



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
The Mission Trail

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Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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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 MISSION TRAIL

FEBRUARY 4, 1972

"The Leaven of Herod"

Radio Broadcast for week of January 30, 1972 (See back page for list of stations)

Good morning, friends. It is indeed a pleasure to be coming your way again by means of radio. Listen to this verse: "And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod." Mark 8:15. Now, I want to talk about this verse in just a few moments and tell you some of the things I have learned about it. As I began to do a little research on Herod I found a much bigger subject than we could possibly cover and do justice to in, one short broadcast, nevertheless, we can surely look at it and some of the high points. But first this poem:

CHRIST IS THE ANSWER



This life is filled with troubles;
All of us have our share,
And some of them are problems
Extremely hard to bear

For every friend there seems to be
Enemies all around,
And very often it's a battle
Just to stand our ground.

It's then we call on Jesus
To give us needed strength,
To struggle ever onward
And go to any length.

He is our consolation
In time of greatest need.

Our faith in Jesus will I know
Heal wounds that ache and bleed.

And when the storm is over
And seas are calm once more,
We must give thanks to Jesus
For getting us ashore.

Never once forget Him;
Show Him we truly care,
And that we always need Him,
Although our skies are fair.

Then when the rains of heartache come
To test our fortitude,
Jesus again will give us
A peaceful solitude.

And now again these words of Jesus:
"Take heed, beware of the leaven of
the Pharisees, and the leaven of Herod."

Most of us would understand, I think
what leaven is. Leaven is the working
force within the dough before it is baked.
One scripture says: "A little leaven
leaveneth the whole lump." Gal. 5:9.
In fact, these same words are found

again in 1 Cor. 5:6, listen: "Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?" Then the seventh verse goes on: "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our pass-over is sacrificed for us."

So the leaven in this case is referring to something defiled. It is the evil element which permeates the whole loaf. Now, let us go back and consider some of the characteristics and deeds of Herod of whom Jesus said beware the leaven of Herod.

There are some princes, quite a few of them in fact, or rulers by the name of Herod mentioned in the new testament. It may be well if we pointed out specifically a few of these "Herods". First, let us consider what we might say is the "father" of them all. You see, most of these Herods are related, either being the son or the grand son of this Herod the great.

Now, do you remember when Christ was born Herod had the children of the Jews slain who were under two years of age, hoping to find and kill Jesus? Adam Clarke, in commenting on this verse from Matt. 2:1, had this to say: "This was Herod, improperly denominated the GREAT, the son of Antipater, an Idumean: He reigned 37 years in Judea, reckoning from the time he was created king of that country by the Romans. Our blessed Lord was born in the last year of his reign; and, at this time, the sceptre had literally departed from Judah, a foreigner being now upon the throne."

Now, this Herod the great, improperly so called, was a very wicked and shrewd ruler. Inasmuch as Judea was under the

Romans he learned to play the game at both ends. He pretended to be the friend of the Jews by rebuilding the temple in a more magnificent and larger manner, but then on the other hand he gained power and support from the Romans.

However, if the term "great", take notice of that--"great", meant the wickedness he indulged in, then certainly this Herod would qualify without question. Let me enumerate a few of his deeds. First off, it is reported that he married ten wives. One of his sons, Antipater, the oldest of his sons, he cause to be executed five days before his own death.

You see, if any of his children became too anxious to grab the power away from him, then he was ready to even have them put to death if necessary.

At one time Herod had intended that this oldest son should have the kingdom after him, but things went amiss in the family and Herod became enraged, and just five days before his own death he had this son, Antipater, executed. Think of the wickedness, He also had one of his wives put to death. This was his second wife, Mariamne.

The historian, Josephus writes of Herod in this way: "Now some there are who stand amazed at the diversity of Herod's nature and purposes; for when we have respect to his magnificence, and the benefits which he bestowed on all mankind, there is no possibility for even those that had the least respect for him to deny, or not openly to confess, that he had a nature vastly beneficent; but when any one looks upon the punishments he inflicted, and the injuries he did, not only to his subjects, but to his nearest relations, and takes notice of his severe and unrelenting disposition there, he will be forced to allow that he

was brutish, and a stranger to all humanity; insomuch that these men suppose his nature to be different, and sometimes at contradiction with itself; but I am myself of another opinion. . . for being a man ambitious of honour, and quite overcome by that passion, he was induced to be magnificent, wherever there appeared any hopes of a future memorial, or of reputation at present;" End of quote. This is the way Josephus summed up this man known as Herod the great. In another appraisal of this same Herod, Josephus put it this way: "A man he was of great barbarity towards all men equally, and a slave to his passion; but above the consideration of what was right; yet was he favoured by fortune as much as any man ever was, for from a private man he became a king; and though he were encompassed with tenthousand dangers, he got clear of them all, and continued his life till very old age. But then, as to the affairs of his family and children, in which indeed, according to his own opinion, he was also very fortunate, because he was able to conquer his enemies, yet, in my opinion, he was herein very unfortunate." End of quote.

However, when Jesus was warned that Herod would kill him, he replied: "Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected." Luke 13:32.

This was not speaking of Herod the great, but of his son, Antipas. It was Antipas who had married Herodias, the wife of his brother, Philip while Philip was still living. Do you remember that? John the Baptist fearlessly told him this was wrong.

So you see, Antipas had also learned the secret of his father, in persecuting the

righteous in order to further his unjust and unrighteous reign in cooperation with the romans. He was foxy and smooth in his deceit.

Later when Jesus was brought before Antipas, we find in Luke 23 and beginning with verse 8: "And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate." Can you see now why Jesus said: "Beware the leaven of Herod"? It was the spirit of deceit, compromise and evil. Let us also beware the leaven of Herod.

Shall we pray:

Our father, bless the message to the good of every listener. Deliver us from the spirit of compromise, deceit and all forms of wickedness which has been revealed in those who have followed the ways of Herod. Preserve each one for thine own glory and use. For that which is accomplished we will give thee the praise through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Dear ones, if you have enjoyed the message we would be glad to hear from you. Address your letter to the Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. Here is a song: "We Shall Run and Not be Weary". As sang by the Carver Quartette.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God bless and keep you every one and a very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Kansas: "I have been thinking some about being told I'm different. It seems like the popular and most desirable trend is to be like everyone else. To dress, act and behave like the crowd or like the majority of people, whether it is in school, on the job or wherever it might be. It is almost a shame to most people to look different, act different or to be different in any way. I guess it was called a square in my day. I don't know what it is called now. At least a square has 4 points. But when I'm told I'm different it makes me feel real good. It brings a satisfying, pleasant feeling to know it is recognizable that I am different than the world. . . I have no desire to look and act like the crowd today. Thank God."

--Sis. Wildenna Huffman
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From Mo.: "We're endeavoring to do our little part for the Lord, in the different places He permits us to go. We deeply feel, that we are in the last of the last days. So we must work while we have time and opportunity."

--Bro. & Sis. Murphy Allen and Terry
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From California: "The Lord has been blessing and helping me so much and given me much encouragement. The devil will sure make our problems and burdens look so big, that it seems some times, it would be hopeless to keep having faith for them. But how I do thank God for helping me to be able to have victory over the enemy and to have the peace and joy in my heart and soul, that the Lord would like for us to have. My dear sister Katherine, has told me so many times to not look ahead, how things would go in the future, but just to trust God for grace each day and I'm so thankful I've been able to do that."

--Hazel Savage

From Georgia: "Dear Mission Trail, I would like to thank you for placing my name on your mailing list. I enjoy reading about the sisters and brothers who enjoy telling and sharing with others the blessings that God has bestowed upon them. My life is also blessed. The Lord has been real good to me. I am 20 years old, a senior at Georgia South-college majoring in Exceptional Child Education. The field of life I have chosen involves helping other children of God who so often can not help themselves and whom others cast aside because these little children need more of your time, more love and patience and much hope and Christian faith to help them overcome the boundaries of the earthly world and become deeply involved in the Christian world. My aunt Mrs. Precious Bowers from Swainsboro, Ga. informed me of your weekly program and I am truly thankful for her concern for my knowing of Christ and his wondrous works today."

--Mrs. Fozie Lee Watts
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From Ohio: "This leaves us still loving the Lord and so thankful for His love and mercy to us. He has been so good to us and we are looking to the Lord for guidance and grace for the coming year, realizing without Him we can do nothing. We surely want to please Him with our lives. I guess by now you have heard of our little new one. He is a boy and we love him so much. We are thankful for a little brother for Jeffrey. He looks so much like him when he was a baby. We have named him Michael Lee. The Lord has surely blessed us through it all. Jeffrey loves him very much. Different ones have asked him if they can take Michael home with them and he says, "no, I want Michael to stay here." We do desire to raise the children to love the Lord."

--Bro. Johnny and Sis. Della Gutwein

From Mo.: "I trust you are all well and happy in the Lord. There is lots of flu around here. They have stopped visitors from coming to the St. Joe Hospitals on account of the flu. We have had some zero weather here. . . I am praying for you and I trust that you will pray for me through the winter."

--Sister Naomi Anno

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From Okla.: "Sorry I am late in mailing the coupon, but I have been down with the flue for about 10 days. The Lord is blessing but still need much prayer. . . I still want the Trail. Love to all the saints and your family. Pray for us. All the sisters have been down and are still not so well. May God bless you all."--Bro. Luther Reed

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From Oregon: "We thank the Lord for His many blessings through the past year and are looking to Him for guidance through another year for Him. Just as I was writing this note we received a call from Sis. Birdie Kroker telling us of the death of Bro. McEndree of Lamar, Colorado. Since we had not received any Mission Trail since the Dec. issue we had failed to know of this till now. So we surely do wish it sent to us." --Bro. & Sis. Dan Kroker

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From Ark.: "I enjoy the Mission Trail very much. Please pray for us. We are both sorely afflicted. I am a diabetic and I got burned, and my hands stay asleep at night until I can't sleep much." --Mrs. W. E. Bryan

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From Okla.: "Greeting in dear name of Lord. I do hope all are well. I have been sick. I do want you to know I enjoy the paper so much. It has been a help to me. I love the letters, testimonies. I am 90 years old but so thankful I can still take care of myself at home." --Grandma Matthesen

From Calif.: "God has been so precious to us. He has let us live to see 1972 . . .so many. . .did not. . .I do thank God for saving me one day and I can't tell you how much I enjoy being one of God's little ones and by the grace of God I mean to live to all I know and understand. I mean to let my light shine at all times."

--Jettie Mae Phillips

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From Mich.: "The Lord is blessing in our little services up here. Some have been saved and are added to the church. When we all get together, it pretty well fills our little room down stairs. We do thank the Lord for what He is doing. Sure wish you could come up this way sometime soon. We certainly did enjoy our time in Guthrie, with God's people. And the messages that went forth were food for our soul. So glad we were privileged to attend."

--Bro. Ralph and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

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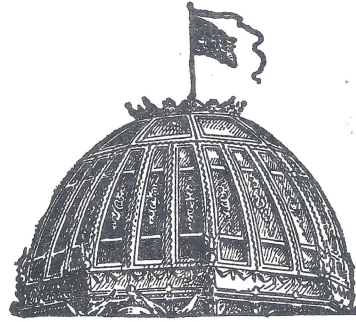
From Ore.: "I wanted to tell you about my visit back in West Virginia--left here in Oct., visited in some of the saints' homes, talked to some dear ones on phone, Sis. Hinzman and others. It was so precious. I also visited with Sis. Olive Keene, had sweet fellowship reading and prayer together. I also visited others in Charleston. It was so precious to have some cottage meeting from time to time. The city buses were not running where Sis. Keene lived. My folks and friends were so good to take me from place to place to visit the dear ones. . . I am looking to the Lord to go back this summer and trust that we will have a car to travel in. Surely the fields are white and workers are needed. Yes we need to pray for precious souls that they will come in while the door is open. My heart is stirred as I write. . ."

--Sister Beatrice Spaur

Children's Page

READ THE BIBLE BY SYMBOLS.

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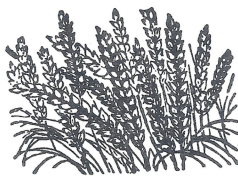
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MATT. xiii, 24.

at press time

we understand:

The ordinance of baptism was observed Sunday evening, Jan. 23 in the regular service at Guthrie. The six who were baptized were: Roger and Marcia White, Roy Jennings, Kevin Wilson, Donnie Johnson, and Joyce (Taylor) Cunningham. Since baptism was built several years ago here it has been much more convenient for the congregation to be in the baptizing service. It is indeed encouraging to see those who believe in Jesus and the commandments he left for us to observe, follow Him in this very sacred ordinance. We wish them God-speed and many blessings!

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'I am writing in behalf of my mother, Maudie Sharp who suffered a stroke on Dec. 4th at the residence of her son in Columbus. She was transferred on Dec. 12th to the home of her grandson, John Neff where she is receiving fine care and attention and recuperating gradually through God's power and grace. The stroke caused her to lose her speech. I am requesting prayer from all the dear saints. . . letters written to her would really be welcome: Sister Maudie Sharp, c/o John Neff, 388 Winchester St., New Carlisle, Ohio 45344 sincerely grateful,'

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From Mich.: "The Lord has been good to us this past year and has blest us in body and soul. We thank him for it."

--Bro. & Sis. Gerhard Mueller

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This is the final call for the return of coupons for our 1972 mailing list! Have you returned yours?

From W. Va.: "Thank you so much for keeping my name on your mailing list for 'The Mission Trail.' I really enjoy this paper as I'm sure many others do also. The Lord sure is good to us here. Sometimes I just can't thank Him enough for all He does for us. Yes, we have our ups and downs but the Lord is always with us to bring us through with glorious victory. All we have to do is to be faithful, pray, and be patient--to let the Lord work things out His way--not ours. How we must learn to give up our way to the will of the Lord! May the Lord richly bless you there in your work. We'll be praying for you and we desire your prayers very much. Yours in Christ,"

--Diana Buzzard

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From La.: "The Lord is still good to us and it's our desire to make Heaven our home. We have even more to go to now."

--Manuel and Marie Mitchell

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All-Day Meeting

"The Lord willing and conditions permitting, there will be an all-day meeting Sunday, Feb. 13 at Egbert Allen's home located 13 miles southeast of Norwood, Mo. Norwood is on US 60 highway. Those coming from the west turn right on "C" road. Those coming from the east turn left. Stay on "C" 11 miles until you come to 76, turn left on 76. Go 2 miles. Sunday School 10 a.m., preaching following. Afternoon service about 1 p.m."

--Bro. Egbert Allen,

Route 2, Norwood, Missouri 65717
Phone (417) 746-2840.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.



For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a. m.
KCKW	Jena, Louisiana	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
WFPR	Hammond, Louisiana	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.

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