



The Mission Trail

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The Birth of Christ

Radio Broadcast for week of December 22, 1968 (See back page for list of stations.)

While Shepherds
watched their flocks
by night,
All seated on the
ground,
The angel of the Lord
came down,
And glory shone
around.

"Fear not," said he,
for mighty dread
Had seized their
troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great
joy I bring
To you and all man-
kind.

"To you, in David's
town, this day
Is born, of David's
line,
A saviour, who is
Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the
sign:

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bonds,
And in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng



"THERE IS BORN A SAVIOUR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD!"

Of angels, praising God, and thus
Addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good will, henceforth, from heaven
to men
Begin and never cease."

And now . . . Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. ' Luke 2:4-14

Friends, I have given you a poem which tells of the joy brought to the world upon the birth of Christ. And I have given you the historical record as given in holy writ concerning his birth and how he came in such a lowly manner. Within a few days now many people scattered throughout the world will be commemorating that birth of Christ and although I don't approve of the commercial aspects of Christmas the fact remains that the birth of Christ did have a lasting impact upon the people

of the world. And this is a historical fact which cannot be eliminated.

Back in the days of different kings, before the coming of Christ, their method of telling time was often reckoned from the beginning of the reign of such and such a king. The Old Testament often refers to such recordings. Then with the coming of the mighty Roman empire time was reckoned with the founding of Rome. But what happened after the crash and destruction of the Roman empire? Here is what happened. Then the world was largely aware that the one great event which affected so many lives was the birth of Christ and even though there seems to be a slight error in the calculation of the calendars, yet throughout the world time is reckoned from the same calendar which goes back to the coming of Christ. There are a few isolated exceptions of course. But did you ever hear that there were Japanese soldiers who were still carrying on warfare in some of the remote islands of the Pacific long after World War II was over. They were just out of touch and uninformed.

So let me repeat the coming of Christ to the world has had a lasting effect upon it, even including those who say that there is no God. Listen to this verse from Psa. 14:1, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

Friends, let us not be classed among the fools who fail to see the power of God. But rather let us see as the writer did which is declared in Psa. 19 beginning with verse 1. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof." Now, friends, God is not only the ruler of the universe and the creator of the world but he is the God of common folks like you and me. Listen to this poem:

THE CHRIST OF COMMON FOLKS

I love the name of Christ the Lord,
the Man of Galilee,
Because He came to live and toil
among the likes of me.
Let others sing the praises of a
mighty King of kings;
I love the Christ of common folks,
the Lord of common things.

The beggars and the feeble ones, the
poor and sick and blind,
The wayward and the tempted ones,
were those He loved to find;
He lived with them to help them like a
brother and a friend,
Or like some wandering workman
finding things to mend.

I know my Lord is still my kind
of folks to this good day;
I know because He never fails to hear
me when I pray.
He loves the people that He finds in
narrow dingy streets,
And brings a word of comfort to the
weary one he meets.

My job is just a poor man's job,
my home is just a shack,
But on my humble residence He has
never turned His back.
Let others sing their praise to a
mighty King of kings;
I love the Christ of common folks,
the Lord of common things.

Now perhaps up to this point in my discussion we might not receive too much opposition. But you stay with us a few minutes longer now and I want to tell you something else. I want to tell you of a real example of what takes place in a person's life when Christ is born in their heart and he is then the supreme ruler and king of their life. Do you believe that Christ still lives? Do you believe in the gospel which teaches restitution and the restoring of the pledges to those who have been wronged? Do you believe in Christ living every day of the week in your heart and not just on Sunday, on Easter, or on Christmas? Then listen to this letter which I received a few days ago:

December 8, 1968. "Dear Bro. Willie and family, We have been listening to your broadcasts over Coffeyville and sure enjoy them, the reception is good. Just one thing, the 15 minutes is over too soon. I am sending you these \$4. They are special. A man handed them to me and said, 'Here, I want you to have these; I took some watermellons from you one time.' I told him I did not know anything about it. But he said, 'No, but the Lord does.' So I took them and I want to give them to you. Now this must have been 15 years or longer ago. I'm sending you a little offering for your radio broadcast. We enjoy reading the Mission Trail very much. May the Lord bless you in your work. . ."

And friends, if you don't mind I would like to withhold the name of this writer and not give it on the air. But if you really want to know, write me. I don't believe he would object to me giving you his name. And I want to tell you when Christ comes into an individual's heart there is a change brought about. He begins to consider his requirements and what God expects of him and what he requires and what he wants him to do and there's some changes takes place.

Let us pray,

Our gracious Father,

We acknowledge thee as the king of the universe and we also acknowledge thee as the king in our hearts and of our lives. May thy presence be real to those who hear the broadcast and may the message find its way into good and honest hearts and for that which is accomplished we will give thee the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends, we want to take just a moment now to tell you that this message is brought your way weekly over this radio station by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Okla. If you would like a printed copy free of charge you may have one by simply requesting it. We are trusting God by faith to supply the means to keep his word going forth throughout the world. If we may be of any help to you, be sure to let us know. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. Listen now to this song, "It's alright now."

Friends, until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with you. Be sure to be with us again next Sunday at this same time on this same station for another broadcast of The Mission Trail.

We wish each and every one of you a very joyous Christmas through the blessings and spirit of Christ and may he abide with you throughout the new year. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying a very pleasant good-bye!

From Ohio: "Greetings once again in Jesus dear name. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God? Psa. 42:1,2 Surely I love him today, with my whole heart, and my strong desire for a long time is to deepen down more and more in the love and favor of God. Surely we all, have an influence, going out either for God, or for the evil one, and God forbid that any thing in my life will reflect in behalf of the evil one, but the Christ, the blessed Son of God, will be honored and glorified in all my weak efforts I put forth with his help and guidance. Surely I want to be lead and guided only by the blessed holy spirit. He indeed is the very center of my heart's affections. I've been so glad and so thankful that I've found the pearl of great price. . . I just wish I could put into words just what I feel inside, altho' the burdens of the lost about us rests heavily upon my heart, yet there's a peace and contentment that this world can never give, neither can it take it from us, praise his dear name. . . I want to wish all you dear ones a real nice Christmas and the new year will increase in reaching many souls for the Kingdom of God. . ."

--Maudie Sharp

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From Oklahoma: ". . . I know by God's word we will have to live it straight. Not all that say Lord, Lord will enter in. . ."

--Mrs. C. E. Been

Testimonies

From Mo.: ". . . We always enjoy the Sunday morning broadcast over the Coffeyville station. Enjoyed the poem Bro. Leslie sent in, also the testimony Sis. O. K. Myers sent in. I like the singing. I received much good from the song "What would Jesus do?" Today was all day service at Garfield, Ark. Jim and Austin went down, I went to Webb City for service. Sis. Ruth was down at Grubbs, Ark. She has been holding meeting this last week down there. Sis. Edith Cole and Alice and her baby were at service tonight . . . Well, assembly meeting is about here. I guess Jim and I will leave here Saturday evening (I am not sure) for Guthrie. Well I will close hoping to see you there. With Christian love,"

--T. V. McMillian

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From Okla.: "Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Frances and family, I do hear the broadcast each Sunday morning. I love it and the paper means so much to me. My heart gives me trouble. Sometimes I have to set up all night in the chair. Then I feel better again. I need prayer."

--Lizzie Eck

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From Calif.: "Holy greeting to you in the precious name of Jesus. May the dear Lord keep you filled with such spiritual messages to go over the air and through the printed pages that will awaken the people of God to see the dire need of consecrating and reconsecrating to their all to be able to please the Lord and to be able to stand the judgement test and be able to receive our crown. I am praying the blessing from our dear saviour. . . upon the work there. . . All are well and pressing on in Jesus dear name. Yours for the work of the Lord. . ."

--Sister Ella V. Phillips

From Mo.: ". . . I am glad this morning that I can report victory over sin and Satan. . . I thank the Lord for the strait narrow way--the highway of holiness where no unclean thing can pass over, but the redeemed of the Lord shall walk thereon. . . glad I can say with David thy word is a light to my pathway and a lamp to my feet. I am happy in the service of the Lord. When the saints go marching in I want to be in that number. The good Lord bless you in the good work you are doing. My prayers are with you. Please pray for me. Your sister in the service of the master,"

--Minnie Epley

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From Kansas: ". . . I am still saved and encouraged, also enjoying the blessing of God. . . I hear the broadcast over KGGF Coffeyville on Sunday morning and enjoy the message and songs very much. I mean to live for God and trust in Him until He takes me to that happy world above where there will be no more pains or sorrow. May God ever bless you all is my prayer."

--Odessa Johnson

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From Ark.: "Dear Bro. Murphey, My husband has had heart attack and been in Vetern Hospital, but he is home now, not able to work and he's not saved, and needs the prayers of all Christian people to pray for him that he may be saved before it's too late. . . Please pray for me too."

--Mrs. Ernest Fletcher

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From Arkansas: ". . . Well here it's almost Christmas and another year almost gone and so many not saved. . . we sure do need your prayers to get closer to the Lord and need more faith and more patience in suffering and afflictions as we are not either one well. God bless you all in your work for the Lord."

--Sister Katie Dotson

From Arkansas: "Dear Brother and Sister in Christ, I was saved when I was only 14 years old. Now I am 64, praise His name. I am not well at all, have sugar diabetes for 8 years. I am up part time but I read my Bible and pray and try to live right. I was raised in an old fashioned Christian home. We had prayer every night and sang those old songs and shouted. I want to live close to my Lord and gain a crown some day. . . May God bless you in your work for the lost. . ."

--Mamie Baughman

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From Mo.: ". . . there was no room in the inn for Him. I wonder if there's room in the hearts of people today for Him. They will exchange gifts on Christmas day but will they give Him their soul for a present? Sinful man, time is short. You had better be getting ready for that judgment day. Think it over."

--W. D. Harmon

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From Oklahoma: ". . . we are encouraged to press on for the Lord, desiring to learn more of Him every day and thanking Him for His goodness and mercy to us. We enjoy the Mission Trail and want it to continue. Wife especially enjoys reading it because the print is so plain. . . With love,"

--Bro. and Sis. Louis Droke

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From Missouri: ". . . This has been a wonderful year for me in some ways. I can't begin to thank the Lord for letting me have a year of health. It is first year in 16 years that I've been without pain most every day. I enjoy the Mission Trail paper very much and wish to keep getting it. . . I need prayer for my eyes as they are failing fast and also my hearing. May God bless you and your work for the Lord in the new year. Love and prayers,"

--Mrs. Norma Allen

From Colo.: ". . . This finds me saved and living for the Lord. God bless you all and may you be a blessing in these evil days--so much wickedness in the world. . ."

--Frank Kutra

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From Arkansas: ". . . am enjoying the Mission Trail (from a friend). . . Please remember us in prayer. I am a diabetic and husband has many ailments too. . ."

--Mrs. W. E. Bryan

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From Ga.: ". . . I received The Mission Trail through my sister, Odessa Cryer. Since becoming acquainted with it I want to share it with a friend who is thirsting for more truth. . . May God bless you."

--Bro. Carl Brown

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PRAYER REQUESTS

"I am recovering from an attack of the flu, still have a cough and head trouble but am up and around. Bro. and Sis. Ortell are very sick with the flu. Please remember them before the throne of grace."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

". . . I love all the saints and the Lord . . . I can't be here long now. If I live till the 10th of June I will be 87 years old. . . I wish I could be able to come to Guthrie. I can't come alone. . . I hope the assembly meeting will be good . . ."

--Sister Milly Smith

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From Ohio: ". . . A few lines in behalf of dear Sis. Jenkins. I guess you all know she has made her home with Mother and Daddy during the winter. Nov. 18 she took sick with severe pains in her chest. Since then she has gotten much worse. . . at times she suffers so severely, but when prayer is offered God does intervene. Also her legs and feet are swollen tight. She desires prayer they won't burst. . . She is 83. . ."

--Sis. Della Gutwein

at press time

we understand:



Dale and Linda Probst

We offer our congratulations and sincere wishes to Dale Probst and Linda (Taylor) Probst for a long and happy life in the service of the Lord. They were married in the Guthrie chapel Saturday evening, Dec. 21.

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From Okla.: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, Greetings in Jesus dear name. I am very thankful for his many blessings unto me. It is certainly wonderful to be his and trust in his word. I want to thank the Lord for healing my body of a serious sickness around the middle of October. I suffered severely, but through the prayers of the saints, I was healed. I feel no ill effects now, and know beyond a doubt that the Lord healed my body because I did not see a doctor. Thanks so very much for your prayers and concern. Enclosed is a small offering to help with the Lord's work. Christian love,"

--Gary Eck

Prayer is requested for a healing touch to Bro. Bill and Sis. Dovie Abbott.

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Many are attending the state assembly meeting here in Guthrie this week. Some have come a long distance to be in the services and the Lord is blessing.

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From Guthrie: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, I truly thank the Lord for peace and joy in my heart and soul this morning. The Lord has surely been a blessing to me during my illness and time of need. I know it was God alone that brought me through and I surely thank and praise him for it. I also want to thank every one for all the prayers that were offered up in my behalf as I know there was much praying done. I also thank Bro. Willie for the time he spent with me and my family as it was appreciated very much by all of us. Christian love,"

--Zelda Miller

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NOTICE: Many have returned the coupon for our 1969 mailing list which we requested our readers to do. Some have not yet done so. If you desire to remain on our 1969 mailing list please return this coupon to us at once. There is no subscription price and you do not have to send money to get The Mission Trail. This work is operated on a faith basis and we trust the Lord to supply the means to finance the cost of the broadcast stations and also the printing work. We appreciate those who are co-operating to make this possible.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.



For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a. m.
KCKW	Jena, Louisiana	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
KCLO	Leavenworth, Kansas	1410 kc.	Sunday, 3:00 p. m.
WFPR	Hammond, Louisiana	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.
KCIJ	Shreveport, Louisiana	980 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
KXOW*	Hot Springs, Arkansas	1420 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.

*Additional broadcast is heard on this station Sunday, 3:30 p. m.

The Mission Trail

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Address Correction Requested

