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MISSIONARY REVIVALIST SELECTIONS

**From the April, 1963 Issue of The Missionary Revivalist
Official Organ Of The Bible Missionary Church, Inc.**

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Digital Edition 08/19/2000
By Holiness Data Ministry

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THE GARDEN OF THE TOMB By Elbert Dodd

It was our privilege while in Trans-Jordan to visit the old city of Jerusalem. As we all know the new part of the city is in Israel. The line runs through part of the city, and while in this section of the country we had the privilege of visiting the ruins of old Jericho, the spring where Elisha salted the water and God healed the waters, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, and many other interesting places. But the most interesting place that we visited was the garden of the tomb. As many know, many years ago a man discovered this garden, and the Christian people in general believe that this is the place where Jesus was buried. Now near this place is Golgotha, the place of the skull. This little hill near the city is believed to be the place where Jesus was crucified. It is just outside the old city gate, and with the evidence that was presented to us and after viewing the place and seeing the things that we did, we believe beyond a shadow of a doubt that this was the hill where Jesus died. Below the hill is the garden and the tomb hewn out in the rock where we believe Jesus was laid. You will notice in John 19:41 and 42, "Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand."

As we came to this place we entered a gate and a nice Christian lady who lives in a house in this beautiful garden met us. Now in this garden we find the sepulchre, and there is a trench cut out of the rocks right near the sepulchre where the stone could have been rolled. In those days they cut a stone out of the rock in the shape of a wheel and rolled the stone over the door of the sepulchre, and when these dear ones laid Jesus' body in this place they rolled a stone to the door. As we know from the Bible, Pilate told them to make it as secure as they could. This sepulchre has room for more than one body, but there had never been a body laid in this sepulchre until they put Jesus' body in there. They laid Him in this place and, of course, on the third morning He arose

from the dead. The stone had been rolled away and Jesus arose and came forth alive forevermore. They have made a test of the dirt that is in this tomb, and they found that none of the dirt had anything that would make them believe that a human body had decayed in this place. But we believe the Bible, and we know that Jesus arose from the dead and walked out of this tomb and left it empty. It was a joy to our hearts to stand in this empty sepulchre and see the place where our Lord had lain. I viewed Calvary where He died and then I stood in the tomb where He was buried; and I praised God for His death that brought salvation to all men, and for His resurrection from the dead that gave all men hope who die in faith. I praised God that I had the privilege of standing in the door of this sepulchre and knowing that He was not there -- He had arisen! Praise God for the empty tomb!

There are many sacred spots in old Jerusalem and many places of interest, but the place that attracted me and brought the most joy to my heart was the empty tomb where our Lord had been buried, but where He arose from the dead. I praise God for the empty tomb. My faith today is made stronger because of what I was privileged to observe in that land.

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STEPS TO HOLINESS

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7)

It is not enough that our forefathers understood and enjoyed the spiritual experience of holiness of heart, each succeeding generation must discover and experience for themselves the glorious truth of Scriptural freedom from sin. To the one who is enjoying the blessing of a pure heart, nothing seems more simple than the way of holiness. But to the one who is on the outside looking in, there is a need for kindly spiritual guidance to assist him in planting his feet firmly on the highway of holiness.

The first step toward the experience of a holy heart is to believe that there is such a blessing. The fact of doubt shuts out the blessing and prevents all effort to receive it. If a person does not believe that God can justify him, he will never be regenerated. And if he does not believe that God can sanctify, he will never obtain that blessed experience. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Hebrews 11:6)

The next step is that one must realize that he needs to be sanctified. In the initial joy of the born again experience, one may not immediately be aware that there is yet a need in the heart for a further work of grace. But the regenerated child of God will soon be convinced of the fact that there is a warring law within his members. This conviction for inbred sin is brought about by the Holy Spirit and if not acted upon, one may settle down to an up and down experience of failures and successes, of alternating joy and gloom, victories and defeats. Certainly such experiences clearly reveal that a deeper work of grace is necessary.

Furthermore, one must desire to be holy above all else. The experience is likened unto marriage. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, 'and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.'" (Ephesians 5:25-27) Christ wants to bring the soul into a most beautiful and satisfying permanent relationship to Himself. He wants to cleanse the heart and then abide forever. ". . . And we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." (John 14:23b) Christ wants to give Himself in all His fullness. Such a gift requires a supreme desire and longing for on the part of the believer.

Fourth, one must seek for the blessing of heart purity. There must be no idle negligence here. One's time must be filled with the most ardent seeking and importunate supplication. Conscience must attest that one is seeking; friends and foes must see it; lonely places of prayer must bear witness that you are seeking; and above all God must know that you are seeking the greatest blessing He has for His children on earth. The earnest seeker becomes oblivious to the frowns and smiles of people, the ridicule and opposition of men or devils. One is like the man of the parable who sold all that he had to purchase the field of the hidden treasure.

The seeker must overcome discouragement. A multitude of things will arise to throw one into despair. You will see others that started seeking after you did, who will sweep past you into the blessing. The devil will try to get you to look at people instead of Christ. You may be troubled by fluctuations of emotions. Sensations of deadness and heaviness may play upon your heart and mind, but seek on. You are not sanctified by your feelings. The black buzzards of fear and doubt and despair will try to cover your altar; but like Abraham you must drive them off until God sends the fire and God will send the fire if you refuse to succumb to discouragement.

The fifth step is to consecrate yourself completely to God. Put your all on the altar. Make a total surrender of yourself and all that you have or ever hope to be to God. Become God's love slave by a solemn covenant. Everything must be placed on the altar. Your money, your reputation, your ambition, your time, your influence, your body. Give God your whole self, He will accept nothing less. If you have wronged anyone, promise God you will make it right. If there is enmity toward anyone, first be reconciled to thy brother, then come offer thy gift. When all is on the altar, the altar sanctifieth the gift. (Matthew 23:19) Christ is the altar, so we are told by the Apostle Paul in the book of Hebrews. Under the Mosaic law, when an offering was laid on the altar, it became as holy as the altar. So we become holy if we are on our altar, Christ. If our consecration is perfect.

The next step is to believe that Christ sanctifies you now. Stand on God's Word, He says that the altar sanctifies you. Believe the word and receive it in your heart; say, "I am sanctified by the blood because Christ says so;" and hold on with unshaken confidence until the witness comes. It is bound to come because of the divine faithfulness to the divine promise.

The question arises: does one have the right to say that Christ sanctifies him before the witness is given? Can one dare to say that the blood makes him holy before the experience is set up in his soul? Yes, if one is conscious of a perfect consecration, (and a person's own spirit will always witness to that fact) then he can say that the blood cleanses and believe it, because God

gives the perfectly consecrated man the right to say it. "Every devoted thing is most holy." "The altar sanctifieth the gift." The instant one believes it and says it, that instant the work is done. "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." God's order is heart and mouth. "It is no presumption to believe what God asserts and to proclaim what God declares." It is presumption and also sin to refuse to believe God's Word and to be afraid to repeat what He declares. If one is conscious that he is not perfectly consecrated, he should not dare to say that he is made holy: but he who knows in the depths of his soul that he is all on the altar and devoted to God, can not only say "The blood sanctifies me now," but should claim it without a moment's delay.

It is said, that the horse of Napoleon Bonaparte had become frightened and was running away beyond the control of the rider, when suddenly a common soldier leaped from the ranks and throwing himself upon the horse's neck seized the reins, stopped the animal and placed the bridle in the Emperor's hand. With a smile of gratitude, Napoleon said, "Thank you, Captain!" And instantly the soldier replied, "Of what regiment, Sir?" "Of the old guard," the emperor answered as he moved on. The soldier had appropriating faith. Most people would have said, "Sir, you are mistaken; I am but a poor, obscure private in the rear ranks."

This is the way many fail in their quest for holiness. God says to them, "The blood cleanseth you; Jesus makes you holy." But they reply, "Oh no! not me; I cannot be holy, I can never be anything but a poor faulty, greedy, imperfect follower of the Lord." And they never do; because they will not take God at His word. Oh, that the faith of this soldier in the word of a man might shame or inspire us to as much faith in the Word of God! "Thank you, Captain! Of what regiment, Sir?" was the quick response of the soldier. And the story goes that at once he walked to the old guard and took his place as an officer; and in answer to the enraged protest of the colonel, as to what he did there, said, "I am a captain." "Who said so?" asked the colonel. And the triumphant answer of the promoted soldier, as he pointed to the Emperor, was: "He said so!"

If you are all on the altar, God says you are sanctified.: Believe and accept the will of your heavenly Father. In answer to all that the devil can do or say to try to make you doubt it, simply point to the Saviour and reply "He said so!"

Why, then, do many who profess to have faith fail to receive the witness of the Spirit to the blessing? The honest answer is their consecration is not complete. There are reservations somewhere. Some wrong has not been righted, some duty remains undone or some confession has not been made. If the heart be wrong in these matters, the fire will not fall.

In other cases where they fail to receive the witness of the Spirit and yet claim that they have faith, we believe that what they consider faith is nothing but a spirit of listlessness, and apathy. They have ceased to believe and ceased to seek. Their faces become gloomy and the fervor of prayer dies. "A real faith pants with the desire for holiness." While faith rests on the promises of God, it does not cease to knock and strive until it enters in.

There are others who seem never to be able to enter in, but the facts are God is faithful and if we receive not what God has promised, the failure lies on our part to comply with the divine requirements.

All who will may enter in. Let every hungry hearted child of God come in complete consecration and faith and prayer and prove for himself that God who promised the cleansing blessing will keep His word. You can sing in the language of Charles Wesley:

"Saviour, to thee my soul looks up,
My present Saviour, Thou!
In all the confidence of hope,
I claim the blessing now."

"'Tis done! Thy dost this moment save,
With full salvation bless;
Redemption through thy blood I have,
And spotless love and peace."

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COMMANDMENT, CONVICTION, POLICY

By Paul Pumpelly

"For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." Ps. 119:89. "Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." Rom. 14:22. "Your personal convictions (on such matters) exercise as in God's presence, keeping them to yourself -- striving only to know the truth and obey His will. Blessed, happy, to be envied is he who has no reason to judge himself for what he approves who does not convict himself by what he chooses to do." Rom. 14: 22 The Amplified N.T. "Whatever is done without a conviction of its approval by God is sinful." Rom. 14:23 The Amplified N.T. I use these three verses to endeavor to Scripturally handle our title: commandment, conviction, policy.

GOD'S COMMANDMENT: The Bible is the revealed Word of God. What ever subject the Lord ever saw fit to handle in His Word to man, His word upon that subject is the truth. In the presence of this revealed TRUTH let every tongue be stayed and every head bowed and every opinion of man take the back seat. His Word is the final word. Every word He has uttered is essential for man. There is nothing He could say to help Himself for He is almighty and absolutely holy but every word uttered is essentially for man. Man rejected His word in the beginning and man must come back to His word unreservedly to be saved. There are some things in His Word that are not clear. In reference to the "wheels" in Ezekiel and like passages. Equally holy men differ and tolerate each other in the interpretations. But other portions of His Word are CLEAR AND PLAINLY STATED. Here there must be a strict stand and obedience. Any person who is saved or intends to remain saved must not tolerate one single deviation from God's plain revealed Word on any single subject. Clear truth on Jesus Christ, the Blood, the Holy Ghost, repentance, sanctification, and other fundamental doctrines plainly taught to us in His Word; there must be an inflexible stand for these regardless who is involved to the contrary. Also any clear truth of commands for living such as: women cutting their hair, wearing of jewelry, or portions giving commandments pertaining to modesty of dress for both men and women, etc., etc. We must stand inflexible to each plain command and refuse to tolerate one single deviation from them. At this

point the Bible Missionary manual on general rules demand that all who associate with us must measure to and stand with us inflexible to the contrary. The devil is constantly trying to generalize these plain truths. Our manual is plain and since it is, our little church is no exception to those gone before us. The devil will constantly try to get us to CHANGE our manual on GOD'S COMMANDMENT. I am in the Bible Missionary Church for what it stands for from its very inception. To remain saved I must not tolerate one single deviation from the present standard. These pertain to God's Word and are settled forever. All must bow to His plain truth without exception. If any layman or preacher is advocating by word or life one single standard stated in the Bible or as worded in our manual to be lowered or tolerate it to be lowered is in trouble with God. Every single one of us must stand at this same line. Here is our unity, our purpose, our victory, and at this very point we either have the Holy Ghost or we lose Him. He has not confined Himself to any one denomination but He has confined Himself to His Truth. Our church manual is Scriptural on each general rule. Not one single place are we in violation to His plain revealed truth. To reduce one single standard at any place is to fall beneath God's Commandment on these matters. The enemy of our souls will center his attack right here on each individual member to violate God's standard and also on the general church, to change from our original position and try to get us to RE-WORD our general rules, which now are worded so very plain. We must all stand together inflexible at this one point if we are to maintain the embrace of our God.

PERSONAL CONVICTIONS: The verse selected for this is Rom. 14:22. Conviction is the work of the Holy Ghost. He convicts the sinner for repentance. He convicts the convert for sanctification. He personally convicts each one to aid us in living the "holy life." We must all bow without exception to the plain revealed truth of His Word. But personal conviction has to do only with you. At this point we develop piety; piety to a person and not to a creed. Intimacy and devotion are developed through this personal touch. Personal convictions are so sacred we dare not drag them out for human gaze; so sacred we do not allow human hands to invade that hallowed place. He gives personal convictions just for you. He knows all about you and can see around the corner of your path. He sees the traps laid for you and personally convicts you to have you well fortified when you reach that trap. So many different traps hence so many different personal convictions. We must be tolerant to each other with different personal convictions. Woe is me if I violate one single personal conviction. Both are the work of the Holy Ghost and I must bow to both. I must be inflexible and unchangeable to both. I am entirely out of place if I try to get you to compromise your personal conviction. I would be completely out of Divine order to juggle your personal convictions and your conscience as if they were just your little opinions and you need to be straightened out. You must be abandoned to the Holy Ghost in everything and stand unchangeable where He has placed His hand. The common lot of professors don't know what I am talking about here. They have mistaken personal conviction for plain Bible commands. They have no personal convictions for they are still struggling with the "Thus saith the Lord" on God's Commandment of the Bible. Why should you expect the Lord to give you personal conviction on any thing until you have first bowed yourself to what He has already said in His Word. I have many personal convictions. You ask, "What are they"? I answer, "Not available for discussion." You will never know what they are unless our dealings with each other subject me to violate one of them. God has not called me or you to preach personal convictions, but to SOUND ALOUD His plain revealed truth of the Bible. Personal convictions have to do with me and the Holy Ghost. Revealed truth of the Bible has to do with us all.

POLICY: We have nothing to do or say regarding God's Commandments and personal convictions He may deem necessary for us to have. We are only to obey without question. But we all have something to do and say about policy. Policy is the work of man. The verse used for this is Rom. 14:23. Even in our development of government we must seek the will of God. Though it be our own work we still need His help. Policy being man made for order and progress is subject to change. We may all be flexible and tolerate change in this realm. Here we may all express our likes and dislikes. Here a church manual is subject to change. If after the vote for policy the majority rule is contrary to your view; three things must be considered. First, does the policy violate God's Commandment? Second, does it violate your personal conviction? If there is no violation of either, then you may be flexible and tolerate the majority to rule; even though you don't agree and can't honestly put your HEART into it. Third, if the policy does violate either God's plain Word or your personal conviction, you must be inflexible regardless who is to the contrary. For a personal example of this, a policy was voted on and passed on a certain matter. I did not agree with it. I could see the reason for it but could also see where it did not care for ALL the need.

I opposed it. I told each one I did not agree with them. But they would not tolerate a reconsideration of it. It was voted through and stood. I then checked on it by measuring it by God's Word. Their policy did not violate it anywhere. I measured it by my personal convictions. Not one single place did it violate any personal conviction. It only violated my desire and opinion on it. They would not bend to me, therefore, I bent to them. I yielded. I was flexible, I still don't agree with the policy and could not put my heart into going along with it, but I could be flexible enough to yield. After all the talk, contest, discussion and finally my yielding, there was no violation of brotherly love anywhere. To this very day not one little feeling against my brother is entertained. Holiness works when you have it. Yet I still do not agree with that policy. On the other hand if policy does violate God's Word or someone's personal conviction (not just their desire or opinion) then that policy must be changed. If those supporting the policy in violation are inflexible and unchangeable and unyielding toward their brother to the contrary, they are either IGNORANT or CARNAL. I must value the conscience of my brother so much I would rather die than stand for my policy that would cause him to violate the personal conviction the Holy Ghost has placed upon him. Another reason why policy is subject to change is since it is man made and we find it won't work, we have to tighten or loosen it which ever is needed. May God help us to know what is His plain commandment, what is personal conviction and keep them clearly distinguished from our own policy.

Sanctified people are inflexible on God's Commandment and their personal convictions. Carnal people are inflexible on their policy. Sanctified people are cautious not to violate God's plain commandment or someone's personal conviction on any matter. Carnal folk don't care. Carnality is reckless and subtle. Sanctified people are out in the OPEN with their policy. Carnal motives are deceitful making others think their policy means one thing when in reality it means something else: WHERE ARE YOU IN THESE MATTERS?

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"SUCH AN HOUR"
Melvin Shiery

Matt. 24:42 & 44, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Glory to God, He's coming again! With no uncertain sound, the cry has rung out from the infallible Word of God. Jesus Himself made the announcement, and for over 1900 years holy men and women have taken up the cry of the Holy Scripture with its warnings and invitations: "Prepare to meet thy God," "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden," "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found," "Set thine house in order," "Behold the Bridegroom cometh," "Watch and pray." Few are ready and few are getting ready to meet Him. Jesus said, "In such an hour as ye think not." Anyone would have to be blind or like the ostrich with his head stuck in the sand to not be able to see the lateness and the darkness of the hour in which we live.

The cry of One World -- One Church -- Peaceful Co-existence -- in both the world and the church is doing its best to muffle the voice of the "Faithful Watchmen." The sad part of it is, they have succeeded in many quarters. It has always been a tragedy that the church embraced the world, but when Holiness movements surrender, embrace, sanction, succumb and become a party to this godless move, it is a catastrophe. Many things lie back of this -unconcern, lethargy, half-heartedness, weariness in well-doing, pressure, spiritual wickedness in high places, but perhaps eternity will reveal that a failure on the part of God's people to protest had much to do with the spiritual decline and damnation of multitudes who otherwise might have "Finished the course with joy."

As watchmen, and called out ones, our first responsibility to God, home and country is to cry out against sin in all of its horribleness, to strike it from every quarter, to lift up Jesus Christ as the only Saviour, the only hope of the soul and of the world.

This requires that we ourselves be free from all sins and the nature of sin. No individual who is corrupt in practice or spirit is qualified to expound true Holiness to a lost world. Whenever a minister of the Gospel compromises, surrenders his convictions, or becomes a tool of an ecclesiastical or political machine, he forfeits his right and privilege to be called a "Minister," and becomes a traitor and a false prophet.

"In Such An Hour." We live in an hour when the world has lost her respect for the church. There never was a day when True Holiness was popular with the world or the worldly church, but there was a time when she had a respected place in the community and the nation.

Is it any wonder? When men of the church can challenge the Deity of Christ, the infallibility of God's Word, and become the tool of ecclesiastical and political isms. In spite of the National Council and all of her diabolical actions, almighty God will have "His Hour," "His Day," and true Holiness will triumph in the end. Glory to God!

"In Such An Hour." It would seem the very body, who ought to be lifting up Christ, glorifying God, and honoring the blessed Holy Ghost, is defying God and shaking their fists in the face of eternity. We are living in a crucial time. Rom. 13,:11, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."

To be sure, this is an admonition to get out of the sin business, get the sin out of us, and to walk clean and straight before God and man, but it is not too difficult to see that many have fallen asleep, many are dozing, and many have grown weary. God wake us up to what's happening, and to see the goal of the enemy of man's soul.

Let us look at the state of the church in the world today. Thank God, His church, the sanctified in Him, are excluded from the report to follow.

Communism and the traitors of democracy are seeking a peaceful co-existence. The church, or the ecclesiastical machine, by spiritual wickedness in high places, has placed her head in the lap of the world, and by merge and purge, both are seeking power.

Catholicism's creeping tentacles are snaring, and sucking the very life blood out of Protestantism, and has succeeded in drowning the protest out of multitudes who should be crying out. Dare we protest? We not only dare to, we have the privilege of doing so, and the Word of God to back us up. What more could our heart desire than for God to be for us? If He is, who can be against us?

The National Council has become a powerful ecclesiastical machine under the guise of religion: Like a slow moving avalanche, she is playing the beastly, degrading role of bringing all faiths together into one Christless organized body. Again it is a subtle trick of the devil -- a religion with a common denominator for all -- a peaceful coexistence of all faiths. Away with such nonsense! We may all exist together -- and we may not -- but we will never peace, fully co-exist. God's faithful remnant, be it ever so large or small, shall always protest and die for the cause of Holiness, if needs be. God have mercy on the once Holiness bodies, who have become partakers of the sins of this ferocious enemy of the true God.

"In Such An Hour." Let us examine some facts and ask ourselves if it be possible to co-exist peacefully.

Communism has and recognizes no Divine God. It laughs and scoffs and blasphemes against Him.

Romanism, or Catholicism, hails Mary, and Christ has a minor role. She has always held all others who believe differently than she as heretics. She, too, is willing and is compromising to gain her goal.

Judaism does not recognize Jesus Christ as the Saviour at all -- and yet she too will compromise with the compromisers.

Modernism trifles with the blood, the virgin birth, the miracles, and the infallibility of the Word of God, and it is her detestable hirelings who share the great responsibility of the ONE WORLD CHURCH drive.

Liberalism -- It is not too difficult to see why the others should strive for such a merger, but it is a sad, sad plight for the liberals. Many of them from once old-fashioned Holiness groups,

through craze for Position, Recognition, Prestige, Entertainment, Disregard for Standards -- and by standards, we mean the hair, dress, jewelry; their love for the things of the World, their fellowship with and sanction of "The unfruitful works of darkness," through these and other reasons, have lost their place among the Holy, and have become partakers of this Christless Order.

Yes, Jesus said, "In such an hour as ye think not." It could be any moment. May God help us to keep sweet, keep pure, keep alert, keep warning and keep prepared for "Such An Hour."

We are admonished to watch and pray. While the world lives in fear of men and bombs, the sanctified live in the "Blessed Hope of His Glorious Appearing." It is tragic that so many fear destruction by man's inventions, and yet have little or no fear of an eternal hell with its torments and eternal separation from God. Best to fear Him who is able to destroy both body and soul in hell. If they drop a bomb close to you and you're ready to meet God, you'll be in Heaven before the noise of the blast dies out. If you're not prepared when they drop one, there is very little hope of getting ready.

Remember, "In such an hour as ye think not." Are you ready for that hour? Are you doing your best, and giving your all that others might be ready for His coming? It's later than we think!

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

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

THE EASTER LILIES

William sat on the desert street corner and counted his few coins for the sixth time. He was tired and his feet hurt where the soles were worn through and tiny stones had become embedded. A look of hope flashed across his boyish face as he hurriedly picked up his wares and made his way down to Woodlawn and Fourth Avenue. Maybe business would pick up down there!

He stationed his small frame near the towering city building and, as the shoppers went rushing by, he feebly called out "Flowers! Flowers for sale! Buy your artificial flowers now! Two for a quarter and they're handmade!"

Some of the passersby cast a glance of pity in his direction while many of them never seemed to notice the thinly clad, pale, blue eyed lad.

'If I can only' . . . he thought, then put it far from him. Tomorrow would be Easter and he had only half the money he needed. Tears welled up in his eyes and a lump too big to swallow mounted up in his throat as he thought of it. He must have faith! That's what the kind, silver haired minister said as he left the crude mourner's bench where he found Jesus in sweet saving grace only a few nights ago. Miracles never ceased to happen if one had faith!

He lovingly felt the few coins in his pants pocket and breathed a simple prayer as a small, wrinkled, white haired lady walked toward him. Carefully she examined each soft flower, then, picking up eight of them, she placed a crisp dollar bill in his hand.

"God bless you, son," she said softly and sweetly. "You're a right noble lad to be doing this business on the street. Here's an extra coin for something special you may like."

"Oh! . . . thank you, ma-am! Thank you most kindly," William began, "and God bless you too."

She looked lovingly at the sweet, pale face, then vanished among the crowd but her smile lingered with the lad like the fragrant Easter lilies at Jethrop's Floral Shop.

He thought of the lilies and wondered if old Mr. Jethrop had sold the two he wanted so badly. Again he felt deep down in his pocket after the coins and the crisp dollar bill. A big voice brought him quickly back to reality as a well dressed man asked, "How much, sonny?"

"Two for a quarter, mister," his own voice said feebly.

"You make them?" the bass voice asked.

"Yes sir! My mother and I," William replied politely.

"Good job! Good job! And beautiful indeed. Believe my lady'd like a few herself," and he slipped another crisp dollar bill and a half into William's small palm, picking up the flowers as he did so.

"Oh thank you, mister! Thank you so kindly," the boy said, his faith mounting with the coins and two bills.

A couple of young women passed by, muttering as they did so, "Artificial flowers! Who wants them this time of year when everything's bursting with real life and real flowers? Why, my tulips" and their voice faded away with the city noise.

"Miracles never cease if one has faith," again the minister's kind voice seemed to be speaking. He must continue to believe God and trust Him for this as he did for Him to save his soul, even though he had only a little more than an hour before the shops would all be closing for the night. He hoped Mother wouldn't worry; but then, he had told her he'd be an hour or more late coming home tonight. She looked so tired any more and worked such long hours sewing and making flowers to keep the family together since Daddy had passed away. Again a tear started at the thought of Mother and her tired face. A hunger pain surged through his stomach as some shoppers passed hurriedly by eating sweet rolls and cookies. Mother must never know that he hadn't been eating dinner! Again he fondled the money in his pocket and made a few more sales. He had nearly another box of flowers to sell. Oh, if only he could sell them all! How surprised Mother would be! Again he prayed and ere he had finished speaking to the Lord a finely dressed

couple came near him. Looking longingly at the fine thin features and pale face with enormous sky blue eyes, the woman clutched her husband's arm as she softly spoke.

"How like Jeff he looks, Henry! A lot thinner perhaps but the same blue eyes and ... and ... fine features," and she began to weep softly.

"Yes, yes. He does look like Jeff, Marie. Oh, Jeffrey! Jeffrey darling! How we miss you since you're gone!" and the man too wept.

"Pardon me, sir! But did I make you cry? I . . . I'm . . . sorry, sir. I didn't mean . . . to . . . make you sorrowful. Tomorrow is Easter, the day my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ arose from the dead. He said to the disciples, 'Because I live, ye shall live also.' Your...your... Jeff; is he dead?" William asked.

"I'm sorry, son, to cause you this grief, I mean," the man began, "but you are the image of our dead son. Your eyes, your features, your . . ."

"You can meet him again if you want to. I know! I got saved a few nights ago and the minister said if we'd repent of our sins and be converted we could see all our loved ones in Heaven. I'm going There to see Daddy some day."

"Thank you, son! Thank you!" the couple said. "We're going to make preparation to meet him again some day. What was that you just quoted?"

" 'Because I live, ye shall live also.' Jesus said this," the boy affirmed.

"Because I . . . live," the man said trembling "I believe it! Praise the Lord! I believe it! Marie, you too can have this hope if you'll believe as I did. Repeat it after me, slowly," he said tenderly.

"Yes! Yes, Henry! I too believe and feel He's here," and she smote her breast joyously.

"How much are the flowers, sonny?" the man asked, placing his hand gently and tenderly on William's thin shoulders.

"Two for a quarter, sir."

"I'll take all you have, dear boy. Every one of them," the finely dressed man said.

"But . . . but... Mister!" William began, then, remembering his prayer, he turned the box over to the couple. "Better count them," he said.

"Here's a bill that will more than cover the flowers. Get something special for yourself and your mother," they said, lovingly clutching the box like it contained some rare gems or jewels.

"Thank... you . . . folks, most kindly," and he began weeping for joy as they departed.

The big clock on Trumble's Department Store told William he had only thirty minutes until Jethrop's Floral Shop would be closed for the night. He ran down Fourth to Woodbine, then turned to Greentree and just as he rounded the corner he saw old Mr. Jethrop carrying in the last plant.

"Mr. Jethrop! Mr. Jethrop, wait!" he called as the man turned about to see the panting William hurry up to him.

"You're most out of breath, son," the elderly man said.

"My lilies! I . . . mean . . . those two lilies I've been looking at in the shop window; did you . . . sell.., them?" William asked

"No sir! Strange too, they're some of the prettiest, but it seems as though nobody wanted them so I reduced them down to one-fourth their price."

"You . . you did?" William asked in amazed astonishment. "I'll take them, both of them, Mr. Jethrop," and he quickly thrust the money into the old man's hand and hurried out with his lilies.

He set the lilies down as he knocked on the door of a poor little cottage. A small, frail but attractive little old lady opened the door.

"Happy Easter, Mrs. Hitton," William said, depositing one of the beautiful lilies in her arms.

"I've... never.., had anything like . . . this happen to me," she said weeping.

"Jesus said, 'Because I live, ye shall live also,'" the boy quoted. "See you tomorrow at the church, Lord willing," and he rushed down the steps to home.

"Happy Easter, dear Mother!" he said, bursting in through the open door, "and may God be praised. Look what the Lord sent in today!" And he set the blooming, pure white lily on the kitchen table as he deposited the money in Mother's hands.

"Thirty five dollars, William!" she exclaimed in awe. "Thank the Lord! Now let's eat, then I shall take the tithe out for this cash and the price of the lilies. You're a wonderful' son, William! So like your father," she added misty eyed.

* * * * *

THE CALL OF ETERNITY

By Foy Bullock

The "sands of time" speed beneath my feet,
'Twill soon be past, this fleeting life;

And with the changing of worlds, will meet,
Eternal release from all earth's strife.

But as I gaze, by faith, at yonder scene,
And view the Crown my head adorn;
The goal, the prize, the beauty, so serene,
Reflect the bounty, of His Spirit born.

Earth's ties and charms so foreign seem,
That all my ransomed powers cry;
Abandon! Abandon! the temporal dream,
And to His will completely die!

* * * * *

THE END