



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

# 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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## "Let There Be Light"

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"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." Gen. 1:1-5. Can you imagine what the world was like when it was first created? This scripture says that the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. Wouldn't that be a dreary place to live? But God didn't stop there in his work of creation. Notice this verse: "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light." Dear ones, God is a god of light and knowledge. Notice also this verse from James, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17

Now, not only does God make the sunlight in order that the earth may be a joyful place in which to live, but he is the giver of spiritual light and understanding also. In the gospel of John we have an account of the Son of God who came as a light to the world. Listen, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that

Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:"

Now, of course, Christ was that light to the world while he was in the world. But Jesus is not here in person any more. He has ascended to sit at the right hand of the throne of God in heaven. But listen now to what Jesus said to his disciples, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let

your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:14-16

A light is indeed a pleasant thing to behold, especially when you are in darkness. Did you ever have the lights go out on you when you were driving a car on the highway? It is not a very good feeling, is it? I remember once when Frances and I were returning from Oklahoma City. I was driving one of those old Model A Fords where the light switch was up at the top of the steering column. Well, in coming down a long hill which was rather steep, somehow or other in switching these lights they went out. Let me tell you, I was glad when I was able to get the lights back on again, and fortunately we had no accident there for which I am certainly thankful. You can see where you are going when the lights are on and how true spiritually this is with so many people in the world today. They are walking in darkness and they don't know where they are going because they don't have the light of life. All around us are heard the wails of a world's sorrows. On every hand are the needy and distressed. They are in darkness. It is ours to aid in relieving and softening life's hardships and miseries for them. We are not only to give food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, and shelter to the homeless, but we are called to do more than this. We are called to send the gospel light. The needs of the soul only can the love of Christ satisfy. How can we reach others if we live apart from them and are unwilling to share in their sorrow and their woes? How can we reach them if we turn our head and see not the distress and the troubles which they're in? There are many from whom hope has departed. Let us, as the people

of God, bring back the sunshine to them. Many have lost their courage and lost their way. They need some one to pray for them. Think of the many thousands who yet abide in darkness and need the light of life. Let us give them the word of God. Many a soul sickness which no earthly balm can reach Christ our physician can heal. Tell them that there is a balm in Gilead and a physician there. Light is a blessing, a universal blessing, pouring forth its treasures on a world unthankful, unholy, demoralized. So it is with the light of the Son of righteousness. The whole world wrapped as it were in the darkness of sin and sorrow and pain needs the light and the knowledge of God's love and it is we who know the truth who can give it to them. This message of hope and mercy is to be carried to the ends of the earth. Whosoever will may reach forth and take hold of God's strength and make peace with him. No longer should we be content to leave the heathen wrapped in midnight darkness. Let us do as the song says, "Send the light". But remember this. No man can impart that which he himself has not received. No man can by his own effort make himself a light bearer for God. It takes the grace of God to qualify one to go with the everlasting gospel. It was the golden oil flowing into the golden tubes to be conducted from the golden bowl into the lamps of the sanctuary that produced a continuous bright and shining light. All heaven is waiting for channels through which can be poured the holy oil to be a joy and a blessing to human hearts. Christ has made every provision for the church of God to be a transformed body, illuminated with the light of heaven, possessing the glory of the eternal God. Now notice that verse did not say to strive to shine. It says let your light shine. If you

have received the grace of God the light is in you. Remove the obstructions and the Lord's glory will be revealed. The light will shine forth to penetrate and dispell the darkness. Dear ones, you cannot help but shine within the range of your influence if you are filled with the glory of God. Listen to what the Lord said to the church, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isa. 60:1-3 Now let me ask you this. Are you a part of God's church? If you have been redeemed from your sins you can say yes. Then let your light shine. Listen to this poem:

### Once and Now

Once I was in darkness,  
Now I'm in the light;  
Once I was discouraged,  
Now my hope is bright;  
Once I was in bondage,  
Now I'm free indeed;  
Once I pled my goodness,  
Now Christ's grace I plead.

Once my peace was transient,  
Now a constant flow;  
Once my joy was fleeting,  
Now 'tis full, I know;  
Once my sky was cloudy  
In the night of sin;  
Now the day-star brightly  
Shines his light within.

Once I tried to live right,  
Now right lives in me;  
Once I sought for blessings,  
Now they're flowing free;  
Once 'twas outward trying,

Now 'tis inward trust;  
Once 'twas self-relying,  
Now on him I rest.

Once the tempter bruised me,  
Now I'm bruising him;  
Once I fought for victory,  
Now it reigns within;  
Once I tried to conquer,  
Now Christ conquers me;  
Once I tried to keep him,  
Now he's keeping me.

Once I worked for feeling,  
Thinking it was right;  
But I found by yielding,  
Faith is lost in sight;  
Once I feared my trials,  
Thinking I would fall;  
Now through Christ I'm reigning  
Victor over all.

Once I sought for pleasure  
While I lived in sin;  
Now in Christ I've found it,  
Springing up within.  
Once my life was dreary,  
Now it's all delight;  
Once my path was weary,  
Now it's shining bright.

Once my cares were o'er me,  
Now I'm over them;  
Once were foes before me,  
Trying to condemn,  
Now they stay behind me,  
Where they all belong;  
Since the Lord is with me,  
Victory is my song.

Thank the Lord for victory!

Let us pray,

Our heavenly Father,

Let the light of heaven bear the words of this message to every heart through the Holy Spirit. We pray for those

souls who are living in the gutters of sin, trying to satisfy the desires of the flesh through narcotics, whiskey, cigarettes, dancing, and the pleasures of this world. We pray that we may let the light of God so shine in our hearts that others too may know what it is to enjoy the blessings of heaven upon their souls and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Dear ones, do tune in again next week for another broadcast of The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Okla. If you have received an inspiration and if some rays of hope may have shined into your hearts, we would be pleased to hear from you. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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

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## Testimonies

From Mo.: "Greetings of love to you all in the precious name of Jesus. We are thankful for His great mercy toward us. As it says in Job 11:6, "God exacteth of thee less than thine iniquity deserveth". Surely the things that we suffer and endure for Him are but a drop in the bucket compared to what our sins and iniquities really merit that we suffer. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. Why should a living man complain for the punishment of his sins? If we but humble our hearts and bear the indignation of the Lord, He will bring us forth to the light and we shall behold His righteousness. For the time is come that judgment must first begin at the house of God and if it begin at us, what shall the end

be of those who obey not the gospel of God. If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the sinner and the ungodly appear? These thoughts encourage me in what ever the Lord permits to come our way that He knows what is best and we are not to murmur or complain, but rather be thankful that we are escaping the awful wrath for sin and death. . . I trust all is well with each one of you in your home and in the work of the Lord. We have to keep in mind the lesson I saw in the airplane that morning several years ago. It did not look very graceful flying sideways but it was keeping on its course. That same flight now goes to Little Rock, Ark. and then to Memphis and one morning the sky was cloudy and it was threatening a storm in the south. I saw that flight heading in an easterly direction. I knew it was that flight for it was that time of the morning, 7:45, and it was Delta. Of course they are flying jet now, but that pilot was heading that plane in a course to avoid turbulent weather. So the Lord guides our lives often in ways to spare us disaster and defeat. How we need to let Him pilot our lives. The Lord has been precious to our hearts lately. He is stirring our hearts to be more in His service. Surely we have some precious soul food to feed the hungry and thirsty for righteousness. There are so many needs here and there, but the consolation and comfort of Christ fills our heart and it is so precious to cast all our care on Him and be filled with His unsearchable riches. As the song says, "Oh, all language fails completely when I seek to tell the world of the loveliness of Jesus Christ, my Friend". The real knowledge of Christ brings rest to the soul and brings an end to all the strife that normally fills the human heart. Hope springs up in the heart and righteousness flourishes

when Christ reigns. And thank God His glorious reign has already begun. May the comfort and peace of God fill your hearts today. Your brother in the faith of Christ," --Bro. Leslie Busbee

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From Okla. : 'I am glad we can live saved lives while we are here. God's grace will keep all along the way when trials come. Jesus said, 'lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' St. Matt. 11:30: 'For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' St. Luke tells us, 21st chapter, 23rd verse: 'there shall be great distress in the land'. Well, people are running to and fro seeking pleasure. . . God has called every one but many have refused his call. I am sure God has given every one a chance to be saved. So many have rejected him. They will be lost in the end. Well we got word our oldest son has to go to Viet Nam in December. He just got back from Germany this past April. He put his papers in for retirement in April--that would be in 1971. He has been in Air Force 27 yrs. He lacked from now until next April. That is when his time would be up. Only thing we can do is pray for him and a lot more of our boys that are in that awful war. I want all of you to pray for me and husband, also our unsaved children that God will save all of them. Pray for me. I'll pray for you all in his printshop that God will supply your needs.' --Sis. Ben Harrison

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From La. : "Dear Bro. Willie and family, It is letter time again. Mayo has been with us this past week but was to start back up there this afternoon. He is not well and needs earnest prayer. He has diabetes. We are having some showery weather here but the gardens are about gone. I trust that all is OK with you. Love to all,"

--J. M. Mitchell

## WHAT WILL YOU DO WITHOUT HIM?

Why will you do without Him?

Is He not kind indeed?

Did He not die to save you?

Is He not all you need?

Do you not want a Saviour?

Do you not want a Friend?

One who will love you faithfully,

And love you to the end?

You could not do without Him,

If once He made you see

The fetters that enchain you,

Till He hath set you free:

If once you saw the fearful load

Of sin upon your soul--

The hidden plague that ends in death,

Unless He makes you whole.

You cannot do without Him;

There is no other Name

By which you ever can be saved,

No way, no hope, no claim!

Without Him--everlasting loss

Of love, and life, and light!

Without Him--everlasting woe,

And everlasting night.

But with Him--oh! WITH JESUS!

Are any words so blest?

With Jesus, everlasting joy

And everlasting rest!

With Jesus, --all the empty heart

Filled with His perfect love;

With Jesus, --perfect peace below,

And perfect bliss above.

He would not do without you!

He calls and calls again--

'Come unto Me! Come unto Me!'

Oh, shall He call in vain?

He wants to have you with Him;

Do you not want Him too?

You cannot do without Him,

And He wants--EVEN YOU.

--Frances Ridley Havergal

