



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

FEBRUARY, 1975

Titanic - - the "Unsinkable" Ship?

Radio Broadcast for February 2, 1975

Good morning, friends. I have much to say in a short time, so let me begin with this scripture: "And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" Matt. 14:29-32.

Today there lies on the bottom of the North Atlantic ocean a vessel which was once a proud ocean-going liner known as the Royal Mail Titanic, the White Star Liner designed by Thomas Andrews of Britian's Board of Trade and launched in Belfast, Ireland May 21, 1911. This is the ship of which the boast was made: "It is unsinkable"! May I refresh your memory. It is often difficult to get all the details and the exact happenings pieced together when so many people are involved in such a catastrophe but according to reports there are five things to which I desire to call your attention:

ONE: The magnitude and vainglory surrounding the construction and maiden voyage of the Titanic. This vessel weighed in excess of 46 thousand tons. It was 882 feet long with the highest beam of 175 feet from keel to the top of the funnels. This means it was eleven stories high and one sixth of a mile long. It was the largest luxury liner of its day and had a double-bottomed hull with sixteen watertight compartments which supposedly made it "unsinkable".

She was a millionaire's paradise. The total passengers and crew on this maiden voyage numbered more than 2,000.

Commanded by the able veteran of the sea, Capt. E. J. Smith, the S.S. Titanic sailed from Ireland about 1:30 P.M. Thursday but little did those gay travelers realize that it was a one-way voyage for many of them.

2. The disregard of dangers. All went well for the first few days and the Titanic was set out to set a record of speed across the Atlantic. However, there had been reports that icebergs had been sighted in the area as early as 5 p.m. on April 14 which was Sunday evening. Wireless warnings had been issued that dangerous waters were in her path. But in the minds of her crew and her passengers the Titanic was "unsinkable" therefore why should they be concerned about icebergs? This vessel was plated with heavy steel!

3. The revelry existing just prior to sinking! The night was cold. The sea

was calm and smooth. The air was crisp and chilled with the icy frost of the North Atlantic. As the mid-night hour neared there was drinking, dancing, gambling. Sin, and worldliness was abounding. Who could have dreamed that disaster and death was so near? The passengers and crew acted as if they would live forever in this fashion unmolested. How could they know the tragic moments which lay just ahead for the poor and the rich alike?

4. The tremendous loss when the ship went down! Her huge funnels belched the smoke of the fifty thousand horsepower engines into the night air. The Titanic was a magnificent sight with her portholes ablaze with light, her staterooms crowded with the rich, talented and fashionable of two continents. The band was playing. It was great to be aboard until approximately 11:40 when this huge iceberg loomed ahead. The ship veered a little and only a slight impact was felt, but it was too late!

The submerged part of the iceberg ripped a hole beneath the water line some three hundred feet along the length of the vessel. Captain Smith quickly got in contact with Thomas Andrews, the designer of the ship. Andrews hurriedly made an inspection of the vessel and returned with the shocking news that the sinking of the Titanic was imminent. The Captain directed the officers to assist with rescue operations and prepare to abandon ship. The radio operator began sending out his call for help over the air waves. In International Morse Code SOS would be di-di-dit dah-dah-dah di-di-dit! SOS. This is now the international distress for marine vessels. But it is reported that this was the first time these letters were used for a distress signal in that way. Whether it is true or not I don't

know. The letters SOS were selected by the International Radiotelegraphic Convention in London in 1912 as a simplification of the many conflicting distress signals then in use. Though the letters actually were chosen for their simplicity, they are popularly believed to signify "Save Our Ship." The ship SS Carpathia heard and answered this distress call, but she was some fifty or more miles away. In the meantime the news of the imminent sinking of the vessel began to spread throughout the ship. There were not enough lifeboats for all the passengers and crew. Captain Smith remained at his post of duty and perished with the vessel. Second Officer Lightoller worked and toiled under panic conditions to get the women and children into the life boats. Thomas Andrews went down with the vessel he created. Lightoller managed to swim out and reach an overturned lifeboat, where he rendered further assistance to others.

Among those who perished in this great tragedy were such notable and rich people as John Jacob Astor the 4th, who left behind a fortune of some \$87 million. Also there was Isidor Straus and his wife who were millionaires. Wealth and fame meant so little at a time like that. The ship's orchestra played right on until the end, but the tune had been changed. Now it was "Nearer My God to Thee" led by a prominent English violinist who stood on the deck playing his religious melody as the ship went down. The Titanic began to slip away, steadily and slowly, stem first and finally submerged in a watery grave in an almost vertical position, with the propellers momentarily out of the water. In less than three hours from the time she struck the iceberg she sank in shame and agony! Such a loss!

5. The tragedy that the radio operator learned when he awoke from sleep. I'm not speaking of the operator aboard the Titanic, but that one on board the SS Californian who was only some ten to twenty miles away. He was not on duty but had retired for the night and consequently knew nothing of the disaster until morning. He was not listening to hear the SOS call. And I thought how different that message was from the first telegraph sent over the wire by Samuel Morse on May 24, 1844. This was from Baltimore to Washington and in code it said: "What Hath God Wrought"!

In the meantime the rescue vessel, the SS Carpathia had arrived after the sinking and picked up some 700 survivors. It was then the radio operator of the Californian sent word they had just heard about the disaster and asked if there was anything they could do! But this was after some 1500 had perished! Dear ones, there are souls today who say in the words of this scripture: "SAVE me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God." Psalms 69:1-3. So in regard to the word "sink" I say unto you in the words of Jesus: "Let these sayings sink down into your ears:" Luke 9:44.

DO SOMETHING TODAY

You're longing to work for the Master,
 Yet waiting for something to do;
 You fancy the future is holding
 Some wonderful mission for you;
 But while you are waiting the moments
 Are rapidly passing away,
 O brother, awake from your dreaming!
 Do something for Jesus today.

Go rescue that wandering brother
 Who sinks 'neath his burden of woe
 A simple kind action may save him,
 If love and compassion you show,
 Don't shrink from the vilest about you,
 If you can but lead them from sin;
 For this is the grandest of missions--
 Lost souls for the Master to win.

Dear ones, it takes more than steel-bottomed and air tight vessels to make it to heaven. It takes faith and obedience in the word of the Lord.

Our Father, we ask for the blessings of God upon the Word as it penetrates the air waves to travel into many remote places of the nation. As far as the curse is found, may thy saving grace reach just that far to save unto the uttermost all those who come unto God by our Lord Jesus Christ and thine shall be the praise and glory in Jesus name. Amen.

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

Testimonies

NIGERIA: "Greetings in Jesus name from Nigeria. I thank God because I have arrived here safely and am well. The weather is very hot. Nights are pleasant tho. Yesterday I rode on the back of a bicycle 22 miles to the post office. The forest is pretty and it's so quiet here. The people are very friendly...I have met many of the pastors. They ride many miles to greet me... Everything is expensive here. Our money is worth only about 61¢ compared to their dollar. Of that 61¢, it will not buy as much as the U.S...I have spoken to the church here in Asana twice. They all say Amen at one time. Pray much for me."
 --Bro. Tom Melot

From Jamaica: "Holy greetings in the name of our dear Saviour. Wishing you all the best in soul and body for the new year. Thank God we are still spared the living to show forth His praise... We had a busy, quiet Christmas, and thank God for permitting us to enter '75' still to do something more in the service of the Lord. I enjoy reading the Mission Trail, and get a lot of help from them. Please continue to send mine."

--Bro. and Sis. T. Ferguson

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From Ark.: "I love all of God's children and so glad to be one. God has been so good to me. I live alone and am nearing my eightieth birthday. I have had two bad falls recently, but the Lord was with me--no bones were broken. I have so much to thank Him for. May the dear Lord bless all of you there and all His saints everywhere throughout the new year 1975. Please do keep Mission Trail coming. I look forward to every issue.

--Belva Howard

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From Okla.: "I am happy living for God, and I intend to redeem what time I have left here to do all I can for the dear Lord. He has blessed me so much in my soul. Just this morning as I went to him in prayer with my heartaches and trials I received a wonderful blessing."

--Sister Floy Woolery

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From Arkansas: "I have been receiving the Mission Trail for quite a while but have never written you. A friend sent you my name. I enjoy the paper very much. I thank the Lord for what He has done for me. I thank him for life and salvation. Pray for me and my unsaved loved ones. We have many trials and temptations but the Lord is able to deliver us if we put our trust in him. I am sending a small offering to help in the Lord's work."

--Jewell Russell

From La.: "Oh, the goodness of God. We surely have found Him to be a very present help in time of need. He is truly a friend to the friendless and a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. I do love Him and mean by His help and grace to live always to please Him. We trust this finds all of you well. We are feeling very well, but there is quite a bit of sickness among different families down here. Something like the flu. Please remember these needy ones in prayer. Also Sis. Etta Williamson fell and is in very much need of prayer... Enclosed is an offering for The Mission Trail paper another year and also the message on radio. We hear you most every Sunday and pray the Lord will continue to bless you in your service for Him. The boundless ocean is made up of many drops of water, therefore the work of God can be as the boundless ocean if each one of us will do our little part."

--Sis. Effie Miller

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From Mo.: "Greetings in the new year! Hope these few lines finds all well there and enjoying God's many blessings. The Lord was so wonderful to me in 1974 and I appreciate it so much. I do want to live that others may see a life that is happy and contented in these troubled and evil days. If we keep our eyes on the Lord and follow him, there is joy in this world. I'm very thankful God ever loved me and showed me the way that leads to life... May God bless all in the new year and remember me in prayer that I will always put God first in every thing."

--Wanda L. Atnip

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From Ga.: "I am happy because I know I am a child of God. I can't see so good but the Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want. I know I am in His hand. Remember me in prayers. May God bless and keep all of the saints."

--Sis. Claudia Robinson

From Kansas: "Greetings in the new year which is already rapidly moving on. It has been quite some time since I have written but I still listen to the broadcast and still enjoy the Mission Trail and desire to have it continue to come...I thank the Lord for his blessings to me in this past year. It was a real year of learning for me and I am happy to report that my vision of the Church of God is clearer. I can better understand how holy we are going to have to live and how close we are going to have to walk with God. I am afraid that the prince of this world has been successful in blinding many people's eyes with modernism and we are letting human wisdom and human reasoning govern our lives instead of pleading for God's "pure" wisdom from above and asking for the "old" path and walking therein. The Lord was merciful, patient and long suffering toward me and has helped me to see that I was looking for the easy path we could live free from sin but be able to partake of "no-harm" things because in human reasoning they aren't sin so why can't we do them. Well, the Lord finally got it over to me that he wants us to be more than just saved. In other words he wants a sanctified, consecrated people who are willing and obedient, people who will leave everything alone that does not pertain to Godliness and will not help us spiritually or get us closer to God. He wants our whole heart, mind, soul and strength which is 100% service. If we give our all and die to self completely so the Holy Ghost can rule and guide us then the Lord can trust us with great power and the Church of God can be seen in its full splendor once more with great miracles performed and there will be enough unity of power to make old Satan stay in his place so to speak. I truly believe that 1975 has some big problems ahead and we are going to

really have to be rooted and grounded in God to be able to stand. We are going to have to be single eyed, our heart fixed and our faith strong in order to keep the victory. I am certainly digging, searching and asking God for wisdom and understanding because like St. Paul I don't intend for anything to separate me from the love of God. Well, I could go on and on because I get real excited when I talk about the things of God. But I will try to bring this letter to a close. I am sending a little offering to help with the work. Congratulations on the 10 year anniversary of the broadcast."

--Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Ark.: "I love the Lord and want to serve him and I do enjoy the Mission Trail and want it to keep coming my way. It's a blessing to me...I thank the dear Lord for keeping me through the year 1974 and pray he will take care of us through '75. We don't know just what lies out ahead of us, but God knows best for us. I still have this affliction on my forehead. I think it's skin cancer. It's been getting worse so do pray for my healing. I need more faith and encouragement. May the Lord bless the little paper and supply the means to keep it coming."

--Sis. Nellie West

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From Kans.: "Thank God for salvation, and the determination He puts in our hearts to press on. Our radio seems to jam up when your Coffeyville station is on--so we don't always get the program. Once, when we prayed we got it--but we've noticed that when you go off and the following program comes on, then the interference ceases. I heard the sermon "words fitly spoken are like apples of gold in pictures of silver". I'll remember that one. Yes, there are too many "wind fall apples..."

--Bro. Homer Fee

From Texas: "These few lines leave me still pressing on to reach the heavenly goal. I still enjoy Mission Trail. It just doesn't come often enough... So sorry I missed the good Assembly meeting and getting to see the saints. But sister Wall couldn't go and the busses were on strike. So the Lord knows best. My heart says Amen to his will. I need the prayers that the Lord will make a way for me to come to camp meeting in May, and go to Neosho or... wherever he wants me to go. May the good Lord keep you in the center of his will. I have my 3 year old great grand daughter. I need the prayers that I may teach and train her to please the good Lord." --Sis. Nellie Lovell

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From S. Car.: "This finds me still pressing on to make heaven. The Lord is so good to me I cannot express all."

--Bro. Eddie Driggers

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From Wisc.: "I called Bro. Tocholke this morning to find out about Lydia and find out what could be done to help out. Lydia and the boy were asleep and they just managed to get out. They ran out into the snow barefooted. They were living in a trailer house. [It burned.] They had an older house there, that they moved into. I'm so grateful to the ministers who will give their lives to bless and help others. When you live where there is no minister to listen to each Sunday, it is certainly a blessing when others drop in... My grandpa is out of the hospital. He was in there 3 weeks. He still isn't very good. Remember him... May the Lord bless and keep you all." --Duane and Sue LaVeau

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From Calif.: "Praise our God! The way to glory grows brighter as we near the end. We hope that this finds all well with you dear ones..."

--Bro. H. P. Huskey

From Missouri: "This is my first time to write you, but I enjoy your paper very much. I'm sending you \$5 to help in the Lord's work. The Lord has blessed and helped my family, so I want to help with the Lord's work too. I have been a paraplegic for 20 years, but they have been happy years. The only thing I can't do, is walk. But walking isn't everything. I have my hands and arms. I believe the more you do for yourself and help others your life is blessed that much more. So to any of your listeners who are crippled in any way, let them remember if you have faith in God and help yourself you will have a very happy life. I have... God bless you in your work." --Juanita Wrather

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From S. Car.: "Today finds me pressing on toward that mark of high calling in Jesus name. Praise God. I'm happy in the Saviour for the love he shows to me. I hope this letter will find you two in the best of health and much encouraged in the Lord. Here where I live Satan is still on his job. He won't give up until the battle is won, but thank God his grace is sufficient. God said in his Holy Word if God be for us who can be against us... Well another year is come and gone and the harvest is truly ripe, but the laborers are few. Oh if I only continue to be one of the laborers working out my soul's salvation until God says it's enough come home. I'll go through the gate unto that city to rest for ever more."

--Sis. Edna Crummie

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From Minn.: "This finds me in health and strength for which I thank the Lord. It just appears that those who are in power over our nation are not able to find a solution to the trouble that besets our nation. Surely we are nearing the end of time... Jesus said let not your heart be troubled." --Bro. Andrew Senti

at press time

we understand:

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing of Sis. Prudie Broaddus of Webb City, Mo. on Jan. 16. Her faith in suffering was outstanding.

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WEBB CITY--"The changes that have come to Webb City still seem unreal, but we never disbelieve 'God's Way is Best.' It is like a dream and you think you'll wake up and find it not true. Surely Prudie was the example of faith and patience and her life an example. We wanted God to perform a miracle for her and us, but He saw different plans. She has her victory now. I know she would thank all of you for your prayers--that is what she lived on alone. Sis. Lula is still in Freeman's Hospital in Joplin--doing fair. Her birthday is Wed. if you all would like to send her a card."

--Vicki Taylor

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Sister Lula Caughron, Freeman's Hospital, Joplin, Mo. 64801

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Graveside service was had for J. P. Wall in Summit View Cemetery near Guthrie, Jan. 25. Remember in this time his loved ones. Sis. Edith Wall, 6163 Kenwood, Dallas, Texas 75214.

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Washington--"We wish to thank everybody for their prayers for our grandson who passed away Jan. 10th. The dear Lord didn't see fit to heal him. We are so thankful he gave his heart to the Lord during his sickness and showed the fruits of it during his remaining days. We thank the Lord for the prayers of the saints."

--Sister D. T. Thomas

"The Lord is very near us and his presence so great--all of our failures and mistakes are under his blood--praise God for ever. We love everybody and can say from the deep of my heart no ill feelings against anyone... guess you know by now I was 77 years old the 6th day of this month (Jan.) and Jan. 21...was our 53rd wedding anniversary." --W. C. McMakin, 209 S. Phila. St., Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

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Prayer is requested for Bro. Gene Harmon who is not well. He will be 81 on his birthday Feb. 9th. Happy birthday Bro. Gene Harmon, 507 "A" St., Orland, Calif. 95963.

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After many weeks and months of suffering the Lord called for Bro. Asa Gibson on January 11th. Pray for his dear companion Sister Katie and other loved ones in this time of sorrow.

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"Please remember Grandma Williamson who fell and evidently broke her hip. Also remember Dale Doolittle who will not live long if the Lord does not undertake. Don't forget us, too!"

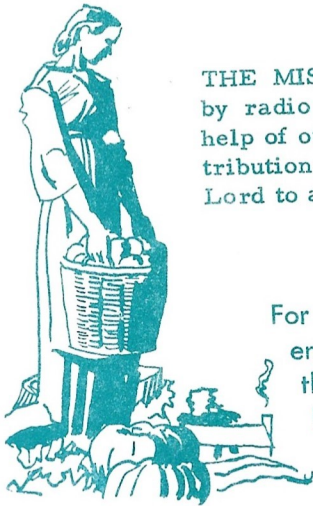
--Your brother, Don Williamson

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Special prayer is requested for Bro. Floyd Kennedy, 3104 Aloma, Wichita, Kansas 67211, who has been having a problem with his eyesight. Ask the Lord to correct the trouble at its very source.

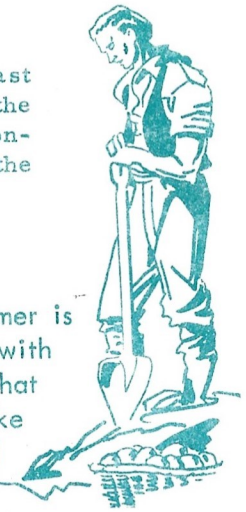
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Thanks to all for the encouraging letters and continued support of Mission Trail.



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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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