

The Power of God
Unto Salvation

Go Ye Into All the
World

GOSPEL MERALD



Volume X

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Are We Losing Our Christain Simplicity?

It is well for us occassionally to put to ourselves this question. Around us in the world evil is rampant. Even in the great Christian church we see a wide departure from the standards and ideals of the past. The line of demarkation between the average church-member and the worldling is well nigh obliterated. While the church, for the most part does not ape the grosser evils of worldliness, yet there are very many who seem to go just as far as it is possible and still avoid the final plunge into the vortex of worldly dissipation.

It must be confessed that this loss of simplicity is apparent among members of the Seventh-day Adventist church. To some among our people the spirit of worldly pleasure is making a strong appeal. We find some of our boys and girls, some of our young men and young women, some of our mature brethren and sisters in the church, yielding to this spirit. Some of the great national sports, moving-picture shows, and resorts of this character find among their devotees, members of this church. We do not say that a large number attend, but it is to be sadly regretted that any of those who are looking for the coming of the Lord should find pleasure in ways of this kind.

The plainness of dress that once characterized Seventh-day Adventists is not so clearly evident as it was some years ago. Much money is spent for show and ostentation. In some of our churches there is a display of more or less jewelry, rings, and valuable pins.

Perhaps, after all, it does not do so much good to continually preach against these abuses. The work should go deeper than this. Seventh-day Adventists who find their pleasures in worldly sports, in following the fashions of the world, need one of two things—either

prayerful, kindly, diligent labor.

We are surrounded on every side by these disintegrating, antichristian influences. Association with evil makes it become common in our eyes. It's entrance into the church is insidious.

Sometimes we come into conditions unconsciously, and before we are aware of the drift of the current, we are being carried down the stream. Hence it is the church itself that needs to awake to a realizing sense of the great temptations that beset our people, and especially our young people on every side.

We need even more than exhortation from the desk, to exalt the standard, and in our lives and by our example day by day, to place before the younger members of the Lord's family a proper and consistent example. It will hardly do for one to raise his voice against the wearing of rings, when at the same time he displays an unnecessary pin; to speak against theater-going, when at the same time he is a frequent visitor at the moving-picture shows. There is a consistency in Christian example. We need to preach the truth of God today fearlessly, and plainly and at the same time kindly and sympathetically, but we need also an example in our own lives of the power of true

PRAYER

Prayer is the key to heaven's store
By which I may unlock the door
Of heaven's bounties. 'Tis the place
From which is drawn unbounded grace.

My heart is watered with God's love
Which flows to me from him above;
And when the tempter cometh near
I breathe God's name in humble prayer.

My prayers are heard, and strength is given;
It comes to me from God in heaven.
I'm placed on guard whene'er I see
The tempter's cup held out to me.

He presses me to take and drink;
He would not give me time to think,
But urges me to take one taste
Of his dread potion, all in haste.

But ah! that prayer of early morn
Has saved me in the hour of storm.
Instead of heeding Satan's guile
I live for Christ's approving smile.

I turn my back to Satan's face,
I triumph thru abounding grace;
All things for Christ I do and dare,
For I am armed and saved by prayer.

HERBERT D. GREENE.

instruction or conversion. Some, we are inclined to believe, have been received into the church without proper instruction. Others who once recognized right principles have grown careless. It is not a condition calling for harsh measures or even unkind criticism, but one of

Christain living. In seeking to stem the current and set ourselves against the rising tide of worldliness, let us see to it that we ourselves in our own deportments, are the exponents of a consistent Christain standard.—F. M. Wilcox, in *Australasian Record*.

What Is Man ?

Dangers of Spiritualism

If there is a soul immortal,
Living when the body dies,
If it goes at once to heaven,
To its home beyond the skies,

And, if at the separation
Of the body and the breath,
When the man lies cold and silent
In the grim embrace of death,

If, indeed the soul is soaring
Unimpeded, free, and glad,
Why should mourners weep with sorrow?
Why be tearful? why be sad?

And if loved ones, now in glory
See our sorrows, note our tears,
Why may they not come to help us?
Rouse our hopes? allay our fears?

Thus men in the past have reasoned;
And their reasoning is sound
If the premise is admitted,
That conclusion must be found.

Satan thus takes quick advantage
Of the thing that man believes;
Turns aside his mind to fables,
Weakens, darkens, and deceives.

For, when man forgets the beacon
Lighted for life's weary way,
False lights lead to certain danger;
He is sure to go astray.

Satan is a fallen angel;
He is wiser, far, than man.
He has drawn men to perdition
Ever since the world began.

He can personate our loved ones,
Knows their ways, their words, their
tone,

He can thus deceive us fully
If we trust to self alone.

With the Bible for our buckler
We are safe from his attacks,
For the blessed Holy Scriptures
Give what human wisdom lacks.

With our feet securely planted
On the never-failing Word,
We are safe, whatever happens,
Whether seen, or felt, or heard.

For, the dead dwell now in silence,
Earthly things they do not know;
Little reck of human sorrows,
Pain, or pleasure, joy or woe.
Psa. 115:17.

God commanded ancient Israel,
Marching over desert sand,
That they should destroy the wizards
When they came to Canaan's land.

Ex. 22:18.

Those who make pretense of talking
With the spirits of the dead
Are themselves deceived, bewildered,
And by Satan's legions led.

So, if Christians wish for comfort
Let them turn to heaven's truth.
Not to those who peep and mutter,
Living to the dead, forsooth!

Isa. 8:20.

T. H. J.

Waco, Tex.

THE colored work has made advance steps in the North Texas conference thru efforts of Elder M.G. Nunes. With the Psalmist we can say,—"The Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad." New companies have been raised up, church buildings erected. Thus we see that the work is being done, for he says "My word shall not return unto me void."

When we read the good news from foreign fields, we can not but see that the message is speeding thru the land.

While our work is not what we wish, yet we are striving to make it reach the zenith.

Our hearts go out after Elder Nunes, as he is taken from us, but our prayers shall be that the Lord may strengthen him in his efforts for souls. In the word of the apostle Paul we can say,—"I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and give you a place among them that are sanctified."
F.M. JONES.

Creation and the Sabbath

I HAVE lately been reading an article in a newspaper, from the pen of some one who braces up his name with a D.D. at the end.

He informs his readers that the story of creation as recorded in the Scripture, is a Hebrew fable, and that all miracles may be accounted for by purely natural or scientific reasoning.

Of course it would be very rude in an ignorant person like me, to attempt to controvert what the learned doctor says, but I might be excused for observing that there were some even in Christ's time who held to the same theory. Furthermore, the same Scriptures have said that

some are willingly ignorant of the fact that it is by the word of God that the heavens were of old, and the earth, standing out of the water and in the water. Paul tells of those who, professing to be wise, become fools.

It occurs to me that it requires more effort to understand some scientific explanations, than is needed to believe the plain statements of Scripture. In the multiplying of words to reason away a clear statement from the Book, men confuse themselves, their hearers, and readers.

It is not without a purpose that Satan has set on foot all these fantastic and supposedly wise theories about the creation. He knows that to know God as the creator of heaven and earth is to know him also as one who can create a clean heart, renew a right spirit, restore the joy of salvation.

He will therefore invent plenty of plausible theories and employ men to teach them. Filled with their own wisdom, men will reject the wisdom of God, and lose sight of the power and might of him who is wonderful in counsel.

The memorial of creation, the Sabbath, will be set aside, and when the great ultimatum is proclaimed, and men are warned to "Worship him that made heaven and earth, the seas, and fountains of waters," their minds will be so filled with their own wisdom, that the Lord's call will be ignored.

The fact that God is the creator is of primary importance. The Sabbath is his pledge and memorial, memorial of his finished work, and pledge of the same almighty power for our cleansing and upholding.

Satan bends all his energies to confuse and mislead. The wise men of earth are no match for the adversary. He is willing for any amount of worldly wisdom if the knowledge of God is omitted. It is plain to see why Satan hates the Sabbath.
T. H. J.

The Foolish Rich Man

God blesses some men that they may have something to give, and it is robbery to refuse to give when God asks it.

We should watch lest we let drop the opportunity of giving, not merely money, but the kindly word, the faithful counsel, the gentle suggestion, the friendly clasp.

JEFF STEPHENS.

Wilmington, N. C.

REPORT of the Wilmington, N. C., Y. P. M. V. society for quarter ending December 31, 1915.

Number of members	77
No. reporting	30
Members of attainment	12
Letters written	192
Letters received	177
Bible readings	76
Missionary visits	313
Papers sold	6
Books sold	46
Tracts sold	49
Subs. for periodicals	25
Papers lent or given	187
Books lent or given	17
Tracts lent or given	119
Hours C. H. work	270
Meals provided	264
Bouquets given	11
Treatments given	25
Scripture cards given	34
Offerings Home Missions made thru S. S. and church	\$28.61
Home Missions	11.98
Local S. S. work	1.00
Tithe	35.91
Persons brot to church	70
Pairs shoes given	2
Given to needy poor	1.00

MRS. J. S. THOMAS, *Leader*,
MISS ELIVA BURKE, *Sec.*

Kansas

It has been my privilege to labor in the Kansas conference one year.

Having charge of the work both in Atchison and Leavenworth, I have tried to divide my time in the best possible way.

When we first went to Atchison, we found some work had been done among our people, and that there yet remained in the minds of many, thoughts of the meeting held by Elder U. S. Willis and Brother J. W. Miller.

On our arrival we began to labor with the church, and soon had such record books as were needed for church work.

During the summer months, we carried on quite an aggressive missionary work with our splendid literature.

This was accepted by quite a few of the people, while others rejected it.

Our donations have been for eleven months inclusive, tithed \$98.40, and for missions \$48.19. Our church expense has been \$41.43. Additions to the church have been three.

We have been laboring in Leavenworth for the last few months. About Nov. 1 we began a series of meetings, in which Brother W. S. North has rendered good help. At the close of the meetings there were four who had taken their stand for the Sabbath truth, and the church is very much strengthened.

At the close of the month our books showed that we had forwarded to the conference, tithed \$106.01, and missions offerings \$71.75, which exceeded last year's report by \$23.00 in tithe, and \$48.63 in missions. There has been one addition by baptism.—*H. J. Miller in Central Union Outlook.*

Cooperation

Every act performed, every prayer offered, every scripture read, every page of literature given, and every attention paid to the sick, is cooperation with God, his Son, the Holy Spirit, and angels.

This cooperation links the human with the divine, and enables man to perform the work of the Omnipotent.

God works in and thru man, both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

God can do as he pleases and desires thru consecrated channels. When all selfishness is abandoned, wonderful will be the work performed in Jesus name.

"Go," he says, "and I will be with thy mouth and will teach thee what thou shalt do and say."

God is mighty in power and excellent in working; why withhold the affection that he desires to obtain?

He wants the full control of our entire being, to live thru us, to speak thru us, when he sees fit.

Individuals and families are to be blessed thru the efforts put forth in Jesus' name.

Look to Heaven's throne where power is waiting to be poured upon you; and divinity will still flash thru humanity as it was with our blessed Saviour.

O for the Master's Spirit! O for that Spirit with which God anointed his Son Jesus, who went about doing good!

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

Tobacco

TOBACCO is one of the most dangerous and subtle weeds; dangerous because it is injurious to life, and subtle because while it is supposed to invigorate the nerves, it is really shattering them.

From tobacco is extracted a virulent poison known as nicotine. This nicotine is also manufactured in the stem of the pipe, at the end of the cigarette and cigar, and in the mouth when tobacco is chewed. Its deadly effects are experienced when the user first places the lighted pipe or cigarette in his mouth.

After taking a few puffs, he begins to feel faint. Why does he feel thus? It is the first contact of the poison nicotine with his nerves, that makes him feel so. Still he perseveres and so he makes another trial, and another, and another.

He notices that he does not become faint, he believes that his nerves are strengthened; he feels that he has something to turn to for consolation in times of trouble. Poor fool! Little does he know, that the subtle weed, tobacco, has made him its dupe.

He can not feel faint, because being charged with repeated doses of nicotine, his nerves become insensible to its deadly effects; he thinks his nerves strengthened when they are only benumbed.

The drunkard says, "They have beaten me, and I felt it not;" and tobacco, by deadening the sense of pain, may help endurance; but it often makes the smoker endure what he ought to cure.

It is especially injurious to the young.

Few things could be more pernicious in boys, growing youth, and persons of unformed constitution, than using it in any of its forms. Boys often smoke because they see their elders do so. To those I'll say:—seek out the good parts of your elders and copy them, but not those parts that are worthless. Others smoke because they can not refuse the proffered cigarette or cigar; but any one who induces a boy to smoke, does him harm, how much harm, no one can tell.

Ruskin says, "Tobacco is the worst natural curse of modern civilization; and this is partly because it makes those who might be industrious, content to be idle."

Surely at a time like this when we are urged by those who are interested in our race to be industrious, we ought to do our best to suppress anything that will cause us to be idle. We are well aware that nothing can make us an independent race but industry combined with thrift. But can we call the boy or man industrious, who spends a dime a week on a thing from which he derives nothing but harm?

A. FOWLER.

Talks to My Students

Unlucky

I have been thinking for several days about telling you what I think about 'luck.' I heard some one say recently that Brother Jeys doesn't believe in luck.

Now that's a mistake. And I am taking this time to explain to you that I do, and how.

Some days ago I asked some boys to go with me to the dining room and carry some chairs over to the chapel.

Three or four immediately jumped as if they had been shot out of a gun, and were off to get the seats. Some others looked up to see if I would name them personally, and as I did not, they remained seated, and let the other boys do the work.

Now these last named lads are unlucky. They missed a chance to help some one, to show themselves free and willing. All thru life this bad luck is likely to follow them. They will wonder why the nice jobs are always given to some one else, and why, when there is a specially desirable place to be filled, some one else always gets it. Now I can tell why. It is because they are so unlucky as to be afflicted with unwilling hearts, and so thru life they are likely to be victims of adverse and unpleasant conditions. Poor unlucky boys! Of course you see where the bad luck comes in. Any one who thinks to go thru life with face set constantly inward, thinking only of himself and his own pleasures and desires, is destined to bad luck. In fact the bad luck begins in entertaining that disposition.

A girl was asked to mop the floor.

She used half water enough, and the matron did not come to inspect it, and so she was not required to do the work over. She thot herself lucky to get off thus easily. How much mistaken!

That was very bad luck for her.

And if she continues to have such bad luck she will develop into a sloven, and there is no end to the misfortune she will have.

A boy went thru the barn and carelessly left a door ajar. The farm manager came along and reprimanded the boy. That was unlucky for him wasn't it?

Not a bit of it. That was good luck.

It would have been bad if he had escaped without any notice. He would then have been tempted to tell an un-

truth, possibly, and equally as unlucky would have been the fact that a careless habit was fastening itself on him, and no notice was made of it. No, he had good luck that time.

Don't believe in luck? I certainly do. I think the boys and girls who are required to come promptly to their classes, rise at the sounding of the bell, pay their accounts promptly, retire regularly, are certainly lucky.

The poor unlucky lads and lasses who have no one to care when they go or come, what they do, or how they prosper, are to be pitied.

And then, there are the unfortunate people who are so unlucky as to be born in rich families. They have a misfortune that is too bad. They are doubly unlucky if they do not have some experiences that toss them out on the sea of life and make them swim. The man who never has any duties that he is bound to discharge is an unlucky man surely. He has lost out of his life the satisfaction of knowing that he is of some real use in the world.

These poor people suffer terribly from ennti. (No, I don't suppose you know what that means. You are none of you so unlucky as to have ever suffered from that disease. Look it up in the dictionary.)

Well, by all this you see that there is such a thing as luck, and that we must look out to put ourselves in the pathway of good luck. If opportunity offers, we must show ourselves accomodating, unselfish, diligent, persistent, and honest. Thus good luck will be encouraged, and bad luck will be turned aside.

Open or Shut

"Open thou mine eyes," prayed the Psalmist "that I may behold wonderous things out of thy law." Ps. 119:18. "I pray thee open his eyes, that he may see," prayed Elisha for his servant who was frightened by the Syrian host. 2 Kings 6:17. "Lord that I may receive my sight," was the request of poor blind Bartimaetus.

Physical blindness is bad indeed, but it is of a worse kind that I wish to speak.

Just as the blind can never enter fully into the joys of those who have sight, so can not those whose spiritual perceptions are gone, or blunted, understand nor appreciate the life of those whose powers are restored by Him who opens the blind eyes. The proper prayer for

every child of God is "Lord open his eyes that he may see."

Time was when all the world was pure, and every eye was bright. When the morning stars sang together all was good. But man sinned, and as the poet said, "Sin has darkened all the mind, and veiled the heavenly light."

True, the devil said that eyes should be opened, but he lied; for instead of a clearer vision there has been increasing darkness.

It is the work of the Christian to go to those who sit in darkness and bring to them the Light of life.

Tho they may be saying to themselves that they are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing, they are poor, and miserable, and blind, and naked. And the sad part of it is that they are unconscious of the lamentable fact.

But if we are to be those to whom the Lord will entrust such a commission, what should be our condition? Surely we should be certain that the heavenly ointment has been applied to our own eyes. Otherwise it will be a sad case of the blind leading the blind, with the inevitable ditch for both leaders and led.

When I see some boys and girls who are careless to their devotional duties, or who, while professing to make preparation for the sacred work, are showing forth a wrong spirit, or cultivating wrong habits, I am led to fear that their eyes need to be opened.

Shall we not have a care that while we pose as those who have great light, we shall not be found to be poor, miserable, blind, and naked?

Man

WHAT is man that God should be mindful of him?

He is a piece of God's mechanism.

He was created in the image and likeness of God. He is fearfully and wonderfully made, and when we think of all the powers and gifts bestowed upon him, we cannot but exclaim "What a wonderful piece of work is man, how noble in reason, how like an angel, how like a God." Male and female created He them.

Did man continue to wear the image of God? Man was the perfect image of God 'till he became marred with sin.

Will the image of God be restored to

man? Yea; for as by one man's disobedience were many made sinners, so by the obedience of One, many shall be made righteous.

Man's Appetite

It was yielding to a lustful appetite that brought great trouble and even death upon the human family. Man, being misled and tempted by Satan to eat that which God has not prepared for human use, has brought great distress upon the nations even until this day.

Man's Health.

Man's health is destroyed by appetite.

Health is the condition on which pleasure, success, and happiness depend.

Upon the health of its people is based the prosperity of a nation. By it every power is increased, and every joy enhanced.

Life is incomplete and a failure, without a vigorous constitution. Sickness thwarts the best of intentions and the loftiest aims. We are constantly borne upon the tide of progress if we possess hopeful hearts and healthful organs. It is wonderful how much we can add to our personal comfort and length of days by studying some of the laws that govern and regulate our being.

It becomes all to make the best use of their opportunities in learning all that they can about themselves in sickness and in health. We best meet the purposes of life by doing what we can to preserve the race and bless mankind.

When men are all united,
And every wrong thing righted,
The whole world shall be lighted
As Eden was of old.

HANNAH HINER FAISON.

Missouri

THE week of prayer was a feast of good things with us. On several occasions we felt the deep movings of the Spirit of God in our meetings. Heart-melting confessions were made, wrongs were righted, and there was a getting together such as I have never witnessed before. The spirit of reconsecration, and a deeper work of grace in the heart seems to have settled down upon our people with great force. Everywhere there is a general regret of duties neglected, and time wasted, with a fixed determination to do more for the Lord in the future.

It seems to me that I have never witnessed a week of prayer like the one just

closed. I cannot but believe that the Spirit of God strives with great force upon the hearts of men as the end draws nigh. Truly God has commenced to do a quick work in the earth. This is evident by a large increase in converts, as shown by the last report from our statistical secretary for the year 1915.

Looking back into the old year, we can see many failures and mistakes. But being forgiven and pardoned by a kind heavenly Father, we raise our heads with courage to face the future.

It was my privilege to visit our people in Sedalia and Kansas City, during the week of prayer. At each place the Lord met with us by his Spirit, and our gatherings together were seasons of refreshing indeed. I found our people loyal and of good courage, with strong faith in the final triumph of the message.

The Lord has blessed our efforts in soul winning. During the past nine months we have baptized sixteen with a class of five awaiting baptism.—*J. W. Owens in the Central Union Outlook.*

Convention in Los Angeles

A VERY interesting convention of our colored people of Southern California was held in Los Angeles January 1 and 2 of the present year. Elder Sydney Scott, of the Southern Union Conference who is laboring in Southern California for a few months, planned the convention. This meeting was well attended, and we feel sure the results were all that could have been hoped for.

Some of the meetings were devoted to Sabbath school work. Other meetings were taken up in the study of Temperance in its various phases. Among the speakers were Elder E. E. Audross, president of the Pacific Union Conference, Elder G. A. Snyder, pastor of the Carr Street (Los Angeles) church, Doctors H. F. Rand and D. D. Comstock of the Glendale Sanitarium, and Miss Cornelia Teal and Mrs. Hester Griffith, lecturers of the W. C. T. U. organization of California.

We have today in Los Angeles, two churches of faithful, devoted colored Sabbath keepers. Sixty-two members in one church, and twenty-two in the other one. These churches are striving most earnestly to disseminate the mes-

sage and the Lord is blessing their work. At the present time Elder Scott is leading out in the work.

He is being ably assisted by Miss Jennie L. Ireland and Mrs. A. R. Temple, two faithful Bible workers.

California has a colored population of 30,000. Twenty-thousand of these are in the city of Los Angeles. Work among them began eight years ago and has made progress year by year until we now have two good churches. Never before has the work among the colored people of Los Angeles been on a better footing. The prospects are bright.

During the years since our first church of colored people was organized, the members have paid on an average of nearly a thousand dollars tithes. Three years the tithes have been considerably more than a thousand dollars. Offerings to foreign missions and local work have been correspondingly good. We are laying definite plans to strengthen this department of our work. We have every reason to believe that God is in it, and nothing can stay its progress. On and on it must go until it is finished.

B. E. BEDDOE.

President, S. California Conference.

Leaving North Texas

FOR the past three years I have labored in Texas. God has blessed my labors. Tho much more is to be done, we thank the Lord for what has been accomplished. Our department has been helped spiritually, numerically, and financially. To God be the praise for this.

Elder Thomas Murphy of Vicksburg, Miss., will take up the field work. Bro. E. M. Gates of Pine Bluff, Ark., will locate at Corsicana, to look after the interest there, and the surrounding places. Elder Murphy will reside at Waco, where we have our largest church.

I have been called to take up the work in Oklahoma. Oklahoma has not one church building for the colored.

We hope as the Lord helped to erect a structure for the work in Corsicana, so also he will help us to do something along this line for the colored people of the Oklahoma Conference. Our Gospel Herald readers may expect to hear from me thru the columns of the paper asking help for this needy place. My address will be 923 E. Vialas St., Guthrie, Okla.

M. G. NUNES.

Pittsburg Pa.

THROUGH the blessing of God, the year 1915 marked a new era for the work among our colored people in this conference.

June 1, 1912, the writer took charge of the work here. There were fourteen or fifteen members in the city church known as Pittsburg No. 2; while there were eight others a few miles out, now known as the McDonald church.

Though we have since lost four of those members by death, and in spite of many drawbacks and obstacles, the Lord has added to our numbers so that at the end of last year, the membership was thirty-nine, and twenty, respectively, with a few preparing for baptism.

The finances have continued to increase each year. The following figures will speak for themselves—

Pittsburg No. 2 tithes for 1915, \$710.21. Offerings to missions, \$286.61, as against 1914, tithes \$556.12, and offerings for missions \$336.61. Tho the offerings decreased, the tithe increased. McDonald tithe for 1915, \$272.43, offerings to missions, 77.86, as against tithe for 1914, 207.32, offerings \$64.90, an increase all round.

The No. 2 church also paid out nearly \$100.00 for hall rent and other expenses, while both companies contributed nearly \$800.00 during the year to our church building, which was dedicated on January 17 of this year. This of course, meant no little sacrifice and hard work, but today all are praising God for what he has done for us, in providing so large a place of worship, and thus end over nine years of wandering, and suffering of all sorts of rebuffs and inconveniences.

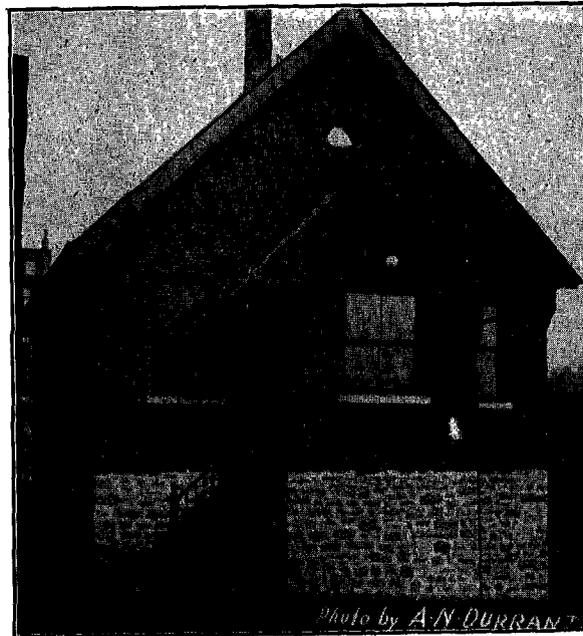
The accompanying picture will give an idea of what the building is like on the front. I could not well get a view which would show up the side.

The building is 28x38 plus an 8x10 vestibule. It is built with a basement nearly all above the ground. No basement windows appear in the front, as the street is to be raised, or graded in front of our building soon. Latter on when the grading is done windows may be cut in the stone wall, tho this is hardly necessary, as the side windows furnish enough light for the basement.

There are two ante-rooms on the main floor; one for pastor's study, while both serve as dressing rooms in time of baptism. We also installed a reinforced

concrete baptistry, built on piers from the basement up to the floor of the auditorium under the vestibule. It is lighted by electricity, and at present is heated with gas. We contemplate putting in a coal furnace when the basement is finished.

The cost of lots and building, including most of the furnishings aggregate \$5500.00. On the dedication day we lacked \$2290.00 to clear the buildings. The Spirit of God came in and made his people willing, and so in response to the calls made by Prof. Wilkinson the union president, Elder Robbins the local president, and Elder Parsons, pastor of Pittsburgh No. 1, \$1625.00 was subscribed in pledges and cash. The pledges extend over one year. Nearly all the ministers in the



PITTSBURG No. 2 CHURCH

conference were in attendance, as the conference committee were holding a session here at the time. Dr. Kress of Washington gave the dedicatory prayer, while Prof. Wilkinson preached the sermon. It did our hearts good to see how willingly our people from the local churches, as well as some of our white members from neighboring churches, offered to this work. Many of these visitors, including the ministers, had already given good help by way of donations, when I went to several of our churches last summer, seeking help.

We thank and praise God from whom all blessings flow, and ask the prayers of God's people that we may now be blessed of God in laboring to fill the house.

A. N. DURRANT.

The Missing Link

WHERE is it? Whence came it? Who wants it? What is it? Can it be found? What is the reward?

It is hidden among God's creation. It comes from the dust of the earth. It was made by God and the rightful owner wants it. This missing link is that mortal being called Man. Will you find him and receive the reward, which is Life Eternal? God is seeking his property. Will you come and join in the search?

When man was first made, he had the character of God. His thots were pure. his dominion was over all living things, but Satan, the destroyer of all Godlike things, stole man's physical, mental, and spiritual power. Since then, man has been under the influence of his captor, and has become a link in the chain of deception, which connects the things of this world with final destruction.

God is forming a chain which will connect the kingdom of service with the kingdom of eternity.

This chain is "Christianity." By becoming a link in his chain, we at once enter the kingdom of service, and start on our journey toward completing this chain.

The time to become a link in this chain is *Now*. We may not be the first link or the last, but we know that our strength is of as much value to this chain as any other link, the first or the last. God is tenderly calling you and asking your permission to allow him to round out your character and place you in his workshop so that you will be capable of standing the test.

In the kingdom of service, we become helpers in finding other links. By this process we are made stronger. We have Biblical proof that we are being saved and are saving other. The apostle Paul says, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine, continue in them for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." 1 Tim. 4:16.

Will you become a link in the chain of Christianity or remain in the chain of deception which leads to final destruction? You are the only one who can hinder God from taking you from this chain of deception, polish your character, and put you in his chain. Now is the time!

We who turn away from Satan's chain (the things of this world) and allow God

to place us into the chain of Christianity, shall be as vessels of honor, sanctified and meet for the Master's use that is, fit subjects to hunt for other missing links.

The more our chain is used, the brighter it shines. By usefulness in this world, reward will be received in the promise which says,—"He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

H. D. GREENE.

Are Splits Right?

THE gospel movement today known as the third angel's message, which is committed to this people to give the world, admits of no splits, from racial or other viewpoints. To bring a people out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, who must stand as a solid unit, when the Master comes, the message must undoubtedly go to all the world, finding its way to the hearts of the honest.

The people brought out by this grand and great cause, will stand together; we are one in thought and purpose. Conditions may rise among men which will cause us to be careful in our handling of the truth. This can be seen in the statement of the Master when he was here on earth—"Come, and I will make you fishers of men." This requires much tact. Wisdom is needed. You ask why? Because, we are handling minds that have been misguided by sin. For this reason we can afford to overlook certain conditions for we are working to put men into the kingdom of God.

Prior to the final day of the second advent of the Saviour, all who expect to shout the cry of Isa. 25:9, will be together. We represent a solid unit, waiting for the appearance of the King of kings. No fear will be possessed by the Adventists. Angels will protect against the wrath of the enemy. Shining glory from the Saviour will destroy all who have taken part in keeping up race troubles.

Let us as a colored race work for the salvation of the Negro, but not in a split. The first split that we know of was in heaven. Lucifer wanted God's place. Since then every other split has some of this same spirit in it. The third angel's message will not admit of a warring faction, a split, or any thing like it. Every thing along this line will perish. The devotees of the last gospel truth to

the world will ere long enter the promised land, leaving this class outside. Let us live in the experience of Ps. 133:

May the Lord help us as colored ministers to work for the salvation of the race.

M. G. NUNES.

Thots from Our Bible Class

Wecull from written work of our New Testament History class the following interesting thots,—

The Slain Galileans

The Jews were filled with their own righteousness and that the Galileans were punished for some hidden sin.

Jesus showed that it is not any sign of great sin to receive punishment, nor of great righteousness to be unpunished.

Had the Jews and Galileans rose, stood face to face, and met their record, it is not likely that one would have had much to boast above the other.

FRANK MCRAE.

As the great tumult of today reaches our ears, let us not like the Jews feel ourselves better than they, but rather let us humble our hearts, repent of our sins, and thank God that a little of probation remains. Every new disaster by land or sea is a voice to us, saying "Repent, or ye shall all likewise perish."

AMY FOWLER.

True Freedom

The only condition of freedom for man is to become one with Christ. To be lineal descendants of Abraham is of no value if the works of Abraham are not done. The only freedom we now possess is the freedom to will, and when we fail to let Christ control, Satanic influences enfeeble and destroy liberty of soul.

Such was the condition of the Pharisees.

CORINNE EMANUEL.

The Light of Life

Jesus declares himself to be this light.

God is light, and in this statement Christ declared his oneness with God, as well as his relation to the whole human family. The very moment we believe, Christ comes with infinite help.

ALICE MARTIN.

He is the primary light, and we are the minor lights. We are to let our lights shine, that those in darkness may see.

LELIA BROWN.

The Transfiguration

About twenty centuries ago, one twilight eve, four travelers were toiling

up a rough mountain path in Palestine. It was Jesus and his three disciples.

The spirits of the men were depressed under their burdens and sorrows. At last they paused, and Jesus fell on his knees to pray, and the disciples did likewise.

Weary and sad, the men fell asleep, but were wakened by the bright light of the transfiguration.

Moses and Elias talked with Jesus of his sacrifice so soon to be accomplished.

We too, in our sadness are called to behold soon the glory of Christ's kingdom. We are now Christ's witnesses, and if we share with him in the sorrow and labor, we shall likewise share in the glory that shall follow.

MERY ABEL.

Christ told his disciples of his death, and they did not like to talk of it, but Moses and Elias did. When the disciples were much afraid, Jesus told them not to fear. We should so live that when we hear the voice of God we shall not fear but be glad.

RACHEL WARNICK.

The Seventy Sent Out

The seventy were to make a quick trip, therefore were not to burden themselves with many garments nor with social functions of the times. We may receive from this a hint as to how the worker now is to do.

We may also learn that even tho the devils are subject to us, we are not to take credit to ourselves but rather rejoice because such unworthy ones as we, are enrolled in the book of life.

LUCILE LONG.

The Blind Man

The Saviour can heal both physical and spiritual blindness. Naturally we are all born blind, and we can testify that whereas we were blind, now we see.

CLARICE GITENS.

The Lost Sheep

The lost sheep represents this world gone astray. About six-thousand years ago this world was stolen by the devil.

By the disobedience of one man, we lost our home; and by the obedience of one Man, our home is redeemed.

SOLOMON TROY.

Mary's Better Part

The better part chosen by Mary was the calm devotional spirit.

We have not Jesus in person today, but we do have his word and his Holy Spirit, and he will impart to us, as to Mary, a knowledge of himself.

ALICE TUCKER.

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Note and Comment

DURING the first days of February, Oakwood was favored with the presence of the school board and other leading brethren. The following members of the board were present,— Elders C. B. Stephenson, S. E. Wight, W. H. Branson, A. L. Miller, M. C. Strachan, T. B. Buckner, and Brother W. H. Williams.

Besides these members of the board were the following brethren,— Elders W. T. Knox, N. V. Willess, W. H. Heckman, W. R. Elliott, Profs. Frederick Griggs, W. E. Howell, and brethren M. F. Knox and G. H. Curtis.

Brother D. R. Johnson, of Nashville Tenn., was at Oakwood for a day recently. He came to preach the funeral of one of the Nashville brethren, Brother Derrick. Brother Johnson is an Oakwood graduate, class of 1913. His work since leaving school has been mostly in Nashville, Tenn. It is with much satisfaction that we see our old students taking their place in the work of God. Oakwood gladly welcomes back those who have gone forth and done honor to their Alma Mater.

Brother D. W. Dillon of Graysville Tenn., was a visitor with us on a recent Sabbath and occupied the time at the eleven o'clock hour. As is usual, his remarks were timely and interesting.

Who is going to make your tent? Why not let the Oakwood shops do it for you? Send for estimates.

Are you raising money to pay on your church? Then write us for special prices on the new book, *THE MYSTERY*. Others have tried it, and have found it a good seller. A printed canvass and full particulars sent for a stamp.

Still our brother DeLiquent is sending in his subscription, and least we should wound his feelings, we continue to follow our plan of saying nothing about the

matter of subscriptions. But of course if he writes and asks us, we will tell him how much his arrearage is, and will also be very thankful for a renewal. We do not wish of course, to compel any one to take our paper, except in that good natured way that the guests were compelled to come to the feast. Of course no one is legally bound to pay for any paper that is sent to him after the paid time expires, and we recognize that if we send the paper we do it at our own risk, but we have learned that it is safe to run some risks with our brethren; especially when we are constantly receiving letters like the following,—

"Dear Brother,—Enclosed find \$1.00 to apply on my subscription. I thank you for your patience with me in not stopping the paper. I enjoy reading it very much."

We have in stock and for sale the following books and tracts:

Story of Joseph	.25
Practical Reader	.25
Martin Luther	.25
Cannibal Archipeligos	.25
Fiji and Samoa	.25
Old Poems for Young People	.25
Question Book on Acts	.25
Prophetic Chart	.25
Commandment Chart	.25
"Land" tract, (per 100)	.35
"I Believe" tract, (per 100)	.35
Sabbath or Sunday tract (per 100)	.35
Bible reading postals (per doz.)	.10
The Mystery	.35
Problems in English	.10

In purchasing these books you are helping our printer boys earn their way thru school. You are also getting value received for your money. Order thru your tract society or send direct to the Oakwood School, Huntsville, Ala.

We are in receipt of a nice note of appreciation from Mrs. Ellen Storms of Saddle River, N. J. We take the liberty of quoting a few sentences.

"Please excuse me for not sending in subscriptions sooner. I have been so busy. I was 76 years old in November.

How time flies! Your labor of love is one that the Father will amply repay. I enjoy the GOSPEL HERALD so much."

Change of Address

THE present address of Elder M. G. Nunes is 923 E. Vialas St, Gutlrie, Okla.

Houston, Tex.

NEW ones are becoming interested and some are beginning to keep the Sabbath. Still others are about ready for baptism. Calls are coming from every hand which it is impossible to fill.

Recently I held a series of meetings at Lyra in the West Texas Conference. These meetings were full of interest from the very beginning, and many more white people attended than colored, and they show a deep interest in the truths presented. Some began keeping the Sabbath, and others are contemplating the same step. A good interest was left among them, and it is hoped that one of the white ministers will go there and finish the work with them.

A colored church of eleven members was organized, and ten were baptized. To God all glory is given.

My next meeting will be at San Marcos.—*R. L. Bradford, in Southwestern Union Record.*

None of Your Business

I SUPPOSE when Cain made that disrespectful, irreverent interrogatory, he thought he had asked a reasonable question.

Ever since Cain's time there has been a wrong notion entertained in the minds of men.

It is my business whether my brother lives or dies. If I fail to attend to my business, God will hold me accountable for my neglect of duty. No man can live unto himself nor die unto himself.

We are bound together in the meshes of a common brotherhood. If I prosper my prosperity is shared by others. If I suffer I cannot be alone. If I pay my tithe, I not only get a blessing but at the same time I transmit a blessing. If I use tobacco I not only harm myself but I likewise spoil the air for others, and rob them of my influence for cleanness and self control.

Satan is especially jealous of those who, moved by the Spirit of the Master, feel that they must be about their Father's business. Satan is unalterably opposed to having his business interfered with. "Let us alone; what have we to do with thee?" has echoed and reechoed over the world from the days of the Gadarene demoniacs to our own times.

Yes, I am my brother's keeper. I must love him and care for his interests.

"How can I give thee up?" must be the language of my soul. T. H. J.