



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey •

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

VOL. 16, NO. 3

THE MISSION TRAIL

MARCH, 1980

"Vengeance Is Mine"

Radio Broadcast for February 3, 1980

Good morning to each listener of the broadcast. I am so happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio. I hope you will not go away until the last scripture is given. I have a warning for the unsaved and also a caution for the people of the Lord:

"For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb. 10:30-31.

Please notice two things about this scripture: First, vengeance belongs to the Lord. For a man to take vengeance into his own hands, he is taking that which does not rightfully belong unto him. It belongs to God. Not fully understanding the motives or being able to look at their hearts, we might misjudge. Man in his natural state has a heart that seeks revenge when another does them wrong. It is only natural to desire to "get even"! Everyone needs to understand that God is the judge of all mankind and he will repay. To seek revenge is natural. To forgive is divine.

For an example of someone who did not take revenge into their own hands, let us look at David. King Saul had treated him very hatefully. Because of jealousy Saul would really liked to have killed David and have him out of the way. So upon one occasion Saul was hunting David upon the rocks of the wild

goats. He wasn't having much success so he went into a certain cave to cover his feet, probably to take a nap! I wonder if it may have been cold. Any way while he was there in this cave, it so happened that David was also hiding in the same cave! But David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. Evidently, while King Saul was asleep David's men desired him to kill the king. But instead David only cut off a small portion of Saul's robe privily. Really, David even felt badly about that and his heart smote him. After Saul arose and went out of the cave David followed him. Here is what David said:

"Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the Lord had delivered thee to-day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the Lord's anointed. Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. The

Lord judge between me and thee, and the Lord avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee." 1 Sam. 24:10-12.

In due time David was elevated to the throne, but he let God take care of Saul. How much better it is to do it that way! Here is a scripture that really brings that out:

"Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God." Eccl. 8:12-13.

Now, you may notice that I am giving the warning first to the righteous. There is also scripture for those who might think they can do wrong and get by. Listen to this:

"To me belongeth vengeance, and recompense; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. For the Lord shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left. And he shall say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted, Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? let them rise up and help you, and be your protection. See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand. For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever." Deut. 32:35-40.

Now, we come to point Two. This is brought out in the original text: "I will recompense, saith the Lord." I am reminded of a saying which was quite common around our house when I was a boy growing up. If one of the children had mis-behaved we might hear mother say: "I have a spanking laid up for you!" This meant we might not get it right away, but it was there for us! Sometimes after things had "cooled" a bit we might even avoid it! But dear ones, be sure of this one thing: God is fair and just. He understands each of us. He knows why we act as we do. I believe that every transgression and disobedience shall receive a just recompense of reward. There will be no mistakes. This next scripture brings out both of these points. We are not to take vengeance into our own hands and God will recompense! "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:17-21.

Listen to this poem by John Greenleaf Whittier. It deals with the destruction of Sodom.

THE CITIES OF THE PLAIN

"Get ye up from the wrath of God's
terrible day!
Ungirded, unsandalled, arise and away!
'Tis the vintage of blood, 'tis the full-
ness of time,
And vengeance shall gather the harvest
of crime!"

The warning was spoken; the righteous
had gone,
And the proud ones of Sodom were feast-
ing alone.

All gay was the banquet; the revel was
long,
With the pouring of wine and breathing
of song.

'Twas an evening of beauty; the air
was perfume,
The earth was all greenness, the trees
were all bloom;
And softly the delicate viol was heard
Like the murmur of love or the notes
of a bird.

And beautiful maidens moved down in
the dance,
With the magic of motion and sunshine
of glance;
And white arms wreathed lightly, and
tresses fell free
As the plumage of birds in some
tropical tree.

Where the shrines of foul idols were
lighted on high,
And wantonness tempted the lust of the
eye;
Midst rites of obsceneness, strange,
loathsome, abhorred,
The blasphemer scoffed at the name of
the Lord.

Hark! the growl of the thunder--the
quaking of earth!
Woe, woe to the worship, and woe to the
the mirth!
The black sky has opened--there's
flame in the air--
The red arm of Vengeance is lifted and
bare!

Then the shriek of the dying rose wild
where the song,
And the low tone of love had been whis-
pered along;

For the fierce flames went lightly o'er
palace and bower,
Like the red tongues of demons, to
blast and devour!

Down--down on the fallen the red ruin
rained;
And the reveler sank with his wine-cup
undrained;
The foot of the dancer, the music's
loved thrill,
And the shout and the laughter grew
suddenly still.

The last throb of anguish was fearfully
given;
The last eye glared forth in its madness
on heaven!
The last groan of horror rose wildly
and vain,
And death brooded over the pride of the
Plain!

In the destruction of Sodom and Go-
morrah, we see the judgment of God.

This is a awful history and the circum-
stances given are distressing to hu-
manity. But let it be a lesson to all.
Jesus once said, "remember Lot's
wife." So we would do well to re-
member the judgment of God against
these wicked cities of the plain. The
inhabitants of the cities of the plain were
wicked exceedingly. The cup of their
iniquities fell upon them! Brimstone
and fire was rained down from heaven
upon these traders in iniquity; and what
a corresponding judgment was meted out
to them! They burned in lust towards
each other, and God burned them up
with fire and brimstone. Their sin was
unnatural and God punished it by super-
natural means. Divine justice not only
observes a proportion between the crime
and the degree of punishment, but also
between the nature of the crime and the
kind of punishment inflicted.

Disobedience to the command of God must ever meet with severe judgment, especially with those who have already partaken of his grace, because these know his salvation, and are justly supposed to possess, by his grace, the power of resisting all the temptations of the world. The servant who knew his Lord's will and did it not, was to be beaten with many stripes. Lot's wife stands as an everlasting monument of admonition and caution to all backsliders. She ran well, she permitted Satan to hinder, and she died in her provocation. While we might mourn her fate, we should profit by her example. To begin in the good way is well; to continue in the path is better; and to persevere unto the end, best of all.

Our Father, we thank thee for another opportunity to bring the Word to the listeners of the broadcast. No doubt, some are in great trials and others afflicted. Some perhaps, are yet lingering in the paths of sin which lead to everlasting destruction. Deal with each according to thy divine wisdom and mercy and do the best for each and thine shall be the praise through Christ. Amen. Friends, it has been my pleasure to come your way today. Even though you are not able to speak back to me in a way that I can hear you at this time, I appreciate your letters and offerings letting me know you are listening! Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!

Faith

Faith is a living power from heaven
Which grasps the promise God has given!
A trust that cannot be o'er thrown,
Securely fixed on Christ alone.

Faith finds in Christ whate'er we need
To save and strengthen, guide and feed;
Strong in His grace it joys to share
His cross, in hope His crown to wear.

Testimonies

From Mich.: "Good morning. Greeting you in the lovely name of Jesus. What a wonderful Savior we serve. He grows more precious every day. And as the song writer so aptly wrote, "Sweeter grows His service every day. Serving Jesus really pays." Trust you folks are doing fine, spiritually, physically, and temporally. God has been precious to us ... We surely are thankful that God undertook for Gary and Judy's little baby. From what they say she about bled to death. If God hadn't touched her she would have died. Blood was spurting from her mouth so badly. Oh, what a mighty God we serve!"

--Bro. Ralph and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

--o--

From Calif.: "How fast time is going! Rolling us each one up to the judgment bar of God! Amen. Thanks again for the Mission Trail. We enjoyed it so much. Bro. & Sis. Eck looked well... Their golden wedding coming up the 10th. They have spent many years in the work of the Lord. We trust God will bless them many more years, working for Him! We need them... I seem to be getting weaker, but know you this--God is good, so-o-o good to me. I have neither ache nor pain in my body... I have lost none of my faith in God. My daily prayer is, Lord, have thy own way. God's way is best, is best for me."

--Sis. Armilda Abbott

--o--

From Okla.: "I mean to go all the way with Jesus and stop no shorter than heaven. This world is so very wicked and getting worse every day. We have but a few days to suffer here. Let us put these few days in use for Jesus. There is a great home in heaven waiting for us ... Through all my tribulation I have learned that God's way is best for me..."

--Sis. Lizzie Jordan

From Ohio: "I sure had a time with arthritis all last winter and up in the summer. My feet swelled so bad I could not wear my shoes, and could not walk very well. And my hands swelled very badly. But I am much better at this time. We trust you and Sis. Frances are well and enjoying the blessing of the Lord. We sure do want you to keep sending The Mission Trail."

--Bro. Bill Abbott

--o--

From Mo.: "Here we are already in the second month of 1980. How time does go by, and I've been thinking so much lately on the importance of time. How are we using our time here and what are we doing with the days God is giving us? May God help us all to use them wisely and do all we can for Jesus and for lost souls while we do still have time. It grieves me to see so many people taken up with the things of the world and having no time for Jesus. How they do need to take time for Jesus. He took time to live, and die for all mankind. I haven't been able to get out much thru the past couple of months but I still love the Lord and all His dear saints and love His ways. I never want to stray from this truth in any way. I feel time for everything is short and I want to be found faithful when He comes. We must pray and do all we can at every opportunity for God and in behalf of dear lost souls and to encourage and help those who are saved."

--Sis. Zella Dollins

--oo--

From Okla.: "We enjoyed the radio broadcast this morning. We are happy to know the Lord, the only true happiness with peace in this world. How thankful we are the Lord led us into this true way, the only way that leads to the home Jesus has gone to prepare for us. Pray for us. We stand firm and true."

--Sis. Doris Bowers

From Calif.: "I am enjoying salvation. I passed thru some severe trials in 1979. But I entered 1980 with victory. Thank God. We sing, Lord plant my feet on higher ground. You'll never get there unless you take the way Jesus trod with submission to God, lowliness of heart and mind. This is God's way of getting us to higher ground--through suffering, no retaliation, but taking the example of Jesus. He was reviled, yet he opened not his mouth. If we want to be an example, we too, must suffer. God is calling for true followers in these last days."

--Sis. Naomi Jennings

--o--

From Ill.: "I've just finished reading the Mission Trail that came today. How I appreciate it! It's like an encouraging letter from home. Do, please keep it coming. The message was good, 'Facing the Unknown.' Sometimes when I am driving down the highway, all alone, and I can see a hill before me, I cannot see what lies beyond that hill. By faith I keep driving, trusting the road beyond will be clear, and everyone on the right side. I think how like life this is--we never know what a single day may bring forth, yet I trust in the promises of God. 'My grace is sufficient for you.' 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' 'Casting all your cares upon Him, for He careth for you.' 'His eyes are over the righteous and His ears are open unto their cries.' 'for your Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.' There are many more such promises. What else do we need to be able to face the unknown? The assurance that God is with us, that we are His own, and His promises are ours to stand upon, is worth more than all the money and wisdom of this world. I thank God for the privilege of being saved, my sins are gone, and knowing I am one of God's little ones. Surely I am blessed."

--Sis. Thelma Sprague

From JAMAICA: "Dear Bro. & Sis. Murphey, Holy greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It's quite a long while since we have not written to you. Praise God we are all still alive, and continue with Him to the end. Please continue sending the Mission Trail for us. The sermons and testimonies are so encouraging to the spiritual life. They have been so fitting and helpful in these evil days when we are nearing the end. Whenever we sing this chorus: 'Get on the glory road, heaven is just ahead, although the road be rough Jesus will carry me through,' etc. we remember you when you visited us, a visit which we so much appreciated. I don't know if the Lord will have you visit us again. Bro. Thomas is still carrying on by God's help, and we have put in doors and windows in the chapel. May God help you all to continue the good work faithful to the end... Greet Sis. Kathleen for all of us. The church sends greetings. I (Sis. Ferguson) have not been keeping so well these days. The pressure goes up at times and now I have diabetes. I am still trusting God for healing and ask that you all pray for me towards that end to His glory and praise. With Christian love,"

--Bro. & Sis. Ferguson

--o--

From Oregon: "The world is surely in sad condition and if we looked on it as the world does, our faith would fail as those who know not how to look to God, but we do not put our trust in man and his wisdom and we, as the children of light see the prophecies being fulfilled as you warned us these things would be fulfilled so we look up, knowing our redemption draweth nigh... Sis. Laverne Manuel has been here a few days. She preached two services on Sunday and preached to us at our prayer meeting last night and we enjoyed her so much."

--Sis. Grace Jones

From Okla.: "I am enjoying the goodness of God through Jesus Christ our Savior. I am thankful we are able to know the message of the Mission Trail. I asked the Lord to help me not to forget or miss it. In January I had an affliction. It was not comfortable. I thought of the scripture in James 5:13a, 'Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.' So I gave myself to prayer, calling upon my God in Jesus name, knowing He knows all things. One morning the thought came to my mind, 'joy cometh in the morning.' I found it in Psa. 30:5, 'weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.' The whole Psalm is a song of the Lord's deliverance. The second verse, 'O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.' I believed that the Lord gave it to me, and I am healed. Thanks-giving to our God for His loving-kindness and tender mercies. God bless the broadcast is my heart's prayer."

--Sis. Eva Penner

--o--

From Ark.: "We do thank the Lord for saving and keeping grace. Also for sufficient grace for all the battles and trials we are called upon to face. May the Lord ever bless and supply your need according to his riches in glory. Yours in Christian love,"

--Bro. & Sis. E. A. Loftis

--o--

From Okla.: "We were blessed with a few nites revival Jan. 23rd thru 27th. Sis. Katherine Williams and Bro. & Sis. Louis Williams were led to come and be with us. Keep us on your prayer list."

--Sis. Theresa Gaines

--o--

From Ark.: "I have a good report. I have been healed of my arthritis in my spine, shoulder and arms... The Lord is so good to me. He wins all my battles for me... Nothing is impossible with God."

--Sis. Mary Foster

at press time

we understand:



Sister Evelyn A. Taylor

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." The Church of God at Guthrie, Okla. has lost a faithful member when God saw best to call Sister Evelyn Taylor from our midst January 26. She passed away quietly at her home at the age of 72. She died one day less than 33 years after her husband, Bro. Sam passed on Jan. 27, 1947. Her life of faith is a credit to the cause of Christ and a memorial to be remembered. Pray the Lord to bless her son and three daughters in their sorrow.

--o--

"Bro. Gene had his 86th birthday last Sat. 9th. He had a nice birthday, received lots of birthday remembrances. He has been improving some from the last illness. We do give the Lord the praise and appreciate all your prayers for us."

--Bro. Gene and Sis. Loretta Harmon

GOSPEL SINGING

We the saints at Coffeyville have been praying concerning a singing, April 12th at 7:00 p.m. We are expecting the Lord to send in those who can sing the praises of God."

--Bro. Ralph and Sis. Inez Beisly

--o--

Congratulations to Glen LaCroix and Karen Williams who plan to be married in the Church of God chapel, Hammond, La., at 1:30 p. m. April 5, 1980. All are invited. Cards may be sent to them c/o Doyle LaCroix, R. 1, Box 187, Loranger, La. 70446. We wish for them many happy years together in the Lord.

--o--

Congratulations to James and Patricia Bell on the birth of their son, Steven James, Friday, February 1.

Dear Bro. Murphey and Sis. Francis,

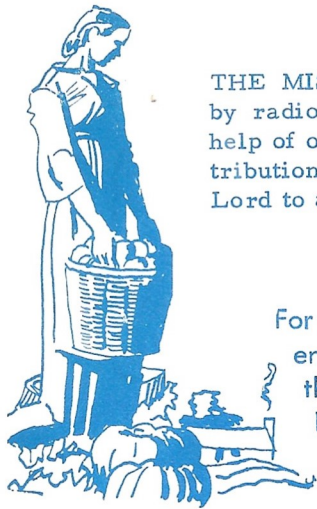
Greetings of love in the wonderful name of Jesus. This time finds us "ever pressing onward in the strait and narrow way, Singing glory hallelujah, I am saved today." We appreciate our salvation and each day the Lord becomes more precious to our soul. I have proved my Lord, and I know that God is faithful. We appreciate your labors of love in the gospel, and we want you to know that your labors are not in vain. The Mission Trail has often been a blessing and a source of encouragement to our soul. The Lord has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. Let us prove faithful.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus.

with godly Love & Prayers

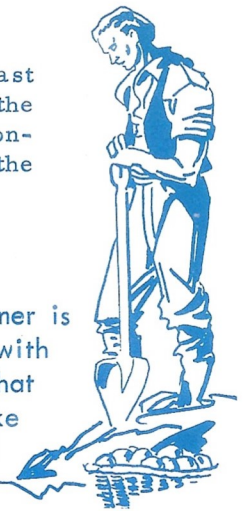
Pina

(Pina Knight)



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

RADIO
STATION
KGGF

LOCATION
Coffeyville, Kansas

DIAL
SETTING
690 kc.

TIME
Sunday, 8:00 a. m.

The Mission Trail
Box 99
Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Return Postage Guaranteed

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
8.4 ¢ PAID
Guthrie, Okla.
Permit No. 133