



From the Editor

A s the seasons of life slip past us, there is more changing in our world than the leaves on the trees:

Children are growing up and leaving the safety of our care, parents are growing older and losing their independence, loved ones are getting sick and passing away; even the landscape changes as familiar spaces are replaced with parking lots and shopping centers. For those of us who are satisfied with yesterday, there is a sense of sadness at this constant change. We know that change is inevitable, and in many cases, good; but why can't life come with a "pause and savor" button? Why can't the precious things be permanent?

To add to our distress are the changes we are witnessing in our culture. The disrespect for authority, devaluing of human life, and rejection of absolute truth leave us wondering what the future holds for us. How can people display such hostility toward things that are so foundationally right? Can they not see the obvious consequences of such behavior? Some of us no longer want to live in this desert of shifting sand, but are longing for something better.

The comforting news in all this is that God does not change. People may change and the world may change around us in some pretty dramatic ways, but our God does not change and neither does His word. They are the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb 13:8)

Take courage dear heart. Cling to the promises of God's word. The day is coming quickly when Christ's kingdom will be both literal and physical. Things will finally be as He means them to be and we will live with Him in great joy forever. In the meantime, let us worship God, relish the glorious flavor of His blessings, minister to the broken lives around us, and pray without ceasing that day will come quickly. TRF

Let's Get Acquainted

The Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Conference of Churches was incorporated in 1967 and is headquartered in Anderson, Indiana. Our connection has 35 churches in Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Kansas, Michigan, and mission fields in the Philippines, as well as, Dominica and Antigua, West Indies. If you are interested in contacting one of our churches, reading about our organization's history, or learning more about our present ministries, we welcome you to visit our website and Facebook page. Spirit-anointed holiness preaching from our organization can be found on our YouTube channel. You may contact the editor with any questions at midwestphc @gmail.com. We look forward to making your acquaintance.

Web Address: www.midwestphc.org



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PUBLISHING INFORMATION

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Mission Statement: The mission of the MPN is three- fold: 1.) We desire to glorify God and facilitate the worship of His person. 2.) We seek to promote the Gospel of Christ with its beautiful message of heart holiness. 3.) We seek to be an encouragement to our readers spiritually, as well as, an informative source of information to those who are connected with, or interested in, our Conference.

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Cover Photo: Our cover photo for this issue is Bryleigh Noelle and Addyson Marie Grissom. This photo was taken by their mother Patricia Reed Grissom. Patricia is the owner/photographer of Portraits by Patricia. We will be featuring Patricia's photography over 4 issues on the cover pages for the MPN. You may visit her Facebook page to enjoy more of her work.







n June of 2014 our Conference decided to move to a digital media copy of our official Conference periodical which for years had been called *The Pilgrim.* As we searched for someone to take the place that Mrs. Fayrene Walden had filled for several years, Rev. Dan Plemmons offered to put together conference news, pictures, and articles of interest and send it out at least quarterly in the digital form of Pilgrim News and Notes. In August of 2014, Rev. Plemmons published the first issue and went on to publish a total of thirty issues. Recently, life situations and added responsibilities have caused him to have to step aside from this position. We thank Brother Plemmons for doing an outstanding job of keeping our Conference informed in a timely way and with very little expense. His articles have been informative, interesting, and well-done.

Rev. Timothy Forsee, our Conference Council Secretary and pastor of the Pilgrim Holiness Church at Franklin, IN, has consented to continue the work that Brother Plemmons began. One of our challenges with sharing Conference News in paper form, in the age of social media, is that the news is "old" by the time it is printed and distributed. The problem with a fully digital version of the publication is that a significant segment of readers is not comfortable reading a digital copy. We have encouraged pastors of our churches to print a hard copy to share among this audience target, and it has worked for the most part. Still, there are those who used to read and enjoy *The Pilgrim* that have never or seldom read Pilgrim News and Notes. Also, there is somewhat of a disconnect with friends of the Conference who do not check our website or use social media. We will continue to work on the challenge, and we wish

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Rev. Donald Nichols

Brother Timothy Forsee well as he attempts to share a publication which will be meaningful to our Pilgrim family as well as those who count us as friends.

God is at work among the Pilgrim churches, and as Ruth and I travel across the Conference we are heartened with how our people are facing the challenges of the day, striving to win and disciple new people, provide better ministry facilities, support our missionary endeavors, and be involved in Conference activities. We just came through a great Youth Camp with 184 registered. Rev. Daniel Durkee, our evangelist, powerfully challenged our young people to give their hearts and lives to God with intentional living. His colorful stories of upbringing and personal decisions were fascinating and riveting, drawing many young people to commit themselves to the Lord at an altar of prayer.

Pilgrim Camp followed the Youth Camp with similar results. Conference went smoothly, with a beautiful spirit of unity. Current officers were reelected to new terms. Early morning prayer meetings led by Rev. Don Raines were marked with the Presence of God. Rev. John Zechman and Dr. Daniel Stetler were anointed of the Holy Spirit in preaching timely truths. Jerry and Becky Glick and Joe and Janelle Carey did a great job of singing songs that blessed and challenged our people. We ordained two men, Austin Line and Wayne Kennedy to the ministry. Some highlights of the ordination service were the Preacher's Choir under the direction of Connie Hilligoss and Joe Carey, and the powerful Ordination Address by Dr. Daniel Stetler. The missions service was blessed of the Lord with a good response of financial commitment to support Pilgrim Missions for the coming Conference year. The children services and program, led by Sarah Robberts were a delight to the children, and the youth services led by Conference Youth Director, John Zeigler were a blessing. All of this is simply a great reminder that God is not done with us and there is a place for us in the broader holiness movement. We want to do our part to share our great heritage with those who need it so desperately. We thank Scott Pyle for his work in broadcasting the services online and Dan Plemmons for uploading all the services to YouTube for archival use following camp. Thank you to all who helped make these times of refreshing possible. We give God all the glory.

Rev. Donald Nichols pastors the Lima PHC. He also directs an ACE school operated through his church. Rev. Nichols is married to Ruth, and has 3 grown children and 11 grandchildren. Rev. Nichols was elected to the Conference Presidency in 2016.





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Ministers and Wives Retreat Cresthaven Family Center - Oblong, IL October 17-19, 2019

Enjoy 3 days in a country atmosphere. Fish in the lake, play cornhole, or just sit around a campfire with your friends. You're sure to be refreshed in this retreat designed especially for you.

For more information: Leanne Zeigler: 812-454-7501





Imagine the excitement of the Transfiguration. Is it any wonder that Peter wanted to stay on the mountain? But Jesus brought the disciples down from the mountain to face the challenges of daily life. They could not live on the mountain.

Summer "camp-meeting season" is over. We heard anointed preaching at camp-meetings. We fellowshipped with godly people. We spent time on a spiritual mountain. But it is time to return to normal life – and that is ok, because *God did not make us to live on the mountain.* The daily walk of the Christian is not on the mountain. On the mountain, we gain strength for life in the valley. The test of our mountaintop experience is in daily life. So, what happens when we come down from the mountain?

WE COME DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN TO SERVE (Mt 17:14-21).

Immediately after the Transfiguration, the disciples met human need. We love the mountain, but God sends us to live among and serve needy people.

Camp meeting is wonderful. Great preaching, great music, great fellowship. Now we return to the "real world" of family struggles, frustrating neighbors, and unsympathetic bosses. This is the test of the mountaintop experience: "In the valley, do I love the coworker who is hard to love? Do I treat my spouse in a Christ-like way? Do I treat the needy as Jesus would treat them?

We are not blessed simply for our own benefit, but in order to bless others. We do not live on the mountain; we represent Jesus to a hurting world.

WE COME DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN TO SUFFER (Mt 17:22-23).

Coming down from the mountain, Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). In Jerusalem, Jesus would be killed, and

his followers would suffer because of him. Matthew says, "they were exceeding sorry." They wanted to head back to the mountain!

The principle is still true. At camp meeting, we are surrounded by those who share our convictions; in the valley, we may be mocked as "holy rollers." At camp meeting, others join us for early morning prayer; in the valley, we may pray alone. At camp meeting, it is popular to be spiritual; in the valley, spiritual enthusiasm goes against cultural expectations. We come down from the mountain to face suffering and opposition.

WE COME DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES (Mt 18:1-35).

On the road to Jerusalem, Jesus taught his followers about the cost of discipleship. Life after the mountain will be demanding for those early disciples.

Today, we come down from the mountain to face the challenges of daily discipleship. Living as disciples means allowing Christ to transform us day by day *after camp meeting ends*. Commitments we made in response to a convicting camp-meeting sermon must be followed by consistent discipleship practices: time in God's Word, prayer, scripture memory, fasting, and corporate worship.

Discipleship is not simply about faithfulness to early morning prayer meeting for the ten days of camp-meeting; discipleship is about faithfulness in prayer and the Word for the other 355 days of the year. Discipleship is not simply about a pledge during the camp missions offering; discipleship is about biblical stewardship the other fifty-one weeks of the year.

To be entirely honest, daily discipleship is not as exciting as camp-meeting, but daily discipleship determines whether or not camp-meeting bears lasting fruit. On the mountain, we gain a new vision of what God wants us to be. In the valley, we must align our daily actions with that vision. At camp-meeting, we

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FACTS ABOUT HURRICANE MARIA

*Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit called Hurricane Maria "mind-boggling" devastation.

*Maria was the strongest hurricane on record to make landfall in Dominica. The winds were upwards of 175 mph. *There were 31 people killed and 37 that went missing from Maria's fury. 90% of roofs were damaged or destroyed including many of our churches. Some of our Dominican Pilgrims were made homeless and jobless by this storm. *Overall damage and losses to this island were about 1.3 billion. Dominicans will be years in rebuilding their lives.

*Pilgrims in the U.S have donated two shipping containers of building materials and supplies designed to help Dominicans recover from this storm.

Visit our Missions Facebook page for fresh updates on this project.



MIDWEST PILGRIM HOLINESS MISSIONS DEPT. Conference Missionary Representative Dr. Craig A. Dahler [craigdahler@yahoo.com]



A CALL TO SELF-DENIAL

Mk 8:34-35: And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

Contemporary Christianity is all too familiar with the concept of self. We attribute many of our lifestyle issues with the union of self and something else. Let me illustrate. We are quick to connect the following ideas together: Self-made - Self-reliant -Self-assertive - Self-identity - Self-absorbed - Self-acceptance -Self-willed - Self-pity - Self-preservation - Self-affirmation. The list could easily become very egocentric as the focus becomes personal and internal. Somehow selfishness seems to make a very unacceptable attribute when personally applied.

Likewise, Jesus himself equated the idea of discipleship with the command and condition to denying one's self. See Mark 8:34-35. As defined by our Lord, true discipleship requires a *desire* to be Christ-centered and not self-centered. A quality of the Christ follower is a requirement of *denial* of self. Rather than appeasing self we must learn to abandon self. The concept of self-denial is central to Christianity and carries with it the weight of a cross. It demands a deep level of *dedication* to take up a cross daily with its accompanying shame and suffering. Cross-bearing is not a popular amenity in the broad scheme of modern discipleship. "It's all about me" doesn't usually include the cross. The bearing of a cross is more than ornamental art or simple symbols etched on a pew or pulpit stand. Christian cross-bearing is emblematic of our association with a suffering Savior and the One who willingly and ultimately gave Himself so others would benefit from His loss.

When we Pilgrims accept the call to self-denial, we accept an identity to lay aside any personal agendas of catering to self in order for others to benefit by our:

I. Desire to be Christ-centered: II. Denial of selfish ambitions: III. Dedication to cross-bearing:

May our observance of Self-Denial Month (September) be a renewal of focusing on other's needs while purposefully forgoing our own personal needs. ~CD





Midwest Pilgrim News

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Missionary Reading Program

The three books highlighted on this page are the books for the 2019 - 2020 Conference Reading Program. Our Conference has a friendly competition each year as to which church can produce the most people who have read all three selected missionary books. A percentage system is used to compensate for the difference in church demographics. The winning church gets next year's books sent to them for free. What a great way to provide incentive while promoting the cause of missions.

The complete set is \$25 (postage paid) per set. Please request your order from Dr. Craig Dahler (317-374-1141) and send checks payable to 'Pilgrim Holiness Missions' to:

Rev. John Forsee, Missions Treasurer Noblesville Pilgrim Holiness Church 1413 Westfield Road Noblesville, IN 46062



The challenge of reaching out into the lost world is affordable when you take into consideration the change in lives in the scope of eternity.

Rev. Maurice and Jean Roll PHC Conference Missionaries Golden Grove, Antigua, West Indies



To schedule a service with the Conference Missionary Representative, please call Dr. Craig Dahler at (317) 374-1141.

Midwest Pilgrim News





Psalm 119:103: How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Title: The Triumphant Church

Psalms 102:1-28

Introduction: We are living in uncertain times. The rapid, moral degeneration of our nation, political corruption, and failure of the church to decisively win in the culture wars has grieved the hearts of God's people and tempted us to lose perspective concerning the truth we represent. Why are things deteriorating so rapidly? Is there any point in making an effort to stop something that seems so inevitable? Where is the power and authority that was promised to the church? Indeed, the enemy can make the future seem bleak. The following chapter from God's word will help restore a sense of joy to our hearts and confidence in the future God has for us. His word tells us the end of the story and we have every reason to celebrate.

I. The TROUBLE of the Psalmist: Verses 1-11: There are 3 things to notice about the trouble of the Psalm writer.

A. The REASON for the Psalmist's grief: The setting of this Psalm is questionable, but some scholars feel it was written by Daniel or Nehemiah during the latter part of Israel's captivity in Babylon. Jerusalem had fallen, God's people were held in captivity and it seemed as if their punishment was more than they could bear.

B. The REALITY of the Psalmist's grief:

- 1. Mental and physical suffering: Vs's 3-5
- 2. A sense of uncleanness and acute loneliness: Vs's 6-7
- 3. Humiliation at the hand of enemies: Vs's 8-9
- 4. The sensation of approaching death: Vs's 10-11

*Note: The pelican and the owl (vs 6) are unclean birds in Israel. This imagery highlights how keenly the Psalmist felt the national sin. The sparrow (vs 7) is a small, insignificant bird that often goes unnoticed, highlighting the loneliness the writer was experiencing.

Also, note the alternation between total fasting (vs 4) and sudden, indiscriminate eating in (vs 9). This is typical of those suffering great depression.

C. The RESOURCE of the Psalmist: Vs's 1-2 In spite of the Psalmist's grief he knew where to turn in his time of trouble. He looked to God, the only one who could truly help him.

II. The TIMELESS NATURE of God: Verses 12-28: Notice 4 things that the writer acknowledges about God that pulls him up from his melancholy.

- A. God's existence amidst the passing generations: Vs 12
- B. God's promise to intervene for His people: Vs's 13-18
- C. God's past kindness towards those suffering: Vs's 19-22

D. God's changelessness amidst changing people in a changing universe: Vs's 23-27

"The whole composition of this Psalm may be compared to a day which, opening with wind and rain, clears up at noon and is warm with the sun, continues fine, with intervening showers, and finally closes with a brilliant sunset." The Treasury of David.

III. The TRIUMPH of the church: Vs 24, 28: We have in this chapter a foreshadowing of the triumph of the saints of God.

A. Triumph over the grave: Vs 24: The word "take" used in this verse means "to cause to ascend or go up." In this word there may be an allusion to the idea that the soul ascends to God when the body dies. The common idea in the Old Testament is that the soul descends to Sheol - the region of departed spirits. However, the idea is being introduced here that upon death the soul would ascend to God. Something that Paul clearly taught in the NT. (Compare Ecc 3:21; Ecc 12:7; 2 Cor 5:8) To Page 12



By Marvin Reynolds

A Layman's Terspective



The Struggle Brings Rewards

As I sit on top of one of the highest peaks in the Mackenzie Mountains, (13,000 ft) overlooking the Macmillan River, the brilliant sun warms the air to a comfortable 30 degrees. Dall sheep ram tenderloins are slowly sizzling on the one element, propane burner stove. No insects are disturbing this peaceful setting. My 23-year-old hunting companion is congratulating me on the astounding snow-white Dall sheep trophy laying in front of me. Life is grand and all the agonies and near tragedies of the past weeks are slipping from my mind only to be remembered to help me realize how wonderful success feels when it arrives at last.

To reach this success we have endured days of hail, white-out snowstorms, lightening that ricocheted off rocks and mountains peaks, and avalanches with tons of rocks, trees, and debris tearing down the mountainsides with thunderous explosions of sound and destruction. We have faced torturous hours of putting one foot in front of the other, in a never-ending effort to reach the pinnacle of the mountain while carrying 60-pound packs on our backs. We have endured losing all our food as our Zodiac inflatable almost capsized in the ferocious rapids of a freezing river and had to sleep in a tiny pup tent at 35 below zero. That's not to mention the months of planning, preparing and getting in physical and mental shape – all of which have taken their toll on us.

Was this worth all this time, effort, and agony? Absolutely! At the end of it all the reward is tremendous.

APPLICATION

I have spent many hours enjoying the memories of this adventure, and came to realize there are many similarities between this hunt and my walk with Christ. I have realized that my maturity in the faith, winning of souls and obtaining heaven as my eternal home, depends largely upon my effort to continue struggling toward the goal.

Many times, we are unable to see our way because of obstructions and dangers, but that is when we must remember how God has proved Himself in past situations that seemed to block our way. We must trust that God knows what He is doing and will protect us according to the scriptural promises.

When we get weary and depressed from trying to follow God's call, we must remember why we are fighting the good fight and hold on to the truth that there are rewards at the end of the struggle that only a few will ever receive.

When our spirit becomes lean and we hunger for food from heaven, we must seek sources from which we can be fed: God's Holy Word, revivals, camp meetings, church services, etc. When we begin to cool down in our love for kingdom work, we must pray until we once again have the passion for the cause that we should. We cannot afford to lose sight of our goal. When we seem to be making no progress in reaching new souls, we must strive to condition ourselves and find new ways to reach the lost.

Some say that it is too exhausting to stay in this struggle. Some say that they have failed in the past and are too fearful of failure to try again. They must give up before the goal is reached; but only those that stay focused, keep striving, exert faith, seek new heights, and finish the course will find rewards laid up for them.

Do you want joy, exhilaration, adventure and success in this life as well as the next? Live for Christ and never look back. Always look up and ahead for there you will find sweet success. May God bless you!

Marvin Reynolds lives in Corydon, IN with his wife Julie and attends the Shiloh Pilgrim Holiness Church. He is a hunter that has traveled extensively throughout the world. He also loves the Lord Jesus Christ and shares his faith at every opportunity.





THE TEEN CONNECTION



To God be the Glory

Mv personal testimony is not some great story that would amaze the world, but I believe every person whose life is changed by God has an amazing story to tell. Growing up in a godly pastor's home protected me from many influences and sin that I could have been involved in. Though I never went far into sin while I was growing up, I still had a sinful heart that was full of brokenness and guilt. I was convicted of my sin as a young girl and I asked God to forgive my sins and to make me a new person, free of guilt and shame. My life has never been the same since. Yes, I have failed God. There are times in my life that I am not proud of and I had to go back and ask for forgiveness. But I can stand today, forgiven and free of condemnation and guilt. Serving the Lord is the best decision I have ever made. I have an incredible story to tell about God's mercy and love that took my sinful heart and made it into something beautiful, with a desire to do His will.

Brooklyn Line is 19 years old and a sophomore at Union Bible College. She lives in Kokomo, IN and enjoys volleyball, art, and decorating.

THE SAD DEMISE OF LAZY ZEKE



Lazy Zeke with drooling mouth, lay snoring on his bed; his jaws agape, inviting flies, he slept like he was dead. His family tried to wake him up and so did Sam his pup; they yelped and howled and hollered and beat on pan and cup. But Zeke slept on down through the years, 'neath blankets he did stay; until he grew a knee length beard and slept his life away.

LET IT BE A LESSON

Laziness is not a quality to be desired. Your overflowing waste basket, shaggy lawn, or messy bedroom is not a badge of honor, but one of shame. People with undeveloped character and poor discipline habits gravitate toward this kind of living. They make light of month-old pizza crusts in their sock drawer and sleeping in until the crack of doom.

How opposite these practices are from the God we serve! Our God is a God of cleanliness, punctuality, order, and discipline, and when we become His child, we aspire to be like Him. Holiness makes us discontent with a haphazard, indulgent, lifestyle and encourages us to make the most of the life and opportunities God has given us.

What does your bedroom look like? How about your sock drawer? Are there any pizza crusts or leftover jelly donuts in there? How long do you sleep in if Momma isn't there to crack the whip? Remember, the habits you cultivate now are setting the tone for the rest of your life. I encourage you to honor God by ordering your life in a way that reflects His character.

Proverbs 26:13-14: The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets. 14 As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed. **Pro 15:19** The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain. (Prov 19:15)

The only time a lazy man ever succeeds is when he tries to do nothing.

-

Tomorrow is the only day of the week that appeals to a lazy man.





Created on Purpose

w/Dr. Booplesnoot



Lessons



CHILDREN'S CORNER

FROM THE ANIMAL KINGDOM

Camels are amazing creatures! God gave them so many wonderful characteristics. They need to be able to walk in the desert without drinking water for a long time, so in their humps they store fat that they can change into water or food. Also, their nostrils (which they can open and close) can store water vapor, that they can drink later. God made them like that so that they can go pretty much all winter without drinking any water. In fact, they might even refuse to drink water if it is offered to them. When a camel DOES drink, it drinks about 40 gallons – about a

bathtub full – at once!

In the desert where it is reeeeaaaally sandy, you'd think a big, heavy camel would sink in the sand. Not so! God gave camels really big, round feet that help them not to sink in. The desert also gets kind of windy, and sand blows around, so God gave the camel special protection for that. It has three sets of eyelids on each eye and long, thick eyelashes to help keep out sand.

Camels live for about 40 years, and grow to be about 6.6 feet tall at the shoulder (not counting their head or neck). They weigh about 880-1,300 lbs., and can run up to 40 miles per hour – like a car on the way to Walmart.

Now, camels are pretty ugly, right? Well, the Arabic word for "camel," actually means "beauty." Camels are SO AMAZING!! That can mean only one thing – Someone has to have made it on purpose. It had to be created! God made the camel, and it's just one of millions of billions of amazing creatures that God made. God made everything perfect, including us. God loves us and created us with a purpose. He created us to walk with Him and serve Him.

Alyssa Robberts aka Dr. Booplesnoot is 13 years old and lives in Kansas. She travels with her family during the summer doing Vacation Bible Schools and loves to share God's word with other children.



Genesis 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and everything that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.





Hebrews 13:3: Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

YOUTH RALLY AND LOCK - IN

Friday, September 20

Kokomo, PHC

Service: 7:00 P.M.

Speaker: Jerry Glick

(Lock – In after the service)

Volleyball - Basketball - Food - Fellowship

Subscription Notice

To accommodate those who do not have internet access, or would simply prefer this magazine in a hard copy format, we are once again offering subscriptions to the MPN. If you would like to receive 4 issues per year of a 12-page full color magazine in the mail, please send \$13 to Rev. Timothy Forsee, 1000 Hospital Rd. Franklin, IN 46131. This is an annual fee that will simply cover the cost of printing and postage. The MPN will also remain in digital format on the Conference website. If you would like it sent electronically to your email address, and are not already on our email list, please send your email address to the editor.



Coming Home: From Page 5

sing, "Yes, Lord, yes, to your will and to your way." At home, we live that commitment on a daily basis.

As our family pulled into the driveway from a summer trip, my father would often say, "Vacation is over!" Life was back to normal. But dad would continue, "The best part of every trip is coming home." The best part of camp-meeting can be the opportunity to live out what we have gained at camp in daily victory. There is a joy in the daily life of discipleship.

We have come down from the mountain; campmeeting is over. What will you do with the gains you made at camp-meeting? Think about it.

Rev. McElwain lives with his family in Florida and teaches at Hobe Sound Bible College. He is a frequent contributor to the Midwest Pilgrim News magazine.

Soul Food: From Page 8

B. Triumph over Satan's kingdom: Vs 28: The word "established" here means "to stand erect, to make firm as a city." In spite of all that Satan can do, the church of God will one day be permanent in the earth. It will not be like a nomadic tribe that constantly moves on and then one day fades into oblivion; it will be as enduring and changeless as God himself. As God is eternal and unchangeable, so would the safety and welfare of his people be.

Treasury of David: This verse (28) is full of good cheer for us; we may plead for the Lord's favor to our seed, and we may expect that the cause of God and truth will revive in future generations.

Adam Clarke: The Church founded on Christ shall live throughout all the revolutions of time. And as thy followers are made partakers of the Divine nature, they shall live in union with God in the other world forever.

CONCLUSION: If you are grieving over the condition of the church and seeming triumph of Satan, I would encourage you to do as the Psalmist and spend some time reflecting on the nature and promises of God. There is nothing like meditation on God's Word to correct faulty thinking and lift our spirits to a higher plain. We have so much to look forward to. Jesus Christ is going to return soon, and change everything we see around us. Evil will be dealt with permanently; righteousness will prevail and everything will be as Christ intends. Let us work while we can and pray earnestly for this glorious promise to be fulfilled.

