



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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"Remove not the Ancient Landmark" - - Prov. 22:28

Radio Broadcast for February 21, 1982

Good morning to every listener. I hope all of you are well and enjoying the good blessings of the Lord for soul and body, also that this message will prove as interesting and profitable to the listeners as it has been to me in preparing it. There are so many thoughts and scriptures which apply that it is somewhat difficult to know just where to start. So as we look to the Lord and the leadership of the Holy Spirit, I think I will be like the surveyor who seeks out a landmark from which to start and begin with this verse in Prov. 22:28 -- "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." In a few moments I want to deal with the spiritual and scriptural aspects of this, but first, let me set forth the perimeters of my subject in the natural sense. In other words, before we put up a building, we need a foundation. I am acquainted with a young man whose occupation is a surveyor. I think his work would be most interesting. In fact, when I get to talking to this friend of mine, and asking questions, it is hard to find a place to quit. There are hills to climb and valleys to span and miles, rods, yards, feet and inches to measure. And let me tell you, accuracy is required, for there are times when a foot or two or even a matter of inches generates a controversy which lasts for years and sometimes, even a life-time and beyond. Listen to the words of this song:

BACK TO THE BLESSED OLD BIBLE

Back to the blessed old Bible;
 Back to the city of God;
 Back to the oneness of heaven;
 Back where the faithful have trod;
 Back from the land of confusion,
 Passing the wrecks and the creeds;
 Back to the light of the morning;
 Jesus our captain leads.

Back to the blessed old Bible,
 Saints of Jehovah, rejoice;
 Jesus is calling his people
 Back to the land of their choice.
 Often our fathers have sought it
 While we in Babel abode;
 Now we have found the fair city--
 Church of the living God.

Back to the blessed old Bible,
 Leaving confusion and strife;
 Fleeing from Babel to Zion,
 Back to the joy of our life.
 Over the mountains we wandered,
 Looking in vain for the right;
 Now in the evening we've found it--
 Truth of the Gospel light.

Back to the blessed old Bible;
 Back at the Master's call;
 Back to the words of our Savior,
 Loving, obeying them all;
 Never in sects to be scattered,
 Never again to do wrong;
 Unity, holiness, heaven,
 Ever shall be our song.

Now, if you will, bear with me for a moment and let me go back and pick up a few thoughts concerning this business of surveying. At the same time I would like for you to keep in mind this scripture in Prov. 22:28--"Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

It matters little how accurate and precise a surveyor may be. He may have the best instruments the profession affords. His study of math and trigonometry may have been polished in the schools of highest learning, but there is one thing required before he can proceed with his work and that is, he must find a landmark, or stake, or establish a starting point, this point is usually a pre-determined thing. He doesn't go and just set up a point of his own choosing and begin measuring off land across some field. If he did this there is a good possibility he might be confronted by an irate landowner carrying a shotgun. In fact, this is not beyond the realm of possibility, even if he is beginning from a pre-determined point set up by the U. S. Government!

With this thought established, let us proceed while keeping in mind, if I appear to be treading on enchanted territory, I do so by the authority of the scriptures, the Word of God. In 2 Tim. 2:19 we find these words: "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." The Father delegated to the Son of God, the power and wisdom to lay the foundation of His Church. "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." Isa.

28:16. So there is no need for us to try to run, or hide or get away from the truth. Let us approach it with awe and caution and reverence. This foundation is solid and fortified enduring forever.

There is a three-story building in our city having a date on it of 1893. I take it that this was the year of construction. Of late, there has been considerable interest in restoring some of these ancient buildings and much work and money is being spent in putting this building into like-new original condition. In other words, it is being restored to its original beautiful appearance. The brick work has been sandblasted and looks good. Windows are being replaced and the wood-work painted. There is a basement below being restored, with walls below the level of the sidewalk. But I have wondered about the foundation. How deep is it, how good, how strong? Evidently, the renovators believe it is good enough and strong enough to continue supporting this structure for it has for many years. Without a good foundation, it would be much wasted time and effort to polish the outside, then to have it crumble and fall into a pile of rubble!

Psalms 11:3 asks the question thus: "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" The fact is, there are some folks who would like to destroy the foundation, and remove the landmarks. In Job 24:2 we find this: "Some remove the landmarks; they violently take away flocks, and feed thereof." And yet, we are cautioned, "Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:" Prov. 23:10.

The Israelites were given very definite warnings concerning the landmarks. Listen: "Thou shalt not remove thy

neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it." Deut. 19:14. And even more than this, there is a curse pronounced upon those who do: "Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen." Deut. 27:17.

On the positive side of the ledger, look at the blessings that come to those who obey and abide in the old paths: "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Jeremiah 6:16.

Now, having said all of this, let me get to the very core of this message. We are living in a world of changing styles and fashions. What was good for parents, is no longer considered to be the "normal" of our day. I am aware of many improvements which add to our standard of living, but at this point I am not particularly dealing with this issue. That which concerns me now is the moral issue of our day. At times certain decisions are made by the supreme court which are considered to be "landmark" decisions because they affect so many other cases. There are some moral and spiritual issues at stake which must not be removed if we would continue to enjoy the blessings and favor of the Lord. Let me enumerate a few things which I consider to be "ancient landmarks" for the saints:

No. 1--God's people are "called out" of confusion and sectarian movements. These man-made religious movements are referred to in the symbolic language of Revelation as "Babylon", and the voice from heaven says, "Come out of her, my people." It is not God's will

that his saints be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

No. 2 -- God's people are not of the world. This is plainly pointed out in the scriptures. The moral fibers of the world have fallen apart. Permissiveness is rampant. Sexual activity among many unmarried folks goes unrestrained and abortions are common. The issues of "right" and "wrong" are clouded and many don't seem to know the difference.

No. 3--God's people are humble folks. This includes all manner of conversation and conduct. In this age of pride and boasting, it means much to take the humble way of the cross and set an example, and firmly remain "unspotted from the world." God's ministers refrain from accepting titles as "doctor" and "reverend". I am shocked with amazement to see aged women, evidently seeking to appear young again, dressed in the gayest of fashions, including jewelry, short hair, pants and plenty of make-up paint!

Am I treading on uncharted ground? Do I intrude into your private affairs? Then let me just say that here I stand on these "ancient landmarks" and humbly request that those who believe otherwise come forth and prove by the Word of God that these things are not so!

No. 4--The Bible teaches the younger to respect the elder, this being a two-fold responsibility, one resting upon the young and the other upon the elder.

"Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the Lord." Leviticus 19:32. The modern trend is so often the reverse. Many have failed in their example and are now subjected to robbery, beatings and killings.

No. 5--"The just shall live by faith", and this doesn't mean by political maneuvers to gain the wealth of the world. Need I say more? Then let us go back to the "landmarks" of the Bible.

Our Father, we humbly ask that Thy Word may be honored and find receptive hearts who will hear and live!

Thank you, dear ones, for a few moments of your time. We wish for you the very best. Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Ind.: "I enjoy your sermons. I am isolated... I think of a heading of an article, 'God wanted them there.' 'Joseph was a stranger in the vile land of Egypt, but God wanted him there to save his people. Esther was a queen in a land that hated Jews. God wanted her there to save her people. Daniel was jailed in a den of vicious lions, but God wanted him there for a testimony. Jonah groaned in a watery grave inside a great fish, but God wanted him there to learn a lesson. Paul and Silas lay in prison, but God wanted them there to lead a soul to Christ. Peter too, lay in prison, but God wanted him there to show His power in answering prayer. John was isolated on a lonely island, but God wanted him there to write Christ's Revelation. Why does God have you where you are at this moment?'... We all have our place if we are led by the Holy Spirit. Psa. 32:4, 'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.' Psa. 104:1, 'Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.' "

--Sister Nova Lewis

From Pa.: "We are getting some to listen to things about God so please pray that they will yield to Him and realize Jesus is coming and judgment will follow His coming. People are too busy filling their minds with TV to stop and think of eternity. Days are flying past so fast and we must do all we can to win them to the Lord. God bless you each day and meet your every need is my prayer."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Mo.: "Greetings to you of the... Mission Trail, broadcast, and the Mission Trail paper. We do enjoy them very much and read the paper, and listen each time that it is possible, to do so. There are a few times that I have not felt up to going to meeting. So it is very good to be able to tune in on your program... We trust this finds you folks in good health, and that the Lord will bless your efforts with a rich harvest of souls. The Lord has been very precious to us, and given us a measure of good health, and keeps us encouraged to press on. It makes our hearts heavy, that there are so many among the saints, who are so seriously afflicted. We pray their faith continue steadfast and true. We will be in agreement with the saints on fast day. Our family have all been blessed this past year. And we are truly thankful for the same. There are some out of the ark of safety; and we are praying they will soon see their great need. So many are wandering about in sin."

--Sis. Eunice Cole

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From Okla.: "We have a wonderful salvation to the whole world, the wonderful invitation whosoever will may come to this fountain, drink and be satisfied. I am glad tonight I have heard this invitation to come to Jesus and be saved. My soul is satisfied to follow in the way of the Lord."

--Sis. Julia Llewellyn

From Kansas: "One time I was talking to one of the retired teachers about our pensions. She was getting more money than I was. The devil immediately attacked me to cause jealousy. I said, 'Lord, I didn't ask you for Lucy's pensions. I ask you to give me enough to help you and enough for me a living.' The devil had to flee. God had given me more than I had asked for. This made me so happy to defeat the devil by the grace of God. Sometimes I get so tired of the devil. We do resist him, but he will come back. I better close for the night. Please remember me in prayer. I'm determined I won't yield to the devil."

--Sis. Mamie Norcutt
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From Okla.: "Trust you both are feeling well in body and enjoying the blessing of the Lord. I am feeling so much better in body and soul. Thank the Lord and I do thank the saints for their many prayers."

--Sis. Mentie Nurse
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From Oregon: "Your daughter was the first to get to the hospital when I fell at work and dislocated my ankle. She took me home with her. Bro. Ostis and Jimmy soon came and brought the crutches and Geraldine drove my car home. I stayed the first 48 hours at Clifford and Patsy's house. It was nice to have a praying nurse. They wanted me to stay longer but I didn't want to impose when I could take care of myself by scooting in a chair with wheels. I don't know just how to say my appreciation of their christian home... I felt like I had been to camp meeting when I left. During the day Patsy working and playing with the church tapes and morning and evening the family prayers and Bible study, and the boys playing in the evening and Julie practicing the piano and they all sang a song with Julie leading. I guess I could say more about the Lord's blessing me..."

--Eva Lee Stice

From Okla.: "It is so good to know that God is true. Although we have snow now, but after all, it is also pretty. I do enjoy to read the 19th Psa. verse 1, 'The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork'... verses 7-10, 'The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.' 'O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.' Psa. 107:1."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Okla.: "I want to say I'm glad I'm saved... We have many trials and tests that comes our way but we pray God give us the victory to go through and endure unto the end. It gives us much courage to read the testimonies of the saints and how God blesses his children. I desire to improve in my service to God, and to stand on his promises. I am praying for your work there and for the healing of the saints."

--Sis. Mattie Simpson

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From Mo.: "Trust all are well and enjoying life's many blessings. We love the Lord this morning and desire to please Him... The Lord was sure good to us on our trip home from Guthrie. We traveled on a solid sheet of ice all of Kansas and part of Oklahoma, saw many wrecks, and many that had been wrecked or overturned in ditches or ravines. We were a glad bunch to get home and so so thankful."

--The Glen Inman's

From Kansas: "Praise God forevermore. I am still pressing on the upward way and determined to get my crown. I am praying often for the sick and sorely afflicted and desiring earnestly that God would heal them. I trust there will be solid, unified faith and real sincerity and effectual prayer next Wednesday...I truly hope we can touch God on his throne and move him to perform some miracles for us on that day of fasting...may the Lord help all his saints to know how to have complete faith, trust and confidence in him. Then I know some mountains will have to move and be cast into the sea...may God continue to bless the broadcast and bless you together... Love, "

--Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Kansas: "Greetings in Jesus dear name. We are thankful to be numbered with the sheep of his pasture. The Lord has been gracious to us even tho' we have met with our adversary. We are enjoying the broadcast and want it to continue on the air. We are praying that the Lord will bless it to the good of every soul...I feel burdened to go see a lady today that is suffering with cancer. How she needs to look to the great physician. Pray for her....keep us on your prayers."

--Bro. Ralph and Sis. Inez Beisly

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From Ill.: "Greeting in the wonderful name of our Lord. This leaves me still serving the Lord. He is so good to me. I was just thinking this morning how good God is to me. Here I have a good warm home, plenty to eat this bad weather. It is real cold and around 7 or 8 inches of snow on the ground and I am feeling as well as I do. I am lots better, but I really suffered since Aug. until around Dec. 10 so I know someone was praying for me...I'll say bye and God bless you", --Sis. Mildred Snell

From Calif.: "Christmas greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus. Today finds me among the living, praising the Lord for both my natural and spiritual life. My sight and hearing are both much impaired, but praise be to our gracious Lord, they are still of some service and I endeavor to use them to the glory of the Lord and in His blessed service. The Mission Trail is a welcome guest in our home and we still desire the Lord's blessing in keeping its life giving messages flying through the air both by U. S. mail and radio to the glory and honor of His name and the salvation of as many souls as possible. And may the new year be more prosperous than the past. Note, many many good wishes and prayers together with a meager Christmas offering from our household."

--Jessie A. Douglas
and Mother Ethel K. Miles

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From La.: "In Jesus name we greet you this beautiful Monday morning. We are thankful for salvation and all the benefits. God's mercies are new each morning. We have so much to be thankful for. We appreciate getting the Mission Trail and pray for your efforts in getting the gospel out, "while it is yet day." We believe your gospel messages going out on the air are important and would be thankful if it could increase. Time is swiftly coming to a close and what is done needs to be done now...well, there is lots to pray for."

--Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Virgie Flynn

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From Louisiana: "Ben was hit by a car while riding his bicycle, Jan. 2nd and received internal injuries. He has suffered much pain but the Lord was merciful to us that he wasn't killed or had any broken bones. He is about recovered at this time, for which we thank the dear Lord."

--Bro. Ben and Sis. Sybil Goldsberry

at press time

we understand:

It is with deep sorrow that we extend our sympathy to Sis. Doris Bowers upon the death of her beloved companion, Bro. Chalmer on January 23rd. Together they had commemorated their golden wedding anniversary last April (See picture in May Mission Trail). She writes:

"God in his great love and mercy has carried me thru thus far, in our time of need. In him and him only is our comfort and strength. We can never repay all the love and kindness shown by all. We just ask God to bless each one in a special way. I will be waiting for the Lord to show me what he will have me do for him. When I come to mind say a prayer for me, please."

--Sis. Doris Bowers, R. 2, Box 14, Wyandotte, Okla. 74370.

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"Glad to see you both at meeting. I'm encouraged to fight the battle on."

--Sis. Velda Ellis

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Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Margaret Fravel upon the death of her husband, Bro. Charles Fravel of Springfield, Mo., Jan. 9. He was 91.

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From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus precious name, our blessed Lord and Savior. He is the one on whom we can depend, no matter if it's day or night, times of adversities or times of rejoicing or in an hour of need. I thank the Lord for all His many blessings and help to us this year...please remember us in prayer."--Sis. Lena Bowman

From Colo.: "It is almost two years since I was in Oklahoma and Joe and Imogene never got out last summer. They do most summers and I miss Evelyn coming out to see us. I loved her. But she is with our Lord...Ralph needs our prayers. I love him and keep praying for him...a year ago 6th of Aug. I fell and hurt my back...I could hardly stand to be on my feet for months. I started using my crutches, yet suffered so much with my back, hip and right leg. I started praying and kept up praying telling the Lord to give me more faith, that I needed his help, as I could hardly do my work in our apartment, yet it is small. He has helped me so much. I can go to store for groceries and do my work real well and I have not used the crutches in some time now. Almost all of the soreness is gone... I am doing fine. Please pray with me for loved ones that need the Lord."

--Vera M. Cater

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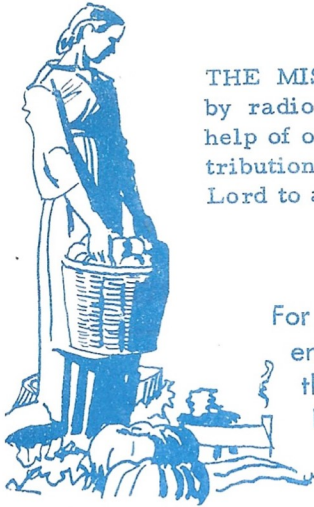
MONTHLY MEETING

The first Friday night of each month, there will be meeting in my home. All are welcome, young and elder. If you can't come pray for us to reach and help the lost.

--Sis. Doris Bowers

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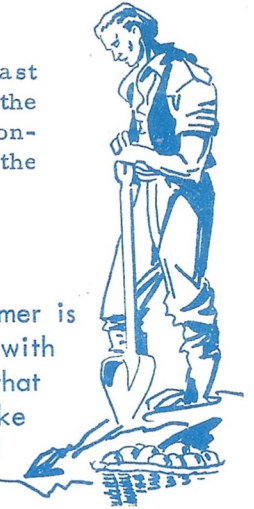
"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;" Luke 18:1. And so we pray for the afflicted ones, both far and near. Many are passing through the valley of the shadow of death. God is still on the throne. May He speak peace and victory to every heart.



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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

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

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