



The Mission Trail

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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Choices Are Followed by Consequences

Radio Broadcast for March 15, 1981

Good morning to the listeners of KGGF. It is a pleasure to be coming your way again. Listen to this familiar scripture from Gal. 6:7-8--"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." This scripture points to a future time and tells us that the sequence of events which follow have to do with the choices that are made today. If I may, I would like to borrow a statement which I heard Bro. Ostis Wilson make. I sincerely hope to do it no injustice as I develop it a little in the light of this scripture. It was expressed that "God gives us the right and power of choice, but He does not give us the right to alter the consequences of our choices." The dictionary tells me that consequence means: "something produced by a cause or necessarily following from a set of conditions." How true! It was a chain reaction set off by the atoms in the bomb which caused the deadly blast killing many thousands in Japan during world war 2. The bomb was "rigged" or purposely set up this way to create destruction. Once the reaction starts, there is no stopping the results. And so it is with God's law; we have the right of choice but we have not the right or power to change the consequences of our choices!

CONSEQUENCES

A traveler on a dusty road
Strewed acorns on the lea;
And one took root and sprouted up,
And grew into a tree.
Love sought its shade at evening time
To breathe his early vows,
And age was pleased, in heat of noon
To bask beneath its boughs;
The dormouse loved its dangling twigs
The bird sweet music bore;
It stood a glory in its place,
A blessing evermore.

A dreamer dropped a random thought
'Twas old and yet 'twas new;
A simple fancy of the brain,
But strong in being true.
It shone upon a genial mind
And lo, its light became
A lamp of life, a beacon ray,
A monitory flame.
The thought was small, its issue great;
A watch-fire on the hill;
It shed its radiance far adown,
And cheers the valley still.

A little spring had lost its way
Amid the grass and fern;
A passing stranger scooped a well
Where weary men might turn.
He walled it in and hung with care
A label at the brink;
He thought not of the deed he did,
But judged that all might drink.

He paused again, and lo! the well,
 By summer never dried,
 Had cooled ten thousand thirsty tongues
 And saved a life besides.

A nameless man, amid a crowd
 That thronged the daily mart,
 Let fall a word of Hope and Love,
 Unstudied from the heart;
 A whisper on the tumult thrown,
 A transitory breath--
 It raised a brother from the dust,
 It saved a soul from death,
 O germ! O fount! O Word of love!
 O thought at random cast!
 Ye were but little at the first,
 But mighty at the last!

Now, back to our original scripture: sowing is an important part of reaping a harvest. We might cultivate from morning 'til night, but if we never sowed the seed we can never expect a harvest. On the other hand, according to this eternal law of God, there is no way to avoid the harvest once the seeds have been sown. It is true that God can and does forgive all manner of sins, once repentance is sought and obtained, but even then a bitter harvest is often reaped much to the disappointment of the sower. Sometimes God slows down, or reverses the process of retribution, but so surely the day of reckoning is coming. This can be either good or bad according to the kind of seed sown, whether to the flesh or to the Spirit.

Human nature, or the way of the flesh cries out for its own way. It is sweet to have our own way. Some persist and become willful. It is a great event of very far-reaching influence when we surrender our wills and take in exchange the more wonderful will of God. Jesus said: "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." Matt. 10:39. Bearing the cross is doing what one

does not like to do for some great purpose. Getting by losing is a very strange process in spiritual living. Sacrifice is what makes things precious. Gold is hard to get; jewels are found at the end of long, hard journeys of sacrifice. That is what puts value into precious things. The fact is we get deeper wealth by surrendering what seems to us at the present time very precious. But the surrender, the giving up, the sacrifice subdues, melts, refines and enriches. Often what is dearest to us is snatched from our arms. Uninterrupted indulgence of the flesh weakens one's will and power to accomplish that for which God has designed that individual. One of life's greatest lessons is to sacrifice with a submissive, happy heart. One person wrote: "In the world it is not what we take up, but what we give up, that makes us rich."

The little slave boy, Sammy Morris, from the jungles of Africa, was being tortured by his captors, who had it in their minds to put him to death soon. He knew little or nothing about God, but a light shined about him and a voice spoke to him to flee. This he did, living for days in an unfriendly jungle, but guided by an unfaltering light of God to the missionaries. There he learned, and accepted the gift of salvation. It became a reality to "talk to His Father". His all consuming desire to learn more of the Holy Spirit led him to New York by way of a sailing ship filled with ungodly, rum-drinking and cursing sailors. But before they had reached New York hatred and malice among them had turned to love and respect for this praying young black man. The impact upon the church workers he came in contact with and unbelievers was felt for years to come. Atheists were converted, hard hearts were broken and

many came weeping to an altar of prayer while he prayed or exhorted. But his life on earth was short. Scarcely more than five years after he was called from the jungles of Africa his work on earth was finished and the Lord called him home. He had sown the gospel and it had its effect. The reaping time came. The results will live on for years to come.

But let us look on the other side of the ledger! Some sow not the good seed of the Spirit, but sow to the flesh. Such was the king of Israel, Ahab! Ahab had failed God in carrying out His will. Then he looked about him and saw the vineyard of Naboth. It looked good and he wanted it. But Naboth refused to sell or trade his vineyard. What did Ahab do? According to the scheme of his wicked wife Jezebel, Naboth was slain and Ahab took his vineyard. The chain reaction of God's sure and swift retribution was set in motion. When Elijah found Ahab in this vineyard, Ahab said, "Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?" 1 Kings 21:20. He called Elijah his enemy. How dark becomes the vision of that one who forsakes the Lord! Ahab had the choice of how he lived but God reserved the consequences of his choices. Listen to the words of Elijah: "I have found thee; because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord. Behold I will bring evil upon thee, and take away thy posterity..." "And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel..." And finally the scriptures tell us: "But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up." See 1 Kings 21.

Dear ones, do you ever think when you see the hearse go by, that sooner or

later you and I shall take a ride in that somber machine without a thought of coming back? Do you ever think when in the quest for gold, a dead man's hand no dollar can hold; that you may strive and skimp and save but you must leave it all this side of the grave. In my youth I saw the bodies of two young men whose lives had been taken in a tragic airplane crash. Beneath the fingers of one charred body lay a coin, no longer held within his grasp. Do you ever think when in the quest for fame, a lofty title, or a sounding name, that you owe your life to Him who gave, and that you must answer beyond the grave? "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment; So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many;" Heb. 9:27-28.

Oh, yes, I have thought of the silence of the grave; and I have thought of those who reach fame, a lofty title and a sounding name, and I have thought again of that home over there and the joys for me to share if I but give my life to the Master's cause, observe His precepts and obey His laws, giving my life to Him who gave me breath and strength for a few fleeting years.

Our Father, bless each listener in a very special way. We pray that each one will have the blessing they need for soul and body to carry out their mission in life, sowing the truth that will bring lasting fruits unto eternal life. Lead us into the paths of righteousness and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SOWING AND REAPING

Sow with a generous hand;
Pause not for toil or pain;
Weary not through the heat of summer,
Weary not through the cold spring rain;
But wait till the autumn comes
For the sheaves of golden grain.

Sow, and look onward, upward,
Where the starry light appears;
Where, in spite of the coward's doubting
Or your own heart's trembling fears
You shall reap in joy the harvest
You have sown today in bitter tears.

And this final scripture: "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psa. 126:5-6.

Dear ones, may you sow the kind of seed which will bring joy and victory when the reaping day comes. And thank you for helping us to send out the weekly messages over the radio. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Guthrie: "Once again we thank the Lord for His many blessings to us. God has been so good to us. We now have lived in Guthrie almost a year. Ralph and I are happy to be here. To be around the saints is a blessing and we enjoy being with the congregation for services. Ralph and I are still busy getting our house done, and looking forward to being settled in it. The Lord has been so good to supply our needs and the saints have been so good to help us. We do appreciate all that has been done. Christian love and prayers,"
--Bro. Ralph and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

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From Okla.: "Thanksgiving unto the Lord, who is giving us rain...I truly enjoy the messages on the broadcasts. ...Yes, I think it is so good that we can pray to our heavenly Father in Jesus name. It is so good to know God is love."
--Sis. Eva Penner

From Mo.: "The sun is shining so nice and warm and God's love floods our soul with sunshine as we think of all His tender care and love and blessings to us. What a mighty God we serve, and how great He is. We have had a cold and some sinus trouble for the past 2 weeks, but thankful how God has helped and we have not had severe flu like so many have had. We love and appreciate all the saints of God and desire prayer that we may always be doing the will of God as we watch and wait for His coming. We surely want to be faithful always in all things unto the end and be able to enjoy eternal life with Him."

--Sis. Zella Dollins

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From Calif.: "Today finds us pressing the battle on. It will be a constant battle until our Lord calls us home."

--Sis. Letha Reece

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From Mo.: "Thank you for your prayers and we still need them as God gives life and we must try to live it day by day. Bro. Donald Sharp expects to come have a few nights meeting starting first of next week...We all and each need prayer, also Sis. Dollie Sorrell so she can keep active."

--Bro. Leslie and Sis. Eula Adams

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From Mo.: "We are very well and encouraged to live for the Lord. He is our all and in all. We find him a present help in time of need. It pays to live for the Lord. Lily is about the same, in bed, quiet, much of the time. We so enjoyed the broadcast this morning on prayer. Prayer is the key which unlocks heaven's door to us. Just this morning I had quite a problem, but after hearing the message on prayer I went to the Lord in more earnest prayer and the Lord answered and took it all away. ...You dear ones keep the good work going."
--Sis. Elizabeth Glass

From Ala.: "Greeting once more in the precious name of Jesus. Today finds me yet saved and I mean to go all the way with the Lord. This new year of '81 is swiftly passing on and eternity is drawing near. We must do all that we can to bring or help bring lost souls to the Lord. For we must stand before a just God and give account..."

--Sis. Irene Richardson
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From Kans.: "It is such a beautiful sunny day here (even though the weather man says a winter storm is on its way that may bring snow tonight and tomorrow) and it makes us feel so good and causes us to rejoice even more. We rejoice because our name is written in Heaven and we are a child of the most high God. We hold the highest position that man can have and that is a king in the kingdom of God. I can truly say that I am glad to be saved today. I personally know what the song writer means when he says "I am Happy, Redeemed and Free." I am not putting up with salvation and barely holding on but I am really enjoying it and determined that absolutely nothing shall be able to separate me from the love of God. God's plan is perfect and it suits me. I am not looking for anything easier or different but striving to measure to the standard and let God fit me into the perfect way. I do rejoice in the God of my salvation and give glory and honor unto him. "I feel constrained to say that I love this narrow way, I am happy hallelujah I am one of them today." Well I could go on and on because my soul is happy, but I will quit for now with the emphatic statement that by the grace and power of God I intend to be one of those who endures to the end. May the God of all peace continue to bless you both and anoint you for continued service unto him."

--Sis. Shirley Knight

From Ore.: "I do so enjoy the Mission Trail. I have saved a lot of things out of it and look forward to it each time and have left copies along the way at times when I travel...at present, the past 4 days we are enjoying the messages of Bro. Madden. This is his 5th and last, tonite and we surely have been having a feast. He sets a bountiful table. I've not missed a nite and picked up others when I have attended the services...The spring flowers gladden our hearts. They make us think of the resurrection as they spring forth from the dark earth, giving us hope and cheer and looking forward to a better day, beyond this veil of gloom where the flowers never fade and we have no need of sun for the Lord God will be our light."

--Sis. Grace Jones

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From Colo.: "So thankful I ever learned Jesus could help us. He's my physican. I love him and my desire is to trust and serve him while he leaves me here. It won't be long till I'll be 83 this month. ...desire your prayer for our unsaved children."

--Sis. Addie McEndree

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From La.: "We are thankful that we can report victory in our souls today and that we are ever reaching out for more of Christ in our lives. I'm learning to do the smallest and most common things as beneath the eye of God, knowing that every child of God can sow seeds, start streamlets and give folks thoughts of God. We can help folks see God all around us, if we will but open our eyes and look. In John 10:41 we read, "...John did no miracle: but all things that John spake of this man were true." John was only a voice--we, too, can be voices for the Lord...Oh, if every child of God could only realize how many precious souls are reading our lives every day."

--Bro. Ben and Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

HAVE COURAGE, MY SON,
TO SAY NO!

You're starting today on life's journey,
Alone on the highway of life.
You'll meet with a thousand
temptations,
Each city with evil is rife.
This world is a stage of excitement,
There's danger wherever you go,
But if you are tempted in weakness,
Have courage, my son, to say no.

The siren's sweet smile may allure
you,
Beware of her cunning and art.
Whenever you see her approaching,
Be guarded and haste to depart.
The beer parlors are inviting,
Decked out in their tinsel and show.
Should you be invited to enter,
Have courage, my son, to say no.

Be careful in choosing companions,
Seek only the brave and the true;
And stand by your friends when in trial,
N'er changing the old for the new.
So when by false friends you're tempted
The taste of the wine cup to know,
With firmness, patience and kindness,
Have courage, my son, to say no!

The sparkling red wine may be offered,
No matter how tempting it be,
From Poison that stings like an adder,
My son, have the courage to flee.
The gambling halls are before you,
Their lights how they dance to and fro;
You may be invited to enter,
Dó have courage, my son, to say no.

In courage alone lies your safety,
When you the long journey begin,
And trust in your heavenly Father
Will keep you unspotted from sin.
Temptations will go on increasing,
As streams from a rivulet flow.
But if you are true to your manhood,
You'll have courage my son and say no!

AN INSPIRATION

However the battle is ended,
Though proudly the victor comes
With fluttering flags and prancing nags
And echoing roll of drums,
Still truth proclaims this motto,
In letters of living light, --
No question is ever settled,
Until it is settled right.

Though the heel of the strong oppressor
May grind the weak to dust,
And the voices of fame with one acclaim
May call him great and just,
Let those who applaud take warning,
And keep this motto in sight, --
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

Let those who have failed take courage;
Tho' the enemy seems to have won,
Tho' his ranks are strong, if he be in
the wrong
The battle is not yet done;
For, as sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of the night,
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

O man bowed down with labor!
A woman, young, yet old!
O heart oppressed in the toiler's breast
And crushed by the power of gold!
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might;
No question is ever settled
Until it is settled right.

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FAITH IN GOD!

Faith in God is one of, if not the most
powerful asset in the world. It beats
money, power and influence. Single-
handed the man or woman of faith pre-
vails where a small army of others,
void of faith, would scarcely be noticed.
Faith coupled with works will conquer
prejudice and hatred. "Without faith it
is impossible to please God.

at press time

we understand:

From Calif.: "Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour. Today finds me saved, to sin no more. I am glad to say our meeting of Feb. was a real blessing. Several souls were saved and many others blessed, soul and body. I am happy to tell how the Lord healed me in my body during the meeting. I was anointed and prayed for a condition I had suffered with for some time."

--Sis. Katie Gaines

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It was good to have Bro. George Hammond stop by Guthrie since his return from his missionary trip to the Philippine Islands. Some of the highlights he reported to the congregation. His plans call for a return trip in April. Pray the Lord to guide him in his endeavor to see the truth established in these islands as well as for all others who are proclaiming God's Word.

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From Oregon: "Greetings in our Dear Lord's name. How wonderful to trust in Him and know He will hear us and answer our pleas! We trust all is well there; Do wish we could receive the messages via radio... We have some extra burdens at this time... We know God is able! The devil really is using all means to discourage souls. This high price of gasoline is a good example to keep folks away from services. Spring is showing signs of coming on early here in southern Oregon. Once again flowers and trees are starting to bloom. May the Lord bless and guide you. Yours in His care,"

--Doris and Bill Busch

I KNOW HE IS THERE

As I look up, by faith I see
The Lord still standing by my side;
I know, by Him, I'll not be left
Alone in life's swift, raging tide.

I know He'll lead my steps aright
Though all the path I can not see;
If I, by faith, keep Him in sight
I need not fear nor troubled be.

Amid the blinding storms of life
I'll surely then, His promise take--
His faithful reassuring word:
"I'll never leave thee nor forsake."

With quiet trust I shall press on
Though weak and faltering I have been;
I know He'll make me strong and brave,
Through Him, I shall the victory win.

Apart from Him I could not live
No living water could I taste
But wander in a desert land
Where there is only sin and waste.

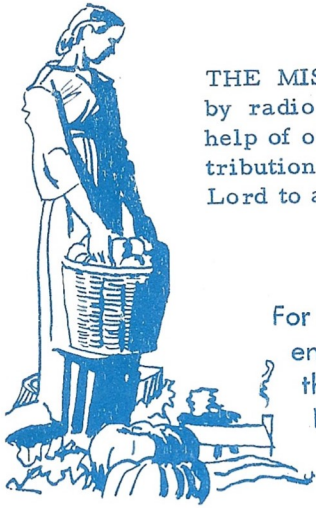
Yes, still by faith, I'll cling to Him
Tho' clouds of doubt His face would hide
In Him alone, my soul can rest
In Him alone, I'm satisfied.

--Geneva (Bailey) Ray

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From Guthrie: "Thanks so much for the Mission Trail; glad I can hear it and read it. Sometimes I can't hear because of interference. I enjoy the poems, thoughts, letters and news notes, and pictures. God bless you both in your work for Him."

--Sis. Thelma Sprague



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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

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