



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. 17, NO. 3

THE MISSION TRAIL

MARCH, 1981

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

Radio Broadcast for February 15, 1981

A cheerful good morning to all the listeners of the broadcast. I am so happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio. We hope today finds you encouraged in the Lord. Listen to this scripture: "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32.

I thought of some of those words we used to hear in school about how we pay for all we get including even a burial plot, but it went on to say "heaven alone is free for the asking"! Quite often we learn of offers by those who are willing to give away some premium or reward absolutely free! All one has to do is just send in for it! I say beware! Too many times there are hidden catches or "postage and handling charges" which will cost you dearly"! At this time of great unrest there are many who seek to get material gain by whatever means possible.

A common term heard so often is the threat to go on strike! Folks will not work nor let others work at the plant which is on "strike". Sometimes great damage and sabotage is done to the very same company which has been feeding them. Let me carry this a little farther and bring you this poem. Listen:

IF GOD SHOULD GO ON STRIKE

How good it is that God above has never
gone on strike,
Because He was not treated fair in things
He didn't like,
If only once He'd given up and said,
"That's it, I'm through!"
"I've had enough of those on earth, so
this is what I'll do.
"I'll give my orders to the sun--cut off
the heat supply!
"And to the moon--give no more light,
and run the oceans dry.
"Then just to make things really tough
and put the pressure on,
"Turn off the vital oxygen till every
breath is gone!"
You know He would be justified, if fair-
ness was the game,
For no one has been more abused or
met with more disdain
Than God, and yet He carries on, and
supplies you and me
With all the favors of His grace, and
everything for free,
Men say they want a better deal, and
so on strike they go,
But what a deal we've given God to
whom all things we owe.
Some care not for those they hurt
To gain the things they like,
But what a mess we'd all be in, if God
should go on strike.

--Selected by Sis. Emma Dille

Consider again the words of Jesus, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." I like that. But free from what? Freedom from bondage and slavery of sin. Freedom from evil habits which keep you from enjoying salvation. Freedom from hypocrisy and dead formality! Freedom from fear of man! "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life." Romans 6:22.

This is what I call real freedom! But let me emphasize three freedoms:

1. Freedom from hatred and jealousy.
2. Freedom from "the love of money"!
3. Freedom from pride and glory-seeking.

If one is free from all these evil things I say there is a life of victory. First, let us talk about "hatred and jealousy". Some of the most miserable people in the world are those where this evil is present. One may have all the wealth and honor of the world at their disposal, but if hatred exists, there is something lacking. Take for instance, Haman. He had plenty. He was respected and honored by the king Ashuerus. What more could he desire? Well, the trouble was, Mordecai. He refused to recognize or honor Haman. We find in Songs of Solomon that "jealousy is cruel as the grave." It is hard to have rest and peace with jealousy raging in one's bosom!

Now let us think of number two: Freedom from the love of money. We are told in 1 Tim. 6:10--"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." And Jesus said: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;

and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

Again, we are exhorted: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Col. 3:1-3. Just think of the utter futility of gaining the world and losing one's soul. Jesus said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:24-26.

Listen to the words of Achan: "When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it." Joshua 7:21. So a little worldly gain cost Achan his life. What did it profit?

In thinking of Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and those who were faithful to God, we read: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that

is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." Heb. 11:13-16.

Look what happened to Simon because of his love of money: "And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God." Acts 8:18-21.

Now we come to number three: Freedom from pride and glory - seeking. This is no small sin in the world. Jesus was tempted by Satan and this was included in his temptation. Here was the wealth and the glory of all the world.

Listen: "Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him." Matt. 4:8-11.

So many people can not stand to be exalted! The lure and temptation of power is too great! And may I add, preachers are not exempt from this temptation any more than others. Sometimes they fall never to rise again. Saul, the king, fell into this trap of power. He became

lifted up and lost his kingdom. "And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?" 1 Sam. 15:17. I believe the key for service to God is in keeping humble and little in one's own eyes.

Pharoah could not bear to think of losing all the service of the Israelites if he let them go. His heart was hardened and he refused to let them go. So he and his people made their burdens greater than before, until God released them and he had to let them go.

Here is a scripture which confuses many folks, I fear: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:" Isa. 14:12-13. Now is this speaking of Satan or the devil? No, not at all, as many suppose. Adam Clarke commentary says: "This chapter speaks not of the ambition and fall of Satan, but of the pride, arrogance, and fall of Nebuchadnezzar." Daniel wrote of this same king: "All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar. At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty? While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the

beasts of the field: they shall make thee eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou knowest that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will." Dan. 4:28-32.

Then after Nebuchadnezzar went through all this his reasoning returned and he praised God: "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?" verse 35.

It seems the U. S. government can never collect enough taxes to pay for all the programs so they continually raise the debt limit and then want more taxes all the time. But dear ones, I have some good news for you. We have a home eternal in the heavens which is not subject to taxation. Our taxes will never come due. There is no debt limit on the kingdom of God. It is not operated on a budget of silver and gold. By request I bring you again:

TAX-EXEMPT

The assessor approached with weary tread
And knocked at the farm house door,
"Not much value here," he said,
The surroundings looked very poor.
The room he entered was cozy and warm
The couple were aged and gray,
From his portfolio he selected a form
And said in a businesslike way,

"I'm here to appraise your property,
sir,
To determine your wealth, you see,
I'm the assessor, I might infer,
Will you answer some questions for
me?"

"Oh, we have great riches," they
quickly replied,
Their faces aglow with bliss,
The assessor awaited with pencil poised
Waiting the items to list.

"Our mutual love we value quite high,
It began such a long time ago;
Each passing year has strengthened the
tie,
That increases the value, you know.
Our health is more precious than silver
and gold,
The Master has been very kind;
We enjoy each day as it comes and goes,
While so many in illness repine.

"We've quite a fortune in relics, too.
Any price you would name would be
small:
A soft golden curl, a little worn shoe,
And the fingerprints there on the wall;
We've a special interest in heaven, too,
She departed this life at three,
A jewel in heaven with value true,
That's quite an asset, you see."

The astonished assessor squirmed in
his shoes
(He was finding it hard to relax.)
"They truly have great riches," he
mused,
But not one thing I can tax."
"We have no possessions," they calmly
explained,
"To lock in a vault of steel,
Possessions and riches are different,
you see,
Our riches, the things that we feel.

"There's one more that is quite vital,
You may be a little surprised,
We hold a bloodbought title,
To a mansion in the skies."
The puzzled assessor bowed himself out
In utter exasperation,
The richest couple he had ever known
Were entirely exempt from taxation.

Testimonies

From Minn.: "This finds we well in soul and body, praising the Lord Jesus for all He has done for me and all the saints. Times are really rough in every way, but spiritually, the Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever. We can take our joys and sorrows to Him who does all things well. I just passed my 94th birthday Jan. 16, 1981. I am still happy in the Lord and walking in newness of life. We started with cold weather in Feb. 1st and 3 inches of snow. The winter weather has been mild up to now. God knows best. I will not murmur. We must keep looking up to Him who does all things well."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

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From Oregon: "I was reading an article in a little book that said--a minister parked his car in a no parking zone in a large city. He was short on time and couldn't find a space with a meter. So he put a note under the windshield wiper which read: I have circled the block 10 times. I have an appointment to keep. "Forgive us our trespasses." When he returned he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I lose my job. "Lead us not into temptation." The clever use of scripture by that preacher and that policeman raises an important issue for Every Bible believing Christian. The Word of God must never be used as a device to farther our own purposes, to excuse a wrong, or to manipulate people. The author said--Let's be careful how we use the Bible. It was never meant to serve our selfish purpose. God's Word is given to convict, correct counsel, and comfort us. We must adjust ourselves to the Bible--never the Bible to ourselves."

--Sis. Grace Jones

From La.: "I'm so thankful for the love and care of the Lord to me. He keeps me well in body and helps with any problems that arises around the place, and gives me joy and happiness in my soul. He is dearer to me than anyone or anything in this life. I'm seeking to please Him in every detail of life, for I surely want to meet Him in peace when this life is over, and we never know how soon the call may come...I enjoy the Mission Trail each month. I usually read most of it through when it first comes, sometimes have to lay it down before finishing, but always anxious to finish without much delay. Hope you and Sister Frances are keeping well."

--Sister Myrtis Flynn

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From Kans.: "This leaves me pressing on for Jesus. I'm glad I can say and mean it that I love Jesus and am determined to be obedient unto the Master. Things are being done so wickedly. I'm glad to wake up of the morning and to know that God has watched over us through the night; that he hasn't let anyone break into our home and harm us. I'm thankful for His great watch care over us...I enjoyed your sermon this morning on keeping saved. Hope you can stay on the air as long as you are physically able. We are all growing older."

--Sis. Mamie Norcutt

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From Oklahoma: "I want to be a pure perfect saint of God in thought, word, deed and action. A real true saint, no pretense or hypocrisy at all. I want my motives and attitudes, the intent of my heart to be acceptable in His sight better than I've ever been in my whole entire life. By his grace I mean to do all I can to help save this world...in August if the Lord wills me to see it, I will be 83 years old. Out of all the hard times and trouble, God's way is best, is best for me."--Lizzie Jordan

From Kans.: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We are still very much encouraged and determined to live for the Lord. We trust you are both well and continuing to abound in the things of God. We thank the Lord for permitting us to see a new year and one month is already gone. Our call is to a deeper depth and higher height and I am willing to attain to it by God's grace and mercy."--Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Okla.: "Seems time has gone by so fast. January has slipped into eternity. My dear Herbert has been gone now over 6 weeks. We do miss him so much, as we always will. So precious for the wonderful challenge we have to be faithful to follow on to the victory he has gained. What great comfort we have received from the Lord and from all the dear saints during these weeks of adjustment. Was nice to receive the Mission Trail a few days ago. ...I've been quite busy and on the go, but seems the way life is regardless of circumstances ... With love and prayers,"

--Sis. Eva Probst

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From Mo.: "We find the dear Lord a present help in time of need; so glad we learned to trust him for both soul and body. We so enjoy the good messages on the air; words can't express. Just keep encouraged and keep the good work going. Only eternity will reveal the good that is accomplished. Lily is about the same. She stays in bed much of the time. Just remember her in prayer."

--Sis. Elizabeth Glass

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From Calif.: "I am thanking the dear Lord that I am saved and still encouraged to live for Him. I desire your prayer that the dear Lord will heal my left leg. I can hardly bear my weight... I have arthritis in my fingers."

--Sis. Esther Thornton

From Okla.: "We are enjoying the messages over Coffeyville every Sunday morning. We love to hear the saints teach the word of God with love, firmness and with sincerity; anyone can know they are sure of salvation of soul, mind and body. The worldly ones go so far and don't seem to have that full atonement."

--Bro. Alferd and Sis. Martha Classen

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From Guthrie: "Hope you are both well and happy in the Lord. I sure am. I appreciate the Lord's dealing with me. I have been reading of late how we should see God in every thing and when I thought of the project here and what I'm doing, I thought the Lord put me here for this purpose. It really rejoiced my soul to think I have a part in God's vineyard, and have a duty to perform for the Lord. Oh how I thank and praise Him for it. I have always wanted to do something for the Lord, and have done so little, and now He has given me a job in my old age. I believe He is going to give me strength to accomplish it until He calls me home. I'm so happy and pleased to know God gives me a job. Praise His dear name for ever."

--Sis. Emma Dille

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From Okla.: "The Lord has given another lovely spring-like day. Winter has been so nice so far. We trust this finds both well. We do appreciate your prayers, and thank and praise the Lord for strength he gives from day to day. And his great love and mercy to us. Again in answer to prayer, the Lord has brought us back, able to do the necessary things in and to keep the home, praise his dear name."

--Sis. Doris Bowers

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From Ill.: "I hope all is well down there. Keep sending the Mission Trail to me."

--Sister Ollie Gentry

at press time

we understand:



Sis. Armilda and Bro. Sam Abbott

Another of the "pillars" of the Church of God was removed from this vale of tears on earth below to her home eternal in the heavens with the passing of Sis. Armilda Abbott, Jan. 27. Bro. Sam and Sis. Armilda have labored in the gospel ministry for many years, having lived in Ohio and Kentucky. Their influence and preaching has had its effect on congregations through the States, as they traveled extensively, encouraging the saints to be faithful and exhorting sinners to prepare to meet God. Who can forget her song, "The Higher Power" or not remember how God used her to witness before men and women of the world in the dome car on the fast express train as it sped across the western states? Camp meetings will not be quite the same without her unique gospel message. During recent months of failing health Sis. Armilda and Bro. Sam have lived in the Senior Citizens Home in Calif. Sis. Armilda's body was returned to Kentucky for burial. Remember Bro. Abbott in this time of great loss: 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, Calif. 91331.

"Oh, yes, oh but she is gone to be with Jesus, bless her sweet heart. We will soon go to be with her and Jesus. He says where I am there ye may be also. Praises be to our loving Lord. He is so good to all his dear children. I am still here in the Home. But don't know what will be next, so pray for me that I be faithful and wait on the good Lord."

--Your Bro. Sam

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It is with sorrow we announce the passing of Sis. Katie Priem on Feb. 14. She was a precious sister in the Lord. It was only a short time ago that Frances and I visited with her in her apartment in the Golden Rule Home.

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Bro. Oscar Wall is very much afflicted and has been for several weeks. Do remember him in prayer. His faith and trust is in the Lord. Send him a word of encouragement: Bro. Oscar Wall, R. 1, Box 265B, Vinita, Okla. 74301.

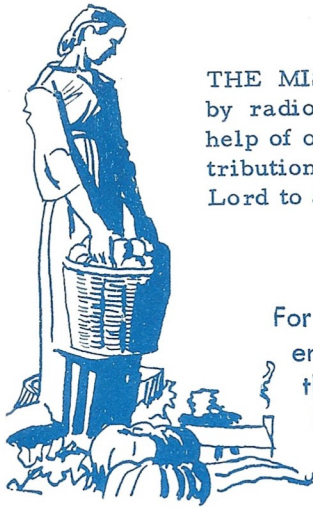
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From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! The One who is always there when we need Him. He expects our praise and we should be more thankful for His many blessings day by day...He has been so good to me and I do love Him more each day..."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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Our Oklahoma winter has been mild, but many have had flu and colds. Let us pray one for another as we are taught to do. And thanks to all who have made it possible for us to begin our 17th year of the broadcast.



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	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

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