



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

VOL. 9 NO. 11

THE MISSION TRAIL

JULY 13, 1973

"The Harvest Is Past - - -"

Radio Broadcast for week of July 8, 1973

Good morning, friends. We are so happy to be bringing another broadcast for our friends and listeners over this radio station. To those who make this possible from week to week we are deeply thankful. May the richest blessings of the Lord abide with you always. Special invitation is given to those who can possibly do so, to attend the National campmeeting of the Church of God under the tabernacle east of Neosho, Mo. beginning July 20. This is a ten day meeting. Services will be held daily. If you would like to attend a camp meeting like the saints used to have when you were a boy or girl come to this one. There will be praying, testifying and preaching. There is no pulpit committee but that of the Holy Ghost to direct in these meetings. The tabernacle is located in the community known as Monark Springs, Mo. which is about 5 miles east of Neosho. Salvation makes you a member of God's church. Come and hear the truth preached.

Here is a very fitting scripture for this time of year: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20

This summer our seventeen year old son was working in the wheat harvest of a friend of ours. One evening we drove out to where the big combines were cutting the grain. It had been a long day for Wayne, Bro. Edwin Eck and others who were helping in the harvest. The combines had been running through the heat of the day in another field and now near home into the evening hours. Twilight had fallen and the shadows of night was around them as the heavy machines kept laboring away to gather in the wheat. I saw the lights of the combines as they criss-crossed the field in the distance. I waited in the truck where I knew they would come to empty before long. Then both machines were pulled up to the truck, one on either side and the golden grain began to pour into

the truck from the combines.

As they drove away again into the wheat field, I too, had climbed up onto one of the combines and was eagerly watching as the wheat was pulled into the combine, separated from the straw and augered into the bin. Motors were running, belts were singing, gears were purring and whinnying. All these things were working in unison for one purpose--that the grain may be harvested and saved for use. The days had been long, expense was great, but the end was in sight. A few more rounds through the field and harvest would be past. The weather had been good, breakdowns had been few and there were grateful hearts as the last of the wheat was gathered at the ending of the harvest.

There had been little time for rest while the harvest was in full swing. Other things had been left undone that the wheat may be saved.

Dear ones, think of the price heaven paid for your redemption. The greatest gift ever to mankind had been made. "God so loved the world that He gave..." Yes, He gave his best, the son of God that we may be saved. Then think how disappointing it is when many turn down their only offer of salvation and refuse God's mercy.

To me this is one of the most touching scriptures in the Bible: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." That means there was a summer. The year didn't go by without one. There were warm days and pleasant ones. The question is, what did you do with them? Did you use them to best advantage? There were those pleasant days of childhood and youth. I fear that in growing up children do not realize to the fullest extent how blest and happy are those days when the responsibilities of life have not fully come upon them. They are sheltered from the evils through loving parents. And this is the way it should be. God intended for it to be that way. But God also intended for us to make some wise decisions, accept the truth and be saved.

Remember, even though you don't make these all-important decisions in the right way and yield your life to the Lord, those days of youth and childhood are going to pass, leaving ahead some dark winter days. It isn't so bad to say the summer is ended, the harvest is past and we are ready to meet the Lord. We have done our best. It isn't hard if we can say that truthfully. That is a good testimony, but when it is different, then there is a condemnation resting upon us.

Often a copy of the Mission Trail is returned to us by the postoffice department with the information that the addressee is "deceased". Perhaps it has been one who was faithful to remember us and the work we are endeavoring to do for the Lord. It brings a touch of sadness, but then when we know they were faithful and ready to go, there is joy in our hearts. And 'ere long we too, shall be walking that path into the shadow of death. Do you know what the sting of death is? It is sin. When the sting has been removed, then there is victory.

Another illustration, a true experience of this very summer. It was one of those warm summer days when the temperature was climbing as I walked into the strawberry field of my friend down near Texarkana, Arkansas. At first, he didn't realize who it was, but 'ere long he called my name, "Brother Willie". Then he took time out from his work for us to walk to the house, sit in the shade for a few moments and visit. We enjoyed the orange juice that we had there in the brief moments we visited with him. He told me of the potential of his fields, and the good crop of berries they had this season. The weather had been good; there had been rain and the berries had produced; many of them were nice ones. But there was one thing with which I was impressed. He said they had lasted only about 4 weeks. He had advertised some for pickers, and people heard of the berries which they could pick themselves. Certainly, they had come to gather them. After all, what is better than strawberries, sugar and cream or a short cake and berries? But the crop was seasonal. When they were ripe, it was time for them to be picked. If not they would soon decay, or the birds would eat them. So with this thought in mind of a crop for another year, this friend

was working there in the warm sunshine getting ready that the potentials of that field might be realized to even a fuller extent next year.

Listen to this scripture: "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Eccl. 11:6

Dear ones, your life has some definite potentials for good, too. Are you developing them? Are you working at the job the Lord gave you to do?

Listen:

YOU CAN DO SOMETHING

If you cannot on the ocean
Sail among the swiftest fleet
Rocking on the highest billows,
Laughing at the storms you meet,
You can stand among the sailors,
Anchored yet within the bay,
You can lend a hand to help them
As they launch their boats away.
If you are too weak to journey
Up the mountain, steep and high,
You can stand within the valley
While the multitudes go by;
You can chant in happy measure
As they slowly pass along--
Though they may forget the singer,
They will not forget the song.
If you have not gold and silver
Ever ready at command;
If you cannot toward the needy
Reach an ever-helping hand,
You can succor the afflicted,
O'er the erring you can weep;
With the Saviour's true disciples
You a tireless watch may keep.
If you cannot in the harvest
Garner up the richest sheaves,
Many a grain, both ripe and golden,

Of the careless reaper leaves;
Go and glean among the briars
Growing rank against the wall
For it may be that their shadow
Hides the heaviest wheat of all.
If you cannot in the conflict
Prove yourself a soldier true,
If where fire and smoke are thickest
There's no work for you to do,
When the battlefield is silent,
You can go with careful tread--
You can bear away the wounded,
You can cover up the dead.
Do not, then stand idly waiting
For some greater work to do;
Fortune is a lazy goddess--
She will never come to you.
Go and toil in any vineyard;
Do not fear to do or dare--
If you want a field of labor
You can find it anywhere.

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Let us pray.

Our father, bless the message to the good of every listener. May they be stirred to arise and be about our Father's business, for surely the summer is passing and 'ere long the harvest will be ended for ever. Awaken souls and may they be saved before it is too late. Thine shall be the praise through Jesus forever. Amen.

Dear ones, thank you for allowing us to share our thoughts with you for these few moments. How quickly the time has gone. Do be listening next week at this same time for another short gospel message. And write us.

Here is a song "The Church Has One Foundation". The singers are Lynn and Arnett Carver. Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be yours and a very cheerful goodbye!

From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name. He has been so good to me, healing me of so many afflictions. I am not very good at writing, but I think of you often. I am praying for you and the . . . work you are doing for the Lord. I am enclosing an offering to help in this work. May God bless you and your family. I would have liked to attend the meeting at Guthrie. I just know that the Lord was there. I hope to attend a few days of the camp meeting at Monark Springs in July. . . Don't forget me in your prayers." --Sis. Mamie Butcher

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From Calif.: "I do love to receive spiritual letters, so that is one reason I enjoy the Mission Trail, also the good messages, and the poems, many of which I have cut out to keep in my scrap book. I enjoyed the little poem: "I saw God wash the world last night." Yes, and I always read the "At press time" news items first. I'm a lover of flowers and all nature. And this hot weather takes a lot of artificial washing to keep things growing these days. That's one thing that takes my time and energy. But I'm very thankful God gives strength and grace to "keep on keeping on." He knows just how long He wants me here . . . I'm so thankful that God's wonderful love to me keeps me joyful and happy at all times. I can't see how some can be depressed, when God is so good to us."

--Sis. Vera Forbes

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From Wisc.: "We moved about a month and a half ago. . . We were privileged to have Bro. & Sis. Probst here at our home for services several times during the week. We had the living room filled twice. That's a real encouragement. Remember us and our neighbors that we may be bold for the Lord and that they will be humble enough to learn what God wants and expects of them. . ."

--Duane and Sue LaVeau

From Mo.: "Greetings of love once again in the name of our dear Lord. I just got the June 22 issue and have read every line. I am so thankful for this work you are doing and I do pray the Lord will bless you. Surely the harvest is ripe and the laborers are so few. I was thankful to be at Senath for the wedding of Nancy and Terry Allen. We need to pray much for the young people because we are living in that day where so many are waxing cold. I do need your prayers. This knot on my jaw is not getting any smaller, but I am trying to look over this and say Lord let thy will be done." --Bro. Willard Marler

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From Ark.: "I know God can heal and he hears and answers prayer. It has been a year ago 30th of May since I came home and found my husband laying on couch dead from heart attack. I haven't been well since he passed away and since middle of April I have been down in my back to where I can hardly get up and down. . . Please have special prayer for my soul and body. I don't know of anything between me and God. I want to be ready to go when he calls me." --Mrs. Ernest Fletcher

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From Ore.: "I greet the saints everywhere. They mean so much to me. I love the Lord this morning. He is my all in all. My greatest desire is to please Him. I want to live so others can see Jesus in my life. I want to be an example of a real saint in word and deed. . . we are praying for a good meeting, for saved and for the unsaved. . . your sister in Christ," --Emma Busch

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From Ill.: "We are so thankful for the blessings of the Lord and His mercy to the children of men. We want above all to have His approval upon us and to be of service in this life. May He ever lead and direct you." --The Reineking

From Kansas: "The Lord has given us a truly beautiful day today. Everything is so green and pretty... The Lord has been dropping the thought in my mind about patiently enduring. We had a study on it Wednesday night and every time I start to complain or worry I think of this scripture. We each have some things to bear, but when we patiently endure that is what makes the difference in a Christian and a sinner. Truly, in your "patience possess ye your souls" ...it is a sad thing to see a soul come down to the end of life's way not ready to meet God. Even though they may still be alive, often times they are not able to comprehend and respond. It is dangerous to wait till death is upon us and depend upon a death bed repentance. Today is the day of salvation... Love and prayers," --Sis. Wildenna Huffman

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From Miss.: "Enclosed is a love offering and I want you to keep your paper coming to me as I enjoy it very much. I always read it over and over. Sorry I haven't written sooner but will try not to wait so long to send another love gift. ... Yours truly," --Mrs. Burl Griffin

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From Kans.: "One morning while praying, as I was about through, parts of an old poem from my school days of about 60 years ago came to mind:
 We seek for God in every distant place,
 But lo beside us He forever stands!
 We meet Him guised in sunlight face
 to face,
 We touch Him when we take a brother's
 hand!
 We seek for beauty on the height afar!
 But on earth it glimmers all the while,
 'Tis in the garden where the roses are,
 'Tis in the glory of a mother's smile.
 I would be happy if the school books
 would return to the poems and stories
 which teach morals and truth."

--Bro. Homer Fee

From S. Car.: "This leaves me still saved and pressing onward. I am sorry I haven't written you before now. My thoughts and prayers were with you anyway. So when you pray remember me ... I sure do miss my husband. The 20th of this month he will have been passed 16 months. It's sure lonely here without him. But the Lord is here to keep me encouraged to press on. Truly I am..." --Sis. Nettie Harbeson

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From Colo.: "...sure would loved to have been at the meeting but when one is alone we can't always do as we would like to, but so glad God is always with us. I love him. He has been so good to me. My health is so much better, just his goodness and mercy to me. Oh for grace to serve him more. Seems like such a little I can do, but I am so glad I can pray and lean on his strong arm." --Sis. Addie McEndree

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From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious and matchless name of Jesus our wonderful Lord! How great He is and merciful to us and sends us blessings day by day. I do thank Him for loving me enough to draw me to Him and I want to do all I can to win others to Him. Be found working in His vineyard when He comes, for the days are short and we must do all we can now. The world is so wicked and not many want to hear, but can talk to some. I do enjoy the Mission Trail and may God bless you as you print it. I feel as though I know those who write each time in the paper. Some day we will meet face to face if each one stays faithful. God knows our hearts and our thoughts, so we must keep our lives clean and stay true and let His Holy Spirit live through us. I do love Him and want to do more each day... God bless in all the meetings. Do wish I could be there in person..." --Sis. Eva Cox

at press time

we understand:

From Okla.: "This finds us still encouraged and pressing on for our Lord. We surely enjoyed the tent meeting in W. Va. and meeting the dear ones there. It was so good to see the different ones there from other places and enjoy the sweet fellowship together. Our morning prayer services were so good. We surely thank God for permitting us to go. We love the Lord and it's our desire to go all the way with Him. We thank the Lord for His mercy and goodness to us and for His grace given us to bear the loss of our little Alan. Oh how thankful we are to have one to take all our burdens to, One who will never leave us nor forsake us. God has surely been our strength and refuge. We also thank the dear saints for their prayers. We pray the Lord will bless each one and may He bless you in your work of love for His cause."

--L. D., Lois Ann & Curtis Christman

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From West Va.: "Our tent meeting closed last night. We had a real good meeting. There were some souls saved, several others were at the altar for help and three were baptised. The Lord blessed us with almost perfect weather. It was a real encouragement to see the saints come in from different places."

--Karen Lambert

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Deep sympathy is extended to Jim and Esther Hightower, Route 5, Box 67, Neosho, Mo. 64850. The Lord saw best to call for their two year old son, Don, whom He had miraculously healed in 1971. Funeral was July 3.

WORK! WORK! WORK!

Saturday, July 14 is work day on the campgrounds at Monark. The help of those who can possibly work to get the grounds and buildings ready for camp meeting on July 20 is appreciated. More space is available this year!

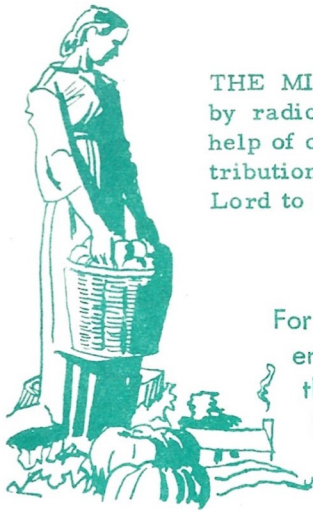
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From S. Car.: "Greetings with much love and concern for and with the truth. Today finds me encouraged to press on my Bro. & Sis. (like the song...) and face the deadly foe. Thru Jesus Christ we'll conquer while trav'ling here below...here is a report on our camp meeting. God blessed in this meeting in a mighty way, altho we did not have much altar work, but a number of souls said they got help, I for one. If I am not privileged to be in another I did enjoy this one. God opened up the scriptures thru his ministers so plain. It was like looking in a mirror or glass at yourself...we want to say thanks to every one that gave to this cause...we are asking all of the saints everywhere to pray if it be God's will for us to have another camp meeting here to send more preachers to help in the work here."

--Sis. Edna Crummie

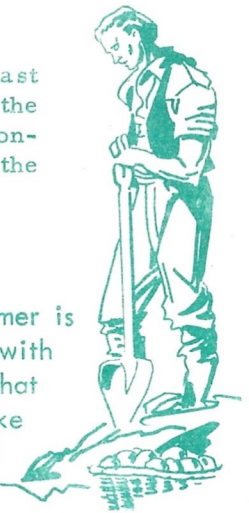
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At press time final preparations are being made to pick up Bro. and Sis. Smalling in Miami on July 11th. They are looking forward to attending the National camp meeting beginning July 20th. We are trusting the Lord to give them a safe trip from Jamaica and make their coming a blessing to them and to all the saints.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published in printed form by Willie Murphey with the help of others. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who are led by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to:

THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma 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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