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GRABILL, INDIANA

A Golden Investment

[All of us are interested in how we are doing. We want to know how we stand with our God. We should be carefully looking at and analyzing ourselves, even to see if we are lukewarm, be it a trifle or a lot. Our mind should be a suggestion box, through which a fellow pilgrim's exhortation is received and carefully and prayerfully considered. If some does not conform to God's Word, it should be discarded. What does should be eagerly received so it becomes a part of us and our actions. Most of the following is an exhortation with scripture from a beloved brother from our Francesville church, Melvin Huber. As we believe, he out of love speaks to us. Are we also out of love willing to give an ear to hear?]

Listen! Is this sentence being pronounced upon you or me? "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint

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DOING GOOD

[This world of ours is sick. Civilization is in convulsions! What can you or I do that would help sore and wounded humanity? Are we responsible if we neglect the task our God has appointed us to do? A faithful minister of our Bremen church, Herman Heuni, speaks to you and me, heart to heart, through the printed word. It is an excellent idea to drink in his message and improve our

Wonderful Words of Comfort!

"My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah."

Christian living. After all, should we not be youthful in heart and willing to change, if we can please our Master more?]

It has been a matter of nearly six thousand years since the Lord created Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Countless millions have been born, have lived and have passed on. Almost every experience imaginable has happened to Man during that time and yet, he still has to learn the lesson he should have learned thousands of years ago, namely, how to

get along with his fellow man. Today, as he has for centuries, he recompenses evil for evil, believes self-preservation is the first law of life, and success is a matter of the survival of the fittest. Any opposition he encounters, he sooner or later will try to overcome with the use of force; frustration begets hate and thus the seeds of enmity are sown.

In a larger sense this same truth is applicable to the nations of the world. Treaties may be signed and agreements entered into, but as soon as the dignity of a nation has been imposed upon, incidents occur, the treaties are forgotten, and in an incredibly short time, swords are brandished and Man's inhumanity to Man again makes itself known.

We live in a materially enlightened age. Scientific progress and inventions in the last half century are so great they reach staggering proportions, but we have not kept step in those matters pertaining to spiritual welfare and human understanding. Hundreds of electrical and mechanical inventions alone lighten the burden of the housewife, the farmer, the shop worker and have changed drudgery, in many cases, to pleasurable employment, yet man today employs the same old unsuccessful method of dealing with his fellow man. Under stress, his thin veneer of civilization is soon worn off and he resorts to medieval methods of an eye

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The Wonderful Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

[We stand in awe and astonishment at the brilliance that shines from God's Word. Hidden away wisely from unbelieving eyes are secrets which when revealed through the Lord's help cause us to stand in amazement. Each word and each phrase is sent on a definite errand and has God's definite promise it will accomplish its purpose. Donald Schlatter of our Leo church is narrator. Shall we listen to learn more about this precious book? What gems can we gather from the Old Testament that will tell us more of this One who gave up ivory palaces and became a servant, suffering the penalty of death for others?]

In studying the Old Testament, we find running throughout the 39 books a multitude of references to Christ. In fact, the Old Testament would lose most of its significance without these references. Christ is the central figure of the Old Testament as well as the New. There are hundreds of references which may be called "types" of Christ. The ark in which Noah and his family were saved is an example of a type of Christ, as it was the only salvation from the flood. One needs only to consider the many events of the Old Testament to see the parallels between events in Christ's life and Old Testament events. As soldiers of the cross, we should prayerfully study God's Word, and God will open unto us the mysteries of His Word. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15. Then we can begin to see the wonderful working of the hand of God in planning for man's redemption hundreds and even thousands of years before Christ came to earth. Marvelously He revealed His plan to man so that whoever reads with a receptive heart can believe that Jesus is indeed the Redeemer, promised to man centuries before He came.

As we study in God's Word, we find certain definite prophecies about Christ's coming and life. These vary from the types in that they are more

definite or exact in their reference to Christ. They are spoken directly by God or through His prophets and give remarkably exact knowledge of Christ long before His birth. They are God's history written in advance. How wonderful it is to have the great God who holds the far distant future in His hand to be our Father! How we can rejoice at His great love for us unworthy ones!

The first prophecy of Christ was spoken to the serpent (Satan) in the garden. God said to him: "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Genesis 3:15.

The Bible does not speak of natural children as being **Seed of a woman**. Natural children are called seed of their fathers or of men. To fulfill this prophecy, Christ had to be born of a woman but not a man, exactly what took place in the virgin birth of Christ. How marvelously God's prophecy was fulfilled to the minutest detail!

God foretold the coming of Christ to Abraham almost two thousand years before He came. "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice." Christ, the only hope of any nation for real blessing, was the fulfillment of the prophecy. Probably even Abraham did not fully understand the meaning of this prophecy at the time it was given. God prepares His words of prophecy in such a way so that they will not be revealed until His appointed time.

Isaac and Jacob also received God's promise that the Messiah would come from their descendants. Using the same words, God spoke to them as He did to Abraham. These prophecies are recorded in Genesis 26:4 and Genesis 28:14. In Genesis 49:10 we see that Christ would come from the tribe of Judah. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah; the royal line of Christ's ancestry was divinely foretold hundreds of years before.

Isaiah, moved by the Spirit, prophesied that Christ would be heir to the throne of David, the king. The book of Isaiah contains so many important and accurate prophecies of Christ that it has sometimes been called the "Gospel of Isaiah." Open the book of Isaiah and read these precious words written more than 700 years before Christ's birth. You will be thrilled with the marvelous prophecy of our Lord. "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel," "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. . . ." "He is despised and rejected of men . . ." "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: . . ." "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows". Every word was fulfilled exactly as the prophet had spoken. There is no guesswork in God's planning, there are no miscalculations or mistakes. Every detail is taken care of in a manner that frail humans can never understand, for all things done of God are perfect.

God left no room for doubt that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. Even the place of His birth was revealed to the prophet Micah, Jeremiah foretold of the killing of the infants by the wicked king Herod. Christ's journey to Egypt, His ministry in Galilee, His triumphal entry into Jerusalem are all prophesied in God's Word. That His own friend would betray Him and even the exact price, 30 pieces of silver, was also prophesied. Zechariah foretold that this money would be used to buy a potter's field, which is exactly what happened.

The awful picture of Christ's rejection, torture, and crucifixion was revealed to the prophets also. Isaiah told how He was to be beaten and spit upon, how He was numbered among the transgressors, how we are healed by His stripes and wounds, and how He would be buried in a rich man's tomb. Soldiers cast lots for His clothing according to prophecy, His hands and feet and side were pierced according to prophecy, He was given gall and vinegar to drink, He prayed for His enemies after being mocked and insulted, and no bone was broken, all according to the words of the

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A GOLDEN INVESTMENT

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thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Revelation 3:15-19.

This direct message from God's Holy Word is meant for us also to consider who constitute the church of Jesus Christ in this present day. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness". (II Tim. 3:16)

His pleading voice of today will soon be a mighty voice as the sound of many waters; we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (II Corinthians 5:10).

When we drink a glass of water, we want it cold; when we drink a cup of coffee, we like it hot, but it is nauseating to drink it lukewarm. God says, "because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." Why were they lukewarm? God makes it very clear. "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." They were lukewarm and didn't know it! God says "and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked". There we have it, just as sinners, deceived by Satan, know not their need of Christ, even so these Christians, coasting along, were unaware of the state in which God saw them.

In view of the afore-mentioned facts, the overwhelming question is—How can one be situated in the desirable position God would have His children be? The desired position is, of course, to be "hot," to be "burning" within with the flame of Jesus' love, to be ablaze with the fire and power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:3, 4).

God says, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich". It may require going through the fires of trials (I Pet. 4:12), but, oh, "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" (I Peter 4:13). Here then is a mighty contrast. Do we as Christians live day by day, giving first place to our desire for material accumulation, or our attempts for personal recognition, in some way or other, and giving second place to the witnessing and testimony of Christ? If we place the claims of Christ first in our lives, regardless of the cost to ourselves, we shall be on our way to receive the desired position (Matt. 6:33, Acts 6:2, Romans 12:1, 2).

Matthew 6:19, 20 says, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." What kind of gold are we going to lay up for ourselves? Are we really giving "considerably" to the Lord's work? Are we giving sacrificially? Can we rejoice, inasmuch as we are partakers of Christ's sufferings?

Ah, this is something far superior to that gold that shall fade away. This gold has already been tried in the fire and has stood the test. Someday soon, "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward" (I Corinthians 3:13, 14).

This, then, is the gold to be desired. It can be bought from God; it's gone through the fire, proven its eternal durability. How did the apostle, Paul, gather this gold? "... what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ" (Philippians 3:7). "... I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me" (I Corinthians 15:10). "Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation" (Romans 15:20). Paul tells us to be followers of himself even as he also is of Christ. (I Corinthians 11:1.) Then Paul also says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, un-

moveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (I Corinthians 15:58.) Our example, the Lord Jesus Christ, "made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant" (Philippians 2:7), and though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor (II Corinthians 8:9), and he went about doing good (Acts 10:38).

To be filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit, to live and tell the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ, this is gold tried in the fire. This world has 2,000 spoken languages. *More than 1,000 of them have not even one word of Scripture in their own language.* The language of the Scripture is "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). How can they feed on the Word or how can they live by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4), if they don't have it? How tragic that there are 600,000,000 people living today in sin and degradation, in superstition and fear, "having no hope, and without God in the world", that have never heard of Jesus and His love!

Who will be zealous (Revelation 3:19)? Who will follow the example of Jesus, of the Apostle Paul, and of the other apostles? "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

THE WONDERFUL WORD OF GOD

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prophets. His resurrection was foretold as well as His ascension.

Could it be coincidence? In the light of the overwhelming evidence, every clear-thinking person must admit that this is more than coincidence. It is the marvelous revelation of God in the Old Testament concerning His Son and our Saviour. Thinking on God's marvelous prophecy should strengthen the faith of every believer and awaken the hearts of those outside the fold, for just as surely as were these prophecies fulfilled to the letter, so will the return of our Lord follow the plan laid down in God's Word. God's promises are sure. May we all be ready!

Sunshine for Shut-ins

and

OTHER PILGRIMS

You may be bedfast or cooped up in a house, but have you ever thought of this very thing as an opportunity? Have you ever thanked God that His love to you is in deed and truth an eternal, everlasting love? Paul suffered the fetters of imprisonment. He could have sorrowed over the fact that he was no longer free to tread the field of humanity, telling the glorious news of a Saviour. But what does he say? "But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;" Here we see a great gospel principle which not only worked in Paul's life, but can work in yours and mine, also. The imprisonment of a child of God, whether it be the bonds of sickness, infirmity, or any other, fall out rather to the furtherance of God's will.

Dear Mrs. Will Knobloch of Wyoming, Illinois, encloses a poem in her letter. She says, "I learned this by heart long ago and it has been a great help." It is titled "Near the Dawn."

When life's troubles gather darkly
Round the path we travel here.
When no hope the sad heart lightens,
No voice speaks a word of cheer,
Let this thought the shadows scatter,
Giving you a cheery ray:
When the night appears the darkest,
Morning is not far away.

Pain cannot afflict us always,
Brighter days will soon be here,
Sorrow may oppress us often,
But a happier day is near.
All along your pilgrim journey,
This reflection lights the way.
When the night appears the darkest,
Morning is not far away.

Yes, Mrs. Knobloch, were it not for the fact that eternal springtime with our Redeemer was in view, life would not be worth living. But living with this blessed hope, we spend our brief moment here rejoicing, e'en though sorrows and trials be multiplied.

Two of the Francesville children have a hobby we should all sit up and notice. Girls, ages 11 and 8, enjoy making cards to send to "shut-ins." Pictures and seals are pasted on postcards and a little message of love is written. They want to work for Jesus this way. Mother helps also. We hope there will be lots of girls and boys who will start a hobby like this. You will get a lot of enjoyment from it, and best of all, you will be cheering somebody's heart.

If we can place ourselves in the shoes of the dear ones who received these cards, we can see, in a way, the good they do. Anna Waibel of Remington writes: "What a lovely hobby you have! You can do more good for shut-ins than you'll ever know. May Jesus reward you for your efforts many times throughout your life. I don't feel good yet, but am much better than I was . . ."

"Dear friend: For the first, I want to thank you very much for sending me such a nice card. Yes, I sure am one that is shut-in. They help me out of bed to my chair, where I sit all day, but am thankful that I can see yet to read and write—then I can do . . . sewing yet . . . Hannah Hohulin."

"It was so nice of you to have your sweet daughters remember my dad. It pleased him. I would say that you are a shining example of parents that bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord . . . children who cooperate as nicely as yours do must be a great source of happiness for both of you . . . Mary L."

Take heart, weary pilgrim. Just think of it, you are walking on a king's highway! Don't lose those splendid opportunities that come to you. Tell me, when people visit you, do you let them know through a cheery smile that there is sunshine within? Do you really believe (in deeds and actions and smiles) that "all things work together for good to them that love God"?

Some time, when all life's lessons
have been learned,
And sun and stars for evermore have
set;
The things which our weak judgments
have spurned—
The things o'er which we grieved
with lashes wet
Will flash before us out of life's dark
night,
As stars shine most in deeper tints of
blue,
And we shall see how all God's plans
were right,
And how what seemed reproof was
love most true.

Mrs. Mary Welk, 5273 N. E. 52nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon, enclosed two poems, the above verse of which was a part of one. She writes: ". . . I had spinal meningitis when I was 20 years old, which left me with all kinds of weaknesses and altogether I went through a life of suffering, but through it all, the Lord was always here to help carry and soothe the pain with His wonderful love. How often when the suffering and the trouble it causes seem so unbearable, He was so near, it seemed I could just lean my weary head on His breast, so full of love and compassion . . . Now I don't know who I am writing this to, please excuse poor writing and mistakes. I didn't have much schooling and I am nearly blind . . ."

To you, dear Mrs. Welk, we would quote you a sure promise: "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath **are** the everlasting arms." God's own signature testifies to the sureness of this title deed!

There are so many ways we can go about doing good. Have you included the shut-ins on your list? Have you ever thought of the refreshment they have when they receive your card? A few minutes and a few pennies and you have travelled many miles and encouraged your neighbour.

If you have it in your heart to spread good cheer to shut-ins, send us their names and addresses and something about them. Have you trod the Master's footsteps? Has your

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A Word to "Aid" Contributors

[Do we realize the immense amount of good that has been done through the "AID"? If we could have one of the poor refugees at our side, one glance at his hungry, pleading eyes would be enough to strike the love chords of our hearts into vibration. By our money, we do go with caressing care to these poor things and tenderly give them our helping hand. Philip Gutwein, Jr., a beloved fellowsoldier from our Fráncesville church, tells us through these pages something about "AID" and why we should help.]

Your AID Committee considers itself extremely fortunate to have as treasurer our dear brother Eduard F. Kambly of Cissna Park, Illinois. Not only did his past experience in the banking business eminently qualify him for this work, but those of us who know him, know also that his heart is likewise in this work of mercy with a deep personal interest. For all of which we are glad and thankful to the Lord and to him.

Most all of us know that our dear brother recently lost his life companion in death, which makes him very lonely, and besides, his advancing years make it necessary for him to conserve his health and strength. He is still able and glad to take care of the book work, but must reduce his correspondence to a minimum.

If, therefore, the brothers who forward the contributions of their churches from time to time to Br. Eduard, receive, in the future, only a "Receipt" from him, without the usual accompanying letter of thanks, he wants to assure you and all the contributors that this is not done because of a lesser appreciation on his or the committee's part, but for the reasons mentioned above.

"... ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good..." (Mark 14:7) This continues to be so even with us. The poorest of the poor in our day are the uprooted, homeless, hopeless, helpless, unwanted remnants of families, who were expelled from their native homeland of generations, and

stripped of every civil and human right, and every earthly possession, except a minimum of clothes on their backs. With years of hardships and unspeakable suffering behind them, with family ties broken and loved ones lost and to mourn over, many are broken in health and heart and spirit, and in sorrow eat their meager bread all the days of their life, till they return unto the ground.

Such make up the millions of Displaced Persons in Austria and Germany, and are a major problem in the heart of Europe today.

Under the present unstable economic conditions prevailing in Europe, with their accompanying unemployment, especially the older among these people are not likely to strike new roots in a foreign soil, and rebuild anew their shattered economic security to wholly support themselves, even for their meager and barest needs.

The need, therefore, continues, and your Committee solicits in the Name of the Lord, your continued and liberal support of the cause of "AID" in behalf of the POOR that are with us in our day, that we *may DO THEM GOOD*.

"Only *they would* that we should remember the POOR; the same which I also was forward to do." (Paul in Gal. 2:10).

* * *

"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they DO GOOD, that they be rich in GOOD WORKS, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." (I Tim. 6:17-19)

"And let ours also learn to maintain GOOD WORKS for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful." (Titus 3:14)

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. . . . And let

us not be weary in WELL DOING: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us DO GOOD unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (Gal. 6:7, 9, 10)

"But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." (I John 3:17-18)

The Lord Jesus was moved with compassion toward them when He saw much people which had nothing to eat. For Himself, He refused to turn stones into bread, although He hungered for forty days in the wilderness, but compassion and pity moved Him to work a great miracle, when He saw much people which had nothing to eat, in order to supply the need of the multitude and not send them away hungry. We should likewise be compassionate, pitiful, tenderhearted, kind, and merciful, be they worthy or unworthy, even as our Father, which is in heaven is merciful. The "rich man" with poor Lazarus had the opportunity at his door, but had missed it forever.

Man is unrighteous, when he wants so much security for himself, *has laid up much goods for many years, to say to his soul, take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry, while his neighbor barely has his daily bread for one day.* (Luke 12:19)

SUNSHINE FOR SHUT-INS

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heart over-flowed with compassion when you saw the multitudes?

If to Jesus you answer these questions,

And to Him have been faithful and true,

Then behold, in the mansions yonder Are crowns of rejoicing for you;

And there from the King eternal

Your welcome and greeting shall be,

"Inasmuch" as 'twas done for "my brethren,"

Even so it was done "unto me."



NEWS



Alabama

"Stay on the King's Highway"—

It is indeed wonderful to know that the Lord is everywhere! He can be had in the South as well as in the North, East, or West. Some have found Him here, some are seeking Him, and others should be called before the door of Grace is closed.

Matt Wackerle and wife, who had been in this community about three months, have returned to their home at Bay City, Michigan. With the Lord's help, they have labored faithfully for the Master.

Sister Bessie Drake is very ill at this time, May 7. She may have to submit to an operation. Our prayer is that the Lord will spare her life, to remain with her husband and six children.

Otto Norr of Grabill, Indiana, and Willis Ehnle of Princeville, Illinois, are in Alabama at the present time and, with the Lord's help, are going to the different homes of members and friends every day to teach the Word of God and sing gospel songs with those present. The harvest truly is great. The members live far apart; in one week, a distance of 545 miles was travelled to reach them all.

If anyone wishes to send clothing or whatever it may be for the needy families, send it to 1405 Seventh Ave. E., Decatur, Alabama. The brothers will take care of distribution to the needy ones.

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you."

Bluffton

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Haab, Nora Gilliom, Deloris and Lorene Geisel, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Joan Gerber, Diana Fae Steffen, Mary Tonner, Dula and Rosella Hyerly, Frederick and Truman Gerber, LeRoy Steffen, Howard Habegger, and Eugene Malter spent Sunday, April 16, in Milford. They were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Steffen and daughter, Marcella.

Sam and Minnie Aeschliman, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gilliom, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gerber spent Sunday, April 30, with the Leo church.

Mrs. Walter Steffen is the mother of a son, born May 8. The father died April 18.

Lee Eisenmann and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Plattner from Peoria, Illinois, visited us over the week-end of May 7.

Richard Reineck, Truman Baumgartner, Alice Troxel, and Joan Levy spent Sunday, May 7, in Milford.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Reineck, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gilliom spent the week end of May 14 visiting in Fairbury and Forrest, Illinois.

Bremen

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Schini are the happy parents of a baby son, born to them on March 28. May God bless this new addition to their family.

Those visiting our congregation on Sunday, April 2, were Robert Schieler, Elmer Bahler, and Leon and Harold Waibel from Remington, and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Klopfenstein of Fort Wayne.

On Easter Sunday, we were blessed with services conducted by Henry Sabo of Mansfield, Ohio; his wife accompanied him. After the church services, our Sunday School presented an Easter program. The memory of that first Easter morning should thrill our hearts with ecstatic joy! Jesus, the Creator of the entire universe of universes, had come to earth as a servant to bear our punishment. Did ere such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Otto and Bertha Norr of the Leo church visited our congregation on Sunday, April 16. Other visitors on this day were Mr. and Mrs. George Laidig and children and Mr. and Mrs. Art Marohn of Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Souder and son, Henry, spent April 23 in our midst.

On Sunday, April 30, Mr. and Mrs. David Hodel and Mr. and Mrs. William Lehman and daughter from

Roanoke, Illinois, visited our congregation.

William Leman is convalescing, after undergoing a major operation during the month. He is steadily improving and hopes to be back in our congregation soon.

We regret to report the tragic and sudden death of two little boys, which occurred this month. The first, John Frederick Flagle, aged 2, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Flagle of Mishawaka, was drowned in a horse trough near his home. His mother was the former Eloise Klopfenstein. The other, Philip Skeeters, three months, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Skeeters, passed away very unexpectedly. His mother was the former Kathleen Klopfenstein. We pray that God may comfort and console the bereft parents in their grief, and in return the parents might be drawn closer to God.

Burlington

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roth returned home from a two week visit with their daughters in Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bahr of Gridley, Kansas, Miss Ada Kisling of Burlington, Miss Emma Bahr of Mission, Kansas, and Mr. Rudolph Bahr of Hazelton, Kansas, spent Easter vacation with relatives in Chicago and Elgin, Illinois.

Mrs. Maggie Zehr, who was gravely ill, is now enjoying good health again.

Miss Dorothy Miller left Sunday, April 23, for Chicago, Illinois, where she will be employed in a home for a short time.

On Sunday, April 30, it was made known to the congregation that our friend, Doris Miller, has received peace from our Lord. Our hearts are thankful to our heavenly Father for each blood-bought soul that has experienced this wonderful peace. The sweet, fresh innocence of childhood is brought to the soul as Jesus whispers forgiveness for all its sins. "For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the

vines with the tender grape give a good smell."

Mr. Sam Ott, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Farney, Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Farney, Mrs. Ada Miller, Godfry and Doris Miller, Ada Kisling, Kathryn and Erma Miller, and Rudolph Bahr spent Sunday, April 23, in Gridley, Kansas, where baptism and Holy Communion were held.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Somerhalder and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Kircher and children were in Fort Scott, Sunday, April 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Terry and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schupbach are spending a few days' vacation in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Aberle and children spent Sunday, April 16, in Sabetha, Kansas, visiting their relatives and friends.

Chicago

A group of young folks from Elgin and Roanoke were with us on Sunday, April 2. Also in our midst were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Heinsman and Josephine and Mary Ott from Peoria.

Rudy Bahr, Emma Bahr, and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bahr of Gridley, Kansas, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stoller of Elgin, Illinois, attended services here on Sunday, April 9. Also, the Sunday School held its Easter Program.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Ringger entertained the following guests at dinner at their home in Hammond, Indiana, on Saturday, April 16. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Gus Knochel and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frey of Remington, Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Farney, and Lena Knochel of Wolcott, Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kercher and Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Kercher of Elgin, Illinois, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hofer of Chicago, Illinois, and George Knochel of Gary, Indiana.

Our guests on Sunday, April 23, were Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Funk of Gridley, Illinois, Nettie Stoller of Latty, Ohio, and Madeline Manz of Paulding, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Gutwein and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gudeman and children of Francesville, Indiana, were with us on Sunday, April 30. We were well blessed by their visit and hope they will soon come again.

Other visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Sol Rassi, Mathilda Rassi, Harold Zimmerman, Louise Zimmerman, and Kenneth and Keith Stevig of Morton, Illinois, and Robert Kupferschmidt of Cissna Park, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wagler and family, who have been residing in Florida, are now making their home in Chicago.

Dorothy Miller of Burlington, Oklahoma, plans to be with us for a few weeks before going on to Morton, where she will be employed.

Croghan and Naumburg

On Sunday, April 30, we were privileged to hear the testimony of Clayton and Lillian Virkler as to what great work God had wrought in their hearts. They were baptized and added to the Flock of the Good Shepherd, Jesus. Clayton is the son of Brother William and Sister Etta Virkler.

Sister Marie Geiser, aged 87 years, passed away Sunday, April 30, at the home of Sister Herzig, where she and Sister Esther Wallace, who loyally and faithfully cared for her, had made their home for several years. Sister Geiser was born in Germany and came to this country with her husband, and was converted in Naumburg in 1903. She has been a loyal and patient follower of her Lord until death, despite many trials, one of which was total blindness for seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Virkler and sons of Ithaca, New York, visited their parents over Sunday, April 30.

Brother Ralph and Sister Nina Beyer and son, Peter, spent the Easter week with relatives in Remington, Indiana.

Brother Julius Farney, who was in Lewis County General Hospital for treatment, has returned home again.

Elgin

Some of the Chicago young folks, also Dorothy Haab and Marian Altwater of Milford, spent the week-end of April 16 in Elgin.

On Sunday, March 26, Chris Krupp and Gertrude Schambach were baptized and added to the fold. We wish them God's blessings in their new life. Every child of God will bear witness to the fact that the joy he

finds in Christ Jesus is worth more than you can reckon in earthly values. "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith."

The engagement of Walter Steffen of Elgin to Dorothy Haab of Milford, Indiana, was announced Easter Sunday, April 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos Steffen and Mr. and Mrs. Luther Steffen of Milford, Indiana visited relatives and friends the week-end of March 26.

Fairbury and Forrest

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Elizabeth Steffen on Tuesday, April 4. David Mangold conducted the services.

J. A. Getz of Morton visited the Fairbury congregation on Sunday, April 16, at which time the Lord's Supper was held. Also the Lord's Supper was held in Forrest on Sunday, April 23. The visiting elders were William and Jacob Stettner of Elgin, Illinois.

We of the twentieth century have the same privilege as the believers of the first century in walking hand in hand with Jesus, experiencing the unsearchable riches of His love. By celebrating the Lord's Supper, we are proclaiming His death till He come. And we soon expect to stand face to face with Him. "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known."

Some day when fades the golden sun
Beneath the rosy-tinted west
My blessed Lord will say well done,
And I shall enter into rest!

Miss Edna Kilgus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kilgus of Remington, Indiana, and Richard Leman, son of Mrs. Ben Leman, were married on Sunday, April 30.

Mr. and Mrs. John Fehr had as guests on Friday, May 5, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Unsicker, and Miss

Kathryn Miller, all of Portland, Oregon.

Francesville

The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin. Throughout the Easter season, thousands of voices have been singing "He Arose, Hallelujah, Christ Arose." What a blessed thought to know that our Redeemer lives, and those who love Jesus shall live with Him forever and ever. Jesus said, "Because I live, ye shall live also." Easter Sunday the Sunday School classes praised their "Risen Redeemer" in our Easter program, which was held in the afternoon.

Brother and Sister Dick Schlatter and Brother and Sister Lloyd Gerber of Latty, Ohio, spent the week-end of April 9 here with friends and relatives.

Sunday, April 23, we enjoyed the blessed fellowship of a group of Brothers and Sisters in Christ from Elgin, Illinois.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." What a precious promise! We also can read where it says, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God".

We again rejoice with the angels in Heaven over a dear soul who can now say that Jesus Christ is his personal Savior. George Pfledderer has testified of the wonderful love and peace which Jesus our Redeemer gives and can say with David, the Psalmist, "In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust".

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: . . . Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4, 5)

Brother and Sister Andrew Hild left April 18 by auto for Los Angeles, California, for an indefinite visit with relatives and friends and for Brother Andrew's health. Brother Herman Wuethrich left April 20 for Rochester, Minnesota, where he will spend several days under medical care. We wish them God's protection and blessing.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105. In our Wednesday evening

Bible Class we have finished the study and discussion of II Corinthians. We thank God for the blessing He has given us while meditating over this portion of His precious Word. Our next study will be in Galatians.

"Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children: Let them praise the Lord". Psalm 148:12, 13.

Our Beginner's Class in Sunday School have been learning of many instances wherein people have praised the name of the Lord. They have been studying about the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Savior: then how Saul was changed to a sincere man of God, and later how he and Silas loved God enough to sing when they had been beaten and thrown in prison. There is joy in knowing that "He careth for you." Do we praise Him as we should? If we could but follow the examples of children and be as they, loving and forgiving, how happy our time on earth could be, and how much more prepared would we be when we meet our Saviour face to face.

A Sunday School Teacher's Prayer
Give me the power, dear Lord, I pray,

That when the children come today,
I might make clear the gospel way,
And give a glimpse of Thee.

Give me the words to lift Thee high,
Reveal the cross where Thou didst die,

That when their evil days draw nigh,
'Twill point the way to Thee.

Give me such love for each young heart,

That I might helpful truths impart,
In such a way that when they depart,
'Twill lead them unto Thee.

Give me the right in that fair land,
To know among that happy band,
Are those who reached that golden strand,
Because I showed them Thee.

Hancock and Morris

Antone Schaefer and Verna Honegger of Fairbury have set their wedding date for May 21. Verna visited here a few days, leaving on April 7.

Norene Schmidgall and Mr. and

Mrs. Ernest Kellenberger, Junior, John, and Adair, were visiting in Elgin, Illinois, a week, arriving home April 11.

Visiting in our community Sunday, April 23, were Philip, Andrew, Melva, and Martha Mogler, Raymond Feucht, and Bill Wulfe of Lester, Iowa. They were supper guests of the John Schmidgall family. A singing was held in the evening.

Faye Martin and Lydia Feucht, who work in Peoria, Illinois, made a short visit in our community, being overnight guests April 18 of Eunice Koehl.

Proverbs 11:30. The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

Burying the old sinful man with Christ in baptism and arising in newness of life, making a covenant with God to serve Him the rest of his life, was John Zeltwanger, who gave his testimony and was baptized April 9, Easter Sunday.

Lamar

Joseph Messner and wife and two sons, Roland and Leo, of Winthrop, Minnesota, en route to their home from a trip to the west coast, visited in our community March 28 and 29.

We enjoyed a blessed day April 2 when Henry Bahr of Gridley, Kansas, visited our church. Other visitors that day were Mrs. Henry Bahr and sons, George and James, Mrs. Sam Schwab of Lamont, Kansas, Lillian Massner and Ruth Dikeman of Fort Scott, Kansas, Mrs. John Strahm, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Strahm and son, and Delores Moser, all of Sabetha, Kans.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Frieden and family spent Easter Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fankhauser, and other relatives at Madison, Kansas.

Edward Widmer of Wolcott, Indiana, accompanied by his cousin, Verna Fuhrer, is spending his vacation here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Widmer, and other relatives and friends.

We are glad to report that Mabel Daetwyler is able to attend services with us again, after several weeks' confinement at home, due to ill health.

Pearl Marti and Ruth Banwart of

Fort Scott, Kansas, spent the week end of April 22 with relatives and friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Banwart and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Banwart and twin sons and Clara Marti of Fort Scott were Sunday evening visitors in the Ben Banwart home, April 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Heiniger and the latter's father, Nelson Williams, and Mrs. Williams, of Carterville, Missouri, were Sunday evening visitors in the Lou Marti home, April 2.

Lamont

Visitors to the Lamont and Gridley churches April 2 were Mr. and Mrs. Phil Metzger and family, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Esslinger and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Esslinger and family, Luetta Marti, Ellen Steiner, and Annabell Strahm.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bahr, Jimmy and George of Gridley, and Mrs. Sam Schwab visited the Lamar, Missouri, church April 2. Mrs. Schwab visited with her daughter, Dorothy, while there.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Frieden, Lonnie, Janice, and Timmy, and Dorothy Schwab of Lamar, Missouri, were visitors over the Easter holiday.

Four dear souls were added to the Fold of Christ Sunday, April 23, at Gridley. They are Mr. and Mrs. Al Grimm, Conrad Kraft, and George Dornes. Brothers Noah Schrock of Oakville, Iowa, and Joseph Wittmer of Sabetha conducted services. That evening the Lord's Supper was served by Brother Schrock and Brother Wittmer. It is indeed a blessing to partake of this holy sacrament instituted by the Lord before He died upon the cross. It should make us ever mindful of what the Lord has done for us and keep us humble, watchful, and prayerful. Visitors were here from Burlington, Oklahoma; Fort Scott, Wichita, and Sabetha, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Herman, Bonnie, and Tommy of Morton, Illinois, visited here the week end of April 30, on their way home. They spent the winter in Arizona.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Luthi and Lloyd visited the Sabetha church Sunday, April 30.

Latty

On Easter Sunday, April 9, the engagement of Albert Zeltwanger, son of Mr. Carl Zeltwanger, and Rose Rager, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Rager, was announced. The wedding date has not been announced.

Clemens and Elizabeth Wieland and Catherine Gerber visited in Bay City, Michigan, and Herman and Viola Schlatter and Lloyd and Malinda Gerber visited in Francesville, April 9.

Several members of the Will Furrer family of Wolcott visited with their sister, Mrs. Wayne Stoller, April 16. Also visiting with us that day were John and Betty Dotterer of Junction and Herbert and Berniece Bauman of Rittman. A singing was held at the home of Noah and Hulda Gerber in the evening.

Louise, Ida, and Sophia Sinn, Twila and Elaine Stoller, and Mrs. Clara Stoller and children visited in Bluffton, April 16.

Lloyd and Malinda Gerber and Carol and Eleanor Stoller visited in Roanoke, Illinois, April 22 and in Cissna Park, Illinois, April 23, attending the wedding of Eileen Knapp and Arthur Schlipf.

Work was again resumed on our new church.

Mrs. Mary Metzger passed away at nine o'clock a.m., April 24, at her home. Funeral services were held April 26, with services being conducted by Theo Beer.

A son, Gary Allan, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Grant, April 27. Mrs. Grant is the former Delores Laukhuf. On the following day, April 28, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stoller became the parents of a son, James Lamar. Mrs. Stoller is the former Mildred Germann.

Visitors from Francesville, Mansfield, and Cleveland visited with us April 30. They were supper and evening guests of Jesse and Katie Stoller in Fort Wayne.

CORRECTION: In the last issue it read: Ralph Stoller and Maxine Ellston were married. The girl's name isn't Maxine . . . it's RUTH. Maxine is her sister.

Leo

Laura Gerber, Katherine Norr, Martha Moser, Doris Clauss, Emma Jean Anliker, and Eleanor Stieglitz spent the week end of April 15-16 visiting friends at Bluffton.

Eleanor, LaVada, and Marvin Stieglitz, Ethelyn and Joan Schlatter, Emma Jean Anliker, and Doris Ellen Clauss spent Sunday, April 23, visiting friends and relatives at Forrest, Illinois.

Esther Kipfer, Doris Ellen Clauss, Laura Conrad, Emma Jean Anliker, Eleanor, LaVada, and Oliver Stieglitz spent Sunday, May 7, visiting friends and relatives at Detroit, Michigan.

Ed Hall is enjoying the peace the Lord gives and has been announced for baptism. To Ed, as well as all who have availed themselves of the invitation of our Lord, death has no power. It is just a stepping-stone to the other shore! "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

We rejoice that Otto Norr and Willis Ehnle have been called by the Lord to do good in Alabama. Anyone who leaves home and dear ones behind for the Lord's sake has extra blessings in store. May each of us carry their names in prayer to our Master.

April 30, Eli Dotterer and Sam Aeschliman were visitors. We should thank our Lord that He has provided men who shepherd us, who sincerely strive to carry out in actions the Lord's will.

A group of visitors from the Francesville Sunday School and church were guests on May 25 and took part in the Young People's Meeting in the evening.

Lester

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Banwart and Mr. and Mrs. Eli Grimm and daughters of West Bend spent Easter Sunday with us; also, Mrs. Jacob Gehring and Eunice and Noah Metzger of Elgin, Iowa, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Meyer and family of Sabetha, Kans.

Phil, Melva, Martha and Andrew Mogler, Raymond Feucht, and Wil-

helm Wulf spent Sunday, April 23, in Morris, Minnesota.

Sunday, April 30, the engagement of Carl Wyss of Morton, Illinois, and Lydiann Metzger was announced.

John Moser, Sr., of Sabetha, Kansas, is spending several weeks here with his son, John and family. Mrs. John Leuthold of Sabetha, Kansas, also visited here with her children.

Mansfield

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sabo visited their daughter, Mrs. James Zimmer, at Bremen, Ind., Sunday, April 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Aeschliman and Mr. and Mrs. William Pfister of Bluffton, Ind., Rudolph Graf of Akron, Ohio, and Noah Bauman of Rittman spent Sunday, April 16, with us.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Blatter and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Dotterer of Rittman visited relatives here Sunday, April 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Stoller and children of Latty visited their daughter, Mrs. John Oesch, and family, Sunday, April 30.

Mr. and Mrs. James Zimmers of Bremen visited Mrs. Zimmer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sabo, Sunday, April 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Sauder spent Sunday, April 30, at Akron, Ohio.

Milford

The engagement of Dorothy Haab, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Haab, to Walter Steffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Steffen of Elgin, was announced April 9. They plan to be married June 4.

On April 16, we were very happy to have several young folks from Bluffton in our congregation. We welcome them back very soon.

Joseph Rassi is home from the hospital and is recovering very satisfactorily. Frequent visitors while he was there were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baumgartner of Rocky River, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Emch of Girard, Ohio.

Edna Lehman, Marcella Steffen, Marian Altvater, Rebecca Beer, Phyllis Haab, Arthur Moser, and Philip Beer from Milford and Carolyn Schumacher, Joan Klopfenstein, Mary Ann and Earl Zeltwanger, and John Ladig of Bremen visited with

friends and relatives in Princeville, Ill., the week-end of April 29-30.

Peoria

Mr. and Mrs. John Schrock and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schrock, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wiegand of Oakville, Iowa, were Peoria visitors on April 23. They were supper guests of the Robert Weyeneths.

Miss Eileen Knapp, who was employed here, became the bride of Arthur Schlipf at the church of Cissna Park. After their wedding trip to Florida, they will be at home on a farm near Gridley.

Ben Maibach, Jr., accompanied by his wife, visited our congregation on Thursday evening, April 20. We received many rich blessings through the message of Brother Maibach, and may God richly bless his efforts. After several days spent in the surrounding vicinity, they returned to their home in Detroit.

Several friends attended the wedding of Edna Kilgus and Richard Leman at Remington, Ind., on April 30. Their home will be made on a farm near Forrest.

The mother of our Brother, Michael Weyeneth, passed away at her home in Roanoke on April 25 at the age of 92. She is survived by seven sons and four daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. William Klien, Mr. and Mrs. William Maibach, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pfister, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hoerr and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Schwind, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Oberlander, Mr. and Mrs. John Waibel and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Baer, also Mr. and Mrs. Lester Bitner and family, all of Peoria, spent a blessed day, Sunday, April 30, at Taylor, Missouri, and were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoerr and family.

Princeville

Vivian Leuthold, Helen Knapp, David and Marie Menold and Freddie, and Gary Stichling spent the week end of April 1 in Lester, Iowa.

The marriage of Harry Hoffman of Cissna Park and Helen Baurer of Princeville was solemnized April 9. Philip Aeschliman performed the ceremony. They were attended by Lester Hoffman, brother of the groom, and Evelyn Baurer, sister of

the bride. A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

Dorothea Kieser had a farewell gathering at her home, April 17, for Ruth Ricketts, who left for Europe April 22. She was accompanied by Fannie Minger of Roanoke. They were passengers on the Queen Mary and expect to return on the Queen Elizabeth about July 1. Many good wishes went with them and also prayers for their safe return.

The Princeville Bible Class was among those who took part in the Youth's Endeavor in Peoria, April 16.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stahl and Leah and Martha Stahl attended the wedding of Eileen Knapp, sister of Mrs. Stahl, and Arthur Schlipf in Cissna Park, April 23.

We enjoyed a group of young folks from Milford, Ind., also some from Gridley, Illinois, and Oakville, Iowa, Apr. 30.

Remington

Several attended the wedding and reception of Elna Feller from Cissna Park, Ill., and Robert Grimm of Morton, on May 2.

We had a large attendance at our annual Easter program, which was given on Good Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Knochel are the parents of a baby girl, born April 17. She has been named Nora Jane.

A blessed day was spent Sunday, April 16, when Harold Waibel, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Waibel, was taken into the fold. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

Stanley Gudeman, Mary Ann and Earl Zeltwanger, Jo Ann Klopfenstein, Carolyn Schumacher, and Elaine Schlatter of Bremen spent the week end of April 23 in Remington.

Edna Kilgus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kilgus, and Richard Leman, son of Mrs. Ben Leman, were united in marriage Sunday, April 30. A reception was held immediately after the wedding for many friends and relatives.

Roanoke

On Sunday, April 9, we were privileged to partake of the Lord's Sup-

per, with rich blessings received by all. Joseph A. Getz of Morton assisted David Mangold.

Announcement of the engagement of Edith Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Fisher of Roanoke, and Glenn Stoller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stoller, of Latty, Ohio, was made on Sunday, April 9. The couple plan an early fall wedding.

On April 12, David Mangold visited in Elgin, Ill.

Philip Gutwein of Francesville, Indiana was our guest on April 16, rendering some very inspiring messages. He was accompanied by Mrs. Gutwein and Mr. and Mrs. Emil Pelsy. They were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Pfau.

On April 19, we were privileged to have Ben Maibach, Jr., and family of Detroit, Michigan, and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Weyeneth in our midst for the mid-week services.

April 25 marked the passing of one of our oldest members, Mrs. Alph Weyeneth of Roanoke. Funeral services were conducted on April 27, David Mangold officiating. A friend to all, we will miss her very much. How thankful we are that for the believer death is not an end to joys, but the gate-way to an eternal spring-time, where cares and problems and worries are forever forgotten. We will experience all the freshness of our youth; our immortal body will not be subject to fatigue and labor. "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Sorrow and sighing will have fled away!

On April 26, Sandra Kae Leman, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Leman of Roanoke, passed away. Funeral services were held on April 28, with David Mangold officiating.

Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Sutter and Joyce and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sutter spent Sunday, April 9, at Elgin, Iowa, to visit Mr. Sutter's mother, Mrs. Rachel Frieden, who has been ill for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. William Cottrell and children and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Buttkofer visited the Pulaski, Iowa, congregation Sunday, April 9.

A group of our young folks spent

an enjoyable Sunday at Morton, Ill., April 16.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudie Hoerr and family spent Sunday, April 16, at Morton, Illinois.

The engagement of James Sutter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Sutter, and Lois Wuthrich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski, Iowa, was announced Sunday, April 30. We wish them God's blessings.

Several cars of company from Peoria, Ill., spent Sunday, April 9, with us. We enjoyed their visit very much.

Joann and Billy George Hoerr, children of Mr. and Mrs. George Hoerr, who have both been at the hospital the past month with virus pneumonia, have returned home.

Tremont

Henry Beer of Milford, Ind., spent April 14, 15 and 16 here with Mr. and Mrs. John Schweigert and family and other friends and relatives. We enjoyed having him with us on the Lord's Day.

Sister Louisa Franks passed away on April 11. Funeral services were held on April 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hodel and Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sauder, and Mr. and Mrs. Fehr and baby spent Sunday, April 23, with Mrs. Fehr's sister, Mrs. Edward Schubach, and family and attended church services here.

On Sunday, April 30, we had Phil Aeschliman and his wife, Phil Sauder and his wife, and others from Cissna Park with us; also J. A. Getz and his wife from Morton.

Mr. and Mrs. David Bertsch and Sandra spent the week-end of April 29 and 30 here with Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Bertsch and also with his sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bertschi at Roanoke.

West Bend

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Banwart and Phyllis Banwart spent Sunday, Apr. 9, at Sabetha, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mogler spent Easter Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Martin Esslinger at Sabetha, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Fehr and family and Mr. and Mrs. Eli Grimm and Carole, Diane, and Lavonne, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Banwart spent Easter Sunday with relatives at Lester.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schmidt observed their 59th wedding anniversary April 7. Henry Schmidt, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Schmidt and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Schmidt of Winthrop, Minnesota, were here for the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Messner and Donnabelle, Marceille, and Barbara; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Messner and Elaine and Leo; and Donald and James Messner, all of Winthrop, Minnesota; and Wilma and Raymond Luthi, Barbara Schmidgall, Pearl Trost, and Alpha Moser, of Hancock, Minnesota, visited here April 23.

Wecott

George Yergler of La Crosse and many from Forrest were with us on April 2 for the proving and baptism of LeRoy Kyburz. The visitors were supper guests at the Ed Kyburz home.

The Sunday School classes presented their Easter program on April 9. How much good can be done in training the children! Our risen Lord is pleased when we tell of the matchless compassion of His Father in sending His own darling son to die for us. He purchased us from the auction block of slavery!

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ravellette are the parents of a daughter, Linda Jean, born April 13. The mother was the former Jean Klopfenstein.

Irvin Lehman and family, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Furrer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kyburz and Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Detweiler and Earl, and Mr. and Mrs. Levi Kropf and daughters spent April 16 at La Crosse. Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Farney and Le Roy, Lena Knochel, Mrs. Emma Blume, Mrs. Sam Gauger, Richard Stoller, Wayne Lehman, and Carolyn Reel also attended the program in the evening.

Mrs. Will Furrer and family were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Stoller and sons at Latty on April 16.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reuter and Jimmie visited relatives in Tremont on April 16.

Edward Widmer and Verna Furrer were visiting relatives in Lamar, Missouri. Will Furrer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kyburz and family, and Ted Hofstetter spent April 30 with the Forrest congregation.

Life, Conversion, and Secession of S. H. Froehlich from the State Church

(Continued from last issue)

In Christ, the forefather of sinners was crucified and died and the new Adam, the forefather of the saints, is arisen and exalted in heaven. Since the death of Christ we have nothing more to do with Adam, but with Christ instead. Whoever desires to excuse his weakness, no longer blames Adam, but Christ; and this accusation returns upon his own head. If then I believe and preach that all men have died in Christ for their atonement, even as all men have met a death of destruction in Adam, yet I do not in the least maintain thereby that all men are redeemed and saved.

There is the same difference between atonement and redemption as between Adam and Moses: For the guilt of Adam is annulled as far as all mankind is concerned, in order that no one may excuse himself through Adam. But not so with the curse of the law, which has been laid upon our sin, in order that every believer might partake of the redemption and deliverance which is in Christ Jesus. And one can forfeit this redemption from the power of darkness only by denying his sin, his spiritual death and the curse of the law, through unbelief. Faith must enter in, in order to secure to me the righteousness of Christ, or unbelief, to condemn me, because God neither saves nor condemns any excepting through Christ. Whoever is lost, is lost through his own unbelief and not through Adam's sin.

This leads to the third question.

3. "What are your views concerning the proper form of baptism and those who should be baptized?"

When I attempt to picture to my mind baptism in its whole purpose and true essence, it forms the positive antithesis of the law; that is what the law is to fulfill in a negative way, that baptism is to fulfill in a positive way. If then it is the purpose of the law to divorce from us the sin dwelling by nature within us, or to take from us the form of Satan—(or to picture both in the true light of their difference and contrast) in order that God may condemn this indwelling sin and yet save us; even so is baptism instituted, in order to make this divorce as real and genuine in us, as it has become real and genuine in Christ through His death on the cross. For He died on the cross for our sin; He arose from the dead as our righteousness, which is to say that baptism is at the same time our death by crucifixion and our resurrection. Even so baptism in Christ shall be as a channel, through which the righteousness of Christ shall be sealed unto us with the spirit of life which is in Christ Jesus. Just as the faith of Abraham in which he had been declared righteous was sealed unto him, through circumcision of the flesh, so is baptism the circumcision of our sinful flesh. (Col. 2:11 ff.) Baptism should give us exactly that which faith has always demanded, not only forgiveness of sins, but the new creation, life out of death. For even as in Christ the old Adam was crucified and the new Adam arose, even so through baptism in Christ the old being is crucified in us and the new being is quickened to life. (Romans 6). Daily experience proves sufficiently that this does not take place in the baptism of infants, and for three years I have held the conviction that the baptism of believers alone is the true baptism of Christ. For it is impossible for a man to glory in the forgiveness of his trespasses and be solaced thereby if he has not been at the same time released from the dominion of sin. If baptism proper was no more than the baptism of infants, namely an outward admission into an outward church, and that all could become saved thereby, then it might be well to baptize one and all. If however faith (or believing) is to be the mark which distinguishes the chosen of God, then it is evident

that the seal of this choice, which is baptism, should NOT be administered until God himself brings about the separation between believers and unbelievers. For among children we do not recognize the election until God makes it known through the dividing by belief. Therefore all should not be baptized without discrimination. For the baptism of infants must, of necessity, save all who have been so baptized, or else it helps none of them at all. Moreover, baptism is not necessary in order that children be saved, that is, in case they die in infancy. However, at the age of accountability, the crisis of the law arises; and the result of this is either belief or unbelief. And even as the believer SHOULD be baptized, even so the unbeliever should NOT be baptized. The general denial of the living Christ is plainly—only the result of the prevailing abuse of a sacred thing and the perversion of the inward to the outward, into a mere outward work. For if all should be baptized, it necessarily follows that all should be confirmed; consequently, all consider themselves Christians and yet they are not. Or when, since the third century, has the outward church been a holy community according to the precepts or rules of Christ and the apostles? You will perhaps say the Protestant Church during the life of Luther? And why did Luther sever his connections with the then dominant church? If the same was a true Church of Christ? But if the Roman Catholic church in date falls so far short of being the Church of Christ, then also the present Protestant Reformed Church, is likewise not the Church of Christ. Perhaps indeed, merely a humble residue, for, if anything, there is more of abomination and offence in the teaching and life of the Protestant Church than in the Catholic. And since everything is inundated and carried away by the teaching of unbelief, no other means of saving the elect of God from the general destruction remains, except to bring again, close to their hearts the preaching of conversion, the true Christianity or Gospel of Jesus Christ, and even in the midst of persecution, to found new congregations independent of State and Church.

If then I am to answer the fourth question,

4. What is your conception of a Church of Christ?

I should say in brief: By the Church of Christ I understand the assembly and fellowship of those who believe in Christ Jesus and are sanctified by Him, and in whom Jesus Christ is made manifest through the Spirit of glory and of God, this one Spirit in which all are baptized (into one body) into the union and charity of the spiritual body of Christ. And who, one and all, no longer have any other righteousness than the righteousness of Christ, and no other life than the life of Christ; those whose treasure, (walk of life) and citizenship are in heaven. For they are members of the household of God, even though they be scattered here and there in this world and are invisible and insignificant that they are not recognized; but instead are deemed and counted evil doers (sheep for the slaughter). And beneath the blows and persecutions of the bond children of the maid, Hagar (the present Jerusalem), they must make their heavenly calling and divine election sure, so that they will rejoice in God on the day of Judgment and will constantly look forward to the appearance and second advent of their Leader and Saviour, Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:13). The inner distinguishing mark of the citizens of the upper Jerusalem, the sanctified and beloved of God, is therefore the spirit of Christ, in the communion with His life—in faith, hope, and love, and the outer mark (in so far as there is one) is the fellowship with Christ in suffering, from those that say they are Christians and are not, but are rather a synagogue

of Satan. Here the general rule applies: "Now if any man hath not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." And here it does not suffice to leave all to the justice of God. But rather as he called forth a Pharaoh to oppress His people, even so did He likewise call forth a Moses to deliver them from this oppression. To this end, God has placed us in Christ, that we should shine in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation as lights in the world of darkness, offering them the Word of life. For mankind errs, because they do not know and keep the Word of God. Only after the Gospel of Christ has been disclosed to them and they have shut their eyes WILFULLY to its brightly shining light; and not until then is the word true, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not" etc. (II Cor. 4:3-4). The apostle Paul in Rom. 2, bears witness to the fact that salvation is not a matter to be taken for granted, merely for the sake of the name and outward appearance, in that he holds up even to true believers of the heathen, an example taken from unbelieving Israel, and threatens them with a like rejection if they should fall into the same example of unbelief and not abide in grace. Even if this threat should not apply to those who have once become of the faith, yet it most certainly does apply to their children, if they should be UNBELIEVING. For the PRIVILEGE of being a child of God is not handed down by right of birth. Therefore this threat is also fulfilled in the generation of this time. Each individual among us must, in order to become transplanted into Christ, first have been hewn out of the wild olive tree and cut off from it, and to this end a new sending and preaching of the gospel is necessary. And again the apostle Paul says: "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." Hebrews 13:13. Now whether we understand by the camp: the world which lies in wickedness, or the church which casts off and crucifies the corner stone in Christ, in either case to partake of the living Christ and to belong to the company of the saints involves a departure and a separation from the camp. Hence, it is one and the same, whether the heathen peoples of India practice idolatry after their way, or whether the nominal Christians are idolatrous after their manner (when, for instance, the Christian religion is to be employed merely as a substitute for some purely superficial religious ceremony).—Neither one is an heir of life without knowledge of the Son of God and perhaps the difference is only this, that the light of the everlasting life gains admittance to the real heathen sooner than to the adulterous and sinful race of nominal Christians. Moses says unto Israel, "They sacrificed unto devils, not to God". (Deuteronomy 32:17.) These had offered to demons and not to God. How could Christianity of such a sort be an offering of praise to God?

I come to the fifth question: What is your conception of the way in which a congregation should be organized?

I am myself in doubt as to how I should construe this question. I do not know whether this applies to me as a preacher and to the way which would be the most certain to assure me a hearing and attain results for the gospel; or whether it concerns the outward and the inner composition of the churches to be organized. In the first instance, it would probably compare with what Paul in his first letter to the Thessalonians calls his "entrance in" unto them. He writes, "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: . . . For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in unto you, that it was not in vain: . . . For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God is witness: Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you,

nor yet of others". And concerning this I do not know whether rules could be stated in advance, or whether I am, as yet, lacking in the needful practice and experience, in which case I would gladly accept the advice and direction of experienced soldiers of Christ. The essential matter is in any case, not our human sagacity, but rather that the porter shall open to us (John 10:3), which is promised unto him who goes forth in the name of Christ, and not in his own name. Moreover, I believe that here the instructions of the Lord to His disciples would apply and bring about the most notable results. (Matt. 10, Luke 10). In so far as we would now have to combat the same prejudices among the so-called Christians, as the disciples of the Lord in their day among the Jews, the opening words of the gospel should be, as then, the proclamation: "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 3:2, Mark 1:15). For the first stipulation for entering into the kingdom of God, is the putting aside of all deep-rooted prejudices, as though the kingdom of God consisted in outward forms and ceremonies, and we—without further effort, without conversion from idols to the living and true God, without faith in the one Mediator and Redeemer Jesus Christ, without regeneration through water and spirit,—were all children of God and heirs of salvation (Matthew 3:9). In connection with this, as a second consideration stand the words of Christ the crucified and arisen, that all who accept Him in faith receive the power to become children of God, provided they are born of God, through baptism in His death. For we see very clearly from the example of the chamberlain of Ethiopia, that in the apostolic age the teaching of baptism was directly connected with the preaching of faith. For as if from heaven came the words: "What doth hinder me to be baptized?" How could He know of that, if Philip had not talked with Him concerning the purpose and blessing of baptism as well as of faith in the course of the instruction which he had but recently given him?

Such has been my mode of procedure with the congregation which has been organizing during the last month, and which consists at the present time of 40 members. These, however, had all previously attained to the knowledge of salvation through my two years of preaching among them. Probably more would have joined this number, were there not many slanderers and blasphemers, who revile this way, as if it were an error, although all know that I said in my teachings of three years ago, the same things which I am now saying. But all believers are as one heart and one soul among themselves, which was not so before. And in the very midst of the abuses and attacks of the enemy, they are filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, in which I pray that our almighty Lord and high priest may strengthen and sustain them through His grace. With this, however, further opportunity for service seems to be denied me in this land, and what my fortunes will prove to be elsewhere I do not as yet know; at least not out of experience.

Finally, I come to the last question:

6. "What are your views concerning church discipline?"

This too I will answer by taking this newly founded church as an example. I have explained to all united believers, in advance and several times afterward: "That we do not desire to found and form a mere human fellowship, which would be nothing else than a mere sect, with which I wish to have nothing to do. But our alliance is rather a holy fellowship with the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and the whole body of Christ, with one another as members of this body, each according to his portion. If then we gather together, it must be in the name of the Lord and in the communion of His spirit.—Admission into and with-drawal—from this fellowship—dare not be a light matter and may not take place carelessly, even less so than a bodily marriage may be carelessly dissolved. Whenever, therefore, anyone is admitted, he is taken into the fellowship of the True God and His saints; and with all joy may consider

himself as a sanctified member of the body of Christ, according to the calling and election of God, a sharer in all the promises of the gospel. It would follow that every comrade in the holy fellowship must walk worthily according to this gospel, in the holiness and righteousness of the truth, in accordance with the strength of the life which we share in Christ. If a member of this heavenly calling should walk unworthily and give occasion of stumbling or offence, within or without, so that it became known, then I should question the offender privately as a Brother, and admonish and warn him. The offence that has been given, would have to be wiped out from the congregation as a whole, by a public confession; for the stain of it would lie not alone upon the one member, but upon the whole body of Christ, so long as one who was thus defiled remained a member of this body. If, however, the erring one should deny his guilt, then witnesses should be summoned, etc. Therefore as we would have power by the Lord, "as a community of Saints", to adopt members into the community of Christ, even so the power would be ours to expel an unworthy member, according as it shall be found wise, for a longer or shorter length of time—(or even for always). And this expulsion again dare not be an unimportant matter, but, on the contrary, as surely as we have received a person into the community of God here upon earth, in the name of the Lord, so surely will he be received in heaven, since no one can come unless the Father draw him, especially under such oppression as we suffer. And again as certainly as any one of us would be expelled from the congregation of the saints upon earth, even so certainly would he be expelled in heaven. These are in general the main characteristics of church discipline and the government of a congregation, as they formulate themselves in my mind, for keeping a community of saints in their irreproachable and unimpeachable state, which becomes the body of Christ. For the gospel did not proceed from US; instead, it has come UNTO us from the apostles of the Lord, and we must keep their regulations, according to the new creation, being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom the whole structure, fitly framed together, groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord, in whom each separate

congregation must also be builded together for a habitation of God in the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:20-22). This is in order that the word of the apostle may apply to us likewise. "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy. . ." (Galatians 6:16)

Now indeed a part of the third question by rights remains for me to answer, concerning the manner or form of baptism. This, in all probability, also involves the difference between complete immersion, and the mere sprinkling of those receiving baptism. If I were to give expression to my opinion concerning this point, and to what extent anything depends upon this difference in form, then I would say that the original form of baptism was that of complete immersion. We find this in every place in the gospel where there is a direct reference to it, for example, Acts 8:38, Matthew 3:16. True, that we learn from the church fathers of single instances, before baptism of infants was adopted, where those dangerously ill were baptized by mere sprinkling, and who, therefore, were designated by the special name RHANTOI. But the very manner in which they are mentioned seems to prove that it was not the original and common form of baptism, in that many, out of narrow-mindedness and passion, it is true, did not even recognize it as valid, in case the one baptized after that manner recovered.

I would not choose to maintain, however, that the form itself was of great importance in the sight of God, although, if it could be done, I should like to know the practice of complete immersion carried out, without, however, attributing any lack of efficacy to the simple form in case the true faith is the reason for the desire to be baptized. It is true that certain objections may be raised to a general application of immersion (especially in our time and countries), but even the Greek word itself "baptism" points to a complete immersion, rather than to mere sprinkling. In submitting this, my simple confession, to the mature consideration of the Brothers and for examination, according to the Scriptures, I wish you all abundantly the grace and blessing of God, and greet you in true brotherly love.

Your least fellow servant,
Samuel Heinrich Frohlich.

DOING GOOD

(Continued from page 1)

for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. Others, far from appreciating how fortunate we are to live in such an obviously God-blessed land, seek to bore from within to bring about its downfall.

Inasmuch as, sooner or later, the attitude of a government is but a reflection of the attitude of its people, it seems if any improvement is ever to be made in the matter of learning how to get along with each other, the approach must be made via the individual. The individual influences the family, the family influences the community and the community the state and the state the nation. In this mode the Gospel has travelled from a small center of action in Palestine to the far corners of the earth, as per the Saviour's last command. In this Word of God, which is a proven authority upon so many phases of human life, we

find some very pertinent instruction in regard to how best to get along with our fellow man. I am particularly thinking of Peter's description to Cornelius of Christ's life. He referred to Jesus as the anointed one, "who went about doing good." That phrase is so comprehensive. It included the blind, who again could see, the lame who again could walk, the incurables who again were made whole, the dead who were made alive again, but most of all it included the unhappy, sin-sick souls who received peace of mind and heart. Just how much of our time do we spend **going about doing good?**

When the lawyer, heckling the Saviour, asked Him who the neighbor was he should love as himself in order that he might live, the Lord related the parable of the good Samaritan. Think it through. If we wish to live, we must not only get along with

our neighbor, but there must be love in our heart for him. Love, which will impel us out of mercy, because God had mercy on us, to go out of our way to do him good. And that, even though he be a stranger.

Be we as fundamental and rock-ribbed in our faith as we will, if the fruit of faith, love manifested by deeds, is not present, Faith will avail little.

We send our children to high school and to college, the better to equip them for their life's work and yet how little emphasis is laid on the important matter of how best to get along in life with the man one rubs elbows with. A word spoken out of turn or a good deed neglected, how direful often the consequences, and contrariwise, what a feeling of well-being comes over one, if walking in the footsteps of the Master we take time to go **about doing good.**

Braving the Storm

[This life is like a stormy sea; our small bark would soon be swallowed by the angry waves, were it not for the Master, whose voice can command gales and hurricanes.

Will you pause from the cares and troubles of your mind and listen to Henry Souder, Jr. of our Leo church? Then will you launch forth with new confidence in Jesus and with your eyes firmly focused on Him?]

The Saviour says, "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." The Lord had created man and with sorrow had seen man yield to temptation. He knew all about us when He told us to watch and pray. "Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them." He knows us far better than we understand ourselves!

Far better advice than any psychologist could possibly give is found in God's Word. The Bible is packed through and through with radiant gems which throw all their splendor on the Pilgrim's pathway. And for those who are sick in mind and soul, the treatment God prescribes in his unchangeable Word alone will bring peace of mind. How perfect is the advice from one who knew not only the creature's physical construction and mental building, but also his spiritual condition!

Dear one, do you find yourself sorely assailed by the crafty adversary? Ofttimes it seems as if this old body would go out of control, tail-spinning to a crash. In the fierce fires of temptation, we would often lose our head, were it not for the steady, guiding hand of our automatic pilot.

Come, take my hand, as we drink of these sweet words from the lips of our God, "... we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." The Saviour "was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts..." The Lord, by whom

all things were created, clothed in flesh and blood, experienced the wisest and most crafty tricks the devil could conceive. Three times Satan attempted a death blow, and three glorious times the Saviour met those attempts with His invincible sword, the Word of God. "... the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread." The Lord had not eaten a thing in forty days; "and when they were ended, he afterward hungered." Satan very craftily picked the most opportune time and phrased his words into the most appealing salesmanship. However, we find that "... Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

Do you realize one lesson we should learn from this point at which the Saviour was tempted? Do you see the importance He attached to God's written Word? We are not to now and then read parts of God's Word, but are to make it our food, the nutrition that keeps us going. "And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness." When we live by every word of God, we find also that we learn to think the way the Lord thought. College is supposed to teach a young man to think calmly and scientifically, but the born-again believer goes to a much higher institution and is taught to think heavenly and in truth.

Couched in glittering phrasing, Satan held forth the dazzling prize of a short-cut to power through idol-worship. "And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine." Satan always aims for complete victory. Jesus met the devil in successful dueling. The divinely ex-

pert wielding of the sword of the Spirit abruptly stopped Satan's challenge. "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan; for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." My beloved fellow-soldiers, do we give Satan a cold shoulder when he comes with his cunning suggestions? The first Adam succumbed and ate the bait of pride. That carnal desire "to make one wise" tugged at Eve's soul. First, came the stage of entertaining a little leaven—finally, the whole soul was affected. "... every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

We must have the mind of Christ Jesus, His Spirit. Then through His Word, we are "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ..." "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men..."

Humility is a cardinal virtue and if kept, will place us in a safe position. "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." Pride leaves a tremendous opening through which Satan might land a body punch! "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Do we realize fully how lovely it is to be walking humbly with our God?

A third point the Saviour was tempted was also very cunningly put forth. We can read that Satan "brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:

For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in **their** hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Satan could not catch the Saviour off-guard. "And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

Satan tried to misinterpret part of God's Word. We must also be vigilant! "Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness . . ." False teachers would so twist the interpretation of some Scripture as to make their views seem very plausible and reasonable. Christian, walk carefully. At other times Satan will quote a Scripture verse to us, trying to show us that a certain questionable action is O.K.

How can we know for sure what meaning is meant for any particular Bible verse? "... Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Satan in his tempting suggested his own private interpretation to Christ, leaving out part of the quotation. Note how the prophecy reads: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways . . ." The Holy Spirit will lead the believer through the maze of this world into all truth.

We should be a cruel tyrant to any desire of the flesh that would establish a beachhead in us. Constantly we should keep on the offensive, delivering knock-out blows. Dear one, does carnal desire have you against the ropes? Do you find yourself groggy from the blows of the enemy? Then, if so, it is time to act immediately. Put on the gospel armour! With all the ferociousness of a lion, tear into the battle. Has not He who measured the heavens with a span and stretched out the earth on nothing promised unconditionally that you will have victory, if you listen?

On the battlefield of Moment, we wage full-fledged, all-out war against

all the powers of darkness. Our mind and soul should be clear of all the burdens of yesterday and the anxieties of tomorrow. The center of our stage of action should always be "Right now!" Sometimes we wonder whether we will have strength to resist a big temptation that might come to us. Listen to these soothing words: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Our Christian companions can be a great help in aiding us over the rough trails. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." How much do I obey this marvelous help to a successful Christ-like life?

When we are free from the previous minute's troubles and the following minute's anxieties, we can take full advantage of Now. What else does the Scripture give us that will aid us to be glorious conquerors? Is there any point of action aids that will augment the Christian warrior? The Lord Jesus says, "... men ought always to pray, and not to faint." Paul writes: "Pray without ceasing," and in another place: "... continuing instant in prayer . . ." Can it be that we are to take these verses literally? Yes, undoubtedly. Watch and pray is not just a one-time action, but is the description of the attitude of an obedient child of God. He is wide-awake, his keen eyes detect the slightest rustle of the enemy, and his prayers place him continually under the shadow of the Lord's wings.

Another point of action aid is exercising the mind with spiritual songs. Have your ever let the choirs of your heart answer each other joyfully, praising your God, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making

melody in your heart to the Lord . . ."? There is pure delight that the world cannot know in the outbursts of the joyful soul, when he magnifies the Lord of lords.

"... count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing **this**, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." Our Father has an over-all plan he is following which is for our own good. Our short-sighted view would often pass up hardships, but not so with God's perfect love. "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

As a spiritual athlete, we find ourselves weighing in heavily overweight. We need a long training period to develop us unto perfection. "... now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:"

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:" "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man." Satan spares no cruelty and no indecency in his attacks. He has absolutely no love for us; if we allow him, he will throw us to the ground, mangling us with his cruel stampings. When the torturing of this enemy would severely lash at us, we can flee to the One who has promised comfort and power. We find our body burning at the stake of the fires of temptation. Dear fellow martyr, bury yourself in the dear Lord's outstretched arms. The arm of flesh will fail you, but all power over all opposition is yours through the Master.

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