



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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To Neglect Is Dangerous!

Radio Broadcast for September 25, 1983

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;" Hebrews 2:1-3.

Good morning, friends. I want to speak to you about a matter of vital importance to your health and happiness in this life as well as to the future abode of your soul in long eternity! Listen, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" Now that's a question which has no answer. The fact is, we shall not escape if we fail to obtain, or neglect to follow this plan of great salvation.

Let me explain, notice first the greatness of God and the things which He does. God is Eternal. In Him are eternal values and apart from Him there are no such values. All that man produces is temporal. The works of man last a few years, yes, some even for centuries, but they are not eternal. They crumble and fade with the passing of the years. Man can only come into possession of eternal things as he comes into proper relationship with God. There is but one way for man to come to know God and that is through Christ who came down from heaven and into this world as the Saviour of men.

Moral reform, social uplift and eco-

nomie problems have often taken the place of the preaching of this great salvation that God offers freely to a sin-cursed world that is traveling at a terrific speed toward an everlasting separation from Him who is the giver of eternal life. Even where the need for salvation is seen and presented, all too often the temporal values in the form of better moral lives and patched-up marriages are the most loudly praised, while the spiritual and eternal values that come to the individual are in many, yes, very many instances seldom mentioned and much less given their primary importance.

So many times the emphasis these days is upon the lifting of the human race out of its low estate of temporal affairs. God's emphasis, on the other hand, as found in the Bible, is to deal with the problem of human sin and all its consequences on the basis of eternal values. This is through this great salvation. Social welfare work and all moral reform, however good for the present, do not help men and women beyond the grave, and the grave is not the end of

man. He has an undying soul that goes on and on and on in eternity. The salvation that God, and He alone has accomplished through Jesus Christ, provides for that undying soul of man and brings it into this wonderful inheritance of so great salvation.

Notwithstanding the agnostics and unbelievers who so loudly proclaim that they do not believe in a life hereafter, I doubt if there are very many men or women alive today who do not deep down in their heart, at some time or other, consider a future existence. There is also the thought that the future eternal state is determined for each individual while in this present life. And that is all the more reason why one should not neglect so great a salvation. God offers free and without charge this great salvation for the acceptance thereof, regardless of what one's past life may have been. He who repents and accepts this great salvation is assured of eternal joy in an everlasting covenant with God.

To substitute temporal values for the eternal values of God's salvation is to miss the greatest thing that has ever been offered to man. Yet because many of the so called professors and church members today are placing the emphasis on the temporal values, many inside and outside of the sectarian churches never really grasp the value of these eternal things of God. And yet, because of the problems in the social and economic world, many realize the instability of temporal and material values and long for something with stability in which to trust. The real answer to this longing is found in absolute spiritual values; in the eternal values of God.

Now, what are some of the things which make this salvation so great? First of all, it delivers those who partake of it,

from the reign of Satan and the powers of sin. There is redemption from the curse or penalty of God's holy law. All trespasses are forgiven. The one who is saved is reconciled to God and brought into a state of peace with Him. He is born again of God with an eternal life. He is made a part of a new creation in Christ Jesus. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17.

Another reason salvation is so great, is because it is for all people regardless of race or standing. Listen to this verse: "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29. The taking away of this "sin of the world" is for all people. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Oh, there are so many scriptures showing this great salvation is for all men. 1 Tim. 2:4--"Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

Another reason salvation is so great was the price it cost. None other than the Son of God was worthy to give his life for our salvation. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Listen to the words of those who have been redeemed: "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." Rev. 5:9-10.

Consider for a moment the greatness

of the creation of God in forming the world and the stars and all the elements of the universe. There is the sun to give light by day and the moon to rule the night. Man has understood and fathomed many mysteries of the universe. Radio is still a marvel to me. Think of talking into a microphone connected to a transmitter operated by electrical power and forming radio waves which are transmitted through the air at the rate of 186,000 miles per second. To the person tuning the receiver it seems as if another at a distant station is in the room with him! And why can man do all this? Because God gave him intelligence and because of the fixed laws of the universe which gives us to know there is a God of intelligence and understanding. He created the heaven and the earth and fixed the laws of His creation as well as gave man understanding to comprehend them.

Man has learned so many of the secrets of the universe. He has been able to compress oxygen and hydrogen into liquid forms, blast off rockets and travel through space until at last he comes to the moon where he safely lands, walks about and then blasts himself back into orbit and returns through the space to earth again. There he safely lands and tells the wonders of his adventures. He tells what it is like to look back from the space journey and see the earth as a small terrestrial ball spinning in its orbit around the sun. How frail and helpless it seems. Really, it is sustained by the word of God.

I am reminded of the scripture which speaks of man ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. So in the natural he learns, but why cannot he understand the spiritual things of God? Because they are spiritually discerned and not learned through

natural understanding. Man cannot by his own intelligence fathom the mysteries of salvation. They must be revealed to man by the Spirit of God. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

Let us pray. Our Father, we thank thee for this great salvation, which saves, keeps and satisfies the soul of man. May the preaching of the word be the means of helping others to better understand the plan God has for their lives. Now bless each listener through thy word and thine shall be the praise in Jesus name. Amen.

Thanks to each of you who have taken the time to listen. If we may be of some spiritual help to you be sure to let us know. You may write us by addressing The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma. Our heart-felt thanks to all who help us keep the message on the air from week to week.

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

'They stripped him'

*They stripped my Lord in Pilate's judgment hall.
Not really they, but we, with practiced prejudice
(soldiers, zealots, Adam, I—actors all)
stripped Him there. We thought it not remiss.
Not knowing the secret of His suffering—
the glorious mystery of faith concealed—
we turned away from the shameful fleeing,
refusing to see the arm of God revealed.*

*They stripped Him; that is true. But not really they,
nor I, nor you. It was He who laid aside
His glory to wear the scarlet robe that day—
He who gave himself to be crucified.
Death feigned to take what Christ freely gave,
tried to keep the Resurrection in the grave.*

Testimonies

From Calif.: "I felt sad to read about Brother Gene Harmon's passing. It brought back memories of us young people at camp meetings. Brother Gene was one of us. I remember hearing his father George Harmon's preaching, and later Gene's... They are not dead, those loved ones who have passed, Beyond our vision for a little while; They have but reached the light, while we still grope in darkness where we cannot see them smile. So let's gird our souls with this bright hope, Still praising God as bravely here we wait; Then loving, serving, till our Father calls, We'll find our loved ones waiting at the gate... I'm almost through painting the house. Elmer had the hard part of scraping, sanding and getting it ready. It's been fun and I have loved it. Next month I will be 80 and well and happy. I draw close to the Lord in the morning and have Him with me all the day long. How precious to have a Saviour to love me so. God bless you all. You are in my prayers every evening."

--Sister Lucille Allen

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From Okla.: "It's been some time since I've written, but here comes a letter for I will not put it off any longer. The summer has been quite hot, however, I'm thankful to the Lord that we're able to keep cool inside. I'm also thankful that I could attend the Boley camp meeting the first Saturday night and the first Sunday... We went on our vacation to Los Angeles to see our children... we had an enjoyable and safe trip... for which we were very thankful to the Lord. ... I desire to be remembered in your prayers both soul and body. My earnest desire is to keep close to the Lord and to do His will. God is so good to me. He watches over me by day and by night..."

--Sister Vera M. Hawkins

From Kansas: "We surely thank the Lord for being able to attend the Calif. State meeting in Pacoima. I thought it was excellent. Some real good messages went forth on truth and loving the truth and how important it is... There was much altar work and I feel much lasting good accomplished. It made me even more grateful to be among the number who dwell in Zion in the real truth. We had quite a trip from one end of California to the other and also went to Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico. We saw many people we knew and visited some places of interest. The Lord was very good to us and kept us safe and each of us well. We do thank the Lord for His many and continued blessings. Now our meeting starts in 3 days, so we are busy concerning that. We plead God's anointing and blessing on everything concerning the meeting."

--Sis. Shirley A. Knight

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From La.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the one that loved us so much He gave His... life on the cruel cross for you and me. As the song says, we could not praise our dear Lord enough if we had ten thousand lives in which to praise Him... The older I get it seems time goes faster. I do want you to know I enjoy the Mission Trail very much and will be glad to receive it another year if the dear Lord lets me live that long and time stands another year. I am looking for the Lord to come any time, especially after me as at my age I can't live much longer as I'll be 81 Nov. 22. I do thank the dear Lord for being so good to me and blessing me with a long life and I have lived most of my life for Jesus... I've trusted Him 50 years and He has never failed me and I don't want to fail Him. I want to be all He is calling me to be. Pray for me as we also pray for you..."

--Sister Effie Miller

From Mo.: "We do appreciate you sending the paper to us. We enjoy receiving it. Also, we appreciate you continuing to mail a copy to Clayton and Eva Lou even though no one has written you for the year to let you know as you request... I really liked the little poem that Sis. Lou Bray selected, 'Right Where I am.' It is important to be content and useful 'right where we are'. It is so much in the human race to want to be somebody else, somewhere else, or doing something else, but true consecration is being just where God puts you and being faithful there! In the last several months I have learned more in reality just what true consecration is. Even though some things in life may go against the flesh, but yet my heart was settled--to be submitted still--had no desire to undo my consecration--only give me grace to do thy will! May God help me to learn better and practice better how to serve God totally and completely! Our dear sister, Eva Lou, is still in need of much prayer. Her body is slowly declining, but God is in control. In my conversation with her this morning, she expressed that she was taking the only way that there is to take. I asked her what that was, and she replied to trust God. Not only is this the best way but as she expressed, it is the only way. All other ways bring less than the best. Whenever you think of us, remember us that we will ever be faithful to our God. We surely need the Lord's help and guidance in our life for Him. Christian love, "

--Carl and Rebecca Shaffer

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From Miss.: "To all you dear ones that I have been writing to that I do not send money to: I enjoy hearing from you very much and love and appreciate you so much, but do not see much chance to write... Pray for us while we Pray for you." --Sis. Dorothy Bridges

From S. Car., "We hope all is well with you. Enclosed you will find love offering I want to send. It is not much but it is the best I can do. I sure did enjoy the camp meeting... please pray for me that I will stand on the promises of God and stay meekly at my Saviour's feet... pray for Sis. Crummie. She is really having a battle with affliction. "

--Sis. Lurline Scott

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From Ok.: "I thought of Jesus wrapped in grave clothes lying in his borrowed tomb. Oh the glory of God that filled that tomb as the Spirit of God came to resurrect him from the dead! Rom. 8:11. I want to thank you for the Mission Trail with its every message of truth. Today I was able to see to read it all. Thank God for a very little vision left in right eye. I'm pleading with God to let me keep that little bit so I can read the Word, etc.,... The human seeks deliverance from all suffering without waiting to seek and know what God wants to do to prepare us for some future glory or labor. I trust the sermons and poem on 'Leave the Plains of Sodom' will bring many souls to God. 'But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto Prayer.' 1 Pet. 4:7. Give no place to the devil! He is seeking, and sad to say, gaining a seat in too many hearts and places where he ought not to be. "

--Sister Ada Scanlan

Faith grows stronger

*Each time the barren lap of earth
Is spread again with lacy green,
And all the empty boughs are filled
With shining leaves where in between
A robin finds a place to live;
Each time the dull, brown seeds we sow
Have burst the sod with tender buds,
Again, again the faith we know
Comes back like spring in song and bloom:
The Lord who rose one early dawn
Has rolled away the stone of doom!*

From Kansas: "I suppose you have heard I had a slight stroke June 11th. My left side was affected, with arthritis affecting my right knee, has hindered me from walking as I would have otherwise. I am walking about now, carefully. The Lord has been very good to me. I can use my left hand some now. I could not at all at first. I will be listening to you every Sunday now. I won't be busy. I have no one to drive me to church, so will do well if some one takes me once a month."

--Sis. Carl Tucker Sr.

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From Ark.: "Greetings to you in Jesus' dear name. We thank Him for life and salvation. Hope you both are doing well. We are doing real good for which we thank the Lord. He said He would never leave us nor forsake us if we put our trust in Him. We desire your prayers that we will do what He would have us do."

--Jewell Russell

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From Ala.: "Greeting in the precious name of Jesus. I'm happy that I can say that I'm still saved and encouraged to keep pressing on up the king's highway. I'm thankful for the strength that the Lord gives me day by day... Continue to pray for me and for my unsaved loved ones. May God bless you both and give you health..."

--Sis. Irene Richardson

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From Ontario: "Just like to let you know that I did like the message, 'Clouds without water' in the August Mission Trail. I never did quite understand that scripture in Jude verse 12, but the way you explained it seemed right to me. The Word of God says in John 7:17: 'If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.'... Your Bro. and Sis. in Christ, "

--Alfons and Martha Oppel



The Victor

*In scented Gethsemane weary men sleep;
A white moon is watching, calm vigil to keep;
In peaceful reposing the dayfolk are still;
Pale lilies are nodding just under the hill.
But far in the depths where the deep shadows spill
The God-man awaits as He yields up His will.*

*That chosen disciple, betrayer, draws near;
And men wake to wonder or huddle in fear
As quietly, meekly, to judgment He goes,
Accused and forsaken, surrounded by foes.
And none stands beside Him but soldiers who doubt,
And blatant accusers who smite and who shout.*

*In dark hall at midnight irrational men
Creep out of the shadows, false witness to lend;
And fools point the finger as fables they forge;
They dare Him to answer; they mock, and they scourge;
They gown Him in purple; they fashion cruel crown.
And lamblike in meekness, His life He lays down.*

*To windswept Golgotha, the menacing skull,
They prod Him; they force Him; they cause Him to fall.
And His cross that was borne to the crest of that hill
Was rugged and ugly, but still in God's will;
That cross He created would bear Him who died
For the sins of a mad world. He was crucified.*

*The sun hides its face, and the world shakes in shame.
The darkness is shattered by lightning, by rain,
As on that bleak hill, mid sorrow and pain,
The deed is committed, the sacrifice slain.
With sinners in death, as for sinners He came,
Forgiving the very ones mocking His name.*

*Brash soldiers kept watch where offender was lain,
Sealed safely, they thought, from rising again;
While in death's reposing, mid lilies' perfume,
Awaiting the dawning He sleeps in the tomb.
Comes daylight; comes sunshine on bright, creeping feet.
All time is suspended. He rises from sleep.*

*Up from the pit, from the bowels of the earth,
Comes conquering Hero to bring us new birth.
Men born to adore Him, created to praise,
O fall down before Him, the Ancient of Days,
And worship the name of the worthy Lamb slain!
Redemption is finished, for He lives again!*

*How could they have thought He'd be held by one stone?
In splendor the Victor returns to His throne!
O you who once worshiped the idols of earth,
Come join the vast choir and shout out His worth!
All heaven rejoices as glory bells ring
And earthmen decide what to do with their King.*

at press time

we understand:

It is with sorrow we announce the passing of two dear sisters from our midst: Sister Mae Norcutt of Shawnee, Okla., died August 26th. And Sister Ada Short of Loranger, La. departed this life on Sept. 12th. May the dear Lord comfort the hearts of their loved ones who remain in this time of great sorrow.

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Dear Bro. and Sister Murphey: "Trusting you and family are well. I wish the best for Bro. Hyrum and Sister Thelma... It was such a shock to hear of Sister Mae Norcutt. I have lost a great friend; such a wonderful person was she. She was a person who loved to share. I treasure the times when I was privileged to go out to her home... out in the country and spend the night. She prepared such delicious meals for me. It's comforting knowing that our loss is heaven's gain. "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!"

--Sis. Elnora Conley

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"Wish you could have been to the Pacoima camp meeting. It was glorious and so many were saved and baptized. Two different mornings they had no preaching, only singing and the altar benches were filled time after time, the rest of the morning service. The attendance was very good... Fred went down to Pacoima soon after the time for Monark meeting. He did a lot of work around the yard and repaired plumbing and did painting I believe. He stayed on after the meeting closed and will be there till near the end of the month."

--Sis. Lucille Trimble

THANKS

Many thanks to all who remembered me since my accident of Sept. 8th while working on an oil rig. A heavy joint of steel casing fell from the derrick, crushing the bone in my left leg. My right arm was also broken. Fortunately, the Lord spared my life. Since on the hospital bed I have had much time for serious thinking and have done lots of praying. I certainly appreciate the prayers, many flowers, cards, letters and calls. Continue to pray for me.

--Larry D. Eck, Norman Municipal Hospital, Room 4054, Norman, Okla. 73070.

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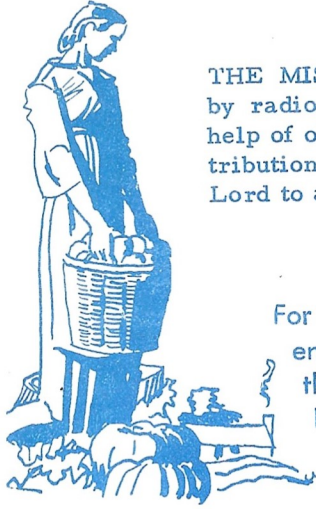
Congratulations to Nelson and Genece Doolittle on the birth of their son, Byron Dion Sept. 3rd.

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Special prayer is requested for the healing of Bro. Max Dean.

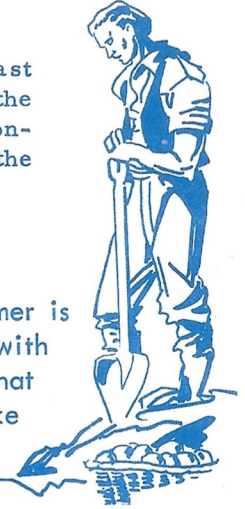
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"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 2:27. In a society such as the one in which we live today where cheating, lying and stealing is rampant, it is so refreshing to know that there are still some "saints" who not only believe, but put into practice "pure religion". "Pure" means freedom from contamination. Oh, that we may so live that Jesus may say of us, as he did of Nathanael: "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" John 1:47.



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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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