



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

# The Mission Trail

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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## "The heart is deceitful..."

Radio Broadcast for June 10, 1984

Good morning. I am happy to be coming your way with another short gospel message. We sincerely hope and trust that each of you are well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord. Listen to this text: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9. This speaks of the natural heart of a man or woman being unregenerated and unredeemed. If your heart is different, it is but by the grace of God. And if your heart is like this, I hope by the end of this message you will make your way to the Lord in repentance and have a change of heart.

Now, from the dictionary we find this definition: Deceit--the act or practice of deceiving; an attempt or device to deceive. It goes on to further explain: Deceive implies the imposing of a false idea or belief that causes bewilderment or helplessness or furthers the agent's purpose; mislead stresses a leading astray from the truth usually by deliberately deceiving; delude and beguile stress the action of the one deceived, delude implying an inability to distinguish between the true and the false, beguile, a readiness to be charmed or persuaded by the deceiver.

So it seems to me, to have an "heart deceitful above all things and desperately wicked" would indeed mean that this heart was in need of a cleansing.

Let us look further into this condition. I am reminded of the way in which one of the ancient writers expressed it: "Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive." Notice two things about an heart like this:

First--when deceit is manifest in men's lives it comes from a wicked heart. Here it is in Mark 7:21-23 -- "From within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these things come from within, and defile the man."

Secondly--When in men's hearts deceit is usually manifest through the tongue. Listen to Romans 3:13--"Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit;"

Then I want you to notice five other characteristics of these wicked people. 1. The wicked are full of deceit. "Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers," Romans 1:29.

2. The wicked devise it. "The thoughts

of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit." Prov. 12:5. And also Psalms 35:20. Listen: "For they speak not peace: but they devise deceitful matters against them that are quiet in the land."

3. The wicked utter deceit. Listen again to the word. "The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes. For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful. The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good. He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil." Psalms 36:1-4.

4. The wicked work deceit. "The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward." Proverbs 11:18.

5. The wicked delight in deceit. "Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel." Proverbs 20:17. So you can see the wicked are filled with this deceit and work it as well as take pleasure in it, but afterwards their mouth shall be filled with gravel. Did you ever get a mouthful of sand, grit or gravel. Let me tell you, it isn't very pleasant to have grit between your teeth. It might be all right for a chicken to have some gravel to digest its food, but a man wasn't made that way. He doesn't need gravel in his mouth. It doesn't chew very well. Neither does deceit work for his good in the end.

Notice three other things concerning false teachers of deceit. First: False teachers work deceit. "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of

Christ." 2 Cor. 11:13. So you see they would have you to believe they are teachers of the truth when in reality, they are deceitful workers of iniquity.

Second: These false teachers preach deceit. Listen to Isaiah 30 beginning with verse 9, "That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us."

Third: False teachers handle the word of God deceitfully. But the true prophet of God does not do this. Listen: "But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2. Cor. 4:2-4.

Then, let me point out some of the evils of deceit. 1. It hinders the knowledge of God. "Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the Lord. Therefore thus saith the Lord of host, Behold, I will melt them, and try them; for how shall I do for the daughter of my people? Their tongue is as an arrow shot out; it speaketh deceit; one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait." Jeremiah 9:6-8.

2. Deceit keeps men from turning to

God. "Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual back-sliding? they hold fast deceit, they refuse to return."

3. Deceit leads to pride and oppression. Have you noticed how many times Jeremiah has mentioned deceit? Here he speaks again: "As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich. They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge. Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?" Jer. 5:27-31.

4. Deceit leads men to speak lies. Listen: "A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies." Prov. 14:25.

5. Deceit leads men to fraud. "His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity." Psa. 10:7.

6. Men cover up hatred and bitterness by deceit. "He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him; When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart. Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation. Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him." Prov. 26:24-27. Friends, I believe I have given enough

scriptures to show that deceit is a great evil in the sight of God. But please listen to this one other scripture showing that it shall not go unpunished. "But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee." Psa. 55:23.

Let us pray. Our Father, bless the message to the good of every listener. Open the minds of those who are deceived by the enemy and bring repentance to their hearts before the final day shall be revealed and thine shall be the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen.

...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 La.: "It has been quite awhile since I wrote... I don't know if you heard but my heart is sad with the loss of my husband on May 7th. He had cancer for past year. It began in the throat but spread over entire bone structure... I'm so overjoyed to have a hope of his soul... So pray for all of us. I got back to meeting a couple of Sundays ago. Our chapel is so nice... Yours for Christ,"  
--Sis. Gladys Harper

--o--

From Kansas: "May the good Lord bless both of you and keep you encouraged every step of the way. I hope you had a real good camp meeting. Guthrie is the starting of the camp meetings. I went to the TrueValu hardware store today to get me a flashlight and just as I stepped upon the walk to go into the store I fell. I bumped the crown of my head against an iron post that holds the roof up. I don't think anyone saw me fall, but it sure shook me up. I don't think that it really hurt me much, just some skinned place. Thank the Lord that He protected me... I enjoyed your message, and the Mission Trail too. Just keep laboring on for the good Lord. I hope I will be able to go to Monark camp meeting, but I don't know. If God will give me the strength I can make it. Please pray that I can go." --Sis. Mamie Norcutt

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From Okla.: "I read this morning the words of Jesus, 'And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.' St. Luke 14:27. Yes, it is good to know the Lord Jesus. In St. John 14:6, 'Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.' O give thanks unto the Lord, for the beautiful holy way. I love it."

--Sis. Eva Penner

From Okla.: "Thank the Lord for salvation, for all His promises, for the privilege of prayer and all the answers to prayer. Also for His constant care for us."  
--Mary Irene Thurston

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From Kans.: "Sickness hindered me from attending the Guthrie meeting but I had planned to attend. I had inner ear problems that threw my balance all off and caused hearing loss in my left ear. I still desire my hearing restored. After a week in bed and 2 weeks off work I worked a week with God's help and am daily getting my strength back. I do thank the Lord so much for that. We surely need the Lord at all times. Continue to pray for Bro. Williams."

--Sis. Shirley A. Knight

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From Calif.: "Greetings to the saints of God everywhere. Today I am yet saved to all I know and am willing to learn more about how to please the Lord. I want to tell how the Lord blessed my granddaughter and me on May 13th. We were on our way to Oklahoma City and at Sayer, Okla. one of the front wheels of our car almost came off and the Lord blessed us to be close to a filling station and we were able to contact a mechanic on Sunday which I know all was the goodness of the Lord. Pray for me."  
--Sis. Katie Gaines

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From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! I am so glad to be part of the family of God. He is so good to me. He is there when I call. He knows our every need and has promised to supply our needs. Praise His Name! We have had two nice sunny days after all the rain. The rivers really came up and in the low-lying areas, they flooded. God still controls the weather. Man may make things to kill himself, but God can do anything but fail!"

--Sis. Eva Cox

From Ore.: "I'm feeling better but still much in need of earnest prayers.

It is only a tiny rosebud --  
A flower of God's design;  
But I cannot unfold the petals  
With these clumsy hands of mine.

The secret of unfolding flowers  
Is not known to such as I --  
The flower God opens so sweetly  
In my hands would fade and die.

If I cannot unfold a rosebud  
This flower of God's design,  
Then how can I think I have wisdom  
To unfold this life of mine?

So I'll trust in Him for His leading  
Each moment of every day,  
And I'll look to Him for His guidance  
Each step of the pilgrim way.

For the pathway that lies before me  
My Heavenly Father knows --  
I'll trust Him to unfold the moments  
Just as He unfolds the rose.

I appreciate every prayer in my behalf.  
I know God loves me and I love Him. I  
want His will done."

--Sis. Ruby Hutchinson

--o--

From Okla.: "If it wasn't for the Lord  
what would we do? I appreciate the  
Lord. He is so good to me. He is my  
all in all, my Saviour, my Sanctifier,  
my Keeper, my Healer and my strength.  
Heaven is where we have started and I  
surely want to keep my eyes on the goal.  
Jesus is my Shepherd, I shall not want."

--Sis. Emma Dilley

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From Calif.: "We had a precious camp  
meeting. God spread his table every  
day with very rich spiritual food. We  
were all blessed beyond telling it."

--Sis. Letha Reece

From Calif.: "We send greetings of  
love to you dear ones in Jesus dear  
name. As I have been very sick in body  
and still very weak your little offering  
of love is coming a little late this month.  
My husband is doing pretty good for his  
age. He enjoys working in his little  
flower garden here close to my window  
so I can enjoy looking at the beautiful  
flowers. He was 85 last March 17. I  
will be 85 my next birthday. We hope  
you dear ones are well and still enjoying  
your work for the Lord. We enjoy the  
Mission Trail so much. May God ever  
bless and encourage you in your work  
for the Master."--Bro. & Sis. Huskey

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From Ore.: "Fred and I attended the  
Orland camp meeting. We heard some  
real good preaching and the meeting was  
very good." --Sis. Lucille Trimble

## I said a Prayer For You Today

I said a prayer for you today  
And know God must have heard—  
I felt the answer in my heart  
Although He spoke no word!  
I didn't ask for wealth or fame  
(I knew you wouldn't mind)—  
I asked Him to send treasures  
Of a far more lasting kind!  
I asked that He'd be near you  
At the start of each new day  
To grant you health and blessings  
And friends to share your way!  
I asked for happiness for you  
In all things great and small—  
But it was for His loving care  
I prayed the most of all!

## In Memory



IT CAME as a great shock to us as well as to many others to learn that our nephew BYRON PRUITT was in a fatal auto accident on June 13 in south La. He was returning to his home after work in Covington, La. at the time of accident.

Funeral was in Hammond June 16 and burial was in the Oak Grove Cemetery near Loranger. Do pray for his companion, Clarice; also their daughter, Genece and her husband Nelson as well as Byron's mother, Sister Maybelle Pruitt and other loved ones. It is a great comfort to know that Byron was saved and loved the Lord. His life and character made him outstanding.

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From Wisc.: "I am writing to tell you what you possibly already know. My wife, Elsie passed away on May 30th... in Chippewa Falls at 6 p.m. She was sick about 5 weeks. At first she lost 25 pounds. She couldn't eat or sleep. She wanted to go and her desire was granted. So I am all alone in a big house. No, I am not alone. The Lord is with me. Jerry and Gloria went back to St. Paul after the funeral which was on Saturday, June 2nd. What the future holds I know not. Trust everything is all well down your way."

--Bro. Frank Dietrich

NOTE: Our hearts were saddened with the news of Sis. Elsie Dietrich's home-going. She was a Church of God minister for many years and we loved Bro. and Sis. Dietrich.

--WCM

From Kans.: "Dear Saints Everywhere, Greetings in the name of our dear Lord. As some of you know I lost my dear husband May 30th. He hadn't been well for several years. On Nov. 10, 1982 he had a stroke and didn't walk after that. For the last several months he was quite poorly being in bed most of the time. On the day he died, he had been quite restless. I couldn't stand to see him throwing his arm and suffering like he was. I talked to him of how the Lord could help him and he sanctioned by nodding his head. We then prayed and he calmed down. He didn't seem to suffer much after that. About 4 p.m. he went to sleep for awhile. Later that evening while Jeneva (our daughter-in-law) was rubbing his legs and I was rubbing his hand, he went to sleep and the Lord took him at 8:30 p.m. I do thank the Lord for helping him. It is lonely and we do miss him so much, but I do thank the Lord for how he has helped me. I haven't had to stay by myself as Dad's niece from Mich. stayed with me over a week and now some of the grandchildren. I especially desire prayer when I have to start staying by myself at nights. The Lord gave me the words 'I will be your strength by day and by night.' We want to thank all the saints for their prayers, visits and help in every way. Bro. & Sis. Wilson made so many trips. He was so good to sit up with Dad and helped in several different ways. Other saints were good to sit up and help any way they could. We appreciated the phone calls, cards and the love offerings. It was almost more than I could take. I love the Lord and want to ever live for Him. So pray for me. We also were thankful how the Lord raised DeLoris up out of bed so she could go with the family to the funeral home and continued to improve."

--Sis. Opal Bradley, Rt. 1, Box 28-A, Bartlett, Kansas 67332

# at press time

we understand:

VICKIE DARLENE SCRRELL



THE LORD has called for one of his Jewels. This time it was little Vickie Darlene Sorrell, age 4 of Guthrie. She died June 20. Funeral was in the Guthrie chapel June

23. Many of the saints were present. Her parents Dwane and Connie Sorrell need our prayers and support. Those who would like to help lighten the financial load for this young couple whose trust is in the Lord, may send their contribution to: Church of God, Bertha Miles, Treasurer, 10 Magnolia Ct., Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Please specify: "Vickie Memorial Fund."

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We received word that Bro. Bill and Sis. Doris Busch's son, Walter who has not been well for some time, passed away June 3rd. Our love and prayers.

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Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Opal Bradley of Bartlett, Kansas upon the death of her husband Roy Bradley on May 30. See page 6.

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Another precious saint has been called to her reward. Sister Edna Crummie departed this life May 21. We pray the Lord will bless and comfort her husband Bro. Floyd Crummie.

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NATIONAL CAMPMEETING, JULY 20 TO 29, MONARK SPRINGS, MO.

WE REQUEST SPECIAL PRAYER FOR Bro. Lewis Williams, who has diabetes; Merrill Eck, whose hands were severely injured in oil-field accident, Sis. Elva Joiner and many others who would appreciate your prayers.

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Congratulations to Mancil and Shirley Doolittle on the birth of Christa DeAnn June 4th; and to Mark and Elois Spinks on the birth of Abigail Grace on June 12; Also to Steve and Marjorie Gellenbeck on the birth of their daughter June 17th.

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Many thanks to all the saints and our friends who helped to make our 42nd wedding anniversary a joyful occasion and one long to be remembered. On the evening of June 6th the Enid saints had a surprise for us...and indeed it was a surprise! We appreciate the lovely cards, the kind thoughts expressed and all the love shown. Our hearts are filled with gratitude to the Lord and all those who have shown their love to us.

--Willie and Frances

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The Pea Ridge, Ark. congregation thoroughly enjoyed the gospel singing on June 9th and appreciate those who came from far and near to make it a wonderful success! Please do it again!

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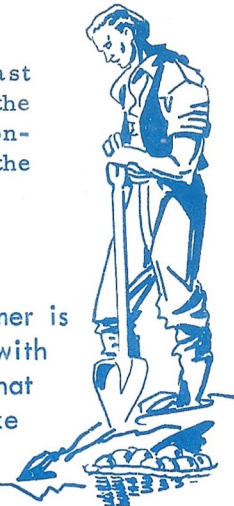
Many thanks to those who responded to the request for a card to my sister in rest home. I was thrilled to have her tell me of the many cards, notes, and even of the birthday cake she received. Thanks so much. We are forever grateful. God bless all!--Willie & Frances



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

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**KGGF**

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