



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

VOL. 6 NO. 29

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

AUGUST 7, 1970

Parables

Radio Broadcast for week of August 2, 1970 (See back page for list of stations.)

"All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them". Matt. 13:34 Good morning, friends. I hope that today finds each of you encouraged in the Lord. Jesus spoke to the people so often in parables, in earthly language that they might comprehend spiritual things. He descended from the divine mysteries to parables in order to excite us to raise our minds from and through natural things to the great God and the operations of his grace and spirit. Thus divine things were taught to man through the medium of earthly things. If God should speak to us in that language which is peculiar to heaven, clothing those ideas which angelic minds form, how little should we comprehend the things thus described. How great is our privilege in being thus taught.

Here then is the one verse I want to bring to you. "Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." Matt. 13:33 Let us remember that at the time Christ spoke there were many different classes of folks living in the world. There was the poor, the illiterate, the ragged beggar, the robber with the seal of guilt upon his face, the maimed, the dissipated, the merchant, and the man of leisure, high and low, rich and poor. I like to think that it was such a crowd who heard our saviour speak. Indeed if those of that day needed this parable how much more do we need it now!

Normally leaven was used as an emblem of sin. When the Jews observed the passover they were required to do so with unleaven bread. This is a symbol of putting away all sin from

their hearts. Christ warned his disciples at one time to "Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy." Luke 12:1 The Apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Cor. 5:8 And the verse just preceding this says, "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us". Now this is the usual definition of leavening. It is used to refer to sin and that which is not desirable. However in this particular verse Jesus likened the kingdom of heaven unto leaven which a woman took and hid in 3 measures of meal until the whole was leavened. This is used to represent the kingdom of heaven. It illustrates the quickening, assimilating power of the grace of God. None are so vile,

none have fallen so low as to be beyond the working of this power. In all who will submit themselves to the Holy Spirit a new principle of life is to be implanted. The lost image of God is to be restored. But man can not transform himself by the exercise of his own will. He possesses no power by which this change can be made. The leaven must be put into the meal before the desired change can be brought about. So the grace of God must be received by the sinner before he can be fitted for the kingdom of glory. All the culture and education which the world can give will fail to transform a degraded child of sin into a child of heaven. The renewing energy must come from God. All who would be saved, high or low, rich or poor, must submit to the workings of this power.

Now notice this, even as the leaven which is mixed with the meal works from within outward, so is it by the renewing of the heart that the grace of God works to transform the lives. No mere external change is sufficient to bring us into harmony with God. There are many folks who try to reform by correcting this or that bad habit and they hope in this way to become a saint, but they are beginning in the wrong way. The work of salvation should begin first in the heart. A profession of faith and the possession of truth in the soul are 2 different things. The mere knowledge of truth is not enough. We may possess this but God wants the heart to be converted and the individual filled with the Holy Spirit. Do you know how Jesus taught the folks to love the Lord with all of their heart, soul, mind, and strength? True obedience is the outworking of a principle within. It springs from the love of righteous-

ness, the love of God and his will.

When Jesus spoke to Nicodemus he said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." And then a little further down in this 3rd chapter of John and beginning with the 6th verse we find these words, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." Who of us can tell how God is able to transform the vilest of sinners into a saint of God. But it just takes that true leaven of the kingdom of God placed within his breast to transform him into one of God's children.

Listen to these words of Eph. 2, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"

Now don't you know that God wants to put the true leaven of his kingdom into your heart, and let it work silently and steadily to transform your entire

life? The natural inclination will be softened and made Christlike. New thoughts, new feelings, and new motives will be implanted and I'll assure you there are plenty of these needed in the world today. A new standard of character will be set up, one which will conform to the life of Christ. The mind will be changed and the conscience will be quick to yield to the spirit of God.

Did you ever wonder why some folks who claim to believe God's word seem to have such a lack of transformation in their words and spirit and character? There is seen in their lives the same love of self, the same selfish indulgence, the same temper and hasty speech that is seen in the life of the ungodly. There is the same sensitive pride, the same yielding to natural inclinations, and the same perversity of character as if the truth were wholly unknown to them. I fear that it is because they have not hidden the leaven of truth in their hearts. It has not had the opportunity to do its work. Their natural and cultivated tendencies to evil have not been submitted to its transforming power. I believe that the leaven of truth properly planted in a heart will regulate the desires, purify the thoughts, and sweeten the disposition. Yes, I know that the world regards as a mystery the man who is filled with these principles. But why? Simply because those who are of the world are filled with selfishness, seeking for money, honor, and pleasures of this world. But with the follower of Christ these things will not be all absorbing. For Christ's sake he will labor and deny self that he may aid in the great work of saving souls who are without Christ, and without hope in the world. It is difficult for the world to understand

such a man, for he is keeping in view eternal realities. The love of Christ with its redeeming power has come into his heart.

Bear in mind this scripture, "As He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." I Pet. 1:15, 16 Dear ones, the leaven of truth works a change in the whole man, making the coarse refined, the rough gentle, and the selfish generous. May God help each and every one to have this leaven of the kingdom of heaven within their heart. In this way with his human nature man becomes a partaker of the divine.

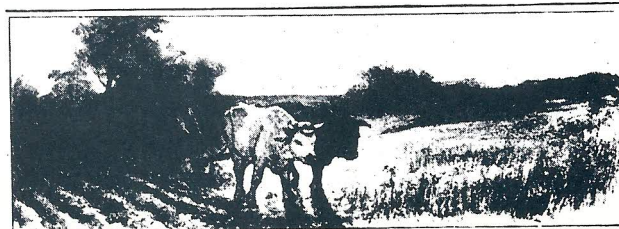
Let us pray,

Our father,

Bless each listener of the broadcast and may we all be willing for the pure leaven of Christ to work in our hearts and lives, radiating out to others that the world may see the image of Christ in every one of your children and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends, if we may be a help to you, be sure to let us know. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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



Testimonies

From Ore.: "Greetings to you today. We are still marveling at how God has worked everything out for us. We feel definitely we're right where God wants us. First of all Earl looked in paper after paper for a job and even went to unemployment offices. But they didn't need him. His second day of looking, he got lost and just drove and turned. He felt impressed to stop at this one place and they hired him in 10 min. He started to work the next day. He really likes his job. Then we'd been looking for a house. They were all rented by the time we got there. So we started out riding around here in Gladstone. We didn't know where we were. But the Lord directed us to a place. We sure do like it a lot. . . Will close. Remember us in prayer. Christian love,"

--Earl, Violet Watson and Diane

--o--

From Calif.: "May the dear Lord be your constant, continual guide in the wide spread of the Mission Trail. It is a wonderful little messenger. So refreshing with fresh food for mind, soul and body. I had not thought of one person having so many talents. How important each one is so needed in its place, also its time to be active. Trust we all may take time to be able to use them. These times are so filled with so much degraded activities it is sad to behold. However we are living in the end of time. I am looking unto the Lord to undertake in the output of the true Word of God. I am endeavoring to keep alive in reading those good articles, tracts, and most of all keep my garments (my experience of salvation) clean, spotless, ready for the coming of my Lord. I truly love to live and obey the blessed old Bible."

--Sis. Ella V. Phillips

From Kans.: "We send greetings in the Lord. He is so near and so precious to us. We want to please Him with our life."

--Donald, Lois Sharp and family

--o--

From La.: "I just hope that people will be able to see Christ in me. Pray for me that I will actually be a light to people that I see and deal with here. I would be glad to know that I had helped some folks to get to heaven."

--Manuel Mitchell

--o--

DON'TS FOR DOUBTERS

Don't waste time arguing with Satan.

Don't make your emotions the standard of your experience.

Don't say, "I can't." That belongs to those who have no Christ.

Don't measure your salvation by some wonderful experience someone else had, but by the Bible.

Don't get discouraged; it will be of no help to you.

Don't be a baby all your life; learn to be strong.

Don't make rash vows; trust in the Lord, and He shall bring it to pass.

Don't shed tears for the devil.

Don't believe that God does not hear you. If you are seeking earnestly, His ears are open to your cry.

Don't let Satan make a speaking trumpet to your ears.

Don't testify for the devil; tell what God has done.

Don't try to feel as you think someone else feels.

Don't follow every impression; follow the Spirit and the Bible.

Don't let Satan make you believe that you have harder trials than anyone else.

Don't help the devil to make you miserable by bringing up the past.

Don't pray for blessings and refuse to endure temptations.

GOD IS IN ALL MY TOMORROWS

God is in all my tomorrows,
Therefore I'll live for today,
Confident of finding at sunrise,
His joy and strength for the way;
Strength for each moment of weakness,
Hope for each moment of pain,
Comfort for all my sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain.

God is in all my tomorrows,
He planned it for you and for me;
With Him in the dark I will follow,
Trusting where eyes cannot see,
Quieted by His promise of blessing,
Stilled by the touch of His hand,
Confident of His protection,
Knowing my life He has planned.

God is in all my tomorrows,
Life with heartaches may come,
But He's always behind and before me,
While ahead in the distance I see Home;
Home, where there will be no tomorrow
Nor time ever wrinkle my brow,
Home, ever present with Jesus,
Throughout all eternity, Now!

--o--

From Pa.: "Greetings in the lovely Name of Jesus! We cannot count the blessings He gives us daily. How great He is! I do praise Him for all of His goodness to me and mine. He saved me and keeps me daily. The devil is on hand too, but I keep my hand in God's great big hand and He will not let me slip nor falter. Praise His Name! Mother fell last Friday. She is all stove up and very sore, can't walk very well now. She was doing so well and she tho't she could go anywhere on her own, but found her legs just weren't quite strong enough. She didn't call us to help and down she went. She still tries to get where she has to go. Doesn't want to lay in bed, but sits in her chair and reads. She sings so much, all the hymns she knows at night

or early morning, just keeps singing. Please pray that she may get her strength back according to the will of God. Thank you for your prayers for my affliction. God was so good to touch me. Some days I suffer terrible then other days it's alright, so will look to Him for complete healing. . . We do enjoy the Mission Trail papers and want to help as long as we can."

--Eva Cox

--o--

From Miss.: "Hope all are well and that you had a chance to go to the Mo. camp meeting for which I hope is wonderful. Think I would have enjoyed being there very much. Please pray earnestly and ask the saints through the Mission Trail to pray for my mother that has cancer most all over her nose, one on her neck and think some more, heart trouble and the other ailment. Also ask for prayer for Wayne Thornton that is in very bad shape. . . Continue to pray for us. God blesses us in a lot of ways for which I praise him very much. With love and best wishes."

--Dorothy Bridges

--o--

THE BIBLE CONTAINS:

The mind of God, the state of man, the way of life, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practice it to be holy. It gives light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's chart. In its pages heaven is opened and the gates of hell described. Christ is its theme, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. THE WORD OF GOD will be our judge in the great judgment day.

