



# 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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## Two Mysteries

Radio Broadcast for July 15, 1984

Good morning to everyone. Indeed, I count it a privilege to be coming your way again with the Word of the Lord. This is what we need in times like these. We need an anchor to the soul, something stable and enduring. This we have in the Bible. And along with the word is the Spirit to bear witness to the truth. Have you heard about folks who were deeply engrossed in reading mystery stories? Well, I don't take much stock for that kind of reading as far as cheap and trashy literature goes. But did you know there are many mysteries in the world? Real ones I'm speaking of. And wrapped up in them is a lot of truth, if we understood it. I want to talk to you about two mysteries on this broadcast.

But first this scripture: "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." 1 Tim. 3:16.

What do you think of that scripture? Do you want to know what I think? I think there is a great mystery connected with godliness. Some folks who don't understand spiritual things make light of serving the Lord, but if they really understood they would view godliness with a much different attitude. A mystery is there, which they don't understand. This one verse sums up the birth of Christ, his life, suffering, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension. Think of all that being wrapped up in one verse in the scriptures. But that is what it is. The whole plan of salvation is found right here in this verse. Where could you find another verse like it? Well, you say that is a mystery!

Sure enough, it is a mystery, but so is godliness.

And so because critics cannot understand the virgin birth of Christ, because they don't know how Mary could bear a son whose name should be called Jesus, whose conception was of the Holy Ghost, then they bring in human reasoning and deny the miraculous manner in which Jesus was born. This doesn't change the truth of the matter in the least. The mystery is still there. A mystery is something secret, hidden, not known to all. And so it is with godliness.

It is indeed a mystery how God can get hold of a man like Saul was, change his outlook on life, cleanse his heart, and set him going to proclaim the very truths which he once denied when he persecuted those who stood for them. Now, I say, that is the mystery of godliness. What made him do it? Was it by persuasion of men, or by brainwashing as it is called these days? I would say not, for

at the moment he was smitten down, he had it in his mind to go to hunt out and persecute those who preached Christ Jesus. It is a mystery what changed him. This mystery is known to God. He understands it perfectly.

Here is another thing--how is it that in a world shot through with evil, and indeed, there is much of it around, that godliness holds its own and even gains sometimes? Why are not the righteous and all they stand for, completely annihilated from the earth? What is it that will cause a man to lay down his life for his friend? Do you know there are some righteous folks who would still do that? In fact, Jesus laid down his life for us while we were still his enemies. That is more of a mystery. Read in "Fox's Book of Martyrs" of some of the fiendish tortures by steel and fire. Isn't it a mystery how those righteous men and women could hold to their faith in the face of death and torment? I say there is a great mystery in godliness.

There is a verse in Psalms 120, and the second verse which says: "Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue." It is a marvel how the truth will change a person to the extent of making honest people out of those who had been given to lying and cheating. But that is the way it works. If one's word is no good, then I take it that his character is of little value either. If I take my watch out of my pocket to find what time it is, it will be of little use for me to look at it unless I am sure that it keeps good time. If it sometimes stands still for an hour or more and then goes on again; if it sometimes loses two or three hours a day by going too slow, or gains as much more by going too fast, then I cannot depend upon it. A watch that cannot be depended up-

on is of little use. It may have a beautiful gold case, it may be sparkling with jewels, but yet it will be of no service to me as a watch, unless I can depend on what it tells me about the time. It might have a little value for the metals that's contained in it. But, we do not judge the value of a watch by the kind of case it has, but by finding out whether it keeps good time. And so, one of the things by which we judge the real value and worth of men and women, of boys and girls, is this: Are they truthful? Do they mean what they say? Are they really what they seem to be? If they speak the truth and act the truth, then they are like a watch that keeps good time. And isn't it a mystery how God can instill the truth in a person that he will be honest regardless of the cost or loss to him in some financial situation?

But on the other side of the ledger is the mystery of evil. If God is all powerful, why does he permit evil? If, being present everywhere, he sees all the evil and iniquity which goes on in this earth, why doesn't he banish evil forever from the face of the earth? Friends, this is a mystery God reserves for his own wisdom. It isn't for us to know.

Iniquity has a tremendous pulling force. It is a mystery how it can attract and allure those who have escaped its clutches, drawing them back into the gutters of sin. Then when one really knows that the wages of sin is death and they have tasted and felt the power of God why don't they arise and do something about it? Why don't they flee to the Lord for release? I wish I were able to put into words what I know about the peace and freedom which comes from a soul set free by the power of the gospel. It seems to me every one would want this freedom. It is a mystery to me they don't!

Do you suppose when some man left all to follow Jesus, or when Martha fed him, or Mary sat at his feet, or the woman bathed his feet with her tears, that Jesus thought--"Great is the mystery of godliness"? Listen to these words from 2 Thess. 2:7 -- "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way." Isn't it a mystery how some can be so blinded and deceived that they think they are doing God service when in reality they are against him?

Listen to this: "These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service." John 16:1-2 Think of that. Those who commit such crimes will think they are doing service to God. This is another mystery.

Here is another scripture to go with that one. "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." 1 Cor. 2:4-8. Now, isn't that a wonderful mystery to be revealed unto us?

Let us pray:

Our Father, bless the truth as it goes out over the airwaves. We know that the preaching of the cross is to them

that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. Bless every listener in the way which they need most, giving victory and peace and thine shall be the praise through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen...

Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying God bless each and every one and a very cheerful goodbye!

### HELP NOW

Would you do a deed of kindness  
To a stranger or a friend?  
To a brother or a neighbor?  
Have you a helping hand to lend?

Many hearts are heavy-laden--  
Bowed beneath a load of care:  
Just a word or deed of kindness  
May bring a ray of hope and cheer.

Some whose hearts by sin are blighted  
Need to know of Jesus' love:  
Let your life tell them the story,  
And His mercy to them prove.

Souls around you are in darkness--  
See them rushing here and there:  
To your closet, oh, my brother;  
Bear them up to God in prayer.

Then go out and let God answer  
All you spoke into His ear:  
Sow some seeds of love and kindness,  
Watering them with many a tear.

Oft you promised God you'd do it;  
Hasten, then, and keep thy vow:  
Oh, for Jesus' sake, my brother,  
Linger not, but do it now.

--Ulysses Phillips

*Ten words on a post card  
When mailed are much better  
Than all your intentions  
To write a long letter.*

## Testimonies

From Texas: "Just a note to say we are feeling well here and hope you are well there. I thank the dear Lord for the many blessings and answers to prayer! He has worked out so many household problems and repair jobs. I'm so thankful there's nothing too big or small for the Lord to help with. I hope and pray the Lord has comforted those there in their hour of grief. . . I sure enjoy reading 'Mission Trail' and I sure thank you much for your thoughtfulness to send me one each month. May God bless you and keep you both encouraged through your trials is my prayer. May He keep you both in good health also. He is truly a wonderful King of Kings." --Sis. Jan Wood

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From Oregon: "Sorry I've not written --much has happened it seems--much looking unto the Lord and a closer walk with Him. Our son Walter was called home on Sun. June 3, 1984. He had suffered from a liver problem for over 4 years. Thank our loving Savior Walter came back to God before he left us. I miss him much . . . I need some special help from the Lord. I know He will answer all prayers in His own time. May God bless in the meetings. Enjoy your Oregon family as we hear they will be back there. . . Love and prayers,"

--Doris and Bill Busch

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From Texas: "This leaves me still pressing the battle on in the place where the Lord wants me to be, doing the things he wants me to do. I didn't have a chance to go to meeting, and am praying for some one to come get me, take me to Neosho. --Sis. Nellie Lovell

NOTE: The Lord did answer her prayer and provided a way for Sis. Nellie to go to National camp meeting!

From Oregon: "Here's an article I found--

### YEARNING TO BE FREE

Towering above New York harbor is the Statue of Liberty, a symbol of hope for oppressed peoples around the world. For nearly 100 years that stately lady, with freedom's torch held high, has welcomed refugees from across the seas. Inscribed on the pedestal of this imposing monument are these words by Emma Lozerous from the sonnet, 'The New Colossus': Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless tempest-tossed to me. I left my lamp beside the golden door. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants who could not tolerate the stifling air of tyranny have responded to the invitation and made the U. S. their homeland. There is another monument that offers spiritual freedom to burdened souls everywhere. It's shape is that of a Roman cross nearly 2,000 years ago. Jesus Christ, the God-man hung there, His body bruised and His arms outstretched. Those who saw the awful scene must have been repelled by it. Yet from that accursed tree has come an invitation to poor, tired masses who languish in spiritual bondage. The one who suffered there was more than a symbol of liberty. By dying in our place He purchased our freedom from the penalty and power of sin. A "yearning to breathe free" runs deep in the hearts of people everywhere but only those who know Christ as Saviour and Lord are free indeed! True freedom is found in bondage to Christ. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." I just wanted to share that with you and I read it in prayer meeting tonight and it seemed to make a deep impression on our group."

--Sis. Grace Jones

From Kans.: "Greetings this afternoon in the precious name of Jesus. It is true the longer we serve Him the sweeter He grows. There are people living so awful, so deep in sin it makes you shudder to think of them. I'd love to have a copy of your message this morning. I certainly enjoyed it, but afraid I can't remember it like I want to. I am planning on being able to come to camp meeting... Hope and pray that it is a really good meeting."

--Sis. Mamie Norcutt  
--o--

From Calif.: "Our Lord is blessing us here in Orland richly each day. May God help us to keep measured up and prayed up... Christian love and prayers for you,"

--Sis. Letha Reece  
--o--

From Wash.: "Greetings to you this beautiful morning. It's the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Ps. 118:24. We are thankful to Him for His goodness to us. God is so good. He made all things beautiful. He must love beauty. We have had beautiful weather all this month so far. We were privileged once again to attend the Jefferson camp meeting. We had a wonderful meeting. We trust the Lord is blessing you. May He reward you richly for your labors of love."

--Sister Violet Thomas  
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From Okla.: "Greetings of love to you both this morning, in the precious name of Jesus. Trust you are both well and enjoying the blessings of the Lord. The Lord is my helper. He keeps me day by day . . . I like the scripture in Proverbs 3:5&6. It's good to take along each day and live by it: 'Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.' . . . Love and prayers,"

--Sis. Emma Dilley

From Okla.: "I can say I'm still pressing on and the Lord is still blessing me. His blessings are fresh every morning. I went to service seven nights and four whole days." --Sis. Mary A. Brown

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"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matt. 24:14.

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From Okla.: "I thank the Lord for sparing me to see another summer... All is well with my soul which is a great blessing. I'm living by faith in Jesus above trusting, confiding in His great love. . . . On the 16th of May I had a trip to Can Cun, Mexico. It was quite an experience. Most of the family of our children and grand children went. We rented a station wagon and toured quite a bit of the country. It was marvelous to see the old ruins of a city and the pyramid. I saw a huge statue of a snake (an idol god). They turned away from God and what a fall! I waded in the Caribbean Sea and rode in a boat with about 150 people to another island. Then there was the sea and another beach--such clear blue water and green water. Then far away was dark water. Love and prayers to all,"

--Sis. Vera Mae Hawkins  
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From Okla.: "Yes, your messages have been a comfort and blessing to us for several years. We didn't get to hear the entire messages of the last two weeks on the rapture and Resurrection. Where can we get literature that explains the subject to us? We don't understand some of the assumptions made by some ministeries... Sincerely,"

--Patty C. Lester

NOTE: The four messages on "The Second Coming" are available in booklet form without charge to those who write and request them. --WCM



## DOCTRINAL

### "TAKE HEED LEST YE FALL"

The Word of God not only instructs us in the ways of righteousness, but also warns us of the dangers which beset the Christian's pathway. If those warnings are diligently heeded, none need make shipwreck of faith and experience. As we find these warnings or "danger signals," all through the Bible, we are assured of the fact that the man of God must watch, lest he being led away with the error of the wicked should fall from his steadfastness.

Some have endeavored to explain away these warnings in order to establish their doctrine of "once in grace, always in grace." But the apostle Paul understood the danger connected with such a doctrine, and faithfully taught the Word of God, showing the possibility and the results of falling. In the tenth chapter of the first epistle to the Corinthians he speaks at length on this subject. Here he teaches positively that men can fall from a high state of grace, and for proof of the fact sights the brethren to certain examples. Those who are over-confident regarding their stability, and who think themselves so well established in experience that they are out of danger of falling, will do well to turn and read this chapter.

The apostle had just referred to himself, saying, "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." 1 Cor. 9:27.

Lest some should not understand how this could be true, he goes on to explain saying, "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them; and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness." 1 Cor. 10:1-5.

Now the argument is this: Those very ones who were overthrown in the wilderness had been delivered from sin. Not only did they obtain this great deliverance, but they were also baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea. Hence we see that even baptism did not insure them against falling when they afterward turned from the true God.

The fact is, the apostle proves conclusively both the possibility and liability of falling from the grace of God if men are not diligent in spiritual things.

Sometimes saints are surprised when they learn that some child of God has been overcome or gone astray. God wants his saints to be on their guard continually. The enemy walketh about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. He is especially engaged in plotting to overthrow those who have the greatest influence for good. Therefore "let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

# at press time

we understand:

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Dear Saints:

I am very sorry I did not hold up the standard of divine healing. I have failed the Lord and I have failed the saints. But I have repented before the Lord and begged him earnestly to forgive me and to save me. I feel assured the Lord has forgiven me and saved my soul again. I have resigned as pastor of the congregation. I am asking the saints to please forgive me. The Lord has been faithful to me and He has been dealing with my soul for which I do thank Him. I do appreciate the love of the saints and thank you very much for the cards, calls, flowers and love offerings that I have received. I have especially appreciated your prayers. Again I am very sorry and please pray for me that I will be faithful to the Lord and to the saints to the end.

Regretfully yours, Bro. Lewis Williams  
2643 N. Spruce, Wichita, Kans. 67219

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The Lord has called for another of his children. Sis. Mattie Simpson of Tulsa, was in Dallas and had been helping Sister Annie Bell Allen in the Lord's work when she died August 1st.

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From Okla.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. 'O give thanks unto the Lord.' Truly he is good. I do enjoy the broadcast. Do you have the sermons on the Revelation on written paper? I love to read it again and again...I'll close. God bless you abundantly, and love your prayer for us and dear ones."

--Sis. Eva Penner

## *Congratulation!*

Bro. Clifford and Sis. Dorothy Wilson will be observing their fortieth wedding anniversary August 5th. We wish for them many more happy years together in the service of the Lord.

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Congratulations to Dwane and Connie Sorrell on the birth of their son, Rodney Daniel on June 29th.

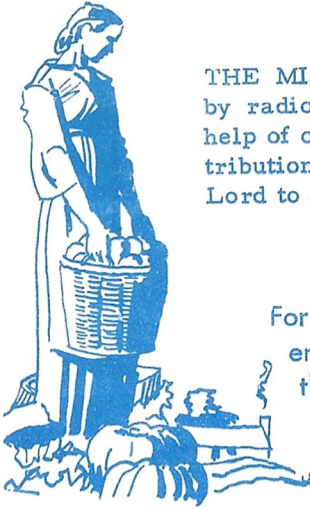
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CAMPMEETING REMINDER  
The Boley, Okla. campmeeting will be held this summer beginning Aug. 17th and continuing through Aug. 26. All are invited to attend. On the last Sunday afternoon the 2:30 service will be conducted by the young saints. We urge all to attend this service.

--Sis. Katherine Williams

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Another summer has come and is swiftly flying by. So has the National campmeeting at Monark come and gone. How good it was to see the saints coming from the East, the West, the North and the South and "sit down" in the kingdom of God as they worship Him in the Spirit and in the truth! Attendance was real good this year, the singing heavenly, and the Lord blessed in preaching of the Word. We trust the good accomplished will be long lasting. If you enjoy the singing or would like a particular sermon you might like to get a tape on a loan basis from our Oregon children, Cliff & Patsy Smith, 4795 Gardner Rd., SE, Salem, Oregon 97302. Thanks to all for the broadcast help this summer!



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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

RADIO  
STATION  
**KGGF**

LOCATION  
Coffeyville, Kansas

DIAL  
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690 kc.

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