



# The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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

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

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## Past, Present and Future *Aug 18-74*

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We are living in a time when there are many things to occupy our thoughts, our time and efforts. There are lots of things to worry us, if we would allow them to do so. There is much tension around us. Amidst it all here is a comforting scripture for us to remember. Listen, it says, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Heb. 13:8 There are some things in this scripture worth noticing. First, it shows the eternal existence of Jesus, the son of God. He existed with God the father long before the world was ever created, and he still lives in our day, right now. There is no beginning or ending of God. He is from everlasting to everlasting and when these temporal and earthly things which we see now have all passed away, God will still be the same.

If we could erase from our minds the worries of the past and cast aside the fears of the future, we would be in a better condition to accomplish more at this present moment. After all, today is all that we have. Yesterday is gone for ever. We cannot recall it. Our mistakes and our failures of the past are behind us. Let us keep them that way. Let us not worry over the past. If the past is continually troubling you, let me tell you what you do. First of all make sure that the past is under the blood. Forgiveness of sins is possible through Christ. Once they are forgiven they are no longer held against us. Listen to this scripture, "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the

sea." Mich. 7:18, 19 Do you know it is rather hard to locate something which has been cast into the depths of the sea? There are many folks that would like to have the treasures of ancient ships which sank to the bottom of the sea, but it is a rather hard thing to locate and recover them. Well, I am glad that my sins are cast from me and I would be glad to have them as far away as in the depths of the sea, not to trouble me anymore. Wouldn't you?

However there is one thing you might do about the past which would help. It may require some restitution on your part. If you have stolen or cheated, go and make it right, repay it. Once this is done and your sins are under the blood of Christ, say like the Apostle Paul, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize

of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13-14

Don't live in the past, live in the present. We can not recall the mistakes and the failures of yesterday and we cannot cross the bridges of tomorrow until we get there. When God's people came to the shores of the Red Sea there seemed to be no way to cross. Behind them were the Egyptians with their armour and there seemed to be no escape, there was the sea before them. But do you remember what God told the people through Moses? "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." Ex. 14:13, 14 Please notice that he said, "which he will shew to you to day". Now he didn't say that they had known about it before or that it would happen in some far distant future event, but he said "to day". Oh, if we could live only for today. The future is so uncertain and the enemy often causes folks to spend their time worrying about the future. Dear ones, you can not live tomorrow until tomorrow comes. Let us live today, let us be up and doing what we can. Listen to these comforting words which Jesus spoke, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matt. 6:34 And so often the things which trouble us concerning the future never really happen after all. They are just dark shadows which are dispelled by the light of heaven as we go forward. Do you remember that scripture which says, "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day"? Prov. 4:18

Now, if you are not walking in the path of the just there is plenty of things for you to be concerned about. The future is not bright before you and the hope of tomorrow has many forebodings. What you need is a guide to lead you right. You need a saviour to forgive the sins of the past and to direct your steps in the future in the right way. Listen to this poem!

#### NOT KNOWING

I know not what shall befall me;  
God hangs a mist o'er my eyes;  
And so, each step in mine onward  
path,  
He makes new scenes to rise,  
And every joy he sends me comes  
As a strange and sweet surprise.

I see not a step before me,  
As I tread on another year:  
But the past is still in God's keeping;  
The future his mercy shall clear,  
And what looks dark in the distance  
May brighten as I draw near.

For perhaps the dreaded future  
Has less bitter than I think;  
The Lord may sweeten the waters  
Before I stoop to drink;  
Or, if Marah must be Marah,  
He will stand beside the brink.

It may be he has waiting  
For the coming of my feet  
Some gift of such rare blessedness,  
Some joy so strangely sweet,  
That my lips shall only tremble  
With the thanks they can not speak.

So I go on, not knowing;  
I would not if I might!  
I'd rather walk today with God  
Than walk tomorrow in the night,  
I'd rather walk with him by faith  
Than walk alone by sight.

My heart shrinks back from  
trials

That the future may disclose,  
Yet I never had a sorrow  
But what the dear Lord chose;  
So I send the coming tears back  
With the whispered words, "He  
knows."

Let us pray,

Our Father,

We are glad that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He doesn't change with the fashions of the world. Help us to hold to God's unchanging hand and as the scenes of tomorrow unfold day by day before us, lead us and guide us in the way everlasting. Bless each listener of the broadcast this day in the way they need most and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Dear ones, if we may be of help to you please be free to write to us. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

May I remind you once again that the national campmeeting of the old time saints of God will begin Friday, July 24 at Monark Springs, near Neosho, Mo. If you've lost contact with the true church of God, this would be an opportunity for you to come and see the saints and hear the preaching of God's word.

I believe I have just enough time here to switch in a chorus of one of the songs which was sung in a previous campmeeting. But may I say before I do so, this is Willie Murphey speaking and I'll just tell you now, until we meet again may the Lord richly bless and keep each and every one of you and a very cheerful good-bye! . . .

## Testimonies

From Guthrie: "With praise and gratitude to God for the many blessings of life, and for all that He has done for me down through life, I come to Him this morning thanking Him for these and for supplying the grace I needed, as my trials were many. But if we look to God and live as He has taught in His word, He will see us through and never leave or forsake us. . . we know the way is straight and narrow and without holiness no man will see God. Life here is as a vapor and will soon pass away. . . the night cometh when no man shall work. I have been listening on radio and reading the Mission Trail on your preaching of talents. We all have some talents and I hope I have used mine in the way He would have me to, as I realize I don't have too many years left to do what I can to win souls."

--Sis. Mable Been

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From La.: "Greetings of warm Christian love to all. I have certainly enjoyed the messages on the talents and I would like to have the six of them if you have enough to send them. . . I enjoy all of the Mission Trail. Some of the testimonies are so encouraging. They are a real blessing to me. . ."

--Mrs. John O. Robertson

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From Nebr.: "We are coming closer each day when we will hear--a quake, an awful noise when the sky breaks open. Then humanity won't have any time to repent. I have read--there will be this loud noise, the sky will break open and Jesus and His angels will come down to gather all who are prepared for heaven. . . I want to be ready. God's blessings be with us all, always to lead us on to victory."

--Sis. Mittie Sultzbaugh

From Ore. : "I can report victory in my soul. I love the Lord and want to live to please and honor his dear name in all I do or say. He means more to me than all this world. Well our camp meeting has come and gone. The Lord sure did bless us with many good blessings. The Word was preached with anointing. We had 6 out of state ministers and the Lord used them all. . . We had a pretty good crowd most of the time. . . Pray for my unsaved children and loved ones."

--Sis. Emma Busch

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### *Harvest Time!*

I look and see earth's gold and riches;  
The hoarding mob for selfish gain;  
The toil of hands for ease and comfort;  
I look again and see the falling golden grain.

Say not four months then cometh harvest,  
For ripe the grain, ready to yield;  
Work while it's day, the night is coming;  
Lift thine eyes, see God's needy harvest field.

When I stand before the maker  
And give account for what I've done;  
May I then hear Him saying to me,  
"Well done, my servant, a crown you have won."

O, do not sleep while souls are dying  
Awake, arise, there's much to do!  
At any price, seek hard to win them.  
I'm sure there'll be a crown for you.

Harvest time, it's harvest time;  
The Savior's calling!  
O do not wait, it's growing late  
Behold the field is white,  
It's harvest time!

--Selected by Sis. Rubye Quave

From Wisc. : "How are all of you folks down there? We have a lot to be thankful for up here in Wisconsin. The men folks just got done here with an abundant crop of hay and the Lord also blessed us with good haying weather so it is all in good shape. Sometimes it gets rained on till it spoils, but not this year. We had real good meetings in Stanley, Wis. in June. They were a real blessing to us. It was so good to see Kenneth and Laverna Probst and children again. (Guess we hadn't seen the children before.) Was also glad to meet Bro. Stover and Roman's wife and to see them so happy together. But that's the way it is when the Lord directs our path, because the Lord's ways are always better than ours. Continue to pray for us."

--Mr. & Mrs. John LaVeau

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"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Ps. 91:1

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From Ark. : "I send greetings of love to you in the name of Jesus. It's a name so dear to us. We love to think of the power in Jesus Name. I enjoy the little paper so much. I love the sermons and the testimonies really do me good. Makes me want to testify too. . . Bro. Willie, if I were on my death bed, the 91st Psalm would be on my heart. It gives me strength and security to lie down and sleep at night and when a storm is coming up I can hold to it. . . I enjoy going to meeting but God knows why I am hindered. The Lord leads me each day. If I ever do a thing that isn't pleasing to Lord, I can hardly wait to get it made right. He is near me each day. I'm in the shadow of his wings. I feel like when I get ready to leave here, the Lord will be right by me and see me safe on the other side."

--Sis. Ruth Scalf

From La. : "Greetings in His most wonderful name! You talk about joyfulness and happiness in my soul! It was at the blessed camp meeting in Hammond, La. when the angels even rejoiced over the repentance of sinners! Several were saved and how my mother heart rejoiced when God marvelously saved my Ruthanne. Other mothers were also happy! Had wonderful meeting in Hammond! No man can take joy from us, spiritual joy is permanent (John 16:22) and it is unspeakable! (I Peter 1:8) There are no words to describe it! We are just to taste and see that it is good. Joy is one of the fruits of the spirit (Gal. 5:22) Without joy there would be no heaven! The Psalmist says 'Make a joyful noise unto God all ye lands: sing forth the honor of His name: make His praise glorious'. (Psa. 66:1,2) Many do not have joy, neither do they bring joy to others! There's power in songs as well as sermons if presented with the spirit and joy of the Lord! We are looking to God to save more in the camp meetings ahead! . . . Christian love and prayers to all!" --Sis. Rubye Quave

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From Okla. : "Happy and thankful for salvation in God. In evening worship my Bible open at Jer. 9 chapter 1-3. The prophet, "Oh, that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" Is it not true today in this age, beloved ones scattered in different places, and so many others, it breaks our hearts and tears do flow. Beholding the 19th v. in 8 chap. "Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the Lord in Zion? is not her king in her?" 20v. "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." The 11-12 vs:

"For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. Were they ashamed they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush." That's the way of the worldly religious, but so is not Mount Zion the city of the living God. I remain and love the prayers of the people of God."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Ohio: "A few lines of greetings in Jesus precious name. Trust you are all well and enjoying the sweet presence of the Lord as we are here. I was up to visit Bro. Earl Bliss of Anderson, Ind. today. We made arrangement to leave Anderson, Ind. Monday, July 27 for the Monark meeting. Trust it will be so you can be there. I have moved again, have moved into the home of my son Cecil. I trust that this will be permanent for a while at least. Have been getting the Mission Trail right along which we enjoy although they piled up on me a little while I was at Guthrie, Holly Hill and the tent meeting in Ky. Please mail my paper to the new address 126 W. Lowry Ave., West Carrollton, Ohio 45449. That is about 12 miles from where we lived on Belpre Place."

--Bro. William A. McCoy

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From Pa. : "How wonderful to know the true saints of God and to know that we are brothers and sisters in the Lord. We are having beautiful summer weather. God knows our every need and supplies as we can use it. He sends the sunshine and makes the trees, grass green and all the beautiful flowers for us to enjoy, also the beautiful birds' song. Praise His Name! As David said Let all that have breath praise the Lord! That isn't the exact words."

--Eva Cox

