



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

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The Second Coming of Christ - - Part Two

Signs of the Times

Radio Broadcast for May 22, 1977

Good morning, friends. We are so happy to be coming your way with a short gospel message. Please give me your attention for the next few moments and consider what I say and the Lord give you understanding. We really need the understanding of the Spirit, as the second coming of Christ is greatly misunderstood by so many.

At the very beginning let me state plainly that I do not enter into this subject to create confusion, but rather to clear it up. Also, be it understood that the book of Revelation is a book of symbols. It cannot be literally interpreted. Therefore, we must understand the symbolic language in order to properly align these truths with the others taught in the Bible both in prophecy and in the gospels.

Now, let us go directly to the subject at hand concerning the second coming of Christ. How is he coming? Just as he went away "in the clouds of heaven" "...while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:9-11.

When will it be? This is something no

one upon earth knows. The time is set, but I do not know when it is, neither does anyone else. Listen to Acts 17:31: "He hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world." To appoint means to fix, settle or determine. Yes, the very day is already set. Jesus said, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels in heaven, but my Father only." Matt. 24:36. However, there are a number of signs, very definite ones, and He said, "when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the door." Mark 13:29. While there is a danger of attempting to set the date of His coming, there is also another danger. That is the danger of merely ignoring the signs of the times, which tells us of the conditions of the age and coming of Christ. Paul said, Ye brethren are not in darkness, that that day shall overtake you "as a thief" but to those who are prepared, it will be a happy event, when he comes again. He will be welcomed by his saints, to enjoy the greatest reception of all ages, the coming of the King of kings, and the Lord of lords in the clouds of glory.

At this point let me state very emphatically that no where in the scriptures, not once, is this second coming of Christ referred to as "the rapture." I understand the term but I just want to say, it is not a scriptural term. If you know where "the rapture" is mentioned in the Bible please let me know, for I have failed to find it.

Now, what will happen when Christ comes? It is a very sad condition today Christendom is divided over this question. In our day, there is a multiplicity of beliefs, a great variety of opinions, in every rank and file of religion. However, there is a fundamental doctrine that harmonizes with the Scriptures and we should know what that is. Men teach theories because their denominational leaders teach those theories. They tend to follow one another, and sad to say, this is often in the wrong direction. I say let each study for themselves, and search the Scriptures.

One of the major things that will take place at the coming of Christ is, the universal resurrection of the dead. John says: "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them, and I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book

of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:11-15. How could this be true unless all the dead were raised at Christ's coming?

Paul says, "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible and we shall all be changed." 1 Cor. 15:51. This scripture also answers the question as to whether it will be literal or spiritual and whether it will be secret or for everyone to know? It will be literal and it will not be secret but all will know about it. How could there be a secret "rapture" with the trumpet of God blasting out for the resurrection of the dead? If it was a secret affair, then certainly there should be no trumpet blasting out for the dead to come forth. He most certainly is referring here to the resurrection of the righteous! This teaches that both classes of people will be raised at the same time. So there will not be a resurrection for the righteous and another one for the unrighteous. All will share the same resurrection and face the same judgment following it.

Listen to the words of Jesus: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5:28. There will be but one literal resurrection. The hour certainly cannot signify more than a short period of time.

In referring to the 15 chapter of 1 Cor. again, verses 15-17 simply teach that the righteous who are living on the

earth at the time Christ appears will not ascend to heaven before the righteous dead are resurrected, but the dead will rise first, then they will all be caught up together at one and the same time. The wicked are not mentioned in this connection; for Paul was writing this only for the comfort and the edification of the church. In the following chapter, however, their "sudden destruction" at the second coming of Christ is mentioned as a warning to the church.

Will he set up his kingdom then? That is an important question! Will he, or is it already set up? I say Christ established his kingdom at his first coming. Listen to the prophecy of Daniel: "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever." Daniel 2:44. What kings is he speaking of? The kingdoms mentioned in this vision refer to the Babylonian, the Grecian, the Medo-Persian and the Roman. Jesus set up his kingdom at his first coming during the Roman reign. Hear the words of Jesus: "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." John 18:36-37.

From these scriptures we see clearly

that Christ has a kingdom and does not need an earthly throne from which to reign, for he ruleth over all.

In response as to whether there will be a millennium in the future I can see none in the scriptures. There is neither time, place or need of such. And surely there is no time on this earth for it, after the coming of the Lord. Because the earth is going to be burned up. Listen.

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Pet. 3:10.

However, it does speak of a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. But more on the millennium theory another time. Be sure to keep listening.

Testimonies

From Guthrie: "I especially enjoyed and appreciated your broadcast on "Mother's Day." The advice you gave to parents was very good, and much needed in this day and hour. Would it be possible to obtain a copy of that broadcast? I think it should be printed as a tract for parents so it may be widely distributed. Parents surely need sound instruction in this day and time, and seems there is a dearth of it." --Sis. Thelma Sprague

Note: This mother's day message and the advice to parents is being printed in tract form and will be available soon free of charge to those requesting it.

--Bro. Willie

Hell

The Sinner's Inescapable Doom
 Hell is: The Devil's eternal torture
 Sinner's doom
 Lake of fire

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

I once heard about a man that said, "I know I'm going to hell, why worry?" Oh how sad! Millions are going about life with one or more of the following attitudes:

1. I couldn't care less.
2. I can enjoy my life now and wait till later on in life.
3. I'll do it tomorrow.

We have to care, and do something about it. Eternity is drawing nearer with each breath we breathe. Do we realize that one breath is all there is between us and eternity? Do we realize that this is in the hand of another? This person is God.

Hell isn't going to be for a day, a year, 5 years, 25 years. It won't be for a hundred or a thousand years. IT IS FOR ETERNITY.

We have a story in Luke 16:22-24 that should make us realize that we must change our lives if we haven't already. This beggar was Lazarus, and he lay at the rich man's gate. And it came to pass, that the beggar died and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died and was buried. And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in

water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

Verse 26 goes on to say: Son remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise, Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted and thou art tormented.

This rich man begged for just a drop of water to cool his tongue.

This Devil's hell is the reward for a carelessly lived life. People are plunging in one right after the other like the water over a water fall. Nothing to stop them. If we could see just a glimpse of hell, there would not be one of us that would not turn to Jesus, who died that we might be saved from death and hell.

Enter ye in at the straight gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. (Matt. 7:13-14)

Hebrews 9:27 says: And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this, the judgment.

I have heard of people asking why God sends people to hell. The answer to this is; God doesn't send anybody to hell, but they send themselves by not turning to God.

God didn't send his Son to condemn the world, but through him the whole world can be saved.

Rev. 22:12 And behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

--Bro. Irwin Wattenbarger

From Minn.: "The Lord has blessed me with good health and strength for which I thank God who does all things well. I am still going on till the battle is won. Guide me, Lord Jesus into paths of richness in this dark world. I thank you for the Mission Trail as it helps me to have faith in the Lord and all He stands for, joy, peace and happiness through a never-ending eternity."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

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From S. Car.: "I haven't been feeling too well, but I must say thank the Lord for feeling much better. I am still a little weak but I am able to walk around a little, been using a walker, but now I can get around with a stick so considering what I've been through for an old lady I am doing fine, still hoping and praying that if God's will to go to some of the camp meeting..."

--Sis. Minnie Boulden

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From Ark.: "We are doing very well and are trusting the Lord Jesus for our salvation. Strawberry season is almost over and the crop was not quite so good this year. Mother is getting around well and Herman too. Please pray especially for Herman as he is now alone except for mother in this world, especially in his golden years when he needed his companion..."

--W. P. Cryer Jr.

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From N. Car.: "I am still fighting in the Lord's army and glad that I am a part of it. Praise the Lord! The devil tried to discourage me by making me feel so badly recently. I am defying him openly and boldly. I will not be deceived by any of his tricks. My Lord has promised to heal "all thy diseases." Praise His holy name! Continue to pray for me. I shall do the same for all of you there."

--Sis. P. R. Bowers

From Ark.: "Greetings to you this morning in the precious name of Jesus. Hope you all are well. We are all doing pretty good. The Lord has been good to us. I'm thankful that he watches over us and cares for us down through life. He is the same yesterday today and forever. We have been getting some good rains the last few days which we needed very much which I thank the Lord very much for. I'm sorry I haven't written you in so long. Keep sending me the Mission Trail." --Sis. Jewell Russell

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From Okla.: "Isn't the spring time glorious with its beauty all about us? I'm thanking and praising the Lord today that he had mercy on me and saved my soul. I thank the Lord I can look away from the many bad conditions existing in the world and think of the many blessings the Lord gives us. I feel that your trip was a blessing to you as well as others... Bro. Gaines is still improving. He preached a wonderful sermon for the funeral of Bro. Hershell Thompson. He was 91 -- was our Sunday School teacher as long as he was able to come out. He will be surely missed... Remember our unsaved loved ones."

--Sis. Vera Mae Hawkins

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From Texas: "Many thanks for your prayers, also the get well card. It's good to be remembered. My sister in law Sallie Lovell passed away Monday 2nd, was buried Wednesday. I wasn't able to go to the funeral... Thanks to the good Lord and everyone who prayed, I am better and gaining strength. I was so weak when I had a temperature. I got a lady friend to come clean my house this morning... I'm still saved and sanctified, have the victory in my soul. So pray for me as I pray for you, that we will have oil in our vessels when the Lord comes for his bride."

--Sis. Nellie Lovell

From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! He is my all in all. I am glad I know Him, whom to know is life eternal. He is always there when I call, night or day. Praise His Name! ... My husband is doing as well as can be expected, can't do any strenuous work, but does little odd jobs. He is glad to get outside in the nice weather. We have been having a lot of rain. We have onions, lettuce and radishes up and thriving in all the rain. We can't plant much garden till the end of the month. We get frost in May and takes away what we have planted. We do enjoy our wild birds, feed them all winter and then they sing for us in the summer and get the bugs off the shrubs and trees. My husband called me in a very excited voice. He wanted me to know our catbird had come back to be here for the summer season and make their nests for the young. The catbird sings and chatters like all birds. It is interesting to hear them and watch them... I do enjoy the Mission Trail so much. When I can't get out to hear the truth sent forth, it is good to know there are those that stand true and print the truth for those who are hungering for it... God be with you each day and give you the messages for the good of all and may souls be saved thru your ministry."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Miss.: "Hope all of you are well, and still happy in the Lord's work. I myself am doing fine, but have had a lot of sickness in my family, that is my brother's and sister's families. I still live alone, and yet I'm not alone, just Jesus and me. I will never be alone, for he says in his word I will never leave thee, or forsake thee, and he that cometh to me I will (never) in no wise cast out. Thank the good Lord for being so good to me. I love him more and more every day."--Sis. Grace Gill

From Calif.: "I'm glad to report victory in Jesus Christ's name. I'm saved and sanctified and contending for faith once delivered to saints... I am standing with my face as a flint toward God. We all have the enemy to fight."

--Sis. Opal Williams

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From Okla.: "Greetings in Christ Jesus. Thankful for the mercies of our God. Also he gave us precious rain. God is good. He truly is worthy to be praised. "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." Psa. 107:1. "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" verses 8, 15, 21, 31. "The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth. Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the Lord." verses 42, 43. Thanks unto the Lord for the good word of God that is the will of God being sent forth over the broadcast. God bless you for Jesus."--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Calif.: "Greetings of love. Well, time moves on. Soon we all shall "see Him as He is." God help us to have the whole armor on, especially in these last days of fiery trials."

--Bro. H. P. Huskey

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From Mo.: "Greetings this beautiful spring morning; enough rain and sunshine to bring forth the roses and they are plentiful in our back yard. Your testimonial letter was greatly appreciated. and I am thankful God still answers prayer, though it seems some of us do have many afflictions. He says in his holy word many are the afflictions of the righteous but God healeth them all. Seems I have many. I do know God has answered prayer and will do it again."

--Sis. Edw. Leach

at press time

we understand:

From Kansas: "Dear Brother Murphey, I enjoy your Sunday morning broadcast very much. Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Beisly from Coffeyville came by to see us not long ago. We had never met them... We had a real nice visit. It is good to meet and know Christian people. I am enclosing a little to help keep the message of God's love on the air. In Christian love,"

--J. E. Estopy

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It is with sorrow we announce the death of Sis. Lillie Evans, 88, of Jena, La. She was a faithful listener to the broadcast and we enjoyed her encouraging letters from our home town.

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From Wash.: "Greetings to you folks today in the name of Jesus. I am thankful for his mercy to us. We love him for all he does for us. He is our Lord and Saviour, our redeemer, our great physician. Well just our all in all... thanks so much for the Mission Trail paper. We read it from cover to cover and pass it on. We have been enjoying all the messages on the alphabet and the testimonies are just like as if we had received the letter ourself. Keep up the good work." --Sis. Violet Thomas

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We are happy to report the birth of Jason Wayne Murphey on May 1. He weighed a little more than seven pounds and is growing and doing well. Parents are Wayne and Mary. Jason has been attending services and his behavior so far has been permissible, however, we are sure that Jason and his parents will be learning much in the days ahead!

From Spain: "I truly thank the Lord for how He's blessed me during my year of study abroad. Although I've missed being with the saints, receiving the Mission Trail and the Faith and Victory has brought me closer to the saints at home I will be leaving Spain at the end of May, and would thus like to take this opportunity to thank all those who sent up prayers in my behalf. Please continue to pray for me that I'll ever do the Lord's will. Christian love to all,"

--Cheryl Tompkin

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We have received word of the death of Sis. Berniece Rumfelt, Jackson, Mo. She loved the Lord, the saints and truth!

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From Okla.: "I am feeling pretty good today, hope you all are enjoying the best of health, and all the blessings of the Lord. I am enjoying the blessings too. I do want to bless the Lord at all times in good things and bad ones too... I am still enjoying the Mission Trail."

--Sis. Mary May

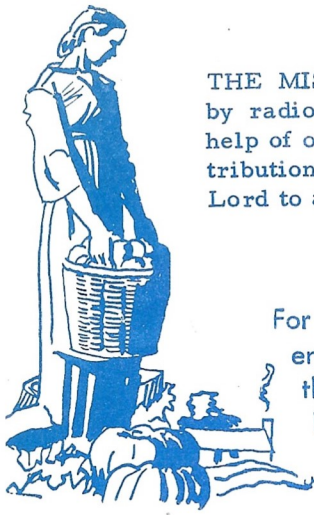
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From Okla.: "I am glad to report victory in Jesus. I thank the Lord for his care for soul and body."

--Bro. Manly Jones

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Guthrie has had a couple of exciting days when it appeared the flood waters might again flood the streets and homes, but thank the Lord, they were not permitted to rise high enough to enter the chapel. On Sunday, May 22 a little water was seen in the street in front of the chapel and no damage was done.



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.
KBOA	Kennett, Missouri	830 kc.	Sunday, 8:30 a. m.

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