



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
The Mission Trail
Box 99 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
VOL. 18, NO. 8 THE MISSION TRAIL AUGUST, 1982

"The Leaven of the Pharisees"

Radio Broadcast for July 4, 1982

Good morning. On our last visit with you over the air (cor.: 2 wks ago) we considered "The leaven of Herod". This time I would like to go a little further and include the leaven of the Pharisees. Here it is in the scripture: "In the meantime, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid that shall not be known." Lu. 12:1-2.

Let us not forget that leaven is that working force within the dough which penetrates the total of it. Its form is changed. Did you ever see the dough rise so much that it overlapped the edges of the pan it was in? But then it could be taken in the hands of the baker and squeezed into a very small lump! If the pretense and profession of some people were squeezed out of them there wouldn't be much left! This was the case of the Pharisees.

What did Jesus consider the supreme virtues? Well, the love of God, of course. The first commandment is to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, soul, mind, and strength. The second one is like it--love thy neighbor as thyself. So the important thing is charity or love. That is brought out in this verse: "And now abide faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." 1 Cor. 13:13.

In other words, charity should be the leaven or motivating force within the life. Then what virtue would you con-

sider the highest? This might be a little hard to come to perfect agreement on, but I will say a very important one is that of sincerity. Sincerity is among the fairest of the virtues. Jesus saw Nathanael under a fig tree where the man perhaps though no one could see him. There he was seeking for the approval and favor of God while all alone under the fig tree, but Jesus saw him. Listen to this verse: "Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee." John 1:48. Jesus was judging by what Nathanael really was when he was all alone. He saw that he was sincere and in earnest. It was not hypocrisy and pretense that this man had. He was genuinely in earnest. So what was the result? Jesus promised him he would see even greater things.

Friends, it is not what you may profess to be which counts before God, but it is what you really are basically at heart when you're all alone. It is what you are when you're there in the darkness

and no one else knows about what you're doing or where you are. If you're sincerely genuine and a child of God, with all the humility and love that he would have you to have, you'll be true to God, out there all alone just the same as if you were in the light.

Let us not forget--the motivating force or leaven which moved Herod was his search for power and self glory. The leaven of the Pharisees was hypocrisy. They prayed on the streets to be seen of men. They enlarged their robes to look more dignified, religious and pious. They disfigured their faces when they fasted, so men could know they were fasting. I wonder if they didn't wash their hands publicly before they ate so others would see they were clean! They may have been clean on the outside, but how about the inside? Do you remember the words of Jesus along this line? Listen:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also." That is found in Matt. 23:25-26. It seems Jesus was really hard on them, wasn't he? But notice the next verses:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."

Now don't you see what Jesus meant when he said to beware of the leaven of

the Pharisees?" They were hypocrites! Hypocrisy puffs up, isolates, makes hard and brazen. I am reminded of the way some of the bus drivers do in South America. To them it is cowardly to back up and give in, even though they may be in the wrong. I remember one incident when my daughter Kathleen and I were on the bus traveling from Quito to the valley. Our driver decided he was going to pass the vehicle just ahead so he pulled out to go around him. (This was shortly after we left Quito) Being heavily loaded it took some time to get up enough speed to get around him. In the meantime here came another oncoming bus or truck, I believe it was. Do you think the driver of our bus pulled back in line to wait until the one we were meeting had passed? No sir, that would have been cowardly. He kept going, hoping to make it! We did make it, but it was by a narrow margin. There were a number of other American travelers in the rear of the bus and in sheer mockery and fun, they gave a shout when we made it safely! Can't you see what hypocrisy will drive one to do? Now, in contrast to this, let us consider what was in Jesus. Would it not have been worthwhile (this is, in the minds of some people now) for him to yield a point here and there and to have been in agreement with the Pharisees, even though they were hypocritical? They were already in power and if he had compromised a little here and there perhaps they would have accepted him.

Would this have been to his advantage in winning the people? Evidently he didn't think so. What do you think, friends? He attacked their traditions, spoke the truth and nothing but the truth knowing they would kill him. Even though he desired disciples to follow him, yet he told in all frankness the difficulties and dangers of discipleship.

It seems to me Pilate was disposed to be kindly toward him while the mob was yelling for blood, yet he would not shade the truth nor compromise.

There are two values about positive love and sincerity. One of these is self-respect. Without self-respect we degenerate and are lost. The other is God's respect. The Father who sees in secret rewards us openly.

Dear ones, the thing that counts is what you really are at heart and in secret. Here is a poem:

HUMILITY

There is a grace few mortals find,
A star all heaven loves to see;
It is a meek and lowly mind,
The gem of pure humility.

No ornament on earth so rare,
No jewel in all heaven's mart,
Can beautify a soul so fair
As deep humility of heart.

O God, hath e'er thy balance weighed
A jewel so sublimely sweet
As that pure life that's ever laid
All humbly down at Jesus' feet?

All earthly crowns shall turn to mold,
All glittering pride and vanity;
But meekness decks the soul with gold
That shines through all eternity.

Within my hidden man, dear Lord,
That priceless ornament bestow,
The sweetest gift in all the world;
O Jesus, Keep me meek and low.

Let us pray:
Our Father, bless the message to the
good of every listener. Should any find
themselves filled with the leaven of
malice and wickedness, help them to

purge out the old lump and be filled with the grace and peace of God. Help us always to have the humility of heart where you will always be willing to live in us and thine shall be the praise and glory through our Lord and Saviour, Amen.

Thank you, friends, for a few moments of your time. I hope the thoughts may be a blessing to you. May they linger in your mind all day. If you would like to write us you may do so by addressing your letter in this way: The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla.

And now this song: "Camping in Caanan" by the Carver Quartette.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey, saying may God richly bless and keep you and a very cheerful good-bye!

The Presence of Christ

By Mary M. Murphey

"What are some signs that prove the presence of Christ in our midst?" This was the central theme of a message I heard delivered. It provoked my mind to meditation. The minister described various indications of God's presence. I felt inspired and encouraged as I recalled how the Lord had reassured me personally that He was still near. There are seasons when we all, though walking by faith, feel the need to receive a special blessing from the Spirit of God. We crave a renewed reassurance that God has not withdrawn Himself from us. We begin to search our lives for indications of His presence. I recalled an evening spent with friends in a public place. Two women entered and sat opposite us. The mark of sin was visible on their coun-

tenances and my immediate impression was that their occupations were likely questionable pursuits. As I observed them, such a compassion filled my heart that I felt strongly a desire to approach them and convey the love of God. I remembered the Bible story of the woman taken in adultery, and how mercifully Jesus had dealt with her while others had only condemnation and criticism. I recalled the scripture which said that Jesus was "moved with compassion" as he gazed on the multitude, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Inwardly, I rejoiced as it dawned upon me that the love I felt in my heart was a token of the active Spirit of God within. All of us desire to see great miracles prompted by faith in God, and hope gives us courage to go on, but the gift of priority is LOVE. "And now abide faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." The great commandment is to love God with all the heart and then one's neighbor as one's self. John 13:35 assures us of the truth of the matter: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." I appreciated the consolation the Lord sent me that night to witness an assurance to my soul, and I still value the workings of His Holy Spirit within.

Testimonies

From Wash.: "Greetings of Christian love in Jesus our Lord and Saviour. We appreciate him and his goodness to us. We are thankful to be one of his children, and appreciate all of God's children. He has been so good to me. I have had many afflictions, but the Lord has delivered me out of them all. ... We feel better right now than we have for over 2 years."

--Sister Violet Thomas

From Ind.: "The word of God gives us great joy! When Nehemiah found the law, (Neh. 8:10), he spoke to the people to 'send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.' I compare this with myself. I was some years at great loss, before I heard the truth. When it was revealed to me, it was like a dream. I had great joy! and I am still rejoicing... The Lord is the same to heal and do miracles today, as in yore... He speaks to us from Heaven! The devil is roaring. We are praising the Lord for faith, and victory over opposing spirits."

--Sis. Nova Lewis

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From Tenn.: "I feel led of the Lord to send a small offering this morning. I love the Lord dearly. I also love all children of God everywhere. I love the sinners and have a desire to see them saved, and want to do what I can to help them. I can pray for them, I know and witness to them, what God means to me, when I have the chance. He means everything to me. He saved me and has also healed me of different ailments many times."

--Sis. L. C. Rogers

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From Calif.: "It has been so long since I've written ... I have not given up the fight against the devil. Though there are trials along the way, I am glad the Lord has promised not to put more on us than we can bear. Two of our grandchildren are visiting us now. They keep us pretty busy. We have a small garden and some flowers, so there is something to do at all times. Sis. Williams suffers a lot with a skin problem... I am sorry Bro. Lawrence is having such a trial of affliction. My dear mother passed away last Dec. 19th. I went back to Okla. to the funeral."

--Sister Edith Reavis

From Calif.: "Trusting you are both well and encouraged in your lives and labors for souls. The messages and testimonies are soul-food--and at this camp-meeting season I hope you can attend as many as possible, and especially the National one coming soon at Monark Springs. It seems conditions are becoming more perilous in most areas of the world and distress and perplexity as Jesus said would as he nears His coming. It seems at my age and stage of life my role is to pray... dear Bro. Lawrence is upon my heart and soul in his condition. God bless and encourage him ... keep "Looking up".

--Robert Longley

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From Calif.: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey, Just a few lines to let you know how I enjoyed being with the saints in Guthrie one more time. I asked the Lord to spare me to see the saints of Guthrie one more time. He did just that and how I thank him. I enjoyed the sweet spirit among the saints. They treated me so nice. How I appreciated it. I wish I could have spent more time with you all, but was glad to see you. Hope all is well, on the way up to the place prepared for us. If I get there before you do I'll be looking for you. It's kind of hard for me to make long trips but how I thank him for helping me on that trip. Keep on doing the good work that the Lord gave you. You'll get your reward. Someone's getting help. God bless you both."

--Sister Lessie Davenport

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From Okla.: "Dear Bro. Murphey, I hope you and Sis. Frances are getting along well and enjoying the blessings of the dear Lord... My husband is faithful to turn the radio on automatic for 8 o'clock Sun. morning so we will be sure to hear the broadcast."

--Sis. Vera M. Hawkins

From Calif.: "We are so glad you had a good meeting. So many of the meetings have already past. I trust a lot of souls received help as it was surely their privilege as our God extends time. It will soon be coming to a close when he is coming to receive his bride and we must have on our wedding garment pure and white. I surely get home-sick for that Heavenly country to where so many of our loved ones have gone, so many of the dear saints. We surely want to see them there where there will be no parting... love and prayers,"

--Sis. Loretta Harmon

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From Okla.: "Jesus truly is a good shepherd to us. I am happy to hear the Mission broadcast. My heart's prayer is others may be able to hear it too. God is true and is love. Love the prayers of the saints. It is good that we have this privilege to pray one for another, even to know the secret in our hearts."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From La.: "Today finds me pressing on for the Lord. I am real frail in body and can hardly walk. I don't get to go to church often, but read and pray at home. The Lord is so good to me. Pray the Lord help me stay true to him. I am at my daughter's now for a while... keep the Mission Trail coming. I enjoy it. Yours in Christ,"

--Sis. Mary Bush

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From Ga.: "This leaves me loving my Saviour more and more each day. I am pressing on for my eternal reward in heaven. I love this straight and narrow way. I wouldn't have it any other way. Praise the Lord for the one and only way!"

--Bro. Friendly Green

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From Pa.: "Satan is surely busy, but God is still on the throne."

--Sis. Walter Kinsey

Life and Influence of David Inman

FROM HIS PARENTS, GLEN AND LETA INMAN

I had mixed feelings about what to do with David's graduation announcements. At first I thought I would send them, then decided not to, but had several ask for them to keep so decided to send them as he had his list already made out.

The closing of this school year was quite an experience. We were told that when we called the school to report his death, they announced it over the intercom and classes were brought to a halt. Even after a time of silent prayer, teachers and students still in tears, most of the day was spent as 'quiet time'. A measure of solemnity remained till the end of school. We attended the Senior Awards Assembly and Glenetta received his scholarship. Baccalaureate was not so formal as they usually are, and some good instruction on the realities of life was presented. At graduation Glen and I was asked to receive his diploma. I begged not to as I was afraid it would make a sad time at an important event for the class and I knew David wouldn't want this. The Supt. (whose only daughter was in this class) said this was what the class wanted and "I had such a high esteem of David, and if there was anything about him that would cause those seniors to have serious thoughts on graduation night, I think it should be." They wanted us to sit right behind the class. Part of the Valedictorian address was "...we lost a member of our senior class-David Inman. I feel David's death brought us closer as a class because we realized death does enter into our lives at sometime. We shouldn't look back at David's death in sorrow, but look ahead to the future and live each day as if it were our last"...which was touching as she had to stop and wipe tears before continuing her address. When Glen and I started to get his diploma and roses, the entire class stood up, boys removing their caps and remained standing until we were seated. It was a real tribute and as much a memorial service as a graduation. A lot of the class left the reception line and came to us, in tears, and told us how they appreciated being able to know David and how they would never forget him. We trust they won't forget God, who made David what he was. Many complimented the graduation exercise, even the school administrators said it was the nicest one they had ever attended and spoke of the love, gentleness and kindness that seemed to surround the evening.

Life is filled with swift transistions, we hope all will build their hopes on things eternal and hold to God's unchanging hand.

at press time

we understand:

WELCOME TO MONARK SPRINGS

July 23--August 1, 1982

By Leslie Busbee

Come, ye people! For thee flowing
Springs of everlasting life
From the lives of saints here showing
Freedom from all sin and strife.

Gathered from the hills of darkness,
Saved and washed in Jesus' blood
On these holy grounds of worship
Camps a mighty host of God.

For a season here shall echo
Songs of praise and pray'rs of love,
Mighty sermons rich anointed
By the Spirit from above.

Thus the name so well portraying
As His grace each bosom fills,
"Monarch Springs" are now a flowing
From this camp among the hills.

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Sister Alberta Cook, Payson, Ariz. reports her father, Bro. Sam Abbott has improved after spending some time in her home, and was able to return to the Sunset Guest Home in Pacoima, Calif. However, he is still quite frail and not exactly "able-bodied", having lost the vision in one eye. Continue to remember him in prayer.

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We request those who have news items which would be of interest to the saints and the church in general send them to this office by the 15th of the month for publication in following month's Mission Trail. Space for "Presstime" news is quite limited to please be brief.

From La.: "My, how time is flying by, taking us to our long home. I do want to be ready when the call comes so I can go to be with my Lord and saviour, and all the loved ones who have gone on before. What is so sad is that so many of our loved ones are not preparing for that beautiful home of rest above, but will be forever, and ever in that place of suffering and woe. Why many are going on down the road to destruction when they really know better, and have such a wonderful opportunity of making heaven, I do not understand. Bro. Willie, I did so much enjoy reading your mother's account of the miracle performed in sparing your sister, Mavis' life. It thrilled my heart to read about it..." --Sis. Myrtis Flynn

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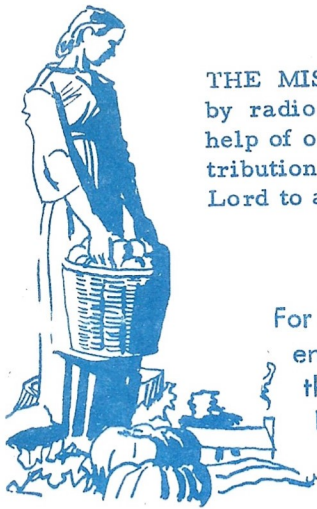
We extend our sympathy to Sis. Katie Gaines upon the death of her daughter, Mavis Foreman, whose funeral was held in Seward, Okla., July 1.

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We were pleased to have our children, Clifford and Patsy Smith with their three children, Julie, Rodney and Michael, make the long trip from Oregon to visit us before they attended the Monark camp meeting. Our other three children live a little nearer with their families and we get to see them more often.

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Those within our constant prayers: Bro. Lawrence Pruitt, Sis. Geneva Ray, Bro. Murphy Allen, and Sis. Eva Lou Gaines. We request your prayers also that God will supply the needs for the broadcast and His work go forward.



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.

The Mission Trail

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