

THE WORD OF TRUTH

Published Monthly

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"—Ino. 8:32.

Volume 18

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Number 1

"Of His own will begat He us with the Word of Truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures" (James 1:18)

SET FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE GOSPEL

SPECIAL SONG EDITION

In the past several years, I have felt a constraint to enlarge upon the repertoire of songs that are available to believers. Understanding that many great and notable hymns have been given to the church by saints that are departed, the editor has also become acutely aware that many of these songs have been lost because of the sifting of organized religion. The songs that are contained in this issue are not meant to be construed as evidence, however, of a discontent with the quality of songs that are in our hymnals—they have for years comforted, edified, and exhorted my spirit, and I thank God for them. These songs have, for the most part, been the fruitage of the instruction that has been reaped from those older songs, and are to be taken as an adjunct to them. You will note that the tune to which these songs are to be sung is familiar.

HOPE

To the tune of "Oh, I Want To See Him"

Soon He that shall come will come;

Tarrying shall end.

With angelic shout He'll come—

God our Christ shall send.

His reward shall be with Him;

every eye shall see.

On that day

We shall say

"Honor to Him be."

Quickly come, my Savior;

End this life for me.

Change this mortal into

Immortality.

One thing I've desired;

One hope there's for me:

Righteousness,

Holiness,

All Thy beauty see.

Please turn to page 2

In This Issue . . .

Poignant Poetry by Linda Blakely - page 8

The Word of Truth

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Rest, my brothers, in the hope
That the Lord shall come.
Weakness shall no longer be—
No more need to run.
Grace shall then be brought to you
Eye hath never seen.
He'll descend;
Trouble end.
Nothing then between.
Wrestle faithful soldiers;
Patiently now run,
Seeking the appearance
Of the Father's Son.
Nothing shall offend you
While you trust in Him.
Freedom waits
In His gates;
Gone shall be thy sin.

Comfort

To "Amazing Grace"

O weary soul within my breast,
I speak these words to thee;
I know how flesh doth war against
the newness within me.
With earthly lusts it deigns to lure—
entice the soul away;
It urges it to find its rest
on earth without delay.
This constant war doth always rage—
sometimes I grow so weak,
I scarce can muster up the strength
unto the Lord to speak.
And yet, my God is on my side
to strengthen and lift up;
I fight the flesh—but not alone—
the Lord with me doth sup.
Lift up your head my weary soul;
God sends His strength to thee.
The Holy Spirit—great in pow'r—
makes war triumphantly.
Soon flesh shall drop and rot away;
what glory that shall be
When unencumbered we shall rise
our precious Lord to see.

Anticipation

To "We Are Passing Away"

The flesh no victory shall have,
and death shall lose its sting,
And heav'n and earth shall pass away
when Christ His angels bring.

He is coming again.

He is coming again.

Let us strive against sin;

Then a crown of life we'll win.

Death swallowed up of life shall be—
then immortality.

No victory the grave shall have;
no more a'dying we.

Our release soon shall come.

Our release soon shall come.

When the myst'ry is done

We'll be known as God's sons.

Ought I to melancholy be
with such a hope as this.

A few short years of labor here
and then eternal bliss.

Oh my soul now rejoice.

Oh my soul now rejoice.

Thou hast heard His sweet voice

Telling thee thou art His choice.

Thou prince of evil flee from me;
my glory now I see.

And soon with thee I shall have done
and then the head I'll be.

Thou art spoiled evil one.

Thou art spoiled evil one.

I can see Jesus won,

And His reign has begun.

Christ, The King

To "Amazing Grace"

Christ is reigning now in pow'r
And the Right Hand of the Father,
Ruling in this very hour;
And to Him the people gather—
Expecting from henceforth
'Til enemies shall bow,
Confessing He is Lord.
And by grace we love Him now.

David's Throne is occupied
By the Son of David—Jesus.
Gracious gifts are now supplied
By this King who died to free us—
Granting to those elect
Repentance and forgiveness,
Sending the gift of faith
Now according to the promise.

What can hinder He who reigns,
Holding forth a righteous scepter?
None can halt His holy gains;
Everywhere He is the Victor.
Though His reign's oft obscured,
Still He alone doth govern;
And those who see Him so
Of eternal things will learn.

The Election of Grace

To "How Great Thou Art"

Electing Grace, the reason for salvation—
The choice in Christ made ere the world was made.
From the beginning all saints were accepted
In the Beloved, on whom sin was laid.
Foreknown by God who didst predestinate
To be conformed to His own Son,
The sons He chose in Christ and He did love,
Not for their works—by Grace 'twas done.

Whom God ordained unto this life eternal
Believed the word of their salvation sent.
The word of reconciliation, sounded,
Received by them, didst cause them to repent.
The Lamb was slain before the world was made;
Eternal purpose could not fail,
And saints in Him were raised up from the dead
Electing Grace, Thy God we hail.

As Isaac was, we are the sons of promise.
Not products of the will or flesh we be—
But by the will of Sovereignty begotten
From death to life, brought forth by God's decree,
Ere born were loved by He who rules o'er all.
Though nothing was by nature found,
No cause within us for eternal love,
Yet to us now it doth abound.

And when the earth shall be removed forever,
And clothed in righteousness we saints shall be
Before the Throne of Him who chose and called us,
We stand, His glory and His face to see.
We'll shout, "Salvation unto Him who reigns;
"All glory, laud, and honor be!
"By Grace through faith we passed as thru the
fire—
Not of ourselves," we cry. "Twas He!"

Unshaken Kingdom

To "When He Cometh To Make Up His Jewels"

Fear not flock though thou art little;
The Father's good pleasure
Is to give you that great Kingdom
That is now unseen.
We shall soon be possessing
That which now we're embracing;
For the time is appointed
When we shall be seen.

Heav'n above us, earth around us
God soon will be shaking.
Christ descending, tempor'l ending;
Obscurement doth end.
Things that cannot be shaken
Stand amidst all the quaking;
For that Kingdom within us
Doth not have an end.

King and Kingdom are now hidden;
No earthling can see them.
High above where is no tumult,
Where God doth reside,
Visibles made for shaking
No attention be taking;
For the things which we cherish
From vision doth hide.

"Look Not Upon Me"

SONG OF SOLOMON 1

To "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Lover of my soul, draw me,
And I will run after Thee
In the chambers that are Thine.
Love remembered, Lord, more than wine.
How the upright do love Thee,
Crave Thy love so fervently;
Thy Name is as Ointment poured,
And Thy Person, Lord, is adored.

I am black, ye saints most high;
Look not on me ere I sigh.
On me, comely though I be,
Blackness from the sun ye shall see;
Vineyards have I kept in pain,
Yet my own unkept remains.
Beauty, freshness, odors sweet
From my vineyard you will not meet.

Tell me, Jesus whom I love,
Where Thou feedest up above,
Where Thy flock doth rest at noon
There I seek to sit very soon.
Why should I be turned away
When I seek Thee all the day;
Yearning, cry I after Thee,
Thy green pastures, Lord, let me see.

Hark, the answer now I hear,
And 'tis pleasant to my ear:
"If thou know not, woman fair,
"Follow footsteps of the flock there.
"Feed beside the shepherd's tents;
"To those shepherds thou art sent.
"There in congregation sweet
"Thou my Person soon shall meet."

Before Preaching

To "Amazing Grace"

Throughout this day we've waged a war
that's left us weak and sore,
And yet we hunger for the truth.
O preacher, tell us more.

Behold, these pilgrims journeying
have need of daily bread;
Ye preacher, as ye now stand forth,
declare what God hath said.

The blessings of the Lord our God
be with you brother there;
And while you speak the precious truth
God bless our hearing here.

Inner War

To "The Old Rugged Cross"

Lord, I need Thy great grace
In this wide desert place—
No water here for my faint heart.
Yet in Jesus I come;
He's Thy Beloved Son.
Through Him goodness and mercy impart.

In my members, a law—
Vexing since it I saw,
Against righteous purposes wars,
Hinders me in my walk,
Often causes vain talk.
From Thy bosom oft seems it has tore.

How I loathe this vain part;
Oft it grieves my new heart,
Against Spirit always doth lust.
Seems it never will die;
Yet Thou Lord didst not lie.
Immortality for me a must.

Crucify the old man;
Lord, by Thy grace I can.
No provision will I make for it,
Set affection on high.
All Thy truth I will buy;
And in heavenlies with Thee I'll sit.

Chorus:

Lord, like Jacob and Esau, within
Is my struggle against my own sin;
Yet I'll cleave to Thee with all my soul,
Expecting Thou wilt make me whole.

Expression

To "Whiter Than Snow"

My Father, my spirit doth now thirst for Thee;
This earth has no water that satisfies me.
Thou'st drawn me with tenderness
Thy Person to see.
Oh Father, behold Thou;
In truth make me free.

How precious Thy Son; since by Grace I believed,
A joy in atonement I now have received.
Not works of the Law claim I;
No merit conceived.
But rest I in Jesus;
My cares are relieved.

The Spirit Thou sendest doth now comfort me,
Creating His fruit and conforming to Thee.
Abounding in hope through Him,
By Him I'm holy.
Oh, take Him not from me
Lest lifeless I be.

I love Thee, Oh Lord, with an imparted love.
By nature I cannot aspire to above.
My heart is Thy temple, Lord;
And I Thy beloved.
Receive me in Jesus;
Send peace as a dove.

Chorus:

By Grace I'm saved—
Yes, by Grace I'm saved.
With heart I confess that
By Grace I am saved.

Man's Will

To the tune of "At Calvary"

God pronounces judgement on all men
For 'tis found in truth that all have sinned.
All by nature turned away from Him,
Are sons of wrath.
Nothing good in man can now be found;
In him sore transgression doth abound.
Nor hath he an ear for Gospel sound—
A child of wrath!

Nought of man can be retained as good;
What he should not do he always would.
Never doth he take the course he should—
God's enemy!
Let no devilish doctrine now confuse;
Nor permit Satan our minds to use.
Rather on the sober truth now muse—
God's enemy!

Of the fallen man, the will is part;
It was too defiled when sin didst start.
Nor can it sound judgement e'er impart
Apart from grace.
Wills of men in bondage now to sin,
Captive to the baser thoughts within,
And content to placid rest within
Apart from grace!

Nothing found in man whereby to choose
Things eternal which he doth abuse;
With new will the man must be infused
By sovereign grace.

In the quick'ning pow'r of Christ is brought
Will to thus embrace what once was fought,
And the things of God are only sought
By Sovereign grace.

"Things Above"

To "O Come, Angel Band"

The things which are above, we're told
are at God's own right hand
Where Christ now sits majestically
the risen Son of man.
If we've been raised with Him,
Delivered from our sin,
The Lord now commands us to seek those things
Which we have come to love;
To set our affection not on the earth,
but on those things above.

The things above reveal to us
a God that's satisfied;
A reigning and expectant Christ
in Whom we now abide.
Here saints "accepted" see,
Anointed NOW they be,
God's purpose eternal shall be fulfilled,
His work He shall complete;
A view from above doth attest to this,
and that is what we preach.

A Prayer

To "Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

Before Thy Throne, we boldly come
For mercy, Father, in the Son.
We seek for grace to do Thy will,
To calm our hearts and remain still.
So helpless we without Thee, Lord;
Our hearts receive Thy pure good word.
Our needs divers, our foes are great;
So we in faith before Thee wait.

Behold our sick with whom we live;
Compassion, mercy, lifting give.
Recall we how Christ healed oppressed,
Relieving hearts and giving rest;
And now commit we these to Thee.
Lord lift them up mercifully.
'Twill comfort we who for them pray
While at Thy mercy-seat we stay.

Lord, we have spoken of Thy Grace
To those 'midst whom our footsteps trace;
It seemed to us their ears were dull.
Their hearts into death's sleep were lulled.
Wilt Thou not quicken Thy own Seed?
The Spirit-life is what these need.
Breathe on them, Lord, that they might live;
Repentance and forgiveness give.

Our families, Father, need Thy Grace;
Oh, let each member see Thy face.
Our children save from Satan's snare;
Raise them to war a good warfare.
Let us instruct them faithfully—
Not negligent nor slothful be.
May wives and husbands live for Thee,
And in their office faithful be.

And, Lord, behold our gatherings
When we assemble for blessings;
Bless word and song, bless mouth and ear.
Let all the truth of Jesus hear.
Empower the preachers of the Word;
May all confess Thou art the Lord.
Let no assembly be in vain;
Fill all Thy temple with Thy train.

Happiness

Happiness in this world, when it comes,
comes incidentally. Make it the object
of pursuit, and it leads us a wild-goose
chase, and is never attained. Follow
some other object, and very possibly we
may find that we have caught happi-
ness without dreaming of it.

The Kingdom of God

To "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

Holy Father, high,
In whom our springs lie,
Honor, praise, and glory be to Thee!
Reigning righteous still,
None resist Thy will,
Ruling righteously with majesty.
Hallelujah!
All things are of Thee, O Holy One;
Blessing, Honor
To Thee, Father, and unto Thy Son.

Diverse from the rest,
Thy Kingdom is best—
Ruling over lower Kingdoms seen,
Out of sight to man,
Far beyond his span.
All the visuals are in between.
Higher, stronger
Than all other kingdoms, stands Thine own—
From obscureness
Manifested as Thy Seed was sown.

When Thy Kingdom's found
Grace and truth abound;
Joyful when we know that Thou dost reign.
'Tis the Gospel Word
That declares the Lord
As He who in pow'r doth never wane.
Blessed Gospel
That declares the truth of Sovereign rule;
Kingdom Gospel
Bringing us unto a higher view.

Father, we delight
In this glor'ous sight;
Everlasting Kingdom now received.
No price is too great
For Thy Kingdom's sake;
Worth far more than that which once deceived.
Treasure precious.
All things count we dung and loss for this.
Ever give us
To possess Thy Kingdom's Treasuries.

Though it may seem small,
It shall spread o'er all
Like the leaven, all the lump to fill
Spreading by Thy might—
Though an unseen sight,
On the earth fulfilling all Thy will.
Holy Father,
Thank Thee for the Kingdom's sure increase;
Make it flourish.
May our vision of it never cease.

Schooled to soon possess
Kingdom glorious;
Soon the time shall come by Sovereign will.
Righteousness shall flow;
Truth unhindered glow.
And our enemies shall all be still.
Hasten, Father.
Perfect that which Thou hath now begun;
Give us patience
'Till the day our opposition's done.

The Ways of God

To "Onward Christian Soldiers"

God declares to sinful man
That His ways are high.
Hidden from their vision,
When they draw not nigh.
Higher than the hea-vens
Are above the earth,
Infinite in majesty,
And priceless in their worth.
Always found in full ac-cord
With His charac-ter
Never found opposing
He who's just and pure.

Saints breathe their requests to Him
Knowing He doth hear.
Yet divers His answers
Oft, no logic there.
His ways are past finding out
Only by faith seen
Wisdom and uprightness now
Alone are found in Him.
Mark the path of righte-ous- M-en;
Brighter doth i-t grow.
Yet in ways accomplished
Which man doth not know.

God hath chosen to impute
Righteousness to those
Who before creation
He in Christ didst choose.
Yet the way He doth impute
Is not like as man
Merit enters not the case
Excluded from the plan.
All His ways a myste-ry
To the car-nal mind
Yet when faith perceives them
Joy and peace we find.

Life Begins Each Morning

Life begins anew, each morning;
All before has passed away,
While the night restores, through magic,
Strength to start another day.

Every care and disappointment—
Which have troubled much before,
Night has hidden in oblivion—
As it closed its darkened door.

Leave them there—as light of dawning
Shows the hope of new-born day,
Open not the door behind you—
But, go forward on your way.

Wells Uncovered

To "Jesus Gave Her Water"

Wells of holy water
obscured by heavy stones—
Stones of men's traditions
and by false prophets sown.
These stones we'll be moving
And grace receiving;
We will drink the water
That flows out from the Throne.

Brethren, gather 'round us
and help these stones to move;
Let us work together
God's perfect will to prove.
Cast down vain traditions,
Imaginations,
Meekly now receive truth
When these stones are removed.

These stones be right heavy;
we need your prayers, dear saints.
Long the sheep have famished;
oft thirsty, they grow faint.
Let's labor together—
Aid one another.
Soon we'll be rejoicing;
No longer we'll be faint.

—o—

The Father Seen

To "Precious Memories"

Father, Glorious,
High exalted,
Reigning over all the earth,
None can stay Thee
Nor upbraid Thee.
Righteousness Thy loins doth gird.
Fire around Thee,
Angels praising,
In Thy courts a spirit of awe.
E'er commanding;
Servants sending.
Breathless when this sight I saw.

Thou beholdest
All men's doing;
Naked be their deeds to Thee.
Nothing's hidden;
Sin's forbidden.
With omniscience Thou dost see.

Thou art changeless,
Holy Father;
Purposes eternal be.
All Thy gifts, Lord,
Callings, and Word
N'er repented of by Thee.

Chorus:

Hallelujah!
Glory to Thee
For these things are giv'n me—
Not forbidden
And not hidden,
But revealed to me by Thee.

My Testimony

"There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood"

God's purpose stands immutable
And none can stay His hand
He works according to His will
His pow'r none can withstand
From heav'n He drew me to Himself
And wooed me in His tender love
And thus I came by grace to be
His child, born from above.

I walk now in the light of God
My steps are ordered of the Lord
He leads in paths of righteousness
According to His Word
And as I stay my mind on Him
He keeps me in His perfect peace
A joy unspeakable doth come
And from sin there's full release.

The Holy Spirit dwells within
Infirmities to aid
And though I know not how to pray
Yet an intercession's made
My prayer like incense goes to God
Through Jesus' precious Name
And in the Son I have access
To Him who's e'er the same.

Let none attempt to halt my course
Or dim my vision of Christ
I've found in Him true righteousness
And I claim His sacrifice
I praise the Lord Who sent the Son
The devil's work to destroy
And I labor now to enter rest
Where nought shall e'er annoy.

Trust in the Lord with all thy heart
To thy understanding do not lean
In all thy ways acknowledge Him
And a clear path shall be seen
Do not undertake to set thy course
But rather trust in Jesus Christ
And ye who yet are thirsty still
Come and buy wine without price.

*To Find Joy
You Must Share
Happiness*

POIGNANT POETRY

By Linda Blakely

UNSHORN GRAIN

By God's Word, I am created.
His love's my daily meat,
and I, His seed, shall grow and live
to kneel before His feet.

I am a babe, I've much to learn
and have great room to grow.
Before I'm ready to go Home
there's much I need to know.

I am a child, but in due time
I'll be a soul complete.
Until that day I'll trust in God
and be His crop unreaped.

* * *

THE LIVING CREATOR

The snow flutters through the air
with not a care
as to where it will land.
I put out my hand
and feel its cold softness against my palm
in the night that is calm
and I feel a miracle from God above
and I feel love.

The sun shines its firey flames of gold
as summer shows itself so bold
I lift my face with a squinting eye
to the light filled sky
and I feel the warmth of its rays
on cloudless days
and I feel a miracle from God above
and I feel love.

The seasons and their beauty in their way
will always, to me, display
the ever presence of the Great Creator
living now and forever
and in Him I shall always be alive
and as each season arrives
I feel a miracle from God above
and I feel love.

* * *

THE PATH TO HEAVEN

Two steps forward, one step back,
the struggling Christian's hard to track.
But one thing's sure, His path is straight
and will lead to, and through, Heav'n's gate.

* * *

SERVICE TO GOD

Lord, let me be a silv'ry mirror
reflecting all Thy ways
of purity, goodness and love
to all throughout my days.

Lord, let me be as a pane of glass,
transparent, for all to see
Thy Holy Spirit, so divine,
dwelling within me.

Lord, let me be, as You would will,
to serve Thy purpose best.
Let me be used as You see fit,
'til my eternal rest.

BILL AND JUDY PARSONS
3324 77TH
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WASTED TIME

Thinking is but wasted time,
When thoughts dwell not in realms sublime,
Sublime thoughts have dominion o'er
Deception's ill seducing power.

Tis better off to work than think—
Than into miry places sink,
Thus when these places 'round us lurk,
Then cease from thoughts, and to the work!

Abaddon is the author of
Those thoughts which come not from above,
Believe in God, resist their force,
Impute them to their proper source!

Aspire to view that opened door,
And thus to heavenly places soar,
Where thoughts do reign in realms sublime,
And thinking is not wasted time.

A.G.S. Jr.
5-28-74

There are things that only last a "little while," and that "little while" is from the perspective of faith. Think of these declarations concerning things that shall be only in a "little while:" The "wicked" shall lose their place in a "little while" (Psa. 37:10); a "little while" remains until the heavens and the earth are shaken (Hag. 2:6; Heb. 10:37); our sufferings are only "for a while" (I Pet. 5:10); "shortly" Satan shall be "bruised" under OUR feet (Rom. 16:20). Should we not rejoice in the brevity of these things?

Why do we sin? Certainly not because we have to! Those that are born again are admonished "awake unto righteousness and SIN NOT" (I Cor. 25:34). The things of Holy Scripture are also written unto us that "we sin not" (I Jno. 2:1). Further "we are not debtors to the flesh to live after the flesh" (Rom. 8:12), and "He that is in us is greater than he that is in the world" (I Jno. 4:4). Besides these things "God is faithful, who

will not suffer (permit) us to be tempted above that we are able to bear, but will **with** the temptation make a way of escape that ye may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13). In view of these things, how humbled and contrite ought we to be when we sin and "come short of the glory of God!"

I have casually observed that when people attend a fellowship of believers, their general deportment, preferences, listening habits, contributing habits — all manifest their relationship to the Living God. If they do not sing the songs of Zion, sit as far back as they can, attend erratically, and forget their Bibles, I have found that they are generally in poor spiritual condition. There have been very few, if any, exceptions to these observations.

I have observed that in our day too many supposed believers have a religion that is not for their children. Their studies, retreats, etc., are generally called and attended without the offspring. This trend is interesting in view of the Word of God, which seemed to always bring the "little ones" into full connection with the assembly of the righteous (Ex. 10:10; Duet. 20:14; Josh. 8:35; II Chron. 20:13; Ezra. 8:21).

Satan is bold — his followers are bold. Especially is this true in his followers that claim to be followers of Christ. They resist the Truth boldly, blatantly, openly. They are not hesitant to speak their carnal minds and too often stand in opposition to the forthright proclamation of the Word of God. They are not afraid to recruit the children of the Lord, if possible, to their particular sect and school of thought. The thought has occurred to me that the righteous "are bold as a lion", and that these traits ought to be found within them in reference to their responses to Satanic falsehood. Let every child of God become bold and forceful in his dealing with Satan's children, sparing no feelings.