

HERALD OF HOLINESS

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE / JUNE 15, 1978



BEVIER LIGHTNER
OLIVET NAZARENE COLLEGE
KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS

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by General Superintendent George Coulter

Father, It's Your Day!

FATHER—a name attributed by the Scriptures to God himself!

Father—a word of beauty, strength, and worth!

Usually fathers reject the fuss and sentimentality which so often accompanies our observance of special days in the calendar. But this is not a day for mere sentimentality. It is a day for strong, fervent, and profound acceptance of God-given responsibilities and privileges.

Father's Day is here! Father, it's your day!! And it should be observed with dignity and filled with all the meaning and value it rightfully deserves.

Father, it's your day! And you should be reminded that in God's infinite wisdom and love, you have been made a "priest" to your family. No one else can take your place. No one else can discharge the sacred responsibilities which have been assigned to you.

Once and for all, let us rid ourselves of the disgraceful and degrading caricatures with which radio and television have depicted fathers.

The Book of Proverbs emphasizes the importance of the father's role in the instruction and discipline of his household.

Reverence, obedience, wisdom, responsibility, faith, and the fear of God are the basic qualities of that "homemade" religion that stabilizes and guides the steps of the young.

In our day, we have assigned to the church and the school the responsibility of teaching values and cultivating attitudes. As a result, we are reaping a harvest of emotionally insecure young people.

Father, it's your day to assume your rightful place of leadership in the religious instruction of your family by both precept and example.

Father, it's your day. You may feel a little awkward or embarrassed at being singled out and honored on this special day. Forget that if you will. But don't forget that in God's great and glorious plan, your wife, your family, and your church need you. Give them the security of your love, your strength, your faith, and your involvement in the eternal purposes of God, your family, and His church. □



That's What It's All About

by DANNY GODDARD
Atlanta, Ga.

LOOKING BACK to the days of my boyhood, I recall many happy experiences I shared with my Dad. He and I had more than the usual father-son relationship. We were "buddies." We did everything together.

I can now appreciate how Daddy would tell me about God during those good times. He would always sit down with me after hours of fun and laughter, and teach me the difference between right and wrong.

It really helped, too. It's true that I quit attending church when I became a high school student. However, while all my friends were smoking and drinking, I abstained. I remembered Daddy's teachings of years before and realized he was right.

It was during my school days that Daddy developed diabetes. It wasn't so serious at first but he had to maintain a strict diet. I finally woke up, was saved, and joined the church of my childhood, Atlanta First Church of the Nazarene. My entire family were members with my joining.

After my mother passed away, Daddy's diabetic condition started to worsen. There were a few hospital stays with more suffering involved.

His condition became so critical that he had to be placed on a kidney machine. So for six hours a day, three days a week, Daddy took his dialysis treatments. Although there was much pain and discomfort, he never complained. I always found him praising God and living for Jesus.

It was just a year ago that I stood by Daddy's flag-draped casket. Standing with me was a girl. She was not a Christian. She had watched Daddy's life over the years and especially took notice of how he lived happily even during his suffering. She had watched how he was always concerned for others and did things to help other people while he was in such bad physical condition.

This teenage girl had heard many times that Daddy was a Christian. It was something she didn't know a lot about. But as we stood there together in that funeral home that night, she turned to her

mother and said, "If a Christian is what he was, that's what I want to be!"

I began to think about what she had said. She didn't understand what a Christian is. She didn't know all the things a Christian is supposed to be and is not supposed to do. She didn't know anything about the doctrine of the Church of the Nazarene. She only saw a life that was appealing to her. She saw someone live a life so filled with love that it was attractive to her.

I then began to realize how important our actions and attitudes are; how influencing they can be to others. We Christians should live lives that are attractive to others. We can do this only by allowing Christ to live through us. We need to live such Spirit-filled lives that we make someone else thirsty. After all, that's what it's all about! □

EDITOR'S NOTE: The young man who wrote this tribute to his father is now a student for the ministry in one of our colleges.

CONFIDENCE

*If today I sense God's presence
And His still small voice I hear,
If I let Him lead the journey
And I know that He is near,*

*If I seek for His approval
In the things I plan and do,
If I keep the channel open
Where His love comes shining through,*

*I can face the world with courage.
He dismisses ev'ry fear,
For He gives me strength and power,
Confidence and hope and cheer.*

—JACK M. SCHARN
San Diego, Calif.



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CHILDREN can think of the most unusual ways and situations for self-entertainment. They can do things at the most outlandish times and the most unorthodox ways. Their notions and the convenience of their parents can be totally unrelated.

Being a parent can be a daily scramble of adventure, frustration, education, and desperation very much in proportion to our parental reactions. Sometimes turbulence started by the child can become a storm under the sudden emotional reaction of a parent.

We know that children need help but sometimes under the spur of the moment what we do is less productive than we hoped it would be. Our sudden, unstudied reaction may express our disturbed emotions more than it guides the child.

Through years of dealing with human personalities we see repeating evidence that some aberrations in adult behavior trace back to parental reactions to childhood misbehavior. The intent of the parent was the best, but the positive effort had negative results. Now in adulthood the person continues to show that damage.

Sometimes adults wish they had known when they were becoming parents some of the things they are now observing when they are becoming grandparents. Sometimes the use of poor tools result in poor workmanship.

When dealing with our child we are not dealing with the single, immediate situation but with the total lifetime personhood of the individual. We are not dealing with the child in the situations of our own childhoods. Society and situations are rapidly changing and the puddles we find our children playing in are very different than the ones in which our parents found us.

Corrective procedures are usually the product of parental ingenuity under the immediate stress situation. We do, however, use four somewhat basic tools for correction. Namely, (a) **DISCIPLINE**, (b) **PUNISHMENT**, (c) **HUMILIATION**, (d) **REJECTION**. While these four are not comprehensive, they do describe the somewhat general corrective reactions.

DISCIPLINE is the most comprehensive tool and the most basic. Jesus **DISCIPLINED** His disciples until they became **APOSTLES**. Webster defines discipline as "Training which develops self-control, orderliness, character, and efficiency."

In the life of Jesus, discipline was the shaping of the total lives of His followers into patterns of Christian fulfillment and usefulness. His disciplining did not include spankings, sending away from the table, sending them to bed, or locking them in a dark closet. It meant personal guidance. It meant letting them watch the way He handled himself and handled others. It meant correcting them, teaching them the right and the wrong ways. It meant teaching them the real values of life and the significance of human personhood. He called their attention to their mistakes. He showed them the right way. He lived before

them and allowed them to observe Him. He built their self-esteem rather than destroying it. He did not threaten or abuse them. His words to them were not rash or abusive. He let them know He believed in them and was proud of them. He spent no time in mere nagging, in bringing up past misconduct or failures. He was disciplining men into disciples who would be apostles.

PUNISHMENT is a tool, essential in its place but dangerous to use if it is allowed to be misused. Too often punishment simply amounts to a big person or a person with more authority belaboring a person who is smaller or has less authority. This does not usually improve the quality of the belabored person. If it is a carefully planned effort on the part of the strong to help the weak then it is valuable. If it is the expression of a fit of temper or frustration it will do no positive good. Its value depends upon the attitudes and emotions in which it is administered. Love must be basic in it.

HUMILIATION is sometimes confused with discipline, but it is at best an easily corrupted form of punishment. Telling a child he is no good, punishing or scolding him in the presence of his friends or guests, picking at him or degrading him and like techniques will do more harm than good. Anything



Photo by J. N. White

CORRECTION

which lessens the child's self-esteem leaves him less likely to rise above his present level. To talk about his sins or failures in his presence and in the presence of others will usually cause him to lower his personal ambitions and incline him to settle for becoming less a person.

No person can be robbed of self-esteem without being crippled. This does not mean that we should teach egotism or arrogance, but it does mean that every person needs his whole potential of confidence in his basic worth. Without this he inclines to sell himself cheaply. He becomes content to pick fruit from the lower limbs. He settles for an easy-to-get marriage and a job which demands less and offers less for life.

Helping a child succeed and commending him for it may not be the total need, but surely humiliating him is a slowly degrading disease which is very difficult to cure once it has been implanted in the person.

REJECTION is more often given unintentionally than intentionally, but it can have a devastating effect. It is surprising how many adults are still feeling unloved and unwanted because in childhood their parents made them feel rejected. There must be discipline. Sometimes it must be stern. The child wants discipline and wants to be helped by parental support of his decisions, but he does not need to feel that

people do not love him. He does not want to be allowed by his parents to become obnoxious to the people about him. He wants to be lovable and to be loved.

Some adults still feel the rejection of being sent away from the table and sent to bed alone. Some remember being locked in dark closets, and some remember being whipped in the presence of sibling or peers who laughed at them or teased them about it later.

I have been surprised to hear parents, Sunday school teachers, or even ministers tell children that Jesus would not love them if they sinned. They seem to have forgotten that Jesus was the Friend of sinners. People who err, whether young or old, need acceptance as persons. People need love which is sincere and real. We need never compromise or accept their sins or wrongdoings, but we dare not reject them as persons. A deep feeling of rejection is one of the most devastating things that can happen to anyone.

Discipline rightly interpreted and administered is constructive and positive. Punishment, humiliation, or rejection are stern or austere at best and any administration of them must be with the greatest of care and love. We dare not forget that we are dealing, not with an immediate situation, but with a person and his future fulfillment. □

I Need A FATHER

by ELDORA BROWNING

Kansas City, Mo



MY DAD—what a man! Tough and tender, strong and gentle, strict and loving! It's easy to remember the good times we had together. When I was a little girl, we lived on a farm in southern Illinois. The day before Easter, Daddy would fly over our house in the company plane and circle several times until we would all run to the field just a little north of the house, then he would drop a large feed sack full of candy.

Later in my life, Daddy and I became great lovers of antiques. We would save our Saturdays for auctions and junking. One morning while at an estate auction, Daddy went to take a closer look at an old mirror, and I started bidding on an old jug that I knew he had his eye on. I wanted to get it for him. Someone was bidding against me and I almost gave up when I heard the auctioneer say, "Sold to the young lady in the blue coat." I was so proud that I had gotten the jug for my daddy. When I presented the jug to him, with a twinkle in his eye he said, "I have a confession to make. You could have gotten that jug a lot cheaper. I didn't realize I was bidding against you!" We both laughed when we realized what had happened.

On Sunday afternoon, Dad usually took a nap in his favorite chair. I would beg him to teach me to drive our car. Almost every Sunday he would take me to a country road and I would drive the car for hours.

Dad always had time for the family. Whenever I had a problem, he was always there to help. My dad knew a little bit about everything.

I remember when Daddy became a Christian. After praying at the altar for some time, he left the church. I knew he wasn't finished praying and I couldn't figure out where he was going. The men praying with him looked bewildered and disappointed. About that time he came back in the front door with a box full of cigarettes and laid them on the altar. It didn't take him long then to "pray through."

Our homelife was so different after that. We started having family devotions and everyone had to participate. We would sing, my brother would play his clarinet, I would read the Bible, and Daddy would pray. Then we would each take our turn in prayer.

In 1972 Dad started having pain in his leg and several tests were made. I was at General Assembly in Florida when I received the word that Dad had cancer! The doctor gave him one year to live.

Dad did not complain or talk about his sickness. He would try to save up all his energy during the week just to go to Prayer and Fasting on Friday and church on Sunday. After a year and a half, Dad went into a coma. He laid three or four days without saying anything that we could understand.

At one time my two brothers, my sister, and I stood around my dad; he wanted to tell us something and tried so hard to talk. We asked him if he wanted a drink and he shook his head no. We asked if he was in pain and he shook his head again. He tried so hard. What was Daddy trying to tell us? Finally my oldest brother, Kendall, said he thought Dad was trying to tell us to take care of Mother. Yes, that was it—Dad started to cry! Kendall assured him that we would all take good care of Mom.

My dad couldn't carry a tune, but the day before he died he started to sing in a beautiful voice. My uncle stepped to the bedside and Daddy said he could hear the angels singing and he was singing with them. That's the last thing he said before he went to be with the Lord.

I had prayed for Daddy's healing and claimed the promises for his healing. Why had God failed to answer my prayers? Why had the promises of His Word not been performed? I needed my daddy! My heart grew bitter.

When I confessed my resentment to my wise mother, she said, "Eldora, God did answer your prayers. You prayed for Daddy to be healed and God saw fit to heal Daddy *completely*. He will never have to suffer pain again. We had only asked God for a temporal healing, but God wanted to free Daddy of the pain forever, and God always knows best."

About two months after my father's death, my pastor, Millard Reed, was reading from Galatians 4:6: "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

When he came to the words, "Abba, Father," he

stopped, tears flowed down his cheeks, and with respect he substituted "Daddy" for "Abba." *That was it!* Once again the scripture became alive and met my need.

Oh, I miss my dad so much! Whenever I need help or I'm excited, I want to pick up the phone and call my daddy. Instead I just tell my Heavenly Father

about my need or my excitement. He's always there! He really cares.

Luke 11:13 says, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"

I need a father. I *have* a Father! □



WHEN FATHER LOST HIS APPETITE

MY FATHER enjoyed Mother's cooking, especially her hot biscuits—tender, flaky, golden brown. He would brag on his wife's culinary art; he thought she was the world's best.

But once Father lost his appetite. He couldn't stand the sight of food, not even Mother's delectable dishes. It was a long story and it happened before I was born. But I've heard him tell it many times.

They had been married only a few years and were getting established in their home. They participated in activities compatible with other young married couples in the community. Both had grown up in a church. Father was one of the deacons. But there were problems in the new home, and the spiritual fare at their church didn't seem to help much.

One day an evangelist came to town, pitched a tent, and began to call people to repentance. He stressed the need to be born again. This was new to my dad. Although he had grown up in the same denomination as the visiting minister, my father had never heard

one sermon about the new birth. And there was more.

The evangelist proclaimed a second work of divine grace. It was only for those who had already been born again. My mother's mother was the first to seek the blessing of entire sanctification.

Things began to get uncomfortable for Dad and Mother. She had been converted in her early teens at the little New Hope Church, the one with the solid walnut altar. But as a young schoolteacher, Mother lost out in her Christian experience. The evangelist's preaching brought conviction to her heart. Before long she came back to the Lord.

God was working on Dad, too. He began to resist. That was when he took his young wife and moved to another town. It was about the same time, too, that he began to lose his desire for food.

The pressure just kept building. Father lost his appetite completely. I've heard him tell many

times of the pungent conviction which he felt. He would sit down to eat, then have to push the food away and leave the table. He was miserable. For the first time in his life he realized that he was a sinner.

Of course my mother, and grandmother, too, were interceding in prayer. And God was answering.

Before long the evangelist showed up in the new location to conduct a tent meeting. When he got off the train Dad saw him and started to run away. But he stopped dramatically, for he realized God was dealing with him.

When my father finally surrendered his life to the Lord he became a transformed man. His heart had been so heavy he could hardly stand it. When God forgave him and the burden left, he barely contained the joy. And he regained his lost appetite for food.

That was the beginning of a Christian home. I am glad the miracle of God's transforming power found my parents before I was born. How grateful I am to have been brought up in a Christian home.

Many times I express my thanksgiving to God for the events which changed the course of my parents' lives—and for the divine confrontation which came when Father lost his appetite!

Today I look around at the confused families, at the many parents who need help. Let's try to find ways to reach more with Christ's transforming power. I realize it will take combined effort.

And we must pray for the convicting power of the Holy Spirit to touch fathers and mothers. What a difference He can make—in individuals and in homes. □

■ by MARY E. LATHAM ■
Kansas City

Eyes to See MERCY'S OPPORTUNITY

by NEIL E. HIGHTOWER

Rexdale, Ontario, Canada

WHAT a wonderful blessing are those to whom the Holy Spirit gives the gift of mercy. The exercise of this gift in the household of faith binds up the wounds of criticism and the lacerations of self-pitying jealousy. St. Paul listed it among the gifts of the Spirit that He in His sovereign understanding bestows on members of the Body of Christ (cf. Romans 12:8).

Spiritual first aid is important in the church, because believers in all states of maturity from cradle to grave get hurt and sometimes hurt each other. Those with this blessed gift of mercy are the spiritual nurses and medics of the family of God. They move with purpose along the wilderness-edge of the family of God, and retrieve, from the traps of the devil's sly making, the immature who were lingering too close to the world's enticements. With cheerfulness, they go into the zone of misunderstanding and resuscitate those who have been overcome by the poisonous fumes of carnal strife and jealousy.

Thank God for the practical and sensitive saints of God who are servants of mercy. They are not looking for "brownie points"; they are filled with compassion and concern for hurting people in the church and in the world. They are filled with that renewable resource of the Holy Spirit called tenderness and kindness. They have developed eyes of the soul that pierce the darkness of human adversity. They possess a kind of spiritual radar that focuses on the brothers who have fallen by the wayside, or into the swamp of discouragement.

In the Bible there are two men who are described as possessing this eyesight of mercy, Job and Hobab. In Job 29:15-16, the patriarch witnesses to this gift

of mercy in these words: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out." This perfect and upright man had eyes to see the unfortunate of his community, and he translated what he perceived into concrete help. Whatever mysterious or nefarious causes fed the reasons for the plight of unfortunate neighbors he searched out and applied appropriate remedies.

Hobab is described in Numbers 10:29-32. He was the brother-in-law of Moses, and intended only to visit Moses briefly. He came at a time when God's blessing upon the Israelites was very evident.

When God indicated that it was time for the nation to move toward the land of promise, Moses invited Hobab to join the people and share in the good things God had promised. He declined. He was not much inclined to reward nor to the excitement of battle.

But when Moses indicated he could be of concrete help, "Thou mayest be to us instead of eyes," he was motivated. God had given him eyes of mercy, the ability to see the place of potential danger, and he wanted to exercise the gift. He was familiar with the terrain; he knew where the paths of escape were to be found. He was glad to be "eyes." "The eyes of his understanding," which St. Paul describes in Ephesians 1:18, "being opened," he was able to offer the mercy of direction to God's people. He had eyes for possible barriers, for enemy attackers, for the appropriate routes. For him the joy and inner satisfaction of providing mercy was reward enough.

God has given quiet, unobtrusive, servants of mercy who perform their task of being eyes without fanfare. They are jewels of blessing to God's people. May their cheerful company increase in the ratio that the Spirit knows we need. □

PERSPECTIVE

Sometimes I wonder why the rain must fall

And spoil the sunlight of the day.

Why hopes and plans

In shambles lay.

Yet, though I cannot understand

I will remain steadfast in every test,

Content to know through faith

That God's design is best.

The tangled threads of life are what I see.

My insights into "why" are few.

Limited perspective

Obscures my view.

I focus on the shorter span

When God the long-range plan can see,

So I will rest content—

He knows what's best for me.

—GERALDINE NICHOLAS

Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

helps to holy living

A FATHER'S DAY GIFT

by OLIVER H. WHIPP
Washington, D.C.

IN A DAY when it seems difficult to give our young people guidance, I take a great satisfaction in the daughter God has given to me and my wife. May I share with you her Father's Day gift to me? Her dependence on God is beautifully expressed in this note she enclosed in her Father's Day card:

6-18-77

Dear Dad-

Here we are in Williamsburg and I am thinking tomorrow is Father's Day!! So here's a little extra for you to "feast" over the next week. I know we will be for quite a while to come.

Coming here, the Lord really put His stamp of approval on our camping trip. It was such a miraculous way that we are still in wonderful state of shock, praising the Lord!! This will be hard to believe but it really did happen just as I'm going to tell you now.

We were 39 miles from Richmond, Va. and a woman drove along side of us on the interstate highway #95. She hollered to us "Smoking tire"!! About that time Robyn said, "What's that flopping hissing noise?" We pulled off and could smell rubber A LOT! But we couldn't really see anything. The one tire on the camper had had a bubble on it before we went to North East, but Bob popped it and we never had any trouble since. While I pulled the car forward, Bob watched and said it did look like that tire. Wait a minute! I got a little ahead of my story!!

After we smelled rubber and before I pulled the camper up, Bob looked down and said, "Hey, what's that?" I reached down and grabbed a one dollar bill—oops! There's another! And now a five!! Look, some more . . . another one and another! Whew! Nine dollars!! I said, "Oh, thank you, Lord. You knew when we needed it. Thank you, Lord!"

Bob said "Huh! That wouldn't buy a tire."

"Oh," I said. I had forgotten we would probably have to get a new tire. I only knew we started our mini-vacation taking money from our Christmas money to go and now the Lord had given us \$9 out here on an interstate where no one was but loads of traffic. We looked farther up and down both ways on the highway, but that's all there was. Nine dollars right beside our camper.

So we went very slow to the next exit four miles or so to a gas station to change the tire and put on our dry rotted spare. When Bob took off the tire what a shock! A piece of rubber had come right off the tire in the middle of the tread and the tire had been hot enough to actually melt a piece of it and throw it behind our rear bumper. Well, the Lord had also cared for us in an extra way (no blowout on the highway). Eleven years with the camper and the first tire trouble on camper or car.

I asked the man in the station about the nearest Sears. It was in Richmond, another 35 miles away. So we planned on stopping there, since we didn't believe we could make it all the way on the spare. I told the guy in passing about the \$9. He said, "That's not much to the \$60 a new tire will cost!"

We got to Sears and asked about an adjustment, since the tire was only two years old and had plenty of tread left yet. So he looked at it and wasn't sure he would have another that size. He had only one and it was a tube tire and he didn't have a tube to fit it. So Bob looked in his spare parts box in the rear of the camper and pulled out an inner tube complete with spider's nest. **JUST THE RIGHT SIZE! PRAISE THE LORD!** They mounted the tire immediately, and loaned Bob their jack and lug wrench to put the new tire on the camper.

We went back into the store to pick up our bill and return the tools. Bob showed me the bill! "Look again, Deanna." I thought—the tire had cost \$27.76 plus tax \$2.41—total \$30.17. The tire adjustment—\$21.17. Amount due—\$9!! Isn't the Lord just absolutely WONDERFUL! How else could it happen?

Over and over He shows us His will! Over and over He keeps His hand on us and over and over we will continue to praise Him.

We love Him! And now on Father's Day know that we love you, too!

Deanna & Bunch!



by JERRY D. HULL
*Trevecca Nazarene College
Nashville*



“In the WORLD...”

Being Christian on Main Street

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH* (Part II)

Nashville's Trinity Church of the Nazarene pricks my conscience. Trinity's complex of buildings is only a 14-minute walk (by crossing two parking lots) from my house. Yet our family drives to another Nazarene church which is seven and one-half miles away.

Three Nazarene congregations occupy quarters closer to my house than the congregation where we attend. The odometer locates Trinity Nazarene 1.1 miles away. Glenclyff Nazarene 3.0, and College Hill Nazarene 4.4 miles away from my carport.

Does the “enough is enough” life-style require me to be aware of unnecessary energy use even when I'm driving to church? How much less automobile emission waste would be created if Christians would all join their denomination's congregation nearest to their house? I and my family would drive somewhere between 2,250 and 1,000 fewer miles each year (depending upon how many times we walked). How many fewer miles for you and your family? Is it possible that both the excessive use of scarce natural resources and the amount of atmospheric pollution ought to be factors when selecting our place of worship?

The Allens live 10 houses south of us. Both families are members of the same congregation. Not once in the past six years have I asked the Allens to “car pool” to and from church with us. Is car pooling perhaps a more palatable alternative than a rigid “attend-in-your-own-zone” requirement?

Can we tamper with the Sunday schedule? Do we dare? Is it possible that we could move the evening service to 1:30 p.m. to immediately follow a simple fellowship meal? Such a schedule would reduce one complete trip to and from church (not to mention the miles traveled in quest of our favorite restaurants).

We commute to and from work five or six times a week. Obviously, it is of even greater importance that we assess ways of reducing the amount of energy consumed in pursuit of our work. Some have suggested that the U.S.A. will have a severe energy crisis by at least 1985. Why not make advance plans?

The use patterns of our cars illustrate how wasteful

we have become. If someone challenges our excess, can many of us do other than plead “guilty”?

We Christians must confront our excess on at least three fronts:

1. As stewards of the world's resources we must preserve a plentiful supply for future generations.
2. We Christians share a common brotherhood with all humanity. We cannot consume excessive volumes of goods and services while our brothers and sisters lack the basic necessities of life.
3. We have a responsibility for “our Father's world.” We must leave it (its air, waterways, oceans, and soil) as beautiful and pure as we found it. There is a one-to-one relationship—when we consume we also pollute and litter.

My son, then age two, went visiting with us. He joined another two-year-old to play. The host two-year-old was frustrated by the intrusion of my son. He refused to share his resource of toys. Instead he gathered them all into his arms and just stood there hoarding the entire collection. The result was that neither boy could play.

How fully does the possessive two-year-old illustrate our way of life? We have so much that we must spend great amounts of time and effort keeping it accumulated, repaired, polished, and properly identified for our exclusive use. Does this leave others (future generations and people of other countries) without anything, or at least much less, for their satisfaction?

Two sets of parents arranged for the toys to be shared. If we had not intervened, how long would it have been before Timmy, my son, would have violently demanded his share? Would he have been justified? How long before our brothers are going to claim their share of the world's goods and services? Will a sense of fairness justify their claim?

What actions are necessary? I've attempted to describe one option as being the “enough is enough” life-style. The point is not reducing ourselves to nothing, but ridding ourselves of wasteful excess. Possessions are okay as long as we can learn when we

have enough. May we Christians, for any reason warrant the accumulation of more than "enough"?

WRITER'S NOTE:

While I point a finger at others I realize that three fingers point toward me. I'm not comfortable with how to respond to many of the following questions. There may not be a correct answer to implementing the "enough is enough" mentality. The results are unpredictable. I don't know what impact our actions might have on the cost of living, unemployment, the gross national product (GNP), balance of trade, and other potentially frightening indicators.

The following questions, however, are raised for your consideration. I invite you to pray about them. Discuss them with your Sunday school class. I challenge your family to experiment with possible "enough is enough" responses.

- Do we check the labels of our garments? Is the article made of replenishable material—wool, cotton, silk, or some other material which is renewable?
- How much floor space do we need? Can an average family of four justify more than 1,500 square feet of living space? Should it be less? Or, are there defensible arguments why we have a right to more?
- Did former Secretary of Agriculture Butz have a point? What of his reference to the acres of grain we Americans use just to feed our household pets?
- Where do we set our thermostats? Christians ought to be able to endure hardships for a season (perhaps even two). Can we survive if our thermostats are at about 60 in the winter and 80 during the summer?
- Ought Christians to identify themselves with the ZPG (zero population growth) positions? Should Christian parents hold to the maxim that "two is enough and three is too many"?

- How stingily do we restrict our automobile travel? Do we carefully organize the shopping and errand lists so as to save every possible mile during a given week?
- Are we talking back to the television commercials? Do we challenge the advertising industry when it tries to produce want? Do we reply with the debunking response, "Who are you trying to kid?" Perhaps before long our children, who often are the targets of the advertising craft, will become debunkers themselves.
- Should we inspect our garbage each week? How many forests of trees will we find? How many non-decomposable plastic containers? How much non-returnable glassware? Do we recycle everything in sight? Are there possible multiple uses to things we are throwing away?

Numerous other questions clamor for a hearing. You, your family and Christian friends, can force yourselves to look at other areas. Devise handles by which you can get a hold on the "enough is enough" life.

During our early years we Nazarenes were regarded as disciplined, hardworking people. We put on no airs. We served and worked among the poor. In fact, often we were the poor. Our reputation—has it changed? What have we gained? What have we lost?

□

*The title of this article is taken from a book by the same title by John V. Taylor (Augsburg Press, 1977).

FURTHER STUDY: The scriptures selected for the January 8, 1978, Sunday school lesson merit review. I encourage you to study Matthew 6:19-34; Philippians 4:10-20; and 1 Timothy 6:6-19. Warning! A careful reading may change your life. Also, John V. Taylor's *Enough Is Enough* (Augsburg Press, 1977) is recommended.

PEN POINTS

"YES, LORD"

In the early days of the Christian Church the name "Saul" was one to cause great fear. Saul was "breathing threats and murder against the Lord's disciples" in the period following Stephen's death. Then came the glorious experience on the Damascus road when God secured Saul's complete attention. Knocked from his horse, he was blinded. He had little doubt as to who was dealing with him for his question, "Who are you, Lord?" contained its own answer. Conversion was a traumatic experience to Saul, for he did not eat or drink during the next three days.

Meantime, a disciple in Damascus, named Ananias, was having his obedience put to the test. The Lord gave him specific instructions to go to the home where Saul was staying and lead a healing service. Though Ananias began the conversation with Deity by saying "Yes, Lord," he reminded Him of the fact that Saul had been an unholy terror to Christians.

How often do we point out the obvious to our Heavenly Father! The Lord patiently repeated his message, "Go."

Willingly He gave explanation of His plans for Saul whose nature, mission, and name He changed. The Scripture states that "Ananias went" and his obedience resulted in Saul's return of sight and his baptism. This incident clearly reveals a Christian with an obedient heart, one whose attitude of life was "Yes, Lord," in word and in deed.

Should not all who bear the name of Christ cultivate a spirit of obedience? Why should God have to wear down a Christian's resistance, or, if one is strongly set in his way, throw him from his horse in order to gain his obedience? Like Ananias, the response should be "Yes, Lord," even if we have some troubling questions to ask Him to determine if we understand aright. The soul fully committed to God will not be like Jonah, whose response was, "Not me, Lord," but akin to Isaiah who simply said, "Send me." There is no better answer to God's call than to say, "Yes, Lord." □

—HOMER ADAMS
Clarkston, Ga.



H. Armstrong Roberts

FAITHFUL FATHERS, GOD'S EXPECTATIONS

by J. GRANT SWANK, JR.
Fishkill, N.Y.

JOHN WESCOTT wrote, "God has entrusted to me, a son. I have prepared so little to give in return. Yet, I must take him by the hand and start him on his way."

Mel Larson spoke from his heart when he stated that "from the balcony of our church some years ago now, I got an angle view of my squirming son as he wiggled his way all over that church pew waiting for the Christmas Sunday school program to start. As I looked at him, my mind clicked as this thought came: Barring accident, I'll be the only father this boy will ever have. So I'd better be a good one."

That little life is here and then gone. The years fly by. When they are first born it seems like such a winding, long trail ahead. Then when they leave home one wonders where the time went. In the meantime can we as fathers pause long enough to take stock? If we do, the guilt feeling will be lessened when they leave.

On my study wall are two handmade greeting cards. They were made for me by my daughter. One was made when she was very small; it was a gift for my birthday. The other was made a couple years after; it was a present for that year's Father's Day.

MANY TASKS— ONE CALLING

—CAROL J. BLOCKER
Canton, Mass.

Perhaps . . .

*You cannot hear what I am saying;
You do not feel it worth your while.
Because I do not speak with silver tongue—
Because I do not always declare the traditions
Of your fathers—*

*Because my suggestions disrupt your pat theories—
I have nothing to say—to offer.*

Perhaps . . .

*I cannot be Paul—
I cannot be Apollos—
I cannot be Cephas—
But whom do we follow?
Must we be divided by our different gifts?
Must we create pedestals and place men upon them?
Shall we make gods of men—and fall with them?*

I am real . . .

*Hear me as I hear you—
Touch me as I touch you—
Each in our own way*

While together in one faith and one hope.

The artwork would not make the museum walls nor would the print job be acceptable in the classroom. However, to me there will never be better drawings nor more stylish pennings. You see, they were from the hands of Crystal.

Now she is a big girl; how the time goes! But those two reminders stapled to the wall are ever with me to quicken the conscience to do now what I can to make her life full of the good things. I have only a bit of time left.

Mrs. John Bruce Dodd, now 92 years old, revered her father so very much because of his faithfulness to his family. Mrs. Dodd's mother died and left the father with 15 children to raise on an Arkansas farm. His place in her heart spurred her to action back in 1910. It was on a Sunday as she was listening to a sermon celebrating Mother's Day. After the message, Mrs. Dodd approached her minister and told him that there should also be a Sunday set aside to honor fathers. "I told him fathers deserved their own place in the sun."

The very next week she petitioned the clergy association in her city and persuaded them to deliver sermons on the importance of fathers. Then she organized an effort to get various states to adopt a special day for fathers. In 1914 Congress endorsed Father's Day and in 1971 it was declared a national holiday by joint Congressional resolution and a proclamation by the president. How did all this come about? Because a loving father back there left an imprint of goodness upon his children, an impression so lasting that one of the daughters saw the idea through to a national recognition of fathers.

Proverbs 20:7 reminds us men that "the just man walketh in his integrity; his children are blessed after him." A great portion of that masculine integrity is faithfulness to God and family.

God give us fathers who are faithful to worship on Sunday morning and evening. Give us fathers who will take their families to church in the middle of the week. Give us fathers who teach the children how to tithe by their own weekly examples. Give us fathers who have holy speech and clean manners. Give us fathers who read the Scriptures and pray with their families. Give us fathers who are faithful to the Father.

E. Gray wrote:

*"Lay Thou upon my heart, O Love divine,
Concern for my own house, those who are mine."*

Gordon Phillips stated it this way: "Lord, teach my understanding, that I may know the way to my child's heart and mind."

Billy Graham recalls that "as a boy my favorite entertainment was to sit in silence and rapt attention while my father told stories to the company of friends seated in our living room. Though a soft-spoken man, he was most articulate, and punctuated his stories with gestures and happy laughter. I have often envied my father's capacity for relating an experience or a narrative from his colorful life."

It was not the elder Graham's money, nor fame, nor community position, nor status—not even the list of church positions—that impressed the son. It was

the father's communication, his relationship, companionship, warmth, humanness, that left its mark on Dr. Graham's memory.

Jeremiah wrote: "My father, thou art the guide of my youth" (3:4). When the earthly father is consistently faithful to the Lord, then the children have a better chance for finding the Heavenly Father. They have a better chance of making it *home*. □

Reviewed by

RALPH EARLE
Kansas City, Mo.



BOOK BRIEFS FOR YOU

COME SOON, LORD JESUS

Seldom does this reviewer agree completely with any book he reads on the Second Coming. But this compact volume is an exception. Ivan Beals has done a superb job in handling this controversial topic. His sane, sensible approach to disputed matters is ideal.

The book was prepared as a CST text for use by laymen in our churches. Consequently the author does not pioneer new approaches based on technical scholarly research. Rather, he presents the best material from standard writers in the field, so that the reader will get a well-rounded understanding.

Best of all, he has a pastor's heart of concern for the practical implications. Not speculation about, but preparation for, the return of Christ is the important thing. This is made clear throughout the book.

The last chapter contains the punch line of the book. The author says: "To be ready for the rapture involves one's total life. It requires complete consecration, and it depends upon the purifying work of the Holy Spirit" (p. 143).

Every Nazarene pastor should see that this CST text is studied in his church. □

by Ivan A. Beals

Beacon Hill Press
of Kansas City

To order,
see page 23.





“WHEN YOU PRAY...”



A Challenge to Intercession

by MORRIS CHALFANT
Norwood, Ohio

FERVENCY AND SPIRITUALITY: KEYS TO PRAYER POWER

An army commander is said to have ordered his frontline troops, “Don’t shoot to kill; shoot to wound; shoot knee-high.” The commander’s strategy was to force the enemy to weaken its striking capacity and make the opposing soldiers concentrate on the wounded men rather than on the battle area and on frontline service.

Satan and his aides have employed similar spiritual strategy down through the ages—keeping God’s people away from frontline ministry, particularly the ministry of prayer.

Two strategic areas at which Satan seems to be effectively striking throughout the church today are identified in James 5:16, “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” The words “fervent” and “righteous” bear further study.

The original Greek word for “fervent” is *zelos*, and means “heat, zeal, ardor.” Moffatt translates James 5:16, “the prayers of the righteous have a powerful effect.” The *Amplified Bible* reads, “The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer . . .”

When you pray, do you put your heart into your prayers? Do you pray fervently, earnestly, pouring out your heart before the throne of grace? Are you filled with zeal when you pray? Are you motivated with spiritual energy and alertness?

These questions lead us to draw a comparison: Consider how insulting it would be for you—or me

—to appear before the President of the United States in a private conference at the White House, only to become drowsy, droopy-eyed, and then begin to mumble words and soon fall asleep! How much more disrespectful it is when we come before the glorious, awe-inspiring throne of our Heavenly Father and mumble our words while we’re halfhearted, half earnest, and half asleep.

From my observation, many who pray only say prayers, little prayers, superficial prayers, routine, even memorized prayers, mouthed without earnestness, without heart, without coming to grips with God in faith. I once read of an old man who, although lacking in formal schooling, was highly educated in the things of faith. He observed, “The trouble with most people’s prayers is they don’t go down deep enough. They ain’t got no suction.” What he was suggesting is, *their prayers are not fervent*.

James wrote, however, of a two-fold condition for effective prayer—the fervent prayer of a “righteous” man. In speaking of “righteousness,” James is not speaking of human goodness. He is not saying that the prayers of a man who has an outstanding track record morally has great spiritual power. He is speaking of the righteousness of Christ—the prayers of a “saved” person, a person to whom the righteousness of Christ has been imputed. He is teaching what is expressly declared elsewhere in God’s Word, “If I regard iniquity

in my heart, the Lord will not hear me” (Psalm 66:18).

Sins must be forgiven before our prayers will be heard. If we bear ill will toward any, we must forgive before we can pray effectively. “And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any” (Mark 11:25). Interpersonal relationships at home, at work, at church must be kept on a plane of sanctification and honor, “that your prayers be not hindered” (1 Peter 3:7).

The Psalmist gives further definition of the “righteous man”: “Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul into vanity, nor sworn deceitfully” (Psalm 24:3-4).

But even though our hearts be right, we may have times when it seems most difficult to pray. The prayer of Daniel was hindered for three weeks, but he was persistent. It would seem that even the prayer of Jesus in Gethsemane was hindered until He made supplication the third time. We must not depend on how we feel; our dependence in prayer—our “righteousness”—must rest in the atoning blood of Christ.

If our spirit, then, is fervent and we are righteous, James says our prayer “. . . makes tremendous power available—dynamite in its working” (James 5:16, Amp.). Consider these examples of fervent, righteous praying that “availed much”:

Abraham's servant prayed—Rebekah appeared.

Joseph prayed—he was delivered from the Egyptian prison.

Moses prayed—Amalek was discomfited; Israel triumphed.

Joshua prayed—the sun stood still; victory was gained.

Hannah prayed—Samuel was born.

Asa prayed—Israel gained a glorious victory.

Jehoshaphat prayed—God turned away His anger.

Elijah prayed—the cloud appeared, the rains descended upon the parched earth.

Elisha prayed—the waters of the Jordan divided; a child was restored to life.

Hezekiah prayed—184,000 attacking Assyrians died.

He prayed again—the sundial was turned back, and his life prolonged.

Mordecai prayed—Haman was hanged; the Jews were spared.

Ezra prayed—the walls of Jerusalem began to rise.

Paul and Silas prayed—the prison shook, the doors opened, and each man's bonds were loosed.

I have searched my memory for an example of someone I have known who exemplifies such a "fervent," "righteous" person in this matter of prayer. I found that person in my maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Watts.

My grandparents made their home in Wilmore, Ky., and my parents, my brother, and I visited them many summers during the early years of my childhood. Our visits were usually scheduled to coincide with the great Wilmore Methodist Camp Meeting. It was during these visits that Grandmother Watts's prayer life imbedded itself in my memory.

I remember her now, rising early to make our breakfast, as she read her Bible aloud, prayed fervently for her family, and sang joyously after "praying through." I can see her now before bedtime as she took her Bible—and me—on her lap to read and pray before retiring for the night. It was then that she would hold me close to her and pray for me, her "preacher boy." (Grandma Watts was one of the few who believed in seven-year-old

Morris's alleged call to preach. And it was with Grandma Watts I later shared my secret of God's call to missionary service, knowing Grandma would pray about it with me and for me.)

I can remember her now as she left the house headed resolutely toward the Camp Shed for the Methodist Ladies' Prayer Band. The great preachers of the Methodist Church and the holiness movement of that day came to speak at Wilmore Camp, but it is my conviction that the "righteous ladies' perseverance in fervent prayer produced many of the results of those meetings.

It is no surprise to me now that I can recall Grandma Watts shouting aloud around the tabernacle, praising God during almost every service. Her shouts of victory were produced by fervent prayer.

Now, grown, I can feel with her

the burdens she carried for her children. Grandma Watts was a "fervent," "righteous" woman whose prayers "availed much."

As I look back and remember Grandma's lack of formal education, I realize that almost any of the great preachers and educators of her day could have completely confused her with high-sounding theological terms. They could have told her, I am sure, many things she didn't know about Jesus of Nazareth.

But of one thing I am certain: No one could have shaken her faith in Christ, because she knew Him. And no one could have told her prayer was ineffectual, because she had experienced the fact of which James wrote, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man [or woman] availeth much" (James 5:16). □

PRIORITIES

*"Daddy, will you please tell me a story tonight?"
Dad puts down the paper, takes a toddler on his lap,
And hugging him close, tells him a story.*

Love wins!

*"Hey Dad, I think I've got that curve now!
Will you play catch with me, Dad?"
Dad sighs, turns off the big game,
And goes out for a game of catch.*

Love wins!

*"Dad, guess what. I'm taking Sally to the party.
Could I possibly use the car?"
Dad starts to say no—remembers—
And decides he can get a ride with Joe
To his business meeting.*

Love wins again!

*"Say, Dad—do you have a minute?
Pete says he found Jesus as his Savior last night.
Dad, will you tell me about Jesus, please."
And Dad turns away,
For he's never bothered to find out about Jesus.*

FAILURE!

And only one of these is forever!

*—MABEL P. ADAMSON
Kansas City, Mo.*



FATHERS OBSOLETE?

You Decide!

by DALLAS D. MUCCI
Bethel Park, Pa.

TO HEAR some “pop” psychologists and social engineers you might too quickly conclude that families, and especially fathers, are obsolete.

Much like the almost forgotten crystal set or the running boards of the auto, a father needs drastic streamlining or perhaps actual elimination in favor of experts who can really raise children.

Scratching my chin, for I haven't a beard, I wonder!

There were times when I regarded my father as expendable. In fact, I thought him a perfectly overbearing taskmaster with too much control. But . . . I can't stop there

Too much tugs at memory: In that ambivalence of early adolescence when I both admired and feared and wanted to challenge my father, events moved swiftly—proving I needed him!

One Sunday night, in shocked disbelief I watched him walk down the aisle of the Nazarene church to get saved! My father, a tough coal miner who could load 16 tons in one day, kneeling at an altar! He seemed so weak as he knelt there! Ah, but he proved himself!

Dad didn't weep, cry out, or jump around. The shock came later! Our life-style was completely overhauled, father now agreeing with mother on all issues they decided were moral. They acted like God expected more from us than anyone!

Then came a terrible disagreement in the church. What a field day! I listened on the “party line” as the saints shot their venom (father didn't catch me!). They triumphantly voted out the preacher! His supporters' lobby had failed in a last ditch attempt, so next Sunday they attended elsewhere. But our family was back in church on Sunday! Worse, I didn't know what side we were on! On the way home I mounted my best attack, “Dad, let's quit this church. You should know what I heard Mrs. . . .”

“Son!” His tone stopped me before I really started.

Dad continued, “I don't know what Mrs. ———

said, and I don't intend to hear it from anyone.” I wasn't allowed to interrupt. “We are sorry for this sad day. Let's hope we did not contribute to all the hurts inflicted. Shouldn't we pray for all involved? Only God knows how to deal honestly with our people. We must seek to keep our own hearts right and learn to love the others!” But we didn't; actually I didn't, but my father did.

I recall other things. He told me the sexual facts of life after I had “enlightened” my female cousin with locker room ignorance! No overhead projector with colored slides, no long explanation that I would not have understood . . . just straightforward answers and a promise of more if I needed to talk—on a level that made me truly ashamed of myself. Ashamed enough to think! Enough to believe that females were real people. We never discussed it again. Neither did I ever violate a woman.

Moments that live forever! I knew he loved me when I failed Freshman English, my first and only high school failure. I couldn't face it, so I wrote a note with my grade card, promising everything. I put it on the table after my parents had gone to bed.

Next morning Dad said, “Son, face this failure! You are as free to fail as you are to succeed. Have you done your best?” Nowhere to hide and no time to lie. So the lecture followed: some privileges were withdrawn. Then I saw a tear, heard him say in a choked voice, “Don't hurt yourself!”

One black day full realization struck that dad would not sign the form allowing me to participate in football! I believe to this day that it was an error. But out of it I learned something about English. I began writing sports for the county-seat daily at \$2.00 per game. Later at Eastern Nazarene College, some of my education was paid for by writing for the *Quincy Patriot Ledger!*

A good example is better than an expert exposition. Love is better than professional concern. Personal development for “little people” must be in a real world,

seeing and learning about faults in "tough-love" relationship.

Yes, there are evil parents and devastating examples! But the biblical injunction, recognizing the ebb and flow of life, commands children to respect and love their parents. Usually we children have

trouble with rebellion in the relationship to parents, but parents continue to love and attempt to train.

Fathers are not obsolete, we just need a few years to learn to understand. This understanding usually comes when a red, wrinkly, beautiful baby is handed to a first time "father" by the doctor! □

DELIVERANCE

I TALKED FACE-TO-FACE WITH GOD!

I have prayed to God countless times in the past 60 years, but this time was different!

Since I never knew my earthly father, as a young lad I would often lay on the warm summer grass and look up at the immense white clouds and talk to my Heavenly Father. But this time, it was different!

Many times in my youth I went to the altar. Almost every time we had revival meetings, I would seek forgiveness. Then on that night of nights, after a powerful message on hell by the evangelist, I went forward. This time I meant business. Soon the Holy Spirit came with the message, "You are pardoned—all your past is blotted out." What wonderful words! But this time it was different!

There was the time I talked to God about His call—"Preach My Word." I had put off the decision; I was only 16 and afraid to speak in public. But one night, as I said my evening prayer, the Lord said, "John, either you preach My Word or I will take your salvation from you."

Of course I replied, "Yes, Lord, if You will go with me." Although I am now retired, my call to preach has not been taken away. But this time it was different—this time I talked face-to-face with God!

I could go on telling of the many incidents when I have talked with God and He has answered so many of my prayers—but I must tell you about the time it was different!

I was on the operating table. It was to be just a routine operation; the doctor promised that I would be out in just three or four days.

It was eight o'clock on Tuesday morning when I felt the needle in my spine, then all became blank. Later, I began to hemorrhage, so four pints of blood were pumped in my veins. The surgeon gave my wife little hope that I would pull through. How she and my daughters prayed! The chief anesthetist, who was a Gideon, called a group together to pray. Several prayer warriors of our church joined in prevailing prayer.

It was during this time that I talked face-to-face with God. Again I felt the needle being put in my back and the attempt to force a tube down my throat. The pain was almost unbearable; subsequently all physical feeling was gone.

In the previous Good Friday service, I had spoken on the fifth word, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46). These words now rang through my subconscious mind. God asked, "Will you commend your spirit to Me, John?"

THEN the struggle began. "Yes, Lord, I commend our little house to Thee."

"But I want your spirit." was the demand.

"Lord, I commend my wife and daughters to Thee."

"But I want your spirit."

"Lord, here is my body, you can have it."

Again came the demand, "But, John, I want your spirit. ALL OF YOU!"

There were no bright lights, no angels singing, but God was *there* with me in the darkness. I reached out and touched His hand. Oh, His presence was so real! But for some reason, I just could not yield my spirit to Him.

At last I cried out, "Yes, Lord, I commend my spirit to You!" No one heard my conversation with God, but He was there and I talked face-to-face with Him.

Suddenly, I went into the most glorious sleep I have ever known. No pain; it seemed that my soul was floating toward God and heaven.

I was unconscious for several hours. When I awoke, around midnight, I thought I was in heaven—I felt so wonderful. Then I realized I was in the Intensive Care unit with my wife and daughters looking down at me. God once more had spared my life for His continued service.

I shall never forget this encounter with God. I had talked face-to-face with Him! God had taken me right up to the pearly gates, then sent me back to be a witness to His marvelous grace! □

by JOHN L. MORAN

Owego, N. Y.

**"... I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."
(Psalm 50:15)**

The Editor's

STANDPOINT

THE PURIFIED TEMPLE

The other day, I was reading the book of Zechariah. I have been fascinated for years by his closing vision—a day when holiness will be common, not rare. He envisioned such ordinary things as bridles and cooking pots inscribed with the words “Holy to the Lord.” The prophet’s forecast thrilled me anew.

But my attention was drawn to the closing sentence of the book: “And there will no longer be the Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts in that day” (14:21, NASB). For “Canaanite,” the margin offered an alternative reading—“merchant.”

No merchant in the Lord’s house! Obviously the prophet would not exclude a businessman from worship merely because he was a businessman. But no one would be in the Lord’s house as a merchant, only as a worshiper. To put it another way, no one would be there to seek his own advantage and profit.

Jesus found “merchants” in the Lord’s house in His day. These sellers of animals and exchangers of money were supposed to be there to serve the needs of worshipers. Piercing to their motives, Jesus knew they sought their own material advantage. The “house of prayer” had become a “den of thieves” (Matthew 21:13). In holy anger, Jesus drove these “merchants” from the place.

Simon Magus was a “merchant” in the Lord’s

house. He tried to buy the power to convey the Spirit upon believers through the laying on of hands, hoping by this means to regain his greedy hold upon the lives of the Samaritans. Peter denounced him in unminced words: “May your silver perish with you” (Acts 8:18-20, NASB).

The history of the Church has been marred frequently by people who allied themselves with the Church insincerely—merchants seeking customers, politicians seeking votes, social leaders protecting their image, preachers seeking a theater for the display of their talents are examples. Consequently, the Church’s integrity has been compromised and its influence diminished.

And what of that more individual and private temple of the Lord, the believer himself (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:16)? So devious is sin, so ingrained is selfishness, rare is the heart where no “merchant” is found!

We hope with the prophet! Holiness shall yet become a commonplace. Meanwhile, the Lord can cleanse the private temple of the heart by the blood of Jesus and the power of the Spirit (1 John 1:7; Acts 15:8-9; The “merchant” can be cast out, and the worshiper remade. □

WISDOM VERSUS WEAPONRY

Ecclesiastes 9:18 declares that “wisdom is better than weapons of war” (NASB).

When wisdom decreases, weaponry increases. When wisdom fails, war is inevitable.

War is never the best solution to a problem. Rather, war is made when wiser options are rejected. The violence of war is the price of folly. Pride compensates for the embarrassment of its stupidity by attaching the concept of “glory” to armed conflict. There is really nothing glorious about a scorched earth, a starving populace, and thousands of maimed and killed people. Calling the senseless slaughter of people “glorious” betrays, rather than hides, the shame and guilt men feel but seek to deny even to

themselves, for the perpetration of such ghastly and costly folly.

Why, then, is history plagued with wars and filled with blood? Because men are not wise. Man is not a rational creature. War makers and war lovers are often clever, but never wise. They act in defiance of wisdom, driven by insane obsessions with power and greed.

The prior verse reads, “The words of the wise heard in quietness are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools” (9:17). Peace is infrequent and short-lived because there is always somewhere a ruler shouting among cheering fools. The harangues of Hitler perfectly illustrate the problem stated in the

Jesus, whose kingdom is "not of this world," and whose weapon is submissive and forgiving love, has atoned for sin, triumphed over death, and offers new life to all who trust in Him.

proverb. When the demagogue gains control of enough minds and weapons to attempt violent destruction of all his "enemies," the quiet wise must sadly forsake the council chambers for the fields of battle. With whatever reluctance, the wise must resort to weapons and go out to make war against the beast. And, doubly tragic, the resulting carnage brings out the worst even in men whose cause is just. The beast within is uncaged in the attempt to control the beast without. Everybody loses.

The proverb which heads this column closes with the words, "but one sinner destroys much good." Many wise men may scheme for peace, but one sinner, especially one who is "a ruler among fools," can plunge nations into war. The power of a single life, bent on projecting outwardly the deep and ter-

rifying urge to self-destruction felt inwardly, is awesome.

Wars vividly expose the truth about man which is affirmed throughout Scripture, that he is radically evil, a rebel against God and, necessarily therefore, a murderer of his fellows and a destroyer of himself.

He has one hope. As "one sinner destroys much good," so one wise and sinless Person has created much good. Jesus—whose Kingdom is "not of this world," and whose weapon is submissive and forgiving love—has atoned for sin, triumphed over death, and offers new life to all who trust in Him. And just as "wisdom is better than weapons of war," so goodness will outlast evil, and the future belongs ultimately to the Prince of Peace. His coming will abolish war and perpetuate wisdom. □

FOREVER YOUNG? NO THANKS!

At the annual Junior-Senior chapel the seniors, following a long and lovely tradition, were singing the "Senior Class Song." The refrain of this year's selection was, "And may you stay forever young."

A lovely sentiment, perhaps, but it just won't happen. Being young is not a career; you get over it, and most think you get over it all too soon.

But I really question the desirability of staying forever young. If "young" means health, strength, and energy I am certainly for that! But it isn't possible. We shall all grow old, become infirm, and die.

Some will counter by saying, You can be forever young in heart. To say of one who is old in years that he is young in heart is construed as a compliment. I don't think so. The intention is kind but the phrase is misleading.

Young hearts are not better than old hearts. Hearts, like minds, mature with years and experience. One does not feel less deeply but more wisely. And one learns when to trust and when to suspect the intensity of emotion as a guide to action. Anyone who is honest with his memories knows that as a youth he was betrayed into folly not only by the ignorance of his head but by the immaturity of his heart.

An old person trying desperately to look and act

young is a common and pathetic sight. It belies the wisdom, dignity, and peace that, by the grace of God, can attend the accumulated years. Life is much too precious to waste by moving through it backwards. The present is too charged with opportunity, the future too large with hope, for one to dissipate already-declining energies in a futile effort to recover lost youth.

Forever young in body—that would be great. But it is not possible this side of the resurrection. Forever young in mind or heart—that is no prize to be coveted either side of the resurrection.

I am content with the promise of the Psalms that the righteous "will still yield fruit in old age" (92:14, NASB), and with the hope of the resurrection. "The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until the full day" (Proverbs 4:18, NASB). There has been sunrise, but there will be no sunset! One who is traveling toward full day must not pine for the earlier miles, but press on to the summit.

No one relishes the aches and pains that come with advancing years. Old people love the sun, for it eases some of the stresses by warming to the bones. It is good to know that we who trust in Christ are journeying into light increasing and unending! □



Dr. James Dobson, Sr.

Tribute to My Father



Dr. James Dobson, Jr.

by Dr. James Dobson, Jr.

Given at the Memorial Service, December 7, 1977

To our friends and loved ones, I would like to express appreciation on behalf of our family for each of you being here today. We appreciate you coming to honor the man whom we loved so dearly . . . the man whose name I share.

I asked my mother for this privilege of paying tribute to my dad, although quite honestly, this is the most difficult moment of my life. This man whose body lies before me was not only my father and my friend, but he was also the source of great inspiration for me. Few people realize that most of my writings are actually an expression of his views and his teachings. Whenever we were together, he would talk and I usually took notes. That's the kind of relationship we had, and his loss is devastating to me.

So I don't apologize for the grief that overwhelms me in this hour. These are not tears of guilt or remorse or regret. I have no bitter memories . . . there were no harsh words that I wish I could retrieve . . . we had no conflicts or struggles or strife. The emotion that you see reflects only the love of a son who has suddenly lost his father and gentle friend.

Some of you are aware that my dad had a very serious heart attack in September of this year. Shirley and I traveled to San Antonio, Tex., where I was to speak to the Texas Pediatric Society on Friday. When we arrived at the hotel on Thursday night, we received a message from Dr. Paul Cunningham, indicating that my dad was in intensive care in a Kansas City hospital. On Friday morning, Dr. Cunningham called again to say that my father's condition had worsened and he was not expected to live through the night. He also informed me that my uncle, Dr. James McGraw, had died in the same

hospital at 10:30 that morning. It is impossible to describe the sorrow that Shirley and I felt as we flew to Kansas City that afternoon. We never expected to see my dad alive again, and went through all the agonies of his loss. But when we arrived at the airport, we learned that my dad had made a remarkable improvement and was anticipating our visit at the hospital. How thankful I will always be that God answered our prayers and granted us 79 more days . . . beautiful, golden days . . . before He took my dad to heaven on December 4, 1977.

May I share with you what thoughts went through my troubled mind on that endless plane trip from San Antonio to Kansas City? It seemed as though I became a little child again, experiencing a kaleidoscope of early memories. I thought about the very happiest days of my life, occurring when I was between 10 and 13 years of age. My dad and I would arise very early before the sun came up on a wintry morning. We would put on our hunting clothes and heavy boots, and drive the car 20 miles from the little town where we lived. After parking the car and climbing over a fence, we entered a wooded area which I called the "big woods" (because the trees seemed so large to me). We would slip down to the creek bed and follow that winding stream several miles back into the forest.

Then my dad would hide me under a fallen tree which made a little room with its branches. He would find a similar shelter for himself around a bend in the creek. Then we would await the arrival of the sun and the awakening of the animal world. Little squirrels and birds and chipmunks would scurry back and forth, not knowing they were being observed. My dad and I then watched as the breath-

taking panorama of the morning unfolded, which spoke so eloquently of the God who made all things.

But most importantly, there was something dramatic that occurred out there in the forest between my dad and me. An intense love and affection was generated on those mornings that set the tone for a lifetime of fellowship. There was a closeness and a oneness that made me want to be like that man . . . that made me choose his values as my values, and his dreams as my dreams, and his God as my God.

These are among the memories that surged through my mind on that lonely plane trip in September. Then another flood of emotion came over me, as I thought about my own children. I wondered what memories will predominate in their minds when I lie at the point of death, a moment or two from now. What will they remember to be the happiest experiences of their lives? Will they recall a busy father who was preoccupied with writing books and catching planes and answering mail and talking on the telephone and being a "big man"? Or will they recall a patient dad who took time to love them and teach them and enjoy the beauty of God's world with them? I pray that the Lord will help me keep my little family at the top of my list of priorities during these precious prime-time years.

James Dobson was a man of many intense loves. His greatest passion was expressed in his love for Jesus Christ. His every thought and deed were motivated or influenced by his desire to serve his Lord. And I can truthfully say that we were never together without my being drawn closer to God by being in his presence. Not because he warned me or chastised me . . . but because his love for the Lord was so

intense that it penetrated my own attitudes.

The last conversation I ever held with my dad reflected my confidence in his faith. Exactly five days before his death, I telephoned him from Los Angeles at 11:27 a.m.

I said, "Dad, I have an appointment at 11:30 and can only talk for three minutes. I am calling because I face some decisions this afternoon which are very important to me professionally, and I want you to pray for me." His final words were, "I will pray about it, Jim." You can be sure that he did!

My dad also loved my mother with great intensity. This fact was beautifully illustrated last year when my parents came to visit us in California. Dad and I took a walk in a nearby park one morning, and as usual, he was talking and I was writing. He then reached into his pocket and retrieved a crumpled sheet of paper which looked very old.

He said, "You might be interested in reading this statement. These are words I expressed to your mother before we were married, 42 years ago. They were not read to her, but I later wrote down the thoughts I had communicated."

This message was written on the paper:

I want you to understand and be fully aware of my feelings concerning the marriage covenant which we are about to enter. I have been taught at my mother's knee, and in harmony with the Word of God, that the marriage vows are inviolable, and by entering into them, I am binding myself absolutely and for life. The idea of estrangement from you through divorce for any reason at all (although God allows one—infidelity) will never at any time be allowed to enter into my thinking. I'm not naive in this. On the contrary, I'm fully aware of the possibility, unlikely as it now appears, that mutual incompatibility or other unforeseen circumstances, could result in extreme mental suffering. If such becomes the case, I am resolved for my part to accept it as a consequence of the commitment I am now making, and to bear it, if necessary, to the end of our lives together.

I have loved you dearly as a sweetheart and will continue to

love you as my wife. But over and above that, I love you with a Christian love that demands that I never react in any way toward you that would jeopardize our prospects of entering heaven, which is the supreme objective of both our lives. And I pray that God Himself will make our affection for one another perfect and eternal.

Isn't that a beautiful way to say "I love you"? How badly America needs husbands and fathers who are committed to their families . . . men who are *determined* to succeed in this important responsibility. My father was such a man, and his devotion to my mother grew steadily through their 43 years of marriage. They were *mutually dependent* in the way God intended. It is fitting, therefore, that in his final moment of consciousness, he fell toward my mother and died peacefully in her arms.

Very few people fully comprehended the depth of my dad's love of learning. When he died, he left a book beside his big chair, opened to a description of the molecular structure of deoxyribonucleic acid and the process by which hereditary characteristics are transmitted from one generation to the next. Beside it was a list (in his handwriting) of the 20 essential amino acids in humans, and how they are genetically coded. (He called them "God's four-letter words.") My dad had an insatiable desire to *know*, alternating regularly between biology, physics, astronomy, ecology, theology, politics, medicine, and the arts. In his basement he left a half-finished painting of a mountain stream, with a photograph propped to its right. A palette of oils still rests where he placed them on that final Saturday night. Yes, my dad loved *everything* God made, and it is thrilling to contemplate the learning process that must be occurring right now on the other side!

Finally, my dad also loved me. I've known that from my earliest moments of awareness. I'm told that when I was a small child, perhaps three years of age, we lived in a one-bedroom apart-

ment. My little bed was located beside the bed of my parents. Dad said it was not uncommon during that time to awaken at night and hear a little voice whispering, "Daddy?" "Daddy?"

He would answer quietly, "What, Jimmy?"

Then I replied, "Hold my hand!"

My dad would reach across the darkness and grope for my little hand, finally engulfing it in his. He said the instant he encompassed my hand, my arm would become limp and my breathing deep and regular. I had gone back to sleep. You see, I only wanted to know that he was *there!* I have been reaching for him throughout my 41 years, and he has always been there. And now for the first time in my life, he's gone.

So where do we go from here? Do we leave this church today in despair and discouragement? Certainly not, although our sorrow is incalculable. But my dad is *alive*, and we will soon see him again. He has achieved the pearl of eternal life, which is our heritage too. I now understand that the death of my dad was not an isolated tragedy that happened to one unfortunate man and his family. In a real sense, this is the *human condition* which affects us all. Life will soon be over for everyone in this sanctuary . . . and for everyone whom we love.* Therefore, I have determined to live each day as Christ would dictate, keeping in mind the temporal nature of everything which now seems so permanent. Even in death, you see, my dad has taught me about life.

Thank you for allowing me to share my deepest feelings and emotions today. I must acknowledge, in closing, that James Dobson was not a perfect man. It would be unfortunate to eulogize him in a way that would embarrass him if he were sitting among us. My father had a generous assortment of flaws, even as you and I. But I loved him . . . perhaps as much as any son ever loved his dad.

Danae and Ryan [addressed to my children], you had a great man for a grandfather. Not because he was president or because he will be remembered in the history books. He was great because of the life he lived, and the way he loved, and because of his uncompromising dedication to the Christian faith. And if I can be half the father to you that he was to me, you will be fortunate children indeed.

*Four members of our family have died in the past four months: Shirley's grandmother (Mrs. Hassie Wisham), my uncle (Dr. James McGraw), my father, and my aunt (Mrs. Naomi Dobson).



The young people's choir (NISSI), "Jehovah Is Our Banner," from the Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, First Church, visited the Wichita, Kans., West Side Church May 3-7. The choral group, under the leadership of Mr. Daniel Cordova, also presented their musical program in churches at Wellington and Winfield, Kans. It was an occasion in which both congregation and performers received a shower of spiritual blessing. The choral group is composed of 50 Spanish voices. The

speaker on the tour was Rev. José Palacios, who preached with the assistance of various interpreters. The tour was the result of an invitation extended by Pastor Ralph C. Brown and the Wichita West Side Church. The transportation and lodging expenses were defrayed by the Wichita church. The West Side teenagers will get a taste of what their Mexican friends are experiencing when they visit the Guadalajara church June 21.

HAITIAN SELF-HELP PROGRAM DRAWS ATTENTION OF PRESIDENT DUVALIER

A program of Nazarene church leaders in Haiti recently won acclaim from that nation's president at an industrial exposition in Port-au-Prince.

"Projet Autonome Nazaréen" was invited to present an exhibit at the exposition to demonstrate the way the self-help program is providing employment and lifting the economic level of members of the Church of the Naza-

rene in a country where the rate of unemployment is extremely high.

Using television equipment, which is part of the World Mission Video Network, a 15-minute video presentation was taped. It covered the manufacture of wooden handcrafts and knitted articles, the sale of the items in a downtown shop, and how the proceeds are channeled into a credit union which provides for the ongoing and expansion of self-help projects. The credit unions were set up by Missionary Steve Weber, along with life insurance, retirement, and major medical programs.

Handcrafts of various materials are only a part of the self-help program. Also included are a fiberglass factory; a bakery; the raising of broilers, pigs, horses, and cows; and growing po-

tatoes. The sale of handcrafted articles abroad also strengthens the nation's trade position. Self-help projects are conducted at both the local and district level.

Florentin Alvarez, superintendent of the Haiti South district, was delighted with the interest and comments of President Jean-Claude Duvalier and felt it meant national recognition of the program and the stability of the Nazarene credit unions.

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, said the program was enabling the Haitian church to make rapid progress in self-support. There are now 26,861 full and probationary members of the Church of the Nazarene on the two districts in Haiti. □

—NCN



On March 16 the North Miami Zone held a "shower" for the Armand Dolls. Since they had to leave everything behind in Mozambique, people brought gifts to help them just as if they were newlyweds. The Dolls will live in the North Miami area, their center of operations for evangelism in the Caribbean. District NWMS President Mrs. Jan Wright attended, and Zone President Rev. James Steele was master of ceremonies. Refreshments were served while the Dolls opened their gifts, which ranged from a ham to a set of dishes for service of 12. Cash totaled \$460. The Dolls are shown opening a toothpaste tube containing a poem welcoming them to Miami.

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RESOURCING NYI LEADERS



The congregation of the Corvallis, Ore., church presented their pastor, Rev. Richard Parrott, and his wife, Carol, with a new 1978 Pontiac Grand Lemans. The presentation was made on their one-year anniversary at the church.

MINISTERS ENCOURAGED TO REVOKE SOCIAL SECURITY EXEMPTION

Ministers who previously secured an exemption from Social Security coverage by filing Form 4361 may now revoke that exemption. This is a provision of the Social Security Amendments Act of 1977.

The law provides for a *one-time* opportunity of revocation. An application for revocation must be filed before one becomes eligible for Social Security disability or retirement benefits and no later than April 15, 1979, for most ministers.

The minister who applies for a revocation may choose his Social Security coverage to begin either in 1977 or 1978. Taxes must be paid for the year in which coverage is to begin, though no other back taxes will be required. Only those years for which taxes are paid will count toward calculation of benefits.

A revocation cannot be secured after the deadline. Once the minister has revoked his exemption from Social Security coverage he cannot file for another exemption.

New ministers may still secure an exemption by filing Form 4361, but only if they are opposed on the basis of conscience or religious principle to receiving public insurance benefits. Form 4361 must be filed by April 15 of the year following the second year in which earnings from the ministry exceed \$400.

Only a few ministers in the Church of the Nazarene have filed for an exemption. The Department of Pensions and Benevolence does not recommend filing for exemption, and is now actively encouraging these ministers to revoke their exemption.

Any questions about this matter may be directed to the local Social Security office or the Department of Pensions and Benevolence, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131. □



Pictured is the WILCON Steering Committee in session. Shown to the left around the table are: Dr. Neil Wiseman, director; Mrs. Marion K. Rich, chairperson; Mrs. W. Charles Oliver (Alabama); Mrs. Robert Goslaw (Pennsylvania); Mrs. William Varian (Michigan); Mrs. Neil Wiseman (Kansas); Mrs. James Blankenship (Ohio); Mrs. Earl Lee (California); Mrs. Betty Brockman (Kansas City); Mrs. Eugene Stowe (Colorado); Mrs. Don Irwin (Massachusetts); Mrs. John Hancock (Illinois); Mrs. Carl Clendenen (Oregon); Mrs. Paul Cunningham (Kansas); Mrs. James Shaw (California); Mrs. W. T. Dougharty (Oklahoma); not pictured: Mrs. G. B. Williamson (Colorado).



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BEIRUT ARMENIAN CHURCH IN REVIVAL

With war clouds threatening, and strikes hampering mission activities, there is still news of revival in Lebanon.

Missionary Larry Buess reports a spiritual awakening in the Armenian Church of the Nazarene in Beirut, with Rev. Ivan Lathrop preaching. Expectations are high for revival campaigns scheduled for the other two Nazarene churches in Beirut. □

—NCN

CHURCH SEES GROWTH IN PHILIPPINES

Missionary Bob McCroskey reports a 25 percent gain in membership in the four districts of the Philippine Islands for the year 1977. There are now 5,234 members of the Church of the Nazarene in the Philippines; 19,933 enrolled in church schools, with an average attendance of 11,575. Twenty new churches were organized during the year.

McCroskey further reports, "We have 178 churches and preaching

points. There are hundreds of Bible studies in homes and villages, conducted on a regular basis, that we do not count as preaching points. . . . The climate is right for a great revival in the Republic of the Philippines."

This summer 40 students from several world areas, representing the International Student Ministry program of the Department of Youth Ministries, will form a ministry team to the Philippines for a 40-day witness/impact. Rev. McCroskey anticipates a possible goal of 2,000 new Nazarene church members will be realized as a result of this concerted youth missionary effort. □

—NCN

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The Bud Robinson Missionary Chapter of Clarksville, Tenn., First Church granted Distinguished Service Awards to Wilburn Oldham for lengthy service as vice-president of the local NWMS, and to Edward Powers for serving as study secretary of the Chapter for an extended period. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Gussie Dunning, NWMS president; Pastor J. Ray Shadowens; Wilburn Oldham; and Edward Powers.



Rev. James H. Sturgis was honored at Fresno, Calif., Calvary Church during the New Year's evening service with a "This Is Your Life" program. He was presented with the Distinguished Service Award by the NWMS. The evening was graced with people from past pastorates over the state. Also, participating were his son, Rev. James E. Sturgis and wife, Rosalie, and their three children; his daughter, Lauranna Speir and her husband, Robert, their two children and three grandchildren. Rev. Sturgis is pictured holding his awards, the NWMS award and the plaque presented by Fresno Calvary Church. The presentations were made by Pastor John A. Payton and NWMS President Mrs. Marge Willbanks.



Pastor Kenneth H. Dennis (r.) and NWMS president Wanda Stephens (l.) present the Distinguished Service Award to William B. and Esther Shaw on behalf of the Suwannee River church (North Florida) for 45 years of service in the church of which they are the only remaining charter members. The presentation was made on December 11, 1977, just prior to their 61st wedding anniversary. The service was attended by more than 50 relatives, including their 10 children, their grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



During the Faith Promise Convention of Gallup, N.M., First Church, March 17-19, with Dr. Everette Howard as special speaker, Revs. Fern and Charles Scrivner were each awarded the Distinguished Service Award. It read: "For outstanding service for three decades of effective and sacrificial labors as missionaries among the American Indians." Pictured (l. to r.) are: Missionary Everette Howard, Rev. Fern Scrivner, Rev. Charles Scrivner, and Pastor Dudley B. Anderson.



Mrs. Edith Bailey was honored recently with a Distinguished Service Award for her service to the Glasgow, Ky., First Church. Pictured (l. to r.) in the award presentation were: Pastor Edgar Ray, Mrs. Bailey, and Hubert Norris, NWMS president.



Mrs. Arthur (Lina) Buhl was awarded a Distinguished Service Award at the Ritzville, Wash., church on March 15. She joined the Church of the Nazarene at Ritzville April 25, 1945. She has served as secretary of the church board for 33 years, taught Sunday school 19 years, and was president of NWMS for 9 years. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Marjorie Schilling, NWMS president; Mrs. Buhl; and Pastor T. Aaron Pueschel.



Miss Rebecca Tolson, pictured with Pastor Carl C. Pratt, Sr., was presented a Distinguished Service Award February 12. Miss Tolson has served the Lord at the Newport, Ky., First Church for many years. She has been church board secretary and teacher of the ladies' Bible class, "Willing Workers," for over 45 years in succession. Dr. John May and wife, district superintendent of Eastern Kentucky, were present to assist in the presentation.

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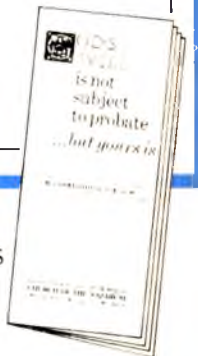
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POINT LOMA COLLEGE PRESIDENT FETED BY FACULTY

On February 4, Point Loma College President W. Shelburne Brown was honored by the PLC faculty for his continuing effective leadership of Point Loma College.

The gala banquet, held in San Diego's exclusive Little America Westgate Hotel, was spontaneously conceived by the faculty. The entire evening was sponsored by the PLC faculty and included the presence of Dr. and Mrs. Brown's children, who were flown to San Diego for the memorable event.

Tributes to Dr. Brown, who became the college's ninth president in 1964,



were expressed in many ways by various people. Faculty members gave speeches, read letters, recited poetry, performed an opera scene, and presented President and Mrs. Brown with an Edward Miller triple chime bracket clock, a keepsake representing the faculty's love, admiration, and support. □



Britons listen as Rev. Charles Grant explains how Brampton Church of the Nazarene developed growth practices. (l. to r.) are: Rev. David Trump, Rev. Frank Webster, Rev. Raymond Spence, Mr. Joseph Wilson, Mr. Percy Davis, and Rev. Grant.

CANADA, GREAT BRITAIN DEMONSTRATE NAZARENE CHURCH GROWTH LEADERSHIP

Within the United States and Canada, the church growth movement has made enormous strides in recent

years. Principles of outreach, tools for discipleship, analyses of communities have been developed. Local churches have a wealth of material to aid them in effectively presenting the gospel to hungry souls.

Church leaders in the British Isles, however, have not had this help available. Leaders in England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland could read the books produced in North America. However, with older cities, higher costs, and different mind-sets, Britons usually feel American "how-to-do-it" books miss the mark east of the Atlantic.

The Church of the Nazarene is now making a concerted effort to apply the basic principles of church growth to practices in the United Kingdom.

Following church growth training in the United States, the two British Isles district superintendents, Rev.



Rev. Neil Hightower, Canada Central district superintendent, takes notes at closing session of Toronto Extern experience.



Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, executive director of Home Missions, conducts a feedback session with British and Canadian participants.

Tom Schofield and Rev. David Tarrant, were among the first in the denomination to jointly conduct training sessions for pastors and laymen.

Under Executive Director Raymond W. Hurn, the Department of Home Missions sponsored five days of meetings in Toronto, Ontario, April 20-24, between the British and Canadian leaders. The British were represented by five pastors: Rev. Frank Webster, Cardiff, Wales; Rev. John Paton, Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland; Rev. David Trump, Gillingham, England; Rev. Raymond Spence, Lurgan, Northern Ireland; and Rev. William Rolland, Manchester, England. Two laymen representatives were Mr. Percy Davis, Bolton, England; and Mrs. Joseph Wilson, Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland. The Canadian group, headed by Rev. Neil Hightower, Canada Central district superintendent, included three Toronto area pastors: Rev. Charles Grant, Brampton; Rev. J. Donald Nicholas, Toronto Kennedy Road; and Rev. William Stewart, Toronto Main Street; and numerous lay persons.

District Superintendent Hightower gave a detailed explanation of the "mothering instinct" in Toronto. The Canadian pastors each explained how his local church implements church growth. People flow, evangelization, community visibility—these principles and others were mentioned.

The Britons listened, questioned, and observed. Soon they saw how Canadians practiced church growth principles. Next they considered how to apply the same principles to Britain. What location best serves a Welsh community? What factors go into planting a new church in Scotland? How far will an Irishman travel to attend church? What evangelistic approach will an Englishman most likely heed?

The British pastors benefited the Canadians through their observations

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of Canadian-British similarities and differences. Incisive questions helped to delineate the Canadian position for the benefit of the Canadian pastors.

How much leadership can a layman be expected to take?

What is the purpose of a morning Sunday school? (The British usually conduct theirs in the afternoon).

When is a large building more "ego" than faith?

How does one decide which decorations are offensive?

The guidance of the Holy Spirit is sought in the months ahead as the British brethren test church growth materials. The goal: methods of furthering the cause of Jesus Christ throughout Great Britain and Ireland, especially suited to the people thereof. □

—Dale Jones, reporter
Dept. of Home Missions

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

MICHIGAN—July 12-13. Indian Lake Camp, Rte. 2, Vicksburg, MI 49097. Host Pastor: U. B. Godman. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.

NORTH ARKANSAS—July 12-13. First Church of the Nazarene, Faulkner and Scott Sts., Conway, AR 72032. Host Pastor: Harry L. Evans. General Superintendent: Dr. George Coulter.

COLORADO—July 13-14. Lakewood Church of the Nazarene, 1755 Dover, Denver, CO 80215. Host Pastor: Robert Snodgrass. General Superintendent: Dr. Orville W. Jenkins.

NEW ENGLAND—July 13-14. Church of the Nazarene, 529 Eastern Ave., Malden, MA 02148. Host Pastor: Harold A. Parry. General Superintendent: Dr. Eugene L. Stowe.

SOUTHWESTERN OHIO—July 14-15. Dave Finkelman Auditorium, Miami U., Middletown Campus, 4200 E. University Blvd., Middletown, OH 45042. Host Pastor: Michael Hutchens. General Superintendent: Dr. Charles H. Strickland.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

HAWAII PACIFIC

Honolulu First Church was the site of the 26th annual assembly of Hawaii Pacific District. District Superintendent Virgil K. Grover was reelected for a four-year term.

Craig W. Rensch was ordained at the assembly by presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse.

Reelected to the Advisory Board were (elders) Jerry L. Appleby and Gaylord A. Rich; and (laymen) M. Kimber Moulton, Jr., and Miyoji Furusho.

NWMS president is Mrs. Betty Shelby; NYI president, Rev. Christopher H. J. Carver; and chairman of the board of Christian Life, Rev. Robert C. Killen—all reelected to their respective posts.

NEW YORK

The 71st annual assembly of the New York District was held at Lakeland First Church. District Superintendent M. V. Scutt, completing the third year of a four-year term, reported.

Presiding General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Fred Klittich and Peter A. Heilemann. Elders Clarence Jacobs and James Conner, and laymen Ross Miller and Raymond Dunlop were elected to the District Advisory Board.

Mrs. Gledah Scutt was reelected NWMS president, Rev. Art Alexander was elected NYI president, and Rev. Ronald Keller was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NORTHWEST

Northwest District convened its 74th annual assembly at Lewiston, Ida., First Church. District Superintendent Raymond C. Kratzer, completing the third year of a four-year term, reported the organization of a new church, Rocky Butte, at Bridgeport, Wash.

Dr. George Coulter, presiding general superintendent, ordained Donald R. Dyke, David M. McCollum, Eldon L. Nice, and Daniel R. Swan. Also the orders of James H. Schueler were recognized.

Reelected as NWMS president is Mrs. Mary Winkle. Rev. Mark Tuter was elected NYI president, and Rev. Milton Harrington was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

SACRAMENTO

The 16th annual assembly of the Sacramento District convened at Sacramento First Church. District Superintendent Walter M. Hubbard was elected to a four-year term.

Dr. Charles H. Strickland was the presiding general superintendent.

Elected to the Advisory Board were (elders) Harold McKellips, Ray Sanders, and Ray Morrison; and (laymen) John A. Biggers, Art Tallman, and Bud Anderson.

Mrs. John A. Biggers was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Wes Smith was reelected NYI president; and Dr. Byron Ford was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

SAN ANTONIO

The 65th annual assembly of the San Antonio District was held in San Antonio First Church. District Superintendent Harold B. Graves, completing the second year of an extended term, reported.

Charles Edward Morse and Michael Whiteley were ordained by General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins.

Elected to the District Advisory board were (elders) Stan Meek and Dan Wright, and (laymen) Erwin Davis and Dale Yates.

Mrs. Harold B. Graves was reelected president of the NWMS. Rev. Jim Southworth is the new NYI president, and Rev. Ron Jordan was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

WASHINGTON

The 21st annual assembly of the Washington District was held at Baltimore, Maryland. District Superintendent Roy E. Carnahan was reelected for a four-year term.

Dr. V. H. Lewis, presiding general superintendent, ordained Marcus R. Briggs, J. Steven Fargo, and John D. Scott, Jr.

Quentin Caswell, A. Ralph Montemuro, and Tom Nees (elders), and Paul Freese, Merritt Mann, and John Stroman (laymen) were elected to the Advisory Board.

Officers reelected to their respective positions



The second district assembly of the Honduras District was held on February 22, 1978. Dr. George Coulter ordained two pastors. Pictured (l. to r.) are Rev. Gloria de Campos and Rev. E. Mercedes Cerda.

were: Mrs. Roy E. Carnahan, NWMS president; William B. Nielson, NYI president; and Lee R. McCleery, chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS

June 29—July 9—NORTH CAROLINA. Hendersonville, N.C., corner of Upward and Orchard Road. Special workers: Bob Hoots, Ted Lee, song evangelists Barry and Tavia Dutton. Bill Sullivan, district superintendent.

July 10-16—MISSOURI. Pinecrest Camp, Star Route 2, Fredricktown, MO 63645. Special workers: Richard Strickland, Don Pfeifer; singers Wally and Ginger Laxson. Art Mottram, district superintendent.

July 21-30—CENTRAL OHIO. Columbus Campground, 2708 Morse Road, Columbus, OH 43229. Special workers: Don Pfeifer, Gary Bond; singers Lenny and Joy Wisehart. Terrell C. Sanders, Jr., district superintendent.

July 23-30—INTERMOUNTAIN. Boise First Church, 1200 N. Liberty Road, Boise, ID 83704. Hoyle C. Thomas, district superintendent.

July 23-30—NORTHEASTERN INDIANA. District Center, 1794 S. 350 E., Marion, IN 46952. Bruce T. Taylor, district superintendent.

July 24-30—EASTERN KENTUCKY. Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475. Special workers: evangelists pending; singers, the Laxsons. John W. May, district superintendent.

July 24-30—INDIANAPOLIS. District Campgrounds, P.O. Box 46, Camby, IN 46113. Special workers: Richard Strickland, Ray Lassell; singers Larry Jewett and wife. John F. Hay, district superintendent.

July 24-30—IOWA. First Church of the Nazarene, 3133 First Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids. IA

52404. Special workers: James Bell, Roger Brown family, Forrest E. Whitlatch, district superintendent.

July 24-30—WISCONSIN. Camp Byron, Brownsville, Wis. R. J. Clack, Sr., district superintendent.

July 25-30—CANADA PACIFIC. Chilliwack, British Columbia. Special worker: Dr. Edward Lawlor. Daniel J. Derksen, district superintendent.

July 25-30—CANADA ATLANTIC. Big Lake Campgrounds, Oxford, Nova Scotia. Special workers: W. T. Purkiser; singers Paul and DeVerne Mullen. William F. Bahan, district superintendent.

July 28—Aug. 7—CANADA CENTRAL. Cedar-dale Campground, Pefferlaw, Ontario. Special workers: D. W. Hildie, Otho Jennings; singers Chuck and Mary Jackson. Neil E. Hightower, district superintendent.

July 28—Aug. 6—NORTHWESTERN OHIO. District Center, Rte. 2, St. Marys, OH 45885. Special workers: Dr. Jerry Johnson, Gary Haines; singers Jim and Rosemary Green. James R. Blankenship, district superintendent.

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Pictured (l. to r.) are Dr. Roy E. Carnahan, Washington district superintendent; three newly-ordained pastors and their wives, Rev. and Mrs. Marcus R. Briggs, Rev. and Mrs. John D. Scott, Jr., Rev. and Mrs. J. Steven Fargo; and Dr. V. H. Lewis, presiding general superintendent at the 21st annual assembly.

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July 29—Aug. 6—PITTSBURGH. Mount Chestnut Nazarene District Center, 177 North Rd., Butler, PA 16001. Special workers: Fred Lester, Bob Hoots; singers Wally and Ginger Laxson, Robert I. Goslaw, district superintendent.

July 29—Aug. 6—WASHINGTON. Nazarene Campgrounds at North East, Md. Special workers: Don Gibson, W. E. McCumber, Gary Moore, Roy E. Carnahan, district superintendent.

July 31—Aug. 6—CHICAGO CENTRAL. Youth Center, Aroma Park, Ill. Special workers: Albert Neuschwanger and singer Steve Caudill, Forrest W. Nash, district superintendent.

July 31—Aug. 6—NEW MEXICO. Nazarene Campground, Alto Route, Capitan, NM 88316. Special worker: Charles Millhuff, Harold W. Morris, district superintendent.

MOVING MINISTERS

JAMES G. BIRNSTIEL from South Seaville (N.J.) Clermont to Williamsport, Pa.

LESTER L. BOADY from High Springs, Fla., to associate, Reading (PA.) Calvary

GLENN D. BRENNAN from Ottumwa (Ia.) Northside to Iowa Falls, Ia.

KEN BROWN from Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Maryville, Mo.

ROBERT R. CARTER to Louisville (Ky.) Lynnhurst

PAUL L. DANNER from Thaxton (Miss.) Union to Houston, Miss.

RON DECH from Monterey Park, Calif., to associate, Ridgecrest, Calif.

DAVID L. DONOVAN from Mandan, N.D., to student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

LEE ROY ELZEY from Altus, Ark., to Guthrie, Okla.

J. STEVEN FARGO from Martinsburg, W.Va., to Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada

BRUCE FOLEY to Lexington (Ky.) Bethel

CARL B. HADDIX from Paulding, Ohio, to associate, Lakewood (Ohio) Westlake Parks/ide

JAMES McGAREY from Versailles, Ky., to Brandenburg, Ky.

ROBERT P. McKENNEY from Lexington (Ky.) Bethel to associate, Lexington (Ky.) Georgetown

DANIEL S. McNUTT from Wooster, Ohio, to Hartford City, Ind.

DAL NEWBERRY from Tulsa (Okla.) St. Paul to Fort Worth (Tex.) First

HOWARD PORTER, JR. from Jonesboro, Ga., to Gainesville, Ga.

HOWARD RICKEY from Xenia (Ohio) First to Oklahoma City (Okla.) Lakeview Park

HENRY ROYBAL to Napa (Ia.) Spanish

GLENN W. SPAULDING from Andover (Ohio) Cherry Valley to North Ridgeville (Ohio) Calvary Ridge

GARY TRACY from Lake Elsinore, Calif., to Walla Walla (Wash.) Aldersgate

EDWARD TRUSTY from Chickasha, Okla., to Tahlequah, Okla.

DANIEL VANDERPOOL from associate, Phoenix (Ariz.) Billmore to Olathe (Kans.) College

LOWELL WELKER from Tacoma (Wash.) First to Renton, Wash.

PAUL A. WILLIAMS from Esther (Mo.) Flat River to Emporia, Kans.

RICK L. WILLIAMSON from Iowa Falls, Ia., to Ottumwa (Ia.) Trinity

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REV. & MRS. ROBERT McCROSKEY, SR., Philippines, furlough address: c/o Carolyn Jennings, 7533 N.W. 6th, No. 277, Oklahoma City, OK 73127

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REV. & MRS. HAROLD STANFIELD, Guatemala, field address: Apartado 143, Quezaltenango, Guatemala, Central America

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Coffeyville, Kans., Central Church will celebrate its 40th anniversary July 16. Friends and members are invited to be a part of that celebration. For more information, contact Pastor Floyd Hess, P.O. Box 111, Coffeyville, KS 67337; telephone 316-251-4569.

Melrose, Mass., First Church is planning a 50th anniversary celebration, to be held on October 28-29, 1978. Friends and members are invited to be a part of that celebration. For more information, write to: Rev. William L. Poteet, 394 E. Foster St., Melrose, MA 02176.

The Fort Recovery, Ohio, church will celebrate its 50th anniversary, July 23. Dr. Charles H. Strickland will be guest speaker. The Roger Brown family will be special singers. Friends, former members and pastors are invited to be a part of the celebration. For more information write to Rev. Jim Paul Stewart, Box 336, Fort Recovery, OH 45846.

The Payette, Ida., church, will celebrate its 48th anniversary August 6, with special events planned during the day. There will be special services featuring speakers and music. An invitation is extended to all former pastors, members, and friends to attend this anniversary celebration. For further information, contact Mrs. William Fitzsimmons, Rte. 1, Box 294, Payette, ID 83661.

VITAL STATISTICS

BASIL MILLER DIES

Dr. Basil Miller, 81, founder of World-Wide Missions, died May 7 after an extended illness. Before beginning the independent missionary activities in 1950, he had pastored churches in San Diego, San Antonio, Pittsburgh, New York City, and Pasadena, Calif.

During a writing career that spanned more than 35 years, he authored 200 books and thousands of magazine articles on religious themes. These include a collection of biographies of famous Christian men and women (*Praying Hyde*, *Fanny Crosby*, *John Wesley*, etc.) and 50 books written for children as the "Ken," "Patty Lou," "Silver Star," and "Koko" series.

Dr. Miller earned A.B. and B.D. degrees from Bethany Nazarene College, an M.A. from the University of Southern California, an S.T.M. from the Pacific School of Religion, a Th.M. from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, an S.T.D. from the Biblical Seminary of New York University, and a Ph.D. from the Baptist Theological Seminary.

Funeral services were conducted May 10 by Dr. Earl Lee at Pasadena, Calif., First Church of the Nazarene.

Dr. Miller is survived by a daughter, Esther M. Howard; three sons: Kirk Phineas, Omaha, Neb.; Basil William, Jr., Lafayette, Calif.; and Harvey Murtelle, Pasadena, Calif., and five grandchildren.



NEWS

OF RELIGION

DEATHS

FRED (ED) AX died Apr. 2 in Sacramento, Calif. Services were conducted by Rev. Ron Wilson and Grandson Bob Phillips. He is survived by his wife, Leone; one son, Charles; one daughter, Joy; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

REV. HARRY A. CARTER, 93, died Apr. 19 in Indiana. Funeral services were conducted by District Superintendent John Hay. Rev. Carter's ministry was on the Indiana and Indianapolis Districts. Surviving him are one daughter, Virgie Ketterman; seven grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

BEATRICE E. CLARK, 82, died Apr. 29 in Westmoreland, N.H. Graveside services were conducted by Rev. James M. Kelly. Survivors include two sisters and several nephews and nieces.

LILBURN COLLINS, 61, died Feb. 9 in Champaign, Ill. Services were conducted by Revs. Jim Spruce, William Kelly, and Vince Gennaro. Surviving are his wife, Juanita (Burgess); 3 sons, Dwayne, Bruce and Steve; 1 daughter, Doris; and 12 grandchildren.

NANNIE LOU GODDARD, 86, died May 4 in Lake Wales, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Merrill E. Dewey. Interment was in Atlanta, Ga., with Rev. Jim Diehl officiating, assisted by Danny Goddard. She is survived by her husband, Rev. R. C. Goddard; three sons; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

LOTTIE McCURLEY, 90, died Mar. 23 in Arlington, Va. Services were conducted in Arlington with interment in Springfield, Ill. Surviving her are one daughter, Mrs. Freda Garvin; four grandchildren; and one sister.

MARVIN O. MILLER, 74, died Mar. 25 in Redmond, Ore. Services were conducted by Rev. Gordon W. Miller. Interment was in Indianapolis with Rev. Alan Campbell officiating.

LEAH V. POTTS, 82, died Apr. 21 in Hudson, Ind. Services were conducted by Rev. Raymond Cain and Rev. Edward Wilsberg, with interment in Bowling Green, Va. Survivors include her husband, Rev. Valton E. Potts; one son; one daughter; and a sister.

EDITH SHIELDS, 77, died Mar. 18 in Newburgh, N.Y. Services were conducted by Rev. Watson L. Swope and Rev. Robert Chew. She is survived by her husband, Charles; two sons, Charles, Jr., and William; two daughters, Mrs. Edith French and Mrs. Muriel Williams; and several grandchildren.

FLOY SIMMONS, 77, died Feb. 22 in Champaign, Ill. Services were conducted by Rev. Jim Spruce. Surviving are his wife, Clara (Wagler); 3 sons, Melvin, Marshall, and Roger; 3 daugh-

NATION'S OLDEST BIBLE COLLEGE HOLDS COMMUNICATIONS INSTITUTE.

Nyack College, Nyack, N.Y., a Bible college of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. This nation's first Bible college demonstrated it is abreast of the times by sponsoring jointly with National Religious Broadcasters an Institute of Communications, June 5-9, under the direction of Dr. Ben Armstrong, an alumnus of the school and executive director of NRB. National Religious Broadcasters is an association of organizations which produce religious programs and operate religious radio and television stations.

The institute was a college-level course, providing an overview of religious communications plus opportunities for practical experience. It included lectures, broadcasting laboratory projects, tours of broadcast facilities in the New York metropolitan area, and daily chapel services. □

MARTY ON "ELECTRONIC" CHURCH: WARNS AGAINST "CHEAP GRACE."

Dr. Martin E. Marty, the noted church historian and religion commentator, has warned that the so-called "Electronic Church" is becoming a major competitor to the local church. In an article in *Missouri in Perspective*, published by Evangelical Lutherans in Mission, the University of Chicago professor writes that "we should worry about members of the completely private, individual, 'invisible,' do-it-yourself religion that competes against the biblical faith wherein Christ exists for us today in community, in the members of the Body He heads."

Dr. Marty comments that "the Electronic Church, in the name of 'the old-time religion,' is ultra-modern in style in that it satisfies people religiously *apart* from the disciplined, pastored life of the Church." He writes that "while competing for loyalties and dollars, some of its people—one thinks of Billy Graham—*do* have a good record of working with the ordinary, real church . . ." □

MUST COUNTERACT TOBACCO ADS, SAYS SECRETARY OF HEW.

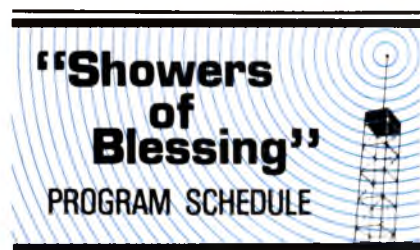
The proposed \$30 million federal anti-smoking campaign is but a "miniscule investment" and necessary to counteract the tobacco industry's ads aimed at youth, according to a Carter Cabinet officer. Joseph A. Califano, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), defended the anti-smoking campaign he announced in January, which would nearly double federal research and education activities.

Smoking "is not a decision made by adults 30 to 35 years old" who are aware of all the health problems, Mr. Califano told the American Society of Newspaper Editors. "The tobacco industry has mounted a very sinister campaign designed to encourage teenagers to smoke." The HEW official said that "all you have to do is look at the handsome Marlboro man, look at the handsome women. You'll see it's targeted at the children." □

NATIONAL SURVEY: AMERICANS' INTEREST IN MIDEAST RISES, ISRAELI SUPPORT EBBS.

The number of Americans following news on the Middle East has increased from 48 to 71 percent in the last six months, and support for Israelis dropped from 54 to 43 percent during that period, according to a national poll.

The latest New York Times/CBS News survey reveals that American support for Arabs remained about the same, rising slightly from 27 percent in October 1977 to 29 percent in the April 3-7 poll. Given two choices, the Arab supporters said the U.S. should pay more attention to Arab demands even if the move were to antagonize Israel. Those who supported Israel said the U.S. should give its strongest support to Israel even if that meant risking an Arab oil boycott. □



June 18
"Rise Up, O Man of God!"
by Alan Rodda

June 25
"Give God's Job Back to Him"
by Alan Rodda

July 2
"Peace, Amid Problems"
by Albert J. Lown

THE ANSWER CORNER

Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

■ **Leviticus 21 refers to a "crooked back." We know a man who is hunchbacked. He says this means he cannot go to the altar, and hence cannot enter heaven. Please comment.**

The passage in Leviticus forbade any descendant of Aaron who had a physical deformity to offer sacrifice as a priest. It has nothing whatever to do with an altar of prayer or with going to heaven.

For that matter, a person doesn't have to go to the altar in order to enter heaven. He has to be saved from his sins through the merit and power of Christ's atoning death and risen life.

God loves a hunchbacked man as surely as He loves Mr. Universe, and Christ died to save both. If your friend will honestly seek the Lord in penitence for sin and prayer for mercy, he

will joyfully discover that the Lord makes him as welcome to the feast of salvation as any other person in the whole wide world.

The resurrection will clothe all Christ's people with perfect bodies, bodies incapable of deformity, disease, or death forever. For that reason, the whole population of heaven will be perfect, whatever their physical condition may have been on earth.

In Jesus' name, God will welcome your friend to a place of prayer and through the gates of pearl! "God will have all men to be saved" (1 Timothy 2:4). □

■ **How can we best explain the difference in the accounts of Saul's conversion given in Acts 9, 22, and 26?**

There are two difficulties.

(1) Acts 9:4 says that Saul "fell to the earth" and 9:7 says that "the men which journeyed with him stood speechless," but 26:14 says, "we were all fallen to the earth."

(2) Acts 9:7 says the men with Saul "stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man," but 22:9 says, "they heard not the voice of him that spake to me."

The first problem is readily solved. Saul's companions got back on their feet right away while Saul remained in a fallen position.

The second matter could mean that

Saul's companions heard the Lord's voice, but only as a sound, without distinguishing it as words. Compare John 12:28, where Jesus heard the Father speaking words from heaven, but "the people that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered."

Or, and this is more likely, 9:7 means that they heard Saul's voice but they did not hear the Lord's voice. They would be mystified by that, much as we are when we overhear someone speaking on a phone but cannot hear what the caller at the other end of the line is saying. □

■ **Should a pastor's salary be neglected for two or more years?**

Indeed not! The *Manual* makes the church board responsible "to determine the amount of salary the pastor shall receive, and to review it at least once a year" (136.7). Reviewing is just as much their duty as determining.

One of our pastors faced a serious dilemma created by the rising cost of living and the failure of the board to review his salary. Without a raise he could not meet his bills, so he could not remain as pastor. For over two years he had waited for the board to take action, but they did not, nor did the district superintendent intervene. Desperate, the pastor met with the

board and discussed the matter openly and frankly with them.

At first this was tense and difficult for both him and the board. But they compelled themselves to discuss the whole matter of his calling, preaching, pastoral service, and his needed financial support in love.

Two things resulted. His salary is now reviewed and upgraded every three months as the church's financial condition permits. And the board never meets without him, even to discuss him. Pastor and board have great mutual love, trust, and openness. □

ters, Tolores, Sharon, and Hazel Jean; 15 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

REV. CLAIR D. WALKER, 79, died Dec. 9 in Mercer, Pa. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dave West. He is survived by his wife, Clara; one son, Ronald; one daughter, Ruth Gray; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one sister; and one brother.

BIRTHS

to KEITH AND MARILYN (GRIFFITHS) BOELK, Bradley, Ill., a boy, Brian Keith, March 20

to LINDELL AND KAY (EMBICK) BROWNING, Anderson, Ind., a girl, Lindsey Danae, Jan. 5

to DR. MELVIN AND SHARON (HAMMERSTROM) CAMPBELL, Rosebud, S.D., a girl, Angela Lynnette, Apr. 30

to RAY AND BENNI (KIRSCHNER) COPELIN, Cheney, Wash., a girl, Christine Lynette, Apr. 30

to ROLLY AND KAREN (HENWOOD) COWAN, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, a boy, Jason William, Jan. 28

to DAVID AND PAT (FOLSOM) CUNNINGTON, Anderson, Ind., a girl, Patricia Dawn, Apr. 25

to BILL AND BECKY (MILLER) ELLIS, Charleston, S.C., a girl, Stephanie Lynn, May 5

to LARRY AND CAROL GRACE, Little Rock, Ark., a boy, Jonathan Curtis, May 3

to ROGER AND DONNA HICKMAN, Little Rock, Ark., a girl, Janie Mitchell, Feb. 26

to REV. STEPHEN AND JOAN (MCCLURE) HOBBS, Virginia, Minn., a boy, Stuart Stephen, May 8

to RANDY AND BONNIE (MULLINS) SCHUNEMAN, Kansas City, Mo., a girl, Jennifer Dawn, Apr. 21

to STEVE AND SUE ANN (LYLE) SEARS, South Bend, Ind., a boy, Andrew Lyle, Apr. 12

to JIM AND TASHIA SIBERT, Little Rock, Ark., a boy, Douglas James, Dec. 28

to REV. MEL AND NANCY (RAWE) SKEEN, Troy, Ida., a girl, Stacie Danielle, May 1

to REV. ROBERT ESLEY AND JOYCE (FENTRESS) SNODGRASS, Beckley, W.Va., a boy, Ryan Esley, Apr. 30

to WAYNE AND KATHY (SIMMONS) THOMAS, Miami, Fla., a boy, Michael Simmons, May 8

ADOPTED

by REV. HAROLD AND SHEILA (SCHUTTER) DeMOTT, Montpelier, Ind., a girl, Gina Lynn, born March 17, 1976; adopted May 3

by CHARLES AND BRENDA HOWELL, Little Rock, Ark., a girl, Jamie Nicole, Dec. 28

by REV. AND MRS. EARL KILPATRICK, Hood River, Ore., a girl, Kayla Sue, born Apr. 4

MARRIAGES

CHERYL A. COULTER and GARY M. BENNETT at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Feb. 18

SUSAN MANNING and DANIEL MARKER at Kettering, Ohio, Apr. 29

BEVERLY KAYE HINDMAN and DEWEY TYRE HAMBLIN at Nashville, June 3

ANNIVERSARIES

REV. AND MRS. HARVEY C. MILLER celebrated their 60th anniversary with open house at their country home near Plano, Ia. Their children were all present: Mr. and Mrs. Ross J. Miller of Franklin Lakes, N.J.; Mr. and Mrs. Glen C. Miller of Long Grove, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. (Willamae) Walter Steele of Honolulu, Hawaii; and Rev. and Mrs. (Ruth) Arthur L. Payne of Longview, Tex. Rev. Miller pastored 55 years in Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri.

DIRECTORIES

BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS—Office: 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131. Orville W. Jenkins, Chairman; Charles H. Strickland, Vice-chairman; Eugene L. Stowe, Secretary; George Coulter; William M. Greathouse; V. H. Lewis.



Bethany Nazarene College student council officers were elected for the 1978-79 academic year. Pictured (l. to r. from bottom) are: Dianna Stuart, secretary, Port Arthur, Tex.; Sharon Johnson, female recreational life, Odessa, Tex.; Jim Thompson, vice-president of student services, Tulsa; Phillip Gunter, president, Beaumont, Tex.; Tim Clem, vice-president of religious life, Cape Girardeau, Mo; Dick Bergland, male recreational life, Longmont, Colo.; Phillip Lindquist, treasurer, Dallas; Clayton Hendershot, vice-president of social life, Broken Arrow, Okla.

NEWS OF REVIVAL

Rolla, Mo.: God was present in every service in our revival with *Rev. Gary Durham* and the *Clarion Trio*. *Rev. Durham* brought messages on holiness that were clear, biblical, and left the door wide open for decision. The music was equally inspiring. Much was accomplished in the lives of our people. □

—L. Dean Thompson, pastor

Culpeper, Va.: The Lord came to us in a mighty way in revival with *Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Passmore*. A man and his wife were sanctified and their four children were saved, three of whom were teenagers and one 11 years old. Two people were reclaimed and two were helped in their spiritual need. We are a home mission church, so we are not big in numbers, but God is real to us. Sunday morning, February 26, we had 19 people and 12 of them were at the altar. □

—Merle Forman, pastor

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Stuart, Okla.: This revival meeting came just at the Lord's timing at the Friendship Church. Even though it was just a weekend, the revival fires are burning. Praise God for evangelists like *Rev. Duane Smith*. □

—Wayne D. Strang, *pastor*

Zephyrhills, Fla., First: *Rev. Morris Wilson* was an effective evangelist for our recent revival. His messages were understandable, and people minded the Holy Spirit night after night. Our attendance was excellent. There were 35 people saved, 55 sanctified, and 20 people were reclaimed. □

—James H. Errickson, *pastor*

Flint, Mich., Central: This was a most unusual revival because the work done was so far-reaching. With the *pastor* preaching, the high attendance was 731 on the last Sunday morning. The low attendance was 268 on Monday night, with an average attendance of 470. In the 10 services, there were 267 seekers. The *Singing Neffs* supplied the music for the meeting. □

—John Z. Andree, *pastor*

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.: We had a church revival at Faith Church with *Rev. Dennis Wyrick*. His messages were Spirit-filled and relevant to our day. Refreshing rains from heaven poured out upon the people. They had been praying, "God, give us a revival." As pastor I had been praying, "Lord, give me a revival in my own heart." Praise the Lord, it happened! It was a beautiful sight to see people kneeling at the altar and going back in the congregation and asking others to forgive them for things that had been said. People made restitution. I thank God for a church that has faced the crisis head on and is looking to the greatest future of all times. □

—Charles E. Morton, *pastor*

Magic Valley, Ida.: The Magic Valley Indoor Holiness Camp Meeting, February, 1978, was a remarkable success. The special workers were *Dr. Charles H. Strickland*, general superintendent, and *Ron and Myrtlebel Lush*. *Dr. Strickland* shared from a heart of compassion, love, and tears. Because of the interest shown, the day services were continued through Saturday instead of concluding Friday. *Ron and Myrtlebel Lush* ministered night after night and through the day services in their inimitable way. The closing service was crowned with many victories as people filled the altar. The seven churches in Magic Valley supported and attended this meeting. Churches and pastors included *Filer, Ida., church, Pastor Roan Maurice; Kimberly, Ida., church, Pastor Melvin Rayburn; Rupert, Ida., church, Pastor Gary Moore; Jerome, Ida., church, Pastor Floyd Young; Buhl, Ida., church, Pastor Gene Hansen; Gooding, Ida., church, Pastor Charles Jackson; and Twin Falls, Ida., church, Pastor Joe Chastain*. District Superintendent *Hoyle Thomas* also attended some of the services. □

Sayre, Okla.: We had a good revival with *Evangelist Joe Norton* of Hamlin, Tex., and *E. Bruce Wade* of Dallas in charge of the music. The church really felt the revival spirit and many were helped. □

—Charles R. Ferguson, *pastor*

Anderson, Ind.: East 38th Street Church held its first indoor camp meeting recently. *Thurl Mann* and *Garnald Dennis* shared the preaching responsibilities; and *Larry Leckrone* was in charge of music. Converts from the meeting are already becoming members, and taking part in the life of the church. □

—Raymond Hann, *pastor*

ALBERT LOWN HONORED BY WESTERN EVANGELICAL SEMINARY

Western Evangelical Seminary, Portland, Ore., conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity on *Rev. Albert J. Lown*, Nazarene evangelist of Yorkshire, England, at their commencement exercises, May 26.



Dr. Lown has held numerous evangelistic campaigns and lecture series in the United States, Canada, and the British Isles. Ordained in 1936, he pastored for 40 years in England, Scotland, and Ireland. In 1973 he resigned his pastorate of the London Thomas Memorial Church of the Nazarene to give his full time to evangelism.

Dr. Lown will be the speaker on "Showers of Blessing" during July, August, and September of this year.

He and *Mrs. Lown* have one daughter and two sons: *Mrs. Margaret Evans*, Guildford, England; *Dr. John Lown*, religion professor at Point Loma College, San Diego, Calif.; and *Peter Lown*, Edmonton, Alta., Canada. □

—NCN



Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, general superintendent, and *Rev. Robert Scott*, Southern California district superintendent, were the special speakers in the dedication of the multi-purpose facility—educational building and Highland Preschool—of the Alta Loma, Calif., Foothill Communities Church. The service was held on March 19, 1978. The 10 acres of land, owned debt-free by the church, came as a gift of 5 acres from Upland, Calif., First Church layman *Dwight Decker*, and another 5 acres was purchased and deeded to the church by the Southern California District. Two 5,100 sq. ft. buildings of Spanish architecture grace the property. One building is used for Sunday school education and also houses Highland Preschool. The other facility contains a 348-seat sanctuary/174-seat banquet room, plus church office, kitchen, and nursery use. The buildings were constructed for a total cost of \$320,000. Over \$70,000 was donated labor from members and friends of the church. Total indebtedness is \$210,000. The church was officially organized March 7, 1976, with 79 charter members. It now has a membership of 149. *Jim Hamilton* is the senior pastor of the church.

by GENE E. AHLSTROM
San Fernando, Calif.

Back After Twenty Years

IT WAS a Wednesday night following prayer meeting, while testifying to Jehovah's Witnesses at the local supermarket, that I first met a new friend. As a bystander, interested in my testimony and knowledge of the Bible, John asked me what church I was associated with. After offering various facts about myself, John shared that he had grown up in the Nazarene Church back in Blackwell, Okla.

I made it a point to stop by the market and talk with John, usually after the service Wednesday night. After three or four encounters I met his wife, Pam, and their four children. After a mutually profitable conversation, I invited them to church.

God began working as we prayed. The next Sunday, Pam and the children were in Sunday school and both services. John came with his family the second Sunday.

Having shared the plan of salvation with Pam both at the church and in our home, the third week she accepted the Lord. It

was the following Sunday, after well over 20 years of wandering, that John got back to God.

Doing "Basic Bible Studies," Pam wrote, "I used to smoke, drink, curse, scream at my children, and feel hate for my neighbors and for some of my relatives. I accepted the Lord into my heart—I don't smoke, drink, curse, or feel hate anymore. There is peace in our home; at last I feel kindness and understanding for our friends and relatives. The hate has been replaced by love." What a living testimony of the truth found in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

John and Pam joined the church the fifth Sunday, and they are growing in Christ. God is still in the business of converting the lost to himself. Thinking back on these recent victories, it became clear to me that it still takes old-fashioned "get out to where the people are" evangelism in building Christ's Church. □

**"By All Means . . .
Save Some"**



Pictured (l. to r.) are the first recipients of the D.Min. degree from Nazarene Theological Seminary: Dr. and Mrs. James T. Christy; Dr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Tinker; and Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Wilson. Dr. E. LeBron Fairbanks could not be present for the ceremony.

NTS AWARDS FIRST D.MIN. DEGREES

At commencement exercises on May 22, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Cleveland Chiropractic College, Nazarene Theological Seminary gave its first Doctor of Ministry degree since the program's inception in 1976. Four candidates completed the requirements and successfully passed an oral exam before a faculty committee.

The degrees were awarded to Rev. James T. Christy, pastor at Greeley, Colo.; Rev. E. LeBron Fairbanks, dean and professor of practics at European Nazarene Bible College in Switzerland; Rev. Thomas G. Tinker, pastor of Calvary Church, Joplin, Mo.; and Rev. Ronald Wilson, pastor at Sacramento, Calif., Trinity Church.

The two-year professional degree program is based on guidelines posted by the Association of Theological Schools for the D.Min. course of study. There are currently 10 other candidates at various stages of completion in this doctoral degree program, under the direction of Dr. Willard H. Taylor, dean and director of advanced studies. The president of Nazarene Theological Seminary is Dr. Stephen W. Nease, who has served since July, 1976. □

CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER BEGUN

By a mail vote the General Board has approved the plans of the Department of Education and the Ministry and the Finance Committee to build a building at the International Headquarters complex, west of the seminary parking lot and as far north of the library building as possible.

The building will be of brick veneer, approximately 50 by 100 feet. It will house 40 persons, in addition to a three-room apartment, a check-in office, two classrooms, a lounge, and a laundry room. Estimated cost of the building and furniture is \$508,000. It will be financed by a loan from other than General Budget funds.

Plans anticipate that the building will pay for itself and maintenance

over a period of 30 years. The possible use projection includes 25 one-week long continuing education seminars per year; General Board housing; Doctor of Ministry candidate housing; housing for new seminary students, two weeks at the beginning of the school year; district superintendents' continuing education seminar; commission meetings; world mission conferences and/or training; chaplains' school; associate pastors; specialized groups for home mission training; evangelists' training; and various board meetings.

Construction is to begin soon and the building to be completed by late fall, 1978, with dedication at the time of the General Board meeting of January, 1979. □

—NCN

PLANNING FOR 1980 GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGINS

Members of the General Arrangements Committee for the Twentieth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene met in Kansas City, May 23 to organize and begin planning for the quadrennial business and inspirational gathering of the international denomination.

Dr. Milton Parrish, district superintendent of the Kansas City district, was elected chairman; Dr. B. Edgar Johnson, general secretary of the denomination, was elected secretary of the committee. Other members are Dr. Norman Miller, general treasurer; Dr. M. A. Lunn, manager of Nazarene Publishing House; and Rev. James Ingalls, pastor of Kansas City First Church. Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, secretary of the Board of General Superintendents, is advisor to the committee.

The General Assembly Commission has selected Kansas City as the site

EASTER OFFERING REPORT

The final report of the 1978 Easter Offering has just been released by Dr. Norman O. Miller, general church treasurer. Our people gave a total of \$5,563,721.43 for World Evangelism. Although this amount falls short of the goal of \$5,600,000, it is the largest single offering in our history! To God we give praise!

On behalf of the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene, we express our gratitude to Nazarenes around the world for your faithful support of this significant offering. □

—William M. Greathouse for the Board of General Superintendents

for the assembly. Previously, general assemblies in Kansas City in 1952, '56, '60, and '68 met in the Municipal Auditorium. The 1980 sessions will be held in the Roe Bartle Auditorium and the Municipal Auditorium, which have a combined seating potential of 31,000. □

—NCN

HONORARY DEGREES PRESENTED BY NAZARENE COLLEGES AT COMMENCEMENT 1978

Thirteen honorary degrees were presented by seven Nazarene colleges during commencement exercises this spring. They are:

Eastern Nazarene College, the Doctor of Divinity degree to Paul Mangum; the Doctor of Science to William Babcock.

Mid-America Nazarene College, Doctor of Divinity degrees to Richard Zanner and C. Marselle Knight; the Doctor of Literature to Maurine Dickerson.

Mount Vernon Nazarene College, the Doctor of Divinity degree to James R. Blankenship, and the Doctor of Letters to George Jetter.

Northwest Nazarene College, the Doctor of Divinity degree to Carl B. Clendenen, Jr.

Olivet Nazarene College, the Doctor of Divinity degree to Harry T. Stanley, and the Doctor of Letters to Seldon D. Kelly.

Point Loma College, the Doctor of Letters degree to Senator Mark O. Hatfield.

Trevecca Nazarene College, the Doctor of Letters degree to William Knowles, and the Doctor of Divinity degree to Millard Reed.

A wide range of national and church leaders were scheduled as speakers at the commencement exercises:

Bethany Nazarene College, Dr. John R. Dellenback.

Eastern Nazarene College, Dr. Eugene L. Stowe.

Mid-American Nazarene College, Dr. Orville W. Jenkins.

Mount Vernon Nazarene College, Dr. Edward S. Mann.

Northwest Nazarene College, Dr. Edward S. Mann.

Olivet Nazarene College, Dr. David L. McKenna.

Point Loma College, Senator Mark O. Hatfield.

Trevecca Nazarene College, Dr. Homer J. Adams.

Nazarene Theological Seminary, Dr. Eugene L. Stowe.

Nazarene Bible College, Dr. John A. Knight.

Canadian Nazarene College, Dr. Robert Collier. □

—NCN

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