



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

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

VOL. 20, NO. 4

THE MISSION TRAIL

APRIL, 1984

CAUTION! Danger Ahead

Radio Broadcast for March 18, 1984

Good morning, dear ones. Good morning to every listener. I am so happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio. We are so thankful that God has made it possible for us to bring the gospel message over the radio and we thank each of you who have helped to make it possible . . .

Now this scripture: "But I trusted in thee, O Lord: I said, Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand:" Psalm 31: 14 and part of verse 15. Notice especially this statement here: "My times are in thy hand:" The writer seemed to realize that his life wasn't his own but God was controlling it. Those things which came his way were ordered by the Lord and God would care for and protect him. And it would be well for each of us if we realized that God is caring for us. God is watching over us, especially if we have given ourselves to the Lord. Of course He lets things happen to folks who are not saved also . . . Their times are in God's hand. In other words they sometimes think, "I'm controlling my life," but did you know you're not the master of your life. There are things that can happen that you have no control over them. And God does have control over them. So if we're saved, especially, we're not our own.

Listen to this verse here, "I returned and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding,

nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all. For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them." Eccl. 9:11-12.

So I say folks who think their lives belong to themselves should realize that time and chance happens to them and yet above all and over all they should realize that God has a hand in their lives. Friends, there is a frightening and an all-important question. But it should be asked faithfully and answered honestly. Perhaps, it is lurking unformed already in the minds of many, needing to be put into words: Are we, as a people and as a nation, on the brink of the decline and fall of the United States of America? Are we witnessing and participating in the same kind of inner moral and political decay which brought an end to the Roman Empire in 200 A.D., which are also evident to many today? Does this mean that the United States will inevitably fall also? Well, this depends upon the course which is taken from here on out. I would

say up to this point there are some certain signs and indications which point toward the corruption and decay and fall of our country. Now, the quality and staying power of American civilization is fiercely in dispute between the communist and non-communist nations today. There are many countries which scorn American materialism while striving to match it in both big and little ways. Perhaps envy may have something to do with this, but there is also a true basis for this debate: Is America really going forward, or has it reached its zenith and is it declining and falling away?

Some of the same symptoms seen in the decline of Rome and arising, not from external enemies but from inside the country itself, are also seen in our society. I am speaking of internal corruption. When the moral consensus, based on religion, collapses among the people, it is not surprising that it also collapses at the top of the country. Let us bear in mind that civilizations who rejected voluntary discipline were brought into subjection by force which took away their liberties.

Now, what are the visible signs of the decline of the United States which were in part the contributing causes of the decline of Rome?

Just to name a few:

1--A disregard of law by those elected to uphold the law.

2--The acceptance by many in and out of government that the end justifies the means.

3--The pervasive practice of deceit and hypocrisy in government, in business, in unions, in religion and elsewhere in society.

4--A perilous decline in the credibility of nearly every category of national leadership, including politicians, the press and the modern churches of our day.

5--A rising desire of people to live off the state on welfare subsidies and business subsidies.

6--A moral blackout toward vulgarity, violence and public indecency.

7--An inordinate love of show and luxury.

8--A moral torpor toward money corruption in politics and political corruption in government.

Now dear ones, I say there is enough evidence here to cause Americans to wake up. It is time for people to seek the Lord for their own souls, the souls of our children and the people of our nation. America is fast travelling the road to destruction. This brings us to the question of the century: Is America's decline irreversible? Can its direction be reversed? It is not impossible, but it is highly unlikely if the present course is pursued. This trend doesn't have to continue but it will not be averted by closing our eyes or our minds to the many things which have gone wrong with our society. Folks need to see and do whatever is necessary to reverse the downward slide.

Now that answer is a returning to the Bible and its teachings. It is a return to Christ. An old-fashioned revival is what is needed in our day and time. By this the nation can be saved. And by this you as an individual can be saved regardless of which way the nation goes. Listen to these verses from Jeremiah 8:7-9: "Yea, the stork in the heaven

knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the Lord. How do ye say, We are wise, and the law of the Lord is with us? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribes is in vain. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?"

Dear ones, how can we, as a nation say we are wise when we refuse the words of the Lord? What does it mean to have a constitution of freedom written in beautiful words, and it is a wonderful piece of work, but, if it is not practiced what good does it do? What does it mean to have beautifully written laws with equality and justice for all if they are not practiced? How can we say the law of the Lord is with us, when his words are trampled under foot day after day?

Now I say this change needs to be brought about in the hearts of individuals, in the hearts of the society of the people. Then it will not be hard to bring about those laws and cause those people to obey them, if it is really in their heart to do it. Jesus said:

"Therefore whosoever, heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." Matt. 7:24-27. Let us pray.

Our Heavenly Father, we pray that you would bless each listener to the broadcast today. Cause the words to be effective, cause the Spirit of God to bear them to the hearts of those who need to change their lives. Encourage those who are striving to do the right and living for Thee. Bless each listener this day in the way which they need most and to Thee we will give the praise through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Thank you, dear ones, for a few moments of your time. If we may be of further help to you, be sure to let us know . . .

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

Though He slay, I'll trust

*Sometimes our perfect little worlds
Are shaken, tossed about.*

*How did it happen? Why, Lord, why?
And questions foster doubt.*

*But oh, I've found down through the years
God's granary avails;
His funds are not depleted yet;
His larder never fails.*

*How many Israelites did God
Feed in the wilderness?
Did even one go wanting there?
God proved His faithfulness!*

*Do lilies face their world unclothed?
Do sparrows beg for bread?
Does God forget His chosen seed?
Is His hand limited?*

*He is my buckler and my shield;
His promises are true;
His covenants stand forevermore
And what He says, He'll do!*

*The God of Daniel succors me;
He makes the crooked straight.
I'm graven on His precious hands
Till all things consummate.*

*He will not leave me, though my world
Lies groveling in the dust.
Job's God is still upon His throne;
And though He slay, I'll trust.*

Testimonies

From Kansas: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men. I certainly appreciate the peace that Jesus brought and how we can have it reigning within us. Praise His Holy name. That peace truly does pass understanding and it is precious to possess it. I also appreciate the joy of salvation that springs up within us and never needs to run dry. I am thankful for all of the fruits of the spirit and how they add to and enhance this abundant life. I just appreciate my life for God very much and I am so glad I found it. Without it there seems to be no real goals or sense of direction because all earthly things will perish. But we have an eternal goal to work toward and that is so rewarding and increases the incentive to live altogether. I am so glad I can say Christ is mine and I am His. This is a glorious life and I mean by the grace of God to go right on until the crown is won." --Sis. Shirley A. Knight

--o--

From Calif.: "Greetings of love in Jesus name ... We are having warm beautiful days after the dry Jan. and March. All the fruit trees are blooming and it looks like an early spring. I love to get up early in the morning and see the sunrise. The day is new, just beginning. Seek the Lord in the morning and have Him near all the day. Christ is in today and in all the tomorrows that we will have to journey through. We may be sure that we are safe if we will follow His leadings. Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see the distant scene--One step enough for me, Jesus Christ. He knows the way, and He goes before. "And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him" John 10:4. I'm saved, sanctified and kept in His love." --Sis. Lucille Allen

From Ga.: "The Lord has been so good to us. I am sorry I haven't written for my subscription by now, but due to an affliction in my right arm, I had no one to write for me until now. Please continue to send it to me because I enjoy reading it." --Sister Mary Johnson

--o--

From S. Car.: "The Lord has been good to us here. He is a merciful God. Saints, I need special prayer for my body. I have been bad sick for a long time. I know God can help me and I am trusting Him completely. I haven't been able to eat very much food. I want the food but unable to eat it... Please pray for me and hold me up to the Lord."

--Sis. Edna Crummie

--o--

From Ark.: "Oh, I praise the Lord who bought me, hallelujah! I'm a happy pilgrim bound for gloryland. Do you believe it? It's true. I am. This wonderful salvation wasn't purchased with a small price. It was a great price and so valuable. It took the blood of Christ to bring this to me. He suffered so for us leaving us an example to follow Him... I can truly recommend this great love to anyone. "A sure cure." The incredible gift of life He's given me I pray to make the best of it for the glory of the Lord. I may have more living and a lot more learning and leaning." --Sister Lou Bray

--o--

From Okla.: "I trust you both are enjoying good health and the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on us all. I sure do thank Him for all He has done for me. He touched my body and made me whole again. It has been many months since I have felt so well, praise His dear name." --Sis. Mentie Nurse

--o--

From La.: "We are encouraged to live for the Lord and want to please Him."

--Ferlin and Kathy Palmer

From Okla.: "We thank God today for salvation, and the desire we have to press onward and upward. We thank God for healing our body many times. To Him we give the praise, for His saving and healing power. Surely we want to be a blessing and encouragement to every one we come in contact with. Pray for us soul and body. We appreciate the Mission Trail. Please keep us on the mailing list."

--Sis. Gustava Anderson

--o--

From Okla.: "Greetings of love. Trust you two are well and encouraged. All we here do pretty well for which we are so thankful. Vonda's family and I have escaped the flu so far for which we are so grateful. Even though I am slow about writing please continue to send the Mission Trail. I enjoy the messages so much. I especially enjoyed the message on abortion. Preaching like that is so needed in the time we live... Love and prayers,"

--Sis. Margie Wall

--o--

From Okla.: "Greetings in Jesus name. Thanksgiving unto our Heavenly Father for the gospel of the kingdom of God. In 2 Cor. 1:20-22, 'For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.' May the Lord be our righteousness and peace and joy always, is my prayer. Victory in Jesus, our Redeemer. Pray for our son Ernest... God bless the work of God. I love to hear the word of God on the broadcast..."--Sis. Eva Penner

--o--

"I like the 'Mission Trail.' Please continue to send it. Remember me in prayer."

--Sis. Juliette Lounds

He is faithful

*Are you passing through a testing?
Is your pillow wet with tears?
Do you wonder what the reason,
Why it seems God never hears?
Why it is you have no answer
To your oft-repeated plea?
Why the heaven still is laden
As you wait on bended knee?*

*Do you wonder as you suffer
Whether God does understand?
And, if so, why He ignores you,
Fails to hold you in His hand?
Do dark doubts creep in, assail you—
Fears without, and fears within—
Till your brave heart almost falters
And gives way to deadly sin?*

*All God's testings have a purpose—
Someday you will see the light.
All He asks is that you trust Him,
Walk by faith and not by sight.
Do not fear when doubts beset you,
Just remember—He is near;
He will never, never leave you;
He will always, always hear.*

New spring

*Pink, yellow, purple, white, and red
All deck the emerald green
Where just a few short months ago
Pale winter's death was seen.
Along the cloistered garden path
There banks the dew-drenched fern;
New season's breath holds variance
As fragrant winds sojourn.*

*When fall's last golden leaves came down,
The skies were slate on gray;
I pulled September's stubborn weeds
Anticipating May.
I chose the choicest tulip bulbs
From autumn's last charade,
And prayerfully I placed each one
For springtime on parade.*

*Today beside the sheltered path
The tulips are in bloom;
My garden is a paradise;
I thrill to rare perfume.
Today I walk the ferns between
Where winter's winds had torn;
Forgotten is cold season's breath
As grand new life is born.*

Think of our Lord Speaking and saying:

YOU do not have to be clever to please me. All you have to do is to love me with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. You may just speak to me as you would to anyone of whom you are very fond.

Are there any people you want to pray for? Then say their names to me and ask of me as much as you like. I am generous and know all their needs, but I want you to show your love for them and me by trusting me to do what I know is best.

Tell me about the poor, the sick, and the sinner, and if you have lost the friendship or affection of anyone, tell me about that too.

Is there anything you want for your soul? You may mention any and all of your needs and bring them to me. If you have faults and failures, you may confess them all. You need not be ashamed. Many saints in heaven have had like problems but received grace to overcome them. They prayed, confessed their faults and were overcomers.

Do not hesitate to ask me for blessings for the body and mind also. He whose mind is stayed on the Lord will be successful. I can give everything, and I do give everything needed to make souls holy and pure.

What is it that you want today? Tell me, for I long to do you good. What are your plans? Tell me about them. Is there anyone you want to please? What do you want to do for them?

And don't you want to do anything for me? Don't you want to do a little good to the souls of your friends who perhaps have forgotten me? What are your worries? Who has caused you pain? Tell me about it, and add that you will forgive them and I will bless you.

Are you afraid of anything? Have you any tormenting fears? Trust yourself to me. I am here. I see everything. I will not leave you.

Have you no joys to tell me? Why do you not share your happiness with me? Tell me what has happened since yesterday to cheer and comfort you. Whatever it was, however big, however small, I prepared it. Show me your gratitude and thankfulness.

Have you decided fully to be kept free from all sin? Are you willing to leave off the reading of bad books and forsake worldly companions? They disturb the peace of your soul and mind. Are you going to be kind to that one who has hurt you?

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Well arise and be about your duties now. Try to be quieter, humbler, more submissive, kinder; and come back soon and bring me a more devoted heart. I shall have more blessings for you then.

at press time

we understand:

Calvary's Hill

I saw One hanging on the Tree
I heard Him say, "I died for thee;
Believe, and thou shalt be made free,"
My heart said, "Yes, I will."
That word I never shall regret.
His pardon my repentance met;
He freely canceled all my debt
Up there on Calvary's hill.

A cup with grief filled to the brim,
And eyes that were with weeping dim,
A broken heart, I brought to Him;
He whispered, "Peace, be still."
My sorrows soon were turned to song
My tears a rainbow spanned 'ere long;
The broken heart grew hale and strong,
Up there on Calvary's hill.

And once it seemed my joy o'erflowed;
I scarcely knew I bore a load;
I lightly tripped a shinning road,
With little thought or skill;
Until I was quite overthrown,
Yet learned He left me not alone;
He lifted me, called me His own,
Up there on Calvary's hill.

Now know I we must walk with care,
With constant watching unto prayer,
'Ere He His life with us can share,
His love our beings fill;
Then shall we ever see His face.
Then shall we know His keeping grace,
Then shall we run our toilsome race,
In sight of Calvary's hill.

"... and let us run with patience the
race that is set before us," Heb. 12:1



Sister Ella McMakin on March 18 left her earthly tabernacle to be with the Lord after a long life of service in the Church of God. She and Bro. Willie McMakin observed 50 years of married life in January 1972. For many years they enjoyed using their talents of singing in the service of the Lord.

--o--

We received word that Bro. W. J. Benson departed to be with the Lord on March 12. Bro. Benson took an active part in the work of the Lord in the Jefferson, Oregon congregation. He will certainly be missed by the saints and others who knew him.

--o--

From Okla.: "...I really enjoy the Mission Trail. Every article in it was good. The one that touched my heart was the poem, 'The priceless portrait.' "

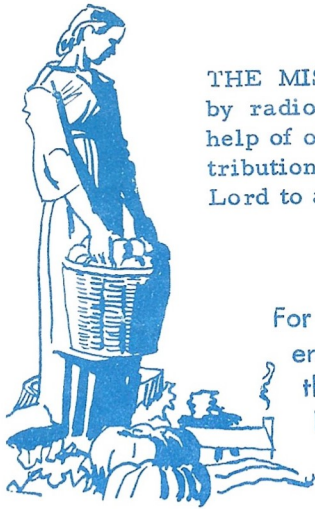
--Sis. Mattie Simpson

--o--

We request the saints to remember Sis. Fannie Huston, who is recovering from a broken hip in her home at 402 South Franklin, Anthony, Kansas 67003.

--o--

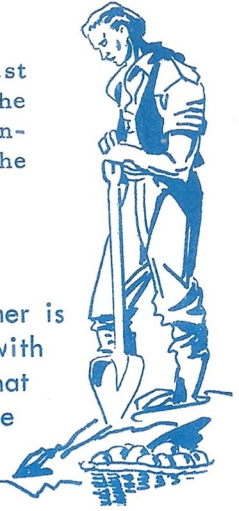
It is a joy on this beautiful spring morning to send greetings of love to each and every reader. The Lord has been good to bring us through the long winter season with all its ice storms and snow. May your summer activities be filled with God's favor and blessings. --WCM



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
KGGF

LOCATION
Coffeyville, Kansas

DIAL
SETTING
690 kc.

TIME
Sunday, 8:00 a. m.

The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Return Postage Guaranteed

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
11¢ PAID
Guthrie, Okla.
Permit No. 7