



The Mission Trail

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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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“Clouds Without Water”!

Radio Broadcast for July 10, 1983

Good morning, friends. How happy we are to be coming your way once again with a message from the Word of the Lord! God's Word will endure forever and doesn't change with the fashions and fancies of men. Jesus said, "...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

But just as surely as there is the real there is also the imitation. And let me tell you there are many professors today who have not the real grace of God within their hearts, but only have the form.

Jude describes these in no uncertain terms. The book of Jude is a small book as far as chapters go. There is only one. But when it comes to covering the truth and putting it in perspective Jude does it. Listen: "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." That is verse 4.

Let us begin again with verse 10: "But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves. Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core. These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without

fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever."

This describes to me what I call a hypocrite. A hypocrite is someone who professes to have something which he really doesn't. A good "front" is usually presented, but inwardly they are corrupt and void of the grace of God. One scripture says: "the hypocrite's hope shall perish." And that is so true!

It appears that these persons, unholy and impure as they were, still professed to have fellowship with the church. This is strange, but it is very likely that their power and influence in that place had swallowed up, or set aside the power and authority of the real ministers of God; a very common case when worldly time-serving men in a congregation hold power and authority contrary to the will of God.

Notice the reference to these ungodly men as "clouds without water". The doctrine of God is compared to the rain

and clouds, or the instruments by which the rain is distilled upon the earth. Beware of anyone who may tell you that it doesn't matter what doctrine you believe or teach. This is simply not true! It is very important what doctrine you believe and practice. There is a true doctrine and there is a false doctrine.

In arid and parched countries the very appearance of a cloud is delightful, because it is a token of refreshing showers. But when sudden winds arise and disperse these clouds the hope of the farmer and the shepherd is cut off.

These false teachers are represented as clouds. They have the form and office of the teachers of righteousness and from such appearance pure doctrine may be naturally expected. But these are "clouds without water."

They distill no refreshing showers because they have none. They are carried away and about by their passions as those light fleecy clouds are carried by the wind. In other words, they are here today and gone tomorrow as far as the truth is concerned. No wonder Jude, this one and only chapter in the third verse said, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." He goes on to speak of these professors as "trees whose fruit withereth". They may appear to be fruitful, but if any fruit is ever set on there isn't enough life-giving substances of the grace of God to sustain it and cause it to reach maturity. But instead it withers and dries up. Therefore, Jude would be correct when he follows with the statement, "without fruit". It just isn't there!

Jesus also spoke of some people like this when he said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." Matt. 23:15. That is what I call strong language. But I believe Jesus knew what he was talking about. And I am convinced that all of these people did not live when Jesus walked the shores of Galilee, but some of them are still with us now in the world. These scriptures are still applicable. Another thing: "twice dead." In other words, they were first naturally and practically dead in sin, from which they had been revived by the preaching and grace of the gospel. But secondly, they became dead once again by backsliding or apostatizing from the true faith by which they lost the grace they had before received. And now they are likely to remain in this death, because they have been plucked up by the roots; their roots of faith and love being no longer fixed in Christ Jesus. And as if that wasn't enough to describe them fully Jude went on to say, "Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame;" This would take us back to Isaiah 57:20-21. Listen: "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." These are like the sea in a storm where the swells are like mountains, the breakers lash the shore and sound like thunders and the great deep, stirred up from its very bottom, rolls its muddy, putrid sediment, and deposits it upon the beach. Such are these proud and arrogant boasters, those headstrong, unruly and ferocious men, who sweep within their controls the souls of the simple and leave behind them the indications of their folly, their turbulence and their

impurities. These wandering stars, or meteors, which we might call the 'wills-o'-the-wisp' or the 'fly-by-night' type preachers dance about in the darkness which they themselves have formed and lead simple souls astray who have ceased to walk in the light and have no other guide but those oscillating and devious meteors which if you run after them, will flee before you, and if you run from them will follow you. They are such as are going head-long into that outer darkness where there is wailing and weeping and gnashing of teeth.

This excerpt from "The Course of Time" by Robert Pollok as well describes what their end shall be. Listen:

Wide was the place,
 And deep as wide, and ruinous as deep.
 Beneath I saw a lake of burning fire,
 With tempest tossed perpetually,
 and still
 The waves of fiery darkness 'gainst
 the rocks
 Of dark damnation broke, and music
 made
 Of melancholy sort; and overhead,
 And all around, wind warred with wind,
 storm howled
 To storm, and lightning, forked
 lightning, crossed,
 And thunder answered thunder, muttering
 sounds
 Of sullen wrath; and far as sight could
 pierce,
 Or down descend in caves of hopeless
 depth,
 Through all that dungeon of unfading fire
 I saw most miserable beings walk,
 Burning continually, yet unconsumed;
 Forever wasting, yet enduring still;
 Dying perpetually, yet never dead.
 Some wandered lonely in the desert
 flames,
 And some in full encounter fiercely met,
 With curses loud, and blasphemies

that made
 The cheek of darkness pale; and as they
 fought,
 And cursed, and gnashed their teeth,
 and wished to die,
 Their hollow eyes did utter streams of
 woe,
 And there were groans that ended not,
 and sighs
 That always sighed, and tears that ever
 wept,
 And ever fell, but not in mercy's sight.
 And sorrow and repentance and despair,
 Among them walked and to their thirsty
 lips
 Presented frequent cups of burning gall,
 And as I listened, I heard these beings
 curse
 Almighty God and curse the Lamb and
 Curse the earth, the resurrection morn,
 and seek,
 And ever vainly seek, for utter death.
 And to their everlasting anguish still,
 The thunders from above responding
 spoke
 These words, which, through the
 caverns of perdition
 Forlornly echoing, fell on every ear:
 "Ye knew your duty, but ye did it not."

Let us pray. Our Father, we ask you today that you would take the words of the message and bear them by thy spirit to every heart who hears the word. Bless each one in the way they need and save souls and we will give you the praise, for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen ... Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you and a very cheerful goodbye!

CONSIDER THE WORD OF THE LORD:
 ". . . there is no God
 else beside me; a just
 God and a Saviour; there
 is none beside me. Look
 unto me, and be ye saved,
 all the ends of the earth: for I am
 God, and there is none else." Isa. 45.



Spiritual Vitamins

Feel Gloomy? Take Vitamin M--"My mouth shall show forth thy praise." Psalm 51:15.

Feeling Unsure? Take Vitamin N--"Name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runneth into it and is safe." Proverbs 18:10.

Bothered by Satan? Take Vitamin O--"Overcome the devil by the blood of the lamb and Word of your testimony." Revelation 12:11.

Tongue Trouble? Take Vitamin P--"Praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalm 34:1.

Feel Disturbed? Take Vitamin Q--"Quietness shall be your strength." Isaiah 30:15.

Circumstances Bad? Take Vitamin R--"Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice." Phil. 4:4.

Doubting the Word? Take Vitamin S--"Scriptures cannot be broken." John 10:35.

Weary with Life? Take Vitamin T--"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." 2 Cor. 9:15.

Down in the Dumps? Take Vitamin U--"Upheld by the right hand of God." Isa. 41:10.

Hindrances? Take Vitamin V--"Violent shall take it by force." Matt. 11:12.

Faint-Hearted? Take Vitamin W ---"Word was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones." Jer. 20:9.

CANNIBALS OR WORMS?

"And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, of mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life."

A certain young man who served as a church missionary in Glasgow, Scotland was filled with great zeal and a desire to please God. So successful was he in his missionwork that hundreds of young men and women gathered as early as seven o'clock in the morning to hear him teach the Bible. He had worked his way through university and had taken a course in medicine, but when no one was found to join a missionary who had already gone out to the South Seas, he volunteered his services. This young student heard a voice saying, "Since none better qualified can be got, rise and offer yourself." He had said, "I continually heard the wailing of the perishing heathen in the South Seas." He resolved to go. All his friends besieged him with their opposition. His minister told him that he had been blessed in his work in Glasgow, and that if he went to the South Seas he might fail to be useful and only throw away his life among cannibals." To this he answered that he had only once to die and was content to leave the time and place and the means in the hands of God. One of his parishioners always ended his protesting arguments by saying, "The cannibals! You will be eaten by cannibals." To this the young man answered, "I confess to you that if I can but live and die, serving and honoring the Lord Jesus, it will make no difference to me whether I am eaten by cannibals or by worms; and in the Great Day my resurrection body will arise as fair as yours in the likeness of our risen Redeemer." That young man was John G. Paton.

--Sel. by Sis. Edith Cramer

Testimonies

From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I have been away and ill, so didn't get my offering sent until now. God saw fit to heal me again, for which I do praise Him. He is ever near and will do abundantly more than we can ask or think. His promises are still true and I do thank Him for being there when I need Him. I am reading the Bible through again as I do every year. I bought a Bible from Faith Pub. House and it has an outline that starts in Jan. and ends in Dec., reading some chapters in the Old Testament in the morning, then reading some chapters in the New Testament in the evening... The weather is so beautiful and the flowers and birds are given us to enjoy by God's loving hand. I went out to walk in the early morning today before it got too hot. The things of nature are so wonderful to behold... I pray for all the assembly meetings being held, that some will find that peace that only God can give."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Calif.: "Greetings to the dear saints everywhere in the name of our Lord and Saviour, who died that we might have life... I am much impressed to testify to the goodness of the Lord to me. I am saved to sin no more and I want to tell of how the Lord healed me. When I was in Guthrie I took sick on Wed. evening... It was at time of the young saints' meeting. I told the sister to call a sister minister. Two of them came and the young saints were all on their knees. This sister asked me where I hurt. I told her. She layed her hand where the misery was and as she prayed I felt the pains move while she prayed. At the end of the prayer I was healed. It was so precious to me. I never received a healing like that."

--Sister Katie Gaines

From Oregon: "Greetings again of Christian love and letting you know how much I do appreciate the Mission Trail. I especially appreciated the Vitamin thermometer. I needed every one of them... I cut it out and put in a pocket in my Bible, also cut out that poem written by Rosella Scott. That was really good. I have many things cut from your paper. I keep an obituary scrap book and always cut death announcements and pictures and put in my book. Then I can refer back to them. It is hard to believe some I loved have been gone that long. What a congregation of saints have gone on before me in my lifetime. I am praying I may be faithful and be accounted worthy to join them in Glory."

--Sister Grace Jones

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From Calif.: "It looks like there may be a shower of rain before our day is over. God is blessing us richly each day. This would be a miserable world to live in without Jesus."

--Sis. Letha Reece

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From Calif.: "Our country is in need of much prayer. And now there's talk of the State not having funds to send checks to the elderly and disabled. That would include my son John and myself. Also my mother. The phone company is supposed to almost double phone bills, utilities and food on the upswing. Surely the Lord will soon come for His own."

--Mary Helen Carson

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From Pa.: "As I was reading my Bible I turned to St. John chapter 14. What a wonderful book. What wonderful promises to those who are ready to meet the Lord. The things of this world grow strangely dim when we know what the Lord has in store for those who will accept Him. Thank you for praying. I do pray for those who are not willing to accept the truth."

--Sis. Mabel Kinsey

From Okla.: "We send special greetings to you dear friends in the name of our Saviour, the one who died for us. We certainly had a wonderful birthday, and we tried so hard to keep it quiet... We thank the good Lord for 79 years here on the earth to prepare for Heaven. ...I can't thank Him enough for the five years I had in the Guthrie congregation. I learned so much and yet have so very much more I hope to learn... it is in my heart to do the will of the Lord at all times." --Sis. Edith Wall

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From Okla.: "I am praising God for His goodness to the children of men. I still enjoy the Mission Trail...we as Christians should be a happy people, knowing our sins are forgiven and our names are in the book of life, and some day we will live in that mansion Jesus has gone to prepare if we hold to the unchanging hand of God and don't let the things of the world lead us on the wrong road. There are two ways--one is broad and easy to find. It is paved with things that glitter and attract. It is an easy road and many people are looking for an easy way. They said "speak unto us smooth things" (Isa. 30: 10). In other words, make the way easy for us. The other way is straight and narrow. There are many things that are hard, but Jesus is walking with us, and ready to help if we ask. There are not many in this road, Matt. 7:14. But our hearts are heavy at times, for so many are in the broad way. It can only lead to death...all that glitters is not gold, and will not hold up when tried with fire. So many so-called Christians' works are wood, hay or stubble. Every man's works will be tried with fire. 1 Cor. 3:12-13. I pray you will be kept in health and that you will be able to preach for many years. Just pray for me that I may do or say something to win souls..." --Sis. Minnie Adcock

From Va.: "Here is an instruction I read: 'The Way to Do it.' A preacher stood watching a marble-cutter, who with chisel and hammer and a great deal of skill was changing a stone into a statue. 'Ah,' said the preacher, 'I wish I could deal such changing blows on stony hearts.' 'Maybe you could' replied the workman, 'if you worked like me, on your knees.' How great a work is done on our knees, and too, the Word says, 'Praying always' and 'Pray without ceasing'. I am so glad we can pray whatever we do or wherever we are. Our hearts can be in an attitude of prayer at all times. We can commune with our Heavenly Father and He speaks to us too, with psalms and hymns and comforts us daily in whatever circumstance we may be in, Bless His Holy name." --Sis. Edith R. Cramer

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From N. Car.: "Life is ending for us and time is winding up. Let us not run a slack race and be ashamed when we stand before Him on that great day."

--Bro. Friendly Green

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From N. Mex.: "Greetings of love in the precious and holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord--a beautiful day this morning. I am praising God for all his blessings in all things and I know without him we can do nothing. I am thanking him to feel so well as I do, yet at times I get very weak and have to either sit down or lie down. I would love to be remembered in prayer."

--Sis. Ruth Doolittle

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From Okla.: "I was at my daughter's last Sunday and listened to your message. We all seemed to get an extra blessing from it. God is so good to us all, blesses us in so many ways, when so often I feel so unworthy. I know I am, but He loves us anyway. I'm so thankful for that." --Sis. Pansy Stephens

at press time

we understand:

Thinking It Over

Is it an optical illusion, or is it really true that the trees in a dense forest always seem to grow straight and tall? They seem to reach upward in straighter lines than the trees growing in open areas. It has been pointed out that this phenomenon takes place because nature requires light to reach the leaves. Since the trees grow in large part because of the chemical manufacturing process which takes place in the leaves, these leaves must receive the rays of the sun. Logically the trees must grow tall so that the leaves can have the required amount of energy from the sky above. Nature has a wonderful way of caring for her needs. We, too, as the creation of God, can learn much from walking beside the giant trees of the forest. We can learn to stand straighter, breathe deeper and feel more invigorated than when we entered the forest. And when we find ourselves surrounded with problems and temptations, we should learn to grow above our surroundings. We should seek to get our heads into the sunlight above the darkness. We ought to grow toward God who is the source of all light and power. As we reach toward the Creator we can expect wonderful things to happen in our lives. We can grow. We can develop. We can stand straighter and taller in a spiritual way if we really seek for it!

*Ten words on a post card
When mailed are much better
Than all your intentions
To write a long letter.*

National Camp meeting, Monark Spgs., Missouri begins July 22 and continues through the 31st.

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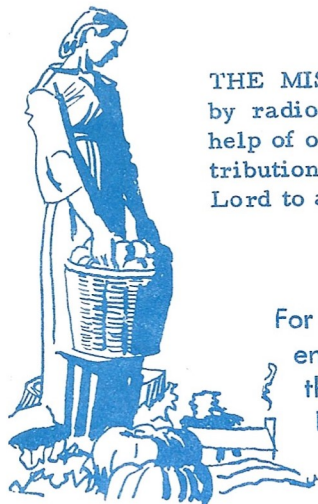
Our hearts were saddened by the passing of Sis. Addie McEndree, Lamar, Colo. She became critically sick a few days before her death on June 28th. She had so hoped to come to the camp meeting in Guthrie this year but it didn't work out for those who were going to bring her. Her funeral was held July 1st. Her home-going left behind many relatives and saints who will long remember her devoted life. Sister Addie was 85 years of age. Another of God's little ones has been called home. Her husband, Bro. Ed, passed away in 1971. We pray the Lord will bless all the dear relatives.

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From Kansas: "Well another year is half gone and the camp meeting season is in session. I trust that people are being delivered and are taking strong stands for God. We need more constant victors for the Lord...I attended Sis. Kay Williams' funeral...Her family still needs our prayers there in Ohio. May God bless and comfort her boys that are left and save her husband if he will at all yield. --Sis. Shirley Knight

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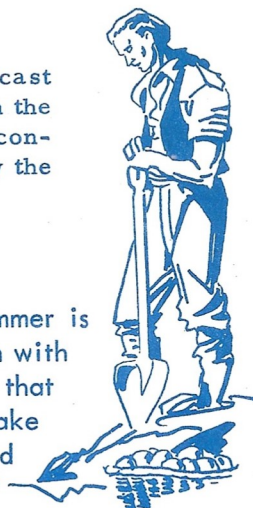
Frances and I visited Sis. Maude Britt in rest home. She desires the prayers of the saints for the healing of her failing eyesight. Your card of cheer with a few comforting words would help to brighten her days: Sis. Maude Britt, c/o Senior Citizen's Home, 1924 E. Perkins, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.



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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

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KGGF

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