



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey • Kathleen E. Murphey

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The Goodness and Severity of God - - Part 3

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Good morning. It is with a grateful heart and thankfulness that I come your way once again by means of radio. I hope that today finds each of you pressing on toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus and that you are not being moved by the trials and persecutions which the Lord allows to come your way. Before I get into this message may I share with you this letter from Sister Fern Stubblefield. Quote:

"I trust this finds you well and encouraged to press the battle on. Truly this is a battle but when we are on the Lord's side we have all heaven with us. Some time back when desiring to draw closer to the Lord I inquired of Him how I could do so. He brought this thought to me, 'Accept everything from my hand.' He doesn't originate everything that comes our way--the devil has a hand in many things, but he does permit it. Nothing can touch our lives without his Divine permission when we are truly his children. When it's the devil 'rubbing us' with a trial and we wholeheartedly accept it from God, he can bless it to our good and we can shine more brightly. . . May the dear Lord bless your labors for him. The broadcasts have been blessing my soul. The poem in one of the recent papers was so good, 'Out of this life I shall never take, Things of silver and gold I make.' May the Lord of the Harvest bless your effort and direct you in right paths."

--Sister Fern Stubblefield

Thank you, Sis. Fern. I appreciate those encouraging words. I hope you

will be listening to this broadcast.

Now in continuing the text from the previous broadcast let me give it to you once again, "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." Romans 11:22 Now for this time I am dealing specifically with the severity of God or in other words, God's wrath. Who of us can tell the judgments which God shall bring against those who knowingly and willingly transgress his commandments? God is under no obligation to have mercy upon them at all. They have spurned the love of God. They have disregarded his pleadings and his dealings with them. In James 2:13 we find this verse, "For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment."

Listen to this solemn warning from the 5th chapter of Isaiah, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and

sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. Therefore is the anger of the Lord kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still." Isa. 5:20-25

Friends, did you know that it is a dangerous thing to trifle with God? Some folks speak of his name as a joke or in a profane manner. Listen to this warning from the first chapter of Romans beginning with verse 28, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death". I say it is time for folks to flee from the wrath to come. Sinners should awake to righteousness

and break off their sins and fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man for God shall bring every work into judgment with every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil.

Do you remember King Saul who stood head and shoulders above the other men of Israel? Do you remember how he was chosen to be the king and the people were so delighted that they had a king like other nations? For a while things went well with King Saul but as the years came and went he departed from the Lord. He failed to carry out the commandments of God. But listen to the words of King Saul as he greeted the prophet Samuel. "Blessed be thou of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord." You see he pretended to have done that which he was commanded but Samuel said, "What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?"

You see there are some folks putting up quite a pretense of serving the Lord but the evidence of their lives prove otherwise. From this moment on King Saul was rejected and God refused to work with him any longer. A new king was anointed although Saul was still in the position of leadership. Do you remember his fateful ending? Shortly before his death he even resorted to a witch who had a familiar spirit to seek her assistance and advise.

Would you like to hear the account of the final ending of Saul? Then listen: "And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised

come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it. And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him. So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together." I Sam. 31:3-6

And now this warning to the wicked from II Thes. the 2nd chapter and beginning with verse 7, "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

Dear ones, I hope these warnings will be sufficient to cause the righteous to continue in the paths of righteousness, turning neither to the right nor to the left and I hope it will awaken the evil who are dead in their trespasses and sins, to come to repentance before it is too late.

Let us pray,

Our heavenly Father,

Take the words of the Bible and carry them not only by the radio waves to the ears of the listeners but accompany

these words by the Holy Spirit into the innermost being of each heart and may fruit abound to the glory of God and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Thank you each one for taking the time to listen. Do tune in again next Sunday at this same time on this same station for another broadcast of The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Okla. Your speaker is Willie Murphey. Here is a song entitled "Where could I go?". The singers are Bob and Dorrall Forbes, Randall Flynn, Melvin Doolittle, and Dale Doolittle.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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Testimonies

From Miss.: 'Please pray earnestly for Bro. and Sis. Stewart.'

--Dorothy Bridges

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From La.: "Greetings of love to all. We feel we would like one of the annual volumes for 1969 Mission Trails as we hand our weekly papers to ones who do not get the paper and we miss a lot of the dear saints' pictures that way . . . Surely we want to do all we can to help others. Every one has been so good to us and we do appreciate the prayers very much. Wayne has been progressing it seems. . . But still very weak in body. Don't seem so nervous as he was and looking to the Lord to give victory in his behalf. We thank the Lord for his goodness and mercy which has been shown us. Continue to remember us in prayers. We pray for all as we know what tests and trials can befall each. Much Christian love,"

--The Wayne Millers

From Okla.: "I can't thank my dear Lord Jesus Christ enough for His wonderful blessing. . . This morning I felt real weak in my body. I commanded Satan to take this weakness and all the cause of it off my body and leave in Jesus name for it is written with His stripes I am healed, and I take God at His word--'I am the Lord that healeth thee'. Ex. 15:26 . . . I thank you for the Mission Trail. I enjoy reading it very much." --Oda Stidham

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From Arkansas: 'Thought I'd write you a few lines, hope everyone is well. I have not been very well for the past 3 or 4 weeks. My right side has been hurting so badly and nearly all the food I eat (even tho it's blended) sours on my stomach. . . but my trust is still in God. . . I am encouraged to press on and walk closer to my dear Saviour. I love Him so much. He has done so much for me. . . May God bless you all in every needed way. I remember you in my prayers and always enjoy the Mission Trail. A sister,'

--Della Anschultz

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From Calif.: 'Greetings in the name of Jesus. We thank God for a real salvation, saved from sin, satisfied in his holy name. We love the Lord with all our heart. He is so good to us. Keeps us saved from sin and gives us a deep desire to please him in every thing that we do. He heals us when we are sick and makes ways for us where there is no way. He is leading us in our every day life. Praise his name. The Lord has laid a heavy burden on our heart for lost souls. Do pray for us. We also would like for all of you to remember my husband in his affliction. At times we battle night and day for his condition of body. . . God bless all of you who are sending the gospel message. . .'

--Sis. Essie Lee Gibson

From Okla.: "I want to thank you for your prayers for the request I wrote you about. Well, praise God, He sure did answer. I wish I could talk to you to tell how wonderful the dear Lord answered. Praise His dear name. . . May God bless and keep you all safe and well."

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From Okla.: "Just want to write and tell you that altho I hear your message on radio I still read every word of your little Mission Trail paper as soon as I receive it. . . It seems the world is getting so wicked and people are so unconcerned about the hereafter. According to fulfillment of time, as Jesus teaches in the Bible, he could come at any time. I want to so live from day to day should he come I'll be ready. I am sending a small offering. Use as you want to for God's work."

--Sis. Mable Been

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From Mich.: "Once again we greet you folks from Michigan. So thankful for the many blessings of the Lord. God has been good to us, praise His name. Wanted to write to you a lot sooner, but just didn't get to it. Thank you ever so much for sending us the 'Mission Trail' for 1969. How are all you folks down that way? Fine, I hope. The Lord has been good to us this winter and we haven't had much sickness this year. . . We're still hold services out at the school house. Would like to have you folks visit us once again, soon. Bro. Humphrey was here for our all-day service. Bro. Gordon and Bro. Williams were both here the month before. So thankful for them coming to be with us. . . We were sort of planning on going to the meeting in Kentucky over the Easter vacation. But that has been canceled. . . Will close for now. Remember us in your prayers. . ."

--Bro. Ralph, Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

From Texas: "Praise the Lord for such a great saviour! (To think that he suffered so much for me.) Certainly we owe our complete life to Him. Such a great price for our redemption. We have much to give thanks unto our King for. I realize that I can never repay Him for this wonderful salvation."

--Bro. Elbert Johnson and Bonnie

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From Kansas: "I'm always glad to get your letters. To hear from a saint of God is food to my soul. Yes, I really enjoy the 37th Psalm. I've read it many times for encouragement to my soul. Brother Pruitt used Psalm 37:37 for his text, when he preached my brother's funeral. . . We went to Coffeyville the second Sunday in February. There weren't very many there, but you could feel a sweet unity there. Different times when there would be so few there I'd say to myself narrow is the way and few there be that find it. . . I remember when I went to school at the John Brown University a preacher from Australia, and the president of the college said, any one that placed a television in their home, had brought the devil into their home. I've often thought about it, and wondered if those men were alive today, would they have gone with the crowd and placed a television in their home. It seems as if it rains over the weekends. I'd much rather it would be that way. The tulips are peeking through the ground. Surely spring isn't very far away. You know I have students in some of my afternoon classes that drink. In fact, there's one that drinks, smokes, chews tobacco, and dips snuff. . . I think of the saints children, surely, they need many sincere prayers to follow them as they go to school. . . Remember us in prayer, we surely need each others prayers. May the Lord bless each one of you and supply all of your needs."

--Mamie Norcutt

From Calif. : "We are glad for the little paper and the encouraging word in the letter. The saints are my people and it pleases me to be with them when I can. A year ago this last summer I was at the Pacoima camp meeting. . . The Lord is going to have a tried people and our lives must be measured by God's word."

--Sister Alpha Daniels

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From Ore. : "We have had a wonderful mild winter, very little snow or ice. I praise God for his wonderful watch care over us this winter and the way He has supplied our need. . . I am praying now I may get to attend a weekend of Easter services at Jefferson as my son is here and don't work on weekends. Of course if weather is bad I would not want to make that drive over the high mountains. I do so miss the association of the saints. . . Evalee Stice sent me a tape of Opal Wilson preaching and how it has lifted me up and helped me straighten up some things in my life. I always have loved her and she was such a precious example too. Her works do follow after her and live on bearing fruit in other people's lives. Coral Johnson was my second cousin and I loved her dearly. I have a goodly heritage of precious relatives who were in Church of God. I try and go to the rest home each week and cheer up the elderly. They really seem to appreciate my interest and care for them for whom so few seem to care for or are interested to give of their time says it nasuates them. But we will all be old if we are permitted to live long enough. . . What a mighty God we serve. I must go on, there is no way back so pray I may be faithful. All my bridges are burned behind me. I see no pleasure in sin. Dope is now among our very high school students and the citizens are fighting it. God bless you all. Christian love,"

--Grace Jones

