



# The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey and Frances E. Murphey

Home Phone (405) 282-1101

“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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## “I Know that my Redeemer Liveth . . .”

Radio Broadcast for November 13, 1983

Good morning, friends. What a pleasure to be coming your way again by means of radio! At this particular season it seems appropriate to me to take time out for this message on our mighty redeemer! Listen as we begin with this scripture:

"For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee..." Prov. 23:11. It is wonderful to know our redeemer liveth, that he is mighty and he will plead our cause for us! Now that is what I call good news! With the coming of Thanksgiving right away and Christmas not far behind, let us consider some of the things which make our heritage possible.

Job was speaking of the wicked people and how they slipped around in the dark to do their evil deeds and he pointed out that, "They are exalted for a little while, but are gone and brought low; they are taken out of the way as all other, and cut off as the tops of the ears of corn." Job 24:24. Then he went on to say, "And if it be not so now, who will make me a liar, and make my speech nothing worth?" Job 24:25.

My mind is musing on that statement, "And if it be not so now..." How many things we could apply that scripture to! And if it be not so now. From there let us go to Dan. 3:17-18.

"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery

furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

So in essence these Hebrew boys were saying, Even though you put us in the fire to suffer because we refuse to bow to the golden image, our God is able to deliver us out of there. But if he doesn't deliver us, we still will not serve this image. Now that was their decision and they were willing to risk all on their God. They just let the "ifs" be as they may! God was greater than the "ifs".

Let us not forget that our redeemer is mighty and he is greater than the "what ifs"! The writer of Psalm 24 asked this question: "Who is this King of glory?" Then he answered in the same verse, which is verse 8: "The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle." So dear ones, just remind yourself that God is greater than the "what ifs"!

In musing on some of the "what ifs" while preparing for this broadcast, my mind went back to Joseph and Mary be-

fore the birth of Jesus. What if Joseph had refused to have any more to do with Mary after he learned she was to have her first child? He knew it was not his. But God had made provision to see this did not happen and Joseph was to care for Mary and Jesus. So it was revealed to Joseph that the conception was of the Holy Ghost. Indeed it was a virgin birth.

Then in musing further I thought, what if Herod had really found Jesus, when the children two years old and under were slain? But no, again it was revealed to Joseph what to do--flee into Egypt! This he did with Mary and Jesus. And so their lives were preserved. God's decree had gone out and indeed, the mighty redeemer had come. Listen to this:

"Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance. In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in righteousness shall they be exalted. For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favor our horn shall be exalted. For the Lord is our defense; and the Holy One of Israel is our King." Psalm 89:15-18.

But what if Joseph and Mary had lost Jesus, or he had been kidnapped when they went a day's journey from Jerusalem and could not find him among their kinsmen? Then what would have happened to this great plan of God? What if Jesus should have yielded to the temptations of Satan and threw himself down from the pinnacle of the temple, or fell down to worship Satan, the god of this world? What if he had not been raised from the dead after the cruel crucifixion?

The apostle Paul said: "Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead,

how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished." 1 Cor. 15:12-17. What a dreadful thought! I am glad he didn't stop there, but went on to say: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept." Paul didn't allow the "what if" to stand in the way! Let us cease to look at the negative side and move on to the positive! "The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea. Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, for ever." Psalm 93:4-5. Now "what ifs" were not taken into consideration here! All of these are positive statements. And again to Jeremiah the word of the Lord came in chapter 33:2 & 3: "Thus saith the Lord the maker thereof, the Lord that formed it, to establish it; the Lord is his name; Call upon me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Again no "what ifs".

The steadfastness of the three Hebrew sons brought a positive reaction from the king Nebuchadnezzar. Listen: "I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me. How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and

his dominion is from generation to generation." Dan. 4:2-3. Amos in chapter 5, verse 24 puts it this way: "But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream."

Now, should there be an unbeliever listening to the broadcast today, as we know there are some who profess to believe there is no life beyond the grave, let me turn the question around and ask you, what if you are mistaken and there is certainly life beyond the tomb? What if there is a heaven for the righteous and a place of everlasting torment called hell where the wicked shall be cast forever and ever? Then what will you do? Fearful thought, isn't it? Indeed it is, and it will be more fearful when that final judgment day comes.

As my final scripture for today, listen to these verses: "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power:" 2 Thess. 1:7-9.

I love to think of heaven bright,  
Of Father and of Son,  
Of holy angels gathered round  
In worship at the throne.

I love to think of the redeemed  
On yonder shining shore,  
Whose hearts unite in songs of praise  
As one, forevermore.

I love to think of heaven's love  
So full, so pure, so free;  
That fount of love, so limitless,  
That fills the Godhead, Three.

I see that stream of love divine  
Poured forth from Calvary;  
Its tender love enrapt my heart--  
Oh, cleansing stream for me!

I love to think of that great day  
When saints in him shall rise.  
Made glorious then in bodies new,  
To join him in the skies.

I love to think of endless years  
Spent with my Lord above,  
And also with the blood-washed throng,  
The ransomed ones I love.

Go forth, O messenger of love,  
To all the tribes of men,  
And call all nations into One  
From highway, hedge, and glen.

Let perfect oneness be our theme  
(We stand upon the Word)--  
One faith, one mind, one doctrine true,  
One body, and one Lord.

Our Father, as the holiday season approaches once again help us to count our blessings and be thankful. Indeed, we are thankful for all thy many blessings. And we ask the favor of God to be extended to all the listeners of the broadcast. May their homes be a place of tranquility and their hearts a temple in which thy Spirit may dwell continually. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.



## Testimonies

From Colo.: "Sorry I have been so long in writing. We are doing fine, and the Good Lord has been real good to us this year, as He always is... We are getting old, can't do lots of things we used to do. I am really doing real well, lost my upper teeth and dentist don't want me to get more til I heal a little better first. My husband is doing good for his age. He was 91 last April. He is real hard of hearing but health is good... I am still praying for loved ones and friends, trying to put the Lord first in my life each day and live so I may be able to help others and tell how good the Lord is to us. And I feel so sorry, so many are missing out, and don't realize how much the Lord God loves us all, and all even when they are not living for him. He still loves and grieves for all, as He doesn't want any lost. But we have to be willing. He won't force us. I feel my husband and myself are getting closer to Him, and I thank the good Lord for all."

--Vera Cater

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From La.: "I am still on the road to heaven. By his grace I expect to go there. I am 87 years this Nov., in a wheel chair or walker in the house. The Lord is good to me... I can still do my cooking... I enjoy the Mission Trail very much. I go to church sometimes when I am able... keep the paper coming..."

--Sis. Mary Bush

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From Miss.: "This is to inform you that my dear mother, Mrs. S. H. Benson, who has been receiving your paper, has gone to be with her Lord after a long and devout Christian life serving Him and His church here on this earth. I am sure she enjoyed reading your paper."

--L. V. Benson

From Mo.: "We trust this finds you both well in body and above all well in your soul. We are thankful to be still on the Upward way Pressing on by the grace of God and by His strength. It has been such a beautiful fall this year it seems to me. The trees have been so pretty! But looks like they have about reached their peak and now will soon be bare and winter looking! I really am not ready for winter yet, but guess I will just have to accept it anyhow. Time just won't wait for me! I have enjoyed the warm weather so much. It makes it much easier for me to get the washing dried and etc.! Clayton and Eva Lou don't have a dryer so the weather is quite a factor in washing!... Today was such a pretty sunny day. ... I really don't have a whole lot to say, but we did want to send a little offering your way... May the dear Lord bless your efforts for Him. The other weekend when we were at Sam's and Sharon's in Bartlett we heard your broadcast and thought it was real good. It was the one about the story of the rich man in hell. We thought you brought out a real good thought about just suppose it was as some would like to say, that the story is just a parable, then it would be much worse than told, as stories can only touch the surface of the reality. ... Maybe some day again we will be privileged to get to Guthrie for meeting. Until then we must serve God "Right where we are!"

--Carl and Rebecca Shaffer

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From Okla.: "We enjoy the Mission Trail so much. I generally read it through as soon as I get it."

--Sister Leonard Roberts

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From Okla.: "I would like to be put back on the prayer list. I have been ill for some time."

--Sister Maria Breckenridge

### Not All Make the Second Effort!

Sad to say, not all really make the second effort that is afforded them. What an opportunity was given to serve with the great apostle Paul; and yet he lamented: "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this Present world." There is no indication that Demas ever returned! And such cases abound about us today, as many have turned to the lure of the world, and have forsaken the true way! But we have an obligation in this matter: "Brethren, if any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Gal. 6:1. James has this word for us: "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." James 5:19-20. There are many who have left the way of the Lord that could be restored by our action; and could have a great spiritual life by a second effort!

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From Tenn.: "I trust you are both well and happy. As for me, very happy in the Lord. However, I do have several minor ailments in my body for which I need your Prayers, but I am thanking God for the health He does give me from day to day. He gives me strength to do all of my house work and to work some in yard and garden. I live alone most of the time since I lost my dear companion back in May of this year. I miss him so much, but the Lord is blessing me, and keeping me encouraged to press on. I do want to live a Christian life here and some day to meet my Saviour face to face...I do want to continue to receive the Mission Trail. Your sister in Christ,"

--Mary E. Rogers

From Calif.: "Hope you folks are well and enjoying the goodness of the Lord. I have been through a very serious sickness since I wrote you last, but the Lord was merciful to me and I am much better now. Yes, you are right, there are some passages in life that are too narrow for walking two abreast, that is when it's good to have the Lord with us. I was sorry to hear of the flood damage in Guthrie. We are having lots of rain here now. I give out the papers and tracts in different places and pray that good will be accomplished by it... I pray the very best will come to you and your family." --Edith Reavis

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From La.: "Greetings in the name of Jesus, the one who means everything to me. He is so wonderful and good to me that I love Him with all my heart. He is first and upper most in my heart and life, and I want to ever keep Him there... There is so much sin and evil in the world today that it is a wonder God hasn't brought it all to an end. Sin is the cause of so much heartache, suffering and trouble of every kind. Even though all of this is bad, yet the torments of hell is much worse, and God is being merciful to the lost world to give them an extension of time to prepare for Heaven and escape the sufferings of hell."

--Sis. Myrtis Flynn

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From Kansas: "Dear Murphey's, I do enjoy your little 'Mission Trail' very much. We have had a nice fall after the long hot summer... I know you had such a time, floods, etc... The country looks so green and refreshed. I hope you are all well and happy. My family is about as usual. Some of us have some problems. Everyone does, I guess. I haven't felt quite up to par all fall. But I am feeling better. I enjoy helping others..." --Mrs. Grace Dexter

From Okla.: "I'm so glad I'm part of the family of God. He is always a present help in time of need. It is my true desire to live every day so His favor is on me and I never want to grieve Him in any way. I'm still sharing the Mission Trail with others. I appreciate and enjoy it so much. I hope it is always available."

--Mary Irene Thurston

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From Calif.: "The Lord is so very good to me. Losing my precious companion has been very hard, but the Lord is so very good and sweet to me, holding me up through it all and blessing me every day. I could not make it without him. The Lord was so good to leave him with me as long as he did (14 yrs, 5 months) ... he told me one day, 'I feel like heaven, can't you feel it.' ... one day he said, 'I feel like I did when I first got saved.' He was so happy..."

--Sister Loretta Harmon

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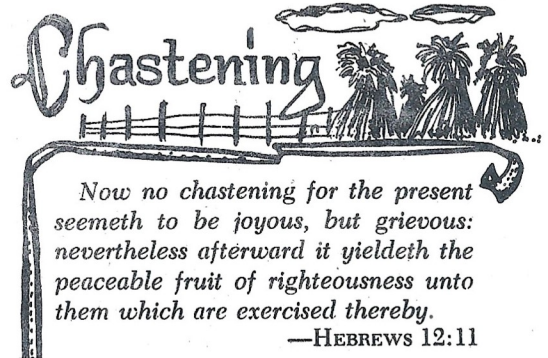
From Calif.: "We are so thankful for salvation and all his love and mercy to us. We surely enjoy the Mission Trail paper. It is a source of much encouragement... We think of that scripture that says, 'The foundation of God standeth sure'... and 'The Lord knoweth them that are his.' We realize it is the surest thing in this world. We are by His grace and strength standing on it. We send love and prayers that you all will continue..."

--Bro. & Sis. Edward V. Davenport

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From Mo.: "I haven't written for a long time but I enjoy reading the Mission Trail and thank the Lord for the good I have received from them... I love the Lord and His Saints. They are my family. Praise God! My desire is to ever keep faithful and live in God's will. Pray for me."

--Sis. Ferne Laub



I know not why His hand is laid  
In chastening on my life,  
Nor why it is my little world  
Is filled so full of strife.

I know not why, when faith looks up  
And seeks for rest from pain,  
That o'er my sky fresh clouds arise  
And drench my path with rain.

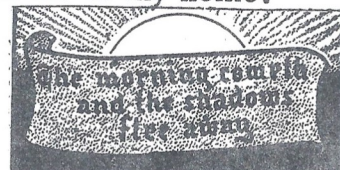
I know not why my prayer so long  
By Him has been denied:  
Nor why, while others' ships sail on,  
Mine should in port abide.

But I do know that God is love,  
That He my burden shares,  
And though I may not understand,  
I know for me He cares.

I know the heights for which I long  
Are often reached through pain,  
I know the wheat must needs be threshed  
To yield the golden grain.

I know that, though He may remove  
The friends on whom I lean,  
'Tis that I thus may learn to love  
And trust the One unseen.

And, when at last I see His face  
And know as I am known,  
I will not care how rough the road  
That led me to my home.



# at press time

we understand:

## In Memory

Our hearts were saddened with the news of the Passing of Brother Henry Dornhofer at the age of 82 on Nov. 26. He and his companion were residents of the Golden Rule Home, having moved to Oklahoma from Michigan in 1970. He was a firm believer in the Church of God and a staunch defender of the truth. Remember his companion Sister Emma in this time of great loss and sorrow: Rt. 6, Box 9, Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

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After many months of suffering Sister Eva Lou Gaines finished her earthly toils and departed to be with the Lord November 15. Her life reminds me of one in the early church, Dorcas, who was so busy doing for others. She loved the Lord and the saints. Her companion: Bro. Clayton Gaines, Rt. 2, Box 51, Thayer, Mo. 65791.

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A Memorial service for Stella Christian was held in Oklahoma City, Nov. 29. For a time when living in Guthrie she attended services at the Church of God.

## BIRTHS

Danny and Sheryl Doolittle, a son, Clinton James.

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Marshall and Melonie Whitson, a son, Warren Marshall.

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Bro. & Sis. Herschel Hargrave, a son, born Oct. 22.

## OKLAHOMA ASSEMBLY MEETING

December 23--January 1.

Location: 6th and W. Warner Streets, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

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Sister Ruth Murphey requests the prayers of the saints for the healing of her body. She is unable to drive and be in the service of the Lord as she has for so many years.

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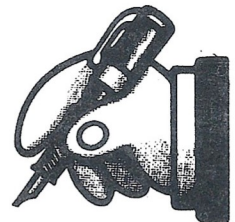
In November Frances and I visited some of the saints of the Loranger, La. area and saw progress being made on their new chapel. It was a joy to be in service with the saints of Midway, La., Shreveport, La., and Prattville, Arkansas.

## *A Request that You Write!*

Did you write in 1983?

If not, please do so before the end of the year!

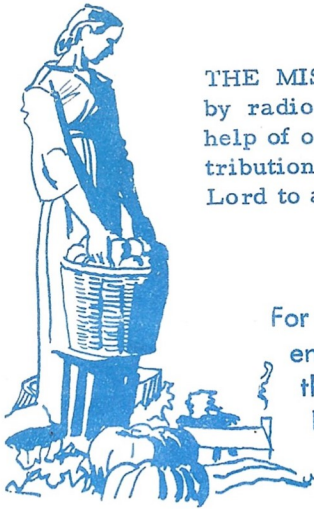
We request each reader write at least once each year if you wish to continue receiving The Mission Trail!



There is no subscription price. We prefer rather to make our services without charge and trust the Lord to supply the needs of the radio broadcast and also the expenses of the publication. God has not failed us for these many years. And we say a hearty "thank you" to all who have a "love for the truth" and have sacrificed to help us maintain our schedule. Your reply now will enable us to better know how to revise our mailing list. May we hear from you? HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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--Willie and Frances Murphey



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published in printed form by Willie Murphey with the help of others. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who are led by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to:

THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044



For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

## Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on

RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a. m.

SEASON'S GREETINGS  
and  
best wishes for the  
New Year

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