



“LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST.” — JOHN 4:35

VOL. 20, NO. 12

THE MISSION TRAIL

DECEMBER, 1984

"It Is More Blessed to Give Than to Receive"

Radio Broadcast for November 25, 1984

We are certainly happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio. At this special season of the year we are reminded how God gave that most priceless gift--his son, that we through him might have life and have it more abundantly. Many no doubt are thinking of the gifts which they will be receiving now in a few days and of the gifts which they will be giving to others. Perhaps it would be well for us to ask ourselves this question: What am I giving to glorify God and what am I doing to help carry his great commission "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"?

Listen to this scripture from Acts 20: 35. Here Paul was speaking to the elders of the church, especially those from Ephesus and he was aware that he would see them no more. So naturally, he wanted to give them the best instruction he could to carry on the work of God. He spoke to them about feeding the flock over which the Holy Ghost had made them overseers. He also warned them about grievous wolves which would enter in among them and not spare the flock. And friends, he was not talking about the wolves which roam the forest and slaughter the sheep on hillsides, but he was speaking about spiritual wolves which come in sheep's clothing. They would appear as ministers of God but inwardly they were filled with wickedness and covetousness. Their supreme desire was for their own selfish gratification and not for the benefit of individual members of God's church. Now Paul warned the elders of Ephesus of these people and I am fully persuaded that this warning is still good for us today because every

one has not the interest of God's people at heart. We should know that and we should be warned of it before time.

Paul also pointed out that he had not been covetous of their silver, of their gold, or of their apparel. In fact, he had laboured with his own hands to supply the needs of himself and the needs of those who were with him.

But one of the last things he told them was this verse which I want to give you now. "I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." Now, friends, it is only natural that we like to receive, but this scripture says that it is more blessed to give than it is to receive.

Listen to this prophecy in Isa. 35 and beginning with verse 4, "Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come

with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Now that is a good prophecy and filled with many good things. But the question might arise in the minds of some folks, just when is that prophecy going to be fulfilled? Some are waiting for it to happen off out there in the future. They know not where nor how. But I say to you that the coming of the Messiah and the preaching of the gospel ushered in the kingdom of God which brought about the fulfillment of these prophecies. We are living in the gospel day right now. We are enjoying the kingdom of God and we are walking in the highway of holiness where the unclean can never pass. The lions and ravenous beasts represent those who are filled with wickedness and evil and they are excluded from this kingdom of peace and it is only for the ransomed of the Lord who come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy.

Would you like a scripture in the New Testament showing the fulfillment? Then listen to this from Titus 3 and beginning with verse 3, "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour". Friends, have you been saved from your sin? Has the death of Christ been in vain for you? I am happy to be enjoying the privileges of the gospel and the peace that comes through the promised Messiah.

Now there is more provisions than just this. Did you notice in that prophecy over in Isa. that it mentioned about the eyes of the blind being opened and the ears of the deaf being unstopped and the lame man leaping as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing? Do you not remember the miracles that Christ performed with the bringing of the gospel? Do you recall how the lame man was healed by the side of the pool and how about the fellow who was born blind and had never seen? After Christ healed him the Jews thrust him out and didn't want to accept his explanation of his healing. So the coming of the gospel brought with it also healing for the afflicted.

Listen to this prophecy from Isa. 53:5, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." And here is the fulfill-

ment in Matt. 8, verse 16 and 17, "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." And then I like this scripture so well in Heb. 13:8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Aren't you glad that Christ did establish his kingdom and that he is now reigning and will reign until all enemies will be put under him? But along with these privileges come also obligations. It is our solemn duty and obligation to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. If we are faithful we shall be rewarded and if not, how shall we stand in the great day when we shall give an account of the deeds which are done in the body? What sort of persons should we then be in all holy conversation and godliness. Where is our zeal for God? Are we concerned about the perishing nations who have not yet come to the knowledge of the truth? Multitudes are yet in darkness, either because they have not heard or accepted the truth. Let us haste with the water of life to quench the thirsting of those who are perishing without God. How shall we appear in that great day when the conquests of the lion of the tribe of Judah are ended; when the mediatorial kingdom is delivered up unto the Father, and the Judge of quick and dead sets on the great white throne and we hear him say to those on his left hand "I was hungry and ye gave me no meat, I was thirsty and ye gave me no drink"? I say, how shall we appear if we have made no exertions to tell the lost nations of the earth the necessity for preparing to meet their God and showing them the means of doing it by affording them the

blessings of the gospel of the grace of God. Let us beware lest the stone that struck the great image and dashed it to pieces fall on us and grind us to powder!

Let us not forget the text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Let us pray. Our gracious Father, Give us spiritual understanding to comprehend the depth of the meaning of this scripture which Paul declares was given by Christ himself. May we learn to so give of ourselves that not only will others be blessed but we, too, will receive a blessing and to thee we will give the praise through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

As we labour on for Christ we should not forget that he promised when he went away after his first coming that he was going to come again. Let us live with this always in mind that we may be ready, waiting, and watching for his return. I want to share with you a poem which brings this out so beautifully:

EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS
Behold, I come quickly, and blessed
the man
Who waits my appearing and follows
my plan.
Though ages' dark mantel the nations
spread o'er
I'm standing and waiting just outside
the door.

Behold I come quickly with great a
reward;
The faithful to crown whom the world
hath abhorred,
To 'waken the dead and call them
once more
To appear at the judgment and give
them their store.

Behold I come quickly, O Christian
 sleep not
 As others around you whose lives
 are a blot;
 O watch and be sober as those of the
 day,
 The hope of salvation before thee always.

For God has not destined our spirits
 to wrath
 (Who earnestly seek for the strait
 narrow path)
 To gain, our appointment, salvation
 and life;
 Who severed the bondage of darkness
 and strife.

Thine eyes shall behold Him who
 hung on the tree
 Descending from Heaven for me and
 for thee,
 While ten thousand angels escort from
 the sky
 In pow'r and great glory He bursts
 on thine eye!

Fret not at the turmoil of earth's
 blinded sphere;
 Be patient, the coming of Christ
 draweth near!
 What matter will be all thy sorrow
 and pain
 When all is subdued to His glorious
 reign?

Behold I come quickly, oh, blessed is He
 Who watcheth and waiteth and yearneth
 for Me
 Who loves my appearing and welcomes
 the sight,
 Who walks in the rays of My Glorious
 Light. --Leslie Busbee.

And now until we meet again this is
 Willie Murphey saying may God's rich-
 est blessings abide with each of you
 throughout the holiday season and in the
 days which are just ahead. . . .

Testimonies

From Kansas: "Dear Bro. Willie Murphey; I have intended to write to you for years. Very seldom do I miss your service over KGGF, Coffeyville, Kansas . . . what inspiration to me. I have arthritis of spine, pelvis and hip; tractor ran over me 22 years ago, broke shoulder and I had to have surgery, but I did real well till 2 years ago when arthritis covered the spine and hip. Doctors said they never saw it so, but if I can get up out of bed I get around pretty good with the help of a precious wonderful God. Today your prayer for the sick and suffering was for me. . . I would appreciate the leaflet you read Sunday morning, 'Notice on the Door.' I am nearing my 85th birthday and most certainly appreciate your down to earth plain truth preaching. . . I lost my wife about 4 years ago. God's word is so wonderful. . ." --C. M. Waller

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From Okla.: "I am very much encouraged. I can say as Samuel said, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped.' I had missed some papers that were much needed in making out some other papers concerning my home. I had looked everywhere I thought they might be and had prayed to God, but I needed help from the saints so I requested prayer and the papers have been found and the business taken care of. I praise God for the saints; also thank all of you for praying." --Sis. Eva Hardman

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From Calif.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. I am yet saved, sanctified, satisfied and more encouraged than ever to press on to glory. I was 86 years old October 23rd, 1984. I can't go and do like I used to but can live salvation. So all who know the worth of prayer remember me."

--Sis. Flora B. Davis

From Okla.: "Holy Greetings in the name of Jesus. This rainy morning finds me still saved and much encouraged to go the Bible way. I haven't been writing much lately but I mean to go right on until the crown is won. I've been suffering with my left leg in the knee joint and muscle. Sometimes it's very painful and I can hardly walk, but when it comes time for service the Lord always comes to my rescue. I haven't missed many services yet. Thank the Lord. He is so precious to me. I still want to be on your mailing list. Sis. Erma always would read the Mission Trail to me from cover to cover. The messages, poems and testimonies are always encouraging; also the news items kept us abreast of what is going on among the saints. The requests for prayers, too, let us know how responsible we are to carry a burden of prayer for each other and our loved ones. Remember me in prayer both soul and body. The Lord will soon be here. Let us stay ready at all the times, for we know not the day nor the hour when He will come bursting through the clouds to take his people out of this troublesome world. Love and prayers to all the saints everywhere. Your sister in Christ,"

--Lizzie B. Jordan

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From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus. I want to say I enjoy the Mission Trail paper and hope to continue to receive it. I know it's been some time since I've written, but am glad you kept sending the paper. I was saddened by the death of Sis. Ruth Murphey. I loved her very much. She was such a sweet person. I love the Lord and my desire is to make heaven. I am so thankful for the prayers of God's people. I feel better in body. The Lord healed the pain in my back after I wrote to Sis. Maybelle for prayer. I still desire complete healing..."

--Norma Allen

From Okla.: "We are thankful to be saved and encouraged in the Lord. His blessings are so many to us. We sure enjoy The Mission Trail... The Lord has blessed me so much in my body the last few weeks. It has been such an encouragement to us. He is so faithful to us and we want to be faithful to him. Do pray for us."

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From Mo.: "I have been getting the Mission Trail for some time, but have never written you, but I enjoy the paper very much. I am sending you a little offering. And I would like for all the saints to pray for me as I have high blood pressure and it stays so high and I am trusting the Lord. So pray for me."

--Mrs. Jake Schudy

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From Calif.: "Dear Brother Willie: Greeting you in the name of JESUS our dear LORD. I am thinking about the word of God this morning where it says "let the peace of God rule in your hearts," In a world of trouble and care we can cast our cares on Him and have that PEACE which passeth understanding rule in our hearts even in the midst of the storm and trials of life. PRAISE GOD for the joy of salvation. He is so faithful to us in giving us just the needed trial or test to increase our faith in Him and more appreciate His love He has toward us when we trust in Him. Christian love,"

--Jim Kutra

--o--

From Okla.: "How great God is to help us in all our needs. We are not promised our wants... He is better to us than we ever deserve. He means so much to me. I praise Him daily for strength and health. How many times He protects us even in the little ways we travel on foot around here at the home. There is danger that could befall us even in our homes."

--Sis. Edith R. Cramer

Remembering Twenty Years of Gospel Broadcasting

In the late hours of the night of January 22, 1965 the sounds of the first Mission Trail broadcast pierced the ether waves and radiated into the air space of North America from the very powerful radio station of XEG located in Monterrey, Mexico. What a thrill it was just to think the truth could be spread in this miraculous way to so many people at one time scattered throughout the land. The theme of that first broadcast was, and as we near the 20th anniversary, still is: "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35. On this first long-to-be-remembered broadcast a few of the words spoken included these: "It is certainly a great privilege to come to you at this time and it is one which I have looked forward to and planned with great anticipation for a number of weeks. We are thankful for this opportunity." Also the following scripture was given: "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." A song, "Wasted Years" was sung and the story told of a couple who started out in life to seek their fortune, but failed to make preparations to serve God and found that the end of life came all too soon. They had wasted their years. In our prayer to God which was heard on the air that night these are the words which were given: "Our Father, Thou who knoweth the hidden secrets of every heart, take this message and make it a blessing to all those listening..." This then is the report of that very first broadcast.

We began to make printed copies of the broadcast although they were rather crude, being produced on a second-hand mimeograph machine. As the mailing list increased we obtained a postal permit for bulk mailing. That rate was 2 and 7/8 cents per copy. The present rate of 11¢ per copy is almost four times that amount. After about a year and one half I felt strongly led of the Lord to give up my job at the daily newspaper and devote full time to the ministry. Therefore, we left the job and salary to "cast ourselves recklessly out on the stream of the Infinite Will." God has not failed us, but has supplied the needs of the family and helped us to pay utility bills, buy groceries that were needed and pay the expenses of the broadcast. Serving the Lord is not a sideline, but a full time job and a big one we find it to be. Each of the four children served in their capacity in helping with The Mission Trail. Now they are all married and have families of their own to care for. Some times the funds have been low and we were made to wonder just how the Lord was going to provide, but lo, these twenty years He has proven his promises to us. Therefore, at this holiday season, rejoice with us and accept our token of love and appreciation to God and all who have helped to make these twenty years, days of happiness and joy in the service of the Lord! As you check off each new day of the calendar please breathe a prayer for God to keep us in the center of His will and provide the means to keep the broadcast on the air. A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON TO ALL!

at press time

we understand:

WHAT IS IT WORTH?

What is health and youth worth to you,
And what is it worth, my friend,
Would you sell it for a million
Just to have the gold to spend?

Why no! you would angrily protest,
If any would offer to buy,
And yet you are carelessly wasting,
The price of the thing you hold high.

What is health and youth worth to you,
And I pray you take care how it's spent,
And if you carelessly throw it away,
Some day you will surely repent.

And when you are drinking,
My dear young friend,
And making a wild display,
You'll reap what you sow remember,
For always you have to pay.,

Then what is health and youth worth to
you,
And what is it worth my friend?
Just stop and weigh and consider,
And I'm sure your ways you'll mend.
--Grace Jones
--o--

Congratulations to Lisa Carver and
Galen Kelly on their approaching mar-
riage of December 29th.
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We wish for Joan (Martens) Cresswell
and Eugene Cresswell much happiness.
They were married November 17th.
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Congratulations to Angela Busbee and
Danny Gellenbeck on their marriage of
December 22nd.

OKLAHOMA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Oklahoma State Assembly meeting
of The Church of God is scheduled to
begin December 21st and continue
through the 30th. The chapel is on the
corner of W. Warner and 6th Streets,
Guthrie, Okla. Come and worship the
Lord in spirit and in truth this Christ-
mas season and receive a blessing.

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We have put forth special effort to supply
every reader on our mailing list for
this issue a beautiful calendar for 1985.
It is our way of saying, "Thanks" for
all the hospitality and kindness to us all
through the 20 years of the broadcast!

A Request that You Write!

Did you write in 1984?
If not, please do so be-
fore the end of the year!
We request each reader
write at least once each
year if you wish to con-
tinue receiving The Mis-
sion 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 ex-
penses 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!



--Willie and Frances Murphy



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.

Rejoice With Us
For God's Blessings
Lo, These Twenty Years of
Gospel Broadcasting

1965--1985

See Page 6.