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MISSIONARY REVIVALIST SELECTIONS

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THE FATALITY OF NEUTRALISM By J. E. Cook

"How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow . him." 1 Kings 18:21

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve; . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

Neutralism is an innocent-sounding, non-belligerent philosophy made popular today because it takes no stand on fixed standards of right and wrong. In taking no stand, then it cannot be blamed whatever the outcome. But while it appears to be neutral, the results are that wrong is strengthened and right suffers. Those in authority tell us that the Neutral Nations are really strengthening Communism because of their lack of courage to take a stand against the wrong.

Neutralism has invaded many realms of life today but perhaps its most vicious attack is upon the moral a n d spiritual realm. "Neither hot nor cold," is the indictment of the Saviour against Laodicea with its lukewarmness and compromise. Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Matt. 6:24.

In view of conditions today, how can the minister who is called of God hold his peace? Will he play the role of the neutral to get financial and moral support? Will he shade his message to be accepted by the populace? To follow this course is to murder his conscience, muffle his ministry, mislead the people, and in the end, lose his soul. The people that continue to follow compromise, liberalism and worldliness is to ultimately surrender all that is worthwhile and thus make it easier for friends and loved ones to drift down the broad way to destruction.

The issues were never so sharp. The need for men and women and young people to stand for old-fashioned Holiness of heart and life is now. The end-time is upon us. The shades of night are falling. Compromise is in full swing. God give us the courage to stand like Joshua even though we are in the minority. It will inspire others to say, "We will serve the Lord." And we will leave an influence that "he being dead yet speaketh."

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A VOICE FROM THE PAST

"The whole Christian movement sprang out of the old conditions like a bird out of its shell, and yet was persecuted to death by the old church. But, finding new life in death, springing up out of its own ashes, rising out of its own blood, it conquered its way. There is something marvelously strange in the history of the Christian Church. Persecuted, bleeding, she draws strength as from her own blood, and, by the hand of God, puts on power in the midst of weakness. But, becoming strong, powerful, influential, she in turn, becomes the oppressor, and persecutes the same truth for which she has been persecuted. Her triumph becomes the strength of the oppressor. Thus, has history over and over again repeated itself." -- P. F. Bresee. A Prince in Israel, page 358.

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TV CAN CAUSE EPILEPTIC SEIZURES

A pair of Swedish researchers reported in one of Sweden's medical journals on the possibility of epileptic seizures being induced by watching television. As seen in the Journal of the American Medical Association (January 30, 1960), the Swedes reported three cases of epileptic response to television in girls aged respectively 12, 13 and 14 years. This was one of several write-ups which have appeared recently remarking on the effect of television on those prone to epilepsy.

The Roche Report (May 1, 1961) told of five similar cases which were, reported in The Lancet (January 28, 1961). The ages of those affected varied from childhood to middle age. In 1951, says the Roche Report, Dr. Samuel Livingston of Johns Hopkins Hospital told of three children "who had their first convulsive seizure while watching a television show."

There is a historic precedent for this reaction by epileptics to the light of a television screen. In ancient times many prospective slave buyers insisted that the slaves be forced to look at the flickering of light that accompanied the spinning of a potter's wheel or a chariot wheel. It was presumed that any tendency toward epilepsy would quickly show itself during such a test.

No one appears able to answer the obvious question: why should such a violent reaction occur? However, that this is a genuine cause and effect relationship in some persons cannot be denied.

The Roche Report, borrowing from The Lancet, told of a housewife, aged 42 years, who could be induced into seizures experimentally. There was no history of epilepsy, and examinations showed her to be generally normal, even neurologically speaking. She described how she had been distressed while watching TV to see thick bars moving from top to bottom on her screen -- a phenomenon most TV viewers have experienced. As she attempted to adjust the set, she lost consciousness and suffered what was termed "a major epileptic seizure."

Three other patients described in the Lancet article had similar stories to tell. Fits were provoked after fairly prolonged and close.

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THE INSOLUBLENESS OF HOLINESS

The dictionary defines the word insoluble as "incapable of being dissolved or loosened; indissoluble."

There is a sense in which holiness of heart is insoluble. It will not dissolve. It will not mix. It will not conform 'to its surroundings. It maintains its original characteristics and preserves its identity.

Real holiness will not melt under the pressure of persecution, criticism, ostracism, martyrdom or death. It stands the test, keeps sweet in the midst of opposition and will not dissolve and mix with bitterness of soul, unkindness, politics, bickering or retaliation.

A holy heart makes one a nonconformist in relation to the world. Holiness will not conform to the surroundings of the environment of this present wicked world. "And be not conformed-to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Rom, 12:1) Recently we heard a beautiful young lady tell how God gave her grace and courage to take her stand in a large high school by refusing to wear the immodest gym clothing during the physical education class. When she testified to the Principal and told him of the condemnation that she felt when she thought of disrobing herself like the rest of the class, he was so convicted that he could not lift up his eyes and look her in the face.

Holiness will not mix with worldliness. We are heart sick when we see professors of holiness hobnobbing with the world, courting its favor, coveting its smiles and lusting after its cheap thrills, while at the Same time they turn a cold shoulder to the old-fashioned crowd who still believe that holiness requires a separation from the world with all its pleasures, fads and fashions. When people are fascinated by the opera, the television, the movie, ball games, skating, rinks, bowling alleys, golf links, and amusement parks, it is evident that they either never had a real experience of holiness or have lost it. Those who fuss against the standards of separation from the course of the world have already succumbed to the subtle infiltration of carnality. A holy woman does not quibble over the fact that she must have long hair and leave off jewelry and make-up. The question with her is not how long the sleeves must be or the dress, etc. The only question in her heart is, "How can I be more Christ-like and-bring honour and glory to Him?" "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in

him, „For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (I John 2:15-16)

It is strange to see some who claim to be people of God getting along so well with the world. When worldly, modernistic, communist infiltrated, accrediting associations bestow honors on schools that were once red hot for God and holiness, obviously, the offense of the Cross has ceased. Worldly honor and recognition is a dangerous thing for holiness people. Better far to be different enough to have the smile of God than to conform to the world and have its backing. Jesus never had the backing of the Sanhedrin, the Pharisees or the world. The apostles did not have the favor of the world. Wesley did not have it and neither can we if we keep true to God and holiness. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (II Timothy 3:12)

People who are so blind as to see no harm in worldliness are farther down the road of apostasy than they have spiritual discernment to see. The holy man or woman cannot adjust to this world system. Those who can willfully support the National Council of Churches and who are content with the present world order and the spirit of the Anti-Christ that is already at work in the world will miss the rapture and will have little trouble adjusting to the requirements of the mark of the beast when the time comes. If they could not afford to bear the cross and be different when it was comparatively easy to take the old-fashioned way, they certainly will not have courage to say "no" to their environments during the awful tribulation.

Holiness maintains its characteristics. It is ever reaching out to be a witness to the lost. The promise is, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me." The power within makes one plan campaigns, preach sermons, intercede in prayer, sing and testify. All of life becomes one continuous consistent witness for Christ. Can you imagine holiness preachers having time to learn hula dances or show film strips on Sunday nights while a poor world reels on its way to hell? There is no such thing as indolent, lazy, burdenless, visionless, compassionless holiness!

Inconsistency in any realm of living mars the witness here. We know a man who is a wonderful preacher, a great speaker and tremendous radio man. In camps and conventions he will preach holiness but we have never heard him sound a clear holiness note on his radio program. Of course, by being vague and indefinite on second blessing holiness, he keeps the financial support of the tongues people, the Calvinists, etc. But we cannot understand how a man with the blessing of heart purity can keep from sending forth the message plain and clear to the multitudes that his programs reach.

In its dispositions holiness remains the same. There are many who seek to force themselves to be gentle, patient, meek and forbearing. They feel that they just must be victorious and they resolve: "I won't get angry again, I will not be unkind, severe, critical, or wrong spirited." But with all their efforts they fail because the experience of holiness that maintains its beautiful characteristics is not there. One must be holy before he can practice holiness. The Holy Spirit is the bestower of grace. If one is patient, meek or forbearing, it is because the Holy Ghost within causes him to be. In nature there is no resistance to the divine command. God simply says, "Let there be," and it is. In the soul of man there must be a consent of the will that God may cause us to walk in His statutes and keep His judgments and do them. When we consent, God says: "Let there be goodness, meekness, gentleness, forbearance," and they are. And as long as one will keep

submitted these characteristics abide. The holy man is resigned and restful in sorrow, suffering and sacrifice. In every trial he is more than conqueror.

Holiness maintains its identity to the end. The writer of the Hebrews exhorts, "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." (Heb. 13:13) Holiness has always suffered reproach from the world. But the reproach that we bear here will be the mark of distinction and glory when Christ shall appear to catch away His bride. Jesus is coming back to receive His own. He has promised to come. He will not be late. He will be right on time to rapture His saints out of the world before the tribulation breaks in its fury.

The hour is late for the world, the outlook is dark and gloomy but for those who keep their identity as holy people the uplook is bright. We must not lose our identity now. The five foolish virgins did not have oil in their vessels with their lamps. Oil is a type of the Holy Spirit. Their lights went out before the Bridegroom came, they lost their identity and could not be distinguished from the darkness. If we keep the faith now; if we refuse to compromise with sin; if we hold fast to the way of righteousness in this day of wickedness and keep the victory burning in Our hearts Jesus will recognize us when He comes! If we confess Him before this sinful and adulterous generation, He will confess us before the Father and the holy angels. "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." (Matt, 24:37) Noah did not conform to the world. He did not adjust. He was a preacher of righteousness. He built an ark to the saving of his household.

The flood destroyed the world but not one drop of rain fell on Noah! Lot was delivered out of Sodom before one cinder of fire or brimstone fell. Hallelujah! Jesus said, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:36) If our experience of holiness is insoluble to the world of sin; if we keep it untarnished and shining brightly, when Jesus comes to make up His jewels, we shall be numbered as one of His own! "Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." (Zephaniah 2:3) "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." (Isa. 26:20-21)

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A HEAVENLY VISION OR PERISH by Paul Pumpelly

"I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." "Where there is no vision the people perish." A church once had this for their motto and a large letter sign hung on the wall. After years of dust and cob webs the letter "W" fell from the wall and it then read, "Here there is no vision the people perish." The Holy Spirit plainly said, no vision then perish. It does not matter what we say or do to the contrary, it is still "Where there is no vision the people perish." Paul said he was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. In the context of this scripture is the heavenly vision. Paul saw Christ. He saw Him who was crucified and dead and buried -- but he saw Him ALIVE. He saw

Him seated at the right of the Father making intercession for the saints; those whom Paul had helped murder and imprison. Paul saw Christ Jesus alive. Then he saw the Gentile world lost, in darkness and blind and doomed. The vision was to take this living Saviour to the heathen. This vision is still the same today. When God calls a preacher, it is to obey this same vision. Every layman, every church, every effort must be to the heavenly vision.

God had something to do with the beginning of the Bible Missionary Church. And since He did then we are under obligation to produce something for Him. The Lord has not confined Himself to any one denomination, but He has confined Himself to this Heavenly vision. And if we are to have Him we must obey this vision or perish. If we obey, this little "raft" we are on will have the touch of the Supernatural. Someone said the ship we were on quit the heavenly vision and went picnicing. We jumped aboard this little "raft." We have already been through a typhoon and one hurricane. We lost one, we lost two, but thank God we are still afloat and LAND is now in sight. It won't be long until we will be on shore forever. God help us to land many a soul. God help us to obey this heavenly vision.

We can either obey or disobey. If we disobey, then we will have to stoop to the beggar type ways of the world. We will entertain the folk, picnic them and dine them and give them some funny little jokes to laugh and a lolly-pop if they come to Sunday School. But if we obey the heavenly vision, then we will fast, pray, sacrifice, labor day and night. We will be found all over the church groaning, giving, going, praying, trying to get Christ Jesus to every heathen. Get their eyes open, get them out of darkness to the light, get them to repent to be forgiven and then get them sanctified by faith. Thank God, that is the vision and we must obey it or perish. Paul obeyed and so can we as a church. Paul was in fasting often. Why? The vision. See Paul horse whipped in the street. Paul, why? Why? He answers, the vision, the vision. I must obey. They stone him and leave him for dead. Why, Paul? The vision. There he is in jail and hungry and thirsty. Why? The vision. He is lied on, falls among false brethren, despised, hated, thrown to the beast of Ephesus, shipwrecked, suffers, led to the chopping block. Why? the vision . . . I must obey that vision. The Bible Missionary Church has this same obligation. We must do it or perish. I don't know what all will be our lot, whether dungeons, sufferings or what but this I know, if we stay alive we must obey. New churches must be born, district moderators, evangelists, pastors, laymen -- all involved in this obedience. None exempted.

Brother and Sister Todd on Barbados -- I want to see them stay there because of me and not in spite of me. Brother James on St. Vincent Island trying to reach those souls. I want to see him fully supported to be free to give all his time obeying this heavenly vision. I want to see the corps of workers to the Navajo Indians succeed because of me and not in spite of me. The vision I must obey. What would you do if the Lord sent you \$1,000.00? Some of you would head for a secluded beach in Florida and live it up. I asked Brother Johnson what he would do and he said he would pay up his pledges so he could make some more. But I don't know why the Lord should send you \$1,000.00 when you don't even give of what you now have. No vision -, perish. We are a special church, a special people, so we have a special offering to do a special chore for a special need to obey a special vision. Glory. Separate missions from us and we perish. If we fail to realize this we check the strongest spiritual impulse of our church. A spiritual church is a missionary church and a missionary church is a spiritual church.

Paul did not wait until all the world problems were solved before he set out to obey this heavenly vision. He saw that opposition just bred opportunity. There is British Guyana with its some 800,000 outstretched hands to us and we send Brother Todd who extends as it were one lone finger and that from Barbados. Brother James is sent -- one lone native worker to the some 75,000 souls on St. Vincent Island. Our little group hanging on the edge of that Navajo Reservation of some 85,000 souls. Sr. Holstein with beckoning hand to India. Brother Bankston who looks at us from the highlands from his grass hut.: Yes, we seem so puny to such a great task, but thank God we are doing and by His help will do more. Do you have this vision? Do you see it? A good resolution to do something about it is a hopeful step to begin obedience to the heavenly vision upon -- but unless it carry you forward and discover itself in some real and sensible effect it is still only a principle of obedience but cannot be called obedience itself. Paul said, "for this cause (the vision) the Jews caught me in the temple and went about to kill me. Having obtained help from God I CONTINUE UNTO THIS DAY WITNESSING." May God help us to continue and not get so confined to our own little work we disobey the heavenly vision. We must make land and have a whole raft load of folk with us when we get ashore. The vision is the heart throb of the church. No vision, no heart. O God, am I obedient to the vision You called the Bible Missionary Church to fulfill?

I see some who were swept off our little raft are now on another raft. May God bless them and keep them afloat if they too obey this vision. But I can't ride all the rafts -- so I'll do my best to keep this one afloat and desperately pull all out of the waves I can. The vision; the vision or perish!

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THE POSSIBILITY OF TOTAL APOSTASY

By Rev. A. M. Hills

Part Two

III. Let us now consider the texts by which the possibility of a true believer so falling from grace, as to perish everlastingly, is plainly taught.

1. "But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? None of his righteous deeds that he hath done shall be remembered; in his trespass, that he hath trespassed, and in this sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die" (Ezek. 18:24, It. V.).

2. This is restated in verse 26, "when the righteous man turneth away from his righteousness and committeth iniquity, and dieth therein [temporal death]; in his iniquity that he hath done shall he die" (Ezek. 18:26, It. V.) Here is death eternal.

3." Neither shall he that is righteous be able to live thereby in the day that he sinneth. When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live; if he trust to his righteousness and commit iniquity,

none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered but in his iniquity that he hath committed, herein shall he die [eternally]. When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die therein" (Ezek. 33:12, 13, 18, R. V.).

4. "Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men" (Matt. 5:13).

5. "I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch and is withered; and men gather them and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

This is so plain that it ought not to need any comment. (1) The persons spoken of are living branches of the True Vine, Christ Jesus. (2) But some of these living branches by the misuse of their moral freedom, refuse to abide in Christ. (3) And are cast forth. (4) And wither, so that they are not put back in the vine again. (5) But are gathered and burned. How could words more strongly teach that those who are now living branches of the true Vine may separate themselves from Christ and perish forever?

6. "Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in, Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: for if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them that fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness; otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." Here the ancient Hebrew believers were the branches, but were broken off by unbelief; and the Gentile Christians stand by faith, that are now grafted in. You Gentile Christians can have a continuance of God's salvation "if thou continue in his goodness; otherwise thou also shalt be cut off!" Here their salvation is declared to be conditional; and, instead of foolishly, carelessly believing the devil's lie, "Once in grace, always in grace," "fear! fear! otherwise thou also shalt be cut off." It is even thus possible for you to so apostatize as to perish everlastingly. No teaching could be more unmistakable.

7. "Son Timothy... war a good warfare; holding faith and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck" (1 Tim. 1:18, 19). This passage teaches (1) That some have a faith that begets a good conscience and purifies the heart. (2) They thrust it from them (R. V.). (3) It makes shipwreck of their salvation. A shipwreck is a fatal loss. The apostle speaks of one of them Alexander, as lost forever (2 Tim. 4:14).

8. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame" (Heb. 6:4-6).

These figures describing Christians are so common in the New Testament (Eph. 1:18; 2 Cor. 4:6; 1 Peter 2:3) that there can be no doubt that these verses describe an exalted Christian experience.

"But," Calvinists have argued, "the apostle only makes a supposition, if they shall fall away,' but they never do." We answer "That is the old version, made by robust Calvinists a long time ago, probably to support their doctrine. But the scholarly John Wesley pointed out, one hundred and fifty years ago, that there is no "if," in the Greek. A modern Greek testament is before me that confirms Wesley; "Here is not a supposition, but a plain fact. The Greek is an aorist participle, 'having fallen away.' " This scripture then teaches, as plainly as language can do it, that those who have been converted and sanctified, still may so fall away as to perish everlastingly. The Revised Version reads, "And (then) fell away."

9. "For, if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses law died without mercy under two or three witnesses; of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" (Heb. 10:26-29)

From this striking scripture the following undeniable inferences may be drawn. (1) The person was "Sanctified by the blood of Christ." (2) He afterward by willful sin trod under foot the Son of God, treating His authority and person with utter contempt as did the Jews at His crucifixion. (3) He rejected the atonement "as an unholy thing." (4) He insulted and blasphemed the Holy Spirit, thus committing a fatal sin. (5) He thus deserved a sorer punishment than temporal death, namely, death eternal.

Be it observed, this is not true of all backsliding. One can fall from grace without losing respect for Christ and confidence in the value of this atonement. The door of mercy is still open for the return of such a one to the fold.

But there is a fall that goes so deep into willful sin as to spurn Christ with rejecting contempt, and blaspheme the Holy Spirit. A sin that crosses the dead line and "hath never forgiveness." (To Be Continued) -- From the Herald of Holiness

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

By Mrs. Paul King,
Box 382, Lima, Ohio

THANKSGIVING TURKEY

"I'll never believe in God unless He sends us a big fat turkey for Thanksgiving," Peggy said sarcastically to Mary Alice as they walked home from school.

The air was crisp and cold. For a long time neither of the girls spoke. It was Mary Alice who broke the intense silence.

"Peggy," she began, "We're poor too. Too poor to ever have turkey at our house, but that doesn't stop me from believing in God. I know there's a God; that's the God I serve. He lives in my heart and He's with me all the time. Why last Thanksgiving He helped Peter catch two rabbits in his traps and we had a delicious stuffed rabbit dinner. I don't need turkey to make me know there's a God, and you don't either," the pleasant, smiling lass added.

"That's what you think?" Peggy said tartly. "Maybe you've never really liked turkey and in that case it wouldn't matter at all to you; but I happen to love it, and I know with Dad out of a job we'll just not have any again, and I . . . I . . . I'll never believe in God unless He sends us a turkey," she added emphatically.

"You should be thankful you have a Dad," Mary Alice said softly; then as a tear fell unashamed down her soft rosy cheek she continued:

"Just because the Lord took daddy from us, and because we're too poor to have turkey at all anymore, doesn't make me disbelieve God. Why these things only make us love Him more."

Peggy said nothing as her heart smote her for her selfishness. Only too well she realized the truth of Mary Alice's words.

The two friends parted at the forks of the road. As Mary Alice made her way to the warmth of the kitchen she determined what she would do. Mother met her at the door, then giving her a gentle pat she asked,

"How's my girl this evening? Did you have a good day in school today?" Then, noticing her sober expression she gently asked, "What's bothering you dear?"

"It's Peggy, mother. She says she'll never believe in God unless He sends them a big fat turkey for Thanksgiving."

"Well, what's so bothersome about that?" Mother asked brightly. "This is a small matter for our God dear. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills, so it looks like one turkey isn't too big," and a heavenly smile played across her face as she said it.

"Oh, mother!" Mary Alice began, "You always make everything seem so possible and easy when you talk like this."

"Is there anything too hard for the Lord? Remember Who said this?" Mother asked. "The Angel said that to Abraham and Sara when Isaac was promised; and then it's in Jeremiah too," the child said brightly.

"That's right dear. I'm glad you remembered; and now, is there anything too hard for the Lord? Even a turkey for the Woodlaws?"

"No," Mary Alice said softly, "and mother, that's a dead turkey already! I don't know where it's coming from but God's going to send a turkey to Peggy's house."

"We must do this only for His glory dear, no other motive at all," mother said sweetly.

"For Thy glory, and in Jesus' name we ask these things. Amen." Mary Alice prayed in family worship that night as she brought her prayer to a close. Her heart beat with great excitement as she thought of Thanksgiving only three days away, yet she had real confidence in God. He had been taking such good care of mother, Peter and herself since daddy died a year ago and He wasn't going to fail her this time! Hebrews said, 'He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him.' Her heart found sweetest rest and repose in the Promise, and somehow, somewhere a turkey was as good as dead.

She was awakened by the soft tinkling of a melody played on the water glasses as mother carried them from the cupboard to the breakfast table. She heard the tea kettle singing a soft, muted song as the steam blew out of the spout in warm puffs of vapors. A good feeling enveloped her small body as she quickly dressed. Then, noticing the window panes all frosted over with beautiful leaf and fern patterns by the cold night air, she ran lightly down the stairs

"Has He sent it yet mother? Has He? Did Peter catch any in his traps?" and Mary Alice was all questions; her big blue eyes shining like two bright diamonds.

"Only be patient dear," was mother's soft comment. "HE will send it, but maybe not by Peter's traps.,

"But how, mother? How else would He?" asked the curious child.

"That's not for us to worry about Mary Alice; it's ours to believe. No matter how He sends it; but He will send it. He said, 'All things, whatsoever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them.' So He'll send that turkey in on time. Let's not get over anxious. His time isn't our time dear."

"But Mother, Thanksgiving's only... " began Mary Alice. "I know it's only two days away honey, but God has plenty of time. Only believe." The sky was leaden gray and the air seemed warmer as Mary Alice and Peter went to the woodshed for wood. It seemed the old wood-box was always hungry and never full; especially since mother was baking hickory and walnut fruit cakes, mincemeat and pumpkin pies, but the spicy aroma of the baked goods, along with the warmth of the steaming tea kettle and big round braided rug in front of the stove, were big compensations for the children's tired, aching arms.

Peter sat wearily down in the big wing back rocking chair and closing his eyes he half spoke and half whispered, "I know You will do it."

"What did you say Peter?" Mother asked as she slipped another fan-tan roll into the well buttered muffin pan.

"Oh, I was just thinking of that turkey and how good it would taste if we had one too." "We must not be selfish Peter. We believe in God and worship Him because we love Him, but the Woodlaws know little about Him as yet. We must pray for them. We have a little side pork that I can cook with some beans for our Thanksgiving dinner. That will be wonderful fare with these rolls and the other baked goods I have," Mother said sweetly.

Just then Mary Alice let out a loud squeal of delight. "It's snowing! Oh, goody, goody! Peter, perhaps we can go sledding today yet."

"The way this is coming down we may have a deep snow," Mother said as she parted the bright yellow calico kitchen curtains and looked out.

It snowed all day, and throughout the entire night the soft, downy white flakes sifted earthward. When Peter and Mary Alice looked out their windows the next morning they gazed upon a fairyland of snow eiderdown that glistened and gleamed like myriads of diamonds and jewels. The pond was frozen over and covered with a thick white blanket; the apple tree cradled the soft white stuff gently in its long slender boughs while the barn roof looked like the fluffy frosting on grandma's cakes. The whole earth was pure and clean looking.

Peter, dressed in warm woollens and heavy boots, dragged his feet through the soft, thick carpet on the ground, making a small trail from the house to the barn. Just as he reached the cow stalls he noticed something strange in the open implement shed. Very quietly, and softly he stood there, gazing unbelievably at what met his eyes. Ever so gently he pulled the doors inward, then locking them securely he raced back to the kitchen and mother, his milk pail swinging in great excitement.

"Mother! Mary Alice!" he shouted as he rushed into the kitchen, "God sent them! They're here! They're here!"

"Who's here, Peter Smith?" Mary Alice asked. "Who'd ever come in this kind of weather?"

"The Turkeys. God sent them; four of them! Imagine! He sent them into our implement shed. Oh, Mother, come see," the excited lad exclaimed.

"Truly this is more than I asked of Him," Mother said tearfully and joyously, "but He always gives good and abundant measure."

"Come. See them! I closed the door so they can't get out. I'll milk Belle and Jan after I show you," Peter urged.

Donning hats and coats the trio made their way out the narrow foot trail Peter had made with his feet, until they came to the barn. Upon seeing the turkeys mother said softly, "Thank Thee Lord for sending the turkeys. The Woodlaws shall have one and we too, shall have one, with two to spare." And the tears of gratitude began to fall down her comely cheeks.

"Where did they come from?" Mary Alice questioned at the breakfast table.

"Only from God," was mother's quick reply. "He permitted the snow to come so they'd go in search of-food, and He sent them to the shed where there's plenty of grain. Yes, God sent them here."

"Peggy shall see what a great and wonderful God we're serving," Mary Alice remarked the next morning as mother stuffed two plump turkeys with her favorite dressing.

Peter and Mary Alice tied the pan with one of the big turkeys in it, on the sled, then carefully loading a pumpkin and mincemeat pie on the rear end of the sled they started for the Woodlaws.

The snow had drifted the previous night and lay in great, high drifts over the country side. Their feet made crisp, crunchy sounds, and when the Woodlaw home came into full view the children were breathless with excitement. The smoke from the chimney curled lazily upward, then vanished into a thin vapor; the smell of wood smoke filled the pure air and before the two could knock the door burst open and Peggy ran out to meet her two friends.

"It's here Peggy!" Mary Alice said, "God sent you a turkey and us one too. You must never doubt Him again; it's such a sinful thing to do."

"Please, Mary Alice, forgive me. I need Jesus. I've been so miserable since I said that to you. I feel I'll die and be lost unless He saves me and forgives me of all my selfishness. Please pray for me."

"We'll all pray together inside," Peter said brokenly as he noticed Mr. and Mrs. Woodlaw weeping.

"There is indeed a God and I thank Him for saving my soul," Mr. Woodlaw said after long hard praying. "I thank God for you folks; you not only professed but you lived the Christian life, and ever since the Lord saw fit to take your Daddy home I've been watching you. It only seemed to bring you closer to God and to each other and I really got miserable. Thank God, He has taken all my sins away and for the first time in my life I have real peace."

"May God bless each of you and a happy Thanksgiving to you," the children shouted as they started homeward across a winterland of white.

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BLESSED QUIETNESS

By Mrs. Paul E. King

The thunder heads gather big, black, forboding looking clouds that cut off every possible ray of sunlight. The clouds are churning, turning in the sky. Every once favorable wind seems turned against you and blows contrary to your eager desires and faintest hopes. Suddenly the storm breaks -- breaks with such fury and propensity that you stand awe stricken, numbed, and

dumbfounded, praying silently, tearfully and pleadingly, "O! God, take out all the dross! Refine the gold! Teach me Thy lesson in this! Show me Thy 'All things that work together for good!'" silently I said! For there are times when an inward groan or a prayerful moan expresses to God those feelings we have no words for, or those heavy ominous clouds for which we have no understanding. But Remember! 'Tis all in His Divine providence, and though your soul cries out in deepest anguish and bitterest agony, while all around you breaks the fury of the storm, you know not whither to go or whence to turn when softly, sweetly, and oh! so tenderly, you hear a voice -- not a loud, clamorous voice -- but a still small voice. His voice! Ah! the Balm of Gilead' is in that voice! Listen! He speaks to thee! He whispers to thy broken heart and wounded soul! Ah! Rest! Blessed quietness!

"Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear" -- "for in the time of trouble he" shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

"Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

"He shall cover thee with feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

Ah! Soul! He speaks to thee! The fury of the storm abates as thy soul reposes solely in Him! Earth's tend'rest ties have been/ broken, but hope thou only in God: He is thy help and thy exceeding great reward. Look up! and with thine arms extended heavenward: and thy tear stained cheeks, have faith! He is near thee, oh, so near thee!

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flames shall not hurt thee, I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus doth lean for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul -- though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!"

Ah! Blest thought! The storm has suddenly passed over, and soul! thou art filled with a new and a deeper kind of love! Amazing grace! Undying love! Oh, blessed rest and blessed quietness! Here forever shall I abide.

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THE EVIL TONGUE -- A DANGEROUS WEAPON
By Oswald J. Smith

"Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:" Romans 3:13-14.

"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Matt. 12:37.

No Christian worker can take up the sword of slander and escape the consequences. All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword, (Matt. 26:52). So spake Jesus, and history has repeatedly born testimony to the truthfulness of His warning. Men who have slandered others have either been ruined by slander themselves or have been judged by God with death. And it makes no difference whatever, be it born in mind, whether the slander is true or false the result is the same.

Judgment is God's prerogative, not man's, His word is Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm (Ps. 105:15). The statements made may be absolutely true, but since no mere man may capably judge, God's servants are accountable to Him and to Him alone. And woe betide the man who dares to set himself up as a judge, and publicly slander his fellow workers! God will not let it pass.

I could tell of more than one, guilty of the awful sin of slander, who has been judged by death and in some cases sudden death. For all that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Drastic measures may be used. Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? To his own master he standest or falleth, but why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set at naught thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Let us not therefore judge one another any more. (Rom. 14:4, 10, 13). Oh, that we might make that our life resolution! In the face of the words of our Lord, how can we do otherwise? For the things of which we accuse others, in all probability, we are guilty, and more so though we know it not.

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. (Matt. 7:1-5).

Remember this, my friend: he who slanders is working with the Devil. Satan is a slanderer. He is continually accusing us before God. That is his biggest job and his most destructive work. O my brother, are you going to do the Devil's work? Are you letting him use you as one of his slanderers? God help you! What carnality! Oh, what a tragedy! God's child, but the Devil's agent!

'I would rather play with forked lightning,' says A. B. Simpson, 'or take in my hands living wires, with their fiery currents, than speak a reckless word against any servant of Christ, or idly repeat the slanderous darts which thousands of Christians are hurling on others, to the hurt of their own souls and bodies.'

'You may often wonder, perhaps, why your sickness is not healed, your spirit not filled with the joy of the Holy Ghost, or your life not blessed and prosperous. It may be that some dart which you have flung with angry voice, or in an idle hour of thoughtless gossip, is pursuing you on its way, as it describes the circle which always brings back to the source from which it came every shaft of bitterness, and every idle and evil word. Let us remember that when we persecute and hurt the children of God, we are but persecuting Him, and hurting ourselves far more.'

'One of the greatest evils that afflicts the world today is that of gossiping and talebearing. You find it everywhere you go. It is rife in the business world, in the office, and in the factory. Its evil influence has permeated every strata of society, from the palace to the slum, and it rears its ugly head in the Church as many Christians have known from painful experience. The tongue of the gossip has destroyed empires and has cast down many mighty men. Ruined lives, blighted homes, broken hearts, and sundered friendships have been caused by the talebearer and through the chatter of idle tongues.

Too late, sometimes, people learn what harm has been wrought by giving too ready an ear to rumor and too ready a tongue to pass it on. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! the apostle wrote. 'Nothing is more needed in this world today than the manifestation of the Spirit of Christ that will scorn to speak evil of another when no good purpose can possibly be accomplished. The flower of Christian character will never bloom in the atmosphere of slander and distraction.

May God help us always live, think, act, and speak in the light of eternity! Then, instead of getting our eyes on man and judging him, watching for either his virtues or his faults, we will keep our eyes fixed on the Christ who indwells him and see no man save Jesus only.

If any man among you seem to be religious, and BRIDLETH not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. James 1:26

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THE END