



The Mission Trail

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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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Good morning, friends. "For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money." Matt. 25:14-18

For several weeks this has been the theme of our message on this broadcast. Last week we discussed the talents of speech and influence. Now here is something which all of us need to remember. It is to make the best use of our

TIME: Our time belongs to God. We are under a very solemn obligation to use it to his glory. The value of time is beyond computation. Christ regarded every moment as precious and it is thus that we should regard it. Life is entirely too short to be trifled away and yet so many are doing that today. We have but a few days of probation in which to prepare for long eternity. D. O. Teasley, the writer of that very solemn song, "Eternity" put it in this way,

I stood at the time beaten portals,
Where many a pilgrim had passed
Out into the infinite future,
To be with the pure and the blest;
And, musing in silent devotion,
Eternity seemed to draw near;

And strains from the choir of the
faithful

I seemed in my fancy to hear.

I lingered, and silently listened
To the dull heavy tread of the years,
And tho't of the fate of the guilty,
When Christ in his glory appears.
A shudder came over my spirit,
As I tho't what a moment might cost;
For eternity's stillness was broken
By the groans and the sighs of the lost.

I saw then the Judge in his splendor,
As he stepped to his great judgment
seat,
And tho't of the crashing of ages,
When time and eternity meet.
For Time, who has laid many millions
To slumber in death's silent shade;
Shall reel at eternity's presence,
And sleep in the tomb he has made.

Let us work while 'tis day, brother,
sister,
For soon shall the Master return
To garner the wheat that we harvest
The chaff in his fury to burn.

Then in haste let us rush to the rescue,
But few can we save at the most:
Soon millions shall be at the judgment,
Forever, eternally lost.

Dear ones, we have no time to waste, no time for a life of indulgence in the sinful pleasures of this world. It is now that we are to form characters for the future, immortal life. It is now that we are to prepare for the searching judgment.

Really, we have scarcely begun to live when it is time to die and our labors will end in nothingness unless a true knowledge in regard to eternal life is gained. The one who appreciates time as his working day will be better prepared to fit himself for a mansion and for a life that is immortal. It will be well that he was born, but we are admonished to redeem the time. Time squandered can never be recovered. We can not call back even one moment, so the only way in which we can redeem our time is by making the most of that which remains, by being workers with God in his great plan of redemption.

There are some who think that if they give money to the cause of Christ this will help to ease their conscience. But the precious time in which they might do personal service for him is lost. However it is the privilege and duty of all who have health and strength to render to God active service. All are to labor in winning souls for him. Donations of money are fine if given to a worthy cause, but they cannot take the place of one's own personal service. Dear ones, if Christ can get your own life and heart he'll have your money, too. Every moment is freighted with eternal consequences. We are to stand ready for service at a moment's notice.

The opportunity that is now ours to speak to some needy soul the word of life may never be offered again. What if God would say to that one, "This night thy soul shall be required of thee." And through our neglect he may not be ready to go. The temporal things of life are but fleeting. Too many are filled with care and anxiety for the things that are but as atoms in comparison with things of eternal interest.

I do not believe that God wants a person to be idle. In fact it is a great curse that afflicts our society and world today for God wants each person who is able to be a diligent worker. Do you remember that advice given in II Thes. 3:10? I quote, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat." Now, dear ones, that is in the Bible. Parents should teach their children the value and right use of time. Teaching them to do something to honor God and bless humanity which is worth striving for. Even in their early years they can be missionaries for God. Whatever the line of work in which we engage the word of God teaches us to "be not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." And again, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might", "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

Then there is another talent which we might call:

HEALTH: Health is a blessing which few appreciate as they really should. Often when health is gone then one realizes how much they had to appreciate before. The misuse of our physical powers often shortens the period of time in which our lives can be used for

the glory of God. Our habits should be brought under the control of a mind that is itself under the control of God. "Know ye not," says the Apostle Paul, "that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's". Now the time for one to make the best use of their health is when they have plenty of it. Oh, for more consecrated young people who will give their all for the cause of God and use their health for his glory. Let us not neglect our talents which God hath so freely given to each one but may we use them in such a way that we will not be ashamed when we stand before the judge of all the world to give an account of the way we have lived while in this life.

Let us pray,

Our Father,

We realize that thou art the giver of every good gift that comes down from the father of lights with whom there is no variableness neither shadow of turning. Give us not only a knowledge to understand these things but give us a willingness to use our talents for thy glory and we pray for a special blessing upon each listener of the broadcast in the way which they need most and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends, let us not forget that God is going to require of us an account of our talents. There is still more which I want to bring you on this subject so be sure to listen again next week on this same station. One of the things I want to talk about next week is your money. Does that sound interesting? And yet God has a plan for it just as surely as

he entrust with us many other talents. We shall be held accountable as to how we use our talents whether it be time, money, health, or whatever it is. God is expecting us to make good use of what we have for him.

And now listen to this song, "I'm happy redeemed and free". The singers are Lynn and Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and Edgar Martens.

And now 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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Correspondence

From Louisiana: "We send you warm greetings of much love in the precious name of Jesus. We are still encouraged to live for Him and are rejoicing in our souls for His many blessings to us. How I longed to come to Guthrie to the meeting again this year but didn't have a way. I don't travel well and riding the bus always makes me so ill. Will you be able to get down to Hammond? We hope so." --Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

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From Minn.: "Greetings this morning in the Holy and Precious name of Jesus our rock and stay. It is written upon this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Matt. 16:18 This still finds me holding fast to the Savior who has done so much for me. Having provided salvation so full and so free and also provides all my needs. What a wonderful savior He is to all that love Him and walk in a Godly way in this sin cursed world. I thank you for sending the Mission Trail each week. I love to read it and it is a great help to keep me in the holy way. Much love and prayers," --Bro. Andrew Senti

From Kansas: "We made our trip to Ohio and back home safely which we thank the Lord for. On our way to Ohio just a few miles before by-passing Springfield, Mo. we lost all luggage off the top of the station wagon. We drove to the nearest service station, bought a flashlight and searched for it to no avail. We went back to the station and Donald called the highway patrol. They reported they were busy with wrecks. This was about 11:30 p. m. May 29th. Donald came back and asked if we should leave our name and address and travel on. I told him I felt impressed to park and sleep until day break then look again. We had parked behind the station, had the children arranged to sleep when the highway patrolman drove in with our luggage. Donald told him we had been praying for this. We had prayer and thanked the Lord for watching over us and caring this much for us. . . Lord willing, we plan to leave Sat. night to go see my Mother and Dad. Mother isn't doing very well so remember her in prayer. We will come home Mon. evening. . . Bro. Reynolds is still in the hospital at Bartlesville--not doing very well. Remember him in prayer. I understand Bro. Beisly and Sis. Inez have gone to Kentucky to be in the meeting there. Must close and get busy with home duties."

--Donald, Lois Sharp and family

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From Pa.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name. The name above every name. So glad to be a sister to the saints and heir with Christ our Lord. Surely would like to be at some of the camp-meetings. It would be such food for my soul. Haven't gathered with the saints for a long time, but we still have our Sun. School and enjoy the Word of God. The Word says that where two or three are gathered, there He is in

the midst. Praise His Name! Mother is still feeble, but still tries to walk some. It hurts her knees very bad, but she has courage. She has done some crocheting at the insistence of my sister. She works for a little while, then lays down to rest. What a wonderful Mother she is! We have been on two trips. One we went 100 miles north to attend the baccaulaureate service for my grandson who graduated. Then this past week we went for four days to visit my husband's mother in Grafton, W. Va. God was good to let us go both trips with no trouble with the car. He is so good and His blessings are more each day. How can people live without Him? . . . Please pray for my unsaved loved ones. I am still holding on for God to save them, for these are such perilous times. We hear of such terrible things happening that we wonder how long God will allow it to go on, but He will say it is enough some of these days."

--Eva Cox

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The Lord has been so good to me
For many, many years.
He's helped me when in trouble
And allayed my many fears.

He's been my guide and counsellor--
Has never failed me yet.
His blessings have been so wonderful--
So many I forget.

I thank Him for the future,
The present and the past,
I know He'll lead me gently on
And safely home at last.

Because He's been so good to me,
I wish to recommend
To one and all, my Savior,
My counsellor and friend.
"This is my testimony. It is so true.
God is so good to me."

--Sis. Ida Ruckman

From Ga.: "I am so glad you have some more of the pictures of the 'old man and the new man'. Yes, if you please, I would appreciate so very much if you will send me some so I can pass out to the people. They are very interesting and I really do enjoy my little paper The Mission Trail. It is very very good. Thanks a lot."

--Sis. P. R. Bowers
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From Ark.: "Isn't it wonderful to know 'I am his child'? I love him today and feel the peace and assurance in my heart that 'He is mine'. This has been such a beautiful, quiet, and restful day--up to 86°--partly cloudy. I wish I could express what the two days in Guthrie means to me. Never before did I see the church so plain, Never before did I feel so real a part of it. Never before did I have more of a determination to live closer. The only thing I'd like to spend more time with more of God's dear children. We had a nice trip home. Got to Neosho in about 4 hrs. --all summed up it was a wonderful trip. . . Love and best wishes,"

--Sis. Lou Bray

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From Okla.: "We pray this will find all well and ever encouraged to press on. We enjoy the Mission Trail and messages over the radio. The Lord has blessed with strength, for the many duties. As the song says, where could we go but to the Lord, who is our all . . . We are expecting to have a well drilled before long. It is a long way here to water mostly. Will you please remember us. We will be looking to the Lord to not have to go too deep to get plenty water. We're trusting the Lord to work out each problem and trial of life. And praise him for his great love and mercy. May his rich blessings be with you all."

--Doris Bowers

From Okla.: "Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. Thanksgiving unto our God for his loving kindness toward us all. This morning in worshipping our God in the Revelations 19 chapter 10 verse we are told to worship God. Also in 22 chapter verse 9. I was reading the 1st chapter of Eph. so full of life giving substances in Christ Jesus. Thinking about the word of truth the gospel of our salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy spirit of promise. Reading in Rev. 7 verse 3 about the servants of God being sealed in their foreheads. Spiritually discerned, I believe the 120 at the Day of Pentecost was thus sealed, as the Holy Ghost came on all. Well, pray for me."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Wisc.: "The past week-end we had special services at Stanley, Wisc. Bro. and Sis. Probst and family and Bro. Stover were there. I sure got a blessing from the services and enjoyed being with the saints. The year you folks came to Stanley, I drove all the way in fog and this year it rained so hard that I had to stop along side of the road twice but the Lord gave me a safe trip in spite of the opposition. We had a good turn out for services. To me services always come to an end too abruptly. Bro. Kenneth Probst and family and Bro. Stover came and stayed over one night at my mother-in-law's so we got to enjoy their company a little longer. Then on Tues. Frances and Roman were up. Sure was good to see them again. . . Remember us in prayer that we will be found worthy in all points. It's so easy for something to creep into our lives that ought not to be. Also, remember my brother . . . May the Lord bless you in your work. In Christian love,"

--Duane, Sue LaVeau and family

