be under it" (Gal. 4:21) and what they "began in the Spirit, they would make perfect (complete) by the flesh." (Gal. 3:3). And on the other hand, it would not be surprising at all, if such that are under the Law, should glory in an imagined FREEDOM from it. They can read in their Bible: "Christ is the end of the Law . . ." and stop there.

What then is this LAW, we are considering and Man's relation to it?

To Bible readers, the word "LAW" usually brings to mind the "Mosaic Law" and ordinarily this is permissible. But "until the Mosaic Law, sin was in the world" and "death reigned from Adam to Moses" (Rom. 5:13-14) and we read they "were DISOBEDIENT . . . in the days of Noah" (1 Pet. 3:20). Now our text says that "the Law is made for sinners and for the disobedient" and since death reigned before Moses, sin was IMPUTED and there MUST HAVE BEEN A LAW operating, before the "Mosaic Law" for "sin is not imputed when there is NO LAW" (Rom. 5:13).

This Law then, which was and is and shall be, is the great and basic universal moral Law, the "LAW OF SIN AND DEATH." (Rom. 8:2). It simply means this LAW'S transgression is SIN and the wages of sin is DEATH. As far as our race and the Bible record is concerned, it found its FIRST application in the garden of Eden, when by the transgression of the FIRST COMMANDMENT, "SIN entered into the world, and DEATH by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Rom. 5:12). Unlike the Mosaic Law, this Law respects no person nor time and, no doubt, existed in the timeless past, ever since in the beginning all things were made by THE WORD. It is an expression of God, His Truth, His Will, and His holy Character in all His Works, functioning by an in-built LAW and ORDER so precise, so infinite and so unsearchable in its

complexities, as to simply baffle and stagger the mind, even with what little is known, of the material world, to say nothing of the spiritual. The great Creator must surely resist any violation of His Laws, anywhere at any time, or accept confusion, chaos and ruin. We guard strenuously against an infection for instance of the polio germ, which though infinitely insignificant as to size, is in its very nature antagonistic to the Laws of Life with disastrous results to a body many million times its size. So is Sin, and God cannot deny Himself to condone it; He must destroy it. Therefore the "LAW OF SIN AND DEATH" will ever operate, for the WORD which created the Universe, the same WORD also upholds and governs the same. Of this Truth Matt. 24:35 perhaps is indicative: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my WORDS shall not pass away."

While we point to the eternal character of the "Law of Sin and Death" and while the "Mosaic Law" is a reasonable expression of the aforementioned Law reduced to writing, yet, taken as a whole,—and so it should be taken—it applied only from Sinai, where it was given, to the Cross, where it was fulfilled, and was given to Israel only. As stated it was an expression of the moral Law with numerous ceremonial, dictary and religious laws, ordinances and rites added, to adapt it to the peculiar relationship and purpose, God had with Israel as a Nation, under the old Covenant. Under the "New Covenant," which God will make with the house of Israel, after those days, (Jer. 31:31-40) with Israel back in their OWN LAND, Satan bound, and their Messiah, as the Son of David, upon the Throne of his Father David (Luke 1:32 as "KING OVER ALL THE EARTH" (Zech. 14:9), with the LAW of God put into their HEARTS and written into their MINDS, they will all KNOW THE LORD GOD, the MILLENNIUM will be upon them and upon the whole earth, and no doubt, some of the old ceremonial Laws and Ordinances, with possibly new ones added, will have their place in the manner of millennial worship. —Concerning the Mosaic Law and the

Prophets, the Lord stated that 'not one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass, TILL ALL BE FULFILLED,'—the shadow may pass, after the body has come. (Matt. 5:17-18 and Col. 2:17). This is indicative of the temporal nature of the Mosaic economy as far as it contained "ceremonial" Laws.

Now let us proceed with an analysis of the basic LAW OF SIN AND DEATH. To begin with, as far as it relates to man, it is an UNWRITTEN LAW. It is built into all nature and especially is it built into the very fiber of HUMAN NATURE and MAN'S CONSTITUTION. Our scriptural basis for this is Romans 2:14-15:

"For when the Gentiles, which have not the Law, (written by Moses) DO BY NATURE the things contained in the Law, these, having not the Law, are A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES: which (in that they, the Gentiles) shew the WORK OF THE LAW WRITTEN IN THEIR HEARTS . . ."

To be sure, Moses reduced to writing on stones the basic, mostly negative: "thou shalt NOT" commandments, governing the principal relationships between Man and God, and Man to Man, and that primarily for the benefit of Israel. It is likewise true that tribes and nations rose from their "Jungle Law" existence, to a civilization of Law and order as they built themselves a code of Statutes based, either directly or indirectly upon the Mosaic Law and as their Courts upheld these Laws in practice. But the fact remains that these Laws have their root in Man's Heart and Conscience, because GOD PUT THEM THERE. They can operate because MAN like GOD, KNOWETH GOOD and EVIL (Gen. 3:22), which is the basis of DOING (WORKING) RIGHT and DOING WRONG, in his relationships with God and Man.

But O! for the pity of it all: Man knoweth THE GOOD but DOETH THE EVIL. And in the Light of the revelation of God's Word, man could KNOW and APPROVE even the EXCELLENT THINGS, carry them into practice, bless the Race and fill his own heart with Peace and Joy un-

YOUTH TODAY IS THINKING OF GOD

A serious young soldier stood before the receptionist's desk in the busy USO center and asked for a room alone. "But why alone?" asked the girl. "I just want to be alone," the soldier answered. He was told that rooms are scarce, that the custom was to put two or three service men in each room. But the young soldier insisted "he must be alone in a room." Seeing his earnestness the girl asked him if he could tell her why.

He hesitated, then said with a rush, "I have just four hours leave, only four, before I report to Port of Embarkation. I want a room alone so that I can spend these last hours in prayer." He got the room.

As never before in the world's history the youth of today are thinking about prayer, about God, about the serious things of life. A soldier boy writes home from the South Pacific: "You folks back home need a new sense of values. I know how it is. You wonder what to do for amusements, and consider the pros and cons of skating rinks, bowling, movies, dancing and kindred time killers. But believe me, when you get out here and find yourself sitting in a fox hole, wondering if the next moment will be your last, you don't give a second's thought to such matters. They don't appeal to you as worth thinking about less doing. The most important question is whether your sins are forgiven. Believe me, I'm serious, for I realize there won't be any starless crowns in heaven. I've really learned to pray out here in the dripping jungle, for I'm a company aid man, and that's plenty dangerous. But do not get me wrong. I'm really afraid of one thing, that I won't be ready to meet God."

speakable and full of Glory, and in it all glorify his Creator, who made Man in His own image that He may lift him into His OWN GLORY. But now: "It is appointed unto men once TO DIE, but after this THE JUDGMENT."

(To be continued)

NEWS

Word has just been received by the Silver Lining staff of the untimely death of Helen Anliker, age 16, and her brother Richard, age 22 of West Bend, Iowa. They are the daughter and the son of Noah Anliker. Their mother, Elizabeth Anliker, preceded them in death. Helen met her death January 12th, when she was unable to escape from their burning home, and Richard died at the Ft. Dodge hospital from burns received while trying to rescue his sister. Richard was discharged from the Navy May 16, 1946. The home and its contents were destroyed. The Anlikers, grief stricken at the death of the two, had nothing but the clothes on their backs.

The day after the fire the Algonia American Legion auxiliary called a special meeting and brought blankets for the family. Soon help was pouring in for the stricken family. Sympathetic friends and neighbors in and about Algonia, West Bend, Bradgate, Ottosen, Hardy, and Bode started a fund to provide a new home for the family. More than \$4500.00 was raised quickly, and a house and four acres of land was purchased in Bradgate.

The Silver Lining staff wishes to express their deepest sympathy to the grief stricken family and may their hope be to be reunited in a glorious reunion where sorrows are unknown.

Leo Indiana

Joel Souder, Henry Schwartz, Ulrich Kipfer, Edward Schlatter, Herman Schlatter, and Elias Souder attended the Brotherhood Aid Meeting at Milford, Indiana.

James Winzeler who is in the armed forces, is spending several days with his brother, Raymond Winzeler and his family.

Baptismal services for Ethelyn Schlatter were on Sunday January 19. Elder Elias Dotterer officiating.

Mrs. S. J. Stuart and son Edward of Elkhart, Indiana visited with Edward Getz and the Elias Souder family.

The Misses Viola Knochel and Maxine Friedinger of Bay City, Michigan, Kenneth German and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Miller of Bremen, Indi-

ana visited with friends here on Sunday January 19.

Rev. and Mrs. Elias Winzeler and daughter Dorothy spent several days with the Raymond Winzeler family.

Among the group of Bluffton visitors at the Leo church on Sunday evening January 19th were the Rev. Henry Dotterer, Rev. John Yergler and Elder Samuel Aeschliman of Bluffton, Rev. Ben Zimmerman of Goodfield, Illinois and Rev. Louis Bahr of Sabetha, Kansas.

The group serving at the Sewing Circle were pleasantly surprised on Thursday January 23 with Bremen visitors. They were Mrs. Daniel Clauss, Mrs. Henry J. Souder, Mrs. John Laidig, Jr., Mrs. Carl Zeltwanger and Mr. and Mrs. Don Zeltwanger.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Schlatter are the proud parents of a baby girl born January 13th. They have named her Joice Kay.

A large number of the Leo Sunday School spent a blessed day and evening February 2 at Milford, Indiana. The Rev. Elias Winzeler and family of Chicago were present. In the evening the regular Young People's program was held. Both the Milford and Leo Sunday Schools took part. For the evening a large number from Bremen attended and the church was filled to capacity. Thanks to the Milford congregation for a wonderful day we spent with them.

Akron, Ohio

Brother Forest Ritzman held services in Monroe County today.

Brother Philip Webber has been on the sick list a few days. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Bluffton, Indiana

Mrs. Mary Kipfer announced the engagement of her daughter, Dorothy, to Harold Schladenhaufen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Schladenhaufen.

On Sunday, January 19, Marie Gerber and Joe Kipfer were united in marriage.

On December 27, Ann Catherine Isch, year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Isch, passed away after being suddenly stricken with the flu. Also Delila Gerber, five-week-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Obed Ger-

ber, passed away on December 28. Both of the babies were laid to rest on Monday, December 30, with Rev. Sam Aeschliman officiating.

John Yergler has been elected as our new minister. We wish him much grace and many blessings in his new task.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Gerber, Dorothy Moser, Irene Isch, Doris Gilliom, Alice Troxel, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meyer spent the week end of January 12 visiting friends and relatives in Cissna Park, Illinois.

Truman Baumgartner, Donald Gerber, Richard Reineck, Kenneth Troxel, Vernon Gerber, Richard Yergler, and Alvin Fiechter were among those who visited the Cissna Park, Illinois Congregation on January 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Aechliman are the proud parents of a son.

Chicago, Illinois

Floyd Grimm of Oakville, Iowa and Elizabeth Knapp of Cissna Park, Illinois were married on Thanksgiving Day. Elizabeth has been working in Chicago for some time and now they are establishing their home here. Floyd previously was engaged in farming.

On Sunday, December 29, we had visitors from Tremont, Illinois including Rev. Simon Waganbach.

We are glad to have Johnny Waganbach from Oakville, Iowa with us for a couple of months.

Rev. and Mrs. Al Fisher and daughter, Helen, Isabelle Feller, and Doris Scharlach spent the week-end of January 12, at Remington, Indiana.

James Winzeler arrived home from New Mexico for a two-week furlough.

Elgin, Illinois

Mrs. Jonathan Steffen and sons, Melvin and Johnnie, and daughters, Marion and Judy, spent a few days during the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wiegand at Deer Creek, Illinois.

Marie Metzger who has been ill for sometime was moved to the Evangelical Hospital Chicago, January 16. Her parents from Iowa are spending a few days with her.

Clara Banwart spent the holidays with her parents at Went Bend, Iowa.

Four cars of young folks spent January 19, at the Chicago Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Gurst of Oak-

ville, Iowa visited at the home of Ezra Steffen, January 19. They went to Chicago at noon.

Fairbury, Illinois

Brother George Zimmerman, Sr., passed away New Year's Day at the age of 82 years. Funeral services were held January 4th with Brother David Mangold of Roanoke officiating.

Brothers Eli Somerhalter and Joseph Farney of Kiowa, Kansas held services here on Sunday evening January 19th.

Misses Helen and Viola Huber of Francesville, Indiana, and Miss Katharine Huber of Fairbury, Illinois visited relatives and friends at Roanoke, Peoria, and Princeville, Illinois for several days.

Francesville, Indiana

A large group spent New Year's evening in the Sunday School room, with singing, Bible Study, readings, and prayers. Many blessings were received during the past year, and we are wishing for new spiritual blessings in the New Year.

On Tuesday, January 14, a group from here took beef to the Grabill Canning Factory where it was canned for European relief. Many from the Leo Congregation so willingly also gave their assistance. David Lantz's served the dinner and Herman Bertsch's served supper before returning home. Over fifteen hundred cans were brought back for packing.

Rev. George Yergler conducted baptismal services here January 19, for Alberta Huber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Huber. She is employed at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Von Tobel, Jr. had a birthday supper for Mrs. Chris Wuethrich, January 16. Her entire family was present except her daughter, Wilma, who lives in Akron, Ohio.

Latty, Ohio

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stoller and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Stoller left Monday, January 20th for a trip to California.

Miss Doris Zeltwanger and Mr. Lowell Zeltwanger spent a week with relatives and friends here.

A farewell gathering in honor of Miss Alvina Grueter was held at the Jesse Gerber home Friday evening, January 24th.

The Misses Helen, Mildred, Alice, Margaret, and Laura Wieland and

Audrey Freidinger spent the weekend of January 19th at Mr. and Mrs. Clem Wieland.

Rev. Irvin Stoller is home from the hospital again after an operation.

Mansfield, Ohio

Miss Freida Kaschuba and Mr. Ben Beer were united in marriage Sunday, December 29th. Elder Sam Aeschli-man performed the ceremony. Out-of-town guests were from Fairbury, Illinois, Milford, Indiana and Girard, Ohio.

On January 12th, Miss Reah Domka of Mansfield, and Mr. Harold Beery of Rittman, were united in marriage, with Elder Noah Hartzler officiating. Many relatives and friends from Rittman, Akron, and Girard attended the wedding.

Mrs. Walter Pfister's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gerber of Bluffton, Indiana visited at the Pfister home for several days in January.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sabo spent the weekend of January 26th visiting friends and relatives in Fairbury, Illinois.

Sunday, January 19th, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Oesch visited in Rittman, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Sauder and several of their children also visited there Sunday, January 26th.

Milford, Indiana

Theo. Beer was suddenly taken ill and taken to the Elkhart Hospital, on January 18. He is making favorable improvement, and we hope he can soon be with us again.

Elias Dotterer of Junction, Henry Beer and Lois Beer of Milford, and Lois Knockel of Bay City spent several days in Alabama, week ending January 26th, and returned on January 29th.

Otto Norr and wife, Amos Schladenhaufen and wife, and Louise Schlatter spent Sunday, January 16th at Milford.

The Brotherhood Aid held the Annual Meeting at Milford, on January 20th. Representatives of the Aid came from Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, Michigan, Kansas, Oklahoma, Illinois and Indiana.

Oakville, Iowa

The engagement of John Schrock, son of Elder and Mrs. Noah Schrock,

to Miss Ruth Marti, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marti of La Marr, Missouri, was made known at the Oakville and La Marr churches.

Elders Noah Schrock and Joseph Widmer, the latter of Sabetha, Kansas, are visiting the churches at Maywood, California and Portland, Ore.

The engagement of Miss Clara Banwart of La Marr, Missouri and Mr. Robert Frank, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Frank of Oakville was announced January 12th.

Mrs. Martha Hinrichsen passed away at the Burlington hospital January 22nd. Services were held for her at Prughs Chapel at Burlington.

Ellsworth and Esther Graf of Akron, Ohio, spent the weekend of January 4th in Oakville.

Ruth and Eunice Marti of La Marr, Missouri were also week-end guests in the community.

Remington, Indiana

On December 29th the engagement of Kathryn Ann Getz, daughter of Phil Getz, to Eldon Beer of Milford was announced.

We had the pleasure of having Rev. Al Fisher and wife of Chicago as our visitors on Sunday, January 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Graf of Akron, Ohio, were over-night visitors in our community on January 15. They stopped here on their way home from a visit at Oakville, Iowa and points in Illinois.

We had visitors from Bay City, Michigan on Sunday, January 19, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knochel, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Wackerle, Joe Wackerle and Mr. and Mrs. John Lambert, and in the evening Elder Otto Ramseyer, Sam and Matt Wieland. All had returned from the funeral of Mr. Sam Ramseyer which was held in Peoria.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Maibach of Detroit were over night visitors in our community on January 21.

A number of our dear friends are seeking the Lord, and we are certainly very glad for them, wishing them much grace and wisdom from above for their undertaking.

Several members of the Fager family and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zeltwanger were visitors here Sunday, January 26.

(Continued on page 8)

Oehringen,
November 13, 1946.

To Willie Schlipf

To the Apostolic Christian Church

For the beginning I wish you all the best for Soul and Body. Some-time ago already we (members and friends) received via Switzerland a rather large shipment of charitable presents from U. S. A. To my regret, until this day I was not able to learn who the dear contributors of this abundant shipment were, however, I do not wish hesitating any longer expressing my heartfelt thanks to all those loved ones for the rich blessing we all derived from said shipment.

Many a distress of need was softened and many a sorrow therewith could be taken off. Not only for myself, but in the name of all, who can be remembered with those gifts, I wish to thank you and pray the Lord to be a rich rewarder to all dear contributors in time and in eternity. The gifts have not been distributed among us and our friends only, but according to the scripture: Let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. The distress and need is great, especially also among the refugees from the east, who often scarcely have the most needed things. How grateful are such, if one can become a help to them. One hardly can imagine the distress, except those who are finding themselves in want. It is hard to be starving or being in dire need of clothing and shoes while facing the winter and not being able to buy something, for the reason it not being available. Besides all this, how many are yet in sorrow about their loved ones being still in captivity, or of whom for years they know nothing, from one time to another hoping to hear of them, perhaps as just recently a son wrote to his mother: Dear Mother, sell my things and buy food and send it to me (he is in French captivity) perhaps you may preserve my life, as I have to work 10 hours a day, receiving one plate thin soup. For this mother, however, there is no possibility to help, but with help of the U. S. A. relief-shipment we were able to render help. Therefore, I do believe, that God's rich

Letters

I just got acquainted with The Silver Lining last spring when one of my sons was discharged from the service, where he had been receiving it. Beings we have no church out here, I surely look forward for your little paper that brings church and its news into my home. It is such a great blessing to us; and may the Good Lord add his blessings to the Silver Lining."

Mrs. Fred Eggli,
Tremonton, Utah.

* * *

"Received your paper the past year. The Subscription was a Christmas gift from a friend; and I enjoyed it very much, and received much comfort there from; as I am an invalid, and shut-in most of the time. I received many blessings, as I read and re-read the articles. Especially on Sunday, when alone, while others can attend church."

Frieda Hoffman,
Rockville, Conn.

* * *

"Men in no way approach so near to God as when doing good to men, and God, the Great Giver, can open the whole universe to our gaze in the narrow space of a single line."

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Ries,
Akron, Ohio.

Some people devote all of their religion to going to church.

blessing will rest upon such a selfless Relief-Action. The merciful Samaritan did render help without respect of person and by God's word we are told to do likewise. Again I am expressing to you all my heartfelt thanks. God, who does not leave unrewarded what has been done for his name's sake, in his mercy remember you all according to his promise.

I pray you not to take amiss the delay in writing and will you please extend our heartfelt thanks to other congregations having participated in this Relief-work. Hearty greetings.

In thankfulness yours,

Carl Link.

SERVING OUR LORD PERSONALLY

By Arthur Gasser

Perhaps the first serious thought of a newly converted person besides thanking the Lord for his redemption is how he from now on might be of some service to the Lord or His people. This is a good healthy spiritual thought, and if we read the 25th chapter in St. Matthew we can see how our Lord Jesus gives encouragement to us to also carry out such good intentions. He points out that even those small favors that we might do to his people that are around us will be counted as if we would have done it unto Him personally. We can even be classed with such as Mary and Martha who had opportunity to do him favors directly. There is no doubt even friends of the truth who are making such resolutions in their hearts. They perhaps even look forward to the time when they can be of more service to His people. This is also a good resolution for friends to make.

The apostle Paul also upheld such views wherein he says that we should give our lives as a living sacrifice to the Lord, which is our reasonable service. We can believe that often a reward is awaiting us in this life already if we are of a generous nature, as we find in Luke 6:38, "Give, and it shall be given unto you." However, let us notice the word, "give" is first; in other words it is sometimes necessary for us to give when there isn't much to spare. However, this is where we can be found doing most, as it was said of the poor widow who cast into the treasury two mites, St. Luke 21:3, and Christ said, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all.

We can believe that to be of service to others, to live the unselfish Christian life is perhaps the desire of all newly converted persons, and would also be so carried out if we would not have Satan to reckon with. How well does he know that he can wilt or wither our spiritual courage greatly if he can prevent us from gathering this necessary oil in our vessels, or to discourage us from making the proper use of the talent entrusted un-

to us, or to prevent us from doing those countless small favors unto those around us.

We can, however, be very thankful that there are so many teachings and warnings left in store for us in the Holy Bible to read and profit there from. If it were not for this 25th chapter in St. Matthew we might even form the opinion that all that is required of us to be pleasing unto the Lord and to inherit eternal life is to seek remission for our past misdeeds and after we are taken into the fold of the good shepherd to resist the base and common sins, which is indeed all called for; but if we would stop there it would put us about in the class of either the foolish virgins, or the servant that buried his talent, or the last type mentioned in this chapter, those that saw His brethren in need and did no favors for them, thus did not minister unto the Savior personally.

We will observe that in those three mentioned classes none of them were mentioned as being vile sinners. They were likely the type that outwardly were Christians, but we have to fear that in their hearts they were either ignorant or selfish or both. Does it not make us shudder to read of the punishment meted out to them? How glad can we be that in our time there are yet many true Christians who are giving their lives in a wise and unselfish way for the welfare and benefit of others. May the Lord bless such richly and encourage many more to do likewise.

TO OUR YOUTH

Hear, O my Son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Let thine eye look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Pr. 4:10, 20, 22, 23, 25.

The glory of young men is their strength . . . Pr. 20:29.

THE BIBLE

(Continued from Jan. 15 Issue)

II. The Septuagint, or "Version of the Seventy."

It is called the LXX. It occupies the highest place as a Greek version of the Old Testament. An old tradition declares that it was prepared by seventy learned Jews of Alexandria, having translated it from the Hebrew; that these seventy (or seventy-two), translators, each in a separate cell, made a complete translation of the entire Old Testament, and when these were compared they were so identical they were regarded as inspired.

It is quite evident from the rendering of different portions that the work was done at different times. It is believed by some that it was begun in the reign of Ptolemy Lagos and finished in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, about 285 B. C. It is not an accurate translation. There are many variations from the Hebrew which accounts for the difference we sometimes notice between the Old Testament and the quotations from the Septuagint by the Evangelists and Apostles, our Old Testament being translated direct from the Hebrew. It was this version the writers of the New Testament used, and it would seem to be the only Scripture with which the Jews of Alexandria and early Christian writers were familiar.

In the second century A. D. the Alexandrian Jews requested Aquila to make a new translation so as to correct the inaccuracies of this version. His translation was exceedingly literal, was highly esteemed by the Jews and is quoted in the Talmud. It was discredited, however, by the early Christian writers.

The Septuagint rendered a remarkable service in preparing the way for the coming of Christ. Following as it did the work of Alexander the Great it afforded the Greek-speaking world the opportunity of reading the Scriptures, and especially the prophetic writings, in the language of the day and thus brought to that time the Messianic truths of the Old Testament.

III. The Syriac or Peshito Version.

This was made at Edessa in Mesopotamia at the close of the first century A. D. It is the most ancient

copy of the whole Bible containing all the books of the Old Testament, and with the exception of the II and III Epistles of John, II Peter, Jude and Revelation, all the books of the New Testament. It is a translation from the Hebrew into the Syriac, "and has been always accepted by all sections of the Syrian Church as Authentic, and from it several Arabic translations have been made."

Peculiar interest attaches to the Ancient Versions since these translations of the Bible into the language of early Christendom greatly antedated the oldest of our present Greek manuscripts. It is quite possible that the parents of some of these who used these Bibles had seen the apostles, and it will be readily seen that these translations would be of great value in determining the original text. The Syriac Version, the language of which was so much like that of the people of our Lord's time, was in use about fifty years after the New Testament was written.

IV. The Latin Vulgate.

Many errors had crept into the Old Latin Versions which called for a revision. To perform this great task, Damascus, bishop of Rome, appealed to St. Jerome, one of the greatest scholars of his day. He took up his residence at Bethlehem and spent many years on the translation of the New Testament into Latin, and the Old Testament from the Hebrew, the latter being a task of which at that time probably no other person would have been capable.

He completed the New Testament in 385 A. D. We have a right to assume that he used the oldest manuscripts and that his authorities, no doubt, carried him back to apostolic times. "No other work," says Smyth, "has ever had such an influence on the history of the Bible. For more than a thousand years it was the parent of every version of the Scriptures in Western Europe, and even now, when the Greek and Hebrew manuscripts are so easily accessible, that Rhemish and Douay Testaments are translations direct from the Vulgate, and its influence is quite perceptible even on our own Authorized Version."

From the time of Gregory the Great it became the authorized version of

the Western Church, but at first it had to overcome the most pronounced prejudice. It was charged with being heretical and subversive of faith in the scriptures and it impiously altered the inspired Word of God. Every attempt was made by the bigotry of the time to bring it into disrepute. But Jerome knew that he was safeguarding the Scriptures against the faulty translations then in the hands of the people. To understand this antagonism it is only necessary for us to recall the attitude of many people to our Revised Version which appeared in 1881-1885.

It won its way into the hearts and minds of the people but when, a thousand years later, it was condemned as inaccurate by the Council of Trent, there was as much objection to this as at first it had been severely criticised. In the sixteenth century several revisions were issued and in 1593 Clement VIII issued what is the present standard edition.

These versions of the Bible, "written at different times, and in countries widely separated one from another, are for the most part independent testimonies, and are not mere copies of some one common original, as their verbal differences sufficiently attest; but their complete agreement in all essential points demonstrates the care with which these various books have been preserved, while it establishes their authenticity far more satisfactorily than that of any other ancient work."

A Prayer

Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace
That where there is hatred—
I may bring love;
That where there is wrong—
I may bring the spirit of forgiveness;
That where there is discord—
I may bring harmony;
That where there is error—
I may bring truth;
That where there is doubt—
I may bring faith;
That where there is despair—
I may bring hope;
That where there are shadows—
I may bring light;
That where there is sadness—
I may bring joy.
Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort
Than to be comforted;
To understand than to be understood;
To love than to be loved.
For it is by giving that we receive;
It is by self-forgiving that one finds;
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven;
It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal
Life.
—Francis of Assisi.

NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

West Bend, Iowa

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Fehr and children, Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Fehr, and other relatives and friends from Morris, Minn., visited us.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bauway, Dec. 30. The joy of the parents was for a short time only as the little one passed away Tuesday, December 31. They have the sympathy of all our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Gerber are the parents of an eight pound girl born, Saturday, December 28.

Miss Clara Banwart came from Elgin, Illinois to visit her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Paul Banwart.

Morton, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Getz and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Altorfer of Peoria are spending several weeks' vacation in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Rocke of Morton and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rocke of Eureka are spending several weeks in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Art Gudeman, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Bucher from LaCross, Indiana, and Mr. and Mrs. Matt Sturtz from Gridley were guests with us Sunday, January, 19.

Rev. Ben Heininger, Ben Freidinger, John Schick, Sam Huette, and Sam Ackerman attended a meeting held at Milford, Indiana, January 20.

Princeville, Illinois

Funeral services for Sam Streitmatter who passed away at his home December 27, were held Monday morning, December 30. Rev. Joe Gets of Morton and Rev. Frank Waertz of Goodfield conducted services. Rev. Ben Heininger of Morton and Rev. Fred Rager of Ohio also attended. Sam served as one of the trustees of the church. He served faithfully until a short time ago when his health forced him to quit. He leaves his wife, several sons and daughters, a number of grandchildren and a host of friends. Our sympathy goes out to the entire family.

On Sunday, January 5, Miss Sylvia Streitmatter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Streitmatter and Wilmer Blunier, son of Mrs. Marie Blunier of

Roanoke were united in marriage by Rev. Frank Waertz of Goodfield. Attendants were Mrs. Orval Rocke, sister of the bride and Samuel Blunier.

On Sunday, January, 12, Lois Miller, daughter of Mrs. Hattie Miller, of Pulaski, and Mr. Daniel Endress, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Endress, of Speer, Illinois, were united in marriage by Rev. Noah Schrock of Oakville, Iowa. They were attended by Harold Zimmerman of Morton and Mary Miller, sister of the bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ehule of Princeville have announced the engagement of their daughter, Esther, to Mr. Ray Streitmatter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Streitmatter of Edelstein, Illinois.

We are happy to have Vernon Streitmatter with us again. He has served over a year with the army and has been stationed at camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Recent visitors in the Princeville community were Rev. and Mrs. Rudolph Graf of Akron, Ohio and Eli, Anna and Rose Rager of Payne, Ohio.

The thing that goes the farthest toward making life worthwhile,
That costs the least and does the most,
is just a pleasant smile—
The smile that bubbles from a heart
that loves its fellow men
Will drive away the cloud of gloom
and coax the sun again;
It's full of worth and goodness too,
with manly kindness blent,
It's worth a million dollars, and it
doesn't cost a cent.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

O THAT SUCH WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN

Noah Hartzler, Elder
Rittman, Ohio.

SALVATION

Philip Gutwein, Jr., Pastor
Francesville, Ind.

SERVING OUR LORD PERSONALLY

Arthur Gasser
Sterling, Ohio

THE SILVER LINING

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