

# *Bread of Life*

FEBRUARY 1962



# STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

## FAMILY ALTAR

**I**T WAS the day before the campers were to return to the city. In their morning worship the head counselor asked how many had family altar at home, and though the majority came from Christian homes, hardly a hand was raised. The Enemy is enticing the hearts of those in our families *daily*, but apparently we have been content to leave it to a minister or Sunday school teacher to counter his thrust once a week. One of the most favorable comments about Abraham was that "he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord . . ." That is, he personally assumed the responsibility for leading his household in the way of righteousness.

Sometimes it is difficult to get a family altar started, but the benefits of such a time are well worth the effort. Find a time which is convenient to gather the whole family. If guests are present, so much the better; invite them. What a splendid way to demonstrate faith in action.

To lead a successful family altar requires no great gifts or talents; just some faith and common sense. Here are some "tips" which have helped other families.

*Be sensitive to the situation.* Family altar is primarily aimed at the younger members of the family. Be aware of their needs. Conduct the family altar for them, keeping in mind their limited capabilities and experience. Sometimes things which may be of great blessing to *you* will go completely over the heads of others present. Avoid such things. Endeavor to always maintain a high level of interest.

*Get everyone to participate.* Read the Word together. Be patient with Johnny whose progressive education hasn't taught him to read very well. Encourage his efforts. If you continue family altar, he will be reading well before long. Let everyone comment on the Scripture read or ask or answer questions. Leading questions will often stimulate discussion, and a truth usually stays longer with a person who has "discovered" it himself.

Pray together. Give preference to the children's prayers. Often our Heavenly Father is more responsive to their simple faith than to our

more dignified offering. Sing together; it creates joyful hearts. Worship the Lord out loud together; you will perhaps be surprised at how well young children can worship the Lord.

*Make sure the message gets home.* One or two strong points, preferably discovered by the younger members, ought to remain with everybody. Emphasize the practical application to our daily lives.

*Provide variety.* There is no better way to maintain high interest than to introduce the unexpected. There are many things that can be done occasionally for a little spice. Read or tell a brief story which is pertinent to the Scripture read. Read a missionary letter or story. Perhaps you might even want to read a brief selection from some religious publication.

*Stimulate personal devotions.* Family altar is, of course, no substitute for a personal prayer life. Even young children can be encouraged to study the Bible on their own by occasional outside assignments, to be discussed at the following gathering. Every child who reaches his teens should be encouraged to spend time daily alone with the Lord. But you've got to set the example, of course!

*Don't embarrass members of the family.* Remember that even the youngest child is a *person* whom the Lord loves dearly despite any shortcomings. It is very wrong to "walk all over them" by making some embarrassing remark about them or praying down at them. Rather, encourage their successes. Be quicker to give a compliment than a "public" reproof. Individual problems are probably better dealt with privately. A good rule of thumb is: Don't say or pray anything that you wouldn't want said or prayed about you. Perhaps for your age and experience your faults are far more serious in the eyes of the Lord than those of the younger members of the family.

*Don't drag it out.* We often forget that children have difficulty concentrating for long periods of time. It is far better to have a short period of worship with "punch" to it, than to have a long, drawn-out affair which bores most of the participants. Long prayers usually don't edify youngsters with short patience. Get right to the point and then close while interest is still high. *Remember, family altar is supposed to make religion attractive to young hearts, not create a distaste for it.*

It is unfortunate that we see many children who come from Christian homes, turn their backs on the faith of their parents. Such people are probably harder to reach with the gospel than those who have never heard. Let us be diligent to do all in our power to prevent such situations. Family altar can be a formidable weapon in our hands. Let us use it effectively!

# *The Lord for the Body*

By HANS R. WALDVOGEL

“NOW THE BODY is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body” is the teaching of the Apostle Paul which we need to take to heart.

The teaching in the world, even in the worldly church, is that the body is for fornication. And it is becoming more and more apparent that the world and the church at large have sold out to the devil. That is why we need this word: “the body not — *not* — for fornication.” That knocks the bottom out of all this Freudian psychology and all this sex teaching of the world. The purpose of this body is “for the Lord.” “We are *His* workmanship created in Christ Jesus.” By that he means that these bodies have been created for Jesus Christ to be filled by Him, to be used by Him, to be made by Him, like unto God.

It is high time that we Pentecostal people wake up. It is high time to make room for the Holy Ghost to instruct us and to make us wise unto salvation. When Paul says, “The body not for fornication but for the Lord,” he lays down the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. And when he says that if any man be a fornicator or unclean or effeminate or a drunkard or covetous or an idolator not to eat with them, our assemblies would be decimated if we followed this instruction of God. A lot of our great evangelists would not have anybody

come to their meetings anymore. Now the thousands come to be entertained. And when they speak over the radio and call for your money, they talk to three or four wives that they have discarded for some other woman—fornication, adultery, par excellence, in the name of divine healing and in the name of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Beloved, it shows how far we have slid down toward the bottomless pit!

“The Lord for the body.” Elsewhere the apostle says, “Thanks be unto God that ye were the slaves of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto you, that ye put off the old man with his deeds and have put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” There is no other gospel. When He sent His only begotten Son into the world, He did not send Him to present a cloak for our sin, but to take away our sin, to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. That is the kind of a Saviour I need. And Jesus Christ needs your body. That is the teaching that is crystallized here.

In another place the Apostle Paul says, “Let every man know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor, and he that despiseth, despiseth not man but God who also has given unto us His Holy Spirit.” Is that what God has given us His Holy Spirit for—because the Lord is for this body?

In Ephesians one, talking about the coming of the Lord, Paul talks about the time of the redemption of God’s purchased possession. He says the baptism of the Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance. He comes into this body to prepare it for that moment when the body shall be transformed into His likeness, shall put on immortality.

This teaching about the body has a very direct bearing on the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. How many Jewish fables about the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ are today swallowed whole. Beloved, He has to come by His saints, or He won’t come at all. That is the clear teaching of the Bible. Jesus Christ has to find a body that is without spot or wrinkle or any such a thing, and then He is coming to be gloried in His saints and to be admired in all them that believe. That means in the bodies of His people. These bodies must be clean and transformed into His likeness upon this earth.

I know we are going to be caught away some day, but the Bible doesn’t tell us when. But the Bible does tell us that when He comes, we shall be like Him. And the Bible tells us that when He comes, He shall come to be glorified in His saints.

We have very direct teaching on this subject in the parable of the ten virgins. Have you noticed? They all took their

## *"If That I May Apprehend"*

*Has the vision that He gave you  
Been fading from your view?  
Have you lost the holy fire  
Which once your spirit knew?*

*Is the pathway less alluring  
That your eager feet once trod?  
Have you lost that sweet communion  
Which of yore you held with God?*

*Do you find your heart returning  
To the things once left behind?  
Is there "strange fire" on your altar  
Where once God's glory shined?*

*Or are you still pursuing  
The upward calling, grand?  
Are the holy fires still burning? —  
By the Spirit are they fanned?*

*Are you running, running swiftly,  
Letting naught your course impede  
Not in fleshly zeal and knowledge—  
But with Holy Spirit speed?*

*O soul, beloved of Jesus,  
Do not the Spirit wound;  
Remove thy shoes from off thy feet,—  
Walk still on "holy ground."*

—BERNICE C. LEE

ited the bodies of people. In the process, they may scream or yell, but the result will be that people are set free.

God is for this body. The wise virgins took oil in their bodies. That is what happens when we wait on God for a protracted period of time, like a week. We become calm and composed. We are not nervous and fidgety anymore. You feel somehow it is God, it is eternity. God moves in. He is coming *now*. He is coming *today*.

This body is *for the Lord*. When you surrender your body a living sacrifice, God will make it to live by the Holy Ghost. The powers of nature will be driven out, and the powers of the world to come will come in, quietly like a thief in the night. People who are always looking for entertainment will think it is foolishness. They will never recognize the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, but it is unto them that look for Him that He will appear. It is only the Spirit of God that can make you look for Him. He will anoint your eyes with eyesalve and you will see Him in every meeting. You will get your eyes on the Master, and He will fill this body.

How dreadful to find people's bodies subjected to the powers of the devil. They are! When you are in a dump, you feel it in your "solar plexus," don't you? What is that that feels like a rock in there? It's an enemy; it's the devil. And there are a million different kinds of devils that are made for the saints of God that are asleep and are not awake unto the coming of the Lord. Jealousy! Extortion! Fornication! Railing! Backbiting! Gossiping! The works of the flesh are manifest which are

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lamps. They all had the baptism according to Acts 2:4. They all had a profession. But there were some that were not satisfied. They took no chance. They took oil in their vessels. We know what these vessels are—they are these bodies.

It was very apparent when the Pentecostal Movement first came that God wanted to do something with the bodies of His people. Today we get frightened if somebody rolls on the floor or shakes very greatly or screams a little bit. In one place

where I was ministering when some people began to shout and get the baptism, some of the leading brethren came to me and said, "Yes, but you are going to drive people away if you allow that." I said, "It's up to you. You cannot have Pentecost if you are going to run the meeting, but if God has His way, He'll drive out the devil." Especially in places and countries where there is so much demon possession, there must be a time when Jesus Christ will drive out the demons which have inhab-

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# Teaching

(Part II in a Series)

By PHYLLIS L. GAITHER

*"Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord" (PSALM 34:11).*

MY CHILDREN have come from all walks of life—the rich and the poor, the lame and the blind, from different races, diverse nationalities; many different faiths have been represented and scores of denominations. Children know little, and care less, about differences in nationalities, faiths, and denominations. A child is a child; he sees, feels, loves, speaks, and thinks as a child, not as a Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Catholic, or Pentecostal. Children are "one" (if left alone). This is the reason, I believe, that Jesus can bless them so wondrously. They open their hearts, in one accord, and where there is unity, there is blessing.

They come to me pure and innocent, untouched by sinful habits. Like plastic clay, they yield to the imprint of our influence and teaching.

Children are so intelligent. They know all about their families (including the cat and dog); they know where Grandma and Grandpa live, and Aunt Mary, who lives far, far away. They know about almost everything the family owns and know where it is kept. They know if the car is paid for; they know what detergent Mama uses for the family wash; they know where Daddy works; they know what kind of cologne Mama uses; they know if the family silver is solid or plate; they know how many white shirts Daddy has; they know all about Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving; the majority of them can print a little, count very well; some can even recite the A-B-C's; but nine children out of ten come to me with very little spiritual training. They have a vague (very vague) impression of Jesus; to some He is still the Baby Jesus, to others He is visualized as a "man" away up in heaven.

Very few of the children who come to us have been dedicated to the Lord. This then is my privilege. Always, when I receive a new child, I quietly place my hand on the little head or hold

the child in my arms, as I "give" him to Jesus, asking His blessing and protecting care over the little life.

Usually after two or three Sundays a little one is brave enough to stay in class without a sitter, and I'm always happy for this. A child seems to be able to "enter in" more quickly if we are alone. However, I am not against having visitors (we have many). I'm so pleased when mothers are interested enough in their children to visit the class, and I'm also overjoyed to welcome Cradle Roll members on Sunday mornings; and, of course, Mama just happens to come along! (On many occasions I hardly know if I am teaching Beginners or adults!)

To teach means to cause to know. If we would teach Beginners, we must be acquainted with their present knowledge, that it can be used as a foundation for the truths we wish them to grasp and understand. We must reach them through avenues with which they are familiar.



The Author with a Class of Beginners

The work of a Sunday school teacher is two-fold. First, we are to be soul-winners; but, in addition, we are also to build Christian character in the lives of our children.

Two to six are the most impressionable years of a child's life. Habits of behavior, mental attitudes, character traits appear and are set permanently during this short span of time.

From the third to the fifth year the little child is developing his first concept of God. As teachers we play a vital part in helping him form this concept. May God help us to impart to Beginners the right ideas of Himself and of Jesus. May the Lord give us divine wisdom as we guide the awakening minds of little children.

Being a successful Beginner teacher requires hard work. Visitation, prayer, study of the Word, visual aid and handwork preparation all take time, but the results are more than compensating.

I must pray over each lesson, definitely and earnestly. A carefully prepared lesson may hold the children's interest, but it cannot minister to their hearts unless it is anointed by the Spirit of God.

Each teacher has her own individual style of presenting the lesson. I am no exception. I have asked Jesus to help me teach as He would have them taught; I have prayed that I might be led by the Holy Spirit in every word and deed.

I have nothing against crayons and modeling clay (used extensively in many churches), but we never seem to have time for this type of activity. Our devotions, singing, praying, thanking Jesus, Scripture learning, and offering have a tendency to cover more than half of our class hour. A Bible story, missionary and birthday offerings, distribution of Sunday school papers (and any object favors I may have prepared, to be taken home)—and our time is gone.

Our small children learn and absorb more than we realize. They seem to be constantly in motion, but then—little ones are made to wiggle. The activity helps to develop little muscles, and we must direct this activity into channels through which we can teach the lesson. Singing songs accompanied by motions is one way this can be done. Objects and pictures, used in teaching the lesson, can be examined and arranged by each child. There must always be action and interest—with, of course, a spiritual significance.

Scripture learning is very necessary in teaching Beginners. The portions of the Word that are memorized during these precious years will not be forgotten. The verses will be so engraved into their hearts and minds through hearing and seeing that they can never be erased. "Thy Word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee" (Psalm 119:11). Some children have difficulty, but all are required to master

"The Lord's Prayer," "The Twenty-Third Psalm," John 3:16, Isaiah 9:6, Job 19:25, John 11:25, 26, Luke 24:6, and many, many others.

From Sunday to Sunday as we teach God's Word, God speaks to us. Sometimes a truth is made so real to me while I am teaching that I actually forget the classroom, just must thank God in praise or weep for joy. I can read a verse of Scripture (having read it on numerous occasions), and God will show me a new revelation. I'm so surprised that I can hardly tell the children. I'm the one who is being taught!

Children love to help. I wish I could give each one a small task every Sunday, but this is impossible. All are so willing to help me, and often get into each other's way trying to do so.

Statistics tell us that a child retains ninety per cent of what he sees—how it behooves all parents and teachers to govern what the child views.

It takes so little to make a child happy, and to catch the eye. A colored picture, a bit of ribbon, a paper boat, a flower or animal seal, a cotton lamb, or any small toy. I often send a copy of the memory verse home with each child, making the paper attractive, with the help of scotch tape, a stick of candy, or lollypop! While visiting homes, I have seen papers, pictures, and little awards I have given out on display—hanging on the wall, placed on tables, bookcases, etc. When I view them, I'm ashamed I made them so hurriedly and spent so little time with each one. I've visited many homes where there are no Bibles except the small testament the child has received in Sunday school, and which he carries so proudly to class. (Some of us are not qualified spiritually or academically to do exploits for God—I like to believe that He uses these little things for His glory.)

Before Beginners can comprehend the meaning of obeying God's voice, they must first be able to recognize His voice. God speaks to children through His written Word, the Bible, and through His messengers—parents and Sunday school teachers.

Children need to learn about Jesus and need to know Him. Their learning who Jesus is, getting to know Him, finding out all the wonderful things He has done, is doing, and will do for them, and learning how they can live lives pleasing unto Him, is where we, as teachers, come in.

A very important characteristic of a Beginner teacher is love. The teacher must not only love her children, but must also have their love in return. (I'm not a very lovely person; some of us just aren't, you know, so it has to be Jesus who puts this love into their hearts.) A teacher should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be so pliable in

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seed-time



and harvest



## God's Blessings in South Africa

By HELEN HOSS

*Johannesburg, South Africa*

THE MEETINGS in Natal were very blessed. The halls were crowded with interested listeners. A number of heathen raised their hands for prayer, and some sick were healed.

When I came back to the Rand, Johannesburg, I had to care for two Christmas programs. The young and old did so well that I am sure these programs were a blessing to all who came out to see and to hear them.

The Lord has blessed us with a church site in New Clare. Then we will trust the Lord to start building in a few months. A

place of worship is so important as there are no halls to rent for miles around.

The Lord has blessed us with a little chapel in Jeppestown, our out-station of New Clare. We are so glad to have meetings now in a little place we can call our own. In a year or so our people will have to move out of these city areas to their new residential areas, but until then we are glad to have this place for little rent. Right from the first day we moved in the Lord seemed to manifest His presence with us. So we thank the Lord for the Jeppestown Prayer

Chapel.

The need among the Indians of South Africa, both here and in Natal, is great. We thank the Lord for Pastor Govender who works among the Indian people in Natal, but we need a full-time worker among the Indians here on the Rand. Help me in prayer that the Lord will grant this.

Besides the help for a worker and for the church site and the church in New Clare, we are in great need of a tent. I believe 1962 has great days of His visitation for us. Will you believe with me?

### THE NEW CHURCH IN ORAI, INDIA



The congregation that gathered for the dedication services in the new church in Orai in December of last year.



The new church, which measures 33 feet by 25 feet, has Matthew 1:21 as a motto over its front entrance (pictured above).



Missionaries Margaret Michelsen (left) and Inez Kreiss with Rev. Girja Dayal (second from right) and Ranji Samson.

## *“Nile Mother” Dies*

LILLIAN TRASHER, mother of more than 8,000 orphans in Egypt during the past fifty years, died Sunday, Dec. 17, 1961. She left a family of 1,400 whom she gave her constant love and attention until her death. Affectionately known as the “Nile Mother,” Miss Trasher was a veteran missionary and director of the world-famous orphanage in Assiout, Egypt, which she founded approximately fifty years ago.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, September 27, 1887, Miss Trasher left the United States as an independent missionary on October 8, 1910. Soon after arriving in Egypt, she received one starving infant from a dying mother. From the small beginning and against overwhelming odds, she established one of the world's largest orphanages which has been proclaimed around the world.

Through fifty years of service, the orphanage has served as a monument of United States goodwill which has attracted the attention of commoners, nobil-

ity, and politicians. Wendell Wilkie, Republican candidate for president in 1940, recorded his visit with Miss Trasher in his



Lillian Trasher

1887-1961

volume, “One World.” A Scottish Nobleman has been quoted as telling Miss Trasher—“Address me any way you like. Any title I may have shrinks to insignificance before the nobility

of your character and work.” General Mohammed Naguib, one-time strong man of Egypt, visited Miss Trasher and referred to her as “a precious gift from God.” President Nasser of the United Arab Republic grew up near the orphanage and has paid great respect to her on a number of occasions.

A writer, administrator, educator, minister, and artist, Miss Trasher often wrote textbooks for the orphanage, illustrated them herself, and taught the classes. She administered the entire orphanage, using a limited staff with the exception of widows who often came with outcast children. During the past fifty years she has constructed a community on the Nile composed of dormitories, a hospital, kitchen and dining facilities, chapel, and other necessary structures to house and care for a family of 1,400.

A careful administrator, Miss Trasher traveled over Egypt raising funds to feed her ever-growing family. During World War II days, she stayed by the orphanage in spite of a request from her denominational offices to come home.

Miss Trasher is survived by only one relative, a sister, Mrs. Jennie Benton, nine years her senior, of Alexandria, Egypt, although she will be mourned and remembered by an estimated 8,000 to 9,000 Egyptians in all walks of life who found a home, food, and mother in her care.

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## TEACHING

(Continued from page 6.)

His hands that she can be led and directed as He wills.

She must have the patience of a saint, must be endowed with the wisdom of Solomon, and be a genius at understanding what goes on in the mind of a child. She must be a teacher when it is time to teach, a peacemaker when the situation presents itself, a nurse or Mama when a child is tired, hurt, ill, or sleepy.

A Beginner teacher must be an actress. While in my teens I spent two years studying with a dramatic group. Little did I dream that I would use this talent in this way. One Sunday I'm a roaring lion, coming over the mountain, looking for a lamb for lunch; the following Sunday I may be the giant that David killed (great is the fall when I come tumbling down); again I may portray the nice little donkey with the big ears—the one that Jesus had need of.

On a certain Sunday our lesson was about Peter and John at the gate called Beautiful. I was suffering with sciatica at the time, and it was tor-



ture to stand or walk about. I asked a certain young lad to sit on the floor to enact the part of the lame man. He thought it over, then looked up at me, all smiles, and said, "You're the one who is crippled; why don't you get down on the floor? Then Jesus will heal you." What could I say? I knelt down, crying, it hurt so much. Immediately, "Peter" and "John" patted me on the head and asked Jesus to heal me. I was then told to get up, told that I was healed. (I had almost decided to spend the balance of the class period in this same position.) All eyes were on me; I looked to Jesus for help and started to rise. How little I believed! God works through little children, you know; I hardly had any pain at all as I rose to my feet. Praise Jesus!

We endeavor to teach the children to praise Jesus in word of testimony. We call this thanking Him. Some of their thank-you's put us older folks to shame. "I thank God for Jesus; I thank Jesus for the Bible." (When asked, "What is the Bible?" they answer, "The Word of God.") "I thank Jesus for the houses, for the church, for Sunday school, for my new dress, for dying on the cross for us, for my new shoes, for healing me, for living in my heart, for the whole wide world, for the rain, for the flowers, for Mama and Daddy, for the new tire on our Pontiac, etc."

We teach them that Jesus is the Son of God; our heavenly Father sent His Son Jesus to this earth as a baby. He grew, as they are growing, and when He became a man, He went about doing good, preaching, teaching, healing the sick, loving, and blessing all the little children, just as He loves and blesses them today.

Our children are taught that Jesus wants to live in their hearts. They are told how He leads, protects, and blesses all who will love and follow Him. The children grasp the truth; they believe!

We teach how the naughty people (who did not love Him) nailed Him to the cross, and how He died, asking His Father to forgive the naughty people. We teach them that Jesus died on the cross for us. All have been naughty and have sinned against God. The resurrection story is precious to the heart of a child. He is made to know that because Jesus arose and now lives, we likewise shall live, for He is our life. (I love to teach children how wonderful Jesus is!) I love to see and hear the real young when they lisped the words they are being taught.

In teaching with flannel-graph and visual aid, characters come to life! Object lessons are most effective; we can feel, see, touch, smell, or taste.

Variety, something new, creates interest and enthusiasm among Beginners. We all participate in the Rhythm Band. The occasion is always a surprise for the children (sometimes for me

also). On promotion day they don caps and gowns, and our Cherub Choir at Christmas is adorned in white robes with large red bows.

We have little added surprises throughout the year. Perhaps a chocolate cross for Easter, a little gift for Mother on her day, a turkey cookie for Thanksgiving, and a birthday cake with real candles for Jesus at Christmastime.

It takes so little effort to please children, and when I see the glowing shine of their eyes and their faces aglow with smiles, I feel I have been repaid a hundredfold.

Of course, we have had the usual problem: children must be taught to give of their offering money, and not take it out of the basket or container.

"Dropping, dropping, dropping, dropping,  
Hear the money fall;  
Every one for Jesus,  
He will get them all."

We teach them to sing "Hear the Money Fall." We really couldn't do very much for the Sunday school or our missionaries, if we received only pennies. We teach the children to give as unto the Lord and also endeavor to create a missionary spirit in each heart. Our children are so missionary-minded that I often feel our Sunday school offering is gypped. The light on the light-house bank and the bell on the church bank really encourage little ones to give. Giving is a gift—one to be desired.

Beginners can have a great part in molding the spiritual lives of their parents and other members of their family. Their simplicity, their love, and their frankness can penetrate the unsaved heart in a way that an adult might never be able to reach it.

As a teacher of little children, I always have these questions in my mind. Do the children enjoy Sunday school? Are they happy in class? Do they remember the Bible stories and scripture verses? Are their lives being changed? It is gratifying, indeed, when a parent informs me that a child has become more obedient and thoughtful at home. I pray that my influence on these young lives might be a deep impression for good. They are entrusted into our care for such a short while.

We who teach pre-school-aged children share in a priceless ministry. As we look into their faces from Sunday to Sunday, we pray that God will help us to see beyond the present, into the future. We realize that some of these children may become ministers of the gospel, missionaries, teachers, etc. What a privilege is ours to be entrusted with a part of their spiritual training during their early years.

*(To be continued.)*

## The Lord for the Body

(Continued from page 4.)

these—all these things of the flesh are indulged in today so glibly that many don't know they are doing it anymore because they have moved away so far from the reign of Christ. But isn't it wonderful that He wants to extend His reign to *this body*?

It is this body that is to be a member of Jesus Christ. The Lord for the body, and the body for the Lord. When you really make that sacrifice, you are not your own anymore. You have no right over your body anymore. It is Christ that controls. When He is allowed to control, something happens to your body that is perfectly marvelous. Instead of being bound by Satan and by demon powers such as I have mentioned, you are possessed by the Father and the Holy Ghost. Your body becomes a channel, an instrument, a member of the body of Christ.

The foolish virgins took no oil in their vessels. They *did not continue* waiting upon the Lord *after* they had spoken with tongues, but they said, "We're rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing." That is going on today. Look at many of these religious magazines, and you will find that very expression! But where are the people that recognize that they are wretched, that allow God Almighty to become a Discerner of the thoughts and of the intents of the heart?

Did you ever feel convicted when you opened your mouth inadvertently? I don't mean when you said something bad, but when you talked too much, or when you gossiped, or even if you just lent your ear to a story of some juicy gossip. How people love to do that! Garbage cans! God says in a great house there are vessels unto honor and some to dishonor. There are golden vessels for the jewels of

the King. And then there are these garbage cans that smell bad as soon as you take the lid off. As soon as you meet them they have some gossip to tell you. They took no oil in their vessels.

To take oil in my vessel means that I open my body and my bodily functions to the Holy Ghost. This body is a sacred institution.

What is the laying on of hands for? It is intended for the body. You get healing through the laying on of hands. These hands have been requisitioned by the Holy Ghost, and He uses them to convey His life. There are a thousand powers manifested by the laying on of hands when it is done in the Holy Ghost that we don't see outwardly, but oh, the changes that are affected in these bodies of ours! Quietly Jesus Christ prepares these virgins for the marriage supper of the Lamb. They are wise. They give God a chance.

What is it that makes a successful Pentecostal meeting? Bodies in touch with God and the Holy Ghost can play upon these bodies like a good organist upon the keys of an organ. We sit quietly. What is it that makes us quiet? God is moving in a mysterious way and the body feels it.

That is why God warns against these sins of the flesh. Flee youthful lusts. *Flee!* The church today says, "Enjoy them." The *church* says that—theologians, great conventions. There is a great controversy over contraceptives—the most horrible fornication that man could think of when he puts his dirty monkey paw into the machinery of Almighty God and wrecks it! Yet the church has succumbed to it because their bodies are not filled with oil. They are not obeying from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto them that ye put off the old man, that

these members that were members of the flesh and brought fruit unto death shall now be the members of Jesus Christ to bring fruit unto everlasting life.

Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul. Beloved, God does not only demand utter and absolute purity, but He offers it, He creates it. Jesus Christ delivers from all unrighteousness. That is His job. The question is whom do I choose to reign over me. To whom do I yield my members servants to obey? *His* slave I am going to be! What a change!

Don't blame the world for wallowing in the mire of sin. They can't help it. That is all they have. The prodigal son had nothing, not even the husks that swine ate. He was worse than the swine. So is the world!

But how about us who have received the firstfruits of the Spirit, the resurrection power of the Son of God? That is what these bodies are for!

You say you are seeking the baptism. No, the baptism is seeking you. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole world to manifest His power towards those whose hearts are perfect toward Him.

Where does Christ get that authority to demand of me to live a holy life, to flee youthful lusts, to live a pure life? He has that authority because He Himself bore my sin away. I have no business to choose sin. Sin shall not have dominion over me; Jesus Christ will have dominion over me.

If God has been dealing with us about these things, let us bow. It is the call of the Bridegroom to fill our vessels with oil, to fill these bodies so full of the Holy Ghost that there will be no room for anything fleshly. The world or the flesh or the devil will have no more room in us, but we shall be ready for the coming of the Bridegroom. Even so come, Lord Jesus!

## GATHERED FRAGMENTS



### The Good Book Is a Great Script

*Increasingly movie-makers are perusing its pages for stories to catch the fancy (and the dollars) of the public. But just how religious are the movies they make from it?*

THE ABOVE are the title and the subhead of a very penetrating analysis of so-called Biblical movies given by the *New York Times* film critic, Bosley Crowther (*The New York Times Magazine*, Dec. 31, '61). Inasmuch as many earnest Christians have been lured and deceived by these Hollywood productions because of their Biblical titles and themes, it is well to consider, at least, the judgment of a man of the world who is certainly not opposed to the movie industry as such, but by the very nature of his work is prejudiced in its favor:

"There is no question in the mind of this writer, who has been viewing Biblical films for many years (the first one was "Samson" in 1914) . . . that they have been, at best, gaudy illustrations, pitched to the imaginative level and social awareness of the average youngster in Sunday school. Not one of them could be considered a penetrating exploration of the mystery and majesty of life. Not one of them could be considered an accurate portrayal of historical facts."

Commenting on the current fad for films with a Biblical theme, critic Crowther says:

"Enterprising film-makers, ever scanning the heavens and entreating the gods for dramatic material with

which to woo the movie-goers of the world, have lately turned, like salvation-seekers, to one of the oldest sources extant. They have looked into the Holy Bible, whence hath come — and still cometh — box-office strength.

"Increasingly, the public is being exposed to Biblical films the likes of which have not been visited upon it since the earliest days of the screen. In recent weeks, a mammoth production of 'King of Kings,' an elaborate (and highly unreliable) dramatization of the life of Jesus Christ, has opened in many cities. . . . The 'spiritual' values in these and previous Biblical films are obvious compounds of sybaritic splendor, religious chauvinism and sex, no more worthy of being regarded as genuine nourishment for spiritual hunger than is the run of Broadway musical comedies.

"The phony pretense of Biblical pictures to a spirit of reverence and to validity as religious history is by now familiar to intelligent lay critics and theologians. No one who knows his Bible and has the slightest sensitivity to the tricks of movie-makers can seriously credit the plush cinematic extravaganzas that are passed off as solemn Bible stories—and this goes for the current 'King of Kings.'"

When one compares this evaluation by a recognized movie critic with the endorsement given these same films by some

Christians — even ministers — one cannot help quoting the words of the Lord, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light."

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A complete index of all the articles, authors, poems, and pictures which have appeared in BREAD OF LIFE during the last ten years is currently being prepared for publication. Doubtless many of our readers will want this valuable aid to locating material which has been a blessing to them in past years. It will greatly help us if those desiring a copy of this will let us know so that we may have an idea of how many copies of this *Bread of Life Index* to have printed.

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WANTED! One of our readers is very desirous to secure a copy of the *January, 1953* issue of BREAD OF LIFE in order to have a complete set—ten volumes! If any reader can furnish this it will be greatly appreciated.

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Coming soon! *Radiant Glory*, the life of Martha Wing Robinson, by the editor of BREAD OF LIFE is now in the press. Over twenty years in preparation, this book is largely autobiographical with many of Mrs. Robinson's writings and letters. In addition it contains tributes and testimonies to the life and ministry of Mrs. Robinson by a number of ministers whose lives have been influenced by this chosen vessel of God. Further details as to publication date will be announced in the March issue of BREAD OF LIFE.

### A PRAYER FOR 1962

MAKE ME REMEMBER HE WANTS ME TO PRESS THROUGH.

—M. W. Robinson

*I press toward the mark!—PHIL. 3:14.*

# P R A Y E R

I CANNOT HELP THINKING that prayer belongs to a region of law which we have not yet discovered. It is not that we change God's mind and induce Him by our coaxing to do something that He did not intend to do before; but it is that our prayer has put us into line with His laws and made it possible for His law to work through our instrumentality. In prayer, all the Divine supply is provided, but it will not reach us unless we make the connexion that renders it possible for that supply to reach us. Our prayer neither creates the power nor coaxes it to come, but brings it by a Divine law to its destined end.

To my mind there is an enormous amount of unbelief in the praying habits of Christians. It is as if God were unwilling to bestow blessings, and that it was necessary to go through great wrestlings and agonies in order to get them from Him.

I think that story of Jacob and the Angel has done a great deal to perpetuate this attitude of mind. The careless reader supposes that it was Jacob who wrestled with the Angel and conquered the Angel by superior strength. But the real truth is that it was the Angel who wrestled with Jacob, that Jacob was the one who had to be conquered, not the Angel, and that the victory was only won when Jacob was made so lame and weak that he could not wrestle any longer.

I believe that most of the conflicts and wrestlings of Christians are caused by their resistance to God, and that the victory comes only when they are too weak to resist any longer and are forced, as Jacob was, to submit.

—HANNAH WHITALL SMITH.