



# 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

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THE MISSION TRAIL

OCTOBER, 1974

## "The Presence of the Lord"

Radio Broadcast for week of October 6, 1974

"Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men! Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues." Psa. 31:19-20.

Good morning, good morning! What a wonderful thing to trust in God and to know He will hide us in his pavilion. May this day find each of you safe in the arms of God. Dear ones, it is a good thing for us to know that we are continually in the presence of the Lord. In fact, that is what I want to talk about "the presence of the Lord!" I am so glad the Lord's presence is ever near to those who love him. And to those who would flee from the presence of the Lord, they will encounter difficulty and trouble. The writer put it this way in Psalms 139 and beginning with verse 7:

"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: If I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and light are both alike to thee."

That gives me a knowledge of the presence of God all around me. But let me give you some examples of those who endeavored to get away from the presence of the Lord. After the creation when Adam and Eve had disobeyed the command of God, they experienced a certain guilt which settled down on their lives. They were ashamed to meet the Lord as before.

"And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden." Gen. 3:8. Now, why did they endeavor to hide and get away from the presence of the Lord? Because their hearts condemned them. They had sinned. They wanted to get away from it all.

There was also Cain who slew his brother Abel. He claimed not to know where his brother was but his blood was crying unto God from the ground. Cain wanted to flee and get away from his guilt. Listen: "And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in

the land of Nod, on the east of Eden." Gen. 4:16.

In the sense of favor and blessings of God, Adam and Eve and also Cain did depart from the presence of the Lord. Think of those who today are seeking to get away from their guilt. They don't feel comfortable in the presence of the Lord or His people.

When Pharaoh's heart was hardened in rebellion against the children of Israel he didn't want Moses and Aaron in his presence only when he needed them to call on God to stay the plagues from Egypt. One time he told them: "Not so: go now ye that are men, and serve the Lord; for that ye did desire. And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence." Exodus 10:11.

I am much impressed with the actions of Gehazi, the servant of Elisha. This man had seen the miracles of Elisha. He had been in his presence many times. He knew what God could do. Naaman was healed of the leprosy and offered clothing and silver to Elisha. This he refused to take. But when Naaman was down the road a ways, Gehazi thought this was one opportunity he wasn't going to pass up. So he followed Naaman who saw him coming and asked about his welfare. Then Gehazi said some prophets had come to his master and he wanted some clothing and silver. This was willingly given. But all this time Gehazi was not telling the truth. After the clothing and silver was safely hidden back in the house, Gehazi went in and stood before Elisha as before.

Elisha asked him where he had been and he said I haven't been anywhere. But listen to these fateful words of Elisha: I quote: "The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee,

and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow." 2 Kings 5:27.

Here is another example of someone trying to get away from the presence of the Lord. "But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord." Jonah 1:3.

Now, who of us do not know the trouble and sorrow Jonah went through when he sought to flee from the presence of the Lord? He repented and changed his course after God was finished with him.

But when people depart from the Lord and from the truth there is usually a reason for it:

"They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." 1 John 2:19.

A departing and going away from the Lord indicates evil and wickedness. This is manifested by Satan himself. Listen: "And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord." Job 1:12. So this is what Satan is doing continually--going forth from the presence of the Lord. And many others are doing the same thing. Here it is again:

"So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown." Job 2:7.



But I am glad I can show you the other side of the picture. Not everyone is departing from the presence of the Lord. Some are seeking God's favor and blessings. And oh, the joy it brings. Here is God's promise to Moses: "And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence." Exodus 33:14-15.

Then this 100th Psalm. It has five verses: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

Here is another verse I like: "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen." Jude 24-25.

Also these verses are encouraging: "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

But may I also remind you that the Lord has not forgotten these wicked people who have hardened their hearts: "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In

flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power..." 2 Thess. 1:7-9.

Dear ones, may I encourage you to seek the presence of the Lord. That is the place where peace and satisfaction is found. Now this poem:

#### THE FATHER'S HAND

While through this changing world below  
I would not choose my path to go;  
'Tis Father's hand that leadeth me,  
Then O how safe His child must be.

Sometimes we walk in sunshine bright,  
Sometimes in darkness of the night;  
Sometimes the way I cannot see  
But Father's hand still leadeth me.

Sometimes there seems no way to take,  
But Father's hand a way doth make.  
Sometimes I hear Him gently say,  
"Come follow Me, this is the way."

Why should I mind the way I go?  
His way is best for me, I know.  
He is my strength, my truth, my way,  
He is my comfort, rod, and stay.

So on we travel hand in hand,  
Bound for the heavenly promised land  
Always through all Eternity,  
I'll praise His name for leading me.

Our Father in heaven, bless the message to the good of every listener. Should there be those who are seeking to flee from the presence of the Lord, we pray they may know that will bring sorrow and remorse. Help them to come to repentance and find forgiveness and thine shall be the praise through Christ, our Lord. Amen.....

## Testimonies

From La.: "Trust this finds you much encouraged and more than ever determined to press on in the straight and narrow way. The Lord is still blessing us in every way. We don't have any complaints to make as our God is good and there is no failure on His part. I often wonder why God is so good to me, but I know it's because God is love. I desire that my life be more of what God would have it be, so I need your prayers. We enjoyed the camp meetings we were able to attend this summer. It was a real blessing to see so many of the different saints from other places. The saints here are about as usual, as far as I know. Hope you didn't think we had forgotten you. We yet enjoy the Mission Trail messages each Sunday morning. It was good to hear Bro. John's voice once more... We surely thank the Lord for him. May the Lord continue to bless and lead you in His work we pray." --Kenneth and Virgie Flynn

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From Calif.: "In Jesus dear name will write a few lines as it has been some time since I have written. I have been on the go since just around the time for the Oregon camp meeting and after that I went to visit my children in Oregon and in northern Calif. and got back to Pacoima the first Saturday of the meeting. We had a real good meeting and good attendance most of the meeting... I haven't felt very good for some time, as I have been so weak in my body that when I go to walk I feel like I am going to fall, a strange feeling comes in my head and then I start to fall... I do thank the dear Lord for his love to me. Remember me as I am going through a trial and that I will get out of it what the Lord wants me to have..."

--Sister Edith Wittenborn

From Minn.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name... How precious to know that nothing shall separate us from the love of God, only so often we don't quite realize how great his love really is. I found it often we ask something of the Lord, but he in love lets us wait for his answer in order to give us a much greater blessing than that which we have asked of him. I am just learning to really trust Him for all things, but it's just wonderful to see the Lord work things out in his way and time. He is always on time. It was so good to be with the dear ones in Stanley. I think we all just had a real good day... Like you said, if the Lord would have come then and found us doing what he commanded us to do, how wonderful, but you know, I also realized that I would be separated from my family forever, (for they are not saved). It was almost too hard to bear. Please pray for them. I know the Lord is able to save them, so I'll keep on praying till he will answer, for nothing is too hard for Him to do... Greetings to all the saints there. May the Lord bless and keep you in his love till we meet again."

--Sister Lydia Berglund

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From Fla.: "I lost my daughter, only child that I was able to raise. She left me and I feel that I will soon follow. I did think I would have left her here, but our Father always knows what is best for us all, so he called her away. She is gone. I miss her... I am thankful for my only living sister. I will be near her, yes, in her house when he calls one of us away. Please pray for me. I love the Lord and his saints everywhere. I am going on to know more about my Lord and my future home."

--Sis. E. B. McNair



From Miss.: "With a sad heart, and a lonely house, I'm writing you again. I realize it has been some time, but my sweet mother was real sick for some time before she went on to be with God, and our loved ones on the other side. She left us Aug. 26, 1974 on a Monday morning at 9 o'clock. Oh, I miss her so much. I had cared for her 11 1/2 years... We celebrated her 94th birthday on August 1st, and her mind had cleared up, and she knew all her children, and told us it would be her last birthday. We were thankful that God answered our prayers, and saw fit not to let her suffer. She just grew weaker and weaker, and then just went to sleep... She was conscious to the end. The Lord has been so good to me, to give me strength to wait on her. Our friends and neighbors have been wonderful. Remember to pray for me that I will be able to adjust..." --Sister Grace Gill, R. 2, Aberdeen, Miss. 39730.

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#### TEEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Don't let your parents down;  
They brought you up.
2. Choose your companions with care;  
You become what they are.
3. Be master of your habits;  
Or they will master you.
4. Treasure your time;  
Don't spend it, invest it.
5. Stand for something;  
Or you'll fall for any thing.
6. Select only a date;  
Who would make you a good mate.
7. See what you can do for others;  
Not what they can do for you.
8. Guard your thoughts;  
What you think, you are.
9. Don't fill up on this world's crumbs;  
Feed your soul on the living bread.
10. Give your all to Christ;  
He gave His all for you.

--Selected by Emma Dilleý

From Okla.: "Greetings to you both this evening in the precious name of Jesus... We surely do praise Him for what he has done for us. I am so thankful that when I fell 2 weeks ago today, of how He protected me and I didn't break any bones. The fall was so sudden, a shock and surprise. As soon as I came to myself, I began to thank the Lord that there were no bones broken. I was walking on the sidewalk, going up to my sister's, watching some little girls across the street playing. I wasn't looking where I was walking. The sidewalk was cracked and one part higher than the other. Of course, I stumbled on it and fell, skinned both knees, tore my hose and bruised my right hand. I got up. I thought I couldn't walk for a little bit. It hurt so bad. I was about half way so went on and the farther I went the less it hurt to walk... I knew it was prayer meeting night so I called for prayer, as at my age a fall like that, could make me pretty sore, but thank God for how He has been with me. My left knee is a little sore yet to rub over it, but thank God I feel as good as new otherwise." --Sis. Emma Dilleý

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From Okla.: "I am still saved this morning and living for Jesus. I don't mean to stop any shorter than Heaven... We are going to have a revival meeting here the 14th of this month. I hope you all can come to some of it. Pray for my son that he give up his ways and come to this meeting and get saved... Pray for my daughter that the Lord will stir her up." --Sis. Lizzie Jordan

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From Kansas: "I am so very thankful for all of God's blessings to us. Sorry to be so long getting you written. We enjoy your radio program and all the good letters from the dear saints you print in the Mission Trail. May the dear Lord bless all." --Gladys Piper

From Jamaica: "We are happy for the divine family relationship which exists among us by our not falling away from steadfastness in Christ. We rejoice that although separated by land and sea, we are united in and by one Spirit... We are pleased to hear of your evangelistic tour over there and to know you had a safe journey. We pray that your mission will be as seed sown on good soil. We are also happy to hear of the Russian born German brother. We are reminded of the portion of Scriptures which say "...in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it..." Isa. 2:2-5... We have been blessed by reading in the "Mission Trail" your interview with brother John. Yes, salvation although universal has but one way to obtain it--through Christ by repentance and confession of sins. Yours in the family of God, "--Israel & Olga Smalling

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From La.: "It is such a wonderful privilege to belong to the Lord and trust in Him to keep us in a world with sin and evil on every hand. I know it grieves His great heart to see how far mankind has departed from His commands, just riding over them... But oh, when the judgment is set, what a scene that will be... I enjoy the Sunday morning broadcast of the Mission Trail each week, but the one yesterday morning with our dear Brother John Varghese having a part with you, Bro. Willie, was just a special blessing. His last words were precious--O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in Him. Psalm 34:8. I am so thankful the Lord permitted him to come visit the saints here in the states and bring the precious inspiring messages that he did... In Christian love, "

--Sis. Alta Flynn

From Mo.: "Greetings to you there and I hope you are all well and enjoying many blessings from above. God is so good to us all. He never fails us in any way... Last night in the night, I suddenly got a bad pain in the back of my ear and I started asking Him to stop it and it was gone before I finished asking."

--Sis. Zella Dollins

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From Okla.: "Trust the dear Lord is blessing there in every way. Thankful for the blessing of the dear Lord to us here, the good rain and cooler weather, and so many other blessings seems we couldn't name them all. We are thankful for the love of God and his word and good promises to his children. We are always happy to receive the Mission Trail paper..." --Sis. Cassie Wilson

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From Ohio: "Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Frances and to all the saints abroad. Greetings of much love to all in the precious name of Jesus, the one who loved us all so much that he was willing to give his precious life that we all, or whosoever willed could be saved, that would be willing to humble themselves, give up the ways of the world, all sin and evil, repent, believe and be baptized. Praise his dear name. So thankful for such a wonderful saviour, so thankful to be saved, free from all condemnation. I have thought of you all different times. We are always glad to get the Mission Trail, see the news and testimonies of the different ones. We haven't written or sent an offering for some time, so felt like doing this now... I surely do thank the Lord and all the saints for their concern and prayers for us. Please keep praying as we are fully and completely trusting in the Lord... knowing God is able to heal eyes today as well as he ever did. I have it settled in my heart and mind..."

--Bro. and Sis. Ray Key



# at press time

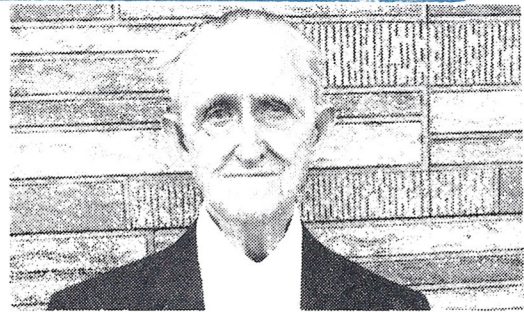
we understand:

Our hearts have been saddened by the death of Sis. Ella V. Phillips who went to be with the Lord on Sept. 24. Camp meetings and assembly meetings have not been quite the same since she and Bro. Ulysses moved from Oklahoma to Calif. some years ago. Her life and work has been a real inspiration to the saints, especially to those of us who knew her so well. Remember Bro. Phillips in this time of deep sorrow. 1240 Orange St., San Bernardino, California 92410.

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Little did we realize that the letter from Sis. Emma Busch written to us Sept. 3 would be the last one from her. Writing letters was a part of her life. How she did enjoy communicating with the saints! A note at the close of her last letter to us stated: "this makes 300 letters and cards. Wrote this year". She was injured in an auto accident Sept. 15 and died Sept. 30 at the age of 83. Part of her letter follows: "I greet you all in Jesus dear name, so thankful for salvation and all the Lord has done for me. ...Herman has a good garden. I never get tired of garden stuff, especially string beans. Other food I get so tired of it. We have beans every day and corn and tomatoes. I sure do thank the Lord for them...Sis. Spaur and Evelee were to get home yesterday so expect to see them to night at prayer meeting, sure missed them and the Wilsons these 2 weeks. I suppose some of you have heard from Bro. Varghese since he got home...Pray for us as we do for you."

--Herman and Sis. Busch



Bro. Charles E. Stites

A real soldier of the cross and gospel warrior, Bro. Charles E. Stites, has laid down his armor and entered into eternal rest. He died October 3 at the age of 95. He would have been 96 Nov. 20. Bro. Stites was born in log cabin about 1 mile west of Monark, Mo. He was saved in 1893 but lost out with the Lord in short time. In 1917 while living in Galena, Kansas he had double pneumonia and was given up by doctor to die but the Lord saved and healed him at the same time. He was a worker for the Lord often passing out gospel tracts and papers, even mailing some of them overseas! Oh, for other shoulders to bear his mantle with the dignity and zeal which he did!

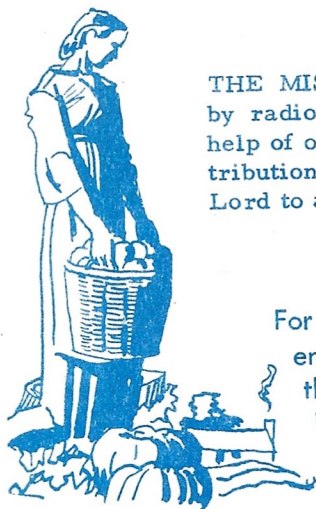
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The congregation of the Church of God, Coffeyville, Kansas announce a gospel singing there on Saturday night, Nov. 9 and all-day services on Nov. 10. All are invited to come for the singing and stay for the all-day meeting.

--Bro. Orie Young

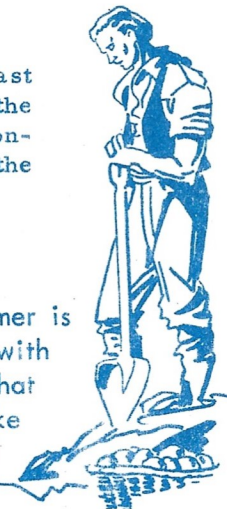
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Keep the encouraging letters and testimonies coming although space does not permit printing of all, and pray for us!



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.

**The Mission Trail**

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