

Seeking Out

The Old Paths

Volume 11 Issue 9

September 2005

PRAYING AS HE PRAYED

We are standing on the threshold of a new calendar year. The great need of the hour everywhere among God's people as I see it, feel it and believe it to be, is epitomized in the words found in Mark 1:35, "And in the morning, rising up a GREAT WHILE BEFORE DAY, He went OUT, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." It has been said that every failure in the realm of the spiritual is a prayer failure. To follow Jesus and to pattern our life by His blessed example should be the deep desire of every professed Christian. We read of His life of suffering and sacrifice given that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Many read and obtain a head knowledge but very few have a life that proves to be like Him in word and in deed. The words quoted above in Mark 1:35, "And in the morning, rising a great while before day," will condemn most people. This is something read about but carried out by very few who name the name of Christ. He didn't arise because He needed anything Himself, for in Him dwelt all the fullness of

God; yet, He prayed; He wept; He suffered. He stayed up, many times, ALL NIGHT for the sake of souls. We read that He prayed before day. He prayed in the mountains. He prayed in the wilderness. He prayed all night, He prayed in agony and earnestly, "not my will, but thine be done." He prayed in public and in secret; He exhorted us to pray. He is our example I Pet. 2:21, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps." I John 2: 6, "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." "The Bible often mentions our Lord praying but this verse, 'rising a great while before day,' needs much consideration." (Marshall Jessup in Truth and Righteousness)

We are living in a LAZY AGE. In this age of "midnight shifts," "split-shifts," and what have you, it may not be possible to follow strictly the letter of the law as suggested in the text, but needless to say, many are sleeping away their privileges.

According to God's Divine Word, prayer is one of the greatest privileges man can have. Our Lord frequently withdrew Himself apart to pray. "Little prayer is the characteristic of a backslidden age and of a backslidden Church," writes E. M. Bounds. "Whenever there is little praying in the pulpit or in the pew, spiritual bankruptcy is imminent and inevitable." We cannot lazily lay in bed and retain an experience with God. Many, many souls have lost God out of their hearts because they failed to pray. Some try to excuse themselves, but there is no excuse for not praying. Ears have left unheeded the voice that calls to prayer until the call has grown faint. How many rush from the bed on Sundays, even preachers, just in time to go to church. To men's eyes your sin is hidden, but not to God. You have been called to guard men's souls and to discern the snares of the enemy, but through laziness you are standing as wolves in sheep's clothing and groping on blindly into hell.

Continued on page 4

"We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good." Numbers 10:29

Dryden Road
 Pentecostal Church
 3201 Dryden Road
 Dayton, Ohio 45439
 298-6555

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School - 10 A.M.

Morning Worship - 11 A.M.

Evangelistic Service - 6 P.M.

TUESDAY

Youth Service - 7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 10 A.M.

THURSDAY

Family Service - 7:30 P.M.

“Where A Warm
 Welcome Awaits You...
 In This Church We
 Teach Holiness Too...”

Pastor
 Bennie D. Sutherland
 Editor
 Frank Lindsey

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Around Home

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in our church who need a touch from the Lord.

Patsy Roberts, Verna Williams, Edna Pelfrey, Demia Abner, Ruby Carpenter, Marty Hatcher, Bessie Richmond, Evelyn Houston, Brenda Houston, Donna Maggard, Willidean Curtis, Opal Houston, Odie Boggs, Rachel Thompson, Flodie Baldwin, Steve Phillips, Carl Henson, Richie Sutherland, and Ray Driscoll.

We thank the Lord for coming by at the fellowship meeting. People were saved, filled with the Holy Ghost, and many received help.

Brother Randy Webb and Brother Duane Galliher were a real blessing again this year, along with all of the other fine preachers. We really thank the Lord for also sending by Brother Gary Edenfield. We're so glad he listened to his wife!

We're looking forward to doing it all over again next year! Come and be with us!

Birthdays

Flodie Baldwin	1
Mary Hasty	1
Naveeda McElhaney.....	1
Kristen Bishop.....	2
Beverly Blevins	2
Todd Hatcher II	2
Sue Allen	3
Dana Reed	5
Sharon Whitley	5
Skip Brooks	6
Mildred Witt	9
Richie Sutherland.....	9
Brenda Dalton.....	10
Jacqueline Coffman	11
Joshua Brooks	12
Stephanie Shockley	12
Rebecca Travis.....	12
Renae Coffman.....	12
Bennie Sutherland.....	13
Markes Cornett	15
Madison Fordyce	17
Tim Varney.....	17
Dan Burr	19
Melissa Sutherland	20
Henry Hasty.....	21
Erika Hatcher	22
Austin Griffiths	26
Angie Banks	26
David Marshall	26
Jon Robertson.....	26
Betty Griffiths.....	28
Tommy Boggs	28
Jonas Boggs.....	29
Blake Tussey	30

Anniversaries

Larry & Dorothy Taylor	5
Darius & Kim Templeton.....	5
Billy & Janet Smith	23
Bennie & Jane Sutherland.....	26
Darrell & Sue Allen	30
Jeff & Alison Liette.....	30

JESUS WILL COME TO WHERE YOU ARE!

By Robert F. Dotson © 2005

Does the load of sin you carry,
Have you bowed down to the ground?
Is your mind full of questions,
Yet, the answers can't be found?
You won't find the peace you're seeking,
In a bottle or a bar.
Jesus can fill your empty vessel!
He will come to where you are!

Do you often feel discouraged,
And it seems that there's no end?
Do you contemplate how much you'd give,
For just one true and faithful friend?
You want to change your life,
But, satan says you've gone too far.
If you can't get to Jesus, Friend,
He will come to where you are!

Jesus will come to where you are,
At morning, noon, or night!
He will pick up the pieces of your life,
And make everything just right!
Though sin is devastating,
And it leaves a lasting scar,
Jesus, the Great Physician,
Will come to where you are!

We say that God isn't impressed with large numbers and man shouldn't be depressed with small ones. And that's true. But it's a fact that a full sanctuary leaves a positive impact on the people in the pew as well as on the pastor in the pulpit. All of which says that when we are absent without good reason, everyone stands to lose.

An item from a church newsletter makes this point in a unique way. It's entitled, Calling a Meeting of the Board: "The board of absentees will meet each time a service of the church is in session. They will discuss various ways of keeping attendance as low as possible. They will endeavor to see that there is no enthusiasm, and help to decrease the offerings. The board will also seek to weaken the pastor's influence, and plan various ways to hinder any revival efforts and all visitation programs in or by the church. The board of absentees is composed of the following members: Mr. I.M. Unconcerned, Mrs O.U. Hypocrite, Mr. and Mrs. U.R. Lazy, Mrs. C. Others, and Mr. I.M. Disgruntled, chairman."

Bible Illustrator

"Don't write there," said one to a lad, who was writing with a diamond pin on a pane of glass in the window of a hotel. "Why"? he asked. "Because you can't rub it out."

The glass may be destroyed, but the human soul is immortal. How careful, then, should we be of the impressions we make on the lives of others.

Praying As He Prayed from page 1

We are living in a SELFISH AGE. The progress of our Lord's Kingdom is dependent upon prayer. When we reflect upon this fact it is sad to think that we give so little time to this holy exercise. Everything depends upon prayer, and yet we neglect it not only to our own spiritual hurt but also to the delay and injury of our Lord's cause upon earth. If we would, we could add to the conquering power of the army of righteousness, and yet our lips are sealed, our hands hang listlessly by our side, and we jeopardize the very cause in which we profess to be deeply interested by holding back from the prayer chamber. It is nothing to see professed Christians and preachers sit down to three full meals a day, snack at bed time and then sleep a long night. How many preachers are carrying out a little preacher routine -- they study; they are sober; they believe the Word, but when it comes time to sacrifice they are weak and selfish. They read about Jesus praying all night and preach about it, but very seldom, if ever, practice it. They read about Jesus fasting but they cannot fast. They read that Jesus wept; but somehow they cannot weep over souls. Yet to confess and to repent, they will not humble down. What is more pitiful than to see a soul that was once awake, once able to fast and to weep over souls, but today POWERLESS because when the suffering came he refused to deny himself. These kind do not lay their Bible down and announce their backslidden condition and repent. No, they go on and on in a religious routine. They go from one church to another filling the pulpit and deceiving souls. As you

Seeking Out The Old Paths 4

read this today, examine your own heart. Do you pray, at times, all night, and find you love to pray over souls? When you are awakened by a burdened heart, do you pray? Do you find yourself broken in prayer? Do you feel sleep unimportant compared to the perishing around you? Do you eat and drink without ever Sacrificing for a time of fasting in His presence because you see men going to hell? It is sad to say, but many people are living in sin, not the sin of worldliness in dress, in conversation, or in pleasure, but the sin of knowing to do good and doing it not. If you know today you are not just as Holy as men think you are, and if you do not read and pray, fast and weep as you should, repent quickly and know the worth of a truly awakened soul. Pray until it is a joy to pray. Pray until you can deny food for a soul -and love to do it. Pray until you feel the agony and groanings. This may seem hard but study the Scripture references on prayer and be awakened to this truth.

This is a spiritually FEEBLE AGE. Andrew Murray in "The Ministry of Intercession," remarks, that "feebleness and failure in prayer is a sign of feebleness in the spiritual life, the prayer life being simply the pulse of the spiritual system. Resolutions to conquer reluctance to pray, and to take more time for prayer, are of little value, as the experience of multitudes will prove. What is needed is the discovery that this failure is only a symptom of disease, and that there must be a radical change in the whole life and walk if the prayer-life, the spiritual pulse, is to indicate health and vigor." "This disease arises from no other cause than failure

to accept the complete cleansing of the defiled nature which God has provided in the sacrifice of His Son, and the priestly anointing, which is the crowning blessing of this Pentecostal era. Multitudes are entangled with the yoke of bondage, and are seeking by struggle and self-effort to accomplish that which is no more of works than is justification, and which, because it is of faith, may, thank God, be NOW. The first step, therefore, in the removal of this awful deadness to prayer is the instantaneous appropriation by naked faith of God's full salvation. Where sin abounded, grace will then much more abound; and the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, having emancipated the soul from the law of sin and death, will make that a delight and a triumph which has been hitherto a drudgery and a failure."

We are living in a BARREN AGE. "The potency of prayer hath subdued the strength of fire; it hath bridled the rage of lions, hushed anarchy to rest, extinguished wars, appeased the elements, expelled demons, burst the chains of death, expanded the gates of heaven, assuaged diseases, repelled frauds, rescued cities from destruction, stayed the sun in its course, and arrested the progress of the thunderbolt. Prayer is an all-efficient panoply, a treasure undiminished, a mine which is never exhausted, a sky unobscured by clouds, a heaven unruffled by the storm. It is the root, the fountain, the mother of a thousand blessings." Chrysotom. "The prayers of holy men appease God's wrath, drive away temptations, resist and overcome the devil, procure the ministry and service of angels, rescind the decrees

Continued on page 5

of God. Prayer cures sickness and obtains pardon; it arrests the sun in its course and stays the wheels of the chariot of the moon; it rules over all gods and opens and shuts the storehouse of rain; it unlocks the cabinet of the womb and quenches the violence of fire; it stops the mouths of lions and reconciles our suffering and weak faculties with the violence of torment and violence of persecution; it pleases God and supplies all our need." Jeremy Taylor. "The cause of God has no commercial age, no cultured age, no age of education, no age of money. But it has one golden age, and that is the age of prayer. When its leaders are men of prayer, when prayer is the prevailing element of worship, like the incense giving continual fragrance to its service, then the cause of God will be triumphant." E. M. Bounds

Leadership is needed in this great ministry. Where are the Christlike leaders, who can teach the modern saints how to pray and put them at it? Do, our leaders know we are raising up a prayer less set of saints? Where are the apostolic leaders who can put God's people to praying? Let them come to the front and do the work, and it will be the greatest work that can be done. More praying will not come as a matter of course. Nothing but a specific effort from a praying leadership will avail. None but praying leaders can have praying followers. Praying apostles will beget praying saints. A praying pulpit will beget praying pews. We do greatly need someone who can set the saints to this business of praying. We are a generation of non-praying saints. Non-praying saints are a beggarly gang of saints, who have neither the ardor nor the beauty, nor the

power of saints. Who will restore this branch? The greatest will be of reformers and apostles, who can set the Church to praying!

January, 1970 Editorial
Parker Maxey

Nothing can be more devastating than a prairie fire. One of the worst on record was started inadvertently by an army officer stationed at Fort Hayes, Ohio. He and some friends had been hunting wild turkeys and had paused for a few moments to rest. While they were relaxing, the officer touched a match to some dry grass just to produce a spectacle. He never dreamed what dreadful consequences would follow his thoughtless act! Within minutes the entire area was ablaze, and the men were powerless to stop it. The flames, fanned and driven by a strong wind, raged furiously and swept rapidly across the prairie. The fire burned up everything that stood in its path -- thousands of acres of land, homes, buildings, and countless head of livestock.

As you can well imagine, the tragic ruin and loss caused by that single act of carelessness brought untold grief and heartache to the one responsible as well as others. Careless sin quickly gets out of control and does more damage than you can imagine.

Some people take a stand for Christ and never move again.

Prayer of A Half-Hearted Christian

I love thy church, O God;
Her walls before me stand;
But please excuse
my absence, Lord;
This bed is simply grand!
A charge to keep I have;
A God to glorify;
But Lord, don't ask
for cash from me;
The glory comes to high.
Am I a soldier of the cross,
A follower of the Lamb?
Yes! Though I seldom
pray or pay,
I still insist I am.
Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
And all the world go free?
No! Others, Lord, should
do their part,
But please don't count on me.
Praise God from who all
blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures
here below!
Oh, loud my hymns of
praise I bring,
Because It doesn't cost to sing!

The road to ruin is always in good repair.

People seldom lose out with the Lord by a blowout; it's usually a slow leak.

A lot of people have the right aim in life; they just fail to pull the trigger.

As the little girl stared into her mother's deeply mingled and scarred hands, she had a sincere look about her. With no intention of slander she asked, "Mommy, why are your hands so ugly?" As a tear of remembrance filled her mother's eye she answered, "Well, when you were a small baby our old farm house caught fire. I awoke to smoke, tremendous heat, and a burning home. I jumped from bed and ran to your room to find the entire room engulfed in flames. My heart dropped as I saw your little bed against the wall. I pulled the burning sheets from around you, and tightly cleaved you to my chest. Blocking fiery debris and bursting through burning doors, I carefully rushed you out of the house. As I safely put you to your feet I realized that I had unknowingly burnt my hands beyond recognition." The little girl reached up and touched her

mother's palms and softly whispered "Oh, mommy, your hands are not ugly; they're beautiful."

As I heard this story for the first time my mind was flooded with the awesome power of God's grace. Romans 3:23 says "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." We so often forget the sacrifice the Christ was when he presented himself on a cross to all man. It is hard for us to realize that a man who was so pure and so humble was still willing to give his all for people like us. I Peter 2:24 reads "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to our sins, should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed." I can not imagine the pain and suffering he must have gone through that day. At any time he could have called a league of angels from heaven to his rescue. After all this

torture and all this pain he thought not of his own predicament but for me in my sin and for you in your sin. At every second he was truly a willing sacrifice. I pray I never take his grace and love for granted. I am so thankful to my Lord Savior and friend. I really do owe Him everything.

Daniel Kroger

A vacation from God can be a grave affair.

The way some people act nowadays they must think that hell has been air-conditioned.

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In This Issue...

Praying As He Prayed