

VOLUME THIRTEEN

MAY - JUNE , 1963

# Prepare to Meet the Lord

### By Ellen G. White

(From Counsels for the Church Vol. 1, pp. 43-45)

I saw that we should not put off the coming of the Lord. Said the angel: "Prepare, prepare, for what is coming upon the earth. Let your works correspond with your faith." I saw that the mind must be stayed upon God, and that our influence should tell for God and His truth. We cannot honour the Lord when we are careless and indifferent. We cannot glorify Him when we are desponding. We must be in earnest to secure our own soul's salvation, and to save others. All importance should be attached to this, and everything besides should come in secondary.

I saw the beauty of heaven. I heard the angels sing their rapturous songs, ascribing praise, honour, and glory to Jesus. I could then realize something of the wondrous love of the Son of God. He left all the glory, all the honour which He had in heaven, and was so interested for our salvation that He patiently and meekly bore every indignity and slight which man could heap upon Him. He was wounded, smitten, and bruised; He was stretched on Calvary's cross and suffered the most agonizing death to save us from death, that we might be washed in His blood and be raised up to live with Him in the mansions He is preparing for us, to enjoy the light and glory of heaven, to hear the angels sing, and to sing with them.

I saw that all heaven is interested in our salvation; and shall we be indifferent? Shall we be careless, as though it were a small matter whether we are saved or lost? Shall we slight the sacrifice that as been made for us? Some have done this. They have trifled with offered mercy, and the frown of God is upon them. God's Spirit will not always be grieved. It will depart if grieved a longer. After all has been done that God could do to save men, if they show by their lives that they slight Jesus' offered mercy, death will be their portion, and it will be dearly purchased. It will be a dreadful death; for they will have to feel the agony that Christ felt upon the cross to purchase for them the redemption which they have refused. And they will then realize what they have lost-eternal life and the immortal inheritance. The great sacrifice that has been made to save souls shows us their worth. When the precious soul is once lost, it is lost for ever.

I have seen an angel standing with scales in his hands weighing the thoughts and interest of the people of God, especially the young. In one scale were the thoughts and interest tending to earth. And in this scale were thrown all the reading of storybooks, thoughts of dress and show, vanity, pride, etc. Oh, what a solemn moment! the angels of God standing with scales, weighing the thoughts of His professed children-those who claim to be dead to the world and alive to God. The scale filled with thoughts of earth, vanity, and pride quickly went down, not with standing weight after weight rolled from the scale. The one with the thoughts and interest tending to heaven went quickly up as the other went down, and oh, how light it was! I can relate this as I saw it; but never can I give the solemn and vivid impression stamped upon my mind, as I saw the angel with the scales weighing the thoughts and interest of the people of God. Said the angel: "Can such enter heaven? No, no, never. Tell them the hope they now possess is vain, and unless they speedily repent, and obtain salvation, they must perish.

NUMBER THREE

A form of godliness will not save any. All must have a deep and living experience. This alone will save them in the time of trouble. Then their work will be tried of what sort it is; and if it is gold, silver, and precious stones, they will be hid as in the secret of the Lord's pavilion. But if their work is wood, hay, and stubble, nothing can shield them from the fierceness of Jehovah's wrath.

I saw that many measure themselves among themselves, and compare their lives with the lives of others. This should not be. No one but Christ is given us as an example. He is our true Pattern, and each should strive to excel in imitating Him. We are co-workers with Christ, or co-workers with the enemy. We either gather with Christ or scatter abroad. We are decided, wholehearted Christians, or none at all. Says Christ: "I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth." Revelation 3: 15,16.

I saw that some hardly know as vet what self-denial or sacrifice, is, or what it is to suffer for the truth's sake. But none will enter heaven without making a sacrifice. A Spirit of self-denial and sacrifice should be cherished. Some have not sacrificed themselves, their own bodies, on the altar of God. They indulge in hast, fitful temper, gratify their appetites, and attend to their own self-interest regardless of the cause of God. Those who are willing to make any sacrifice for eternal life, will have it; and it will be worth suffering for, worth crucifying self for, and sacrificing every idol for. The far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory swallows up everything and eclipes every earthly pleasure. Testimony to the Church. pages 123-126

## News from Sarawak R. C. Hall, President

The "Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow" that was given to Sarawak Mission for the Ayer Manis School has grown into two nice school buildings. One is a new dormitory for the boys with a dean's apartment, and the other a girls' dormitory and dean's apartment on the second floor with kitchen and cafeteria on the ground floor.

The contractor is just finishing the buildings and we expect to move into them in a few days. It will be a real change for the 183 dormitory students that have been living in the old buildings that can hardly be called dormitories. Even though there are no beds and they will have to sleep on the floor, the students will be happy with their new quarters.

After returning from a trip into the interior, we can report that our members are of good courage even though the recent floods had completely destroyed most and in some cases all of their rice crops. The old chief of Majau has started a branch Sabbath School and there is a very good interest that looks as though it will materialize into a new church in the future when our worker is able to follow through with meetings. Another group on the Tatau that had drifted from the church many years ago is having Sabbath School regularly now and there are several families that are preparing for re-baptism.



New Printing Press Dedicated

By John Bernet, Publishing Secretary, Southeast Asia Union

A special dedication service was conducted for the new HEIDEL-BERG Giant, automatic printing press, during March 1963 Vietnam Mission biennial session. All the Mission delegates were present for this inspiring service. The dedication address was given by H. W. Bedwell, president of the Southeast Asia Union, and A. E. Gibb, secretary of the Far Eastern Division, offered prayer. This one printing press weighs more than 13,000 pounds, prints an area of 22" x 30", and is able to make up to 4,000 impressions per hour.

VIETNAM SIGNS PRESS of Saigon, by the General Conference Publishing House Expansion Committee during the 1962 General Conference Session in San Francisco. Money for needy projects like this is made available by the REVIEW AND HERALD PUB-LISHING ASSOCIATION, the SOUTHERN PUBLISHING AS-SOCIATION, and the PACIFIC PRESS, who each pay a portion of their yearly earnings to help equip their sister publishing houses in the mission field.

This gift of love was given to the

They are making plans for a church building this year.

Since the flood waters have gone down the air strip has dried out sufficiently to finish the smoothing work and we expect to use it in May when there will be a campmeeting held for our people in the Tatau area. The air strip is 1200 feet long and is on the grounds of the Bukit Nyala School on the river bank of the Tatau.

Five persons were baptized a few days ago in a village where we have placed a part-time worker. They are building a new jungle church building that will seat about

100 people. There is a good interest here and we feel that the Lord is blessing the labors of Brother Sapok and it will grow into a strong church. Another new work that we started last year by sending a worker into a remote area is reporting a good interest. Brother Luku reports that there are 73 attending the Sabbath services regularly and 35 of them are in the class preparing for baptism. The Catholic and heathen leaders are giving him much opposition but he is encouraged to struggle forward and three witch doctors have joined his class recently

## Young Man Rescued By E. B. Smith, Chaplain Bangkok Sanitarium & Hospital

The eves of the Lord ever pass to and fro over the earth in search for those who would be heirs of salvation. In His loving search His interest centered on the Chen family. Though not yet Christians this family was sympathetic and unselfish toward those with whom they found to be in need, and the Lord took notice. The Chen family came into close contact with Christianity over two years ago when Mrs. Chen came to the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital for heart surgery. Following her surgery Mrs. Chen received Bible studies and was baptized in December, 1961. About this time the family was much concerned for their second son who was keeping bad company and getting into frequent difficulty. Desiring to help the boy Mrs. E. B. Smith studied the Bible with

him each Monday afternoon. Even so he continued to get into trouble. Finally he said, "I want to be good but it seems impossible while I am around my friends."

In April we left on furlough but were concerned for this fine young man. When we arrived in the United States we learned that my brother had accepted a call to teach Bible and to pastor the church at San Pasqual Academy in California. Here was the opportunity for Somboon to get away from the careless companions in Bangkok and at the same time have someone who would be personally interested in him.

September found Somboon enrolled as a sophomore at San Pasqual Academy. From the very first he received high grades in his Bible course. Following the Week of Prayer in October he asked for baptism. In December just a year following his mother's baptism Somboon was baptized by Pastor Derrell Smith at the Academy.

A few days ago Somboon's family received a very earnest letter from him with a special note for his eighty year old grandmother. This sweet old lady has worshipped idols all of her life and so Som-boon urged her to remember her advanced age and give her heart to Jesus before it is too late. Then there was a note for his younger brothers and sisters asking them to avoid the foolish way he had set out upon, and to find happiness in Jesus as he had found. This letter has greatly impressed his family.

Each Sabhath afternoon a branch Sabbath School is held for twentyfive to thirty workers and friends of the Chen family in their home. Mr. Chen is the one who is most interested in the success of this Branch Sabbath School though he has not yet been baptized. Won't you join us is prayer that God will help Mr. Chen to find courage to close his large retail business on the Sabbath.



In May, along with Pastor Tilstra, our Mission President, and two other fellow-workers, we made a tour through Vietnam, stopping in practically every city to investigate the possibilities of holding evangelistic efforts, and to make a survey of our Radio work.

At Hue, the historic and romantic old capital of Vietnam, the Radio Station manager received us very warmly. During our half-anhour conversation, he complimented our program as the "most up-todate" of all their religious broad-casts. "Your presentation of your

# The Radio Work in Vietnam

#### By Pastor Le-Huu, Radio-TV Secretary and Radio Speaker

Faith is logical, your argumentation persuasive, your music excellent, and your recording very good," he commented, and then he went on, "The intellectual class of the imperial capital are very much interested in your broadcast."

The Hue Radio Station is just over a hundred kilometers from the line of partition - the 17th parallel. How encouraging is the thought that those behind the "bamboo curtain" have the chance of listening to the saving message of the everlasting Gospel. And how comforting to our few believers up there who happen to hear our voice.

In Tourane a church member reported with pride that his village Catholic priest was a diligent and faithful listener to our Voice of Hope broadcasts.

Last year, at the close of our first lecture in the Cinema Hall of Dalat, a man approached me with a big smile and said as he greeted me, "Are you Pastor Le-Huu? I am glad to meet the man whose voice I have heard and for whom I have a high esteem." I remained speechless as he went on to say, "My name is Nguyen Dang Minh, Head of the Program Department of the Dalat National Radio Station." In the course of our conversation, I found that he is a member of the Evangelical Church. He admitted the superiority of our broadcasts to all other religious program, even over his own church's.

And our Radio listeners are of varied creeds, ranging from heathen government officials to Catholic priests, and from Buddhist adherents to protestant members.

Last year three new stations were added to the four existing stations. bringing the total programs to seven. We are now broadcasting on every station in Vietnam. All the broadcasting time is free.

Getting on the additional stations required some effort. The Banmethoot Station, for example, waited for months before permission was extended to us - long after the other religious bodies had their programs on the air. The head of the station kept silent to my request until my second letter, in which I said, "From the antennae of all the governmental stations, the Voice of Hope is enjoying with the other religious bodies the privilege of propagating their

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## THE MESSENGER

## May-June, 1963

# Thailand Mission News



# BSH Church Dedication — Thirty-One Baptized By C. H. Dameron, Pastor Bangkok Sanitarium Church

Sabbath, March 23, 1963 will long be remembered by the members and friends who attended the official dedication of the Bangkok Sanitarium Church of Seventh-day Adventist. For months the members had looked for the time to come when the work' would be finished and we could present this newly refinished building to God.

remodeled, Completely the church takes on an atmosphere of beauty and worship. The work included replacing the old shutters with new windows; the old con-crete floor replaced by a new ter-razzo floor; a new roof and ceiling which included painting through-out. The platform and choir loft have been redesigned and better arranged; and the front wall of the sanctuary finished in beautiful wood paneling. New pews to match the paneling replace the old ones and a new baptistery complete with drapes now is a place of beauty. The building now includes new Sabbath School rooms for our boys and girls, and pastor's study, a Dorcas room and restrooms. The

outside wall of the old section of the church has been remodeled to match the new addition.

We now have a church which is appropriate and fitting for the message which we proclain. The faithful participation of the members, which showed over 90% of our membership taking part, was a blessing to witness. Within the space of eighteen months the membership of less than three hundred gave a total of almost \$400,000.00 Baht, (\$20,000.00US). The gift of \$100,000.00 Baht, (\$5,000.00US), from the Bangkok Sanitarium & Hospital made possible the rapid completion of the program and brought the total amount spent in the project to nearly one-half million Baht, (\$25,000.00US).

Those taking part in the Hour of Dedication on March 23, included Pastor H. W. Bedwell, President of the Southeast Asia Union Mission; Pastor D. R. Guild Ministerial Association Secretary of the Southeast Asia Union Mission. Pastor W. A. Martin, President of the Thailand Mission preached the dedicatory sermon in Thai and the combined choirs of the Thai and English services presented the special music.

At the conclusion of the dedication, thirty-one precious souls were baptized into fellowship with the Bangkok Sanitarium Church. This is the largest baptism ever held in the history of the Thailand Mission. Surely we are at the dawn of a new day in proclaiming the message throughout this Buddhist country. We believe that soon God's Spirit will be poured out in a mighty way and the work of the Three Angels will be finished.





Pictured above is the interior view of the recently remodled Bangkok Sanitarium Church.

# Cross Attracts 30,000 in Bangkok

The largest Christian Cross ever to be erected upon Thai soil marked the Christian Witness Pavalion at the recent International Trade Fair held in Bangkok. The cross, reaching a height equal to a threestory building, gleamed in bright yellow against the night sky. Flood lights piercing the night caused the crowds to pause and behold this spectacular sight. A globe of the world over ten feet in diameter formed the foundation of the cross. The cross projected from Asia symbolic of the Gospel commission to the Orient.

This pavilion, built through the combined efforts of about twelve Christian groups and missions in the city, afforded an opportunity for a Christian witness to the halfmillion visitors to the fair during February 1-17. The best estimates list 30,000 as having visited the pavilion to see the pictures shown each evening and to hear sermons on Christ, the Hope of the world. A typical evening went something like this: First, it was essential to get a crowd and the brightly lighted cross was a big attraction. Secondly, we showed a film, "One in Twenty Thousand", which always drew more viewers than could ever be accommodated in our available space. The crowds would spill over into adjoining areas. While the film was in progress, many of our Seventh-day Adventist youth and workers in Bangkok would visit the viewers, answering questions about lung cancer and distributing tracts on tobacco written especially for this affair. The interest grew each evening and many returned to view the film again and again. We felt that in such a combined effort of all the Protestant missions in Bangkok, our best contribution would be in the field of temperance, and God richly blessed our efforts. Over 70,000 tracts on the evils of tobacco and alcohol were distributed by our Adventist people at the fair. At the same time scores were enrolled in the VOP Bible Correspondence Course.

After the showing one evening, an Indian Siek contacted the writer and asked if such a film could be purchased for his people to use. They are firm believers in abstain-

(Continued on page 7)



Pictured above are two groups of persons recently baptized by D. K. Smith at Ubol. Standing at the back is Miss Boon Dang, Bible Instructor. In the front row center, Daniel Smith, son of Pastor Smith, was also baptized.

May-June, 1963



Below: Elder and Mrs. T. C. Chin busy in the Sabbath school workshop.

Ministerial Ordination Pictured at the left are those who

Pictured at the left are those who took part in the recent ordination of W. E. Smith to the gospel ministry in Penang. From left to right; D. R. Guild, T. C. Chin, W. E. Smith, H. W. Bedwell,





## Beginner's Institute Conducted By John Bernet, Publishing Secretary Southeast Asia Union

Pictured above on the front row. right side is Brother Pham Cuu, assistant publishing secretary, who just conducted a beginners training school for ten new literature evangelists in his Tourane District. On the front row, left side are Pastor and Mrs. Pham Thien, both strong supporters of the colporteur ministry. Mrs. Pham Thien is manager of the Tourane Book and Periodical Depository and is doing a remarkable job. Under Brother Cuu's dynamic leadership the number of literature evangelists have more than doubled in this district. Brother Cuu has the distinction of conducting the first beginner's training school in SEAU, in 1963. The SEAU publishing leaders have set their goal to conduct 23 such soulwinning training schools during 1963.

Sabbath School Workshop Pictured at the left is Pastor and Mrs. Khng busy in the Sabbath school workshop conducted by Mrs. C. Williams of Korea. May-June, 1963

#### Cross Attracts 30,000 in Bangkok (Continued from page 5)

ing from the use of tobacco and alcohol. The contact opened the way for a visit with him and his family together with several of the Siek leaders in Bangkok. They urged that a temperance society be organized in Bangkok and indicated a very earnest interest to put forth both time and money to see it prosper.

After the film "One in Twenty Thousand" was shown, one of the missionary groups selected a Thai or Chinese minister to bring a message from God's word. There was singing nightly by the various choirs and musical groups in the city. A total of almost 300,000 tracts were distributed during the 17 days and over 30 souls were specific in their inquiries regarding the Christian faith.

Approximately 30,000 of the half million visitors to the fair actually visited the Christian Pavilion. This is thrilling!—especially when one realizes that within a short period of only two and a half weeks the message of salvation was offered to prospective believers numbering about the total present membership of all the Protestant churches in all of Thailand today.

The "Chapel of Rest" in the Pavilion was a significant aspect of the project. Air-conditioned, the Chapel provided a quiet, cool atmosphere where visitors came to listen to choice Christian music and taped Bible readings in Thai. It was always filled to capacity especially in the evenings.

The Seventh-day Adventist Mission joined with other mission groups who united their hearts, minds, and efforts for the success of this project. Almost \$2,000.00 US was contributed to erect the Pavilion. It required more than 1,000 man-days to prepare the displays, distribute literature, audiovisual aids, preaching, singing, and counseling. One Christian layman of another faith, who owns a printing shop, donated 1000,000 handbills for distribution at the main gates. These handbills invited the visitors to "follow the path" that led to the cross on the world into the Christian Witness Pavilion. Christians throughout the city strengthened the work through prayer.

We know that God used our film, our hands, and hearts to wit-

ness of Him as we joined in this united effort.

## The Radio Work in Vietnam (Continue from pape 3)

religion. It is to our surprise, and to the surprise of several of our faithful listeners that we have been denied of the privilege liberally meted to the other religious groups. Of course, you must have a reason for the denial, but we would appreciate it very much if you kindly tell us the reasons that we may reply to the letters of our many listeners inquiring on the subject." A week later the reply came informing us that we are allowed to broadcast our Voice of Hope program.

Recently, I received a letter from a friend of mine, who used to be a reporter, and writer. In his letter he disclosed to me that he had been head of the broadcasting program department of the Banmethoot Station. He related to me all the story concerning my request for the broadcasting time. He also gave a comment on our program. "Yours is the best religious program we have. It far excels the Buddhist, the Catholic; and the Evangelical broadcast is no comparison to yours," he wrote. "But," he added, "though I am not against you personally, I have been obliged to censure part of your sermons, or sometimes entirely, due to the instructions from my superiors. However, one thing I can assure you that my intellectual listeners here like your program very much."



"I encouraged every one in my office to take up Suloh Hidup Course. Here are their names. Please attend to each one of them accordingly." (This student sent in 24 individually filled-in enrollment cards.)

"Our school office confiscated all Suloh Hidup lessons, and we are threathened with expulsion if we continue to contact you. Our parents, too, were informed of the situation. Come what may, I am determined to finish the Course,

though I have to study it in the closet and use our ice-cream man's address in my correspondence with you."

An Estate overseer in North Borneo writes:

"I was surprised to see some of my used to be lazy and good-fornothing workers miraculously turn hard-working, strong and cheerful overnight. As I was very anxious to know how and where the change had come from, I talked to one of them in private: 'Tell me frankly, my dear man, what has happened to you lately. I admit I have witnessed a miracle working within you. I am very glad and proud of you!' Proudly he pointed his finger to a nicely framed diploma on the wall. 'You see.' he said, 'ever since I started working for that beautiful diploma, I also started throwing away my harmful habits, such as smoking, drinking, gambling, etc., which used to rob me the best part of my sleep and energy." Every new man in this Estate today is a proud possessor of Pandu Kesehatan diploma!"

"Truly, altogether I came across eight diplomas throughout our Estate."

A student from the Polytechnic has this to say:

"No greater contribution one can render to his fellowmen than to give cheer to the down-hearted and 'life to the lifeless!' It is said that 'happy homes make a nation prosper'. Pandu Kesehatan brings happiness and prosperity to all."

"My little boy sent for the Suloh Hidup lessons. Receiving the first lesson he realized that the language is too deep for him. He passed it on to me. I read and re-read it. I became interested. I asked for more lessons. Within three months I finished the Course. I received my diploma. I thought of baptism. I talked to my wife. She joined the Course. She is half-way through now. Both of us want to be born again at the same time. Please pray for us."

Since Seven-day Sabbath is part of the ten commandments I am not contrary to the idea of Sabbath keeping. Please arrange a day in which you can speak of the Chief constructor of H. M. Dockyard, on my behalf to obtain leave on every Saturday. 1.1

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## THE MESSENGER

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**Publishing Leaders** Pictured to the left are the publishing leaders and workers that attended the union publishing council held in Dalat, Vietnam.

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## CAMBODIA DISTRICT

## **Pilot Buys Projector** By E. B. Smith, Chaplain **Bangkok Sanitarium & Hospital**

Captain James Fore, a former Flying Tiger pilot and now doing contract flying in Laos, was flying rice into isolated mountain areas for the mountain people who have been cut off from supplies by the Pathet Lao forces. There is supposed to be a truce in the fighting so that there should be no danger for an unarmed airplane on such a mission.

One day he had just about completed such a mission into the mountain area of Laos and their wing tank was empty of gas. They made a low pass over the last village to drop rice when the plane was struck by enemy fire. The empty wing tank burst into flames. Captain Fore headed his plane into an area that he thought might be safe and ordered the crew to jump to safety. With the crew safely out of the burning plane, he had to give immediate attention to his own safety as the flames were already burning into his cabin. He set the controls so that the plane would crash near the peak of one of the hills so that it might be more easily seen by rescue planes.

He released the controls that should have automatically ejected him out of the top of the plane but he stuck in the opening unable to release himself. Because of the opening into the top of the plane,

the flames were now being sucked up around his feet. At that moment he felt that only God could help him and he asked for that help. Suddenly the thought came to his mind that he should pull the release cord on his chute to see if it would jerk him from the plane before it crashed. Wonder of wonders the chute cleared the tail of the plane and jerked him free just seconds before the plane crashed. Although injured from the landing and the flames, he was soon rescued and brought to Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital for treatment and to recuperate.

With a very strong immpression that God saved his life he took a real interest in reading the literature we provided him. When he was finally able to be up in a wheel chair, he attended church service on a Sabbath that Elder H. E. McClure spoke during the Home Missionary period and gave a demonstration of the effective use of the Hope for Today projector and films in missionary work. After the service Captain Fore spoke to me, "Chaplain, would you order the complete outfit including the battery pack so that I can give those studies to my friends?" Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will lead this pilot into the way of salvation and use him to influence others also. Let us hope that all our members will be as anxious to use this wonderful material that is available for Home Missionary work.