



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
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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Salvation Has Been Brought Down

Radio Broadcast for Christmas Day, 1983

A cheerful Christmas morning to all. We are so happy to be coming your way again. I have two things of interest for this time. First, Christ is born and within a few days it appears that we will have a new year in which to serve His cause in the earth. Let me begin by expressing each with a poem:

Christ Is Born

Christ is born, the King of Glory,
Born in yonder Bethlehem;
And the shepherds heard the story,
Which the angels brought to them.

Christ is born, the King of Glory,
Born to save the human race.
Tell, oh, tell the wondrous story
Of His tender love and grace.

God in His great love and kindness
Saw this world all lost in sin,
Lost in darkness and in blindness,
And no peace and rest within.

So He sent a mighty Saviour
To set all sin's captives free;
By His power and by His favor
All may have the victory.

Hallelujah, tell the story,
And proclaim His wondrous birth:
Christ is born, the King of Glory--
King of kings of all this earth.

I am glad to say serenely,
Christ is also born in me,
May I ask the question keenly,
Is He also born in thee?

Another Year

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with thee;

Another year of learning
Upon thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet, happy rest;

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of thy face;

Another year of progress;
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy blessing "all the days";

Another year of service,
Of witness for thy love;
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
On earth or else in heaven,
Another year for thee!

And now this scripture: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits." Matt. 7:13-16.

There are two ways along the journey of life, each leading directly to eternity, but the ends thereof are widely different. Both of these ways can be found, but only one can be traveled at a time, as they lead in opposite directions. The one leads to the regions of the lost into "everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25:41, and those who end their pilgrimage here on earth on this road will reap the reward of the wicked throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity in the torments of hell. This scene is a horrible one. No pen can truly picture the bitter remorse felt, nor describe the horrors and untold agonies of lost souls who have gone their own ways to the pit of destruction.

The other way leads to a blessed place of inheritance prepared for the righteous. Listen: "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matt. 25:34. Sounds wonderful doesn't it? There shall they forever dwell in the realms of peace and glory in the presence of God, to swell the chorus of the redeemed with the angels, where parting will be no more.

The human heart, before touched by the tender chords of divine love, has a

natural inclination towards the things and the way that lead from the paths of peace and way of truth. Yet there is also within the bosom something which at times during lifetime, makes one conscious of the existence of a divine being who has power to deliver from the sinful life. Even the savage in his wild, ignorant, and uncultured state, roaming the forests and sweeping over plains, hunting and scouting, acknowledges a higher power whom he worships according to his understanding. While it seems natural for people to wander into the ways of sin as soon as they reach the age of accountability, it is also natural among all nations of the earth to have some form of worship.

In heathen lands, where they never have heard of Christ the Lord, they have chosen gods of their own; while some worship the sun, moon or stars, others make gods out of wood, stone, or metal, or select something else fully as powerless to which they bow in humble submission, or do penance, and imagine these things possess some supernatural power. Many heathen worshippers are led to perform some frightful deeds, and some sad scenes are witnessed among them, even to the sacrificing of human life to appease the wrath of their false, lifeless god. Many sad, but true experiences have been told of their superstitious performances, which only show to us the great need of helping in some manner to point them to a better way.

But let us deal more directly now with those who have had at least some prior knowledge of the God of heaven and his Son Jesus Christ, who came into the world as a Savior from sin, to redeem such as were willing to forsake their evil ways. There are millions who have heard of Christ; who believe in Christ,

that he has Power to forgive sins, yet they are without a knowledge of a real heart experience, only having a head belief, or an inclination of the mind toward the living God; and to be plain about the matter, they are on the broad way to destruction, going on in the ways of sin. Many of that number are professing to be saved, but are not awakened to their real condition. There are some who try to identify God with nature, and would like to believe that there is no God to render judgment against the wicked; but their pet theories and views are swept away like chaff before the wind, by the truths of his word.

It is human nature to drift into the ways of the world and seek such pleasures as have a tendency to gratify the desires of a graceless heart, even though there may be strong religious inclinations implanted in the heart. So, it is human nature to thus drift in the wrong direction. It might be better to say, that because of the depraved condition of the heart through the fall of man, humanity is led onward and governed to a great extent by the carnal mind instead of by the divine, and continues in this way until the heart is changed by the power of God.

Many go along their way for years, and thus spend the greater part of their lives and seem to enjoy the pleasures of the world and have but little concern about the future until brought to a point where death stares them in the face; That is when they begin as never before to realize that their worldly pleasures have only been as dross in comparison to the bliss of heaven, which they will miss, if hurled into eternity in such a condition. But all people do not even have the enjoyment of worldly pleasures enough to make them happy, even though they do travel the ways of sin.

God has said in his word that "the way of the transgressor is hard;" and if they do not fully realize it in this world, they will not fail to do so in the world to come. However, we find generally as people plunge into the depths of sin and walk in disobedience to God, transgressing his laws, the way is rugged, filled with disappointments, griefs, sorrows that cannot be fully described nor told. Oh, how dark the way is for such as have not chosen the "better way"! Misery and woe seem to stare them in the face on every hand. It seems as if the "doors of the shadow of death" are being closed in upon them, shutting out the last ray of light. But to be sure, as long as there is life there is hope, unless that hope is rejected unto the end.

Would you like a recipe for a happy new year? Then listen: Take twelve fine, fullgrown months. See that these are thoroughly free from all old memories of bitterness, hatred and jealousy. Cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness. In short, see that these months are freed from all the past--have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. (Twenty-eight for February). Now this batch will keep for just one year. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many people spoil the entire lot in this way) but prepare one day at a time as follows: Into each day put a generous portion of faith, patience and courage. Then add some honest toil and work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest). Next add hope, which is the anchor of the soul and some liberality and kindness. Afterward, allow a reasonable time for rest and reading of the Word as well as meditation. Add one

Purpose of heart--to please God above all else. Mix all of this thoroughly with love and cook in a fervent heat. Garnish with a few smiles and a sprig of joy. Then serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness. These are the ingredients for A HAPPY NEW YEAR! Our Father, we thank thee for the Past year with all its Problems and victories. Help us to learn our lessons well and make the new year even a better one of service for Thee and all those who listen to the broadcast. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

Thanks to all who have helped us make it through the old year. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may your holidays be bright and the new year filled with great HAPPINESS. A very cheerful goodbye!

Testimonies

From Calif.: "Greetings. The steady ever-moving steps of time is swiftly carrying us to our eternal home. Another year is being laid to rest by the great giant, who waits nor stops for no one or thing. Many of our loved ones were swept off the scene in this year, gone to their future home, but time moves on. I realize I only have a short space of time to do, or finish my course. I must make every moment count for good, in the work of my Lord, turning a deaf ear to the beckoning calls of relatives and friends to take part in the usual festivities of the Christmas season. But the fields are white, and laborers are few. Many souls are lost, being deceived by the glitter and deceitful worship of many different religions of this day and times, refusing the offer of the last dispensation of true holiness, righteousness, faith that worketh by love and the ever abiding Spirit."

--Sis. Hazel Clark

From Okla.: "Greeting to you in the Precious name of our Lord and Jesus Christ. This morning finds me encouraged to live for the Lord and be what he would have me to be in every way...I am very much afflicted in body...there's nothing impossible for God. My trust is in Him at all times. Always remember both my husband and me in your Prayers for both soul and body."

--Sis. Dora Lee Griffin Johnson

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From Penna.: "One more year has gone into Eternity. I do love Him more each day and want to live so others may see Jesus in my life. This is such a joyous season, but it makes my heart sad to see People drinking alcohol to celebrate the day...Oh, how people need to find the Peace our dear Lord brings. When things in the world look so terrible, we can draw nearer to our Lord...God bless you and yours at this season and may the new year find new fields for you to tell the good news." --Sis. Eva Cox

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From Texas: "I'm so thankful for Jesus. I'm glad I gave my heart to him because that's the best thing that ever happened to me. I'm glad I had something to give him. I hope to be faithful to him throughout my life. I'm sure hoping and Praying for the Lord to work out a way for us to go to meeting, if it's His will. My mother desires to go also. We know that the Lord will work out a way if He wants us to go...I'm looking forward to the coming new year of serving the Lord." --Sis. Jan Wood

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From Ark.: "I have been intending to write for sometime and could make some excuses but won't. I don't think that would be pleasing to the Lord. I do enjoy getting the paper and reading it. It is food to my soul. I so pray the Lord will bless you in this work for the Lord." --Sis. Dorothy Critcher

From Calif.: "I want to thank the Lord for being saved and having the Peace of God in my heart. I am so thankful for the Lord saving my oldest son this year. I thank the saints for their Prayers. I Put in many requests for my children. God is answering Prayers. . . . My second son and wife were separated. They had some severe problems. In answer to Prayer, God worked the problems out and they are together again and happy, thank the dear Lord. If any one says God is not still working miracles, I say send them to see me."

--Sis. Naomi Jennings
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"Greetings from Alabama! At the end of this year, we are thinking back over the many ways God has blessed us. His protection during our car accident in April and His giving us a healthy baby boy in November are just two of the highlights. We enjoy reading the Mission Trail. Please keep it coming! We will miss being out there for the Assembly meeting and seeing everyone, but we felt it would be best to stay at home this year with 3 little ones."

--Marshall, Melonie Whitson & three!
--o--

From Mo.: "I have just read your message on 'I know my redeemer liveth.' It was all good, but I especially like the part where you spoke of him being mighty and pleading for us. I have been thinking of lately and intending to write so this morning I just decided to get at it..."

--Bro. T. V. McMillian
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From Oregon: "We hope that the joy and peace that was announced by the angels on the night of our Saviour's birth will reign in all of your hearts and minds at this Christmas season and throughout your lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord whose birth we commemorate at this season of the year."

--Bro. Ostis and Sis. Evelyn Wilson

From Calif.: "We are looking forward to the new year with bright anticipation, as we have found that this great salvation gets sweeter as the years go by. Let us all take courage and go forth. 'Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark...' May we each be found faithful in his service in the new year. 'There are battles to fight, and fair trophies to win, and perishing souls to be rescued from sin.' We desire your Prayers."

--Hayward and Tina Cox
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From Miss.: "I still love Jesus my Saviour, and am so thankful he died, shed his blood for me, for by his shed blood we are saved. He went back to heaven for me. As I grow older I love him more and more and I love 1st Pet. 5:6-7: 'Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.' I am happy to say, He takes care of all my needs."

--Sis. Grace Gill
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From Calif.: "Greetings in the dear name of our Lord Jesus. I thank God for being saved and sanctified, very much encouraged. I enjoy the Mission Trail very much. I started out to see God's face in peace and to live here on earth for Him in His peace. The Lord has been and still is very good to me. I do thank Him and praise His name. I am thankful that I am not ashamed of God, nor to be His child."

--Sis. Ezella Gant
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From Penna.: "I thank the Lord for my Bible. I enjoy reading it because it is God's word, the truth. I have an unspoken request. Remember me in Prayer. I know the Lord is able."

--Sister Mable Kinsey

From Calif.: "Warm greeting from our home to yours this lovely time of the year. We Pray you are well and happy as we are. I was reading about Moses and how God accomplished some gigantic ends with miniature tools. The Lord is often present in our lives in small things that we do not dream poses any significance. This is well illustrated in the story of baby Moses in the ark of bulrushes as he floated down the Nile to fulfill a holy mission--a destiny impelled by his tears and their effect upon a young maiden's heart. That terrifying incident, the pathetic sobbing of a distressed infant, later proved to be one of the strongest links in the chain of God's grand design. Pharaoh's daughter saved his life and this weeping child eventually rose to power and shook 'the land of the pyramids' to its foundations as he led Israel out of bondage. Yes, God used a baby's tears to answer a mother's prayers, save a nation, and thus preserve the line of Christ. (Heb. 11:23). It is reassuring to know that this all-wise Protector and Guide is not only at the helm of the universe, but still shapes our individual destinies!

A whispered prayer, a baby's tear,
Can shape a life--a nation here:
Each plays its part in plans Divine,
For naught is small in His design!

--Sister Lucille Allen
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From Calif.: "We enjoy the Mission Trail. Through it we hear from our brothers and sisters in many other places. Please keep it coming. We are saved and trusting the Lord for soul and body. Lord blessed our hearts in our revival with the rich and anointed word of God, and each time we hear God's word, it makes us more responsible to God for the light of his word. You don't hear from us often but you are remembered in our prayers. Pray for us."

--Sis. Willa Oglesby

From Calif.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name, the one that loved us and died for us that we might be redeemed. Oh, Praise God for his mercy and goodness. The word of God says, "call unto me and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jer. 33:3. I am glad we serve a God whom we can call upon and He will answer. The good things God has for us if we but ask in faith believing. Seek and ye shall find--again ask and you shall receive. I mean to keep pressing, asking, receiving and climbing the upward way. Your brother in Christ, "

--Bro. Jim Kutra

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From Okla.: "We truly thank God for the little babe that was born into the world to take away the sin of the world. I am happy to have my sins under the blood and willing to go as he taught his disciples to "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. There is plenty to be done in our world around us today. My heart is burdened to do more for my blessed Lord who has done so much for me."

--Sis. Theresa Gaines

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From Ok.: "Thank the Lord, I'm home, had a safe trip there and back. I was in the Los Angeles revival meeting; had a good meeting and I got much good to my soul ... Remember me in your prayers. Yours for the work of God, "

--Sis. Mary A. Brown

--o--

From Ark.: "Hope you all are well and enjoying the blessing of the dear Lord. We all have so much to praise the Lord for. He is so good to us. I would like for all the saints to pray for me. I have bronchitis. I know God can heal me. I love him so much and want to live close to him... I would like for you all to pray for my children to be saved."

--Sis. Stellar Ivie

at press time

we understand:

THE WAY OF LIFE

There is one way that leads to life,
Through this dark world of toil & strife,
'Tis narrow, high and free from Pride,
For Jesus himself is guide.

'Tis he who saves from sin;
All those who walk this way must be as
Free from worldliness as he who for us
Bled and died.

We love Him, so let's come to Him,
So close that all this world of sin,
Will be forever denied; Then Pray,
O Lord, I come to thee, from worldly
Lusts do set me free and draw me near
Thy side.

Thy Prayer to God in me fulfill,
And help me ever do thy will,
And be not of this world,

For worldly love can never be
Within his heart who loveth thee.
All such must far be hurled.

One Christ alone has made the way.
He made but one for hear Him say,
"I am the way, the life."

So friend, if you would enter in that
Heavenly home so free from sin,
Take Christ to be your life.

--Sis. Cora Slifer

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From Kansas: "I truly thank the dear
Lord for his goodness to all of us. He
has kept me from falling so many
times, it is amazing, really. I thank
him for the grace he gives me each day.
I am not as strong as I would like to be,
but God knows best and I am now 77
years of age. That is longer than I ex-
pected to live. We still have all 8 of
our children and that is so much to be
thankful for."

--Sis. Carl Tucker

From Oregon: "We hope this will find
you both well in body and encouraged in
your souls. We both are just very well,
thanks to our Lord. We thank our Lord
and Savior for all of his blessings and his
benefits...we request your Prayers."

--W. J. and Violet Benson

--o--

From Calif.: "Greeting to both of you
in the Precious name of our Lord. I am
yet saved, sanctified, satisfied and en-
couraged to Press on to glory. I am
always glad to get The Mission Trail;
I sit and read it through before stopping.
I wish I could hear the messages on the
radio. Sure I would enjoy them more."

--Sis. Flora B. Davis

--o--

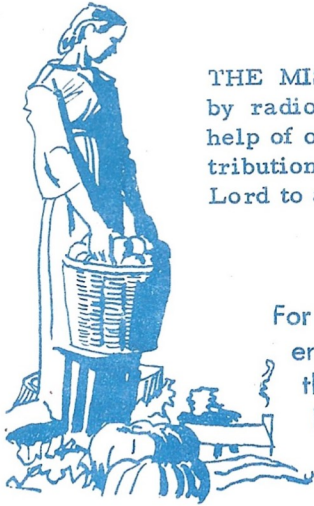
IN LOVING MEMORY

It is with sad hearts that we announce
the home-going of our dear "Mother"
Lessie Davenport, of San Bernardino,
Calif. At 95 she gave a very stirring
exhortation Sun. night
Dec. 18 just moments
before a stroke from
which she did not re-
cover. Her crowning
day was Christmas and
I think there must have
been shouting in the
streets of glory as she
entered in.



--o--

With joy we send HAPPY NEW YEAR
greetings to our listeners and readers.
Thanks to all who have helped us reach
this point to where we begin our 20th
year of the broadcast. May your new
year be bright with heaven's blessing.



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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

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