



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
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

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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"The King's Letters"

Radio Broadcast for December 26, 1982

"Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters." Nehemiah 2:9. Thus reported Nehemiah after he left Shushan, the palace in the kingdom of Persia with the king's permission to go to Judah and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He carried with him letters from the king.

Good morning, friends! We hope each of you are enjoying the blessings of the Lord during this holiday season and the new year will bring even greater happiness than you have ever known before. Now before I begin my message, let me invite each listener within driving range of Guthrie, Oklahoma and can possibly do so, to come and attend services of the Assembly Meeting of the Church of God, which began last Friday, Dec. 24 and will continue through next Sunday, January 2. There will be services daily and meals served without charge. What a wonderful way to spend the holidays! The address of the chapel: 6th and West Warner, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Let us go back to my original text, and I would like to make a few comments: Nehemiah took letters of authority from the king. Would I do any injustice to this if I called the letters of the saints, "The King's Letters"? Do you remember last month that I asked all the readers to write us at least once each year? Well many have done that during the holiday season and our hearts have been encouraged. And we would like for you to share in the joy it brought to us. So, with "The King's Letters" we proceed:

From Idaho: " 'And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.' Praise the Lord that I have met this Saviour and He has redeemed my soul and given me peace from above. My heart's desire is to please Him and do His will at all times. Here it is another Christmas time when we exchange notes and it does not seem possible that another year has, or nearly, become history. This has been a very special year to me. I was able to attend part of the camp meeting in Guthrie and renew old acquaintances and learn to know others that are precious in the sight of the Lord... I am still working in the Senior Citizens program and so thankful for this opportunity to some way bring a little sunshine into the lives of those dear forgotten ones. It seems such a shame that so many of them seem to be set on a shelf and are no longer of interest to their families... We trust that all will be blessed with a very Merry Christmas and a precious New Year. ... How are both of you folks today? Trust the Lord is continually blessing

and giving strength for your day? He has been very good to us and we do rejoice and give Him thanks . . . We have had some snow and it has been down in the teens, but we can expect something like that. Keep encouraged in your souls. Yours for the lost, "

--Sister Ruby Marken

From Okla.: "Bro. and Sis. Murphey, How are you today? Well I hope. I'm still saved and living for Jesus this morning. When these few lines reach your hands I hope they find you moving onward and upward to the prize that's awaiting us. I've started out for Jesus and I don't mean to stop until the crown is won. . . Out of all I know and understand, God's way is best for me. Give all the dear saints my love. "

--Sister Lizzie B. Jordan

From Calif.: "Dear Brother Willie & Sister Frances; Greetings of love in Jesus' name. Raining, today, giving everything the needed watering. Love this time of year with the fall colors. . . I still remember and treasure always the visit we had with you and Sister Marie when you stopped on your way to Oregon. So precious are God's saints and we don't get to be with them often. I am trying to remember Bible verses. Today's is special! very beautiful! 'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.' Gal. 2:20. Isn't that precious!! We are enjoying good health and happiness at 79. Jesus is always by my side leading me each day. I love Him with all my heart and try to do those things pleasing in His sight. Please remember us in your prayer. 'Merry Christmas and a Happy new year.' "

--Sister Lucille Allen

From Okla.: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey, Greetings in Jesus name. We are yet saved and pressing on toward our great 'Reward'. Oh, how blessed that will be to live and reign with our Heavenly Father, who loved us so much! We are both doing fine, yet enjoying the Lord and one another. Our happiness has increased in the past year and as we live for God our joy and happiness shall yet grow and grow. We trust you both are doing fine and encouraged in the Lord. We appreciate the 'Mission Trail' paper. . . our love and prayers, "

--Delbert and Malinda Flynn

From Mo.: "Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Frances; Greetings in Jesus dear name. He came to this wicked old world and suffered and died on the cross that we could be saved from our sins and make heaven our home. As I was getting up this morning I was singing this song: 'See the great promises brother, are they so hard to believe? how can you doubt the dear Savior? Why don't you ask and receive?' Oh, those good messages we have in songs. I am so thankful for the saving and sanctifying and healing power of God. We have received the Dec. Mission Trail this week and enjoyed it all so much and the picture of little Stephen Bruce. He sure looks happy and sweet. I know you enjoy the grandchildren as you get to see them . . . We miss the dear loved ones that have gone. Our loss is heaven's gain and we can meet them again some glad day. "

--Sister Cassie Wilson

From Okla.: "Greeting in Jesus name. I do hope and trust you both are enjoying good health. I am thankful that it is well as it is with me. I could be worse. It seems the flu is in my bones. I need your prayer. Our Bro. Luther Reed is very sick. Do remember him in your prayer. "

--Sis. Mentie Nurse

From Ark.: "Dearest Friends; I am thinking of you in a very special way, because you are very special friends. This is a special season. Some how the love of God just penetrates the universe, and has a way of helping us just desire to have more love for Christ and more love for the great family of God. In fact, the love of God in our hearts touches the heart of God and this brings peace, love and joy to us. Who could love us more and whom should we love more? This has been a beautiful winter day, full of blessings. We had a good service this morning... the 'presence of the Lord makes glad the hearts.'... We think of you often and truly appreciate the only 15-minute Mission Trail on the air each Sunday..." --Sis. Lou Bray

From Oregon: "This is the time of the year our hearts turn to the Holy time of Jesus' birth; that is, those of us who love Jesus, but the world has different ideas and are busy with shopping and planning big celebrations. Christ is completely foreign to them. They have no time or thought of Him-- so sad, a time of drinking and revelry. ... We did so appreciate your son Wayne ... I got to talk to him a little. --Sister Grace Jones.

From Kansas: "Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: I must take time to write you and send you an offering for the work of our dear Saviour. Carl and I will have been married 55 years the 21st of Dec. All eight of our children expect to be here by the 23rd. It was my desire to get another good photo of all of us at this time. We never know what another year has in store for us. Life at its longest is so short. I wish all people could realize how important "Today" is, and to use it wisely; which is, "To the Glory of God." May the Lord bless you..." --Sister Tucker

We don't have time nor space to include all of the wonderful letters from the King's children, but let it be sufficient to say, "Thank you everyone for all you have done to help us press on." If you have not written as yet, it is not too late to write and just say, keep my name on the mailing list.

We pray the Lord will give each one a most joyful holiday season, healing of all your afflictions, victory in all your trials, and the greatest happiness you have ever known throughout the new year. And remember, if you belong to God you are a child of the King! Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying, God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!

More of the King's Letters

From Calif.: "Dear Brother and Sister Murphey, Please find enclosed love offering to be used as desired. We appreciate the Mission Trail, the front page letter of your children. What a blessing. It seems they all have saved families. That's so important. May the Lord bless and prosper the work and effects of the Mission Trail this coming year as well as all our labors for the Lord. Christian love,"

--Bro. & Sis. E. V. Davenport

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From Guthrie: "Dear Bro. & Sis. Murphey, Greetings of love to you in the precious name of Jesus, the One who came here an infant. He grew to man and gave His life's blood on Calvary's tree for our salvation. How thankful we are for such a wonderful Saviour... He is our Saviour, our sanctifier, our healer and our keeper. Without Him we are nothing... I want to be faithful and serve Him to the end. I want to see Jesus and heaven for myself. I trust you have a very nice Christmas with your family" --Sis. Emma Dilley

From Mo.: "At this season much thought is given to giving. The scripture says 'Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift.' Some gifts are lasting and practical while other gifts are for looks and beauty. Some gifts are exchanged because of duty or tradition. Some gifts are appreciated while others are not. But when God gave His gift to this world, He gave the finest quality and most lasting gift of all gifts. People can never tell--words can't be put in writing the benefits and blessings that have been received through this unspeakable gift--benefits for soul and body while in this life and then the provision of eternal life in ages to come... This year has been different for us, yet a good one because we are confident God knows best and does all things well... May the Good Lord have a Special Blessing for you in 1983."

--The Inmans, Glen, Leta, Charles,
Glenetta & Paul.

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From Ohio: "I thought I had better write and tell you to send us the Mission Trail for next year... Sister Frances, I am very sorry about your brother passing... I had hoped he would be healed, but God knows best, so take care and may God bless you all in your efforts in spreading the gospel."

--Bro Rufus Perry and family.

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From Ore.: "Once again at this Christmas Time and Holidays Season Ostis and Evelyn Wilson send greetings and best wishes for a very Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all of our friends out there every where. And we wish that the 'Peace on earth, goodwill to men' that the angelic choir announced on the night of our Saviour's birth will fill all your hearts to overflowing through this holiday season and throughout the coming year."

--Bro. Ostis and Sis. Evelyn Wilson

From Oklahoma: "Dear Bro. Willie & Sis. Frances: Greetings of love in this Yuletide time once again. I'm praising our God from whom all blessings come. I'm so grateful and thankful for the love, grace, joy and happiness along with the protection He bestows on me daily. It's so wonderful to have the hope He has promised. I am striving to be faithful to please Him. I want to meet Him when this life is over. I enjoy the Mission Trail each month and am always trying to find the time to read it through when it comes. We love to hear from all the saints--like getting letters from them. Hope you and Sis. Frances are well and stay on the air as long as you both are able for we all are growing older. Please continue to send the Mission Trail." --Sis. Verlene Williams

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From Mich.: "Brother Murphey, Just a note at this blessed time of the year. I trust everything is going according to the Lord's will. We sure do miss Brother Lawrence but we know he is receiving his great reward in heaven, also Sister Ray was great inspiration when I first came to Monark."

--Bro. Jim Cornell

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From Wash.: "Greetings to you at this Christmas season of the year when we honor our dear Saviour's birth. But we also are thankful He sitteth at the right hand of God interceding for us. We are thankful for the many blessings He bestows upon us. We trust all are well there... May the Lord bless all of you and we pray you will have a blessed Christmas and new year. Love in Christ," --Sister Violet Thomas

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From Ark.: "We are thankful for the blessings of God. Our desire is to fight the good fight of faith as long as God permits us to stay here."

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

From La.: "Dear Ones, I do enjoy your messages. The last one where you mentioned Christ as our light and we as the lights of the world made me think of a true story I heard--a little boy had visited a lovely cathedral with a little friend. At home that night he was bubbling over with chatter about the 'saints' and the stained glass windows. Wondering just what his idea was of a 'saint', his mother asked, 'What is a saint?' He answered, 'Oh, a person with the light shining through!' How true, I thought! Christ surely is my light and I'm striving to be a 'person with the light shining through!' May God continue to bless you and your work in His Kingdom. Christian love, "

--Sis. Audrey Henry

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From Ore.: "We are thankful for each gift we receive from our heavenly Father--(warm beds and food to eat). How I need patience. Each and every concern of ours, our God hears -- no matter how small."

--Doris and Bill Busch

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From Calif.: "Dear Ones: Greetings in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, this Christmas season, the time we celebrate his birth. How thankful we are that there was a Savior born who could take away our sins and set us free, praise the Lord. The world has truly lost the meaning of Christmas as the time is so commercialized and the children are looking for Santa Claus of which there is none and it takes away the meaning from them. We truly trust the saints of the Most High God are teaching their little ones just what this season means to us... We sure wish we could be there for Christmas meeting. We look forward to receiving the papers and enjoy them. Keep up the good work. Our love and prayers, "

--Bro. Gene and Sis. Loretta Harmon

From Ore.: "I would like to keep the Mission Trail coming to me. I thank the Lord I am feeling fine again after 2 months last winter with a swollen and painful ankle and foot so I couldn't walk. I also thank the sisters of our congregation for helping me thru this time by coming to prepare food each day including Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner which they brought to me all prepared. Continue to pray for me..."

--Sis. Hilda Nielsen

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From Ariz.: "Thank you for sending the gospel to us so faithfully. Daddy and I are both enjoying the blessings of the Lord. We appreciate his mercy and love. I pray the Lord will continually bless you as you labor for him. Please have a blessed Christmas, because God LOVED us, and sent his SON...."

--Alberta Cook

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From Kansas: "We hope you and family are enjoying life's blessings. We sure like to hear the broadcasts and to read the Mission Trail. We pray that God will keep blessing you and your work... We thank the Lord for what He is doing for us."

--H. E. and Etta Martin

(NOTE: A few days after we received this letter we were notified of Hurley's death. See presstime news--WCM)

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From La.: "Greetings this beautiful, crisp morning. We are so thankful for God's blessings to us, spiritually and physically. Surely He proves a present help in every time of need. Bro. Willie, we don't write very often but we do appreciate the work you are doing. We enjoy reading the Mission Trail so much. May the Lord bless you in the future as He has in the past. We wish you and your family a most joyous Christmas and may your new year be prosperous and full, "

--Bro. Max and Sis. Lula Williamson

From Ala.: "This is to let you know that I am still standing for the truth, and by the help of the good Lord, I will not go back in sin." --Bro. Henry Effinger

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From Ill.: "Guess it is about time I wrote you a few lines. I am fine, still saved and loving the Lord with all my heart. Sister Grace has just left. She comes over every night and we have our Bible study together."

--Sister Mildred Snell

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From Canada: "I wanted to write you, and finally I am doing it. I just like to refer back to the June Mission Trail, about your sister given up for dead, and how God performed a miracle. And how the Lord spoke to your mother, when he asked: Have you tried to raise your daughter for me? She could give the answer yes, Lord. And she got the answer from the Lord again, I will see that she don't die at this time. It just proves that if we bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and when we are in need of him he will help us... In the booklet, 'Parent and Child' is an incident which shows the other side. There was a rebellious boy and the parents did not execute judgment on him. Bro. Byers says (pg. 33) I told them that God was displeased with such a boy in their home, as he was polluting the sacred atmosphere for the other children; that their home could not be one where God dwelt if this condition of things continued; and that I could not come to pray for them when sick, and could not recognize them as saints unless they positively forbade and prohibited such rebellion under their roof. It just shows what a great responsibility lies in the parents towards God to bring their children up in the Bible way. If neglected their own salvation is at stake."

--Bro. Alfons and Sis. Martha Ooppel

From Calif.: "Greetings in the name of our Blessed Lord. I am thankful for his mercy and love to His trusting children... I had many problems. I went into earnest prayer and meditation before the Lord and stayed on my knees until the answer came. He told me as long as I looked up, He would always be looking down. Clouds rolled away and the sunshine of His love came down. Thanks for your letter and prayers. Continue to hold me up for sight and hearing. I am back again in the home in Pacoima..." --Sister Amy Hunter

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From Ore.: "I'm still encouraged to press on as my sights are set on that mansion which is waiting for me. I'm sure that helps me to keep my eyes and affections on things set above. Some have gone on before me and my dear little mother, so I get anxious for the good Lord to call me also. So I am striving to be prepared and ready when He calls me up above... it's now been better than 3 years since the Lord called me out of double marriage and kept me out of ever desiring to go back to the things I left behind--pleasures of this old world. We may consider we had to give up a mansion here, but that will be no comparison to the mansion we will receive up there." --Bro. Fred Gatke

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From Ga.: "The way grows sweeter and brighter each day. I am trusting, waiting, watching and hoping for His coming. I am ready for Him when He's ready for me. I'd like to warn the saints to be careful and not accept a compromising spirit. I know people who used to be "light." They started to compromising little by little until they have lots of ways like the world. Satan moved in on them unknowingly. He's sly and crafty... We had better watch... or we won't make heaven after all." --Bro. Friendly Green

at press time

we understand:

ONE DAY AT A TIME

Deal only with the present, never step
into tomorrow,
For God asks us just to trust Him and
never to borrow sorrow--
For the future is not ours to know, and
it may never be,
So let us live and give our best and give
it lavishly--
For to meet tomorrow's troubles before
they are even ours
Is to anticipate the Saviour and to doubt
His all-wise powers--
So let us be content to solve our problems
one by one,
Asking nothing of tomorrow except--
"Thy will be done."--Selected.

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It is with a sad heart we announce the
death of Hurley Martin, a long-time
resident of Anthony, Kansas, who died
at the age of 96 December 22.

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"I enjoyed your sermon on Eternity.
It was a solemn warning. You would
think people would listen and take heed."

--Sis. Mamie Norcutt

--o--

From Calif.: "We are thankful to be
saved and pressing on for the Lord.
The Lord has been so good to us and
that we do appreciate, can't praise and
thank him enough...we do appreciate
your labors of love in the work of
spreading the gospel to other hungry
souls." --Bro. & Sis. Paul Carter

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"We wish for you all there a very peace-
ful Christmas and many blessings for
1983."

--Sis. Nelson

Thanks for all the help I received dur-
ing my sickness. The Lord has touched
my body and I am gaining strength. The
phone calls, the cards and every other
act of kindness, and especially your
prayers is much appreciated.

--Bro. Robert Benson

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Word has been received of the death of
Bro. John Whipple in north Missouri.
His funeral was held in Mound City,
Mo. December 24th.

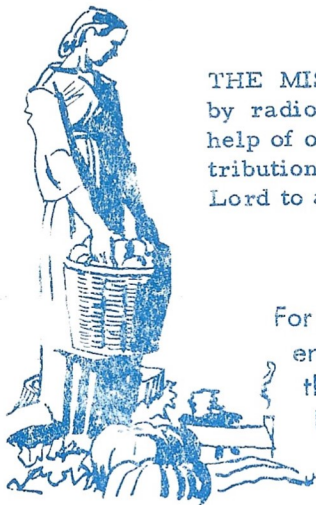
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Sister Virginia Taylor, Eagle Creek,
Oregon, was stricken with severe head
pains while visiting in the home of her
son, Charles Elwell in the Portland
area on Thanksgiving day. After much
suffering she departed to be with the
Lord on December 21.

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A great number of saints attended the
Assembly meeting, some coming from
afar. Several carloads came from West
Virginia. The protection of the Lord
was around them all. John and Rosie
Samons slid from the road on ice, but
received no serious injury to person or
auto. They were helped back onto the
road and came on to the meeting. Ray
and Mamie Butcher started from their
home in north Missouri, but also slid
on ice. They received bruises and
he a cut on the head. Their car was
heavily damaged. But when contacted
by phone they were rejoicing that God
had protected them from serious injury.
We wish for you, all our readers, a
HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

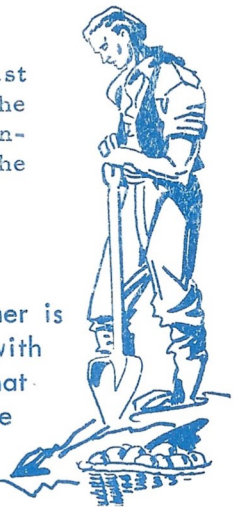
--Willie and Frances Murphey



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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."



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