

# REPORT *of* PROGRESS



THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE

Vol. 3

NASHVILLE, TENN., MARCH 9, 1909

No. 10

"HAND in hand with angels  
Through the world we go;  
Brighter eyes are on us  
Than we blind ones know;  
Tenderer voices cheer us  
Than we deaf will own;  
Never, walking heavenward,  
Can we walk alone."

## I WILL KEEP THEE FROM THE HOUR OF TEMPTATION

(Concluded.)

If man had always kept the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, there never would have been an atheist or an infidel in the world. Through the fourth commandment the attention of men is called to the power of the infinite hand that placed the stars in the firmament. If they had obeyed his commandment, they would have worshiped God as they looked at the sun that rules the day and the moon that rules the night. Everything in nature, — the tints and colorings that he has given to every opening bud and every blooming flower, the lofty tree, the grass that clothes the earth in its green mantle, would have spoken to the soul, bidding us to remember God and the commandment in which he says that he created all these in six days and rested on the seventh day, and hallowed the Sabbath day which he had made.

God blessed man and gave the Sabbath to him to be observed as a memorial of his creative power. But Satan has come in, and shown himself the decided enemy of man; and he seeks to make of none effect the work of God, and get in every conceivable thing of human origination, to hide God and his glory from our sight. The man of sin, it is declared in Daniel, "shall think to change times and laws." And is not this very work done now? Is he not seeking to change times and laws? He cannot do this, because God's holy law is as unchangeable as his throne, and is from everlasting to everlasting. Christ has said, "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

The question of Sabbath and Sunday observance is to be agitated everywhere, and the

deceptions of Satan will flood the world. The man of sin has instituted a spurious Sabbath, and the Protestant world has taken the child of the papacy and cradled and nurtured it. Satan means to make all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of the fornication of Babylon. Men are binding themselves together in bonds of union to show their disloyalty to the God of heaven. The first day of the week is to be exalted and presented to all for observance. Shall we be partakers of this cup of abomination? Shall we bow to the authorities of earth and despise God?

The powers of darkness have been gathering their forces to bring this crisis about in the world, so that the man of sin may exalt himself above God. God does not force the conscience of any man, but the powers of darkness have been trying the consciences of men ever since Abel fell under the murderous blow from the hand of pitiless Cain, because Abel's works were righteous and his own were sinful. God had respect unto the offering of Abel, but he had no respect to Cain's offering, and this made Cain very angry. God was not at fault that Cain's offering was not respected. It was valueless because it was destitute of the thing that gave it virtue, and that was the blood that was to be shed for the sins of the world — the blood of Jesus Christ.

Satan is ever seeking to bring about a state of things in which righteousness may be termed unrighteousness, and unrighteousness righteousness. What are we to do? — We are to keep in living connection with the God of heaven, ranking in his army and under his banner, and we cannot afford to be in such gross darkness that we cannot discern truth from error. We want to know what is truth. Many say, "The whole world is keeping the first day of the week, and do you think that all the good men are in error?"

God is going to bring around a condition of things where the good men and the men in authority will have an opportunity to know what is truth indeed. And because a people will not bow the knee to the image, and receive the mark of the beast in the hand or the forehead, but will stand to the truth, because it is truth, there will be oppression, and an attempt to compel the conscience; but those

who have known the truth will be afraid to yield to the powers of darkness. God has a people who will not receive the mark of the beast in their right hand or in their forehead.

God has a place for his people to fill in this world, to reflect light. You are God's sentinels. Christ says of his people, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." We are to stand the test of persecution because of allegiance to the truth. Not a move has been made in exalting the idol sabbath, in bringing around Sunday observance through legislation, but Satan has been behind it, and has been the chief worker; but the conscience should not be compelled, even for the observance of the genuine Sabbath; for God will accept only willing service. The question is asked, Shall we obey the powers that be? — Yes, when they are in harmony with the higher powers that be. God made his law for all the universe. He created man, he gives the bounteous provisions of nature, holds our breath and life in his hand. He is to be recognized, his law honored, before all the great men, and the highest earthly powers.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

## JUNIOR READING COURSE

### Lesson 9.—Yo Hachi

"Child Life in Mission Lands," pages 149-163.  
Test Questions, page 161.

#### Notes.

**THE JAPANESE HOME.** As in all other lands where Christ is unknown, women are regarded as inferiors. Whether daughter or wife, she is perfectly obedient. On the street the wife walks reverently behind her husband. It is customary to bury the dead with the head to the north, therefore they will never sleep in that position. In some hotels and private houses the points of the compass are marked on the ceilings of bedrooms to avoid the bad luck resulting from a mistake.

Japanese houses are slight constructions of wood; in place of windows and shutters they have an inner set of paper screens, and an outer set of wooden shutters, both sliding into grooves. The floors are covered with a

thick, soft, straw mat, on which the inmates sit, eat, and sleep. In winter the houses are heated by charcoal boxes. Rice is the principle article used as food.

**GAMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.** On the 5th of July is the Feast of Flags, a great day for the boys. Shop-keepers supply the lads with figures dressed to represent the Mikado and other great men of the nation, also toy soldiers with guns and banners, all to kindle in the hearts of the boys a love for war.

One of the most notable days of the year is March 3, the Feast of Dolls. It is devoted entirely to the girls. When a girl is born two dolls are purchased to be kept for her until she is grown up. When she is married she takes them to her own home. Later they become the property of her children.

Of all the sports at which the children of Japan enjoy themselves, kite-flying seems to afford them the most enjoyment. Japanese kites are not plain coffin-shaped bits of tissue paper, such as American boys fly. They are made of tough paper stretched on light frames of bamboo, and are of all shapes: square, oblong, or oval. They are often made to imitate animals, and sometimes one may see a whole paper menagerie in the air. There are crying babies, boys with arms spread out, horses, fishes, bats, hawks, crows, monkeys, snakes, dragons; besides ships, carts, and horses. Across the top of the back of each kite a thin strip of whalebone is stretched, which hums and buzzes and sings high up in the air like a swarm of beetles.

**THE JAPANESE WAR** with Russia was a contention of long standing. In the treaty of peace at the close of the war between China and Japan, that part of Manchuria which had been subdued, and Port Arthur were given to Japan as a part of her spoil. Russia objected to Japan holding Manchuria, as did France and Germany, so with the advice of Great Britain she gave it up. Russia, in the winter of 1897, sent war-ships to winter in Port Arthur, and they remained there for seven years. A date was finally set for them to leave; but instead of moving they made it a day of great military display. On the night of Feb. 8, 1904, Japan attacked the Russian war-ships which were still at Port Arthur. The war continued until Russia finally acknowledged herself whipped, and the Portsmouth Peace was made in August of 1905.

**OUR WORK.** The third angel's message was introduced into Japan by Elder W. C. Granger and Brother Okohira in 1896. They opened a Bible school in Tokyo, and soon had an attendance of sixty young men. Other workers joined them, and in 1897 a church of thirteen members was organized. After Elder Granger's death, Prof. F. W. Field was placed in charge of the work, which place he still retains. A monthly Japanese paper is published, also "Steps to Christ" and "His Glorious Appearing." A flourishing sanitarium is in operation in Kobe.

### MORELAND, KY.

THIS is where we held our tent- and camp-meeting. Of twenty or more here who promised to obey the Lord, only three or four have remained loyal.

I had been absent for thirteen Sabbaths, but Mrs. Burrill has held regular Sabbath-school and Bible studies. These few have had a good growth in the message, and are laying hold of all the truth. The study of the Word has become their delight.

It was highly gratifying to return home after so long an absence and find my father, who had passed his eighty-ninth birthday, in his usual health.

In company with brother H. U. Jacobs I visited the place where Elder Irving held a tent meeting last summer, and where he has labored most of the time since. We found four or five there who have fully received the message. All these will become members of the McKinney church. Elder Irving has done some faithful work in that vicinity.

We are arranging to hold a three-days' meeting at McKinney about the first of May for all the scattered ones; baptism will be administered and the ordinances celebrated at that time.

Brother R. W. Harris has arranged to move his family and business to Sadieville, fifty-four miles south from Cincinnati. I expect Brother Bivins will go too. This will take quite a number from the McKinney church; but they will form a nucleus for another church. We hope that we can have some work done there so that that vicinity may hear the message.

Elder Irving is settling his family in Lexington, and will take up work in that city.

A. O. BURRILL.

### HOW IT WAS APPRECIATED

THE following testimonies from those who attended the institute held at Bowling Green, Ky., will show how it was appreciated.

Lewis R. Knapp: "My time was well spent. I feel better prepared for battle out on the firing line. Much valuable instruction was given."

Miss Kate Hill: "I want to praise the Lord for this grand institute, and the many blessings he has bestowed upon us. I also thank the brethren for their good instructions."

Mrs. M. Wheeler: "This meeting has been a great blessing to me, and we can all realize the importance of this great branch of the work as never before."

H. E. Beck: "This has given me more courage than any institute or meeting I ever attended. I will give my life to this message, and will rejoice when the work is done. Praise the Lord."

M. Wheeler: "I praise God for this institute. It has been a blessing to me. I am more determined to stick to the work than I ever have been before. I have been impressed with 'Daniel and the Revelation.' It certainly is the book. The instruction I have received here covers the cost many times."

Mrs. Alice Reynolds: "I praise the Lord

that I had the privilege of attending this institute. I have received a great blessing beyond my anticipations. I feel encouraged to do better work for my Master, and to go on till the battle is over."

Iva Pearl Kitchens: "I feel to praise the Lord for this institute. I am sure it has been a blessing to all who have attended it. The Lord has been with us and wonderfully blessed us. I have a more earnest desire than ever before to work for the Lord, and to serve him better."

Irma Ethel Beck: "I feel that the Lord has been with me here, and I thank him for the opportunity of attending this institute. I know that he has been with me, and I feel that there is a great responsibility resting upon us. I want to go out and do some work for him."

Mrs. Eva Webster: "My heart is full of praise to God for this institute. It has been a season of refreshing to my soul to hear the precious lessons of instruction and experience from those long in the warfare. How it rejoices my heart to see our young people training to go out with the precious page of present truth. It has filled me with greater courage and zeal, and I am determined to press on to the battle's front and be faithful to the end."

I do not know when I have attended any better one. The time was well spent.

C. F. DART.

### MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE, NOTICE!

Dear brethren and sisters of the Mississippi Conference: I have been informed by the president of the General Conference that we lack \$100.75 of having paid our quota of the \$150,000 fund; and we are the only conference in the Southern Union that is behind. The General Conference brethren are very anxious to get this fund all settled up by the time the General Conference convenes.

Now brethren and sisters, one and all, do you not want to make one more effort to raise our quota and not be behind all the other conferences in the Southern Union? I for one am willing to make a strong effort and raise the \$100.75 that we lack of having our quota paid. What do you say?

Let all of the churches and companies make the fourth Sabbath in March the time to make a special donation to this fund, and raise the amount. Remember the date, the fourth Sabbath in March is the time when the Mississippi Conference is going to make a strong effort to raise the balance of its quota of the \$150,000 fund. I am sure the Lord will bless us; and if we will do our duty we will succeed.

Send the money to L. V. Crawford, Vicksburg, Miss., as quickly as you can; stating what it is for.

W. S. LOWRY.

### THE AMORY, MISS., CANVASSERS' INSTITUTE

It was my privilege to have a part in the canvassers' institute at Amory, Miss. I shall long remember its blessings and pleasant ex-

perience. The following expressions from those attending speak well for the success of the institute:—

W. H. Hadden: "I have attended many institutes; but I consider this one the best of all. The general line of essential instruction for canvassers was certainly profitable for all who attended."

J. S. Fry: "We were all greatly blessed and strengthened, and went to our work full of hope that the Lord will be with us to the end. We are located at Tupelo, and have been at work for two weeks with good success."

Brother and Sister A. C. Maddock: "We spent the time at the institute very profitably, learning how to work in this field; and we felt the time too short when the time came to leave. But we went out full of courage, and we are growing in courage every day, knowing that we have a Captain who never makes a mistake, and we are learning to trust him more and more as the days go by."

Elder W. S. Lowry: "I am glad that I had the privilege of attending the last few days of the institute at Amory, and to see so many preparing themselves for the Lord's work. I am sure the work is coming up in Mississippi; and this institute is going to be a great help in bringing it up. Let us all quit calling Mississippi a hard field, and put our trust in the Lord and work; and he will give us success in his work."

Virgil Smith: "I wish to add my testimony with the others regarding the pleasant time we had at the institute just closed at Amory. It was indeed good to meet in study with others of like precious faith for a short time, after having been out in the field engaged in active work. The Bible studies were very good. They were a source of strength and encouragement to me; and I think to all. Each study was calculated to cause each one to fully count the cost and to make a greater determined effort to win the prize and to save others in the effort. I return to work with a greater determination to do more for the Lord this year than last."

The Lord favored us in giving us excellent help in the persons of M. C. Whitmarsh, Elder W. S. Lowry, and C. F. Dart. Eleven took the drill and classes, and a number of others came frequently.

It was very manifest that those who came had determined to get all the good they could from the institute; for neither dark nights, nor rain, nor mud kept them away from their classes. From the recent good reports received from them I see that this same spirit characterizes their work in the field. Little difficulties do not keep them at home. As soon as the institute closed, five went to their field of labor and went right to work; others who were students at the Amory school plan to enter the work as soon as their school closes.

Remarks were heard from those present to the effect that they were going to put in better time, and by the help of the Lord they would sell \$1,000 worth of books apiece. These remarks were very encouraging to

hear. By the help of the Lord we have set our hearts to have our book sales in 1909 double those of 1908. If we will continually put in practise the three P's—preparation, prayer, and push—it can be done. May God help each one of us to do our best.

H. G. MILLER.

NOTICE, LOUISIANA!

OUR second institute for canvassers will be held in New Orleans March 15-24. We desire all to attend who wish to engage in this work that God has ordained as a means of giving this message to the world.

Provisions will be made whereby both white and colored may receive instruction. Board will be furnished free, and railway fare paid from institute to field of labor to all who engage in the work at once and sell \$100 worth of books.

Bring your Bibles, "Christ in Song," and prospectus of the book with which you desire to work.

Brother A. F. Harrison and others will be with us to give special instruction on the book work and Bible studies.

Come praying that this may be a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and a putting on of the whole armor of God.

I. T. REYNOLDS, *Field Miss. Agent.*

LOUISIANA NOTES

ELDER SAXBY and his corps of workers in New Orleans are planning to raise the membership of the church there to twice its present number. There are ten white workers engaged in spreading the message in New Orleans now.

Brother Reynolds is at Welsh working up an interest in the canvassing work. Why are not dozens of our church-members engaging in this work? Will you be content to have nothing but leaves when Jesus comes?

New deacons have been ordained in the Shreveport, Hammond, and New Orleans churches this spring.

How did you feel about that January tithing report? Let us do as well or better all through the year.

It has been thought best to hold the camp-meeting from July 22 to August 1 this year; and it will be held at Alexandria. This is the most accessible place in the state, and we hope you will attend. None can afford to miss the blessing that camp-meeting always brings. More about this matter later.

How many have subscribed for the *Bulletin*? You will want to know how everything goes at the General Conference, so subscribe now. Address, Review and Herald, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., enclosing 50 cents.

Brother Chatman has been very sick for some time, but seems to be improving at last.

Let us all work hard to extend the cause of our God this year, "For the night cometh, when no man can work."

E. L. MAXWELL.

Success depends on how hard you try.

CANVASSING REPORT

For Week Ending Feb. 20, 1909

Southern Union Conference

NAME—	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv'd
ALABAMA CONFERENCE				
M L Ivory.....	BFL	48	\$8 00	\$31 30
W C Wales.....	BFL		1 00	16 00
KENTUCKY CONFERENCE				
Chas H Parsons....	BFL	22	6 75	2 20
M J Weber.....	BFL	32	24 25	3 00
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE				
Jerry J Miller.....	D&R	10		45 00
C L Collison.....	D&R BR	40	23 00	23 00
G S Rogers.....	D&R	24	20 00	4 15
H C Bagley.....	CK	22	7 90	15 25
A B Cheek.....	D&R	37	24 40	30 70
MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE				
Wm J Keele.....	WATCH		24 20	24 20
Mary Mundy.....	BFL	24	14 85	11 50
Delia Wilson.....	stoc	8	7 80	
Celestia Wilson....	BFL	17	13 10	70
Virgil Smith.....	dofa	40	16 35	85
A C Maddock.....	D&R	33	29 25	
J S Fry.....	D&R	36	31 50	
W H Haddon.....	mofn	20	23 75	2 00
TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE				
H C Balsbaugh....	sofp	30	32 75	1 25
Mrs H C Balsbaugh	MISC		7 90	7 90
R H Hazelton....	MISC	36	26 00	2 00
Mamie Moore.....	D&R	26	24 00	5 50
Chas Romines.....	D&R	26	43 95	5 95
Ben Romines.....	BFL	21	30 25	1 25

RECAPITULATION

Alabama Conference....	48	9 00	47 30
Kentucky Conference....	54	31 00	5 20
Louisiana Conference....	133	75 30	118 10
Mississippi Conference...	178	160 80	39 25
Tennessee River Conf..	95	164 85	23 85
Totals .....	508	440 95	233 70

THE *Signs of the Times* is glad to commend the courage and decision of the *Boston Herald* in abandoning the publication of the comic supplement in connection with its Sunday issues. What a blessed thing it would be if the whole daily press in the United States would follow suit. Even the little humor, a thing which was manifested in the comic supplement when it first started, has been worn out, and of all the inane, senseless, mischievous, inartistic things for a long time, the colored comic section of the *Sunday* paper bears off the palm. The *Boston Herald* should be repaid by increased circulation.—*Signs of the Times.*

A GREAT BATTLE-SHIP

"THE new battle-ship *Delaware* was launched at Newport News, February 6. It is one of four sister ships authorized by Congress. The others are the *North Dakota*, the *Florida*, and the *Utah*. The *Delaware* will carry as heavy armor and as powerful armament as any known vessel of its class. It will have a displacement of 20,000 tons, or 2,100 tons greater than the British *Dreadnaught*, and 750 tons greater than the largest British ship, the *Vanguard*. It is expected to have a speed of 21 knots, and will require over 900 men to man it."

# Report of Progress

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

By The Southern Publishing Association of Seventh-day Adventists, 24th Ave. North and Howard Street, Nashville, Tenn.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 50 CENTS A YEAR

Editor: Mrs. W. M. Crothers

Entered as second-class matter, March 3, 1908, at the post-office at Nashville, Tenn., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

## BY WAY OF REMINDER

THIS paper is mailed each Tuesday. All matter, other than canvassers' reports, designed for publication in any special issue, should be in the editor's hands not later than the preceding Wednesday to insure its insertion.

## PUBLICATIONS WANTED

WANTED for mission Sabbath-school, a continuous supply of *Little Friend* and *Youth's Instructor*. Send post-paid to Mrs. J. M. Williams, 630 11th St., Bowling Green, Ky.

## SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION NOTES

### "Change of the Sabbath"

It has been decided to place the paper binding of "Change of the Sabbath" on a 40% basis. This will enable our home workers to handle this pamphlet at a good profit. There is no other publication that we have of the size of this that so concisely and conclusively teaches the Sabbath truth. It should be circulated by the hundreds of thousands. Order of your state tract society or the Southern Publishing Association.

### "Bible Footlights"

REPORTS that are coming to us from all parts of the field show that "Bible Footlights" is having a very encouraging sale. One brother has averaged selling a hundred books a month thus far this year. This is certainly an excellent little book. It is a very easy seller, and above all it is doing a splendid work in bringing people into the truth.

THE plain binding of "Daniel and the Revelation" has had such an excellent sale in the past few months that the second edition of the book is nearly sold, and it has been necessary to go to press with a third edition. We are glad to see this excellent book having such a good sale.

THE institutes for most of the conferences in our field are now in the past. We hope that those who attended will get out into the field quickly and push the work earnestly and energetically. Let us have for our motto, "Forty Hours a Week." One of the Western conferences has what they call "The Forty-Hour-a-Week Aristocracy." We hope that every canvasser will determine right at the beginning of the work this year that he

will be faithful in all respects; in rendering to the Lord his own in tithes, in putting in faithful time, and being prompt in the payment of accounts. The one who does these things will not be likely to fail in the canvassing work.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the book "Gospel Primer" is temporarily out of print. It is being thoroughly revised and re-illustrated. We are unable to state at this writing just when we will be able to furnish the revised books.

We have a large stock of "New Testament Primer," and can fill all orders promptly. This is an excellent little book, well illustrated, and the retail prices are now only 25c. in the board style of binding, and 50c. in the cloth binding. There ought to be many thousands of these little books sold this year. We are prepared to take care of all orders promptly.

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

## TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS

FOR those who by practise and experience have learned how to properly prepare reports and articles for publication, the following instruction is not intended. But to those who are inexperienced and unskilled in the art, we kindly offer a few helpful cautions and suggestions, which, if heeded, will often save themselves from disappointment, and their contributions from the editor's ruthless shears and blue pencil, or capacious waste-paper basket.

1. In the preparation of reports include such items as will be interesting and helpful to all of our readers.

2. Study brevity.

3. When preparing general articles, be sure to have something of real merit to say. Use simple language; avoid repetition; be brief, clear, and to the point; use as few words as possible. Remember that short pithy articles, and words easy to be understood, are more likely to be published and read than are long dry ones.

4. Be sure your articles will stand the test of truth.

5. Write legibly, preface your matter as you wish it to appear, and then study carefully whether you can in any way improve it. If necessary re-write it several times. It will be good practise; and you, in all probability, have more time than we have to do it.

6. Don't become discouraged, or berate the editor if your contribution is not used. Try again; study, practise, and perseverance make perfect.

7. If you wish unused manuscript returned, or to know why it was not published, send stamp for its return, or for a reply.

EDITOR.

"If we would live a Christian life, the conscience must be quickened by constant contact with the Word of God."

## "DAYBREAK IN THE DARK CONTINENT"

THIS is the title of a splendid little missionary book about Africa that our young people are studying during the year 1909. As requests have come asking where it may be obtained, we would say, At this office, Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, Tenn., has a limited number of this book in stock. Price, cloth, 50 cents; paper, 40 cents.

## THE FALSE "GIFT OF TONGUES"

ONE member of the band who went forth into foreign lands equipped only with the "gift of tongues," has returned to admit the gift was not of God. A year or more ago the movement so named was rife in some parts of this country, and several accounts of "manifestations" were presented in this paper. Now the *Evangelical Messenger* (Cleveland) gives the history of Mabel Collins, "a pretty girl of eighteen years," who, having succeeded in returning home after wandering in India and South America, "looks like a woman of fifty." The story in her own words is this:—

"We were driven out of New York. We were members of the Holy Ghost sect, and we had the gift of tongues and went out to teach the rest of the world the real Christ. We decided to sail to London. We escaped a great shipwreck, but they would not receive us there. Then six of us got a call to go to India. We went from London and reached Calcutta in July. Mr. McElroy, who led us, thought we would do great things in India.

"Besides me, there were three girls from New York and two from Philadelphia. We nearly starved in Calcutta and went to the north. We reached Benares a month later. There two of our girls disappeared. They were very pretty, and there were some Indians we met who liked them very much. We were destitute, and the girls—well, they just vanished. We did not complain to the authorities, because we knew pretty well where they had gone. They are now in harems, and I cannot blame them very much. We did not have the real gift, and life was far more terrible than I can tell you.

"Again we went north to Lucknow. Another girl, Mabel Charles of New York, was taken from us one night after we had camped for the night. There were some wild hill-men who rode down and stopped at our camp. Next morning all were gone. There were only three of us left, Mr. McElroy, Lillie Thomas, and I; and we went back to Calcutta. From there we sailed to Buenos Ayres to join the others. We had even harder times in Argentina than in India. Then my parents succeeded in getting me home. Our gift of tongues was not from God. It was from some devil."—*Literary Digest*.

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

"THE great thing which counts in this world is not talents, but faithfulness."