



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey

"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

VOL. 8, NO. 23

THE MISSION TRAIL

JUNE 30, 1972

"... a widow woman there..."

Radio Broadcast for week of June 25, 1972

"And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee." 1 Kings 17:8-9.

In prayer meeting not long ago a certain testimony was given concerning how God used the widow woman to sustain Elijah. This testimony opened up a whole avenue of thought to me and I began to think how God has and does use widow women.

I am concerned primarily with those women whose husbands are dead. They are deprived of a husband to care for their welfare. Sometimes these widows are left with families to support. This works on them a real hardship in many ways. Not only do they have the meals to prepare, but they also have the concern and responsibility as to where the food is coming from to prepare for those meals. So in reality their work is doubled. Business deals present a problem and the support of their families also rests upon them. And oh, how they do need the presence of God to guide them!

This particular woman to whom God sent the prophet Elijah for support was just such a widow. I know God could have sent him to someone with more riches. If we didn't understand how God works a blessing in both ways by such an incident as this we might be prone to ask: "Just why did the Lord impose on the

widow to support Elijah?" But let us take another look at the situation. When Elijah walked up to her as she was gathering sticks to go build a fire and cook the last bit of food in the house for herself and for her son before they died of starvation in this great famine which was sweeping the land, Elijah said to her: "Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." I don't know if she really understood who this was talking to her or not, but at any rate, she went to get the water. But as she was going Elijah said: "Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand." Think of that request which the prophet made of the widow woman! Quite a big order, wasn't it?

Then this poor woman took time to explain to the prophet that she only had a handful of meal in a barrel and a little oil in a cruse and she had planned to go and prepare that for the two of them, herself and her son, that they may eat it and die. But here is where the turning point came in her life. She was willing to share with the prophet of God. Because of this willingness she not only was able to help the cause of God, but she and her son were sustained many days, for the barrel of meal wasted not,

neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord.

I have observed by past experience that it is often the poor in this world's goods who are willing to obey the voice of the Lord in giving. How much more could the rich give if they only would. But after all the Lord is looking for those who give with a cheerful heart. The scriptures say: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7

Here is what James has to say about this subject: "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" James 2:5

Under the Jewish law certain requirements were placed upon the people in the treatment of widows. They were to be given special consideration. Here is a scripture bringing out this thought: "Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry; And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless." Exodus 23:22-24

Then listen to this: "The Lord preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: But the way of the wicked he turneth upside down." Psalms 14:9. So I say the Lord is taking notice and is concerned with the needs of the fatherless and the widows.

For the way of the wicked to be turned upside down would be rather severe judgment, but this is what the word says.

Now, let us put the definition of true righteousness in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:" Isaiah 1:16-19

This scripture doesn't say to take advantage of the widow as many do, but it says to plead for her. In other words, look out for her and give her the advantage and the benefits which she deserves.

Naomi was a widow but God loved her and showed his favor to her by sending her daughter-in-law along as she went back to her own land. Ruth was a young widow, but she loved the Lord and God blessed her for it. She promised to stay with Naomi and her God would be Ruth's God also. Because of the devotion of this young widow, Ruth, God gave her a husband, who was good to her. She gave birth to a son. Do you remember his name? It was Obed. And Obed was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

I'll say this--If all the widows were taken out of the church today, the church would be in trouble. Often it is the meager offering of the widow who keeps the word of the Lord going forth. She supports the cause with her offerings and prayers. Jesus also observed this and called the attention of the apostles to it. In Mark chapter 12 and beginning with verse 41 I quote: "And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld

how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

Then think of the prayers and intercessions which go up to the throne of God day and night from the hearts of the widows. When very young Jesus was brought to the temple. Simeon was a just man and very devoted. He gave thanks to God for the Christ whom he had seen. Then there was this prophetess, Anna. "And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." Luke 2:37-38

And now, just a few words of caution. Not all widows are Godly. Some are very much otherwise. These are to be warned. Here is what the scriptures give concerning these things: "Honour widows that are widows indeed. But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth."

So I say may God richly bless every

widow who is trusting in Him. May He be a guide and a comfort to you each step in life.

Let us pray. Our father, we are grateful for the privilege of bringing your word over the air to those who listen from week to week. Bless every one in the way which they need most. Be a comfort and guide to those who are fatherless and those who have no companions to counsel them. May thy word find lodging in good and honest hearts and thine shall be the praise through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Friends, if you would like to write us, please do so. Address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. And be with us again next week same time, same station.

Here is a song: "He Will Hide Me" The singers are: The late Sister Mae Carver, Lynn and Alma Carver and Marie Mitchell.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphy saying God bless and guide you and a very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Mo.: "Greeting of Christian love. Hope all is going well with you and your family. We are very well for which I am thankful. Bro. Willie, you may have heard but in case you haven't I am sure you would want to know about Sis. Amos Porter passing away. She passed... Sunday morning. She went real suddenly. Bro. Porter heard her breathing abnormal. He got up to see about her and within about 30 minutes she was gone. She passed away real easy without any struggle. They had called Carrie and me to come over, but before we got there she was gone..."

--Bro. T. V. McMillian

From W. Va.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus our Lord. While at the revival meeting at Akron, O. I got one of the little papers "The Mission Trail." I don't have a radio and can't listen to the sermons but I enjoy reading the little paper very much. Please place me on your mailing list. Here is a little offering. Please pray for us. May God bless you in your labors for him."

--Erma Cleuenger

--o--

From Mo.: "It's a wonderful feeling to be one of God's children, isn't it? Praise his dear name. There's only one way to shun that terrible place called hell and that's to bow down ones self on bended knees and cry to the Savior in bitter tears and ask him to have mercy on our sick sinful souls and save me now in Jesus name and come up praising his dear name."

--W. D. Harmon

--o--

From Calif.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name. This leaves me about as well as could be expected, mostly wanted to let you know of my change of address. As you might know, I am at the Senior Citizens Home at Pacoima, Calif. Enclosed find a little offering to use as you may think best. Love and prayers,"

--Bro. Guy Littrell

--o--

From Mo.: "Soon be camp meeting time again. Each year it doesn't seem possible that it's that time again, so much in this life to do and so little time. I used to do more for people but seems each year there's less time instead of more as one would think. As people grow older, many oldsters have much time on their hands. We're aging fast and slowing down more and work piles up. Soon it will be the end for many of us. Life surely is like a vapor that lasts but a short time."

--Delmer and Anna Severs

From Okla.: "Thankful for the good news of salvation being sent forth by the Mission Trail. I love it more and more. Song 82 On to Victory in Evening Light songs is so precious to my heart. I am still enjoying the precious truth of God... Love the prayers of the saints."

--Sis. Eva Penner

--o--

From Mo.: "I only want to please him in everything. Glad I ever did find him precious to my soul."

--Myrtle Glass

--o--

From Ore.: "How I enjoyed the campmeeting at Guthrie and all the wonderful fellowship. Thursday nite was wonderful when I came to the altar. It has been many years since I have attended a campmeeting there. I surely hope I can come again sometime. Everyone was so friendly and I met many new saints. I am glad for my new brothers and sisters in the Lord. We are getting ready for our campmeeting here in Jefferson June 30th and hope we have a good crowd and surely would be happy to see any of the saints in Guthrie come and back East. We know well it is a long way, but we are sure it will be well worth it all. We surely felt that way, though on the road 3 days. I am now moved in and settled in my home I purchased here and very happy with it. I prayed 2 years for the Lord to give me a home and now he has brought it to pass. It is beautiful here in this little town of Jefferson and we do so appreciate Bro. Ostis Wilson as our pastor and his wife Evelyn is very dear to us also. My address remains the same as have a P. O. Box 352. Our zip code 97352. I appreciate hearing from any of the saints... I am rejoicing in the love of God and this wonderful salvation. Even strangers have remarked about my car with the sign on it: "My God is not dead. Sorry about yours" --one way to preach the gospel."

--Sister Grace Jones

at press time

we understand:

GET SOMEBODY ELSE!!!

The Lord had a job for me,
 But I had so much to do,
 I said: "You get somebody else,
 Or wait till I get through."
 I don't know how the Lord came out;
 No doubt he got along;
 But I felt kind o' sneakin' like!
 Because I knew I had done him wrong!
 One day I needed the Lord--
 Needed Him right away;
 He never answered me at all,
 But down in my accusing heart
 I could hear him say;
 "I've got too much to do;
 You get somebody else or
 Wait till I get through!"
 Now when the Lord has a job for me,
 I never try to shirk;
 I drop what I have on hand and
 Do the Lord's good work.
 And my affairs can run along
 Or wait till I get through;
 Nobody else can do the work
 That God's marked out for you!

--o--

We were glad to have our son, Willie Eugene home again after finishing his wheat cutting job for the summer.

--o--

From Miss.: "...Since I wrote some on my letter the other night, God has all ready been blessing me about going to Hammond. Bro. Murphy Allen called from his home to see how we were and if I would like to go with him and his wife to Hammond next Thursday afternoon. My sister is not well...but plans to come to try to help down here while I am gone." --Dorothy Bridges

Our heart-felt sympathy is extended to Bro. Amos Porter, R. 2, Grandby, Missouri 64844. It was early Sunday morning, June 18, that his dear companion, Sis. Nina Porter passed away. She went to her reward quietly and peacefully. She will be greatly missed from among the saints and especially in the Neosho congregation. Just the previous Sunday the family had a "homecoming" with the three daughters all at home. Pray the Lord to comfort all their hearts in this great loss.

--o--

Jefferson, Oregon campmeeting begins June 30 and continues through July 9. Further information may be obtained from Bro. Ostis Wilson, 6505 NE Sunset Drive, Albany, Ore. 97321.

--o--

Sister Becky Barnes has written us that her son, Ray Gale Brown passed away June 4, at the age of 56 years. Bro. Leslie Busbee preached the funeral. Remember her in this time of sorrow. Becky Barnes, Stoutland, Mo. 65567.

--o--

In the early morning hours of June 21 the Lord called for Brother Alvin R. Hightower, 2300 N. Main, Miami, Okla. 74354. Just a few days before he had passed his birthday making him 80 years of age. His going leaves three daughters: Roberta and Lois of the home, Charlotte Huskey of Guthrie, and one son, Jim of Neosho, Mo. Remember them in this time of sorrow. Bro. James Huskey and Sis. Charlotte have been making plans to go on a missionary trip to Mexico the last of this month.



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.

The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Return Postage Guaranteed

