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## **MISSIONARY REVIVALIST SELECTIONS**

**From the January, 1962 Issue of The Missionary Revivalist  
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"WHEN THEY SHALL SAY, PEACE AND SAFETY; THEN..."  
By J. E. Cook

An officer of high rank in the United States Army recently warned America to be on the alert continually. The subtle strategy of the enemy required this vigilance. He revealed that the enemy's plan was to create emergencies and tension throughout the world almost to the brink of war, then hold out the olive branch in such apparent sincerity that they appear to many as saviors of the world's peace and security. Then when we are lulled sufficiently into the belief that the danger is passed, they will strike the devastating blow.

Now, the Scriptures make it clear that Satan is the real designer of this strategy of deceit. He has promoted this strange plan since the beginning of time but has stepped it up in recent years and will continue to do so until it reaches its culmination in the short reign of the Anti-christ. World events and Bible prophecy indicate that the stage is being readied for his presentation.

Peace and security can only be found in the Lord. Yet the Master of lies, deception, hypocrisy and counterfeit continues to "blind the minds of them that believe not" with amazing success. Civilizations and nations turned from the living God and turned to idols and gave themselves over to the lusts of the flesh until only a remnant was saved in the closing up of each dispensation. The ante-diluvians, the Babel-builders, Sodom and Gomorrah, the Jewish Nation and many more are historical examples of the judgments of God because they turned to their own ways and went a whoring after other gods. These are not the pratings of a pessimist; I am not unmindful of the millions who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and thank God that He has had His faithful witnesses in every generation. But I am talking about conditions that prevailed, and will prevail, in the closing time of each dispensation.

And now it seems we are in the closing hours of the last Watch of this Gentile Dispensation. After thousands of years, are we any the wiser? We have knowledge without wisdom. We have hydrogen bombs, intercontinental ballistic missiles and man-made satellites. We have sent a man into outer space and brought him back. We probably will put a man on the moon, but we can't find a way to balance the National Budget. We are endeavoring to drink our way to prosperity. "Eat, drink and be merry." Last year America drank \$10,800,000,000 in alcoholic beverages. A \$100,000,000 more than the previous year. Our total drink bill would have built a \$1,232,000 school house every hour of the year with enough left over to have given each teacher a substantial increase in salary. Statesmen are still preaching peace and security with little of either to be found anywhere in the world. Laodicean lukewarmness is truly upon the professed church. Thousands of Communists fill the pulpits every Sunday. The National Council of Churches continues to grow despite its open denial of the Fundamental Doctrines of the Bible. When a few more join her, Babylon the Great will be upon us. A frenzied dance of pleasure is now on between the sons of God and the daughters of Cain. Divine Healers announce a new revelation -- the trees in their back yard were those spoken of in Rev. 22:2 whose leaves were for the healing of the Nations. If you send them \$5.00 you would be mailed a leaf from this tree that would heal all diseases. They sold out. Deceived. Hula dances with grass skirts and little else are quite popular as church entertainment with no protest from the pulpit or the pew. Deceived. T. V. is accepted and defended by those who once professed to be delivered from the show. Deceived.

Surely these are "perilous times." But the Scriptures are just as clear in warnings and promises for these last days. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." The first call is to the unsaved, those who sit in darkness. "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." There is no peace saith my God to the wicked. Sinner friend, give up sin and the world that you may not one day be numbered with that great crowd who are cast into outer darkness where there shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

The next call is to the unsanctified. "God hath not called us unto uncleanness but unto Holiness." "Follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." This is the establishing grace and prepares our hearts and lives for His coming. The reason so many professing Christians embrace the world is because they failed to go on to Holiness. Those in whom the blessed Holy Spirit resides will have no desire for the world's pleasures. Jesus will not long abide in the heart that makes room for worldliness. It is also the Spirit that keeps our lamps burning in watchful expectancy for His coming.

How sad that the foolish virgins let their lamps go out just as the Bridegroom came. Christian friend, if you are not in possession of a sanctified heart, seek a place of prayer, solicit the prayers of the saints, reckon yourselves dead indeed unto sin, lay hold upon the promises of God, trust the cleansing blood, arise to walk in Heaven's own light, come out from among them and live a separated life. Get ready for the call, "go ye out to meet Him."

Then His call is just as clear to service. "Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord for as much as ye know your labor is not in vain in the Lord." These days of uncertainty tend to frustration and perplexity for those who live primarily for the material and

temporal. But the Saviour would have the children of light to be unshaken in mind by world events. All these things must come to pass. But let us who are of the household of faith continue to invest time, talent, tithes and offerings; seek to win souls, sacrifice for Missions, Christian Education, Children's Homes, Revivals, Holiness Conventions; stand by the Church, support the ministry, preach and study the Word, be faithful in prayer that we may be found good stewards of the manifold grace of God at His coming. His coming is the "blessed hope" of the Church. Blessed with the hope of not entering into the tribulation. (Rev. 3,:10) Not a drop of water fell until Noah and his family entered into the Ark. No fire and brimstone fell upon Sodom until Lot was outside the walls. No tribulation judgment until the Rapture. "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." Lk. 21:36.

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## A VOICE FROM THE PAST

"There are hungry hearts, but the strength and prejudice of churchanity cause people to prefer old forms, and to draw nourishment from the breasts of a dead mother, rather than to find life by power uniting heart to heart, getting heaven open, and making a place of Pentecostal fire and life and power.

How long will the hungry souls who long for holiness and who see that without it they not only can not enter heaven, but that no advance can be made in the Lord s work, continue to perpetuate this folly?

What is any ecclesiasticism to an immortal soul, when that ecclesiasticism has determined to put from it the holiness of God, and the work of grace by which it is secured, and the conditions by which it is maintained, and when will holiness people and those who desire the blessing, see that they must join hands, and push the battle irrespective of old affiliations, as God leads? -- P. F. Bresee, A Prince in Israel

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## EDITORIAL

By Spencer Johnson

## THE REMEMBRANCES OF HOLINESS

"And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no." (Deut. 8:2) "Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;" (Deut. 8:11-14) "And it

shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish." (Deut. 8:19)

The experience of a holy heart does not preclude the possibility of growth in grace and the improvement of one's ethics and daily life. No man can rightly direct his actions of the present unless they are directed by his thoughts in harmony with God's will and plan for the ages. Therefore, it is a good thing for us at this time of the year to sit down and think in retrospect for a little "while and remember some things that may be of benefit to us. It would be well for us in the days that are ahead to remember what great things the Lord has done for us in the past, and in so doing, it will create a spirit of gratitude and a motivation for greater service. We may be encouraged for the future by an appeal to the past. In the scripture lesson Moses was calling attention of the children of Israel to several things that they should remember, and why they should remember them. They were to remember the day that they came out of Egypt. Egypt is a type of sin, and it is a good thing for us to remember the pit from which we were dug, and thank and -praise God that He ever delivered us out of the awful clutches of sin. It is well to remember the glorious day when Jesus came into our hearts and made us new creatures in Christ Jesus, when old things passed away and all things became new. We should not forget that we were helpless and hopeless without God, and therefore, we are indebted forever to God for His kindness in bringing us out of sin. Also we must remember that' such indebtedness brings an obligation for us to be patient and kind to others who are yet led captive to the devil at his will..

We should remember ever and forget never, the terrible warfare that the carnal nature caused in our hearts and the glorious experience when the mighty Holy Ghost, came purging out the dark depravity and corruption, bringing peace and perfect love within. Such memory should cause us to ever be diligent to keep ourselves without spot and blameless and to ever honour the blessed indwelling presence of the Holy Ghost!

The children of Israel were also to remember the provisions that God had made for them, how God fed them on manna in the wilderness, brought them water out of the rock, and supplied their every need until their clothes did not wax old in forty years. It is a good thing for us to think back across the past years how God has stood by and supplied our needs. The man with a holy heart is not ungrateful when he thinks what God has done for him in the past. It is well also to remember the purpose that God had. We are told in the Bible that the children of Israel were to remember the purpose that God had in leading them out. They were permitted to suffer hunger sometimes and to be led through the wilderness for the purpose of humbling them and that God would prove them that He might know what was in their heart, whether they would keep His commandments or not. Perhaps so many of the difficulties that have come our way in the past have been for the purpose of proving us to see if our hearts would stay steadfast in God amid the severe conditions that might come upon us. It is well for us to remember that "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." God proved the children of Israel to see whether or not they were fit for the place that He had planned and prepared for them. Thus it is in the probation period of our lives here in this world, for us to prove to God the fitness of our hearts for the City of God which He has prepared for them that love Him.

Again and again it will be noticed in the Old Testament that God reminded the children of Israel that they must remember that they were one time bond servants. It is well for us to remember

that we too were one time bond servants of sin and Satan; and we were also bond servants of ecclesiastical pressure, and that there is always a danger that we may lapse again into the same terrible clutches. We should remember the deadly dangers of formalism. God grant that the day shall never come when anyone shall seek to put the squeeze upon those who dare to vent their emotions and are blest in the Spirit of God. We are to keep the glory on! Old Sister Clap Hands must retain her exuberant demonstration of God's glory on her, and Brother Shout must be, by no means, short on the shouts. And we must remember that the shouts and blessings of God will not scare away the best people. Brother Aisle Runner must be free to run the isles, and he must be unshackled or free from embarrassment. We must never get to the place where we feel that the emotional kind of religion is all right only for the "poor dupes and religious fools" or the plain common people who cannot appreciate a good book or a night at the concert, and would not be fit to attend the banquet because they would not know which fork or spoon to use first. If such a time would come, the Spirit of God would be grieved. The very experience of religion that is, "joy and peace and righteousness" would become dead and formal, and we would reap a harvest of joyless meetings, dead formalism, and frozenness until the joyful saints would feel like they had joined, not a holiness church, but the First Church of the Deep Freeze. It would be well for us as holiness people to remember that the individual is far more important than buildings or church machinery, and that the purpose for the coming of the Son of God into this world was to seek and to save the lost.

In the year that lies ahead, if Jesus tarries, it would be well for us to remember that God's work must be done in God's way. We cannot substitute anything for the dynamic work of the Holy Ghost. A real Holy Ghost program in the church will not mix with hay rides, social parties, the putt putt golf links, or the bowling alley, the skating rink or gymnasium. The Holy Ghost will not bless the church banquet, the television party, the record hop, or any other worldly extra curricular activity of the church. When such a condition happens, then the Holy Ghost will leave so quietly and so uncondemningly that most folk will not know He left and will not have missed Him until it is too late.

If we would keep God's blessings upon us we must "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) People who do work other than works of mercy or necessity on God's day, and who patronize the secular papers or eat out in the restaurant or cafes on God's day have forgotten the terrible captivity that came upon the children of Israel because they desecrated God's holy day. They have also disqualified themselves for the promised blessing to those who will keep the Lord's day holy. "If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." (Isaiah 58:13-14) The holy man remembers to be fair in all of his dealings. He will have compassion on the poor and needy. "Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless: For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee." (Proverbs 23:10-11)

The holy man remembers that his home is not of this world, and because he remembers this he seeks to follow the lines of simplicity in all of his living. Even though he can afford it he will not be elaborate or lavish things upon himself, but he remembers a lost world and the poor and

needy. There has always been an element of sacrifice connected with the real experience of holiness. Without this element of sacrifice one soon forgets the price that was paid on Calvary. The Bible says if riches increase, set not thine heart upon them. The man with a holy heart has his affections set perfectly upon things above where Christ sits at the right hand of God.

It is well for the holy man to remember all the providences of God: how that many times God turned apparent evil into good, and how that His grace was sufficient for the toils and cares and sorrows of the past, that he may take heart and courage to know that God will not forsake him in the future.

May God grant that in the midst of prosperity or poverty, in the midst of joy or sorrow, in the midst of success or failure, we may not forget the Lord. His grace is sufficient for every trial, His strength is sufficient for every weakness, and He does not forget to honor those who honor Him. If we remember the Lord He also will remember us. It is said that God remembered Noah. God remembered him because he was righteous. It is not unreasonable to believe that if we live holy and pure and clean here in this world, God will remember us when He comes to rapture His saints from this world and take them to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. He will remember us in our sorrows, in our every day lives, in our battles and conflicts; and when we stand before Him, He will remember that His blood has covered our sins and cleansed us from all unrighteousness. The untried future lies ahead, but if we will remember Him, He will take us through every battle and every trial.

"In the midst of joy and blessing,  
And when all the way seems bright,  
Clouds may come which seem distressing  
And they may obscure the light.

Though you weep at night with sorrow,  
And the gloom oppresses you,  
Joy is sure to come tomorrow,  
He'll take you through, He'll take you through.

"Then O brother, never waver,  
Even though in prison cast  
Tho' you lose all worldly favor  
You will gain a crown at last.

And when trials all have ended,  
If to Jesus you've been true,  
Then the pearly gates will open.  
He'll take you through, He'll take you through!"

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL  
By L. P. Roberts

The Sunday School is a very vital and important part of the church. The Sunday School was organized in 1780 in Gloucester, England to help save the youth.

The Sunday School is important because it wins souls to Jesus Christ, because it builds the church, because it makes better homes and citizens, because it lessens criminals and because it curtails divorces and broken homes.

What are we as professed Christians, yes! and supposed to be respectable, intelligent, parents doing to help propagate this worthy organization? I'll tell you what you are doing -- nothing! Except by your negligence and absence you are voting to discontinue this God instituted organization. You have allowed the Devil of your soul to gradually slip the blinds over your eyes until you do not see the importance or need of the Sunday School.

There are in the U. S. 53,197,850 children and youth under the age of 25. Of this number 36,878,950 receive no religious instruction at all. How long can we remain a Christian nation when seven out of ten receive no religious training? Statistics tell us that only one person out of 25,000 becomes a Christian after they reach the age of 25, and one out of 5,000 comes to Christ and the church after 18 years of age. Yes, childhood is the day of opportunity. Less than one out of every three people in the United States have any connection with the Sunday School, to say nothing of those great crowds that are members and are very irregular. Seventy million of our population do not attend church. We have more churches than any other nation, but, excepting Russia, we are more unchurched. Is it time we wake up and do something about the need that is all about us and stop saying it costs too much and that we are so busy that we don't have time to go to Sunday School and church? Thousands have given me that excuse, farmers, merchants, housewives, etc.

Our trouble as a nation is not delinquent youth but delinquent parents. You parents are damning your own youth by refusing to remember the Sabbath and by failing to bring them to God's house. Sending them is better than nothing but it will not last; the child will soon refuse to go because the parent does not believe in it enough to go. If you fail to see that your children are in Sunday School somewhere you are contributing to the crime wave of our country. Seventy-five percent of the crimes committed were committed by youth under twenty one years of age. Eighty two percent of the criminals of one community proved to be of juvenile age.

A few years ago J. Edgar Hoover, who is the head of our Federal Bureau of Investigation, had listed three and one half criminals, at a cost of fifteen billion dollars to the nation. He said, "We cannot stop crime by punishing the criminal. We must go back to early childhood before associations are formed. The matter of letting the child go and sow his wild oats, and then wring your hands and pull your hair, and send for an evangelist to help convert them, is pretty poor business." Many a mother and father has told me that they would not force their children to go to church, but when after they had gotten into trouble they came to the preacher for prayer to get them out of trouble. One lady would not come or send her children to our church, but after the children, with others had broken into a government building and stolen some things and damaged some property, she came wanting us to pray that they would not have to go to jail.

John R. Mott says that we are the leading nation of the world in crime and divorce. He said in my own investigation of crime conditions I have found in about twenty penal institutions that seventy-five percent of our young criminals are from broken homes.

An eastern judge said that out of 8,000 boys that came before his court, only three of the fifty percent who were sentenced were Sunday School pupils. Even church people will have to assume some of this blame; they are so conservative they will not launch a campaign in the interest of the Sunday School to help reach a few more boys and girls. One special campaign is all they think they can afford and many times not even that. Brethren, until we get to the place where we place the value on a lost soul rather than on the dollar we will not accomplish much for God. No price is too big to pay for a soul. Jesus said, "One soul is worth more than the world." How many really believe that? Horace Mann was asked what it would be worth to erect a little chapel where youth could be taught the word of God. He replied by saying, "A million dollars if it saves one boy." They thought it too costly if only one boy was saved. He said, "It is not too costly if it is my boy that you save." Parents, wouldn't you feel the same? Well, it is your boy and girl at stake. What are you going to do about it? If you could only see into the future and see that young man or young lady away from God and in sin with no concern for right, your attitude would change toward Sunday School.

I have had many give me this flimsy, unreasonable answer, "If the children want to go they can, but I will not force them to go for I think it turns them against the church and religion." Those same people force their children to go to public schools, and many times against their wishes, yet it does not cause them to be prejudiced against education. This is nothing but a poor excuse that they are using to shift responsibility and get out of coming to God's house. Listen parent: the best time, effort, and money that you can spend will be that spent to give your child religious training.

Undoubtedly you are all familiar with the name of John Dillinger who was at one time listed as public enemy number one. His father made this statement over the radio, "My boy, John, was in jail at the age of fifteen before I knew he was in trouble. As a father I was too busy during my boy's life to take an interest in him." As a result of the parents' neglect, and the neglect of the church to save him, the government had to pay out the huge sum of one million seven hundred thousand dollars to run this one boy down and shoot him down in a Chicago back alley; to say nothing about the value of his poor lost soul. The loss of a youth is the costliest business on earth to both church and State. After they are in the depths of crime and immorality it is most too late. Money, lands, fortunes will not bring them back. Only God's marvelous grace can touch them and save them, but since they have been reared with the idea that salvation is not important, it is now very hard and almost impossible to reach them with this saving grace. Their reasoning runs like this: mother and father never told me that it was important to go to God's house so why should I go now.

Calvin Coolidge said that he learned two things while a lad in Sunday School. First he learned the lesson of striving to make a good man. Second, he had instilled in his early life to remember the Sabbath day and to keep it holy.

All the blame for the negligence of today does not belong at the feet of the parents, we want to divide it where it rightly belongs. Pastors, Sunday School Superintendents, teachers and laymen,



you who have been saying amen in your heart while I have been writing, you too, are to blame! Many are too tight listed, too lazy, and too spiritually dead to be concerned and only God and His touch can cure your ailment. I have seen pastors who were too lazy to even come to the Sunday School; they would rather have the Sunday School buy candy and offer prizes than to get out and make calls and interest people, then get up early enough on Sunday morning to go and get a car load of people. It is lots easier to make excuses for a small Sunday School than it is to go to work and build it up. Many superintendents never think of the Sunday School only for a very few minutes on Sunday morning. Teachers glance over the lesson just before going to Sunday School and maybe come in late, then wonder why the class is no larger. Laymen think it is not their responsibility just because they have no office; that is more of a reason why you should make more calls than anyone else. Let's quit resting and making excuses and reach the poor lost for God.

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REV. JAMES AUXFORD MYERS  
A Servant Of God Called To His Reward

[Open Graphics\hdm1713.jpg to view a picture of James Auxford Myers.]

On November 23rd about 8:30 in the evening, God called Rev. James Auxford Myers to his reward. Brother Myers was a faithful minister of the Gospel. He was saved at the age of 14, but in his young life he backed up and lost out. However, he was reclaimed in 1942 and was sanctified August 15th the same year and called to preach. He was ordained as an Elder in the Church of the Nazarene in 1947, and served in that church for 12 years. God helped him and he built congregations, and also built a beautiful church building near Jasper, Alabama. In 1956 when the Bible Missionary Church was formed, he was one of the first men to step out under the stars to go with the young Bible Missionary Church.

Brother Myers was a man of deep conviction and a man who loved God with all of his heart. He was married to Martha Brown on May 23, 1936, and God blessed this union with a son, James Auxford, Jr. Brother and Sister Myers were a wonderful team and worked together, serving in the ministry. They were good singers and were a great blessing to the Bible Missionary Church. Brother Myers was one of the greatest bass singers that it was ever my privilege to hear.

Brother Myers had a wonderful influence in the community in which he lived, and he went back to this community from Anderson, Alabama, to help form the Bible Missionary Church. He pastored at Jasper from the time it was organized until 1960. He also served as District Moderator of the Southeastern District for the Bible Missionary Church. He organized several churches and was loved and appreciated by the people on the District. Under his leadership the church bought the first property in Jasper, which they later sold and then bought the church and parsonage that is now the property of the Bible Missionary Church. Certainly Brother Myers was a servant of God.

He left his wife and son, his mother, several brothers and sisters and loved ones, and a host of friends to mourn his going, but we know where he is. He no doubt made it into that City to receive the reward of a servant. The funeral was conducted in the Bible Missionary Church at Jasper, and a large crowd attended the funeral. Rev. H. L. Ray, "his pastor had charge of the

service, and it was my duty to preach the funeral. God gave me the text, "Moses, my servant, is dead." As Moses was a faithful servant, so Brother Myers was a faithful servant of God. We praise God for his life and his ministry. We are going to miss this faithful servant from among our ranks. He was one of our officers who served in the front lines, but he has fallen in battle. God has called him home, and we are looking forward to that day when Jesus comes and we will meet him again. He was not only a faithful servant of God, but a faithful father and loving husband, a dear son, a good friend, a faithful minister of the glorious Gospel of the Son of God, and a close friend of the writer.

He died a comparatively young man, being only 50 years old, but God knows best, and his work on earth was done so God called him to his reward. way God bless Sister Myers and Junior and the family. Let us all remember them in our prayers at this time. -- Elbert Dodd, General Moderator

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Editor's Note: Brother Auxford Myers was not only a wonderful man of God, but he was one of the most likable men I ever met. We always had such sweet fellowship together. He was a brother beloved. I shall miss him down here but plan to meet him in the blessed glory world. -- Spencer Johnson

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#### CHILDREN'S PAGE

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

#### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

"Dear me!" Cindy exclaimed as she made another long stroke with her brush. "It seems I can't ever paint the way I feel inside of me," and she looked with disgust at the easel Tommy and Donnie had made for her.

"It must be this easel," she complained as the boys entered the room.

"What did you say?" Tommy asked innocently.

"Cindy," her ten year old twin chided, "don't blame the boys. It's you."

"Benny," she said crossly, "how dare you? I've been trying so hard to paint that hill of beautiful snow with the big red barn beside it, and I can't, I can't!" she wailed.

"Don't cry," Donnie soothed, "Maybe we can make you a better easel next time."

"It's not the easel I tell you," Benny insisted, "it's Cindy. She's just no artist! It's simple as that to see."

"Now, now," mother said sweetly but sternly as she stood in the doorway, her hands covered with bread dough. "No more arguing! It's not allowed in our home. Christ has been and shall ever be, our Divine and honored guest; He listens to everything we say and think," she added softly. "Find something else to do this cold, snowy day. The cinnamon rolls are almost ready for baking and you know how good they taste with a glass of cold milk! No warm cinnamon rolls for any of you if I hear any more arguing."

"I know what we'll do," Tommy suggested, "Let's write our New Year's resolutions on a big sheet of paper and see who can keep them the longest," and his merry eyes twinkled as he said it.

"Oh goody!" Cindy said as she dropped her brush and ran to the big oak desk for a pencil and tablet, "This will be fun," and a childish giggle escaped her pretty lips.

"Hm!" Benny grumbled, "Maybe it's not going to be as much fun as you think." He almost scolded to Cindy that it was impossible for her to keep her resolutions, when he remembered mother's good rolls and the warning. He bit his lip stubbornly in solemn resolution. He knew what he'd do after the warm cinnamon rolls were eaten!

Tommy and Donnie sprawled out on the big braided rug in the dining room; Cindy sat at the long kitchen table and Benny sulked over his sheet in the living room. Peaceful silence pervaded the old house except for the tea kettle making a soft purring sound and the quick, light strokes of mother's rolling pin rolling out the pie crusts.

"I'm finished," Tommy shouted from the dining room. "I have only twelve this year."

"Oh no!" Benny said sarcastically. "You should have at least a hundred -- or more," he added as he laughed a loud, mocking laugh at his brother.

"I only have ten," Donnie said softly, "and I just can't think of anymore."

"I have exactly twenty four," Cindy said thoughtfully as she looked over her list, "And I'm ashamed I must make these resolutions again. So many are the same as last year," and she hung her head in shame.

"Naturally," Benny said nastily. "You'll break them all before today's over. Just you wait and see!"

"I will not," Cindy said indignantly.

"Just wait and see," Benny said tartly to his sister. "Just wait and see..., wait and see..., wait and see..." he repeated in a sing song manner.

"Benny!" Mother rebuked. "You're the one who makes me break all my resolutions," Cindy cried. "Oh, if only I'd have had a twin sister instead of a hateful brother," and she broke into loud sobbing.

"Cindy," mother said softly, "Tommy and Donnie are twins and they don't quarrel like you and Benny do."

"But they're brothers!" the silken haired girl replied. "If... if . . . Donnie was a girl like I am they'd fight too. Boys! Boys! Boys! Everybody's a boy here but me."

"And me," mother reminded, "and I little being a 'girl,' if you don't." Then looking over the shoulder of her dark haired daughter she read:

"Resolutions -- by Cindy," in neat handwriting, which was so characteristic of the girl in both her person and her work.

No. 1--"I resolve to love Benny," in big quotation marks. 2--"I'll NEVER argue again." 3--"I'll always be obedient to mother and father." 4--"I'll NEVER take advantage of Tommy and Donnie again."

On and on mother read, then, turning to face her round faced daughter she said brokenly, "Cindy, you've already broken many of these." Calmly she called all the children around the big kitchen table and read each list aloud, then, gathering all the papers together, she pushed them into the cook stove where the coal was making red hot embers and quickly devoured them.

"Mother! Our resolutions!" the boys gasped.

"They're better off in there -- burned to ashes -- than for you to vow and keep vowing, then break them," mother said as she tearfully continued. "Each of you two," pointing to Benny and Cindy, "resolved to love the other. Already you've broken that resolution and the one about no more arguing. You have hatred in your hearts and are considered murderers."

"Oh, mother! No!" Cindy cried, for the word was as ugly and as nasty as the drunk man she had at one time seen lying in the gutter.

"Yes, you do, dear," Mother said kindly, "If you don't have love in your heart you must have hate, for our heart is so constituted that if perfect love doesn't abide therein, hatred does. When Christ lives in our heart, the whole being is filled with Divine love which makes it so easy to love everyone-- even the unlovable: when we have hatred in our heart we're then a murderer for God's Word says 'He that hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer shall enter heaven.' You're both full of hatred and strife and none of these things will ever enter heaven."

"But mother," Cindy said brokenly, "I do want to go to heaven. I want my heart so full of Him and His Divine love that I can love even Benny." Then rushing over to where her tall, dark haired twin sat she threw her arms around his neck, begging him for forgiveness.

"You're ready for prayer now," mother said as she led all her children to the throne of grace. In a little while Cindy's face was radiant with the light of God and heaven shining all through her. She knelt by her twin who got gloriously saved after confessing his meanness and sins.

"I'll never write another resolution," Benny said over his second glass of milk and fourth cinnamon roll. "They're no good anyhow."

"That's right," Mother affirmed. "Resolutions are from the head; confessions, restitutions, and old-fashioned godly sorrow and repentance are from the heart. Another roll?" she asked as Benny and Cindy sat side by side working a puzzle with Donnie and Tommy.

A warm tear of gratitude rolled . carelessly down mother's soft cheek. Quickly she turned toward the window and the snow-covered forest, whispering her thanks to the Lord.

The whole kitchen was warm and at rest, with more than the warmth from the stove! Melissa, the furry yellow kitten seemed to sense it too, and rolling over on her side she stretched the full length of her body on the braided rug by the stove and purred her soft contentment with the music of the tea kettle.

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## THE OLD COVERED BRIDGE

By Ann Baldwin

A picturesque landmark of eastern U. S. A. is the old covered bridge. These old bridges are a colorful and fitting reminder of early American days. For years they have stood, sturdy and strong, with their huge hand-hewn frameworks spanning various rivers, creeks, and trout streams.

Just such a bridge is located about a half mile from our home, deep in the Appalachian mountains. A twisting, turning, frisking stream meanders around the foot of our mountain, winds through a meadow, and picking up momentum in its journey to the ocean, dashes beneath the framework of the old covered bridge. Through many decades, the old bridge has been faithful in arching this stream. With winter's icy fingers tossing her decorations of snow, sleet, and icicles upon the venerable old roof m it has stood firm and steadfast. During the spring and summer months, it has faithfully accomplished its purpose, its sturdy old floor feeling the soft pad of barefooted boys upon its rough surface, and the weather-beaten walls echoing a "merry whistled tune" from a young, puckered, strawberry kissed mouth. It has heard the sing of the reel as fishermen played beneath its shadows for trout. Through the years, the old bridge has probably felt the tired clop-clop of the circuit rider's horse down to the heavy rumble of farm machinery and modern day trucks. Through fair weather and foul, it has stood!

Recently, some men from the highway department came our way and, after some deliberation, it was decided that our old covered bridge would be replaced: by a new and modern structure of concrete and steel. It seems the old bridge was too **NARROW AND TOO OLD FASHIONED.**

Many people have passed the new construction, and, no doubt, have experienced various emotions. Some are probably glad to see the marks of progress,; Others are indifferent. But a few of us had a sad nostalgic feeling as we watched the progress of the new replacement.

However, something wonderful has happened! The future of the old bridge seems brighter than ever! A new and glorious opportunity has presented itself! Strange as it may seem, the state donated the old bridge to the farmer whose land it occupied. That farmer is a member of the Bible Missionary Church. The church, at the time, had started a fund to build a cabin on the camp ground for their boys and girls.

"I know what I'll do," said the farmer. "I'll give the old bridge toward the building of the cabin."

As a result, plans are now underway to tear the covered bridge down, reassembling it later on the camp ground. Its name will not have to be changed. It will still be, "The Bridge." It's task will be more spiritual than previously, and far more glorious and rewarding. For it will be helping to span that awful gulf of sin, and leading boys and girls safely across to Jesus.

What a lesson in life! If, because you are old or sick, and it seems that your days of usefulness are over, do not be discouraged! Take a lesson from our old bridge! God might merely want to transplant you into another and more glorious sphere of service. And, when this life is over and we've done all that we can do within the limitations of humanity, I am confident that God will simply remove us to that wonderful clime of unbounded possibilities with an unlimited scope of development. Praise His Name!

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THE END