Hiram F. REYNOLDS
1854-1938
General Superintendent
1907-32
III. The Church in a Wicked World

It has never been the plan of God to isolate His people from their environment. The tendency for Christian groups to withdraw from their society either in monasteries or in colonies is never encouraged in the New Testament. The goal may be commendable but the method is wrong. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil" (John 17:15).

This fact is seen in many ways. The Church of the apostolic age plunged into the great cities of the New Testament world—Antioch, Ephesus, Philippi, Corinth, Rome—with the gospel of Christ. The followers of the Lord were urged to "be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life" (Philippians 2:15-16). One of the great reasons for sanctifying grace is to enable the people of God to "live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ..." (Titus 2:12-14).

Pergamos, the location of the third church to which Christ addressed a message in Revelation 2 (verses 12-17), in a sense epitomized all the wickedness and vice of the ancient world. It was noted as a center of paganism where the worship of Zeus, Dionysius, and Aesculapius flourished.

In addition to false religions, Pergamos was a rallying point for the cult of Caesar, demanding that all acknowledge Caesar as Lord. But no one could both confess Jesus as Lord and Caesar as Lord, and already Christians in Pergamos had given their lives rather than bow in worship of the divinity of the Roman emperor.

And Jesus said, "I know ... where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is" (v. 13). Although you live at the very headquarters of evil, Christ knows where you dwell. He understands the pressures of a sinful environment.

Environment is important. You can't raise orchids in the Arctic. Environment affects life in many ways, some obvious and some very subtle. But environment is not all-important. In the spiritual life, no one can blame his surrenders or his lapses solely on the influence of his environment.

It is well for us to remember that evil in this universe did not start in hell, but in the rebellion of angelic spirits against the will of God in heaven. As far as earth is concerned, sin did not originate in a slum or among the underprivileged of society, but in a garden—the Garden of Eden. And on the other side of the picture, Lot "vexed his righteous soul" over the iniquities of Sodom, and became an illustration of the way "the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations" (II Peter 2:9).

The Christians of Pergamos were commended on their works and the fact that they had held fast the name of Christ even when persecution led to martyrdom. However, Christ rebuked the church and called it to repentance because of an infiltration of those who were making Christianity a cloak for evil. There were followers of Balaam among them, and representatives of the Nicolaitans.

Balaam was the prophet from the ancient East who sought to earn an undeserved reward from Israel's enemies by laying a prophetic curse on the people of God. Failing in this, he accomplished almost the same end by suggesting to King Balak that he seduce the Israelites into sin and thereby bring upon them the judgment of God (Numbers 22—25).

In the New Testament, Balaam stands for two...
OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, God of all grace, hear our prayer today. Our needs are mounting up but our resources are fast running out. Yesterday's grace so freely given seems to disappear like Israel's manna after the first day. Life itself teaches us that vain is the help of man. Our own experience of former years does not lend much light on today's nagging problems.

Thou lovest us without our deserving it, we know, but speak again with the light of Thy face until our souls shall cry, “Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.” Let Thy truth shine through these tangles that trouble us. We are sure that in the victory of Thy Son's cross there is hope for all mankind. But show us, too, that Thou hast a care for us in life's daily vexing situations.

Show us again the glory of believing Thee and obeying Thee in all things. We praise Thee even now that Thou art the God of the perplexed, the poor, and the sinful. Thy faithfulness extends to all generations and no one is hidden from Thy view. Open our minds to Thy utter resourcefulness. Forbid that we should limit Thee by our own experiences or inadequate insight. Thou art not impoverished by giving or enriched by withholding. Thou dost know us better than we can know ourselves. Spare us not. Show us our true need until there is no defense left in us. We are confident that even the darkness cannot hide Thee, if only we believe.

Our burdens seem too much for us. We do not ask Thee to remove their weight; only give us strength until this load shall not seem oppressive and we shall lose all fretfulness. Thy grace is all-sufficient according to Thy Word. Teach us how to speak Thy name with quiet confidence until even the unbelievers shall know that Thou art with us. Let our hearts burst forth into song until all clinging sadness shall be swal-

owed up in praise. Help us to declare Thy name with joy, not fear. When this day shall end, bring us again to a place of prayer with gratitude and peace. So let Thy loving-kindness be our portion until the day when all faith shall be fulfilled and we shall see Thee face to face. In His worthy name. Amen.
Telegram . . .

Baltimore, Maryland—Fifth Washington District Assembly held in Baltimore, May 1 through 3, Dr. E. E. Grosse, superintendent, reported a year of progress in all departments. Total raised for all purposes $687,135; membership, 4,384. Home Mission Foundation launched with gratifying response. Eight churches reached “10 per cent” for missions. J. Weston Chambers, Richard Jarvis, Luke M. Light elected to elder’s orders.—Reporter.

Rev. Samuel B. Walls, retired Nazarene elder of Southwest Indiana District, died April 11. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Jane Walls.

Evangelist Norvie O. Cift is leaving the field to accept the pastorate of the church in Watsonville, California. He writes, “It has been a pleasure working with the very fine pastors in our movement.”

Rev. and Mrs. Nathan D. Esley, of 6710 Greenbush, Van Nuys, California, celebrated their sixty-fourth wedding anniversary on May 4. He is a retired Nazarene elder, in active service twenty years and member of the church for forty-nine years. They are eighty-seven and eighty-four years of age, respectively.

Pastor E. C. Megall sends word from Tulsa, Oklahoma: “Valley View Church, on Sunday, May 6, closed one of the greatest revivals of its history. The sanctuary was filled nightly, with fifty seekers at the altar. Two services were conducted on Sunday morning to accommodate the people. Evangelist J. T. Drye was at his best in preaching God’s Word.”

Rev. Earl L. Sprowls writes that he has resigned as pastor of the Elmwood church in Michigan, and has entered the full-time evangelistic field.

“Sacramento Florin (California) Sunday school, under the leadership of Pastor Wm. I. McKee and Superintendent Alfred Vegors, reached second place in Northern California District on Easter Sunday with 811 in attendance.”—ELLEN NITHIRE, Secretary.

On June 13, Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Garvin will observe their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Millard and Freda Garvin, who will be concurrently observing their silver wedding anniversary. Friends may contact them at 6903 Bradlock Road, Alexandria, Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Bass celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at the Portland Montavilla Church (Oregon) on May 2. A nice crowd of friends gathered to wish them many more years together for God and the church.

It’s time to evaluate . . .

Our Consecration

By Evangelist ROBERT W. TAYLOR

AS AN EVANGELIST in the Church of the Nazarene, I am persuaded that it is high time we evaluate the depth of our consecration. I personally think the level of our intensity is too low when it comes to our personal devotion to God.

A Communist once said in conversation with a Christian: “There is one thing about which I am in dead earnest: that is the Communist cause. It’s my life, my business, my religion, my mistress, my sweetheart, my wife, my hobby, my bread, and my meat. I work at it in the daytime and dream of it at night. It is my all. I will be in it for the rest of my life. When you think of me, it is necessary to think of communism because I am inseparably bound to it. I can’t carry on a conversation or a friendship or a love affair without relation to this force which both drives and guides my life. I turn back to the Communist party every penny that I make above what is necessary to keep me alive. My life is dominated by one great and overshadowing factor: the struggle for communism.”

As Christians, I think we ought to evaluate the depth and sincerity of our zeal for Him—the profundity of the total commitment of our lives and hearts to this great and wonderful Saviour.

The expression of our heart ought to be:

Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee. 
Take my love; my God, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be Free, only, all for Thee; . . .
PART TWO

BRAZIL JOURNEY

General Superintendent Benner

ON MONDAY MORNING, following the close of the first district assembly in Campinas, the Steigmollers kindly drove us and the Mostellers to Sao Paulo, and the next morning we boarded the plane for Brasilia, widely publicized new capital of Brazil. During the first thirty minutes of the flight of nine hundred miles, we saw a few towns of fair size. But after that we flew over hundreds of miles of almost unbroken areas of hills and scrub timber, occasionally sighting a relatively dry river bed.

The only indication of some major development in the interior was a modern highway winding through the hills, and evidently constructed with great effort and expense. Since there is no railroad connection to Brasilia, this highway and the air service constitute the only transportation contacts with the established cities on or near the Atlantic coast. Thus, practically everything one sees in Brasilia has been brought there by truck or plane.

The Brasilia project is doubtless the most imaginative venture in city planning in history. The total plan calls for the building not only of Brasilia, but also of eight satellite cities reaching out as far as fifty miles. Of course it must be understood that Brasilia is basically a government project and will have little else as a basis of development and support for many years.

At the airport we were met by Rev. Ronald Denton, who has developed our work in that area. After lunch we drove twenty miles out of Brasilia to the satellite town of Sobradinho, where our church is located. Sobradinho is a community of 20,000 people who have come largely from the northern part of Brazil to work on the Brasilia project. To the time of our visit very few permanent structures had been erected in Sobradinho, so the people were living in temporary wooden houses. But these people, in the midst of their limited circumstances, need the gospel of Christ, and there the Ronald Dentons built up a good church. Our Nazarene church and parsonage were the first such permanent buildings in Sobradinho.

The church was filled for the evening service, and a fine class of members was received into the fellowship of the church. A primary school is operated in connection with the church and is providing a source of contacts in the community.

At one time Brasilia developments were such as to call for consideration of placing our headquarters in that area. However the situation had changed to such an extent that the original choice of Campinas as the base for our work was reconfirmed. Since our visit, the Dentons have moved to Sao Paulo, where they are establishing a church in this thriving city. One of our national preachers is pastoring the church in Sobradinho.

From Brasilia we flew to Belo Horizonte, where Charles and Roma Gates have been serving effectively and have established our work with excellent personnel. They met us at the airport and conveyed us to their home in the station wagon provided for them by the N.F.M.S. of the Central Ohio District.

Belo Horizonte is a city of 350,000 population and offers an unusual opportunity for the Church of the Nazarene. Our service there was held in a rented hall and was well attended. Here also a group of seven new members was received. We inspected our permanent property, excellently located on a main traffic way, where construction of a temporary tabernacle was under way. A few weeks after our visit this project was completed and now our growing church in Belo Horizonte is operating in our own Nazarene quarters, giving the message of full salvation to that great area.

So the work of the Church of the Nazarene moves on in Brazil. The Bible school has been opened in Campinas with three married couples and four single men as the first students. All of these have felt a definite call to the ministry. During the coming year the permanent building for the church and Bible school will be erected in downtown Campinas and a solid base will be established from which we can work out rapidly to other larger centers of population.

We have in Brazil a group of devoted missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. Earl Mosteller have brought to this newer field the maturity and effectiveness of many years of missionary service. Rev. and Mrs. Ronald Denton have also served for many years prior to their assignment in Brazil. Rev. and Mrs. Charles Gates are on their first missionary appointment and are giving a good account of themselves. Rev. and Mrs. James Kratz have been in language school, but have been serving effectively in the music area, and increasingly in active ministry. Soon Rev. and Mrs. Robert Collins will join the group to give added strength. And we do not forget Brother and Sister Steigmoller, our Nazarene lay couple who, while not appointed as missionaries, have manifested a genuine missionary spirit from the beginning of our

MAY 30, 1962 • (265) 5
work in Brazil, giving generously of time, talent, and means.

The challenge of Brazil is beyond adequate expression and we solicit the prayers and gifts of our people that our missionary staff may have adequate facilities and equipment to make an impact on this important and strategic area of South America.

GOD'S CHOICE:
HOLINESS

By LLOYD B. BYRON, Superintendent of North Carolina District

IN the first chapter of Genesis, after the new world had blossomed from His finger tips, we read of the divine proposal: “Let us make man” (v. 26). That wasn’t the first time God had considered man’s creation, however; that but marked the moment when that creation was to take place.

Long before the event came God’s original decision to make man, even before the creation of the world, as we read in Ephesians 1:4, “He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world.” And that choice is the basis of our present interest in this verse: “He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”

There is God’s choice for man, holiness. Some repudiate holiness in man, but God chose it for him. Some deny holiness in man, but God chose it for him. Some decry holiness in man as a new idea of faddist or fringe fanatics, but before man was formed, God decreed that he should be holy.

This holiness is to be an experience, an inner condition, a daily life. It is more than a transport of emotions; it is a life. And although it does stimulate the emotions, it carries through when emotions are on the ebb; for holiness is a condition of inner purity, of inner peace, of inner Godlikeness, of inner stability, of inner balance, of divine power released within.

It is no credit to God when those who name His name, those who claim to be Christians, are found practicing sin, committing sin, enjoying sin in secret or in broad daylight. Sinning Christians, if there can be such, are no credit to God. Rather, He expects His children to be without blame, as we find here in Ephesians 1:4. Christians are not to be a reproach to God, a disgrace to His name; they are to bring no blame upon themselves or to Him.

God’s choice for man is holiness that is without blame, holiness marked by love. This love flows upward to God and outward to others; not only to friends but to foes also; not only to congenial people but to the unlovable too. This love is Godlike: love that forgives, love that forbears, love that is kind, love that is without envy, without pride, without malice.

But such love, divine in origin, infusing the nature and radiating from God himself, is impossible to the heart that is carnal, hateful, vindictive, bitter, sour. Men will possess or be possessed by this love only as God has cleansed the temple, driving out the enemy, breaking down the idols, and casting forth all carnal foes. The holy heart can love as God intends, but only the holy heart; hence God’s choice for man, holiness that is without blame and marked by love.

There is another factor brought out by Paul in this verse that we should notice too: this holiness chosen by God for man is a holiness that will endure His careful scrutiny. We have heard of men whose religion failed to stand up under the daily attention of their fellows, but God’s choice is far above that. He chose holiness that will stand His investigation. This holiness will prove up before men—but more than that, it will stand up under God’s searching eye; it will merit His seal of approval.

God’s choice is holiness: holiness that brings no reproach to Him, holiness that is marked by love, holiness that He can approve; and that holiness is for us. “He hath chosen us . . . that we should be holy.” What is more natural than for God, our holy Heavenly Father, to want, to expect, to plan for His children to be holy, to be like Him, to partake of His holy nature?

By nature men are wicked, men are sinners, men are unlike God; but through the merits of the death of our Lord Jesus, and by the power of His resurrection, and through the agency of the Holy Spirit, God has made it possible for men to be delivered from sin, to be forgiven, to be made new; and after this regeneration, after this new birth, after this transformation to be cleansed within, to be purified from the defilement, the taint of the carnal nature, and by the infilling of the Holy Spirit to be made holy in heart and by His indwelling and empowering to be holy in life and in practice.

His arrangements are complete; His choice is declared; for “he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.” We cannot be satisfied with less than God has purposed, provided, and prepared, God’s required best, God’s choice: holiness.
By VERNON L. WILCOX
Pastor, Moreland Church, Portland, Oregon

PAUL was writing a letter to his young friend Timothy, who had been his “son in the faith” ever since he had found him at Lystra and had enlisted him in the missionary enterprise. He was concerned for Timothy, not because he lacked confidence in him, but because he had invested so much in him and wanted God’s best for him. He was fearful, not for Timothy’s salvation, but for his usefulness.

Four major principles that point in the direction of a useful Christian life are laid down by the great apostle in II Timothy 2.

I

BE STRONG. How this admonition appeals to us in Century 20! We admire athletic prowess, are intrigued by scholastic achievement, often mystified by mechanical power, and now there is for our wonderment the almost incredible thrust of a rocket catapulting a seven-ton satellite into orbit at eighteen thousand miles per hour! But isn’t it odd that we still cling to the outworn “poor-weak-worm-of-the-dust” concept of religious experience? The Lord wants us to be strong “in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” There is no excuse here for conceit. Nothing is more pathetic than the efforts of one who is trying to live for Christ in himself. But nothing is more magnificently beautiful than a life lived for Christ in the strength of His grace.

II

ENDURE HARDNESS. Did you think all would be easy in this Christian life? If so, you will soon be disillusioned. A part of good preparation is to recognize that the way will often be hard. This does not detract from the attractiveness of the Christian way. The challenge of climbing Mount Hood is much greater than that of walking downhill to the corner grocery in your house slippers.

It is uphill business to serve Christ in any age. Whether He calls you to be a farmer, a teacher, a housewife, a business man or woman, a political leader, or a preacher, it will take real courage to stick it out and see it through as a Christian.

The Lord may call some of you to a really hard task—I hope He does. Isn’t it better to be a Grenfell in Labrador or a Schmelzenbach in Africa than to have an easy life surrounded by gadgets? Do you suppose Schweitzer in Lambarene ever regrets the loss of his favorite television program? Be a good soldier—put some extra “K rations” in your equipment and fight on.

III

DON’T ENTANGLE YOURSELF. This is the only negative in this group of principles, and it is significant that it has to do with “the affairs of this life.” Paul knew how insidious is this enemy of worldliness.

You can’t afford to be tied too much to your family. Suppose Esther Carson Winans had asked, when called to Peru, “What shall I do about leaving Mother and Father?” We never would have had that intrepid missionary-translator. As it turned out in God’s good will, she eventually had her parents with her, but she didn’t know that when she answered the call.

You can’t be tied to questionable practices and amusements which cannot contribute to your usefulness for the Lord, and which will weaken both your spiritual stamina and your Christian testimony. The things of the world may not seem so terribly bad at times, but when chosen in place of following Christ, they become very bad indeed.

IV

STRIVE LAWFULLY. To win in this race we must keep the rules or be disqualified. We must strive lawfully, or as Dr. D. I. Vanderpool puts it, “fight fair.” There can be no hidden brass knuckles or “pep pills,” though a cube of sugar might be allowed! Even Jesus had to observe this: each of His three great temptations was to take a short cut, to disregard the rules of spiritual life—but He resisted and conquered the enemy.

Some of these rules governing the Christian life are found in this chapter. In verse 6, “Be first partaker of the fruits.” To know that you are saved that we may show off before them what we can do. Strength is given that we may buttress the faith of those who are weaker.
yourself is absolutely essential. In verse 21, "Flee also youthful lusts." You cannot serve two masters. You must turn your back on sin in order to serve Christ. In verse 15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God." One doesn't just wake up some morning and embark on a momentous life work or do a great deed. You have to plan for it.

To be real Christian soldiers requires all there is of us—but then we get His grace, strong enough to match the enemy's worst. And that's the best there is, and all we need. This is the way to life more abundant!

By B. V. SEALS
Superintendent of Washington Pacific District

I HEARD a young lady in prayer meeting not long ago, whose husband was called to preach, praying earnestly and fervently for him. She said in such sweet tones, "Lord, help him to climb, climb, climb!" She meant spiritually and every other way, and I thought it was a beautiful prayer.

Recently I was reading from George Abraham, the old mountaineer, and he tries to tell us something of the challenge of the heights. He reminds us that no one has yet stood on the roof of the world. He said in another place that it seems like God is afoot up there. He said the earth's loftiest summits wrap their clouds about them and stand defiant in triumph and have never felt the proud heel of a conqueror. Much that he says is as invigorating as those stinging breezes that hurled the hail in his face as he invaded the snowy solitudes and carved some of the first paths over the slippery glaciers.

It is wonderful when we realize that the sweetest songs are yet to be sung; the noblest poems may yet be penned; some of the greatest books have yet to be written; some of the finest sermons are yet to be preached; some of the most noble lives are yet to be lived; the most heroic exploits may yet be achieved; nations are waiting to be conquered by the gospel; the crags are calling us!

Another lesson to be learned from mountain climbing is that the heights must be scaled, not by individuals alone, but by parties. Sometimes the members of an expedition are roped together in negotiating a difficult pass or climbing up a perilous face or attempting a forbidden ascent, and it is the weakest member of the expedition whom all members must consider. His failure would be the failure of all.

The golden rule at no place makes such great claims upon us as it does amidst the crags of the summit. Every task we face will be done only in proportion as we keep in mind the frailty of the weakest member. One slip of the feeblest foot might easily jeopardize the lives of all. This is forever the lesson of the heights. We do not always realize this in the valley; but we sometimes have to try to climb the heights in order to see the great truth that we are all members one of another.

Another thing Mr. Abraham said was that he lost very few mountain climbers on the most hazardous places, but rather where they felt more or less secure, and were not as alert. We get so used to danger. We think because we have been on the way a long time that we are secure, but we should take heed lest we fall.

Sometimes people who have made the difficult passages have fallen on the easier ones. It seems sometimes that after many years of Christian living our consciences are not so keen on minor points of morality as they were to begin with. We could easily slip now where we stood fast then. We could easily become too confident to continue to be cautious, and grow tired of being careful, and in that path there is always disaster.

As I read the book of this trusty guide of granite and glacier, I seemed to catch a vision of a more radiant beauty gleaming on loftier pinnacles, bathed in the golden glory of a lovelier sunrise. Those beckoning heights challenge me to press with new vigor toward the triumph for which all the ages have been struggling, to reach out a stronger hand to comrades who share our pilgrimage, and to exercise a greater vigilance as we tread life's treacherous track.

As we climb, it takes us away from the little things in the valley. Things that seemed so important years ago don't seem so now. The salvation of souls is the thing of supreme importance. May God help us in all of our spiritual conquests to climb, climb, climb!
And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see (II Kings 6:17).

The King of Syria had been carrying on a war against Israel that was very unsuccessful. It seemed that his every move was known to Israel until he suspected a traitor within his ranks. But he was informed that there was no traitor, but that Elisha the prophet was the one who knew his every move.

So the king and his whole army surrounded the city of Dothan, where Elisha was staying. When the servant of Elisha arose the next morning and saw the enemy on every side, he was filled with terror. As he told his master, Elisha fell to his knees and began to pray—not for deliverance, but the prayer in our text—that the eyes of the servant be opened. When his eyes were opened, he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire.

There are many people in the world today—even some Christians—much like the servant, who can see only that which is visible. We are so prone to spend our time, energy and even our lives striving after the material things—the things which can be seen. The truth of the matter is, the most real things are those things we cannot see.

With our physical eyes we cannot see love, truth, righteousness. We cannot “see” our salvation. We cannot “see” God. But these are the values that count for time and eternity. These will stand long after all material entities have crumbled into oblivion.

It is a tragedy when we see only the visible. The tragedy of Cain, Esau, the rich fool, the rich young ruler, Saul, Judas, and Demas was that they could see no farther than the visible. The list includes many others even down to the present hour. And sometimes, amid the cares of life, we who are Christians get so busy that we lose our perspective and our spiritual vision becomes dimmed and values get out of focus. We must keep our spiritual eyesight keen.

“O God, we pray that Thou wouldst open our eyes that we may see. Help us to keep a proper perspective and a right sense of values. May we not spend all of our time and all of our lives working only for the temporal, but give us a vision and a passion for the eternal. Amen.”

Prayer of Any Husband

Lord, may there be no moment in her life
When she regrets that she became my wife,
And keep her dear eyes just a trifle blind
To my defects, and to my failings kind!

By MAZIE V. CARUTHERS
From As It Strikes Me, by Norman R. Oke.

Help me to do the utmost that I can
To prove myself her measure of a man.
But, if I often fail as mortals may,
Grant that she never sees my feet of clay!

And let her make allowance—now and then—
That we are only grown-up boys, we men;
So, loving all our children, she will see,
Sometimes, a remnant of the child in me!

Since years must bring to all their load of care,
Let us together every burden bear,
And when Death beckons one its path along,
May not the two of us be parted long!

MAY 30, 1962 • (269) 9
GOD'S LOVE and our world

By KATHERINE BEVIS

THE STORY IS TOLD of how in the early dawn of a morning in Korea a soldier suddenly came upon a little wooden cross marking the grave of one of the enemy. Roughly burned on the cross was this inscription:

Here lies my enemy.
God forgive both him and me.

At the foot of the cross, in a little wooden box, lay an English Bible—on the grave of an enemy.

God forgive us all!

More than nineteen hundred years ago a tall, sun-tanned Figure made His way along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. His was an important mission—to bring forgiveness to all mankind by shedding His blood on Calvary. “God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

Such love! Small wonder that even Paul, the eloquent, had no words to describe his comprehension of it.

But that reconciliation to God by the death of His Son avails nothing if we are not reconciled with one another.

Howard Thurman, one of our outstanding ministers, once asked Gandhi, “What is the greatest enemy of Jesus Christ in India?”

Gandhi answered this question with one word—“Christianity.”

This sounds dreadful, I grant you, but before we just brush it off without much thought, we need to study it some.

We are told that there are ninety million plus of us in America in the churches—yet stop for a moment and look at the religious intolerance, the bitterness, the bigotry in our world today.

One of our noted theologians has said, “Religion is a dangerous drug unless it is wisely administered.”

One of religion’s most dangerous aspects is that it makes sacred everything it touches. This causes all sorts of superficial things to become invested with hallowed meaning until they are mistaken for genuine religion.

Our age is characterized by breath-taking advances in every field except man’s relation to man, and his relation to God. Too many are technical experts and Biblical numskulls. Somehow we have run ahead in the physical and retrogressed in the spiritual.

The temporal has outstripped the eternal. A hate-filled, depressed world, desperate for the love of God and what it can do, is looking for help, and Jesus died on the Cross that this help might be given.

From the day Jesus was born to this day in which we now live the benefits and progress and desirable changes which the unfolding centuries have brought to the human family, whether in persons, or communities, or nations, have been in consequence of this great love.

So shall it continue to be. Our only hope lies in this Babe of Bethlehem, born nineteen centuries ago, this Christ who still lives, who is still the Conqueror of death—this living Christ—He lives today!

The central glory of the Christian religion is not a great faith; it is not a great truth; it is not a great message; it is not a great movement. It is a great Person; and that Person is our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

This Father God “commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

There would be no world worth living in were it not for Him and His love!

If I Can Walk . . .

If I can walk from day to day
Before the crowds immense
In such a way that I might gain
Their utmost confidence;
If I can stick to what is right,
Though critics may deride;
If I can keep my record clear,
And yet without false pride;
If I can win the smile of God
Upon my life each day—
To think, and act, and say the things
That He would have me say—
It will not matter then to me
What course the throng may take,
For I shall be content to know
I’m living for HIS sake!

By REEFORD L. CHANEY
AMONG THE STRIKING EVENTS that make up God's schedule for the future there is none more impressive than the second coming of Christ. According to the Holy Scriptures, He will return. There are more than three hundred references to the second coming of Christ in the New Testament alone. One verse out of every four in the First Epistle to the Thessalonians tells us that Jesus is coming the second time.

Notice some practical values embodied in Christ's return:

**Christ's return provides a great promise of reward for faith and service.** In Revelation 22:12 we read, "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

There is no reward in money, honors, office, or preferment for the labors and sufferings in the faithful service for Christ. Our only hope of reward is found in what He has reserved for us at His appearing. It is this hope of reward at His second appearing that gives inspiration and encouragement to the martyrs, faithful ministers, dedicated missionaries, and all the servants of Christ who endure hardness and remain faithful unto death.

**Christ's return furnishes the highest inspiration to personal purity.** I John 3:1-3 has this to say: "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

The expectant attitude toward His advent will be a compelling incentive for the true believer to maintain the separated life. Every doubtful question can be settled in the light of His imminent return. Every Christian should ask himself, What would I wish to be doing when Jesus comes again? The entire question of worldly entanglements—dancing, smoking, card playing, cocktail drinking, the theater—can be quickly decided in the light of His anticipated coming. Companionships, sex privileges, the means of securing money, and its use can be settled fully, promptly, and finally in view of His glorious return.

A Christian hotel manager gave up his business because in the light of Christ's return he could not manage an institution which involved the management of a hotel bar. "Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

**The return of Christ provides our only hope of immortality.** All the New Testament promises dealing with immortality have a direct connection with the Second Advent. I Thessalonians 4:14-16 reads: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. . . . For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." When Jesus comes He will turn the sting of death into a shout of victory.

A little boy was traveling across our western desert in the days before the trains were air-conditioned. The water supply was exhausted, and the hot winds were almost unbearable. A woman sat across from the little boy, and finally said to him: "Everyone in this coach but you is complaining. You sit there looking so happy. Will you tell me why?" The lad answered, "Ma'am, I got on this train in New York. In the morning I will be in Los Angeles. My father will meet me and take me home. I'm happy because I'm going home."

God's children are on their way home. Jesus will meet them in the air, or at the grave, and what a meeting that will be! He is coming again!

TONIGHT, over one-half the world's population will go to bed hungry. The Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service states, "Many millions of children will die unnecessarily this year because they are born into communities where poverty perpetuates chronic undernourishment." Refugee camps tell the same story, and paint the same picture—starvation.

World conditions compel us to cry out to God

MAY 30, 1962 • (271) 11
because of this situation, but then one suddenly becomes aware that the circumstances are worse than we first thought, for Jesus has said that “man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Man needs more than material bread!

In Europe, Africa, and the Far East, millions are suffering from the lack of food to eat, but all around the world there are countless millions suffering from “spiritual malnutrition.” In Britain, where they have never had it so good, the people are spiritually undernourished. In prosperous America, the people are starving because they are not receiving the Bread of Life.

Some people are starving because of circumstances. The story is told of the little boy who was crying when found by a relief worker. He had been asking for bread, but “it wasn’t his day to eat.” It was not the child’s fault that there was no food. He was a victim of circumstances, and there are many like that in our communities.

While working in the south of Ireland, I visited a dear middle-aged lady who was faithful in her attendance at the “big” church. I told her about the wonderful experience of salvation to be found through faith in Christ, and about the consequences of rejecting the claims of the gospel. That dear soul uttered words which I shall never forget. She said, “I never heard that before.” There she was—and there are many like her—sitting in church every week, and she did not know the way of salvation. She was suffering from spiritual starvation.

Some people starve themselves. It is known that some people have been so close that in order to have money in the bank, or for other purposes, they have neglected their bodies. The same thing can happen in the spiritual life. There are many ways in which a person can starve himself spiritually. I will mention three of the most common ways:

1. By staying away from the house of God.
2. By refusing to listen or obey God’s Word.
3. By failing to speak with God often.

The people need food. The need is great. Refugees need bread, but there are many more spiritual refugees who need the Bread of Life. Our task is to feed His lambs.

A French Christian was arrested by the Germans, and imprisoned for “the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Because of his faith he was placed in solitary confinement, where he had only room enough to stand, and for two days he was not allowed anything to eat. The Germans were surprised when they opened the cell to find that the prisoner had not lost weight, and was still strong and active. He proved that

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<th>EDITORIALS</th>
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ever-present perils to the Church: greed for gold (Jude 11), and compromise with sin (Revelation 2:14). In a money-mad age, when almost everything is measured in terms of the dollar sign, God’s people must be on their guard lest they succumb to these subtle pressures. And Jesus warned, “Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax [gradually become] cold” (Matthew 24:12).

Satan still pursues the plan Balaam recommended to Balak. No power on earth or in hell can force its way between the Christian and his Lord. He who walks with God is impregnable as far as the assaults of the enemy are concerned. But if the adversary can get the Christian to turn away from the Saviour by compromising with sin, such a one becomes easy prey and is soon defeated.

Little is known about the Nicolaitans. They are mentioned only twice in the Bible. The church at Ephesus had spurned their hateful ways (Revelation 2:6). Some who held their doctrines were found in the church at Pergamos (Revelation 2:15). They seem to have been an extreme group who pushed the idea of “sinning sainthood” to its logical conclusion, and who boldly practiced what they preached.

Need it be said that Christendom is not without such today? They sometimes argue, as one “Bible” commentator, that a “child of God” may become so wicked and such a hindrance to the work of the Lord that God is forced to “take him to heaven” to get him out of the way! Even the mildest of them tend to view the righteousness of Christ as a cloak to cover unchanged human sinfulness.

But God has a better salvation than this. He does not save His people by isolating them from an unfriendly and hostile environment. He saves by insulating them through the power of His regenerating and sanctifying Spirit.

The Church is in the world as a light in the darkness, as preserving salt in corruptible society, as healing balm in a sin-sick age. But the Church is not of the world, and will have none of its controlling attitudes and purposes.

And the overcomer’s promise is precious and secure: “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it” (v. 17).
“man shall not live by bread alone”—for he had meat to eat that they knew not of, and was able to say, “Thy word have I hid in mine heart.”

An English preacher has said that strong Christian character is not built on spiritual cocktail parties, but on the daily Bread. We must give the people the Word of God; not only the passages which tickle our own ears, but all of it. Give them nothing less than the whole counsel of God. There is only one way to do it and that is by constructive and consecutive Bible teaching. I can think of no better way than using the excellent literature which is carefully prepared by the best evangelical Bible scholars in our church, and published to assist us in giving our people real, substantial spiritual food which will build them up in their most holy faith.

A lady in my church was visiting a Roman Catholic neighbor when the priest called to see why the neighbor had not been attending mass for some time. He did not receive a very satisfactory answer, so he turned to the Nazarene lady and asked when she had last been to church. She told him that she was there four times every week. “There you are,” remarked the priest, “four times a week, and she gets nothing.” The Christian lady now had her opportunity to witness, and was able to give a reason for the hope that was within her. Never let it be said that one who comes to our church comes to church and gets nothing. “Give ye them to eat.”

**STOP!**

**remove that gravel!**

*By Evangelist HUGH SLATER*

IS ANYTHING more disturbing than gravel in your shoe? I thought of it again the other day when I suddenly felt something subversive under my heel. It jabbed at me like a pointed instrument. Every step I took reminded me that somehow something was amiss in the Achilles portion of my anatomy. What was it? I did not know for sure, but it felt like a piece of gravel.

Did I stop immediately and do something about it? By no means! At first I decided to ignore it, hoping, I suppose, that it would tire of its activities and depart. When it persisted in its evil intent, I tried to shake it to the other side. I bumped my foot against the ground, now on one side, and now on the other. It moved, and I started forward with new hope, only to discover that the new position was more painful than the former. Finally, in desperation, I stopped, removed the shoe, and shook the offending bit into my hand.

Was it a knife or a pair of scissors? A rock as big as your fist with jagged edges? A misplaced shotgun shell or golf ball? Oh, no! It was only a tiny, round pebble about the size of a pin’s head. I looked at it in amazement. How could anything so small, so light, so feeble, so dull, disturb a grown man? Under my heel it felt like Pikes Peak, but in my hand it was insignificant.

Slipping my foot back into the gravel-free shoe, I enjoyed again that marvelous feeling of comfort and rightness. My step possessed new spring and joy as I went forward. I had removed the offender. The little piece of gravel was gone, but not the memory of it.

Thinking about it since, I have wondered why the Lord did not make our bad habits, our sloppily thinking, our misshaped motives, our distorted ambitions, our self-centeredness to feel like gravel in our shoes, compelling us to do something about them sooner than we do!

It is indeed unfortunate that our sins seem like soft lining in our shoes, giving life an ease and a comfort that betrays us into danger. What a boon it would be to the entire race if at the very beginning of our false evaluations we felt them as gravel in our shoes! Instead they seem so free and easy, so attractive as sources of excitement and pleasure! They are like the dope peddlers who give free narcotics to high school youngsters, and later, when the youngsters have become addicts, charge them multiple prices for every “spree.” The price tags are never seen in the initial periods. Likewise, sin never seems as gravel in our shoes when it first comes to us.

I have lived long enough as a man, and had sufficient contact with humanity at large, to say emphatically: Blessed is the man whose sins become like gravel in his shoes! Blessed is the man whose sins prod him into a consciousness of them, jabbing and disturbing him until he stops and does something about them.

Kneeling before God and confessing one’s sins, rising from one’s knees and going forth to live a Christian life, is not unlike stopping long enough to get the gravel out of your shoes, and finding new comfort and joy in your walking.

This old world is filled with people who are unhappy, confused, afraid, bitter, resentful, heartbroken; and the reason is that they have sin in their lives and they are not stopping long enough to have it removed.

How about the sins in your shoes? Stop right now, and remove that gravel from your shoes!
Colleges Confer Honorary Degrees

At commencement exercises this week the colleges of the Church of the Nazarene will confer honorary degrees on five ministers or educators.

Bethany Nazarene College is conferring the honorary degree of doctor of divinity on Evangelist C. William Fisher.

In Kankakee, Illinois, at Olivet Nazarene College, the degree of doctor of divinity is being conferred on Rev. Mark Moore, superintendent of the Chicago Central District; and Rev. Roy F. Stevens, business manager, will receive the doctor of laws degree from Northwest Nazarene College.

Pasadena College is also conferring the doctor of laws degree on Herman H. Price, professor of mathematics, in recognition of a lifetime of teaching service in our colleges.

In addition, Northwest Nazarene College has announced the election of Rev. Roy F. Stevens, superintendent of the Minnesota District, to the degree of doctor of divinity. This degree will be conferred in September at the Conference on Evangelism held at the college.

The faculty and board of trustees of Pasadena College have elected Rev. William Sedat, missionary and pioneer biblical translator, to the honorary degree of doctor of letters, to be conferred at the commencement of 1963, at which time the twin son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sedat will be graduating from the college.

FORGE MISSIONS

Report on Miss Cummings

Latest report from Miss Cummings indicates that she has been released from the hospital and is recuperating at the home of our missionary, Miss Koffel, in Carolina, Africa. The excessive bleeding of the throat and nose has been corrected, but Miss Cummings is still weak and anemic from the unusual loss of blood. She is steadily improving but must be careful not to overdo for a while yet. Please continue to pray for Miss Cummings.

Moving Missionaries

Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Alexander have a new post office box number: Their address now is: P.O. Box 48, Florida, Transvaal, Republic of South Africa.

Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Wilkinson are now living at P.O. Box 239, 229 No. Seminary St., Princeton, Indiana.

Rev. and Mrs. John McKay are at Senahu, A.V., Guatemala, Central America.

Rev. and Mrs. Elwood Green are at Senahu, A.V., Guatemala, Central America.

Rev. and Mrs. John Holstead are at 917 22nd Ave., Springfield, Tennessee.

Korean Assembly Meets Again

Our seventh Korean District Assembly met in April. Brother Kim Chong Soo, our district superintendent, was re-elected. He has given us a year of excellent leadership.

The marked solid increases of the past year are an indication of the stability of the work. We now have a membership of 1,000 full members—an increase of 16. There are 1,371 probationers, which represent an increase of 441. The Sunday school enrollment increased 1,092 over the past year to a total of 2,252. Finances increased to more than four million. (This is almost three thousand dollars.) We praise the Lord for His blessings and these fruits that have been gained in His name. Two more of our churches went self-supporting this year, giving us five churches who are now carrying fully their own support. This is wonderful progress for our churches and we are proud of each one of them.

FORGE MISSIONS

New Missionary Address Lists

A revised missionary address list is now available from the Department of Foreign Missions, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City 31, Missouri. Write today for your free copy.

There have been many changes since the last list was printed in October. We urge you to write for your new list to be sure that your mail to your missionaries reaches them.

HOME MISSIONS

Change of Address

Dr. Melza H. Brown, district superintendent of Hawaii, has advised that the family has recently moved to the new district post office box at 4301 Keaka Drive, Honolulu 18, Hawaii.

United District Effort

The Marysville, Ohio, church was truly the product of a united enthusiasm and endeavor on the Northwestern Ohio District. Sponsored by the Home Mission Reserve Army and the zone Home Mission chairman, the church was organized on September 17, last. Marysville is a county seat town, and there is no other Church of the Nazarene in the county.

The initial impact was a tent meeting, sponsored and paid for by the district N.Y.P.S. Then a V.B.S. was held during the summer; a revival in September; and the zone pastors conducted a community survey and canvass, obtaining names of over sixty families favorable to the church. The district N.Y.P.S. made the $3,000 down payment on property that houses a church chapel and four-room parsonage. Rev. Robert Greene is the pastor.

The following month, on the same district, the Archbold, Ohio, church was officially organized. This effort was sponsored by the District Home Mission Reserve Army and the church at Montpelier. The Lord laid the need of the
Archbold community on the heart of Pastor A. G. Meadows and, with ten of his Montpelier church members as a nucleus, revival services were held; again the zone pastors conducted a survey and canvassed the community. The district purchased a church, complete and ready for occupancy, from another denomination, and the organization meeting of the new church was held on October 15. Rev. A. G. Meadows is pastoring the new congregation.

**FLASH**—Within a short while after giving ten of her church members and eighteen from her Sunday school, the Montpelier church attendance was running ahead of the previous year. This is not an isolated case; for experience has proved time and time again that when a church gives of herself to open work in a new community the Lord giveth, along with sure spiritual blessings, an increase in her own numbers, with the multiplied blessings this brings.

**British Isles South**

District Superintendent J. B. Maclagan reports the purchase, from one of our sister denominations, of a church building at Salford, near Manchester. This church (see picture), on freehold ground, is spacious and commodious and was bought complete with pipe organ, pews, pulpit, communion table and chairs, altar rail, baptistry, etc. The sanctuary seats 500 comfortably; the Sunday school hall will accommodate 350; the lecture room, 90. In addition, there are 4 classrooms, choir and minister's vestries, kitchen, and storerooms. A moderate additional outlay will put the building in good repair, and it should provide a real challenge to the congregation, which is pastored by Rev. Andrew Spence. Their former church building is now being sold.

Located on the main Salford-to-Manchester road, seven miles from the British Isles Nazarene College, this church building will be admirably suited for assembly purposes. The 1962 assembly will be held here in June.

**KNOW Your Seminary**

One of the most expressive and often-used words in modern conversation is communication. The way one's life influences another is through communication. Therefore Nazarene Theological Seminary is not only interested in the ideas a person stores in his mind, but also in the way he conveys this knowledge to those he serves.

As a preparation to meet these demands, each student takes a course in pastoral counseling with Professor James P. McGraw as teacher.

In the area of church administration certain courses are required to enable the student to communicate with the persons he serves in the regular functions of the church. A course in pastoral leadership, taught by Dr. Kenneth Rice, is required. Also a one-hour course in ministerial practicum is required. In this course the executives of each department of the general church, the manager of the Publishing House, a lawyer, and others, explain how the church operates on various levels of relationship. In addition to these, each student must earn three credits in actual church work. This field service work is supervised by Mr. Robert Crabtree, who is the Seminary librarian.

Courses in church music are offered by Professor Ray Moore. Professor James McGraw teaches a course in problems of communication in the pastoral ministry, in which helpful guidance is given students in details of effective service.

In combining preaching and serving as practical media for developing a full-bodied ministry, Nazarene Theological Seminary is alerting the students to a keen awareness of the value of communication in fruitful Christian service.

**Lewis T. Corlett, President**

**Publishing House Appoints Children's Music Director**

In its expanding program of service to the Church of the Nazarene and evangelical friends, the Nazarene Publishing House announces the appointment of Miss Joy Latham as children's music director. In this part-time assignment, effective April 1, Miss Latham will coordinate the work of the Music Department of the Publishing House with the children's staffs of the Department of Church Schools and the Junior Fellowship.

Before joining the Church School staff in 1953, Miss Latham earned a bachelor of music degree from Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky, and has had graduate study at the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She has also taught music both in public schools and privately. In addition to this, she spent some time...
as part of an evangelistic team, working with children. Miss Latham has been successful in training directors of children's choral groups, as well as directing her own children's choirs in local and area projects. She is the compiler of "Praises" and "Sunshine." She will continue her work with the Department of Church Schools as director of the nursery curriculum.

A stepped-up program in the publishing of children's music under the Lillenas imprint is planned in view of Miss Latham's appointment. Her contribution to the editorial staff of the Publishing House music department will broaden significantly the total music program of the church.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Former Bresee College Site in Hutchinson Sold

Delegates to the Kansas District Assembly to be held in Wichita, August 1 to 3, will decide what to do with the $87,500 received in the sale recently of the Kansas District Center at Hutchinson. This nine-acre tract of land and a three-story brick building on it were the former site for thirty-five years of the Bresee College, a widely known Nazarene holiness institution.

The Kansas District Center land was sold to the Hutchinson school board and may be used for a student union building and dormitory facilities for Hutchinson Junior College, which is located adjacent to the property.

Bresee College became a part of Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Oklahoma, in 1940. The Kansas District purchased the property and had used it in district events until this year.

Dr. Ray Hance, Wichita, the Kansas District superintendent, said he did not know whether the district delegates would vote to buy a new site for a student union building and dormitory facilities for Hutchin­son Junior College, which is located adjacent to the property.

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He speaks of love manifested, love reflected, and love made perfect.

Love manifested: Certain it is that evidence of divine love is needed beyond the revelation of nature which speaks with an ambiguous tongue. The gods of the heathen are cruel, lustful, capricious, by nature. God’s nature is loving. If one is a member of the church he loves and serves, with Rev. Dewey C. Howard, of the Church of the Nazarene, in the Halltown cemetery.

MRS. CLARA HARBOLE (nee McFarland) was born September 22, 1887, and died March 2, 1962, at the age of eighty-five. He and his wife united with the church under the ministry of Dr. Oscar J. Rice, and were faithful and devoted members until their deaths. Their oldest son, Elmer, was united in marriage to William Harbold. She had been a Christian for many years, and her life was an example of the experience of entire sanctification. Her influence will continue to tell for the Lord. She is survived by two sons, Richard and Carlos, Jr., both of Columbus; also five brothers and five sisters. Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Miles A. Simmons, pastor of the Woodward church, with interment in Union Cemetery, Columbus.

CARLOS A. EVANS, long-time member of First Church of the Nazarene, Columbus, Ohio, died March 6, 1962, at the age of eighty. He is survived by his wife, whom he united with the church under the ministry of Dr. Oscar J. Rice, and was faithful and devoted members until their deaths. Their daughter, Marilyn Davis; and four sisters. Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Miles A. Simmons, with interment in Union Cemetery, Columbus.

MRS. LOIS LOUTHAN (nee Letner) was born January 30, 1910, at Washington, a daughter, Janet Kathleen, of Ronan, Montana; a son, Sterling Chadwick, on April 1/. and one daughter, Mrs. Luther T. Lacock, of Ronan, Montana. Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Dewey C. Howard, of the Church of the Nazarene, in the Halltown cemetery.

LOREN O. JOHNSON was born October 11, 1886, near Halltown, Missouri, and died February 18, 1962, at his home in Hillsboro, Missouri. A son, James, was converted in 1948, at the age of sixty-two, and joined the Nazarene church in 1954. He was a devout Christian and served the church six years as Sunday School superintendent, two years as church secretary, and six years on the Nazarene board. In 1906 he was married to Bertha Ballard. To this union were born six sons and two daughters.

Reynard Russell; a daughter, Marilyn Davis; and four sisters. Interment was in Brumfield Cemetery, Columbus.

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French Churchmen Praise Religious Freedom Guarantee in Algerian Pact

PARIS (EPS)—Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders in France have welcomed the inclusion of guarantees of religious freedom and other human rights in the Algerian cease-fire agreement and have said that these guarantees are of great importance to the Christian communities.

The agreement stipulates that “the Algerian state will unreservedly subscribe to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and will base its institutions on democratic principles and on equality of political rights between all citizens without discrimination of race, origin, or religion.”

Premier of West Nigeria Calls on Christians Without Discrimination

IBADAN (EPS)—Chief S. L. Akintola, premier of Western Nigeria, has called on Christian missionaries to intensify their efforts to spread Christianity in order to help rebuild the world.

He said in Ibadan that, while Africans can do without imperialism and all its implications, they “cannot do without God and His all-embracing love and grace.”

Chief Akintola, who is a Baptist, added that “freedom without God is chaos, and sovereignty devoid of brotherly love is anarchy.”

He congratulated missionary workers in Nigeria on the able manner in which they had pursued what, he said, was their primary aim—the spreading of Christianity as a basis for the promotion of unity among the peoples of the world.

Christian College Meet

NEW YORK—The place of the Christian college in the modern world will be explored on many fronts at the Third Quadrennial Convocation of Christian Colleges at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, June 17 to 21.

More than five hundred college presidents, board members, faculty, students, and Protestant executives responsible for higher education are expected to attend.

Catholic Membership Statistics Released

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MNS)—Statistics reveal that Catholicism added approximately thirteen million persons during 1961, a rate of increase about the same as that of the world population.

The United States ranks third in number of Catholics, with 42,104,900 (22.9 per cent of the population). We are exceeded by Brazil, with 62,731,539 Catholics, or 93.5 per cent of the total population, and Italy, 48,782,515 (99.5 per cent of the total).

In the following major countries over nine-tenths of the population is Roman Catholic: Mexico (94.4), Poland (94.7), Belgium (95.5), Peru (95.7), Colombia (97.1), and Spain (99.7).

Conducted by W. T. PURKISER, Editor

You made the statement a while ago in “The Answer Corner” that only one man claimed infallibility, the pope, and you said some have their doubts. I have just received a book published by the Roman church which says, “When we say that the Pope is infallible we mean only when he is speaking for the Church, Christ’s Church, which is infallible, which cannot err. Only when he speaks for the Church as Christ gave authority to the apostles do we claim his infallibility. We claim no such protection for him when he speaks on other matters either in his personal or private life.” It also says, “Neither do we claim the priests can forgive sins. Sins are forgiven only by God. Whenever the sacraments of the church are administered by the priest and accepted by the seeker their sins are forgiven not by the priest but by the Lord through the sacraments administered by the priest.” Did you understand it this way?

Yes, that’s the way I understood it. And it is precisely the infallibility of the pope speaking ex cathedra, as it is called, or for the church, which I most seriously doubt. I have particularly in mind such dogmas as the efficacy of the mass to shorten “purgatory,” the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was born without sin, and that she was taken up bodily into heaven.

I also vigorously deny that the sacraments of the Roman church as administered by the priest are necessary for forgiveness and salvation. Certainly, it is God who forgives sins. But the heresy of the Roman church is to teach that this takes place only through the mediation of a priest administering the sacraments. “There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (I Timothy 2:5). Neither the Virgin Mary nor the priest have any necessary part in salvation at all. When I am sick, I don’t want the doctor’s mother or his servant. In the sickness of sin, only the Great Physician himself can bring the cure.

Incidentally, I strongly object to the title given to Mary as “the mother of God.” This is utterly unscriptural. Mary was the mother of Jesus’ humanity, and she is called the mother of the Son of God. But He who was before Abraham (John 8:58) was before Mary, and Mary was not the mother of the eternal Word, which became flesh by the will of God.

In John 15:22, Jesus said, “If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin.” This looks as though in cases of complete ignorance of God He does not charge anyone with sin. So can we conclude that the heathen are lost because of volitional sin, or do they lose because no one has yet spoken to them?

It seems to me these words are misunderstood if made to apply to all sinfulness and sense of guilt. The reference is to one kind of sin—rejection of Jesus Christ as the Messiah, and the persecution of His people on that account.

I doubt that there is any such thing as complete ignorance of God or complete absence of any sense of moral law. Romans 2 makes it clear that God judges those outside the scope of His special revelation in Christ and the Scriptures by the law which is written in their hearts and consciences. But the tragic human fact is that “all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). To this, every religion in the world bears witness. The great missionary imperative is based on the fact that the gospel is the remedy for sin.

I was driving down the highway, keeping a safe distance behind a truck because of the wet and slippery condition of the road, when suddenly a car came from behind, very fast, and proceeded to crowd in between me and the truck, forcing me to swerve to avoid being hit, and shattering my windshield with mud in the rear window of this vehicle was a black and orange sign reading: “Go to Church Sunday Night—Church of the Nazarene.” One who carries a sign identifying himself as a Nazarene bears tacit testimony to being saved and sanctified. In the face of such impudence and discourtesy as exhibited by this motorist, no testimony to such a state of grace could be convincing.

Agreed. The answer is not to take off the sticker, but to drive at all times with Christian courtesy.
Dr. G. B. Williamson, assisted by District Superintendent Gene E. Phillips, dedicated this Bedford-stone church which houses the congregation of the First Church of the Nazarene of Iowa City, Iowa. The structure contains 8,500 square feet of floor space, with a seating capacity of 300 in the sanctuary. At the same time, a new four-bedroom parsonage located near the church was dedicated. Rev. Harold L. Keeney is the pastor.

Rev. and Mrs. Dwight E. Neuen-schwan, pastors of the First Church of the Nazarene, Salina, Kansas, along with six adult sponsors, recently brought twenty-four of their teen-agers for a tour of general church offices. While in Kansas City the group visited the General Headquarters building, Nazarene Theological Seminary, and the Nazarene Publishing House. The picture was taken during their tour at the Publishing House. Mr. Neuen-schwan is the Kansas District N.Y.P.S. president.

Rev. and Mrs. Mark Smith arrive for church by helicopter in connection with the observance of the first anniversary in the new building of Long Beach First Church of the Nazarene. The scene is the parking lot next to the church. As an added item of interest, 1,179 copies of the Gospel of Mark were dropped, this being the number of languages into which portions of the New Testament have been translated. Congratulatory messages were received from former Vice-President Richard Nixon and Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty.

A very successful ten-day “Church in Action Exhibition and Convention” was held in the church at Troon, Scotland. Colorful exhibition stalls illustrated every department of the Church of the Nazarene. The convention services were opened by District Superintendent George Frame, and every heart was challenged by his inspiring address on “The Rise of the Church of the Nazarene.” Other ministers dealt with such subjects as “The Challenge of the Great Commission,” “Worship in the Church of the Nazarene,” “The Message of the Church,” “The Church and Youth,” “Radio Evangelism,” “The Power of the Printed Page,” “Church Music,” “Christian Education,” and “The Bible in the Church.” Rev. Hugh H. Gorman is the local pastor.
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