

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana

Vol. 9, No. 5

Treasured Verses

"It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

And I knew such a man, (whether

in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities."

II Corinthians 12:1-5

The Zion's Harp Hymnal

Mr. Menno Lehman of Berne Witness Company, Berne, Indiana, has charge of the printing.

Eighteen thousand books are on order from this firm. Approximately fourteen thousand are sold.

The week of August 18, the book should be completed.

The price is: white-edged (with round corners) book, \$1.75; gold-edge (with round corners), \$2.20.

The name "Zion's Harp" will appear on the front cover and also on the backbone of the book.

There are 448 pages in all in the book. Of these, 426 are hymn pages, and the balance are the Alphabetical and Topical Indexes and blank pages.

Orders, church and individual, may be sent to Sam Aeschliman, R. 4, Bluffton, Indiana, or John Baumgartner, R. 4, Bluffton.

The Committee

Odds Against Tomorrow

Henry Souder Jr.

There was a time when the heart was pure. But darkness slowly clouded—a gathering night.

Yet a call . . . sweet and lovely . . . comes to you. Of far away the words are spoken, with you in mind:

"Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Sin's calloused knife daggered deep into the vitals of the soul. Death is in a possessed stare of that priceless gem, your soul. Cut off from spiritual life, you drift dangerously toward the great sea.

Some toss their day into the gamble . . . wake up in eternal tragedy.

God wants all to be happy. He gives to His children joy. But to the mad wastes of sin, He keeps secret His surprises. To His own, only, He shares His fondest Dreams.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

There is only one hope for you. There is only one Way to break the drudgery, the shuttle between sun-up and sun-down, the slavish night.

The sun was hidden one day. Just outside the city gate was the execution place. Lift your eyes there.

He had done no crime. The breath of His sweetness stirred in sweet breezes wherever He went. His words shone with sunshine, and glowed with eternity. He showed man how to be happy.

Man put Him on a cross. Man pierced His hands and His feet.

Above, the Father drew a curtain in the sky. Below, man forsook Him and killed Him.

". . . it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"

One man lifted up between earth and sky . . . Alone. He lived in time, and His death won eternity. He lived a righteous life and died the sinner's death.

Death had been recorded before, a just due. But here is something marvellously new . . . death undeserved, tasted for another . . . for you.

We must be humble to find the Way to heaven. On bended knee, with sorrow in the heart, we cry for help. Repentance is the Bible-mapped way back to God.

You become aware of the sins in your life that haunt you. That is conviction of the Spirit. You feel ashamed of the rags and tears that drag along. Then Christ's teaching is we should tell them. The tongue obeys, and beautiful relief and clearing comes.

But we must be humble.

". . . it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."

Satan deceived with his dark fiction. His wierd power pours into the air an eruption of sin-slavish savagery. Little by little it clouds out the light. He twists the inside thoughts into the fantastic distortions of staying in dark sin.

Too late the sinner of forever awakens to the fact.

What a desolate waste will be the soul of man unredeemed! The pillars and forms once beautiful will be forever covered by the mess that settled from darkness. Openly shown by the truth of God will be the sad ruins of eternity.

"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

There's a bitter wail that shatters in dark despair. Its volume is as intense as ever . . . out there where the mind fails to see . . . on and on forever.

Chance had died a lingering (but now, so rapid a) death. With Judgment past, the future was motionless with dismal despair. "Outer darkness"

is the description given by the Saviour. The stoned walls of nothingness plunge back any prayer, or ever a hope.

But now the bright sunshine of His love shines in a sky of grace. You can

come. If you ask, He will make His way through the unsolvable problems and graciously help. He will give courage and strength. He will abundantly bless with His peace.

Dreams Come True

Henry Souder Jr.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

To the view of the heart . . . any moment of time . . . the child of His home can exceedingly rejoice with delight. The boundless feeling of eternity, the fresh, star-lit eyes of His own, have Dreams that come true.

The *Child of His* lives in His home in heart. His Dreams are real, in faith, and hope and love. Unbroken glimpses of forever see an unbroken panorama of glorious delight. They are His promises, and His promises must be fulfilled.

"But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit:"

It's an entirely different kind of schooling. The Teacher is God. The subject is Everlasting Life.

In it the inner man becomes through and through in and of Home. Love is the Way of life forever and ever. A world of unexplainable beauty and wonderful joy is revealed, of glorious form.

"for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

What does God want us to know of Himself? What marvels and mysteries does He have in mind for His own to experience?

Being together with the Spirit brings joyful surprises undreamed of in worldly circles. Getting to know Him more, the friendship blossoms in the unsearchable riches of eternity. There are heights of joy together. There is amazing beauty of character in this wonderful God.

Here on earth we speak of how old we are. But God was, is, and is to come. He is forever and forever. His

views of things on earth He imparts to His own. Our heart moves in marvellous dimensions hitherto unknown. We perceive ways of looking at things from eternity.

To live in Him is wonderful. This is true satisfaction.

"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

Dreams do come true. But the timetable of this world is geared to the moment.

The Cross is the secret of the wonderful life. In it is power to turn away from all shallow, entertaining moments. They are dull. They furnish no joy or satisfaction for the inner man.

This is the battle that means everything. It is the deciding point of eternity. It is the crisis that needs courageous action. All the power of the enemy is thrown into the crucial test. Temptations burst in fiery intent. A mortal wound can indeed mean eternal loss.

Hope is of a gloriously wonderful forever.

"Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

Man's wisdom is a dead-end street, a barren lecture. Its ways are panicky for things that never count.

God's ways demand movements heretofore unknown.

This language is only understood in the true view of colorful Home. It demands the cost of this life.

Everything of this world is fleeting.

Their meaning is dyed with "ending." But God's language, His words are spirit and life. They are experiences of eternity.

This Way is a mystery that holds beauty untold!

This is where His own truly live at home, in the Spirit. Distance is vanquished. Time is soared above. In real life, beautiful and richly light, the inner man has contentment.

Gifts abound that bring true, lasting delight. Dreams delight, with promise above our fondest desire. Love lives a meaningful life today and His glorious Tomorrow.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:"



NEWS



BREMEN

Ruth Englehardt, Carl and Betty Englehardt, and Donald Buck were proved and baptized by Brothers Sam Aeschliman and George Yergler on April 19 and 20.

A baby daughter, Jane Arlene, was born to the Richard Billmans' on April 13, and a son, Scott Allen, was born to the Duane Laidigs' on July 5.

Brother Richard Klopfenstein and Judy Steffen, Elgin, were united in marriage June 8. Brother Herman Hueni performed the ceremony.

Funeral services, with Brother Henry Souder officiating, were held on June 16 for Sister Mary Yackley.

Milford Sunday School visited our Sunday School on June 1.

CISSNA PARK

A son was born to Brother Cal and Sister Carolyn Kaufman March 28.

Lucille Knapp and Mary Staub were proved and baptized by Brothers Noah Shrock, Silas Leuthold, and Josh Broquard on April 13.

A daughter, Dinah Lou, was born to Brother Alvin and Sister Loretta Baumgartner May 17, a son, Merle Eugene, to Brother Ray and Sister Emily Eisenmann June 2, and also a son to Brother Archie and Sister Phyllis Kaufman June 20.

At Elgin on June 22 Sister Rosemary Steffen of that congregation and Brother Jack Rechkemmer of here were united in marriage by Brother Theo.

Beer of Milford, Indiana.

The announcement of the approaching marriage of Brother Willard Feller and Sister Karen Hari was made here June 29.

Melvin and Doris Knapp were proved and baptized by Brothers Josh Broquard and Henry Kilgus June 28 and 29.

In less than two weeks our congregation suffered the loss of three individuals who each passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. Brother Fred Shupbach was laid to rest on July 3 after suffering a heart attack. Funeral services were conducted July 11 for Marvin Moser, a young son of Brother George and Sister Arlene Moser, who was killed in a farm accident. Funeral services were also held for Lillian Kuntz on July 13. She had suffered poor health much of her rather short life.

Sister Gloria Herman of Peoria and Brother Don Bauer were married by Brother Dave Mangold July 13 at Peoria.

The announcement of the approaching marriage of Sister Beverly Hohulin of Goodfield to Brother Sam Bauer was made here July 13.

Funeral services were conducted for Jacob Kropf on July 15.

A daughter was born to Brother Art and Sister Louella Hari on July 16.

Visiting ministers in recent months were: Brother Ben Zimmerman, Congerville; Brother Noah Shrock, Oakville, Iowa; Brother Silas Leuthold,

Princeville; Brothers Joe Zimmerman and Gene Bertschi, Roanoke; Brother Fred Grimm, Taylor, Missouri; Brothers Emil Bahler and Josh Broquard, Fairbury; and Brother Henry Kilgus, Forrest.

LA CROSSE

Sister Verna May Nuest and Brother Gene Lehman of Wolcott, Indiana, were united in marriage on June 22.

Baptismal services were held on May 11th for Nile Bucher, son of Brother and Sister Vernon Bucher.

Donald Gudeman, son of (Brother and Sister) Arthur Gudeman was announced for proving.

This community was greatly shocked and grieved by the sudden death of Irvin Moser of Valparaiso, son of Sister Lydia Moser, on July 8th. He leaves a wife and four children.

We are thankful that Brother George Yergler has recovered from his operation and has been back in church with us.

LATY

One soul was added to the fold recently here, Walter Sinn, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Sinn.

Sister Eleanor Stoller and Brother Kurt Fisher were united in marriage on Sunday, May 25.

Elmer Laukhuf passed away quite suddenly. Funeral services were held July 14.

Births: A daughter, Diane Kay, to Mr. and Mrs. Russel Stoller; a daughter, Lois Ann, to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Grant; a son, Leon Ray, to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Klopfenstein; a son, Lee Alan, to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Klopfenstein.

Our Sunday School spent a very enjoyable Sunday in Toledo in June.

MILFORD

Communion services were held on Easter Sunday.

Esther Rapp and Mary Ann Stieg-litz spent a week in June with the churches in Alabama.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wuthrich and

daughter, Jean, entertained the Adult Sunday School Class and Young People July 18th with a picnic at their cottage home on Waubee Lake.

Milford entertained Saturday night, July 19th, around 60 young people who came to attend Youth Day on Sunday, July 20th.

MORTON

Baptismal services were held March 23 for Walter Freidinger and Margaret Seidel.

A son was born to the Edward Roeckers' May 22.

Funeral services for Adam Schmiggall of Mackinaw were held May 30.

A son was born to the Arnold Rassis' on June 10.

Baptismal services were held on June 22 for Elmer Rassi, Jack Herstein and wife Charlene, and Chryell Jones.

Announcement was made of the forthcoming marriage of Sister Joan Bauer of Tremont and Brother James Fisher of Morton.

Brother Joe A. Getz was in Oakville, Iowa, July 13 for the baptism of Brother and Sister John Purdelwitz.

PEORIA

Sister Rose Holliger passed away. The funeral was May 14.

Sister Rose Schlipf finished her course. The funeral was May 24.

Sister Lena Baer also died. Funeral services were held May 31.

Brother Herman Neust now also has finished his sojourn. May 7 was the date of the funeral.

Marriages solemnized are as follows: Vera Staub to Paul Knobloch (of Lester, Iowa), May 11; Sister Gloria Herman to John Funk (of Gridley) on June 15; Sister Lou Ann Herman to Don Bauer (of Cissna Park) July 13; and Sister Lorene Sinn to Lloyd Kiser (of Morton) June 29.

Ben Reisbig, Pete Martin, Shirley Witzig, Curtis Zurcher, and Laura Zurcher were baptized and added to the fold.

The following are waiting for baptism: Jonas Ball, Carl Rapp, Emma

Rapp, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Meister.

This was our first year for Vacation Bible School. There was an attendance of 100 children and the teachers. All were very cooperative, for which we are thankful and hope to continue this in the years to come.

Quite a number of young folks attended Camp Mack at Milford, Indiana, Sunday, July 20. Bro. Lehman of Wolcott was the speaker that afternoon. (Brother Gudeman was speaker in the evening.)

On April 20 communion services were held. There was a very large attendance.

Michael Weyeneth spent Sunday, July 13, in Bluffton, Indiana.

PRINCEVILLE

The death angel has visited our congregation several times the past few weeks.

Funeral services for Karl Mueller were held Easter Sunday, April 6. He died following an operation.

Mrs. Alfred Streitmatter died after a lingering illness, and was laid to rest April 17.

Our aged brother, William Stahl, passed away following surgery and was buried May 8.

Phillip Streitmatter died very suddenly in his home. Funeral services were May 12.

July 19 our Sister Martha Kieser suffered a stroke and died two days later. Funeral services were set for July 24.

April 27, Marian Ricketts Heinshaw was added to the fold.

Miss Marjory Kieser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kieser, and Jack Zimmerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Zimmerman of Morton were united in marriage June 8 by our elder, Silas Leuthold.

The Sunday School picnic was held June 29, with 350 in attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knobloch are the parents of a daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Guingrich a son.

RITTMAN

Weddings: April 13, Brother Isaac Rufener, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac

Rufener, to Sister Verna Hartzler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hartzler. On June 15, Brother Lester Gerber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gerber of Bluffton, to Sister Rosemary Hartzler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hartzler.

Births: A daughter, Dener Jo, to Mr. and Mrs. Dale Widmer; a son, Robert Eugene, to Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Klotzle; a son, Randy William, to Mr. and Mrs. William Gasser; a son, Wendell Noah, to Mr. and Mrs. John Dotterer; a son, Frank Jay, to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hilty; a daughter, Donna Jean, to Mr. and Mrs. Don Walders; a daughter, Connie Lou, to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Beery.

On April 13 the 10-month-old daughter, Marjorie Ann, of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bauman died. She is survived by her parents, a sister and three brothers, all at home.

Communion services were held on April 6, Easter Sunday. Brother Sam Aschliman of Bluffton, was aided by Brother Noah Bauman.

We were blessed with the visit of Brother Andrew Dotterer of Junction, Ohio, on June 15.

At present, Brother Ben Hartzler is suffering from back trouble and is in the hospital. We hope and pray for a speedy recovery for him.

WOLCOTT

Our congregation has had many reasons for rejoicing during 1958. Souls added through baptism were Verne and Leona Lehman, Sam Viellieber, Vernon, Janet, Glenn, and Eileen Furrer. Others who have turned to the Lord in repentance are Velma Schladen, Ben, Marietta, Frank, and Jean Kyburz.

On May 26, funeral services were held for Brother Sam Viellieber.

Births: James Michael, born April 11 to Glenn and Eileen Furrer; Julie Ann, born to Brother Kenneth and Sister Louise Furrer on May 17.

On June 22, Brother Gene Lehman was united in marriage with Sister Verna Nuest of LaCrosse. We welcome Sister Verna into our congregation.

Visiting ministers during the last

several months were: April 13—Brother Geo. Yergler of LaCrosse, Joe Kaiser and Clarence Kachelmuss of Forrest; April 27—Brother Henry Grimm of Morton and Albert Auberle of Tremont; June 1—Brother Dave Mangold of Roanoke; and July 6—Brother Sam Aeschliman and Will Feichter of Bluffton.

TAYLOR

A daughter, Mary Beth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Heimer Jr. on May 3rd.

A daughter, Pamela Jean, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Riney on July 12th.

Brother Noah Schrock spent Sunday July 20th with us and communion services were held.

Our Sunday School picnic was held on July 20th. Visitors were parents and pupils from the Elgin and Pulaski, Iowa, Sunday Schools.

Brother Louis Hoerr returned home on July 21st after serving 2 years in the Army. For the last one and one-half years he was stationed at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C., working in the eye, ear and nose dispensary.

WICHITA

Brother Aberle and family of Kiowa, Kansas, visited our congregation Sunday, March 30.

Brother Roy Farney of Kiowa, Kansas, was in Wichita June 8th. Mrs. Karlene Wheeler was baptized.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Duane Reeves.

Brother and Sister Simon Weigand of Deer Creek, Ill., also Brother and Sister Emanuel Gudeman of Cissna Park, Ill., visited our congregation on April 23rd.

The funeral for Sister Sarah Miller was held June 1st, with burial in Harper, Kansas, and that of her husband, Brother Dan Miller, on June 4th. Their deaths were the result of a tragic car accident.

Brother and Sister Lewis Wenger of Sabetha visited here Sunday, July 6. They were enroute home from Colorado.

Mrs. Marie Riedel, Miss Lydia Shrock, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Gudeman and their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Thes Rich, attended the Wittmer reunion, which was held at Sabetha, Kansas.

LEO

John Greuter and Elias Winzeler died in recent months. Herman Heuni officiated at the funeral services of Elias Winzeler, while Samuel Aeschliman officiated at the John Greuter funeral.

Will Klopfenstein is in Denver, Colorado, being treated at the Spears Chiropractic Hospital. His room is No. 311.

Morris Frank, Harry Bucher, Homer Reinick, have been here at Leo as welcome visitors.

PRECIOUS BLESSINGS OF CAMP MACK

Again another day we've spent
Together 'round God's Word;
In fellowship so sweet and blest,
Communing with our Lord.

'Tis once each year this joy we find,
We come from miles around;
Our Friends and Brethren spend a day
On beautiful Camp Mack ground.

'Tis joy to greet our old friends
And joy to meet the new,
Our common Faith does bind us
In God who is so true.

All through the day we praise the Lord.
In song and meditation,
His spirit dwells among us;
We feel His close relation.

With choir voices ringing
And sunset in the West
Our day is almost ended
A day so sweet and blest.

The message then to us is given,
Instructions for us all;
The plea unto our many Friends
To answer Jesus' call.

Ere we do part, we once more turn,
To God in earnest prayer;
To thank Him for such blessings
And ask for love and care.

We pray for all our precious Friends
That they, their lives will give,
Unto our loving Saviour
And for Him only, live!

We plead for His protection
Upon our homeward way
And ask Him keep us safe from harm
Until that one Great Day;

When we on yonder Shore shall meet,
Earth's sorrows all then o'er;
To be together with our Lord,
No parting anymore!

—Arles Kropf.

Oh, the clanging bells of Time!
Night and day they never cease;
We are wearied with their chime,
For they do not bring us peace.
And we hush our breath to hear,
And we strain our eyes to see
If thy shores are drawing near
Eternity! Eternity!

Oh, the clanging bells of Time!
How their changes rise and fall,
But in undertone sublime,
Sounding clearly through them all,
Is a voice that must be heard,
As our moments onward flee,
And it speaketh, aye, one word—
Eternity! Eternity!

Oh, the clanging bells of Time!
To their voices, loud and low,
In a long, unresting line
We are marching to and fro;
And we yearn for sight or sound,
Of the life that is to be,
For thy breath doth wrap us round—
Eternity! Eternity!

Oh, the clanging bells of Time!
Soon their notes will all be dumb,
And in joy and peace sublime
We shall feel the silence come;
And our souls their thirst will slake,
And our eyes the King will see,

When thy glorious morn shall break—
Eternity! Eternity!

Only a beam of sunshine,
But, oh, it was warm and bright;
The heart of a weary traveler
Was cheered by its welcome sight.
Only a beam of sunshine
That fell from the arch above,
And tenderly, softly whispered
A message of peace and love.

Only a beam of sunshine
That into a dwelling crept,
Where over a fading rosebud
A mother her vigil kept.
Only a beam of sunshine
That smiled through her falling tears,
And showed her the bow of promise,
Forgotten perhaps for years.

Only a word for Jesus!
Oh, speak it in His dear name;
To perishing souls around you
The message of love proclaim.
Go, like the faithful sunbeam,
Your mission of joy fulfill;
Remember the Saviour's promise,
That He will be with you still.

Here let me wait with patience,
Wait till the night is o'er;
Wait till I see the morning
Break on the golden shore.

THE HOMEWARD JOURNEY

Each fond recollection
Creates an affection.
Our bosoms are yearning
As homeward we're turning
To those we hold dear.

A longing confessing,
As homeward we're pressing.
How welcome the greeting,
How warm is the meeting!
At home all is well.

If you are moving, mail a card or
note to the Silver Lining.