



The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

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

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. . . A very pleasant greeting to all who are in tune with radio station XEG. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and your speaker Willie Murphey. We are indeed grateful to be coming to you for our weekly visit.

Here we are once again at the closing of another year. Within a few hours, the year of 1965 will be a matter of history. I hope that each of us have made some contribution to cause the world in which we live to be a better place, and as we enter the new year, let us lift up our eyes and look on the fields for they are white already to harvest.

For our scripture quotation, consider this reading in James, chapter 5, beginning at verse 13. I quote:

"IS ANY AMONG YOU AFFLICTED? LET HIM PRAY.

Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain; and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."

Here we see the value of the powerful force of prayer. In the time of affliction, trouble, persecution, or whatever may be the need, prayer is a mighty weapon of deliverance. Both small and great men of old have learned to resort to prayer. Elijah called upon God for rain and the drought was broken after three years and six months.

The prophet Daniel when he found himself confronted by his enemies continued to resort to prayer and entered into his room with his face towards Jerusalem and the window open and called upon God. When the early church was being persecuted and James had been beheaded by the king, the Apostle Peter was in prison bound with chains between two soldiers. But do you know what the church was doing? They were praying to God without ceasing, and were amazed beyond measure when prayer brought about the deliverance of Peter from prison.

