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MISSIONARY REVIVALIST SELECTIONS

From the May, 1962 Issue of The Missionary Revivalist Official Organ Of The Bible Missionary Church, Inc.

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MARKED MEN J. E. Cook

"I bear in my body the marks o/ the Lord Jesus." Gal. 6:17

Every product of worth bears certain identifying characteristics. So do men, So do movements. "Insist on the genuine; don't accept a substitute; look for the mark," is the admonition. Likewise, every religious movement is known by a particular stamp or mark. Doctrinally they are referred to as Pentecostal, Calvinistic, or Wesleyan or some other "wind of doctrine." Maybe they are known for being intensely evangelistic, or missionary minded. Or perhaps by their mode of worship -- informal or ritualistic. But some kind of mark identifies them.

The apostle Paul was a marked man. His experience with the Lord was an outstanding mark in his life. The Road to Damascus is a thrilling story, as recorded in Acts chapter 9. Here was this educated high churchman determined to stamp out this new religion. With letters of authority?? in his hand and the blessings of the church officials he went forth threatening and persecuting the disciples of the Lord. But a light struck him that blinded him for three days. A voice spoke to him. And when he discovered it was the Lord speaking and that his persecutions were really against Christ and His Church, his surrender was so complete he fell to the earth and cried out, What wilt thou have me to do? Now his whole life and plans are changed. He continues on his journey to Damascus but not to persecute the Christians. He is a changed man. And yet, there awaits an even greater experience from the Lord. For while he was praying in a house on Straight Street. in Damascus, Ananias came in and in prayer together he was filled with the Holy Ghost. It was this experience that gave him such a vision that the scales fell off his eyes and illuminated his mind and soul and held him steady amidst the persecutions and sufferings and even martyrdom. It was his experience with God that he always went back to and testified that he "was hot disobedient to the heavenly vision."

He was marked also by the doctrines he proclaimed. He was the theologian of the New Testament church. The Holy Spirit dictated to him fifteen of the twenty seven books of the New Testament. Everybody claims Paul but everybody won't seek the experience he found nor preach what he preached. He preached and taught that all are born into this world with the sin principle or carnal mind. And from this nature spring forth the works of the flesh until "all have sinned, (transgressed) and come short of the glory of God." Therefore, one must be "justified by faith" and "repentance" followed by entire sanctification preceded by consecration and faith. And to each of these works, the Holy Spirit bears witness. Moreover, he taught and preached growth in grace (Eph. 4:15,16), Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:52) and Judgment (2 Cor. 5:10). He was a strong advocate of the Second Coming of Christ and a staunch premillennialist. He taught that there are two phases of His Coming: The Rapture, or the coming for His saints, (1 Thess. 4:14-18) and the Revelation, or the coming with His saints. (1 Thess. 3:13) Paul was also a Pre-Tribulationist. He taught that the saints will be "caught up before the great tribulation and the manifestation of the Anti-Christ. (2 Thess. 2:7-11) Many tribulations now (Acts 14:22) but not the great tribulation (Rev. 7:14) He kept the first day of the week as the Christian Sabbath (Acts 20:7) and commanded that the churches do likewise. (1 Cor. 16:2) He administered water baptism (1 Cor. 1:14-17) and commemorated the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:23-29) Paul believed in Divine healing for the sick (Acts 28:8; 20:10-12; Phil. 2:26, 27) And for preaching these doctrines, Paul was a marked man, a pestilent fellow (Acts 24:5) and a heretic (Acts 24:14).

Paul was also marked by the Biblical standards which he upheld. He preached and practiced the separated life (2 Cor. 6:14-17; Gal. 6:14). In 1 Tim. 2:9, 10 he condemns immodest dress, making up the face, all kinds of jewelry and adornments, modern hair-dos, and costly array. Then in 1 Cor., chapter 11 he states that a longhaired man is a shame but a woman's long hair is her glory. Witness the movie-type idol with his long, shaggy, wolf-like hair that looks about two months late on a hair cut. Also, womanhood that is shorn, masculine, and void of her God-given glory with which she was endowed and blessed. Read his list of the works of the flesh in Gal. 5:19-21 and you will see that he condemns the T.V. to the pit. And those who do such things will backslide and miss heaven in the end. What about the preacher's responsibility? Read Paul's charge to his young preacher-boy Timothy, (2 Tim. 4:1-5. The only way he can make full proof of his ministry is to preach the word -- all of the word. Do you bear this mark, preacher, layman? The young lady on the train was asked by the Conductor why she had long hair and dressed modestly. She replied, "Why do you wear your uniform"? He answered, "It's required by the company."

"Yes," said she, "I do for the same reason."

But Paul was also marked by a passion for souls. He was no zealot, nor crusader, nor sensationalist; he loved souls and was giving his life for the cause of Christ. Few men ever said, "I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." And this heaviness and sorrow of heart was continual with him. He was ostracized, discredited and unrecognized but he never lost his burden. He was stoned at Lystra and dragged out of the city and left for dead. But when the disciples stood around him, he rose up and went back into the city and exhorted them to continue in the faith. And when on trial for his life, he was more concerned about the men that surrounded him in the courtroom than he was about himself. His burden was so great until Felix trembled and Agrippa was almost persuaded to be a Christian. And now he is in a dungeon in Rome awaiting his execution. He writes his testimony to young Timothy.

"I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:7, 8. Oh, God, help me to bear the marks of the Lord Jesus.

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THE FIRE OF HOLINESS

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:" (Matt. 3,:11)

The Holy Ghost is symbolized by fire. Again and again fire is used as a symbol of God. God spoke to Moses out of a burning bush. The children of Israel were lead in their journey by a fiery pillar. When Isaiah saw the altar of God it contained coals of fire. At Pentecost cloven tongues of fire sat upon the inhabitants of the upper room symbolizing the purifying experience that was taking place in their hearts. The parallel between fire and the Holy Spirit is easily seen. Fire illuminates and so does the Spirit. Fire melts, purifies, refines and energizes and so does the Spirit. Fire fuses, welds, and unites and so does the Spirit. Malachi declared that He was like refiner's fire. God has and still does manifest Himself unto souls with a burning, purifying sensation.

The question arises, When should the baptism of fire be sought? Does it accompany the blessing of holiness or is it something additional? Some have erroneously taught that it is possible to be sanctified and yet not have the baptism of fire. Still others have mistakenly preached that one is saved, then sanctified and then baptized with the Holy Ghost and they claim as their evidence the speaking in some "unknown tongue" or some incomprehensible jargon. The fallacy of such doctrine is evident from the fact that it is so acceptable to the carnal mind. Its devotees not only give way to evil tempers but they manifest prejudice and lack of love toward certain individuals. All this is contrary to the humble religion of the Bible. The carnal mind hates God and will not embrace the old-fashioned radical way of holiness that requires the crucifixion of the old man. The old man craves popularity and will gladly profess the baptism of fire or the popular tongues theory if it will only add to his prominence and success without threatening his destruction. Just because a thing prospers is no sure sign that it is free from self or error. In this day of deception, the Devil is glad to see anything grow, that to the unwary, looks plausible and like the genuine, but in reality is only a weakened substitute.

Just to the degree that any church or movement departs from God and becomes tainted with error, to that same degree will it resort to substitutes to keep up an appearance of power and aggressiveness. The basic error is the same whether they substitute formalism or fanaticism for the mighty movings of the Spirit.

Some, in their departure from God, substitute rationalism, they seek to get away from the old-fashioned terminology of holiness and substitute such terms as "The cleansing of the

sub-conscious mind" for the eradication of the carnal mind and consecration instead of sanctification. In their altar work they profess folks through instead of letting them pray through and as a result they have a worldly, formal type of worship that must depend on social activities and high pressure promotion to keep their followers satisfied.

On the other hand there are those who, in their departure from God, substitute some pseudo-religious spirit which creates various sensations and impressions upon those who first accept it, then fall a prey to it. These manifestations may be visionary, imaginative or real, just as Spiritualism, Eddyism, Hypnotism or tongues, but they are realities from Satanic origin and not from the Holy Ghost whom they all seek to imitate. Anything that is mystical and does not bring peace of mind and rest of heart is not from above and should be rejected.

It is further evident from their lack of humility that those who profess a third work of grace do not enjoy the blessed Bible experience of holiness. There seems to be among them an unconscious self exaltation. There may be much fire and zeal but self and carnal confidence also are manifested in their resisting of evil instead of turning the other cheek. They do not receive reproach or reproof with gentleness. They are not able to bear contradiction, without the appearance, at least, of resentment. It is well to remember that "The highest holiness is the deepest humility." "When men or movements begin to ignore brotherly warnings and walk in the light of their own experience in preference to the old paths wherein holy men and women of all ages have walked, they soon become like a ship upon a stormy sea without a rudder. Such souls are to be pitied. Many of them are honest and because they see death and formality in the professed holiness churches, they seek to steer clear of it, but in so doing, they flounder on the rocks of fanaticism."

They have fallen into the error that Wesley called "enthusiasm," (fanaticism), the daughter of pride." He said, "Oh keep at the utmost distance from it! Give no place to a heated imagination. Do not hastily ascribe things to God. Do not easily suppose .dreams, voices, impressions, visions or revelations to be from God. They may be from Him. They may be from nature. They may be from the Devil. Therefore believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God. "Try all things by the written word and let all bow down before it. You are in danger of enthusiasm (fanaticism) every hour, if you depart ever so little from the scripture,: . ." I say yet again, beware of enthusiasm (fanaticism). Such as imagining you have the gift of prophesying, or discerning of spirits, which I do not believe one of you has: no, nor even yet. Beware of judging people to be either right or wrong by your own feelings. This is no scriptural way of judging, O, keep close to the law and to the testimony."

Between the extremes lies the golden means. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire is not a third work of grace because every truly sanctified soul has it. To teach that one can be sanctified and yet not have the fire is absurd. He who is void of the fire of God's love is not sanctified. When the fire is lacking it is because the second work of grace is defective. "To take this, (The baptism of fire) as a distinct baptism from that of the Spirit . . . is exceedingly unnatural." (Jamison, Fausset and Brown)

"The Spirit of God is represented here under the similitude of fire, because he was to illuminate the soul, penetrate every part, and assimilate the whole to the image of the God of Glory." (Adam" Clarke) "The Divine Sanctifier would wash away their (the disciples) internal

pollutions; and as refining fire, consume all their dross; and the remains of their corrupt affections," (Scott) "He shall fill you with the Holy Ghost, inflaming your hearts with the fire of love, which many waters cannot quench. And this was done even with the visible appearance as of fire on the day of Pentecost." (Wesley)

No man has power to cleanse his own heart. The blessed Holy Ghost is the sanctifier. "Being sanctified by the Holy Ghost." (Rom. 15:16) Thank God, there is such an experience! It is a blessed and Divine reality. He who lacks the fire lacks God. To oppose it is to oppose God Himself. Do you have this glorious purifying experience? You may have it today if you will meet the simple terms of the gospel. Charles Wesley expressed his heart cry for holiness when he wrote:

"Refining fire go through my heart. Illuminate my soul, Scatter thy love through every part, And sanctify the whole."

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FOR MOTHERS -- WHAT YOU ARE

MOTHER, HOME AND HEAVEN! By Mrs. Paul E. King

Mother, Home and Heaven! What three grand themes! A volume could be written about each. They blend together beautifully, and interlock each other as light, heat and electricity are inter-locked in a sunbeam. The Mother is the fountain head of the Home. The Home is the fountain head of society and the Church of Jesus Christ; and no influences in the world contribute so much toward guiding immortal souls Heavenward as the Mother aria Home.

Next to the sovereign grace of God, the influence of a mother's teachings and example is the most effective in molding character and shaping destiny

In the direction of moral training and the development of character the influence of a mother is most powerfully felt. In making a hasty retrospection of past pastorates I am reminded of one mother who wove undying memories of evil habits, foul associations and low morals for her children and who is, today, reaping the crop of her seed sown; multiplied a thousand fold in all but one of her large family.

What a faithful suggestion lies hid in that brief line from Holy Writ- 'His mother made him a little coat!' The woman who 'wove that little tunic was Hannah; the lad who wore it was Samuel, who grew from a beautiful boyhood into the holy Prophet and upright ruler. No doubt it was a modest and comely garment; for Hannah was a woman of too much piety and good sense to treat her consecrated boy as though he was some plaything or a doll.

That 'little coat' has a figurative application to every mother's high calling. She not only provides her child from infancy's first moments with clothing for the body, but moral "habits" of character and conduct. The mother, more than anyone else, helps to clothe the immortal soul in garments of light and loveliness, or else in garments of sin and sorrow and shame. She makes 'little coats' which no moth can consume, which never wear out, and which are worn by her offspring long after she has moldered into dust. She weaves her child's 'habits' of thought and conduct; and does it, too, as clothes are made, stitch by stitch. She does this not only by direct, deliberate teachings, but by little words and acts, and by silent unconscious influence. Hannah's daily life helped to weave Samuel's noble character. The mother made the man. (Taken, in part, from Rev. Theodore R. Cuyler.)

Paul, speaking, in his second Epistle to Timothy, 5:14, declares, 'I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house 'What a great and blessed honor God has bestowed upon womanhood! She alone carries and bears an immortal soul; and the wonderful name 'Mother' immediately becomes her very own. She has achieved that which God had intended for her. To the little new-born darling the mother and father are 'everything.' Some time ago a little lad was asked how big his father was. With eyes round as marbles and shining like rare gems he flung his chubby arms skyward, all the while laughing with glee as he proudly said, "My daddy? Why, he's as big as the world and the sky!" Yes, we are as big as the world, as tall as the sky, strong as a lion and brave as an army with banners. Our words are words of truth and justice, (unless we jest, joke and tease until the children don't know when to believe us.) Remember, we are weaving 'little coats' daily, stitch upon stitch, line upon line and precept upon precept.

Sad, sad is the fact that so few today want to become mothers, when, in reality, this is God ordained for the married woman. Too oft I've heard miserable comments such as, "I'm from a big family; mother had ten (or twelve) children and I'm ashamed of it." Haughty, proud and selfish souls! God is highly displeased with this present day attitude. I'm from a family of eleven and am not the least bit embarrassed or ashamed of it; on the contrary, I am most thankful for the privilege of being one of the eleven. My mother loved every one of us and guarded and guided us with tenderest love and care. We were loved and we were wanted. Remember mothers, you are weaving 'little coats' of feelings and attitudes toward the unborn child too! How great but wonderful is our responsibility! If we can save our children our mission on earth will have been well repaid.

Paul said she is to 'guide the house.' This is a full time job. One which requires her time from sunup to sun down. The diligent woman who earnestly works at this task will find no time to be a 'busy body' in other men's affairs; nor run about as a 'tale bearer' and 'gossip spreader.' She is employed, full time, in guiding her house. So much is involved in this statement. It means far more than seeing that there are three good meals prepared daily and the children kept clean. This is, indeed, a big part of it, as well as keeping the house neat, clean and attractive; for a truly good home is not only one in which God reigns, but it must be an attractive spot as well. Everything that attracts our children to their homes is very apt to be, in the end, an attraction towards Heaven. While these are most important, yet, like Hannah, the mother must guide her household toward spiritual things. No man has ever forgotten the prayers of a saintly mother. Richard Cecil says that in his early manhood he tried hard to be an infidel; but he never could get over the unanswerable argument of his own mother's godly life and influence. They were too much for him; they

conquered him for Christ. What a debt of gratitude the world owes to the godly-minded Monic! She trained up Augustine to be the champion defender of the gospel in a day of dark apostasies.

How frequently we hear the phrase, morbidly voiced, "I'm only a mother and a housewife." There's beauty and loveliness in that phrase! As wife and mother, a woman is seen in her most sacred and dignified character; as such she has great influence over the characters of individuals, over the condition of families, and over the destinies of empires.

As mothers, we are our children's earliest instructors, and have an influence over them, the importance of which, for time and eternity, surpasses the power of language to describe.

As for me, I'm thankful beyond measure to have been favored, by God, with the beloved title 'Mother.' I'd rather be 'mother' than anything I know; I shall be content to live, and die, as 'Mother,' if I have done my job well.

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SPEAK TO ME MOTHER AGAIN

I've learned what it is to be lonely, But I'll be as brave as I can; Yet it will help a lot in life's struggle, If you'll speak to me, Mother, again!

I'm out in the mid-stream of life now, And I have become a man; But I feel like a little child today; Oh, sing to me, Mother, again!

Then rock me to sleep by the window, In the old squeaky chair, and then--Lay me once more on the pillow, And pray with me, Mother, again!

The loads of life will get heavy, As I'm plodding across life's short span; But I'll make it, ah yes, I will make it, If you'll lift with me, Mother, again!

-- L. S. Boardman

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A BURNING HEART By Dr. J. G. Morrison All night the icy gale had been dead against us. On deck we clung desperately to the hand rail and listened to its screams as it whipped through the ropes and masts. It cut one's face like a knife, and carried stinging particles of ice and snow m its clutches. The sea in black fury, with white froth about its mad lips, flung itself at the ship's prow with terrible wrath. Ice formed on the rail, ropes and deck where the waters lashed high in front. The staunch old craft, trembling with every impact, tore straight into the mad resistance. She took blow upon blow, each resounding crash seeming sufficient to crush her to atoms. She did not deign to lift herself up and let the murderous things slide under her, but with head lowered, charged them as they came, cutting them asunder, dashing them to right and left. She never stopped. Rolling, quivering, she seemed like a live monster battling with her hereditary foes. Lifting her icy prow for a moment, as she flung off an attack she lowered her head again for another charge.

"How can she keep it up?" we yelled through the gale to the steward at our side. "Looks as though the sea would win yet," and we pointed ahead to miles and miles of great snarling mountains of water, rushing with foaming summits to fling themselves upon the laboring, fighting, panting ship. With frosty breath the old boat poured out a jubilant blast on her whistle, and snorting like a living creature tore into her attacking enemies.

"I'll show you what makes her win," shouted the steward, with hands cupped about his mouth. Beckoning with his hand he nimbly started below. We followed, clutching the handrails and clumsily working our way after him. Down in the ship's vitals we went. There the monster engines were spinning the giant propellers. Great batteries of boilers supplied the steam. A stoker swung wide a furnace door. In its white hot midst the spraying, blazing oil seethed, flamed, and roared with a brilliant heat that defied the human eye to look upon it for more than a few seconds. Above the almost noiseless whir of the massive engines, one could hear the hiss and roar of the seething flames within. The steward put his lips to our ear:

"As long as her heart is white hot she can buck the wickedest rollers the old Atlantic can throw up!" he shouted. "But let her get cold down here, and she's a goner!

Nuf sed! We staggered off over the heaving decks, to our 2 x 4 stateroom, and rolling on our narrow berth, communed thus to ourselves: "Sure enough; the steward's right. It's the HOT HEART that successfully drives the Christian against his foes. Burning, blazing with the Spirit's flame within, he can plow on into the night, bucking the wickedest rollers the devil can throw up. Let them come, black with hell's fury, showing teeth of hate, threatening mountain high, crashing with weight sufficient to make one's every nerve tremble -temptations, trials, attacks of foes, misunderstandings of friends, loss, sickness, bereavement -- the assault is murderous, continuous, devilish. A burning heart, flaming with perfect love, filled with the holy fire of the Holy Ghost, it alone can enable us to win. It can drive us through, It can pour itself out in-testimony like the challenging blast of the ship's siren. It can preach, it can live, it can win against the wicked seas of life."

"But," you remember his words, "once cool off down here, and she's a goner!" Ah me, it surely depends on the heart! Once cool off there, and there's no resistance in you. The devil is master. The wicked seas of life have won. You are a wreck. Isn't that what Phineas Bresee meant

when he said, "Keep the glory down?" The real glory is the FIRE!" "The, baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire!"

Fire up, fire up, the world; the flesh and the devil are blowing up some murderous billows against God's children. -- Herald of Holiness, April 7, 1934

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CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

H. T. Davis

"I exhort you, that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Jude 3

"Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions." Heb. 11,:33

To get a proper setting for this article, we must take part of the great faith chapter. We often read newspaper articles about who's who, and just who is in the hall of fame, or who is the queen of all the sport functions.

To get into my subject we must call heaven's roll call, must take a walk through heavenly mansions, must read the biographies that God has written of His immortal soldiers. "Who through faith (contending faith) for the things of God subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises."

Here is where I want to camp. Here is where I want to line up for battle. Earnestly contending for the faith that will obtain something. No, not a program, not a rally, not a contest, but a faith that will hold until I get rooted on the promises and they become mine.

No, I don't mean a sham battle. I went to a sham battle once where horses fell as dead and men fell as dead men, in the valley and on the hill side. Everything was lost on both sides, but away in the distance I heard a bugle call and every man and horse rose to the call and marched off the battle field. God's children don't intend to march off the battle field until the battle is won. We intend to stand until the gospel becomes true in our lives, until Christ as Saviour is a reality in our lives, until the Holy Ghost, the ABIDING comforter, stands by as our comforter though all else fails. A faith that makes the Bible the Book of all books, though the world denounces and makes holiness first, last, and always a requisite for this life and heaven at last. A faith that will stand the light of a just judgment and that will not burn when the world is on fire. A faith that will give holy boldness when countless millions are banished forever from the presence of God.

We are facing liberalism, communism, compromise, so called higher criticism, carnalism, and militarism with all nations preparing to fight each other or some one else. Worst of all is formalism which is a form of getting to God, getting salvation, getting into the church, a form in prayer, testimony, and worship without the fervor, fire, glow, victory, faith or experience.

Then, we must contend for the faith that we may obtain the promises of a spiritual supply, a cupboard always full, a fountain that never runs dry, a watchman that never slumbers nor sleeps. We must contend for a faith in a shepherd that knows where the still waters are when the storm is on, knows where the green pastures are for those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, knows where to take his sheep that they may find rest and shelter; not in a fall out shelter but in a shelter that will never fall.

Then, after all of this He will hand us a check on heaven's bank and say, "I will give you above all you are able to ask or think. You are a joint heir; help yourself to everything you need. "As your faith so be it unto you."

Are we contending, as we should, for the one who came: that we might have life, and that we might have it more abundantly?

Then, we must contend for the faith that takes all worldly pride out of our lives. Craving to be one of the world or craving for the things of the world are gone. We must contend for the faith of full salvation that takes us out of the world and takes all worldly desires out of us.

Then, we must contend for the faith of our fathers to obtain the promises of constant victory over sin. Salvation will not free us from tests, or trials, but it will keep us from the evil. As the kite flies against the wind and as the eagle faces the storm, so must we. We must take the offensive instead of the defensive.

We must resist the one that arrested and defeated Adam. We must conquer that which would conquer us.

The promises are: "He will keep you from falling," "He will make you more than conqueror." "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." "Where sin abounds, grace does much more abound." Have we obtained the promises, can we say, "These are all mine? They are real, I have tested them?"

There is a vast difference between contending, believing, victorious faith, and a general confidence in God. Some have faith God can save unto the uttermost, that the mercy of God is infinite, that His truth if violated, must be punished, but they go right out and disregard their own convictions, trample upon the shed blood, crucify Christ afresh, heed not the call of mercy, and head in where there is no mercy or hope. They will contend for and defend others while they themselves reject the call of God.

We must contend for the faith that will calm the waters on life's stormy sea, close our opposing lion's mouth, burn off the bands in the furnace of persecution, keep victorious in life, be sustained in death, and give us the shout of victory as we cross the great divide.

If we hold our own, we must stand for the whole story of creation, Bible revelation, prophecy, fulfillment, and Bible purity. We must believe and experience full salvation and live it every day.

We must not regard the promises of deliverance or destruction as just general; but as made to us and for us as individuals. Every one shall give an account of him, self to God. Personally we are weighed in the balances. Personally, we stand at the white throne judgment. Personally we must know the sense of guilt is removed and the sin nature is destroyed. Personally, have I contended for the promises in unshaken faith that I can stand on them, claim them as my very own while my soul slips out of this house of clay? Can I answer back to a hell bound world? To all those who said I could not live it, can I answer back and say the anchor holds?

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A QUOTATION FROM DAG HAMMARSKJOLD

"The day you were born, everybody was happy -- you cried alone. Make your life such, that in your last hour all others are weeping and you are the only one without a tear to shed! Then you shall calmly face death, whenever it comes."

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THE GENERAL BOARD

[Open Graphics\hdm1717.jpg to view a picture of BMC General Board Members, taken at their meeting on March 8, 1962, and beneath which appeared the following text:]

Above is the picture of The General Board of The Bible Missionary Church. This picture was made at the last Board meeting, March 8th. Reading left to right they are: Mr. Ernest R. Mullins, Duncan, Okla., Mr. Wesley Miller, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Mr. Roy W. Keene, Lake Charles, La., Rev. Elbert Dodd, General Moderator, Rev. L. P. Roberts, Denver, Colo., Rev. J. E. Cook, General Moderator, Mr. J. C. Gomilla, Beulah Heights, Ky., Rev. E. E. Michael, Jasper, Alabama, Rev. Spencer Johnson, Duncan, Oklahoma, Rev. Panl E. King, Lima, Ohio, Mr. J. H. McClure, Odessa, Texas, Rev. Carl Dillard, General Secretary of Foreign Missions, Rev. H. B. Huffman, Onego. West Virginia, Rev. A. L. Turner, Nampa, Idaho. (Not pictured is Rev. Tracy Knapp of Newville, Pa.)

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THE CHILDREN'S PAGE By Mrs. Paul King, Box 382, Lima, Ohio

THE HAWK AND THE HEN

Ferne and Lynette sat contentedly beneath the big apple tree with Mother, as Roy and Drew climbed high into its branches pretending they were squirrels. All around them lay. the pretty pink blossoms that fell lightly to the earth beneath.

"Oh, Mother," said Lynette, just feel how silky and soft these pink petals are. They feel almost like satin, don't they?"

"Yes, they do," Mother said softly as she picked a handful up and let them sift gently through her fingers to the ground, then added, "just listen to the soft buzz of the bees as they gather the nectar from the blossoms. Makes me feel kind of sleepy though," and she began to yawn.

"Oh, Mother," began Ferne, "don't go to sleep now, please!" she begged. "We want our story. Don't we, Lynette?"

"Oh, yes," answered Lynette, "You left off reading 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' yesterday right where little Evangeline realized she was dying and would soon be Home with Jesus. Would you read now? Please, Mother!" she asked

"All right girls," Mother said laughing, "but first we must call the little squirrel boys down to earth." Then looking up into the branches of the trees where Roy and Drew were sitting, gazing contentedly at the fleecy white clouds that skipped like lambs across the heavens, she said cheerfully, "You two little dreamers! Get your heads out of the clouds and let's go visit with Uncle Tom and Evangeline by way of Bookville, shall we?"

"Goody!" said the boys, scampering down the tree, and swinging their long legs in mid air for a brief minute, they gently dropped to the earth on an Apple Blossom Carpet; then lazily stretching their body its full length beside Mother, they said eagerly, "Well, here we are! Let's begin, shall we, Mother?" and Mother smiled understandingly at her two boys.

The children followed Uncle Tom, Mammy, and ever mischievous Topsy to the bedside of the beautiful Evangeline, and as her departing spirit blessed each one of the unfortunate slaves in deepest love and pity, and her last act of kindness was bestowed by giving one of her fair curls to each of the precious black slaves who had endeared themselves to her, they, too, were enfolded in the tenderness of the moment.

When finally her spirit departed the body and she told all she was going Home where all was peace and rest, the children began to sniffle and weep. The boys looked quickly away to the pasture land and meadows, trying to hide their tears when suddenly Drew called out excitedly, at the same instant sitting upright, "Mother, look! A big hawk's about to get one of Penny's chicks." Then he saw the wings swoop low and as Penny called and clucked all the little yellow fuzzy chicks ran quickly beneath her outstretched wings for protection -- all, that is, but one! Again Mother Hen called and pleaded, then scolded, for the errant little chick to run for shelter and protection but to no avail. Already it was too late! The fierce bill and long, sharp claws had gathered the furry ball of yellow into his strong claws and was soaring into the heavens, carrying the easy prey to some sheltered tree or woods where he could feast unmolested on the tender little morsel.

"Why didn't you stop him?" Lynette cried and looked pleadingly at Mother as she wrung her smooth, fair hands.

"Because I couldn't, honey," Mother said softly.

"But . . . but . . . " and fresh tears commenced falling down both girls cheeks as Ferne said, "but, Mother, that was Pudge my own little fuzzy Pudgy!"

"That mean old hawk!" Ray said, then feeling suddenly chivalrous, he threw back his shoulders and added, "If only I'd have had Dad's rifle! Oh, if only! I'd have let him have it and he never would have forgotten what happened to him!"

"I guess not," laughed Dale, "for the way you feel now, he'd have never remembered anything again!" and they all laughed.

Marking her book with a book marker, Mother carefully closed the book, then calling to each of the children, she said gently, "Now let's all settle down for a little, shall we? Roy, you and Dale sit over here on my left side while the girls will sit here to my right."

Immediately obeying and sitting down beside Mother, the children asked excitedly, "What is it, Mother? What is it?"

"You know the Bible says, 'The devil goeth about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

"Yes," said Lynette, "but what does that have to do with us, and poor, poor Pudgy? She's gone!" and she buried her face in her hands.

"Just this, honey," Mother said thoughtfully, "none of us saw that hawk until it was too late; then there was nothing we could do! Simply nothing! We looked on helplessly as the bad cruel hawk carried Pudgy to her doom. But . . . " and a soberness clouded her face as she spoke, "was it all the hawk's fault?"

"Why, of course it was," Roy quickly answered. "Bad old thing!"

"Think again," Mother said. Then quickly she added, "You all heard Penny clucking, calling, and even pleading, when she saw the danger, and all the others are safe and sound beneath the little shelter out there because they not only heard, but they did something about it; they ran to Mother Hen's big outstretched wings and crawled beneath them in the shelter and they're all very much alive, all except Pudgy, she was too stubborn and wouldn't heed Penney's warnings and her wooings, and she had to pay the price with her life. Now Satan is so much like that hawk -- only much worse and he's a deceiver. He's walking about today seeking all he can devour. He's watching for your souls, children, like the hawk watched for the first chick he. could easily catch, and unless you study the Holy Bible which will make you wise unto Salvation and Entire Sanctification, the devil will get your soul in the end like Pudgy was carried away by the hawk.

"Today, the Holy Spirit is wooing and pleading with your soul, and He says, 'Roy, give me your heart!' or 'Dale, you better get sanctified,' and He is telling you girls to allow Christ to come within your hearts and then all your quarreling and arguing will cease. He sees the danger that lies

ahead for you, like Penny saw the danger for her chicks. When Jesus departed this earth, He sent the Holy Ghost down from the Father in Heaven, to woo, plead with, and warn us of what lies ahead, but it's up to us to decide what we're going to do. We'll either repent and confess and forsake our sins and see Jesus some day, or like Pudgy, we'll spurn the call of the Holy Ghost and say 'No' and eventually be lost forever and ever in Hell, to be tormented in the flame where the fire is not quenched and their worm dieth not. It's up to us to decide. I feel you dear children better decide now what you're going to do with Jesus. Are you going to help crucify Him afresh again by continuing on in your sins or will you repent just now and let Jesus come into your heart?"

There was silence for some time, then Lynette spoke:

"Mother, for a long time now the Lord's been talking to me, and I'm to blame for all our arguments, not Ferne," and weeping bitterly she said, "I want everybody here to forgive me for fussing when it's time to wash or dry the dishes. It's my wicked heart, but I'm going to get saved right now. I'm tired of this awful sin within my heart." Then turning to Ferne before she began to pray, she said, "Please, Sis, forgive me. Can you? I'm to blame!"

"No. No," and Ferne, too, was on her knees weeping. "It's I, Lynette, not you. I'm a hateful somebody but I, too, want to get really saved. Forgive me, Lynette, please do!" and as the girls arms went about each other in love, the dear Lord Jesus gloriously saved their souls and forgave all their sins.

Roy and Dale, after long hard tearful praying, finally surrendered all to God and as Dale rejoiced and shouted over a clean, pure heart of Holiness, Roy praised the Lord with a loud voice because all his sins were washed away.

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THE FIRST OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS By L. P. Roberts

Exodus 20:3, "Thou shalt have no other God's before me." The Ten Commandments, the Decalogue, the Words of the Covenant, or the Law, whichever you choose to call them, were given at Mount Sinai in the third month after the departure of Israel from Egypt, as a proclamation of God's covenant with His people. Many people today, who. do not want to live up to the Ten Commandments, claim that they were merely written by Moses, who was just an ordinary man, therefore they are not important. Others say, we are now living in the dispensation of Grace, therefore the commandments or the Law are obsolete. God's Word tells us in Heb. 12:26 that the Law was spoken by God Himself. When Jesus came to earth and preached the Gospel and when the Holy Spirit inspired the New Testament, the Old Testament was included in the New. For every Law in the Old Testament, Christ emphasized a principle.

The Law was intended to reveal the holiness of God. They had just come out of the darkness of Egypt, and had no true conception of God. Again and again had they shown in their short pilgrimage their disregard of His authority and Law. Brethren, if God saw that the people were disobedient and realized that it was necessary to give them these commandments to instruct

them and to guide them, surely in this day of disobedience and. immorality we as preachers need to re-emphasize the Ten Commandments. We need to call sin, sin wherever it is found!

Many do not like to hear the Law preached and say that there are too many don'ts in holiness preaching. They are saying that we need to preach a positive Gospel, but I invite you to examine the Ten Commandments, yes and the ministry of Jesus Christ, the greatest preacher that ever lived, and see if He did not preach a negative Gospel. Are there not as many "thou shalt not's" as there "are "thou shalt's"? Sure there are! To the person who has an experience of personal salvation, the Law is very precious. It was designed to reveal man's sin and lead us to Christ for salvation and sanctification. Paul said, "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified." A Christian's love for the law may be illustrated in the story of a poor slave who lay dying. His master came to see him and took him gently by the hand. The poor Negro kissed the hand and said: "Blessings on this hand." "Why Sam," said the master, how can you say that"? That hand never did you anything but harm; it has beaten and bruised you a hundred times; how can you bless it?" "Yes, blessings on that hand, replied the poor slave. It was that which drove me for comfort to my precious Jesus; He hath soothed my sorrows, and made my heart so glad that I can only say blessings on the hand of the hard old master, for driving me to thee." So the Law is a hard old master; it can only condemn and smite, but drives us to the cross and the Saviour, and we should only bless it, too. Not only does the Law show us our guilt, and thus drives us to Christ for our salvation, but at a latter stage in our experience it reveals to us ourselves and the sin nature within, and also drives us to Him for sanctification.

Let us see what God says in the first commandment. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Every man worships something, and you have a god of some kind. We are naturally made that way. You may call yourself an Atheist, you may trample the Word of God under your feet, you may sneer and ridicule the name of Christ but you still worship something even if it is only yourself. It is surprising how many people are worshipping self rather than God. Let us notice some of the gods that men worship today:

First: Men are making money and possessions their god. Are you in this group? Christ said: "No man can serve two masters for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." Matt. 6:2.

Many a man is making money his god. Yes, and even professors of religion. It has first place in your life. You might as well frame a bill and bow down and pray to it, for it is your god. You may say it is not so, but listen: when you are too busy to take time to be holy you are putting money ahead of God. When you claim that it is necessary to work on the Sabbath Day, you are merely making excuse for the god you serve. When you don't have time to go and take those precious children that God has given you, to church and Sunday School you are worshipping the god of material things. Professor of religion! when you work until you are so tired out that you cannot go to God's House to worship Him, and if you are loyal enough to go and are so fatigued and worn out from work that you cannot stay awake in service, say nothing about truly worshipping God, you are worshipping the god of money and possessions. How many Christians are putting themselves into serving God until they are too tired for anything else? God have mercy on us today. I have seen many work so hard, to gain material wealth, until they impaired their health and went to a premature grave. I ask you is that, pleasing to God? No, it is not a sin to be rich; the Bible

referred to many rich saints, but the Bible did say that "the love of money is the root of all evil." Because you are poor does not exempt you for your desire may be set on riches. How many called Christians will get up at an early hour in the morning to attend a sunrise prayer meeting? Not very many! I have tried to get Christians to gather for a sunrise prayer meeting but few there were who would respond. They had little petty excuses. However, if business demanded that they rise early every morning to care for material things they would be there regardless of the cost. Is that not then serving the God of money and possessions? God says: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

The second god that some are worshipping today is drink. When the drunkard took his first drink, he never intended to become enslaved to it. The habit formed until in spite of himself he worshipped the thing that temporarily satisfied the craving within. Now he will go to any extreme to secure the thing his body craves. I feel sorry for the foolish, ignorant person who says, I don't believe in getting drunk but I see no wrong in taking a little drink once in a while, therefore I see no harm in decent clean taverns. Friends, there is no such thing as a clean decent place where liquor of any sort is sold. Those taverns are merely a place for people to hide in and do as they did in the old saloons. The person that takes that attitude is setting himself for a broken home; he is started toward the depths of immorality, and he is on the way to broken health. We are told that one third of the men examined for military service were found to be physically defective. Over a million men were diseased. A survey was made by commander Frank Buckley, officer for the 4th District. He said that 75% of this was traced to liquor joints. I ask you, isn't drink a poor god to serve?

Many, yes, multiplied thousands are making pleasure their god. We are living in a pleasure mad age. People will go to no end to find pleasure. Thousands of lives are lost every year by thrill hunters. My friend there is no satisfaction or lasting pleasure outside of Jesus Christ. Many poor souls run to the dance, where more girls are ruined than any other place in the world. God have mercy on the crowd that thinks that there are clean dances, they are nothing but places of vice and wrong. I recently heard a woman say that it wasn't anyone else's business if she wanted to go to the dance. .Sister, I ask you to remember that the Christian is commanded in God's Word to reprove and rebuke, also the Word says we are our brother's keeper and when anyone tires to show you the wrong in the dance they are only doing it for your good. I trust that you will heed and give up the dance. Yes, even if some called bands of religious people do sponsor dances that does not make them right. Many there are who would not give up the dance for this world, is it not their god then? Many would not give up the filthy shows and TV of today that are multiplying crime by the wholesale. They are filthy and immoral because they are offering shows that feature drinking, smoking, gambling, love affairs where one man breaks up another home, killing, shooting and everything that contributes to crime and immorality. Yet I have seen people who have become so attached to them that they decide in favor of the show rather than God. If you will not give them up and worship Jehovah God; they are your god. Many will not give up the card game for it is their god. My friend, what will you do when you stand before the Judgment Bar of God and are judged from the Book that says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me"? There are many, many more gods that we could mention that people are worshipping today. Anything, regardless of how large or small, that we refuse to give up for Christ's sake, is our god. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" is as much a command as "thou shalt not kill," and you are going to be held responsible for one as well as the other. Will you decide for Christ today, forsake all the gods of your life and yield to Him and serve Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength?

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TWO DAYS

I started my day quite simply--In a routine sort of way--Mending the clothes and cleaning the house, Intending to stop and pray.

All day long I labored; My day was hard and long, And when I laid me down at night My heart had lost its song.

Another day I started, In a different sort of way, I read the precious Bible And I fervently did pray;

His presence lingered with me As I worked, the whole day long, And when I lay me down to rest My heart was filled with song:

Filled with song that sweetly lingered Through my ev'ry waking hour; Blest was I and oh, so rested In my Saviour's keeping pow'r.

-- Mrs. Paul E. King

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NOT MUCH TIME TO THINK

To me, separations are the saddest of all experiences. Not long ago I was taking a trip, leaving behind me one who had been very dear to me for several years. Realizing this could be the last time I would ever talk to him about his soul, I asked him the question, "How do you feel about your soul... Eternity... and the Judgment?

After some hesitation, he fixed his eyes upon the floor and weakly replied, "To be honest with you I do not have much time to think." Several miles slipped by. The train sped on. Whistles blew. People came and went. Midnight arrived. Almost twelve hours passed away before I felt the full impact of the remark, "Not Much Time To Think." O, the bitter, galling ache that welled up within my breast!

Finally as we were leaving a large train terminal, miles away from home, I suddenly broke into uncontrollable tears. No one seemed to notice, as most of the passengers were asleep. Eyes and cheeks burned from the salty, hot tears that flowed so freely from a broken heart. Broken vows Broken home

I could not seem to pray but my heart turned toward heaven and groans for a lost soul shook my body. Unashamedly I cried unto my GOD, from whence cometh my help; and unashamedly I continued to clutch the old black BIBLE, until the day began to break through the windows of the speeding train.

Time to eat . . . time to sleep . . . time to work.., time to play. . . . But NO TIME TO THINK about the soul that never dies. Eyes that do not see, ears thin do not hear, hearts that do not feel, minds that do not think. Eternity moves on. Time is slipping away. God calls all men to think but some men think too late.

Satan blinds, deafens, and numbs the soul to the wooing of the HOLY GHOST. Thousands of people are going heedlessly on over the precipice of time to face THE ALMIGHTY GOD, never taking time to THINK.

Friends, do not be stubborn. Hell is awful. No water, no comfort, no ease, no money, no pleasure, no hope! Only the burning heat and the torturing screams of other lost souls who care NOT that you are there.

Jesus came and opened up a WAY for us to miss hell and make it to Heaven. He shed His blood on Calvary for the sinner. But before we can accept His blood, we must sit down and hear the blessed Gospel story and make our sinful hearts ready to receive the truths. It will convict of sin, make us sorry we have sinned and willing to do all we can to straighten out our sinful lives. Then it makes us willing to bear the cross daily. He is calling you today! Tomorrow, you may be snatched out into Eternity with Not Much Time to Think! --Anon

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THE END