



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

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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The Eternal Word of God

Radio Broadcast for Feb. 13, 1983

Good morning, friends. We hope today finds you encouraged to live for God. It is true that as a child of God you may be unpopular and looked upon as strange, because you are not of the world. But when you are certain of that which has taken place in your life you need not be ashamed. Listen to this verse: "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." Isaiah 40:8.

Life's certainties and uncertainties, taken together, make it interesting. If there were no certainties it would be a madhouse and how lost we would be. But on the other hand, if there were no uncertainties, life might become monotonous. So the essential thing is to keep these two in some kind of balance. It is true that over the uncertainties we have little control. But there are some everlastingly dependable things—eternal promises, on which we can rest with utter confidence. For one thing I am glad God is God and nothing which men can do will rob him of His power. There may have been a time when atheism was popular, but today those who are able to think clearly acknowledge there is a greater power than that controlled by men. Right is right and wrong is wrong regardless of what men say. It is very likely that those who will argue otherwise are inspired of the devil who is the "father of lies." Then too, there is a strong sense of sanity, if we may call it such, in the human spirit which rises up against such perversion of fact. And if I may go another step farther, let me say that those who are really wise will take the

sermon on the mount as a guide line between right and wrong.

Really, we are living in a time of confusion. Take for instance, the diet list of today. Some writers tell us that certain things are poison to the human system. In fact, the way which is thought to be the healthful way of eating today will perhaps be the scorn of tomorrow's experts. Even now, if we believe everything we read concerning foods, our list of foods, which are good for us, will be limited. But isn't the same thing true in politics, international relations and world affairs? New and diverse interpreters rise to tell us that yesterday's meat is today's poison. Frankly, it is rather hard to be sure of anything like this unless we hold to the Word of God which changes not, as our standard.

Evidently many of the founding fathers of our nation believed in the providence of God, for it is reported that George Washington said after Braddock's defeat; I quote: "By the all-powerful dispensation of Providence I have been preserved beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets

through my coat and two horses were shot under me, and death was leveling my companions on every side of me." End of quote. That was a report of George Washington often referred to as the father of our country.

And speaking of statesmen and their belief that God controlled the affairs of men, I want to give you a reported description of a certain man and tell you some of the things he went through in growing up and see if you can guess who it was. See if you can tell who this description fits:

He was born Jan. 17, 1706 in Boston, Massachusetts and was either the 15th or 16th of seventeen children in this family. His father was a tallow chandler and soap boiler who had emigrated to America. Consequently, it was a poor family, indeed, from which he came. He spent much of his childhood growing up in a city slum.

He had a police record while yet a boy for leading his gang to use the stones which were intended to build a house. Instead they used them to build a swimming wharf. He had two short terms of school and began working for his father when he was 10. But to make a long story short he ran away from home when he was 17. When he arrived in the other city he was so poor (he had sold some of his books for food money) that he dared spend only three pennies for bread. He was soaked through, and shivering and feverish. He was dirty. He had no clean clothes. He had bad eyesight and no glasses. He was ugly, friendless and jobless. He had no place to sleep and no past he dared go back to. To add to all this, his future didn't look very promising.

Now, would you like to know who this

man was? None other than Benjamin Franklin, often referred to as the father of American printing!

Those of you who are familiar with American history may remember that he arrived in Philadelphia with \$1.25. You may also recall that it was he-- Benjamin Franklin, who discovered that lightning and electricity are identical. He invented the lightning rod, also bifocal spectacles and a harmonica. He founded the first circulating library in the United States, also an academy which became the University of Pennsylvania.

Furthermore he helped to make treaties for the American colonies, represented certain of them before the great men of his day such as kings, rulers, etc. But here is one principal thing I want to tell you about Benjamin Franklin. He believed God to be the supreme ruler of the universe for it is reported when the Constitutional Convention had come to an impasse and prayers were proposed, he declared: I quote: "The longer I live the more convincing proof I see of this truth that God governs in all the affairs of men." End of quote. That statement, friends, is attributed to Benjamin Franklin. How much more should we, be convinced that God governs and rules in the affairs of life? How willingly we should submit ourselves to Him, to God, and trust his power and wisdom.

Now, back to some of those things which are uncertain. For one thing, riches are a poor substitute for security. Listen to these words of Jesus: "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." Luke 12:20-21. Do you

see how uncertain riches are? In reality, life is uncertain. We have no promise of tomorrow. This rich man used the word "I" and "my" often. He didn't seem to recognize God as part of his prosperity.

Why is it that he didn't consider the hungry child, the blind man, or the beggar? Did he not know that he that hath pity upon the poor lendeth to the Lord? Did he not realize that it takes more than grapes, figs, olive oil, or even the finest of wheat to feed the soul? The soul needs to be fed on truth, and righteousness from the Word of God. This rich man may have walked across his fields while the sun was shining, the wheat about ready to harvest, the bees humming in the flowers at his feet, the lark singing above his head, and the breeze turning the silver lining of the olive leaves to the light, but did he not realize the solemn verdict of God: "Thou fool this night thy soul shall be required of thee?"

When we have learned that "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things he possesseth;" when we have had compassion for those less privileged to confuse the spirit with the body; when we have seen that God is the giver of all good -- then we come to possess divine wealth and an anchor for our souls which is secure and steadfast. That is when we have surrendered our all to our maker.

Listen to this scripture: "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall live, and do this or that." James 4:14-15.

Let us pray.

Our Father, bless the word as it goes out over the air. May it find place in good and honest hearts. Awaken the one who may be nearest eternity and may they make all necessary preparations for their long home-going and thine shall be the praise through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thank you, friends, for a few moments of your time. If we have been a blessing to you we would be glad to hear from you. Or if we may be a help in some spiritual way be sure to let us know. You may write us by addressing your letter to the Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.....

Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you and a very cheerful goodbye.

God Is Still In His Heaven

"The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul."

Psalm 121:7

If we look about us
We see trouble everywhere,
Riots, war and conflict;
Seems rebellion is in the air.

The future looks darker
As the days go by.
But we are told to "Look up,
Our redemption draweth nigh."



"And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."

Testimonies

From Calif.: "My wife and I thank you very much for sending us the Mission Trail. It is very inspirational to read of our God's power to ease, and to remedy the burdens of sorrow and pain that some of us must bear here in our earthly lives. Even as Christ was, we too, are to be in time, taken to our Father's Heavenly Mansion, where sorrow and pain are non-existent, and joy and contentment are ever to be. We must remember, that no matter how much we suffer, that someone, some place, is suffering far more than we are suffering, and we should pray for them who need our prayers, so that our God will hear these prayers and know that His help is needed. God will most surely bless the sender of such prayers, and He will most surely shed His mercy upon the 'pray-ers' as well. To think about others less fortunate than we are, and to help, and to pray for them, is what Christianity stands for. 'It is better to give than to receive.' And 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,' are messages to live by. God bless you and yours, now and always." --Bro. & Sis. Corwin

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From Ga.: "I can't do much at my age, but pray day and night for all of the saints and the lost world. Let us all pray much for these poor lost, deceived souls. They are drunk with sin... It's so serious and sad--just think of their lost condition. My daily prayer is 'Lord, open up the hearts and minds of the people.' "--Bro. Friendly Green

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From S. Car.: "We appreciate The Mission Trail so much. We love to hear from others. So please remember us in prayer that we be all the Lord would have us be. Love always,"

--Sis. Minnie Boulden

From Okla.: "Thank the Lord! Our testimony is yet we are numbered with the redeemed! What a blessing, very enjoyable life to reign free from sin and reign with Christ. Our Saviour was rejected, wounded, bruised, oppressed and afflicted. He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter. He was despised, persecuted, acquainted with sorrow and grief. His grave was with the wicked, and I'm thinking there was no deceit in his mouth, but as he prayed alone in the garden, he submitted to drink the cup. 'Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine be done.' Luke 22:42. My soul is challenged. Can I say when I'm rejected, persecuted, despised, afflicted and etc. 'Thy will be done!'... On the Highway of Holiness,"

--Malinda and Delbert Flynn

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From Calif.: "I have some praise reports: My grandson Dan (21) and not heard from in over 3 yrs., got in touch with his grandma Young recently--is O.K., and living in Fla.... My 9 yr. grandson Wayne, Jr. who was accidentally shot thru stomach... and only had 50/50 chance of pulling thru, is O.K. and back in school. My son Ron has been saving as he could to get me a transportation car. He found a '64 Ford Galaxie that runs good for \$250.00. It does need an oil change, a tune up, and tags... Love and prayers." --Mary Helen Carson

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From Okla.: "Greetings. 'In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.' 1 Thess. 5:18. Yes, concerning us all. The Lord is our helper. Jesus says, 'Have faith in God.' I believe in the prayers of the saints. God bless and encourage us all in the name of Jesus, to help us to always fight the good fight of faith. In Jesus is the victory for our daily living." --Sis. Eva Penner

From Mo.: "What a pleasure to greet those who love the Lord. We surely are praising Him for all His goodness, mercy and blessing, being greatly concerned about being low before Him in true humility, seeking to keep in His divine will and order, being willing and obedient in every day life. A writing in our town paper recently, 'Old Age is Hell' in poetry form (some indecent words were used) meant all should have a good laugh, I guess. My heart was so grieved. No name was signed to it. I felt led to defend the truth about old age, that the Lord has ordained it. It is His plan for us, so while I'm no poet, I sought the Lord's help and wrote four short verses and signed my name and asked it be printed, and it was--in a conspicuous place in a block, title in bold 1/4" inch letters. I was truly grateful. Title of poem--'Old Age Can Be Blessed.' We must do all we can for the good of souls for whom Christ died. We are asking you to pray. We have a decision to make and surely want to do the Lord's will in the matter. God bless you as you labor for Truth and Right (to make known). Jesus is precious. Love in our Lord,"

--Sister Rosella Scott
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From Okla.: "Greetings of love in Jesus dear name, who gave His life's blood for our salvation. Oh what a Saviour! We honor and praise His name for all His love to us. Praise the Lord! You two have been on my mind for a few hours. I thought to drop you a few lines and express my appreciation to you for your service for the Lord, as you minister to the saints and humanity. "The Lord will not forget your work and labor of love." The Lord bless you both. Keep encouraged and keep looking up, heaven will surely be worth it all. Christian love and prayer,"

--Sister Katherine Williams

From Mo.: "We greet you in the name and love of the Most High. We are thankful for His love and for being able to feel His presence with us day by day. The saints have something not of this world and neither can the world understand it. I trust all is well there with you. We are having such lovely weather, truly a blessing. We just see God's great love and care every where all around us and how sad that so many people don't know and understand and just take everything for granted, when it's God that gives all good things and cares for us each day... May He ever bless you in all your work for Him."

--Sis. Zella Dollins

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From Miss.: "...still have you folks on my prayer list. Pray for us as we pray for you that we will always have plenty of power or what ever we need. God is healing me of some ailments for which I give Him all the praise, but we are not well in some ways, but am very thankful to be as well as we are."

--Sis. Dorothy Bridges

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From Pa.: "So good to know we have a Heavenly Father that we can trust. Prayer changes things. Truly the Lord is faithful... In Christian love,"

--Sis. Mabel Kinsey

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From Calif.: "Jesus said, 'And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.' John 12:32. We know this is speaking of his death, but as we his children die out to self and worldly pleasures we are lifting Him up to the lost world. The more we die the more we lift up Christ and He shines through us more in the deep trials. He shows His strength and power more and more and we and others know and realize it's the power of God because they know it does not come through their own strength..."

--Sis. Loretta Harmon

From Ark.: "Thank the Lord for a new day, good rest through the night, for beauty of our great 'outdoors.' Already I have picked a fresh bouquet and brought in. It seems Jesus wanted to express a beautiful thought when He made a lovely flower. It reflects His love. Lord, help me to strive the more to make a beautiful character for the glory of the Lord. Without Him we can do nothing. I need the Lord to go into this day and I'm sure He'll care for every need... I wish you could have seen this--I had 6 cardinals in one bush. It looked like the bush had bloomed out. I would have made a picture but it was cloudy. So the birds drove the clouds away for me." --Sis. Lou Bray

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From Kansas: "I really do enjoy the 37th Psalm too. I take it when things are going wrong, the Lord is testing and showing me I need to die out more to self. So I start praying for help."

--Sister Mamie Norcutt

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"I just thank and praise God for salvation this morning. I can't praise Him enough."

--Sis. Ruth Doolittle

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From Fla.: "I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth. I am still saved and encouraged to go on."

--Sister Mary Johnson

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From Kans.: "Well, we have moved into our new home by Randel's now and like it pretty good. We lack some things on house yet, but will get it finished some time. I thought I better send our new address."

--Sister Opal Bradley

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From Kansas: "May the Lord bless His Word to all who will hear and receive it into their hearts."

--Marvin & Colleen Probst & boys

THE VINEYARD

There are many who go to the vineyard
To answer the call of the Lord,
With an eye not alone to the labor,
But looking for great reward.
They will work with zest near the
highway
Where those passing by may see,
But will drop from the ranks in a moment
If placed in obscurity.

Yet the vines at the back of the vineyard
Were planted with equal care
And the Master has never forgotten
How many He planted there;
And the Lord who has called us to labor
Knows best what each one can do,
So be quick to go out to the vineyard
Though no one may notice you.

For the grapes at the back of the garden
May grow on a precious stalk,
That the Lord would not plant near the
roadside

Where thieves and the thoughtless walk.
And the place where He bids you labor
May seem a forsaken plot,
But prove out in the plans of the Master
A specially cherished spot.

Then go to the place He has given;
Nor question His high decree;
But be true to your task till the end of
time

Though no one may know or see.
The grapes on your side of the vineyard
May prove to be Eschol's brand;
When the labor is done and the workers
Before Him shall take their stand.

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What will you do without Him
When the great white throne is set,
And the Judge who never can mistake
And never can forget--

The Judge whom you have never here
As Friend and Saviour sought--
Shall summon you to give account
Of deed and word and thought?

at press time

we understand:

TENT MEETING

Coffeyville, Kansas

We have made applications for to set up a tent May 13th. Everything looks favorable on that wise. We desire the Lord to bless us with favorable weather. If it should be a little cool we do have a little stove to take the chill off the night air. Do pray for us that we'll be in the center of God's will in everything.

--Church of God Congregation,
Bro. Ralph and Sis. Inez Beisly,
407 Eldridge, Coffeyville, Kans.
67337. Phone (316) 251-1108.

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From Oregon: "Just a few lines to let you know I am now staying with Sister Margaret Olson. She had a couple strokes which left her left arm paralyzed so she needs some one with her all the time... I will be here indefinitely. We are having an Easter meeting and Bro. Charles Elwell is preaching a few nights and Sunday afternoon."

--Sis. Lucille Trimble

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ENGAGED

Announcement has been received of the approaching marriage of Carl Shaffer and Rebecca Sorrell on May 7th in the Mammoth Spring State Park, Arkansas. We wish them much happiness.

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Another engagement is that of Mark Bennings of Prattville, Arkansas and Charissa Busbee, of Edmond, Okla. Their wedding ceremony is scheduled for April 30 in Edmond. We pray God's richest blessings on these young folks.

OKLAHOMA STATE CAMPMEETING dates are from May 27 through June 5. Guthrie chapel 6th and W. Warner.

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We regret the damage sustained in south Louisiana by the raging flood waters in that area of late. On April 6 the Oak Grove chapel of Loranger had some damage to carpet, books, etc. when water rose about 2 feet inside. Much work was required in cleaning and re-arranging. Water level only reached about one foot in the new unfinished chapel, but some cracking of the concrete floor resulted.

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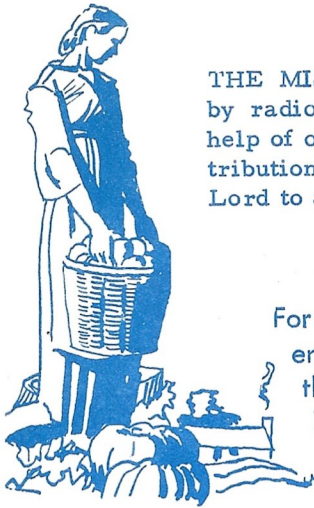
We have received word that Bro. L. S. Davis of Los Angeles, died on Jan. 16 at the age of 87 years. He embraced the Church of God truth in 1951. It has been a pleasure to know Bro. and Sis. Davis since we became acquainted with them a good many years ago. Remember his companion, Sis. Flora B. Davis, 9230 Success Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90002.

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After months of suffering in affliction Sis. Aneita Corteway of Oklahoma City, finished her earthly journey on March 19. Her faith and trust was in the Lord. We extend our sympathy and prayers to those of the family who remain.

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Our hearts are saddened with the passing of Bro. Leo Wilkins at the Golden Rule Home April 12. His companion, Sis. Eva preceded him in death June 28, 1981. Only a few weeks ago on March 19 their daughter Aneita Corteway died.



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

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