

Hope for Today

SELECTED RADIO SERMONS

Series E

HERALD OF HOPE

Box 68

Los Angeles 42, California

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Herald of Hope Broadcasts

Monday thru Friday

KGER—Long Beach, 1390 K.C., K B U C—Corona, 1370 K.C.,

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FOREWORD

It is our wish that this, our latest booklet of selected radio sermons bring a blessing to you and your house.

May God's best be your's.

The Voice of the Herald of Hope
Brother H. J. Smith

(This booklet is lovingly dedicated to one whom I love dearly, my Mother, Flora J. Smith. She has dedicated the remaining years of her life to the work of the Lord, and daily sits at her place in the Herald of Hope office reading and answering mail.)

OUR MORNING PRAYER

Our gracious Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for Jesus, our wonderful Lord. We praise Thee for His blood which He shed for us upon the cross of Calvary. We are grateful for the love thus shown us through Christ our Savior.

Lord, I pray that thou wilt bless our aged friends today. Strengthen them in their times of weakness; comfort them in their hours of loneliness and grant them the consciousness of Thy continued presence.

Will you this morning bless those who listen to this broadcast as they travel on their way to work? Protect them from the danger of the highways; bring them safely to their destination, and let this day be a day when the love of God shall be shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Ghost. Should they need more wages, better working conditions or even a new job, grant them the desire of their heart as we agree with them in prayer.

This morning, perchance there is a man, woman, boy or girl, listening in who is bound by the chains of evil habit, grant them real deliverance as we pray in the Name of Jesus. Lord, Thou art sufficient for every need. Bondages of alcohol, drugs, the tobacco habit, or immorality, must go at thy command. Right now, loose those fetters, break those bands and let that oppressed one go free, in Jesus' Name.

Will you, dear Lord, bless our young people today? As they go to high school, college, grade school or junior college, be with them. Pour out upon them the spirit of grace and supplication and may they be moved to dedicate their lives in consecrated service to Christ. Bless and help our Christian school teachers everywhere.

Be with the doctors, nurses, interns and all those who minister to the ill and infirm. Grant them today, in Jesus' Name, the gentle compassionate touch.

Bless this broadcast to the hearts of all those who hear. In the Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

THINK

In some offices or factories today you may see a sign posted with only one word on it. That word is "Think." No doubt about it, man does much thinking. His mind is very active. He is careful and troubled about many things and at times his thoughts drive sleep from his eyes. One of God's most precious endowments is a sound mind, but the only way we can hope to retain such a faculty is to obey God relative to our thought life. Phil. 4:8 instructs us to "think" but more specifically to think upon good things.

Thoughts are both the cause and the effect. If we have a clean life and holy desire, our thoughts will be upon things above. But the thoughts of the wicked are evil continually. We are told that the wicked are like a troubled sea that cannot rest. Its waters constantly cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith God, to the wicked. If we could but know the filth in men's minds today I am sure it would horrify us. Yet the outer polish hides somewhat the thoughts of evil hearts. Yet, if men continue to indulge in evil thinking, eventually they will become like their perverse thoughts. No wonder God instructs us to think upon good things.

The Psalmist gives us a suggestion to safeguard our life. In Psalm 1:2 we read of the righteous,

"In His (God's) law he doth meditate day and night." Here is a way to keep our heart from going astray. Meditate on God's laws and God's ways. Here is food for holy contemplation. Here is a way to escape from wicked thoughts. The devil uses the mind, for an idle mind is his workshop. Our best mental insurance policy is to bring our mind into subjection to holy thoughts by meditating on God's word.

In Psalm 39:3 we read of the process of thinking. "My heart was hot within me; while I was musing (or thinking) the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue." Thoughts are powerful things, my friend, even though for a time they may be unexpressed. Sooner or later they take on form and become a life. As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. We become strong or weak as we discipline our mind or fail to do so.

Many people today cannot sleep at night. There never has been a time in our history as a nation when men have been so distressed by sleeplessness as in this day. The sleeping pill business is a multi-million dollar enterprise. Men live at such a fast pace these days that sleep at times cannot catch up with them. When they try to rest; their thoughts trouble them. Here is a good remedy for sleeplessness. Psalm 63:6, ". . . I remember Thee (God) upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night

watches." God is always the author of good thoughts and to think upon Him is to think upon the essence of goodness. Such thoughts will tend to relaxation and rest and sleep. Good thoughts never trouble anyone. Psalm 104:34 declares, "My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord."

I am giving you a good bit in the Psalms today but we must remember that David was a thinker. He spent lonely hours on those Judean hillsides with his sheep and he had plenty of time to think. Good thoughts formed the pattern for his life. In Psalm 143:5 we hear him say, "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works: I muse on the work of thy hands."

Think on God, my friend. Consider well His word. Remember His promises. Stay thy mind upon His truth. It shall become thy shield and buckler. Our prayer should be as that prayer of Psalm 19:14, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight O Lord, my strength and my redeemer." If we fix our thoughts upon God and truth, the Lord shall direct our ways. "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

WORDS

A word is a sound, or a combination of sounds that express an idea. Words joined together make up a message, a communication, a declaration or a promise. Words are the basis of human conversation. With them we agree or disagree with one another. Words are powerful things; blessed is that man that uses them wisely.

When God placed man upon this earth, He gave him dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowls of the air and the beasts of the earth: He also gave man dominion over the member of this body we call the tongue. Yet this member is an extremely unruly one. Animals can be tamed by man, but the Word of God declares that the tongue, no man can tame. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Yet, that which man could never tame, God who can do all things, can certainly tame through Christ.

Words slip from the tip of the tongue all too easily. Words once spoken can never be called back. Words so capable of blessing, could also bring a curse if wrongly used. How important it is that we become wise stewards of our words; for certainly God has given to us as Christians a divine calling and an earthly stewardship. Think of your words, my friend, as a stewardship given you of God. Such is a great responsibility. In ourselves I

realize we are incapable and unworthy of such trust. Yet, what we could not do because of the weakness of the flesh, we are able to do through Christ; for we have the promise that through Him we can do all things.

I have been lifted to heights of bliss by words. Truly "words fitly spoken are apples of gold in pictures of silver." I have sat spellbound for two hours or more listening to words flowing from the lips of a silver-tongued orator. Words are a mighty weapon to turn men to God and righteousness. Oh that we might use them wisely.

On the other hand, I have seen words crush men, drag them down to the depths of woe and misery. Words pouring from the lips of a wise fool carry with them a curse. There is no end to such evil. Such follow on and blight lives and break hearts. They discourage and bring great disallusionment.

My friend, around us there are so many needs. Our neighbor next door may have burdens most too much to bear. With right words we can bless and encourage him. With wrong words we can but add to his misery. Let us only speak those words which spring from love. These have the power to bless.

All of us at some time or other have been guilty of careless words. How careful we ought to be. Remember, there are always near by, hungry souls,

that grasping for help and sustenance, may be wounded and cursed by the words that fall from our lips. How we ought to pray daily, "Make me a blessing to someone, dear Lord, today." Have you ever prayed, "Forgive me Lord for careless words"? Such prayers need to be prayed often, for in this way most offend and fail to bless. We must need be forgiven for words that speak not of faith or love. We need to realize our wrong in adding to men's burdens instead of lifting loads. My friend, God made us our brother's keeper. We cannot escape such responsibility.

Then too there are words we ought to have spoken; words that we could have used to bless. These we have many times withheld. We let the stranger and the burdened soul leave our presence with the same heavy heart, when a few words fitly spoken could have sent that needy one away with hope. We need to ask God to forgive us for such neglect.

With words we can persuade men to follow Christ. Christ, who is the answer to the need of every man may be made known to men by words. "Ye are my witnesses saith the Lord." What a grave responsibility is our's. What an honor. What a blessed privilege. In closing, let me read you a poem written by Amy R. Thomas and published sometime ago in the Sunday School Times. It is entitled "Words."

"Words are such mighty things, dear Lord, I feel
I cannot bear

With worthiness this stewardship thou hast given
to my care.

They lift the soul to heavenly heights or drag to
depths of woe;

Their mighty power to curse, or bless, no human
heart may know.

"My neighbor's need I may not see, or burdens
that oppress,

And I may wound him with the words that seek
alone to bless.

Forgive me, Lord, for careless words when hungry
souls are near;

Words that are not of Faith and Love, heavy,
with care and fear;

Forgive me for the words withheld, for words
that might have won

A soul from darkened paths and sin to follow
Thy dear Son.

Words are such mighty things, dear Lord, May
I so yielded be

That Christ, Who spake as never man, May ever
speak through me."

MOVE ON

"This is a day of great activity. Everything and everyone seems on the move. Many seem to be constantly on the move but getting nowhere. Certain activity of today reminds me of a lesson I learned a number of years ago. I visited a certain church where some of our colored brethren were having a real revival. The glory of the Lord was coming down in torrents and many were shouting, running and jumping for joy. I was very blest in my own soul to be in such a wholesome, spiritual and joyful atmosphere. After my own time of worship, I looked about a bit to see how God was blessing others. I was a bit amused and also taught a great truth by a young preacher who was being exercised in this way: This young man was running as hard as he could go. His every motion would make one think he was in a marathon on an open road, but he never moved from his place on the platform. He certainly was running. The marvel to me was how a man could run so fast and yet stay in one place. This reminds me of a great deal of activity I see in certain religious circles today. There certainly is a lot of motion. You could never question the fact that there was activity. In fact something was going on all the time; but they were seemingly not going anywhere. I do not mean this in a critical manner; God forbid. I only use this means to teach a lesson I

have on my heart. Let us make sure we are on the move, but be sure too that we are going some place.

Every activity should be Christ-centered and God-directed. There should be a definite purpose in view whenever there is movement. Here at "Old Pisgah," as pastor, I have never been satisfied with our progress. I suppose this is the case with most pastors today. So, rather than have wasted effort I have encouraged our people to real spiritual worship. I suppose this is the best thing I could have done, for through worship men get acquainted with God. You can never properly serve another without love; so service without love in the church is just a show of activity without going any place.

My friend, are you satisfied with your present spiritual position? Like the lepers in the gate of Samaria, you ought to say, "Why sit we here and die?" Before you, my friend, is a wide open field. The tents of the enemy are there, but you need not fear for they are empty. The battle has already been won at Calvary. When Jesus died on the cross and cried out, "It is finished," He put the adversary to shameful rout. The battle is not your's; it is the Lord's. Believe in the finished work of Calvary, my friends, and move on into greater service for your Lord.

It seems that today the Holy Spirit is making a special call for all of God's people to "move on."

We have compassed this mountain long enough. Before us lie fertile plains that speak of a fruitful land of promise. Like Caleb and Joshua of old, we need to see God and refuse recognition to the giants that would bar our paths.

I sometimes think our's is the challenge made to Israel of old. Will we go over and possess the land God promised? (We can reach it in a very short time if we "move on."). Or shall we murmur, complain, live in the past, and refuse to brave the wilderness, cross Jordan, and go over to possess our inheritance? Can you not hear the call of God still going forth today? God can restore the years, renew your youth, supply your needs and show you His care by a daily supply of heavenly manna. My God shall supply your every need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Do you believe this, my friend? Then why be satisfied to sit until we die? Why spend our money for that which is not bread and our labor for that which satisfies not. Fall in love with Jesus all over again. Let worship and praise again find their proper place in your daily life, and soon you shall once again hear His voice saying, "Move on." Greater things are ahead for us all. Let us believe and "Move on."

FIRST PLACE

To be first is desired by man. To be first is to be blest by God. God calls men to be the best. Men carnally, selfishly and otherwise, contend and even fight to be first, probably because God made man His highest order of creation and it is within man's heart to excell.

The athlete works hard to win first place. Yet in order to realize this ambition he must labor diligently. The man who would be approved of God and man must study to show himself worthy of this honor. No one can expect to be first except by concientious, determined effort.

If we have desire, let us determine that such shall be holy desire. If we work for first place, let us determine that it shall not be alone to the defeating of others in order that we might attain, but rather that through our ascension of this desired place, we shall be able to encourage others to like attainment.

John the Baptist was first with his kingdom message of preparation by repentance. Yet his purpose was but to prepare the way for a greater Who was to follow. When that perfect One came, that which was only in part slipped into the background. Not to be forgotten forever, for he had done his work well, but to make way for a higher nobler plan of which he had been a vital part.

Moses was first. A man greatly loved by God, known in heaven and earth for his meekness. Yet, his ministry on earth was not forever; He stepped aside one day to give place to a Joshua, who also excelled.

God is the author of progress. He calls all to go forward. Success is not a gift of chance but must be attained. Most men do not fill first place by accident. They arrive at that desired place because of persistent effort, patient exercise and great determination.

Why be satisfied with anything but the best when God has called us on to perfection. Perfection in holiness, perfection in accomplishment, perfection in character. Man could not reach such noble place alone, but where he is weak, God supplies the lack. Strength and grace and every noble attribute is the promised portion of those who have set their faces as a flint toward Zion and their eye set singly to the glory of God.

Those who seem to reach first place without sincere effort or real worthiness, sit upon a shaky throne. Their's is no continuing city. Sand is beneath their feet and their preeminence is usually short-lived. Different is the lot of the one whose house is built upon the rock. Here, in spite of rain and wind and all opposing force, the house still

stands. Permanence is not in flesh, my friend, but in God alone.

Desire is a noble thing if working for the glory of God and the good of others. Such desire seems more sure to be realized and more certain of permanence. That which is of flesh, is flesh. That which is of Spirit is of God and as such bears quality eternal. Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. Such are surely transient. Set your affections upon things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of His father. Covet only the best gifts and go on unto the more excellent way of love. Much being offered today is but earthly pottage to deceive and satisfy but for a moment. See that thou dost not sell thy soul for such as this. Only that which is eternal is worth great sacrifice. Set your heart upon those things. Put first things first.

A question could be asked of every man. "What is thy purpose?" As great as was the earthly ministry of Christ, this was not His purpose in leaving the glory of heaven. His was a nobler, higher aim than even these most wonderful earthly attainments. He came to die. What mockery is this that the lowest should be claimed as the highest? The cross became the means of salvation to all men and but a step to the throne that only a savior could occupy.

What carest thou for the means God uses to

bring thee to His desired place? The clay does never question the wise potter, "Why hast thou dealt with me in this manner." Be sure that God knows what is best and though it seems the worst is about to come, God has the best in view. His desire is still that thou excell. First place is still reserved for thee. Keep believing, my friend, and go on to perfection.

"V" FOR VICTORY

During the years of the Second World War, there was a sign that typified the indomitable courage of a people who loved liberty and was willing to suffer great sacrifice for their freedom. It was the sign of the spread fingers to form the letter "V". This was the sign of victory. It was said that the dwellers in England would greet one another in this way. Many of their homes had been destroyed, their loved ones killed, the work of years would disappear in a single air raid; but the upraised hand and fingers extended in the shape of a "V" signified their unbroken spirit. To them the simple letter "V" was a sign of their hope and courage, and a token of their faith in a better world.

This reminds me of a time in the early Christian church when another sign rallied believers. It was the sign of the cross. Into great danger, men would march, holding high a wooden cross. Into the very jaws of death they would march, crying out, "By this sign we shall conquer."

Although the sign of the cross is not used as once it was, and the finger-formed letter "V" is not in much evidence, men of faith still select a rallying place and there encourage one another in their faith.

I can remember a number of years ago, when

believers would meet, they would not think of parting without speaking this word of encouragement; "Jesus is coming soon." This message of hope burned itself into my consciousness and gave me great courage in the face of seemingly unsurmountable odds. Jesus was coming soon and His reward was with Him. Jesus was coming soon, and we would soon be through with temporal trial. Jesus was coming soon, and it would not matter whether we received good or ill down here. Sacrifices were made willingly and loss was accepted with courage, for our Lord would soon return and take us home to be with Him. Though He has not yet returned and there are evidences that some have lost sight of this glorious hope, the sound of these words still thrill me for I believe in them. Jesus is coming soon, and this my soul knows right well. Though some may depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, I am encouraged to go on believing. Though many things happen that cause me to wonder why, I still press on toward the mark, the prize. My Lord shall soon return and He shall give me the answer to my many questions.

There was a sign in the early days of this "Old Pisgah" work. I know not when it began, nor if Dr. Yoakum was the author of it, but when the saints would meet, they would greet one another in this fashion. One would speak the word, "Peace,"

the other would answer, "Peace and love be multiplied." Here again was the letter "V" with the raised hand; the sign of the cross; the reminder that Jesus was coming soon. In the early days of this Full Gospel outpouring, it was the proper thing to greet the believers with a hearty hand clasp and a "Praise the Lord." They then would concur and also say, "Praise the Lord." Here was a sign of victory, a mark of courage, a reminder of God's faithfulness and the eventual triumph of right.

Yes, "V" stands for victory, my friend, victory that was assured when Jesus died on Calvary; victory that was purchased by the price of blood; victory that was made personally possible by the coming of the Holy Ghost. Victory that is assured for all men who will believe. Lift up your heads; look up, for your redemption draweth nigh. Jesus is coming soon. Lift up holy hands without wrath or doubting. Be sure to "praise the Lord." Those who love Him still speak often one to another. This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.

A SOUND MIND

The longer I live, the more I am learning to appreciate the blessings of mental soundness. To have a clear, sound mind, constantly reaching out after the righteousness and holiness of God is indeed in these days a pearl of great price. Thank God, it is still true that those who hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled. God alone is able to give soundness of mind in these days of extreme pressure. Today I am grateful for 2 Timothy 1:7, "... God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." God still wants to bless His children with good gifts. What better gift than that of spiritual sanity.

In Eccl. 4:13 we read, "Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished." Out of the prison house of senility and fear come many unwise acts and foolish words. How great a damage is done to the innocent and to God's work as well by the conjectures of a warped mind.

Constant watch must be kept upon the door of our mind lest the evil one be given an entrance. Only through yielding ourselves to the sweet yet powerful influence of the Holy Ghost will we be able to fulfill 2 Cor. 10:5, where we read, "Casting

down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself above the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

Much evil comes from unrighteous thoughts. Only a godly life will assure us of mental soundness. Prov. 12:5 declares, "The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit." The unrighteous mind is prone to wander down forbidden paths which all end in a maze of confusion. God grant us a pure mind, void of hypocrisy and evil intention.

In the presence of Jesus there is healing, life and mental soundness. I have yet to see a more beautiful picture than that found in Mark 5:15. Here we read, "And they came to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed and in his right mind." Here was this poor demoniac who had been restored, brought back from a vale of horror and despair, delivered by Jesus the Christ. What an encouragement today to know that our Christ has not changed, but is the same yeesterday, today and shall be forever.

A man whose heart goes after evil things will eventually lose his reason. Consider the story of the prodigal. His mind became affected by evil desire until his only thought was to get away from home and authority and live for himself. After he

had spent all he had on riotous living, he began to suffer physically. But greater than any physical suffering was his remorse and mental agony as he reasoned (Luke 15:17), (When he came to himself), "... How many hired servants of my father's house have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" Back to his father and home once more came this wanderer whose mind at last had returned to normal. Has the scripture said in vain, "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded"? (Titus 2:6) Highmindedness is dangerous exercise, my friend. Let us in humility acknowledge that today the only safe position is in having our minds stayed on God. Remember the promise, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

May I once more remind you of that wonderful promise made to believers and found in II Tim. 1:7, "... God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." Let us earnestly claim this as our life-long possession.

THE WORKSHOP OF THE LORD

I remember back a few years ago when the steam locomotive was in full use on our railroads, the large building called the round-house. Here these engines were taken for repair. Here skilled men could work them over and turn them out again like new. The steam engine could not stand up to the heavy grind like the modern-day diesels, and consequently they spent a good bit of time in the round-house. The steam locomotive was subjected to heavy strain and pressure, and great demands were made upon its power. Therefore, any weakness in its makeup would show before too long. Much depended on its proper functioning for it had to carry heavy and valuable loads of produce, machinery, lumber, etc., as well as human beings over great distances, across deserts and over high mountains. Much care had to be taken to assure its proper functioning in its time of severe test.

God in His great plan of the ages and in His dealings with mankind uses human instrumentality. Man must be rugged and properly conditioned for the strains and demands of life, for so much depends upon him. It therefore becomes imperative at times that we be placed in the workshop of the Lord. Here we are made ready for the journey. Here the most severe tests determine our qualities of endur-

ance. Here we are proved before the actual run on the road.

Moses was a capable man. He had the qualities of real leadership, but they were not proven qualities. For a time he had to be placed in the workshop of the Lord. For 40 years he had been trained in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, then for 40 years he was driven into seeming oblivion where he tended sheep in a desert place. Here it seemed all his education and his ability was wasted. But really it was not wasted, for God saw it necessary to put him for a time into the divine workshop and there further condition him for the most strenuous 40 years of his life. He had been divinely chosen to take a weak, whipped, murmuring, complaining, motley array of Egyptian slaves and in a short time condition them as a mighty army of conquest. This had to be done speedily. Moses was too soft himself for so tremendous a chore so he had to first be placed in the workshop for a complete overhaul. That the master workman did a good job with him, is a proven fact. There has never arisen a leader such as Moses. He was a man who excelled in many things, a man who dared to stand between a disobedient people and a just God. He not only had to keep his people from being destroyed by enemies and the cruel physical elements of their rigorous journey, but Moses was called upon to plead the case of these murmurers before the bar of God.

He did his job well and did neither become embittered nor proud. God himself testified of Moses that he was the meekest of men. We seldom think of meekness as a quality of real leadership but here was proof that God saw its importance and its necessity at this time. That desert workshop made Moses over and changed him from an arrogant, vengeful aristocrat to a meek and spiritual leader of a great nation.

Sometimes I have thought it would be wonderful to know a little more about those forty years in the desert with those bleating sheep, in perils with the elements, wild beasts and robber bands. But God somehow has pulled down the curtain over that period of preparation in the life of Moses, and chose rather to let us see his beginning, his triumph and his end.

It seems that that which man does is at times over emphasized, but God in His humility does a work in secret that in reality is the most important work of all. It is in this workshop of the Lord that leaders are conditioned, saints are made and God's great work is done.

Saul of Tarsus became Paul the great apostle, but not without a period in the workhouse of the Lord in the deserts of Arabia. No one ever stirred a nation as did John the Baptist, but he was kept in isolation and fed with special, divinely appointed

fare in a howling wilderness. From such a place and at Divine command, he was to sally forth to the conquest of men.

My friend do you sometimes feel you have been shut up until you cannot of your own choice go in and out? Does it seem that your life, your talents, your abilities are being wasted. God is greater than that, my friend. You are but in the workshop of the Lord, being fitted for greater service. Rest alone in divine promise in this thy great testing. From this place of isolation and testing thou shalt go forth into a whitened harvest field to excell for thy Lord. Be patient therefore brethren. The husbandmen waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth. Thou art a chosen vessel in His hand but now of a necessity in God's workshop.

MY ALL IN ALL

This morning as I awakened, I found my soul singing, "Jesus is my all in all." That song I have chosen as the theme for this morning message.

I am singing this morning of the love of Jesus. Nothing, nothing can compare with such love as this. Love sent my Savior to die in my place. Love sent Him down to redeem a lost race. Love made a way where no way could be made. Love made a way for this soul to be saved. Of course I ought to sing of such love. I ought to daily remember such a Savior. There is no one like Him. You know Him of course, my friends; His Name is Jesus.

What a terrifying thing is guilt. Any man who has ever done wrong knows the feeling of guilt. But here is a man who can take guilt away. Not only the removing of sin but the feeling of guilt that accompanies wrong doing. Jesus took away all guilt and sin and sets a man free from bondage. Does it seem likely that a man could have such an experience as this and not know it? Thank God, this experience is one that can be known and felt. Pity that poor man who does not believe in a heart felt experience with God. He is missing the reason for living.

What is Jesus like? If He is my all in all, I ought

to tell the world about Him. Here are some of the things that make Him so precious to me. He's patient. No one but God could be patient with me. I am impulsive, but He is so patient. Not only so, but He is tender and so kind. I deserve harsh dealing for I am at times a rebel, but Jesus sees deeper than the surface and deals tenderly with me. Were it not in His heart to do so, I would have failed miserably e're this, but His tenderness and kindness have won my eternal devotion. No wonder He has become my all in all. There is none other like my Christ. No friend could ever be found who could in any way compare with Jesus, my Jesus.

There are times in all of our lives when we have great need. Probably our greatest need is not physical, but spiritual. Jesus meets every need. He is my all in all. I can go to Him in prayer for He knows my every care. He is a friend of friends to me.

Great prayers may be wonderful, but it doesn't take a great prayer to move His great heart of love. He hears me though I whisper, to help me He is near. He is my all in all, all in all.

What else is He to me. The chorus of our song declares He is a strength in time of weariness. I get so weary at times, I scarcely feel like keeping on, but I have found in Him my strength. His

presence realized, brings courage and help to me in my time of need.

What else is He to me? Finally, I want to assure you He is to me a light when shadows fall. There must come an end to every day. There is a time when light seems compelled to give way to darkness, but here again Jesus becomes all in all. He is a Light whose brightness outshines the lesser lights of this old world. He is the Light of the world. When I step from this world into that eternal realm, I do not go in darkness. As I near the end, the day is sure to become brighter and brighter. Jesus will be there when the shadows fall. He is my all in all.

CLOSING PRAYER

God bless Thy people with Thy peace. May they find in Jesus all that they need. Amen.