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Trumpet OF THE LORD

"I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: Ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence."

ISAIAH 62:6

VOL XXI

JULY 2009

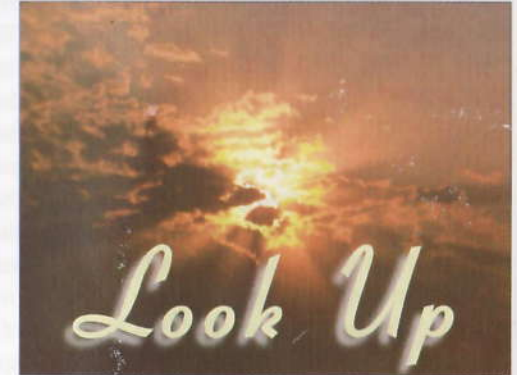
No. 4

EDITORIAL

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Lk. 21:28).

There seems to be a sudden and dramatic increase in end-time events that have caught the world's attention. Political leaders and law-givers are viewing these events with deep apprehension. We have not seen a global economic meltdown since the days of the Great Depression of 1929 that led directly to the rise to power of Adolf Hitler, in 1933. The NASA backed forecast of planet Nibiru and the earth's pole shift has increased fears of a cataclysmic upheaval in the year 2012. A new study from the National Academy of Sciences outlines grim possibilities on Earth for a worst-case scenario solar storm. This peak in solar activity is also expected to come around 2012. The outbreak of the swine flu pandemic has only caused more fear. Many are predicting that the end of the world is imminent. Even some godly men have been warning people about the days ahead.

We read in Luke 21:25-27, *"There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming*



over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory" (GNB).

The Believer's Bible Commentary states: "These verses describe the convulsions of nature and the cataclysms **on the earth**... There will be disturbances involving **the sun, moon, and stars** that will be clearly visible from the earth. Heavenly bodies will be moved out of their normal orbits. It is thought that this could cause the earth to be tilted off its axis. Great tidal waves could sweep over the land. Panic will seize mankind because of heavenly bodies on a near-collision course with the earth."

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How are we expected to react when we hear such things? Should we break into a cold sweat and panic? Or should we simply shrug it off as the foolish rantings of some doomsday prophets? Jesus tells us exactly what we must do. He said, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Lk. 21:28).

What exactly did Jesus mean by those words? He surely did not mean that we should spend the rest of our lives looking up at the sky, did He? No! There is more than meets the eye in the words of Jesus. Jesus is referring to the attitude with which we must live in this world. Everything around us is failing.

Businesses are going under. Nations are collapsing. The earth itself is on a collision course. We really do not know what to expect next. What we

need to guide us through this unprecedented catastrophe is a personal vision. A personal vision is like a navigation system. One night, when some children of God were driving down a motorway, they were caught in thick fog. The driver could see absolutely nothing. Though the motorway itself had little traffic, the exits were lost in the haze. But their GPS system was working and displayed the layout of the roads ahead and all other necessary details; and so they were able to reach their destination safely. Spiritually too, when everything is misty and blurred, a personal vision will navigate us through the fog. It was circumstances such as this that Jesus had in mind

when He said, "Look up." We must live with an upward vision.

'Looking up' speaks of a life of prayer. "My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; **in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up**" (Psa. 5:3). 'Morning' speaks of the Coming of the Lord. When we arise to seek the Lord every morning, it must be a foretaste of that bright and golden morning when we shall arise to greet the Lord. Our prayer must not simply be the function of our lips. Our body, soul and spirit must pray. This is why in our prayers, while our body is in the posture of prayer, our soul longs for God and our spirit seeks Him.

Spiritually, when everything is misty and blurred, a personal vision will navigate us through the fog. We must live with an upward vision.

'Looking up' also speaks of living with a heavenly vision. Again, our body, as well as our soul and spirit, must look up. Let us understand the meaning of this.

LET YOUR BODY LOOK UP

When a person physically looks up, others can see him doing it. Thus, the 'body looking up' speaks of living with an anticipation of the Coming of the Lord in such a way that others can testify of our eager longing. We read in Luke 9:51,53, "And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem."

The face of Jesus was fixed towards Jerusalem and others could see it. Similarly, we must fix our gaze towards the

New Jerusalem. If a person is travelling to London, his ticket will have 'London' on it, his plane would be London-bound, the tag on his luggage will have a London address and the people accompanying him will be going to the same destination. If Heaven is our destination and our body is looking up, then our physical activity, our choices in our work place, our involvement in church, our faithfulness to God and those above us, the company we keep and the decisions we make will reflect this. Our faces will be set in the direction of New Jerusalem. Our refusal to compromise with the things of the world and our determination not to defile ourselves with sin define our unwavering, steady gaze. "...therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed" (Isa. 50:7).

LET YOUR SOUL LOOK UP

How can the soul of a person look up? St. Paul tells the Colossian church, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). The soul is the seat of our emotions. It is the soul that expresses our 'desires' (Isa. 26:9). If the soul does not have an upward look, it begins to love the things of the earth. Our ambitions and our longings will all be centred on this world. The love of the world is a great enemy of our spiritual life. While the world dazzles us with its entertainments, it turns us into enemies of God Himself. St. Paul argues that we are dead to the world through the Cross of Jesus and, as dead men, we, therefore, have nothing

to do with the world. This being so, we should have nothing to do with the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

There are others for whom the pleasures of this world may have no attraction; but they can often be weighed down with the cares and burdens of this world. This also is the work of the enemy. "...but the cares of the world and the pleasure and delight and glamour and deceitfulness of riches choke and suffocate the Word, and it yields no fruit" (Matt. 13:22, AMP).

LET YOUR SPIRIT LOOK UP

St. Paul also tells the Colossian church, "... seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1). It is the spirit that 'seeks' (Isa. 26:9). Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall

It is the longing soul that drives the spirit to keep seeking. When we 'seek' Him with all our 'heart' we will find Him.

find." While the soul continues to long, it is the spirit which has to seek and search. Children travelling in a car may express their desire for a snack. But it is the one who is driving the car who has to 'seek' and find the place. This illustration can be compared to the longing soul that inspires the spirit to keep seeking. When we 'seek' Him with all our 'heart' we will find Him (Jer. 29:13).

As the body, soul and spirit keep looking up, we shall be preserved from what is to come upon the world. Jesus said, "Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you like a trap. For it will come upon all people

everywhere on earth" (Lk. 21:34,35 GNB). A trap or snare is laid by a hunter to catch the unsuspecting prey. The people of this world will be astonished and terrified by the events that will come upon them. Unsuspecting Christians, however, will be infinitely more terrified, for they 'knew' what was coming but chose to ignore it. The flood came as a snare upon the people of Noah's time. "And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matt. 24:39). This happened because they despised Noah's warnings until the last day. Jesus forewarned us that the time of His return would be like this. He said that people would be eating and drinking, planting and building, marrying and giving in marriage. Although there is nothing intrinsically

wrong with these things, Jesus was giving a stark warning against the sheer peril of people losing their vision and living only for the things of this world. St. Peter warns us of those who will scoff at the Coming of the Lord. "Knowing this first, that in the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (2 Pet 3:3,4 RV).

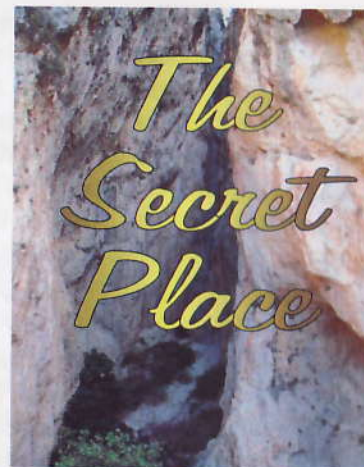
We know neither the day nor the hour of the return of our Lord, but we know He is coming soon. Are we going to follow Noah into the ark or remain like rebels outside the ark? The choice is ours. Let us therefore take heed to our lives and keep looking up, awaiting the return of our Lord.

Upward Gaze

A house painter was at work atop a tall ladder that leaned against the second-story gable of a house. A small boy playing about the yard discovered the ladder, and as is natural for small boys, he began to climb it. His mother, checking on her child, was shocked to find that he was more than half way to the top of the ladder.

As the woman stifled a scream of panic, the man at the top looked down, saw the child, and instantly perceived the danger. Signalling the mother to be silent, he calmly said to the child, "Look up, sonny, look up here to me, and keep climbing." Rung by rung, he coaxed the child ever higher: "Come on now, keep looking up, keep coming." At last, the child safe in his arms, the painter carried him safely to the ground.

Well, each of us is somewhere on a ladder. If we look down, we may be terrified. God is saying, "Look up to me; keep looking up, and you will never be dismayed or undone by whatever is down there." So let's look up, up to where our safety lies; let's look up, and take heart, and keep climbing.



He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" (Psa. 91:1).

A secret place is a place with a limited boundary that is unknown or unseen by others. It is a place of intimacy, safety and solace. Our Lord desires that we dwell (live) with Him in His secret place. Dwelling in the secret place of the Most High shows a life of being hid in the presence of God. Our Lord does not desire that we only visit His secret place from time to time, but that we live with Him there for the remainder of our lives. One who dwells in the Lord's secret place can enjoy His shadow. In such a place, we can experience the power of the Highest (Lk. 1:35). As we learn to live in His secret place, enjoy the sweetness of His presence and relish the blessings it brings, we will not resort to any other place.

1. THE SECRET PLACES OF THE STAIRS

"O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy

countenance is comely" (SoS. 2:14). The 'secret places of the stairs' speak of prayer life. Jesus said, "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly" (Matt. 6:6). In times of trials, difficulties and afflictions we can come into this secret chamber of prayer and lay all our burdens at His feet and pour out our hearts before Him. We can then be relieved of all our anxieties and enjoy His all-surpassing peace. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6,7).

2. THE SECRET OF HIS TABERNACLE

"For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock" (Psa. 27:5). Dwelling in 'Tabernacles' speaks of faith life. So, the 'Secret of His Tabernacle' speaks of the secret life of faith we have with God. This is a mystery to the world. In Hebrews 11:9 we read that, "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise." St. Peter speaks of 'precious faith' (2 Pet. 1:1). We receive this faith by taking heed to His word. Faith life is a life of total dependence on God. It is also a life of total surrender to the will of God. Such a life is a sweet life of rest where we cease from our own striving. As we live in this secret place of

faith life, we will see our God making the impossible possible for us.

3. THE SECRET OF HIS PRESENCE

"Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues" (Psa. 31:20). Being hidden in the 'secret of His presence' from the pride of man shows a **life of humility**. It is a life where we are able to confess, "It is no longer I but Christ". God dwells only with such humble saints. *"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones"* (Isa. 57:15). In such a life of humility in God's presence, we will find His grace abounding in our lives. There we are kept from the strife of tongues. Even when people provoke us by passing unpleasant remarks or when they falsely accuse us, we will not be offended. We can hold our peace as Jesus did when He was mocked, ridiculed and falsely accused. When we are so immersed in God's presence, we will not even think or talk about these things but rather rejoice and be glad.

4. THE SECRET PLACE OF THUNDER

"Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah" (Psa. 81:7). 'Thunder', in Scripture, shows the judgments of God. In 1 Samuel 7:10 we read how *"...the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel."* The 'secret place

of thunder' shows the experience of **judging (examining) our lives** in God's presence. As our weaknesses and failures are revealed to us, we can bring them to the Lord and He will destroy these enemies giving us the victory.

5. THE SECRET PLACES OF WEeping

"But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD'S flock is carried away captive" (Jer. 13:17). 'Weeping in secret places' shows a **life of intercession**. This verse shows how our Lord weeps for us when we walk in pride. There is also a 'secret place' appointed for each child of God where we have to weep and intercede for others. It is our responsibility to weep for our children (Lam. 1:16; Lk. 23:28). God's servants have to weep for the Church (Joel 2:17). We have to sow with tears, the incorruptible seed of God's word in this sin sick world. This will save many perishing souls (Psa. 126:5).

6. THE SECRET PLACE OF DARKNESS

"He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies" (Psa. 18:11). This 'secret place of darkness' shows the **trials and tribulations we face in the inner man** (in our spirit and soul). Darkness is the absence of light. This speaks of trials when God keeps silent. In such trials and trying circumstances, neither others nor we ourselves will be able to see or understand the situation. However, God promises us that in the dark paths of trials and tribulations, He is with us to help us come out victoriously. *"Yea, though I walk through*

the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me..." (Psa. 23:4). *"Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me..."* (Psa. 138:7). In His secret place of darkness, God has precious treasures for us. *"And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places..."* (Isa. 45:3). In these trials, the word that God gives us and the grace that He imparts into our lives are precious treasures. Unless we go through these trying experiences, we cannot discover these

treasures and hidden riches. As we joyfully endure these dark paths of trials, the Lord has promised to be our Light. This Light will then shine through us to enlighten many precious souls who are in darkness. God will give them to us as special treasures.

Even today the Lord is inviting us to come and live with Him in His secret place. Let us be shut in with our God in His secret place until He appears, in secret, to gather His precious jewels.

MY GOAL

"My goal is God Himself, not joy, nor peace,
Nor even blessing, but Himself, my God;
'Tis His to lead me there, not mine, but His –
'At any cost, dear Lord, by any road!"

"So faith bounds forward to its goal in God,
And love can trust her Lord to lead her there;
Upheld by Him, my soul is following hard
Till God hath full fulfilled my deepest prayer.

"No matter if the way be sometimes dark,
No matter though the cost be oft times great,
He knoweth how I best shall reach the mark,
The way that leads to Him must needs be straight.

"One thing I know, I cannot say Him nay;
One thing I do, I press towards my Lord;
My God, my glory here, from day to day,
And in the glory there, my Great Reward."

CHRIST THE ROCK

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it" (Matt. 7:24-27).

This well-known parable that Jesus taught has much truth in it. In this parable, Jesus spoke of two men. One was a wise man while the other was foolish. The wise man built his house upon the rock while the foolish built it upon sand. Both these houses were tested. The house the wise man had built stood the test while the other did not. We can compare this 'house' to our personal lives and also to the Church of God. In Hebrews 3:6, we read, *"But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we ..."* and in 1 Timothy 3:15 we read, *"...the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."* In this study, we will compare this 'house' to our personal lives and understand how we have to build it upon the Rock, our Lord Jesus Christ.

The man who built his house on the Rock is the one who heard the sayings of the Lord and did accordingly. Hence, we have to come to our Lord Jesus, receive His words and do accordingly so that our lives may be built up. Building our lives on anything else is like building it on sand. Man-made religions and

philosophies are like sand. We have to come to Jesus whom God the Father has sent, hear His words and live by them so that our 'house' can be built in the right way.

It is not enough to simply build our house: the house must stand the test. In the parable Jesus taught, we see both houses being tested by floods, winds and rain. **Floods** show the trials that come through ungodly people. (Psa. 18:4). Though we are God's people, while we are in this world, we have to be tested by the floods of ungodly men. To stand this test we have to be built upon the Rock, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Winds** show powers of darkness. (Dan. 7:2). As God is working in us to build us, there are powers of darkness that work against us. If we are found on Christ the Rock, these powers of darkness cannot prevail. At the Cross, the Lord Jesus not only died for our sins, but he also destroyed and overcame all the powers of darkness (Col. 2:14,15). **Rain** shows God's judgment. (Isa. 28:17). When we come to the Lord Jesus Christ we escape judgment as Jesus has taken it on Himself. Concerning this Jesus says, *"Verily,*

verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (Jn. 5:24). As Jesus took our place and died on the Cross, we have passed from death to life.

Only when we are built on Christ the Rock, can we withstand all these tests, and finally stand before God. There are various aspects of this Rock that we need to consider.

1. THE ROCK THAT WAS SMITTEN FOR US.

We must come to Christ the Rock who was smitten (slain) for us. *"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:5).* We can come to Christ, the Rock that was smitten for us and receive pardon for all our sins. According to Galatians 3:13, He took all our curse upon Himself. So when we come to Jesus, we can be delivered from every curse. By His stripes we receive healing for our body too (1 Pet. 2:24).

2. THE ROCK, THE FOUNDATION.

Christ the Rock is our Foundation. In general, any building has two parts: the part seen above the ground, called the super-structure, and the part below the ground, called the foundation. The foundation is very important for any building. No one will ever try to tamper or alter the foundation once it has been laid. Perhaps, we may try to alter the structure above the foundation but not the foundation itself. If we tamper with the foundation, the whole building will collapse. Christ wants to be the Founda-

tion of our life. There are two aspects of experiencing Christ as the Rock, our Foundation. We have to experience Him as the Son of God and as the Son of Man.

a) **The Son of God.** In Matthew 16:15-18 we read, *"He (Jesus) saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God ... upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it".* Jesus said, upon this Rock (the revelation and confession) I will build my Church. When we believe that Christ is the Son of God, He becomes our Foundation. Then the gates of hell can never prevail against us. To understand how Christ, the Son of God becomes our Foundation, we need to understand the various experiences we receive from Him as the Son of God.

i) In 1 John 3:8 we read, as the Son of God He came to destroy the works of the devil. When we believe that He is the Son of God, every work of the devil in our lives can be overcome. We cannot destroy the works of the devil by our own strength. We have to receive Him as the Son of God in our lives. There is deliverance in the Son of God for us. *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (Jn. 8:36).*

ii) In Romans 1:4 we read that He had been declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. He was proved to be the Son of God as He rose again. When we accept Him as the Son of God in our lives, we have hope that the same resurrection power will work in us too, and quicken our mortal bodies.

iii) In Isaiah 9:6 we see that as the Son, He has the government on His shoulders. When we receive Him as the Son of God into our hearts, He reigns over our lives. He will not allow evil powers to rule over our lives. He will not allow evil character traits to rule over us but He will destroy them and give us the victory.

iv) In 1 John 5:5 we are exhorted to believe on Him as the Son of God in order to overcome the world. Today, we see both young and old being attracted by this world. Many are unable to be freed from its grip. But, when we accept Christ as the Son of God, there is deliverance for us and we can overcome the world.

b) The Son of Man. When we accept Jesus as the Son of Man, we can enjoy the following blessings.

i) In Matthew 9:6 we see that as the Son of Man, He has power to forgive sins. As we look to Him as the Son of Man, we can receive forgiveness for all our sins.

ii) In 1 Timothy 2:5 we read of the 'Man' Jesus Christ. As a Man, He is mediating for us. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." There is no other mediator between God and man other than the Lord Jesus Christ. It is only through Him we can come to the Father.

iii) As the Son of Man, He tasted death for each one of us (Heb. 2:9). He took on Himself the form of man and tasted death to deliver us from him that had the power of death, the devil. When we accept Him as the Son of Man the power of death has no dominion over us.

iv) As the Son of Man, Jesus said that He had come to minister to each one of us (Matt. 20:28). Even today, He is serving in the midst of God's people through the Holy Spirit and through His servants.

Let us accept Him as the Son of God and as the Son of Man into our lives. This becomes a strong and sure Foundation for us.

Further, we have to be united with the apostolic ministers to remain firm in this Foundation. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph. 2:19-20). The revelation of Christ the Foundation is given to the apostles and prophets, and they in turn give it to the Church; but, it is important that we receive and live by what the apostles teach us. Only then can the Church be built upon this Foundation and stand the test.

3. THE ROCK THAT WAS CLEFT.

"And he (Moses) said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory ... And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen" (Exo. 33:18-23). In this passage we see Moses being denied the privilege of seeing the face of God. He could see only the back parts of the Lord

whilst he was hidden in the cleft of the rock. But, in these New Testament times, God wants us to see His face. It is through Jesus that we see the Father. Jesus said, "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father..." (Jn. 14:9). Our Jesus is coming very soon and we have to be found with Him (in that cleft of the Rock) on that Day. If so, now, we have to come into the cleft of the Rock, our Lord Jesus Christ. This speaks of a life of being hidden in Christ. We come into the cleft of the Rock through the two experiences of being buried with Christ and being risen with Christ. In Romans chapter six we read that by taking the right water baptism, we are buried together with Christ; that is, we are buried into the cleft of the Rock. By the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, we are risen with Christ and hid with Christ. St. Paul writes about these experiences in Co-

lossians 3:1-3. We are hid in this Rock that was cleft for us. As we remain hidden with Him, day by day He is changing our character and when Christ appears, we shall also appear together with Him.

4. THE ROCK THAT FOLLOWS US.

In 1 Corinthians 10:3,4 we read of Christ as the Rock that followed the children of Israel in the wilderness. This Rock follows us to give us drink when we are thirsty, and to feed us when we are hungry (Matt. 5:6; Psa. 107:5,9). This Rock is an unfailing Rock. In every situation, trial and battle He is able to help us. He is the Rock that will follow us to the very end.

Let us receive Christ the Rock into our lives, make Him our Foundation and be built upon Him. Then, our house will stand firm in the test and will continue to stand until Jesus comes.

Have you ever wondered why the Canadian geese fly only in the V formation? For years many specialists in aerodynamics wondered about the same thing.

Two engineers calibrated, in a wind tunnel, what happens in such a V formation. What they discovered was that each goose, in flapping his wings, creates an upward lift for the one that follows. When all the geese do their part together, in the V formation, the whole flock has a seventy one percent greater flying range than if each bird flew alone. So, we see that each goose depends upon the other to get to its final destination.



Something else - When a goose begins to lag behind, the others "honk" it back into place.

Now, let us learn from God's creation. The Church needs to fly in a spiritual V formation, "honking" one another into steadfastness. Then it must be at least seventy one percent easier to live the faithful Christian life flying with the flock as opposed to going it alone. "Let us consider one another, to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Heb. 10:24,25)

In the last issue, the Israelites came to the camp at Benejaakan (Num. 33:31). The meaning of Benejaakan is 'twist'. It speaks of wisdom. Jesus said that we must be wise as serpents (Matt. 10:16). Jesus was full of this wisdom. He was careful about what He said. His enemies could not catch Him in His words or His deeds. We see this special wisdom in the saints too. *"With the ancient is wisdom..."* (Job 12:12). We need wisdom to deal with the cunning of Satan, the Old Serpent. Eve listened to the words of the devil and had a fresh look at the forbidden fruit, while meditating on all Satan said - and everything he said seemed true! *"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ"* (2 Cor. 11:3, ASV).

This wisdom comes from growth in character. *"He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous..."* (Pro. 2:7). It comes from the fear of the Lord (Job 28:28), from purity of life (Jms. 3:17) and from meekness (Jms. 3:13). These are three essential qualities we must possess in order to be wise as serpents. This wisdom is essential especially in the service of God.

From Benejaakan, the children of Israel travelled in the wilderness to the camp at **Horha-gidgad** (Num. 33:32) which was also called **Gudgodah** (Deut. 10:7). The meaning of Gudgodah is 'gladness' or 'happiness'. This is different from the joy we receive at Tarah (earlier issue). This joy is what comes because of wisdom (Benejaakan). When we behave ourselves wisely in a certain situation, it makes us happy. We read

that a man's wisdom makes his face to shine (Eccl. 8:1). When we fear God, it is counted as wisdom which pleases God and even those above us are filled with joy, *"A wise son maketh a glad father..."* (Pro. 15:20).

From Gudgodah (meaning gladness), the wandering people of God came to **Jotbathah** which was a land of rivers of waters (Deut. 10:7). It is also translated as "a land of torrents of waters". From this, we understand that the joy of those who are wise leads them to an overflow-



THE CHURCH IN THE WILDERNESS

(A BIBLE STUDY ON THE JOURNEY OF THE ISRAELITES)

*"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."
(1 Corinthians 10:11)*

ing experience. In the Old Testament, we see God always watering places He loved. The Garden of Eden was His meeting place with man. It was well watered. *"And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads"* (Gen. 2:10). But even before man was created or rain had touched the ground, God still cared for the earth and caused a mist to water the whole earth. *"...for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man*

to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground" (Gen. 2:5, 6). The Psalmist says, *"Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it"* (Psa 65:9). A soul that has been blessed by God is compared to a watered garden. *"...and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all"* (Jer. 31:12).

Jotbathah was a place of 'flowing' rivers. Our Christian life is not a stagnant life; it is a flowing life, a growing life. There is always a constant movement towards God. Our peace is not like a pond or lake; it is like a moving river and our righteousness like waves of the sea that constantly slap the shore. *"...then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea"* (Isa. 48:18). The knowledge of God too is compared to the water of the sea. *"...for the earth shall be full of the knowl-*

edge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9).

When describing the beginning of our Pentecostal life or our experience with the Holy Spirit, Jesus said, *"He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water"* (Jn. 7:38). But this is only the beginning of the flowing experience. Thereafter, we become part of the Church that God waters with the river of the Holy Spirit. *"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High"* (Psa. 46:4). Prophet Ezekiel, in his vision of the Church, sees different levels of water as various levels of growth in our spiritual life (Ezek. 47:1-5).

If we are in the Jotbathah of our spiritual life, our spiritual experience will be like the flowing waters of a river or sea. There may be trials but there will also be growth. There will be movement in the correct direction. We will move with the current of the water. But if we are not in this desert station, then our spiritual experience can be compared to stagnant water, like a pond, which immediately becomes a breeding ground for spiritual larvae. Where the flow has stopped, the devil has had a part to play. He cannot freely work where the water flows. His larvae will be washed away in flowing water.

We can learn a lesson from the life of Isaac. After the death of Abraham, God began dealing with Isaac. While Abraham was 'a man of the tent' and Jacob 'a man of the altar', Isaac was always 'a man of the well'; he is referred to in

connection with wells seven times (Gen. 24:62, 25:11, 26:18, 19, 20, 25, 32).

A well differs from a cistern (a large container) in that it is the place of running water. From Genesis 26:19 we understand more about Isaac's well. *"And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water,"* (the margin gives, "of living water!"). Water is imperative for the maintenance of natural life. Without water, a plant will die in the midst of abundance of food. The organism needs water to make food to be assimilated, and to give power to the system itself to take it up. So, too, is it with the spiritual. The way that water ministers to the life and growth of a plant is indeed a beautiful type of the Spirit's action in our lives.

In the days after Abraham's death, a famine had broken out (Gen. 26:1). The flowing wells of Abraham, Isaac's father, had been filled with earth by the Philistines. *"For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth."* (Gen. 26:15). The envious Philistines were afraid that from a sojourner, Isaac would go on to be a settler, and acquire rights of property. By stopping the wells, they made his stay most uncomfortable. Engineers know that earth is very effective in stopping the flow of water.

The first two wells which Isaac's men dug were called *Esek* and *Sitnah*, meaning *contention* and *hatred* (Gen. 26:20,21). Those that open the fountains of truth must expect contradiction. Truth hurts the pride of man.

People turned against Stephen, Peter and Paul when they spoke the truth. They will turn against us too; but we must maintain our peace and must not aggravate any kind of strife. For the truths He stood for, Jesus had to endure the contradiction of sinners at Calvary (Heb. 12:3). *"For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds"* (Heb. 12:3). Yet, as a Lamb, He maintained His peace. Isaac, a type of Jesus, was a man of peace. In order to avoid further strife with the Philistines, Isaac moved out from there and dug another well (vs 22). He was quite unlike Ishmael of whom it was prophesied that he would be against every man and every man against him (Gen. 16:12).

The Philistines were Israel's closest enemies. All through the book of Judges, we see them attacking the Israelites. The Ark of the Covenant was captured by the Philistines and spent seven months in the Philistine plain. Samson died, killing himself with many Philistines. Beyond the Judges, during Saul's time the Philistines' domination of Israel was so complete that they allowed no blacksmiths in the land for fear they would make swords and spears for the Israelites. In fact, there were only two swords in the entire nation, those of King Saul and his son Jonathan. Saul's final battle was with the Philistines. David too had great battles with them. The Philistines speak of the flesh which is our closest enemy and 'earth' is a type of the cares of this world and the pleasures and fashions of the world. Such things could easily cause the flowing

water in our lives to become stagnant. Are we unable to draw water from our wells? The answer is that the Philistines have been here, and have filled the wells with the earth and the rubbish and the refuse. They have stopped the wells so that although the water is there it is not available.

But let us observe what Isaac did **not** do; he did **not** dig new wells. In verse 18, we read, *'Isaac digged again the wells of water which they had digged in the days of Abraham, his father'*. Isaac was going to make certain of a supply. So he commanded his men to go to those old wells which had been dug by

Abraham, his father. While many churches are looking for new ways to revive the people, history teaches us that every time the Church was revived, it seemed to do what Isaac did. It went back and found the ancient supply. We must dig again the old wells of our spiritual fathers, wells of the Word of God, wells of prayer, wells of worship, wells of faith, wells of the power of the Spirit, wells of sacrifice, and wells of service. Let us remove all the rubbish that the enemy has put in there to stop the flow. May God enable us to experience the flowing Jotbathah experience once again.

(To be continued...)

Mules, Wells, and Learning How to Live

There is a story about an old farmer whose mule fell into a well. After many unsuccessful attempts to haul the mule out of the hole, the farmer decided it was hopeless. With sadness, he instructed his boys to fill up several truckloads of dirt and just bury the old mule right in the well. Dutifully, the boys backed up the truck filled with dirt, and shovel by shovel, they began to fill the well and bury the mule. The mule didn't take kindly to this action. The first shovel of dirt hit him square on the head, got in his eyes and mouth, and made him sneeze.

Every shovel full after that hit him somewhere, causing the old mule to stomp around in the bottom of the well. Several truckloads of dirt later, the mule was still stomping and packing dirt firmly underneath his feet. Little by little, that mule was lifting itself out of the hole. Sure enough, about mid-afternoon that mule simply stepped out of the well and snorted at the whole business.

There are different ways people have of dealing with problems life throws at them. Some are constant complainers. They do not handle setbacks and upsets very well. Some of them cannot even handle normal events. Others are defeated at the slightest difficulty. Quite a few get confused, turned around and seem not to know what to do. Then there are a few who like the mule are unconquerable. Problems can hit them square on the head, but they just stomp around enough until they actually use the problem to rise above it.

Times of Refreshing



"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..." (Psa. 127:1).

This year's Mini Camp was held in a beautiful Christian campsite. This new venue was an answer to prayer. Right from the start to the finish, this year's Camp was all the Lord's doing.

From the time we began preparation for the Camp, we focused on prayer. This included all adults spending their free hours at the Camp, in prayer. This surely was the secret of the blessings we enjoyed.

We had about eighty three enthusiastic children coming from all our assemblies in UK and one from Ireland. In order to instil a desire in our children for the mission field, we called all our dormitories by the names of English missionaries.

The theme of the Camp was, *'Jesus our Saviour, Baptizer, Healer and Coming King'*. In the first session, the children learnt that Jesus died for their sins and that they had to turn to Him with true repentance and accept Him as their Saviour. This was followed by a time of prayer that enabled them to confess every hidden sin and turn to Jesus for forgiveness.

In the second session, the children learnt the importance of receiving the Holy Spirit, so that the Holy Spirit could comfort, guide and teach God's ways

and produce the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. In the third session, the children were taught that Jesus died not only for our sins but also for our sicknesses in body, soul and mind. He wants to heal us and wants to be the King over our lives. If we allow Him to do so, it will help us to serve Him and do what pleases Him.

This was followed by a tarrying meeting. The children earnestly sought the Lord with tears and about fifteen children received the Holy Spirit with the sign of speaking in tongues. Others had the anointing renewed, while several saw visions to encourage them. The programme also included a discussion on 'Healthy Reading', followed by a talk on the type of books they ought to read, giving preference to a systematic reading of the Bible. This was an eye-opener to the children and gave them practical help in this area.

Each day started and ended with praising and singing of lively songs. There were also quizzes, a treasure hunt, outdoor games and other activities.

The children's service held on Sunday evening was truly a delight. Each team presented various items which included testimonies, songs, poems, drawings etc., The servant of God concluded the evening with a message on the theme,

explaining it with visual aids. All that the devil wants to give us are fake joys. Jesus wants to give us a heart that loves Him, a mind that thinks about Him and a body that speaks of Him and serves Him. He wants to make us His precious treasure, and is coming soon to take us to be with Him forever.

On Monday morning, the last day of the Camp, the message delivered by the servant of God was based on the text in Philippians 2:8-11. First we need to re-

pent of our sins and confess that Jesus is our King. If Jesus is our King, then we have to surrender to Him and serve Him. The law or the word is coming from the King. When we love the word, then He will open our eyes and heart to understand it and live by it.

One little child said at the end of the Camp, "God took us to a new place and did many new and exciting things for us." We totally agree. To God be all the glory, honour and praise.

In this Camp the Lord convicted me of my sins in the prayer meeting and He gave me a new anointing in the tarrying meeting. In the first session, we learned about Jesus our Saviour and God made me to understand that Jesus went through a lot of suffering. In the next session, we learned about Jesus the Baptizer and God spoke to me that He has the power to give us the Holy Spirit. In the final session, we learned that Jesus is our Healer and coming King and God told me that He can heal any sickness and that He is coming soon.

Ashvin (9 years), North London

I want to praise and thank God for my fifth and last Mini Camp, I really wanted a great and mighty anointing from God and God did give me such an anointing. In one of the sessions, we learnt that Jesus is our Healer and by His stripes we are healed. We also heard that, to receive healing we need to have faith and confess all our hidden sins to Jesus. Before I went for the Mini Camp, I had a nose bleed twice or thrice a day for about ten days. In the Mini Camp too I had the bleeding. But after this session, I trusted in Jesus for His healing power to work in my life. God miraculously healed me and I had no nose bleed thereafter. I praise God for His healing power.

Benjamin D. (12 years), East London

During the tarrying meeting I saw a vision where I saw myself in the sky and when I looked down it was dark everywhere and I could hear sinners. Only the church was bright with light and on fire. Please pray that God should make me ready for His soon coming.

Caroline Tharakan (10 years), Leicester

During the talk on 'Healthy Reading', the Lord convicted me about the books I had been reading, that they were bad. I remember how I was so hooked to a book I got from the library. I even brought it to church to read. Though my mum told me not to do it, I put it into my Bible cover and pretended to read the Bible. One day my mum asked to use my Bible and then the truth came out. God convicted me about reading bad books and confirmed it in the Mini Camp for which I thank God.

Priscilla Adegoke (11 years), Brixton

I thank God for taking me to the Mini camp. I had a severe cough before going to the Camp. In one of our sessions, we learnt that Jesus is our Healer and I trusted in God for healing and He wonderfully healed me. We had a blessed time in the presence of God.

Nickson George (10 years), Liverpool

It was a great time for me in the Mini Camp. We had better accommodation than in Oxford. God gave us good weather and we had a good time. It is a great privilege to attend the Mini Camp. God kept speaking to me repeatedly everywhere I went that, No one is too bad to be forgiven. Praise the Lord.

Jeevan Jacob (8 Years), Newport

I want to thank God for helping me to go to my second Mini Camp. I thank God for helping me to learn all the memory verses and for helping me to participate in the quiz. I want to thank God for giving me the Holy Spirit and for helping me to speak in tongues. Please pray for me that I may be an obedient boy.

Ashley (9 years), Southall



"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matt. 5:6).

God blessed the Leicester Convention this year and met the need in the lives of the children of God, who gathered each day in His presence.

As usual the preparation started with the weekly prayers in the homes of the believers and the twenty-four hour prayer chain. As prayer and praise began to ascend we experienced the power of God being unleashed against the powers of darkness. Many obstacles came in the way as we prepared for this Convention, but God fought all the battles and gave us victory. Throughout the Convention the presence of God prevailed. "If God be for us who can be against us".

God raised up living testimonies of transformed lives and the healing power of God. Two Open-Air meetings were held in the City Centre and many new

souls attended the meetings after hearing the gospel there.

As God promised to satisfy those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, *'His doctrine dropped as rain and His speech distilled as dew.'* God gave us the finest of the wheat and honey out of the rock.

The theme of Thursday evening's message was *'Thou shalt be above only'*. As we realise our low state and seek God sincerely, He sends His salvation to set us above. If we remain faithful in our covenants and continue to trust in His name, we will be set above on His throne at His Coming. On Friday morning we heard about *'Leaning on the staff'*, the promises of God. Jacob set out alone with his staff, but he came to Bethel the house of God. As we believe the promises of God and humble ourselves and live according to it, His word becomes the

word of grace that can build us up as the House of God. Like Jacob we too have to lean upon the staff (God's promises) till our last breath. The Friday evening message was about the importance of being in the *'Secret Place of the Most High'*. Today man is found in other secret places such as sin and pleasures of this world. Being in the Secret Place of the Most High, we can behold the beauty of the Lord and be changed into that same beauty. On Saturday morning the Lord was calling one and all to return to Him with true repentance and a desperate cry for holiness. Just as Jesus entered the temple and cleansed it, He wants to cleanse our lives of all defilements and make us holy. Saturday evening we were once again reminded of the times we are living in and how important it is for us to be committed and faithful to our Husband, Jesus. To meet Him at His coming, we need the Bridal garment, the righteousness of

God which the saints have appropriated in their lives. This shows the very character of God that has to be built up in our lives. On Sunday Morning we were reminded of the *'Power of His Might'*. Being filled with His power, God equips us to face all the challenges in life. As we live by His power, God who started this work in us will also perfect it. In the final service on Sunday evening we were exhorted to have a *'determination'* as St. Paul had. Our determination should be to win Christ and be found in Him. When we remain in our steadfastness, God is able to fulfil His purpose in our lives.

We are grateful to God and all the saints who supported the Convention through prayers and other means. With every passing convention one question pops up, will we have another convention on this earth? Our hearts desire is that all should be prepared to meet Jesus at the Great Convention in the air.



"For the love of Christ constraineth us ... that they which live should ... live ... unto him which died for them, and rose again" (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

The topic of study for the camp - *The Beauty of Consecration* - was straight from the depths of the Father's heart of love and we were enlightened about the various aspects of consecration, its meaning, the experiences of individuals and the essence of how this truth could be practically applied to our lives, everyday. Many shared the experiences they had had before and during the Camp. Few of these are as follows:

One sister spoke of how she had a great burden before coming to the Camp and felt the need to talk to the servants of God about it. However, through the sessions she was convicted that she should leave the choices to the Lord and God took away the hurt she felt and stilled the roaring oceans within her.

Another mentioned that during the first night of the Camp she was ill and suffering with breathing difficulties but by trusting in God, she found Him to be

her Healer, even as she left herself in His mighty hands. She thanked God for His great salvation. She was very grateful, she said, for in this country where she had no family, God had brought her into His own wonderful family whose love and care she enjoyed at the Camp.

Another camper mentioned that God had been speaking to her about various aspects to be consecrated in her life, even before she joined our Church; but she had no proper understanding about it. She said that the sessions in the Camp brought all the pieces together like a jigsaw puzzle and she could clearly comprehend God's heart and the reason behind His requests.

As God's anointing was poured out on each person, our Great Refiner was doing a work of burning the dross, filling with His love and strengthening each one in their consecrations. From the very first meeting to the very end of

the Camp, God's majestic presence pervaded the place. There was a liberty in the spirit and all the campers worshipped God freely. The songs ministered to the need of every heart and as they sang "Majesty, Your grace has found me just as I am; empty handed but alive in Your hands ... forgiven so that I can forgive ... sanctified by glory and fire", it spoke of the surrender each young adult was required to make unto the Lord. The young adults came to a deeper understanding of the love sacrifices which God demands from each person and many were convicted of past failures of insufficiently consecrating unto Him, those things which rightly belonged to Him.

By the end of the Camp, the love of God constrained everyone to surrender their lives, their all, to live for Him who loved them and gave Himself for them. Praise the Lord!

The Joy of Consecration

In an address given to ministers and workers after his ninetieth birthday, George Mueller spoke thus of himself: "I was converted in November, 1825, but I only came into the full surrender of the heart four years later, in July, 1829. The love of money was gone, the love of place was gone, the love of position was gone, the love of worldly pleasures and engagements was gone. God, God alone became my portion. I found my all in Him; I wanted nothing else. And by the grace of God this has remained, and has made me a happy man, an exceedingly happy man, and it led me to care only about the things of God. I ask affectionately, my beloved brethren, have you fully surrendered the heart to God, or is there this thing or that thing with which you are taken up irrespective of God? I read a little of the Scriptures before, but preferred other books; but since that time the revelation He has made of Himself has become unspeakably blessed to me, and I can say from my heart, God is an infinitely lovely Being. Oh, be not satisfied until in your own inmost soul you can say, God is an infinitely lovely Being!" —Selected

THE STORY

Behind The Song



Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed!*

"...Clerk [preacher], once an infidel and libertine, a servant of slaves in Africa, was, by the rich mercy of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, preserved, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the faith he had long laboured to destroy." So reads the epitaph of a wretch who was saved by God's amazing grace.

John Newton, son of a merchant captain, was born on 24th July 1725. His mother was a pious dissenter who raised John in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. She died before he reached the age of seven when he fell under the jurisdiction of his less religious father.

His resolve to live a good life faded and after joining the British Navy, he

fell deeper and deeper into sin. Newton himself confessed that he could be abandoned to sin without any control - "I often saw a necessity of religion as a means of escaping hell; but I loved sin and was unwilling to forsake it."

Due to the intolerable conditions he had to endure at sea, he deserted, was re-captured, publicly flogged and demoted. Many more dangers, toils and snares followed and by now, a rebellious, hardened young man, his "great turning day" occurred in 1748 during a violent storm at sea when he was instantly struck with his own words, "Lord have mercy on us!" A gradual spiritual growth followed which led Newton into becoming a full-time minister and preacher of the gospel.

*Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.*

Originally titled, Faith's Review and Expectation, it is assumed that John Newton wrote his hymn Amazing Grace for his New Year's morning sermon on 1 January 1773, based on the passage in I Chronicles 17:16,17: "... Who am I, O LORD God ... that thou hast brought me hitherto? ... thou hast also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come..."

The sermon focussed on three aspects from this passage: looking back, looking around and looking forward. Being reminded by God of what he used to be, king David marvelled that God had brought him from such a lowly position of following the sheep (v7), so states, "Who am I, O Lord God?". John Newton was also reminded of who he was and where God had brought him from and could sing, "Amazing grace...that saved a wretched like me."

The Lord reminds king David that He has been with him wherever he has walked and cut off all his enemies (v8). King David considered how the Lord had brought him hitherto. Newton could sing, "Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far..."

Overawed that the Lord promised to build his house and establish his throne (verse 10-12), king David in amaze-

*Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.*

*When we've been there a thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.*

ment, says that God has "spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come" and "promised this goodness unto thy servant" (verse 17,26). Newton is able to rejoice and sing, "The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures."

For the last forty three years of his life John Newton preached the gospel. At the age of eighty two, he said, "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things, that I am a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Saviour." John Newton's life is testament to the fact that God is able to save to the uttermost. He brought the most hardened blasphemer from the slavery of sin to proclaim the exceeding riches of God's grace. It is no surprise that he understood and was amazed by God's undeserved mercy and grace.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8)



Quest for Happiness

The Persians tell a story about an unhappy king. In an attempt to find the answer to his dissatisfaction, he consulted his astrologers who told him he could find happiness by wearing the coat of a perfectly happy man. Immediately the king set out on his quest. He knocked at the doors of the very rich, for it seemed logical to find happiness there, but in vain. He visited the institutions of higher learning, thinking the erudite must be happy in their wisdom. That, too, proved a dead end. Finally he stumbled across a common labourer singing at his work who confessed he was perfectly happy. "Sell me your coat," cried the king. "I'll give you a bag of gold for it." But the labourer only laughed and said, "I'd gladly give it to you, Sir, but I have no coat."

Solution To Last Issue's Puzzle

NINERS

L	A	S	E	P	M	E	A	U
A	G	T	V	I	T	C	E	G
T	I	V	E	L	I	L	A	I
G	L	A	S	U	C	S	B	S
C	A	G	N	Z	E	P	H	E
D	T	I	A	I	S	E	Z	N
H	A	C	N	E	E	H	A	I
C	H	A	S	P	H	E	P	E
A	Z	R	Z	I	A	Z	H	R
H	A	I	A	R	I	N	A	A
H	A	S	H	Z	A	C	I	T
P	E	I	C	E	H	I	L	I
S	N	A	D	G	H	S	E	V

AWAKE!

1. The five wise and five foolish virgins
2. Peter
3. Jonah
4. Elijah
5. Adam
6. Abraham
7. Samson
8. King Saul
9. Eutychus
10. Jacob

Forthcoming Events

"...the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19)

U.S.A Convention	1 July -	5 July
Longwy Convention	3 July -	4 July
Youth Camp - Girls	25 July -	28 July
- Boys	28 July -	31 July
Germany Convention	31 July -	02 Aug
Switzerland Convention	07 Aug -	09 Aug
Sierra Leone Convention	13 Aug -	16 Aug
Paris Convention	20 Aug -	23 Aug
London Convention	27 Aug -	30 Aug

WINNING LINE

Read the following statements carefully. If you think they are true place a nought in the corresponding box in the grid. If you think they are false place a cross in the box. If you complete the puzzle correctly, you'll end up with a winning line.

1. When the seventh seal was opened, there was silence in heaven about the space of an hour.
2. Isaiah was the son of Amoz.
3. All the days that Adam lived were eight hundred and thirty years.
4. "The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour". This was spoken about Jephthah.
5. Esther's other name was Hadassah.
6. Elimelech, Naomi's husband died in Moab.
7. The Ark was made of shittim wood and overlaid with pure gold.
8. Jesus fed about five thousand men, beside women and children with five loaves and two fishes.
9. The pool of Bethesda had six porches.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

CROSS-OUT!

Cross out all the letters which appear twice. With the letters which remain, make the name of a place that Paul visited.

