



The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

not broadcast
mailed Sept 3

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

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. . . Indeed it is a real pleasure to be back with those who listen to THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. This is Willie Murphey speaking to you, and we are glad to come to you each Friday night at 11:00 over radio station XEG.

Now our hearts have been made happy because of the interest shown in this work of faith which we are endeavoring to do for God and His people, and, of course, for those also who are not acquainted with Him or those who serve Him not. We hope that we may be a voice which will reach even unto those who sit in the shadow of death, laden heavy with the weight of their sins.

Now for our principal thought at this time, I would like for you to consider:

"DOUBTING THOMAS"

But, first look at this text in Mark 9:23. "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Here we see a father with a great love for his son. Now the thing which makes this incident so touching is the fact that this son was possessed with a dumb spirit and was unable to talk. The father had brought the child to the disciples, but they had been unable to exercise the necessary faith for his deliverance. Here is the all-powerful statement which Jesus then made: "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

Faith is the exact opposite of doubt. When faith comes in, doubt has to leave. Faith is the one thing which will supply all of our needs, but it must be free from doubt.

I like the way the father of this child replied to the challenge which Christ gave him. Listen then at verse 24. "And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

It is my opinion that when he made this emphatic confession of faith, that all doubts fled from him, and instead, his bosom was filled with assurance that he was about to receive that for which he had longed to see for many years, the perfect and complete deliverance of his child.

Thus the answer was not long in coming for. Jesus spoke the word and the work was done. But on the other hand, I would like for you to consider the failures and frustrations which accompany one who has for his companion this great hinderance to all spiritual progress, the giant of doubt.

Now I am of the opinion that the disciple Thomas was a good man. I believe he lived a holy and just life, but he was certainly hindered in grasping the power of the resurrection of Christ, for he said when told of the great joy others had at seeing Jesus: "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not

believe." John 20:25

In other words, we would say that Thomas was about like the expression so commonly used in this day when we speak of someone from Missouri. "Seeing is believing" or "Show me".

Now this may be all right for some things, but when we come to the all important matter of receiving from God spiritual blessings, it will not work, for Christ said: "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth".

But let us take one more look behind the scenes in the life of Thomas. When he came face to face with the Master on another occasion, "Thomas answered and said unto him, my Lord and my God."

I would like to point out that faith comes before seeing. When we have real living faith, then and only then can we see the wonderful works of God.

I like this part for Thomas was not altogether an unbeliever. Likewise, the father whose child Jesus healed made the request, "Help thou mine unbelief".

Nevertheless, the greatest blessings of all remain for us in this modern, ever-changing world. Just listen to these beautiful words from the lips of the Master. They seem to sound out through the ceaseless ages and come even to you and me for He said: "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." John 20:29

Dear ones, let us have faith in God. It will bring you peace and satisfaction when all around us others are filled with doubts and misgivings.

I would like to tell you of a very pleasant surprise which I had recently. Through the mail I received word from two of God's children, and at the same time here was this poem

entitled "THE MISSION TRAIL" written especially for us by Brother Russell H. Douglas. It made my heart rejoice, but here now is Patsy to share this poem with you.

(THE MISSION TRAIL
by Russell H. Douglas

For years I roamed the earth
Over hill and over dale.
Then I found a peaceful valley,
I found it on the mission trail.

On this trail I found a mission
One that God, Himself ordains,
Found through prayer, not in wishin';
'Tis hell to shun, but heaven to gain.

A mission of Faith on mission trail,
We seek that which is lost.
In Jesus name we cannot fail;
For He has paid the cost.

For each soul the wide world o'er
He made the sacrifice.
How can we ever ask for more?
With His life He paid the price!

The one that's lost we seek today.
Through faith we shall prevail;
For each dear soul, let us pray,
As we travel on the mission trail.

Thank you, Brother Douglas, for this poem.
We trust God will make it a blessing to all.
Now let us pause and lift our hearts in prayer.

Our Father,

Just as you gave your son to seek and save that which was lost, so also we pray that you will give us courage to seek those who are waiting for someone to bring them the blessed story of redemption. This we ask in the name of Christ our Saviour. Amen

Now, a few days ago I received a letter from the congregation of the Church of God at Midway, Louisiana. They expressed an interest in THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast. For this I am deeply grateful. In fact, I don't

know how I could better express my sentiments than those found in a song entitled "Unworthy" as sung by the members of this congregation.

There are many reasons why this little town of Midway, Louisiana holds a sacred spot in my heart. One of these being the fact that back in the year 1916 God saw fit to let me open my eyes for the first time to this great and beautiful world of ours in this place. Midway is located near Jena, Louisiana about forty miles east of Alexandria. Here it was in Jena that I attended school for some years.

Then coupled with this natural love for one's own birthplace, I find the ties which holds God's children together is even greater. You know this is one of the things that characterizes the people of God, and that is the love that they have one for another. This love far exceeds all earthly ties because it is divine. So let me assure all of those in this area that I hold a special spot in my affections for you.

Should there be those living near there hearing this broadcast, I would urge you to attend the services here at the chapel in Midway, Louisiana. Contact the pastor, Brother Merrill Williamson and come make yourself at home with the people of God.

But listen now to this song "Unworthy" as sung by Manuel and Marie Mitchell, Cynthia LaCroix and Sherlene Mitchell.

The song with comments.

You are listening to THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If we have been a blessing to you, we would appreciate hearing from you. That address is THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma. Until next Friday night this is your speaker Willie Murphey saying: May God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant goodnight.

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Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Psalms 73:24

DEFILED

As snowflakes trampled
 In the muck and mire
 Have lost all their beauty
 And charming desire,
 So with the women
 Who have fallen in sin--
 Dead while yet living,
 They feel it within.

Burdened with guilt,
 With sorrow and shame;
 O, what a pity
 To lose their sweet name.

But Jesus is pleading,
 His heart is aglow,
 Longing to wash
 And make whiter than snow.
 All who will flee
 To his wide arms of love,
 He will lift them from
 Darkness to realms above.

His blood is sufficient--
 Let all the world know--
 To wash and to cleanse
 And make whiter than snow.
 --Ulysses S. Phillips

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"But be ye doers of the word."--James 1:22

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CONTENTMENT

"He that is down need fear no fall;
 He that is low, no pride;
 He that is humble, ever shall
 Have God to be his guide.

"I am content with what I have,
 Little be it or much,
 And, Lord, contentment still I crave,
 Because thou savest such.

"Fulness to such a burden is
 That go on Pilgrimage,
 Here little, and hereafter Bliss
 Is best from age to age."

--Selected

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

School days begin again for another term in Guthrie this week. There will be many boys and girls back in the classrooms to learn the lessons which will help to prepare them to meet the problems of life. Really, school days are a privilege which some do not learn to appreciate until later years in life. But along with this privilege there also goes the responsibility for honesty, true purpose of heart, and clean living. Let us hope and pray that God will help both the parents and teachers to assist the pupils in meeting this challenge and emerge from the school rooms with victory this year.

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Here is a good scripture to always keep in mind: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27

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When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

---Isaac Watts

Recent word from Brother C. C. Carver indicate that they will be attending the meeting in Pacoima, California, at least a part of this week, after which time he and Sister Carver plan to leave Washington, D. C., for New York and Israel about September 3 or 4. Then, of course they will be going on to Nigeria after a brief visit through the Holy Land. It seems that it would be a very profitable journey for a Bible scholar to see first-hand the scenes where our Lord was active during His earthly ministry. They will be traveling by airliner. That address in Nigeria is Bro. & Sis. C. C. Carver, c/o B. U. Etuk, Church of God Mission, Post Office Box 39, Etinan, Nigeria, West Africa. Let us pray that this missionary journey may be very profitable in this needy field and that God's protecting hand will care for them every mile of the way.

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Did you know that it costs more to have a copy of THE MISSION TRAIL returned to us by the postal department because of an incorrect address than it does to mail it to you in the first place? Please help us to have your correct address. The zip code will help also.

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If you would like to receive THE MISSION TRAIL which includes the radio message each week, also other reports which are of general interest to the saints, send us your request. No obligation on your part.

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