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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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The Remnant

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Good morning, friends. In the 24th chapter of Isaiah and verse 13 we find these words, "When thus it shall be in the midst of the land among the people, there shall be as the shaking of an olive tree, and as the gleaning grapes when the vintage is done." And again in chapter 17 and beginning with verse 6 Isaiah puts it this way, "Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof, saith the Lord God of Israel. At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images."

It is believed that this last scripture refers to the devastation of Israel when 10 of the tribes were carried into captivity. There was only a small remnant left. It seems that the king of Assyria swept away the whole body of the people as the reaper strippeth off the whole crop of corn. The remnant of course, was as the scattered ears left to the gleaner. Then again in Isaiah 37 and verse 4 we find these words, "It may be the Lord thy God will hear the words of Rabshakeh whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God, and will reprove the words which the Lord thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left." Be this as it may. For this broadcast I am particularly concerned about the one word, "Remnant". Remnant is used often in the Bible. Speaking in the natural sense a remnant means a small part of anything which is left after the major part has been taken away. So often, remnant is used to refer to a

piece of cloth left on a bolt. Sometimes the fabric shop will even have a sale of remnants. Now remember this one thing, a remnant is part of the original. In this particular case a remnant of cloth would be the first part which was put on the bolt. After most of the other had been taken away there would still be this small part known as the remnant. The remnant is just as true to color and quality as what the balance of the material was. For it is part of the original. The trouble is sometimes there is just not enough of it.

Now let us make the spiritual application. Did you notice in this one scripture I gave you that it mentioned two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches? Have you ever walked through a peach orchard along toward the ending of the summer when most of the fruit had ripened and was gone. But right up in the top of the tree or out on the end of the branches

there was a juicy mellow peach, the flavor of which was simply delicious. This might be true of an apple or many other types of fruit. In fact, when the majority of the crop is gone it seems that one has more of a desire for that particular fruit anyway.

It seems to me that we are living in a time when the powers of heaven are being shaken. Folks are betraying one another. Many of them have no use or desire for the teachings of the Bible. So truly it is a shaking time and a gleaning time. I am glad that Jesus Christ built his church upon the solid rock and he said the gates of hell would not prevail against it. Nevertheless there has been a great falling away from the truth. But I want you to notice the deep spiritual understanding which the Lord gave to Caiaphas the high priest when he prophesied of the death of Christ. I quote, "And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death." John 11:49-53 Little did some of those folks realize that God was going to save believers through Christ.

Now let us go back to Isaiah and begin with verse 20 of the 10th chapter. "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote

them; but shall stay upon the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God. For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness."

Just as God had called out people in the days of Abraham so he has called out people now. This remnant is separate from the world. They are not reckoned among the nations because it is a holy nation, called out to be the people of God. They are gleaned from many countries throughout the world and although scattered by many miles apart, as often is the case, there is one thing they all have in common. God and His law reigns supremely in their life. Just as there was the gleaning time back in the days of Isaiah, I believe that we are also in the gleaning days now. God is ever looking for those whose hearts are perfect toward him and those who are seeking for the truth. If God permits I would like to speak more on this subject on the next broadcast. Jesus prayed for the harmony and unity of his people. I believe this is still what God wants today. But more on this next week. Notice this poem which says,

A MORNING PRAYER

O Father, give me grace today,
That all I do or think or say,
May be most pleasing in thy sight,
And bring me peace when falls the
night.

Lead me by thy hand the whole day
through,
That I thy perfect will may do;
I would not take one step apart
From the sweet pleasure of thy heart.

Thy purpose is of greater worth
Than all the treasures of the earth;
Upon thy will I daily think--
To do it is my meat and drink.

To thee I live, whate'er betide;
To thee, my heart's door opens wide.
Come in; the whole to thee is given;
There do thy pleasure as in heaven.

In this heart-temple have thy way;
Be pleased to walk about today;
And if thou findest one thing there
Thy holy image doest not bear,

Oh! tear it down--let naught remain;
To leave it there is worse than pain.
Apply the blood, the cleansing
stream,
That thy pure image may be seen.

Just like the branches in the vine,
Oh! let my soul in thine entwine,
That I may holy be today
In all I do or think or say.

As in the earth deep roots the tree,
So may my heart, dear Lord, in thee,
That I this day may walk upright,
Have peace with thee when falls the
night.

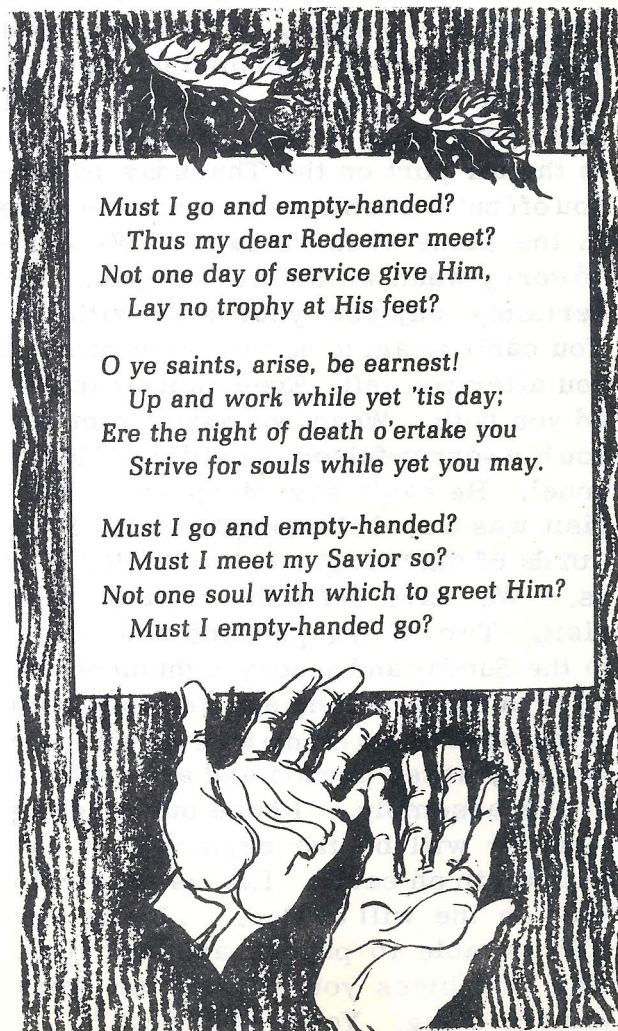
We hope that these few thoughts left with you on the broadcast will prove a blessing to you. I would like to especially say that we deeply appreciate those who help us to maintain this weekly broadcast. If we may be a help or encouragement to you be sure to let us know. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma. And now this closing thought. The past is forever behind us. We cannot alter or change the happenings of yesterday, even as much we might like to do so. But we can make decisions today which will affect not only our life in the future but other lives with whom

God may bring us into contact. Let us exert an influence for good upon those whom we meet from day to day. Let us prayerfully make our decisions each day in a way that will satisfy our conscience.

Here is a song, "If I could but take one soul to heaven". The singers are Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and Edgar Martens.

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

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Must I go and empty-handed?
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophy at His feet?

O ye saints, arise, be earnest!
Up and work while yet 'tis day;
Ere the night of death o'ertake you
Strive for souls while yet you may.

Must I go and empty-handed?
Must I meet my Savior so?
Not one soul with which to greet Him?
Must I empty-handed go?

--Sel. by Lou Bray

Testimonies

From Wisc.: "The Lord has been so good to us, but there are still many needs. Trust this finds you all well and happy in the Lord. . ."

--Sis. Alvin Olson

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From Calif.: "Greetings in our Lord and Saviour. I thank the dear Lord for salvation and his healing power. God is everything to me that I have need of, praise our God. . . Thank you for the Mission Trail. I enjoy it so very much."

--Sis. L. L. Hoffman

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From Jamaica: "Happy greetings to you in the name of Jesus. We were very glad and happy to have received your letter which informed us that you reached over safely. Thank God. I (Sis. Ferguson) and Sis. Smalling came to the air port on the Thursday to see you off but it seems as if you were gone in the plane when we came. We were so sorry when we did not see you. We certainly enjoyed your stay with us. You can't imagine how much we missed you after you left. Even Andrew missed you both. When we asked him for you his sorrowful tone would say 'Mercy gone'. He can't say Murphey. Your visit was a real blessing to us all. Your words of encouragement are still with us. We have seen the fruit of your visit. Two of the persons who came to the Sunday and Sunday night meetings were members long ago and they both came back and acknowledged their wrongs, asked pardon and are with us in the assembly. I hope our meeting together will be the beginning of our fellowship on earth. Let us strive to keep in the will of God. . . I hope you will be able to pay us another visit. May God bless you all and the work you are doing. Yours in Christ,"

--Sis. Ferguson & Bro. Ferguson

From Calif.: "I just recently got saved and am very happy in the Lord. He has truly been merciful to me. I was saved once but went back to my old ways and the ways of the world. It was very miserable too. I am truly glad he showed mercy on me and forgave me again. I am always happy in the Lord. . ."

--Roxie Leach

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From Ky.: "I thought I would let you know that the Lord gave us a precious meeting the first Sunday in this month. Several of the saints came down from Dayton to be with us, also Bro. & Sis. Ralph Wilkins came from Michigan, Jeanie and Terry Allen from Senath. The Lord sent a sister Floyd and her son and daughter in from Lexington, also some outsiders from around here. Then Bro. Curtis Williams' family and Sis. Alice Hall. Our hearts were made to rejoice to see the different ones come in. We felt it was a special blessing from the Lord as we had worked so hard on the chapel to get it finished for the meeting. The different saints were amazed to see the great change in the looks of the chapel. You would have to have seen it before to have appreciated it. We now have natural gas in it and it's so nice and warm. The Lord blest us to not have to go in debt at all on the remodeling of the chapel. It was hard to believe how we could do so much with such a small amount of money but the Lord always makes his money go further, it seems. Mart and I just got back from West Va. this past Sunday night. He held a revival meeting at Bowden, West Va. It is a new place and the people seemed to be very receptive to the truth. They are looking forward to us coming back next spring for another meeting, Lord willing. . . Remember us in your prayers and come see us when you can."

--Sis. Verna Samons and family

From Mexico: "I am working with the Huskey family and enjoying this work as I learn more--such a busy family in the work. Will write more later. Keep praying for us please. Your sister in Christ," --Carrie Sheppard

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From Ga.: "I am happy to greet you on this beautiful morning in the lovely name of the holy child Jesus. I am also happy to report victory over sin and the devil. Praise our God. . . I often thank God for his true believing children. So keep up the good work for the Lord. Some day you'll be rewarded for your. . . work and not only you but we all are going to be rewarded according to our work."--Sis. P. R. Bowers

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From Kansas: "Dear friend, I listen to your program each Sunday morning at Coffeyville and so far like it very much. . . I have for some time been trying to find a group of Christians worthy of my support as little as it may be. I am a retired switchman. . . I was converted in 1933 and have been on the firing line since that time. Of course you know as a Christian you have to be loaded at all times to answer some of the foolish questions that ungodly people will ask you. I have never joined a church and never expect to for Jesus will do the joining for me as was done on the day of Pentecost. Act 2:47 or Eph. 3:14-15 Anyway my name is in heaven and makes no difference whether it is anywhere else or no. I will close for this time and may see you some day." --C. A. Stone

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From Pa.: "How great our God is and how wonderful He blesses us each day. When the way gets hard and trials come, oh! how precious to lean on the wonderful arm of our dear Lord. Thank you for the verse you gave to me 'My grace is sufficient for thee'. It really

gave me a blessing. . . When we hear the terrible tragedies happening each day, it behooves us to stand true and witness for our Lord at every opportunity. . . Mother is doing as well as can be expected for her age. Getting more feeble and she reads her Bible and will read to us until her voice gets too weak. . . God bless you in your work and keep you as you travel in His care is my daily prayer. We had a visit from Bro. Beisly and Sister Inez, also Sister Ruth Murphey. They were on their way to Perkasio, Pa."

--Eva Cox

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From Okla.: "Trust you are all well. Thank God you and Kathleen had a safe trip. God is so good to us all. I am so thankful for my brothers and sisters in Christ. . . May God bless you all in the work for the Lord."--Ida Ruckman

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"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing. Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord." Psalms 34:7-11

