



# The Mission Trail

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## Limitations

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"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." I Tim. 6:6-12

Good morning, friends. I hope that each of you are familiar with that scripture. If you are not may I suggest that you get your own Bible, turn over there to I Tim. the 6th chapter and read those verses. It is something which everyone should know. Notice especially verse 6 which mentions "great gain". Most folks are interested in gain, aren't they? Some folks want to gain an education, others want to gain a girl friend, or a boy friend. Still others want to gain a good job with lots of money while some are seeking to gain pleasure and satisfaction. Sometimes people gain things to their own detriment. They would be better off if they hadn't gained so much. Recently I had a salesman call on me in our little Mission Trail office. He was trying to gain some customers to purchase a certain piece of photographic equipment from his company. While in the course of conversation I told him of some of my experiences, how that I had worked for many years in the

printing industry but how I had given up the commercial job to devote more fully my time to the broadcast and of course the printing of the Mission Trail. I explained that we do not operate on a commercial basis.

Soon he seemed to realize that I was happy in what I am doing for the Lord. Then he acknowledged to me that many folks are not happy with their present employment. But perhaps you realize how people are continually looking for something better.

Friends, may I let you in on a little secret of happiness? Two things are necessary and we find them given right here in this scripture. The first one mentioned is godliness. This is a must. You cannot have peace and satisfaction without righteousness. The ways of the world will have to go. You'll have to give up one in order to obtain the other. The way to heaven is straight and narrow and few there be that find it. However

those who have found it are extremely happy that they have godliness. The number two thing mentioned then is "contentment". This means tranquility, peace, and satisfaction. There is a verse of song which says,

"My soul in trouble roamed,  
Upon a weary plain,  
And ever restless longed,  
A perfect bliss to gain.  
I have found it, Lord, in thee,  
An everlasting store,  
Of comfort, joy and bliss to me:  
How can I wish for more?"

Do you like that? The song that is, not necessarily my singing, but I hope you will not too strongly object. Then the song goes on to say,

"I bore within my breast,  
A deep and painful void,  
I wanted inward rest,  
And peace that would abide."

Now I think that there are many folks in that class. They are looking for inward rest but some way or other they just fail to find it in the things of this world. But notice this next verse of song,

"My foolish soul had tho't,  
To fill itself with mold,  
From earthly mines, yet bou't  
No true and lasting gold."

Do you have a song in your heart? If you don't, I believe the Lord can put one there.

In one part of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus mentioned the lilies of the field and how they grew. They did not toil and they didn't spin, and yet when he compared them to Solomon he said that Solomon in all of his glory was

not arrayed like one of these. Why wasn't he? It is because that God so perfectly cares for the lilies. He dresses them with the beauty of the field. Then he went on to point out how we should not be overly concerned with what we are going to eat, or what we are going to drink, or even how we are going to be clothed. But he did say, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 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. 6:33, 34

Dear ones, it is true that we have limitations. We are limited on every hand. We can only do so much and we can only comprehend so much.

Some folks live under even greater handicaps. Then it is so easy for them to pity themselves rather than to accept their limitations and make the best of every situation. The great tragedy so often is not in the handicap but in the outlook of that one who has it. If we can learn to live within our limitations we are making progress. I was acquainted with a precious brother who is now dead and gone on to his reward but a common saying of his was this, "If folks didn't want so many things, they wouldn't have to work so hard." Did you ever think of that? I think the essence of it boils down to the fact that many are not willing to live within their limitations. The real victory of success lies not in rebellion against our handicap or limitations, but in making the most of them. In this way we learn to be victors and conquerors. Isn't it wonderful that we can do that through Christ?

Now, let us learn that the secret of happiness is to live within our limitations whether they be financial, physical, or other circumstances over which we have no control. Sometimes folks are desparately unhappy because they cannot have that which is not within their reach. The godly person with contentment is not that one who is dissatisfied because of what he cannot have, but it is that one who endeavors to live a full and rich life within the limits which life may impose upon him. Really, troubles sometimes bring blessings and new opportunities for our faith to give us a greater understanding and insight as we patiently see the working of God within our lives. Listen to this poem:

### *Just for Today*

Just for today, my Savior--  
 Tomorrow is not mine--  
 Just for today I ask thee  
 For light and help divine;  
 Tomorrow's care I must not bear;  
 The future is all thine.

Today I bring my measure  
 To thee, that thou mightst fill  
 And bless it, Lord, and teach me  
 To trust and to be still.  
 Today I'd be, my God, for thee,  
 And do thy holy will.

Just for today, my Savior  
 For ere the morrow break,  
 Thy voice may call me unto thee,  
 And I shall no more walk  
 The desert path with need of faith,  
 But face to face shall talk.

And if I have enough, Lord,  
 Today, why should I grieve  
 Because of what I have not,  
 And may not need to have.

Each day, I pray thee, have thy way,  
 And I will trust thy love.

Now, remember this: Even though we are handicapped and are limited in many ways God is not subject to the limitations which we know. Listen to this scripture, "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isa. 40:28-31

Let us pray,

Our Father,

We are glad for the privilege we have to bring your word over this radio station. Help us to make the best of every limitation which we have. Bless each listener of the broadcast this day and give them victory through Christ for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen

Occasionally we hear from someone who writes for the first time and tells us how they enjoy the broadcast. How we do appreciate these new listeners. Then there are those who so faithfully remember us from time to time and make it possible for us to bring this message to you. We appreciate them too. If you'd like to write us you may do so by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. Here is a song, "Tell me the story

of Jesus".

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

## Testimonies

From La.: "Greetings in the name of Jesus. I have been putting off from time to time writing to you, but must do it now and get this little offering to you, and get some of these duties off my mind. Just home from prayer meeting and enjoyed hearing Bro. and Sis. Probst tell about their experience in southern Florida; about their car trouble and how the Lord blessed; how they were inspired and blessed by meeting and being with the few saints in Goulds and Ft. Lauderdale during their meeting. It was a real blessing to our soul to hear of how the Lord worked in bringing several young brethren and their families to the Lord, and to learn of their growth in the short time they had been saved, and of their fervency and zeal for the Lord. There is so much luke warmness and lethargy among the saints today that it really blesses our soul to see and hear of those who are very much alive. I'm so thankful the Lord helps me to see those things that hinder, and helps me to keep myself stirred. We can't slow up or the enemy will slip in. Have to keep watching and praying. I love the Lord and the saints. The world and its fashions have no attractions for me. I get so tired seeing knees and so much above them. Surely the Lord is not going to permit this old world to stand long with wickedness increasing so fast. I want to be ready for his coming. It hurts so much to see our children and loved ones taking no tho't or making no preparation for their home in eternity."

--Sis. Myrtis Flynn

From Okla.: "Trust all there are encouraged. I am still pressing on for the Lord and am very much encouraged. The Lord has been so good to me and my family. The children have been sick quite a lot, but the Lord hasn't failed us yet and I know He won't as long as we keep our trust in Him. I am sending a small offering to help in whatever way you see best."

--Daisy Harris

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From Ill.: "I trust and hope you all are well. I wish you a good and pleasant thanksgiving. We do have much to give thanks for: To know God, to be His child, to have His abiding presence with us, to have grace and power to overcome all sin, plus the hope of heaven, and all of God's good promises! Plus the privilege of knowing some of God's children and to be a part of the family of God! Besides many temporal blessings as eyesight. . . hearing, strength, the needs of life, a warm comfortable place to dwell, the reasonable health and strength we have from time to time, and God's mercies that have been extended to my unsaved loved ones! My blessing are so many but above all I thank God for spiritual life and food and fellowship, and the privilege of prayer and what it means. Always there is a door open for us to go into our Father's presence. He never closes the door (we may, but He does not!) How blessed and fortunate we surely are to be the children of the King of the universe, to serve the King of Kings and Lord of Lords! I do thank God for salvation most of all! It is cold today, winter is here, unofficially, but very evidently. I do pray the weather and roads will be nice for the all-day meeting at Senath. I want so much to be able to go! I do pray God will bless in all other meetings also."

--Sis. Thelma Sprague

From Ore.: "I want to tell the world what a wonderful healing I received during our assembly meeting. I have for 3 or 4 yrs. had a very hard harsh cough and more so when I sing or laugh heartily. God graciously healed instantly. Surely I praise Him over and over for His blessing. One would have to know me to realize the worth of this healing."

--Sis. Allis King

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### *Christ Is Born*

Souls by sin's dark pall benighted,  
With their joys and hopes all blighted,  
Caught a gleaming ray  
From the telling of that story  
That filled heaven and earth with  
glory--

"Christ is born today."

Up, then, be thou not unheeding;  
While these souls for light are  
pleading,

They in darkness grope.  
Sad and bitter is their crying,  
For in heathen lands they're dying  
Without God or hope.

--o--

From Ky.: 'Greeting you in the name of Jesus, trusting this finds you all in good health and every need supplied. As for me when I paid the utilities and bought us a few groceries, I only had 27¢ left. So maybe in the near future I can send a little to help the work along, for I sure enjoy the truth the Mission Trail brings us. I read every word. In that way I kinda keep in contact with a few of the saints. . . I got a few thoughts on the 23rd Psalm, thought perhaps you might like to read them:

I shall not want rest;  
The Holy Bible surely is a green  
pasture,  
And we can just eat to the full  
And rest in perfect assurance.

There will be plenty more for us  
When we are hungry again.  
I shall not want refreshment,  
For the still waters of His Holy Spirit  
Keeps me from Satan's snares,  
So I can live victoriously above sin  
By watching, and praying for His  
guidance

At all times.

I shall not want forgiveness,  
For my sins are cast as far from me  
As the east is from the west,  
And His Holy Spirit keeps me above  
sin.

I shall not need another guide,  
For He leadeth me on the Holy Way  
For His name's sake.

I shall not want for companionship;  
Even through the valley of death,  
He will walk with me

So I will have nothing to fear.

I shall not want comfort,  
For his rod, the revealed will of God,  
Will comfort me,

His staff the promises we can lean on  
And rest assured,

Not one of them will fail,

If we are obedient to all the commands  
Laid down there so plainly.

I shall not want food,

For despite all the false prophets,  
and teachers,

We can just feast on the truth  
Of God's holy Word.

I shall not want joy,

For He anointeth my head  
With the oil of gladness,

And my cup is running over.

I shall not want anything in this life,  
For surely His goodness, and mercy  
Shall follow me

All the days of my life.

I shall not want anything in eternity,  
For I shall dwell in the House of the  
Lord forever. Amen

Love and prayer in the Master's ser-  
vice,'

--Sis. Alpha Baldrige

