

Accessions

Old Stone Fort, Ill.

By Testimony:
Mrs. Lester H. (Doris) Lewis

Texarkana, Ark.

By Baptism:
Patrick Cupp

By Letter:
Ronald FitzRandolph

By Testimony:
Ellen (Mrs. Ronald) FitzRandolph (Associate)

Marriages

Griffith-O'fferrel.—Keith Griffith and Glenda O'fferrel were united in marriage June 2, 1961, in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Texarkana by Pastor Marion C. Van Horn.

Withrow-Harris.—Albert W. Withrow, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Withrow, Riverside, California, and Nancy L. Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris, Shiloh, N. J., were united in marriage on August 31, 1961, in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh. The ceremony was performed by the bride's pastor, Rev. Charles H. Bond.

Births

Brown.—A daughter, Kathy Elaine, to Mr. and Mrs. John Brown II of Rummerville, Pa., September 25, 1961.

Cupp.—A son, Michael Darin, to Patrick and Gaye Cupp of Hooks, Texas, on August 29, 1961.

Lewis.—A son, David Michael, to Mr. and Mrs. Carroll W. Lewis of Lansing, Ill., September 25, 1961.

Lewis.—A son, Alan Hugh, to Dr. and Mrs. Claude H. Lewis of Kirksville, Mo., September 27, 1961.

Monroe.—Twin daughters, Sharon Rena and Karen Tena, to Glathan and Julia Monroe of Fouke, Ark., on August 21, 1961.

Spencer.—A daughter, Kathleen, to Dr. and Mrs. Fred Spencer at U. S. Naval Hospital, Pensacola, Fla., on August 26, 1961.

Obituaries

Maxson.—Nathan Maxson, one of eleven children of Russell and Anna Crandall Maxson, was born Feb. 23, 1882, at Nortonville, Kan., and died April 3, 1961.

After leaving Kansas he lived in South Dakota and later in Arkansas, where at Gentry, he was united in marriage with Daisy Biggs

on June 8, 1910. In 1917 they moved to North Loup, Neb., where he engaged in farming.

Surviving are: his wife; four sons, Raymond of Redona Beach, Calif., Lester and Herman of North Loup, and Roy of Cotesfield; two daughters, Mrs. Roberta Molzer of Hallam, and Mrs. Rena Hoffman of Lincoln; five sisters and two brothers, and five grandchildren.

Farewell services were held at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church with Pastor Mynor G. Soper officiating, and burial was in Hillside Cemetery. — M. G. S.

Simpson.—Carrie Maud Young, daughter of Leslie E. Young and Ella Saunders Young, was born in the halfway house between Berlin and Petersburg, N. Y., December 31, 1884, and died at her home in Alfred, N. Y., October 9, 1961.

When a girl she attended the Berlin, N. Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

On August 17, 1913, she was married to Olin Huffman Simpson of Jackson Center, Ohio. She and her husband united with the Seventh Day Baptist Church of that village, where she retained her membership. To this union were born two daughters, Bernice May Simpson, who died in infancy, Doris E. Simpson, at home, and one son, William L. Simpson of Kingsport, Tenn.

There also survive: three grandchildren; one brother, Alton M. Young, Albany, N. Y.; one half-brother, Arthur Thomas, Chicago, Ill.; one half-sister, Mrs. Joseph Benedict, New York City; an uncle; also nieces, and nephews.

Memorial services were held at the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred, N. Y., with Rev. Hurley S. Warren officiating. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery. — H. S. W.

Waller.—Hannah P. Allen, daughter of Franklin P. and Nette Lanphear Allen, and widow of Francis Waller, was born Nov. 12, 1882, in Westerly, R. I., and died at Providence, R. I., Oct. 14, 1961.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Mary Greene, of Westerly, R. I. Funeral services were conducted from the Buckler Funeral Home in Westerly by her pastor, the Rev. Earl Cruzan. Burial was in River Bend Cemetery. — E. C.

Whitford.—Asa Maxon, one of ten children of Edward M. and Josephine Burdick Whitford, was born in Farina, Ill., Oct. 29, 1883, and died in a southern Illinois hospital Oct. 5, 1961.

Mr. Whitford spent most of his life in the Farina community. He was a lifelong member of the Seventh Day Baptist church although he had not attended regularly in recent years. He married Almeda Robnett on Nov. 1, 1906. His wife survives him, as do two of their four children, Rex and Almeda Hubbard. Surviving also are four granddaughters, and a brother, Elmer.

Funeral services were conducted from the Stonecipher Funeral Home with the Rev. Lawrence Becker (Methodist) in charge. Burial was in the Farina cemetery. — A. A. A.

The Sabbath Recorder

I
USAKHALE NAYO MULUNGU
YINA KOMA IINE NDEKHA
II
USAZIPANGILE IWE WE-
KHA FANLOSEPIA KAPENA
CIFANIZO CILI GONSE
III
USACHULE OZINA LAYEHOVA
MULUNGU WAKO PACABE
IV
UZIKURUKULA TSIKU
LASABATA UNNALE
LOPATULIKA

V
UZILEMEKEZA ATATE
WAKO NOI AFIAKO
VI
USAPHE
VII
USACITE CIGOLOLO
VIII
USARE
IX
USAFINAMIZILE MINZAKO
X
USASILEE KALI KO-
NSE KAFINZAKO

I will put my laws
into their minds,
and write them
in their hearts.

The Sabbath Recorder

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DR. VICTOR H. BURDICK, Editor

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The Cover

J. Goman, preacher of our little branch church near Balaka, Central Province, Nyasaland, Central Africa, started it. He painted a heart with the Ten Commandments written in Chinyanja on the front wall of the new church he helped build and serve. By this he symbolized the new covenant relationship of believers in which God writes His laws "not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."

The beauty and simplicity of this visual symbol inspired us to copy preacher Goman's idea for the center of worship of our new church at Makapwa Mission headquarters, Sandama, Nyasaland.

From "chikongoma" timber, Pastor Shadrack Mzumara fashioned the 5' x 5' heart-shaped plaque seen on the cover. At the mission it is a constant reminder of God's new covenant with us.

This Issue

It seemed fitting then for a special Sabbath Recorder intended to have a missionary-evangelistic emphasis, to choose as our theme, **God's Law in Heart and Mind**, a theme reminding us of God's promises in Jeremiah 31: 33 and Ezekiel 11: 19.

Each author has done admirably well in developing this theme as it applies to various phases of Christian life and witness.

The Editor



Dr. Victor Burdick, graduate of Albany Medical College in 1954, assumed duties as Medical Missionary at Makapwa Mission, Nyasaland, in June 1957. He is here shown examining a patient at Makapwa Mission Hospital. He is at present on furlough, employed at Community Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan.

God's Law in Heart and Mind —

Cleansing and Transforming

Baptized into Christ

By Rev. Everett T. Harris

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."



Pastors Munthale, Ganunga, and Mwango baptizing new converts at Makapwa Mission's "Jordan River" (Thuchila) during July 1961 Conference.

Baptism by immersion is a fitting symbol of many things: (1) Symbol of our willingness to follow Jesus' example as He was baptized by John in the Jordan River; (2) Symbol of spiritual regeneration through the cleansing power of Jesus' precious blood; (3) Symbol of a transforming of the heart upon which God's law of love and self-sacrifice are written. That which we wish to emphasize especially is this symbolism of self-sacrifice — of self-denial, of giving oneself and one's strength to others, even to the laying down of one's life, if necessary, for Jesus' sake.

Jesus laid down a law of life, which is forever true, as He said, "Whoever will save his life shall lose it but whoso-

ever will lose his life for my sake the same shall save it" (Luke 9: 24).

As a principle of life Jesus' words are true. The grasping, hard-hearted man may fill his hands and house with this world's goods but he will starve his soul and eventually lose it. But the one who, with a compassionate heart, gives unselfishly will always have more to give of that which really matters and he will be blessed and enriched by the giving.

Chain Reactions

We hear much these days about "chain reactions" in the world of nuclear physics. Here also is a "chain reaction" in the spiritual realm — in this matter of giving of self to others.

Let me offer an illustration of a spiritual chain reaction. We read in the Book of Acts how the Apostle Paul watched the stoning to death of Stephen: "And Saul was consenting unto his death." He watched Stephen die. And then a wonderful chain reaction began to take place. Certain Christians scattered by persecution went to Cyprus. Certain Christians of Cyprus went to Antioch. From Antioch went Barnabas to get Saul. God had prepared Saul for the coming of Barnabas. The little group of Christians laid hands of consecration on Paul and Barnabas and then launched the great missionary movement of the ages — a chain reaction that continues to this day, starting with Stephen's death and Saul's conversion.

If Barnabas had refused to go to Saul for fear of him, as many others were

afraid, or if Saul had refused to change his ways and had never taken the name of Paul, as many another man has refused the challenge to serve God with the whole heart — then the chain reaction might have been broken. Would then the power which emanated from the sacrificial death of Stephen been lost? It surely would not have been lost. For God would have raised up some other channel for expressing His redeeming love and His purpose for the world. God has a plan and He will not be defeated in that plan. We can work within the plan of God and find blessing or we can refuse and lose our own souls.

Abundant Life

But to be baptized into Christ means more than being buried with Him in a symbol of death, for we are also raised with Him in a symbol of newness of life and heart.

An elderly Christian once prayed, "O Lord, let me live until I die." When we are baptized into Christ and His Spirit abides within us, we can truly live in every fiber of our being. We can be set free from fear and our latent powers can be released to really live.

Ben Robertson, author of "Red Hills and Cotton," tells of an inscription on a tombstone near his boyhood home. The inscription read, "Born 1810, died 1890, lived 50 years." Ben said it was either a case of poor mathematics or maybe the poor man only lived 50 years. Ben said he used to stand in front of that tombstone and figure it out, 10 from 90 leaves 80, but the inscription said he only lived 50 years. How could you figure it out?

Many a person only lives about half the time. Only when he comes to know the release and the joy of abiding in Christ, of Christ abiding in his heart, of having fellowship with God through Christ, can he feel he is truly alive.

Eternal Life

On one occasion, Jesus taught us, "This is life eternal that they may know Thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." Many Christians do not realize that there is a difference in meaning between "eternal life" — a present pos-

session, and "immortal life" — a gift of God, bestowed after we leave this present life.

As Paul expressed it, "When this mortal shall have put on immortality, then is come to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory.'" In the sense here mentioned, immortality is something yet to come. But eternal life is a present possession (as well as continuing thereafter). There is a new quality to the life of the one who has been "baptized into Christ," and has let His Spirit live in his heart here and now. In so far as such lives are "hid in Christ," and Christ's laws are hid in them, of course they will live eternally.

To fill one's life with friendship and with acts of thoughtful kindness — all as Christ lives in us and His Spirit shines out through us — this is the way to store up memories that make life rich and full. This is living the quality of eternal life here and now. This is God's law of love written in the heart.

Methuselah lived 969 years but did no very significant thing in all that time on earth as far as the record shows. Jesus lived 33 years and packed His days and years full of obedient, joyous, meaningful living. He seemed to lose His life but actually in the giving of His life the whole world has been blessed. This is a paradox of life and a very great truth for our minds to try to grasp. He that loses his life for Jesus' sake, either in living or dying, finds it enriched and blessed.

A Long Empty Life

Several years ago the father in a certain family died and the mother turned to her brother for help in settling the estate and for other pressing needs. Now the brother was fairly wealthy and was quite busy with his own affairs. He wrote to the bereaved sister that he could not take the time to help and then he added, "Besides, the hot weather in South Jersey in the summertime would take several years from my life."

The widow managed to get along all right somehow without her brother's help. The brother lived many more years in



Rev. Everett T. Harris, executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society since 1952, is here seen with missionaries departing to Jamaica, W. I., where there are more than twenty Seventh Day Baptist Churches on the island and a good high school in the city of Kingston.

his air-conditioned home. But as far as this observer was ever able to find out, he did no significant thing with the extra years he tried so desperately to conserve for himself.

The thought has often occurred: Is it the greatest thing in this life to be able to live to be 100 years old? Or is quality of life better than length of life? Would it not have been a blessed and helpful experience for this wealthy brother to have gone to the succor of his widowed sister, even if it was hot in South Jersey? He had an opportunity to really "live until he died," but instead he chose to put off dying a little longer. It is an inspiration and a joy to note the way some of our elderly and supposedly "retired" pastors have gone back in the pastorates of our needy churches and have again helped to win souls to Christ, to build up the Church of Christ, and to labor while it is yet day.

The Living Church

As we lose our very lives in service then we most surely live. The same principle is true of churches as well as of individuals. The church that would save its life must lose it in service. This is why we need foreign missions — the opportunity to send and carry the message of Jesus to others across the sea.

This is why we extend the church facilities for community services such as

Vacation Bible School and other worthwhile Christian work. As long as a church is meeting the real spiritual needs of the people in the community there is no longer a question of survival as a church. The people will not let such a church die.

The Dead Church

Once upon a time a certain man told me that as a boy he lived in a community where there was a large troop of Boy Scouts, under the Scoutmastership of the pastor of the church. The Scoutmaster asked the church if the Scout Troop might use the Parish House as a place for Scout meetings. After due deliberations the church voted "No." The reason was that the floors of the Parish House had been recently done over. So the Scoutmaster (who was the pastor) asked if the boys might meet in the basement of the church. Again the answer was "no." The reason was that the church was afraid the boys would break out the windows. So the pastor turned to the community firemen's organization and asked if the troop might meet in an upstairs hall of their building. The answer was, "Yes, we are here for service."

And so, the story goes, as told by this man (who was one of the Boy Scouts involved), "Every one of the boys in that troop left the church. Today the church is not very strong but that community has a first-rate and efficient fire department."

The Liberal Soul

The writer of Proverbs put the matter truly when he wrote, "There is that withholdeth and it tendeth unto poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat." Jesus spoke words of prophecy when He taught us, "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it, but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it." The heart of stone will perish, but the heart of flesh will live forever.

Oh that we might give over the mean and calculating spirit, the hard heart, and capture the loving Spirit and compassionate heart of Christ, who gave Himself without stint or reserve for our sakes.

Shall we not open the human heart
Swing the doors 'til the hinges start,
Stop our worrying, doubt and din
Hunting heaven and dodging sin?
There is no need to search so wide
Open the heart and stand aside —
Let God in.

Shall we not open the human heart
Never to close and stand apart?
God is a force to give way to,
God is a thing you have to do!
God can never be caught by prayer
Hid in your heart and fastened there,
Let God through!
(Author Unknown)

God's Law in Heart and Mind — Empowering

The Secret of the Indwelling Spirit

By Sarah Becker



Sarah Becker, one-time missionary nurse in Liuho, China, later instructor of nurses in Los Angeles, has been since Nov. 1959, maternity nurse at Makapwa Mission. She is here bidding goodbye to one of her patients.

The Need

The Lord guided His chosen people, the children of Israel, from Egyptian bondage to Canaan in a most marvelous way, He provided all of their needs so that they had food and water and their clothes did not wear out, nor did their shoes grow old through the long desert journey. God made a covenant with His chosen people: He gave them His laws and guidance to help them become a nation with which He could be well pleased. But the people had one very big problem. Each person wanted to have his own way and do as he pleased and not what the Lord asked of him. At times God was weary with His people because of their many complaints and disobedience to His commands. God called them a "stiffnecked people" and at one time wanted to destroy them (Deut. 9: 13-14). During all the generations

that the Lord worked with these people this same problem came up again and again causing them to sin, but the Lord was gracious and forgave them.

According to Deuteronomy Chapter 29, at the end of the 40 years of wilderness wanderings, the Lord commanded Moses to make another covenant with the children of Israel in the land of Moab. It was an exhortation to obedience to the laws of the Lord. Moses briefly reminded them of the great miracles and signs that they had seen. In verse 4 we read: "Yet the Lord hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear unto this day." It seems that Moses realized their need for a new heart, given by God, so that they could understand God's will and be obedient to His laws.

The Promise

Then we find that several of the prophets prophesied that this wonderful concept of actually receiving a new heart would truly come to pass. In Ezekiel 11: 19, 20, we read: "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God." In Chapter 36: 25-27, we find the same thoughts repeated. Jeremiah 31: 33 tells of this also, ". . . After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be

my people." Isaiah said that a time would come when God would pour out His spirit upon the seed of Jacob and His blessing upon his offspring (Isa. 44: 3). Then Joel said, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit" (Joel 2: 28, 29). And so the secret is revealed. How will God give His people new hearts, and write His laws upon their hearts and minds? Simply this: He Himself will come upon all His people as indwelling Spirit.

The Promise Repeated

As we come to the time of the New Testament we find this truth revealed in full as Jesus the Son of God dwelt among men in perfect righteousness and obedience to God's laws. To His disciples, and all who would put their trust in Him to become His people, He gave this promise of the indwelling Holy Spirit: "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" (John 16: 7). And again, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever" (John 14: 16). Verse 18: "I will not leave you comfortless ('orphans,' margin)." Truly the Master knew that the need of His disciples of all ages was for a Guide and Comforter dwelling within us to direct our ways into perfect obedience to God's will. How many times have you leaned heavily upon this Guide to help you in time of temptation? Or upon this Comforter, when in sorrow, bereavement, separation from family or loved ones, you have grown discouraged in the Christian way?

The Promise Fulfilled

In the Book of Acts we are given several detailed accounts of a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It would seem that part of the promise of Joel 2: 28 was fulfilled when the Holy Spirit

came upon all those assembled at Pentecost and they spoke the wonderful works of God in various languages. Another similar event occurred when the Holy Spirit fell upon all of them who heard Peter preach the Word at the house of Cornelius and they spoke with tongues and magnified God (Acts 10: 45-48). A group of new Christians in Samaria received the Holy Spirit when Peter and John prayed for them and laid their hands on them (Acts 8: 14-17). At Ephesus about 12 men received the Holy Spirit after they were baptized and Paul had laid his hands on them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied (Acts 19: 1-7). These incidents were proof that God was keeping His promise in giving His people a new heart and a new spirit.

The Comforter

What is the relationship of the Holy Spirit to all disciples of Christ? Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you and shall be in you" (John 14: 16, 17). Paul also taught that all those who are Christ's have the Spirit of God dwelling in them. "What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (1 Cor. 6: 19-20).

What specifically were the things Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would do for Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, His disciples? Jesus taught that ". . . he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14: 26). And more: ". . . he will guide you into all truth . . . and he will show you things to come" (John 16: 13). "The power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you (margin), ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1: 8).

Fruits of the Spirit

What evidence will there be that the Holy Spirit is guiding and empowering us, and that God has truly written His

law upon our hearts? There will be a new life showing definite fruit of the Spirit of God in us, fruits of righteousness that are a law unto themselves: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (Gal. 5: 22, 23). How fruitful are we? "If we live in the spirit, let us also

walk in the spirit." Remember, these attributes are not a garment to put on and take off, neither can we drill ourselves to attain them. These attributes are the fruit of the Holy Spirit who lives in our new life, and as He dwells with our hearts, He produces these fruits through us.

God's Law in Heart and Mind — Refreshing

The Sabbath a Delight

By Beth Burdick



After morning services at Makapwa Mission's new church on Conference Sabbath, July 1961, men stand outside visiting. (Women went out the opposite side).

How good of our Father to give us the Sabbath Day. Over and over we have expressed these words among ourselves at Makapwa Mission. A day of activity, often busier than weekdays it seems, is still one set apart and blessed by our Father. Visiting the sick is an important part of the Christian's duty in Nyasaland among our Christian brethren. Part of the Sabbath Day is used in doing this. We begin the Sabbath at sunset Friday, as we have our weekly prayer service. Sabbath School is ushered in by the sweet ringing of the bell from the tower of our new church. Church service follows the Sabbath School hour. At three in the afternoon we have our chipatala (hospital) service, held in the out-of-doors. Four o'clock finds the young folks

gathering for Christian Endeavor. This time is followed by the Sabbath-closing service, thus concluding a busy but spiritually refreshing Sabbath Day.

Another land, but again God's Sabbath Day. Though separated from Makapwa by thousands of miles, we find ourselves in the great city of London preparing for the Sabbath Day as are our loved ones in other places. Now it is not just a walk across the railway and up a hill to church, but instead a walk of a few blocks, a bus ride, and many more blocks of walking. We met others along the way, and reached the church in a greater number than we had begun. This was a special Sabbath Day service, for it was the three hundredth year commemoration of the death of John James, one of our early Seventh Day Baptist ministers who was martyred as a Dissenter in 1661. Another bus ride, more walking, and we had afternoon and evening services in another church. Nearly fourteen hours later we arrive back in our hotel room, gladdened from the information we gained of a man who had God's Sabbath deeply written on his heart, and was willing to give up his life rather than to give up his principles. So another Sabbath passes, to be called a delight — marked by a unique fellowship and a special remembrance of our proud heritage.

Across the Atlantic, a different people, and again we approach God's Sabbath

Day — Conference Sabbath at Amherst, Massachusetts. The week was filled with activity: sermons, Bible studies, singing, committee meetings, Conference business. Friday morning found us with much unfinished business to be presented before the Conference floor. It seemed the afternoon would be crowded with these things. Could it be finished before the coming of the Sabbath Day? Then, as if God had planned it so, all the unfinished pieces dropped into place, and by the time we found things finished, much to our surprise. What a joy! A time to enter the Sabbath Day rushing!

During the Friday evening testimonies and renewals with God. Young and middle-aged, rose to their feet with hesitation to share with others unto our Father. The beauty of Sabbath service as I thought of the opportunity it affords for meditating upon and pressing publicly our joy in Christ.

The Need for Sabbath

We live in a weary and sin-sick world, and we need to feel the presence and power of a righteous and loving God. Men become busy and preoccupied with the burdens of life, and need frequent reminders of God's interest in them. The Sabbath Day provides this need. It is a regular and frequent reminder of God's presence and purpose in creation; it truly shows us God's care and provision for us; it is a pledge of eternal rest in heaven.

Neither Bond Nor Free

There are those who say we are free from the law in observance of the Sabbath Day; that the Sabbath was for Jews only. Yet Jesus declared that the Sabbath was made for man — all men — for their benefit. The blessings of Sabbath-keeping are for the good of the whole human race. If rest was needed in the Orient in the slow-moving life of Bible times, how much more we need it today in the rush of the Western world.

There are others who would make the Sabbath burdensome and dreary in stress-

ing legal observance. Such were the scribes and Pharisees who, with a long catalog of prohibited works, had turned a joyous day of rest for the weary into an intolerable day of joyless restraint. So to these, too, Jesus declared, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath."

We are encouraged then to protect our Sabbath rights against those who would deprive us of them, and to assert our liberty against those who with petty regulations and restrictions would make God's purpose a burden rather than a

Why Command

The commandment is situated between the first and second commandments between God and those out-ward, and this one commandment with Godward and manward — our duty to God — to keep holy the Sabbath He made for man — to ensure a period of rest. Jesus too made the two-way nature of the Sabbath command, reminding us that He was Lord of the Sabbath, and that the Sabbath was created for man's benefit.

What is our Sabbath in its Godward relationship? God rested and "rests" in communion with man. Man's rest should be communion with God. The Sabbath Day should be thought of as a type of perfect communion with God which shall determine for us what things should and should not be done, not only on the Sabbath, but on all days. The Sabbath is a symbol of the abiding God, and of our spiritual rest in Him. God rested in contemplation of His work of creation and by that rest sanctified the Sabbath. In like manner, our Sabbath can be a time of contemplation of the week's work done, and in spiritual rest in God.

It is not enough to keep the Sabbath because it is a commandment. How much better to think of it as a great gift for the highest purposes, and not let it be merely a day of absence of work. Instead, let it be a day of refreshment of weary spirits, a time to rekindle our devotion by drawing near to Christ in public and private worship. By so doing we shall gather spiritual strength to aid us in our earthly journey. On the other hand, if



Beth Severe Burdick, missionary nurse at Makapwa since 1953, married on the field in 1959. Here Mrs. Burdick, visiting in the Northern Province, tries out the local sling method of carrying her baby, Victor, Jr.

one's heart is not right, the Sabbath will seem just an interruption of our plans and a hindrance to material advance. Earthly pleasures, material gain should be put aside and held lightly in comparison with the eternal gains to be won through trustful obedience toward God.

What is our Sabbath in its manward relationship? When His disciples were accused of Sabbath-breaking when plucking grain in the Sabbath, Jesus met their accusations by drawing from Old Testament illustrations. David and his men "broke" the law, eating shewbread when hungry. Priests "broke" the Sabbath when they circumcized babies and baked shewbread on the Sabbath, yet they were blameless in God's eyes. In these accounts we discover a freedom like our own in the heart of the stern Hebrew discipline. Indeed the germ of this liberty and mercy has ever been in the law. Jesus taught that certain circumstances made it right to break the Sabbath rules. He and His disciples showed that larger obligations overruled lesser ones, and that all ceremonial observance gives way to human need. We must realize that character grows rich and life joyful, not by performance of ordinances with cold sense of duty, but by acts of service with the warm heart of love. All works of beneficent love, all that minister to human recovery from anguish and carry out

the divine purposes of grace for body or soul, rescue from danger, healing of disease, reformation of guilt, are sanctioned by Christ. It is lawful to do deeds of mercy on the Sabbath. One who has in mind the principles underlying the Sabbath command, and responds to the call of necessity or to the service of the needy, is a law unto himself.

Our Example

Jesus has given us an example of how His Father's Sabbath was written in His heart, in His own observance of it. Follow Him in His activities during and after a Sabbath Day as recorded in Mark 1: 21-38. First, we find Him attending a Sabbath worship service in the synagogue of Capernaum, by participating (assembly together). Next we find Him meeting and defeating the unseen powers of darkness, healing the man with an evil spirit (wrestling in prayer). Then He visits the sick mother-in-law of Peter, ministering to her (visiting the sick). After this He shares with others a simple fellowship meal (family circle). Sundown does not end His deeds of mercy, as He continues into the evening, healing all the sick brought to Him, and finally withdrawing to the Father for prayer early on the first day of the week, renewing His spiritual and physical strength.

Finally, I would share with you thoughts from *The Sabbath* by A. J. C. Bond: "The Sabbath brings us rest, rest of body and of mind. The Sabbath brings us the privilege of divine praise and of holy worship, and gives us the opportunity to learn more about God and His Son, and more of the work of the Holy Spirit in the world. The Sabbath calls us to a recognition of the soul-life, and to deeds of mercy, and to the blessings of fellowship in family life, and at proper times, of friendly visitation.

"This is the high level upon which Jesus would pitch our Commandment keeping. It is upon that lofty plain of Sabbathkeeping that the Sabbath becomes one of our greatest spiritual assets; a frequent and regular reminder of the love of God for His children; a faithful and constant expression of our love to Him."

God's Law in Heart and Mind — A Goal of Preaching

The Perfect Law of Liberty

By Rev. David Pearson

Law has existed a long time. Its beginning was of God. Law existed in heaven long before it existed on earth, long before the earth was. Satan broke that law and ever since has known the result, banishment from God and His abode. Law exists.

The existence of law is good. Man cannot live without it. Law makes for efficiency, mutual understanding, and peaceful relations. Chaos is the result without it. During the past year, the Congo has provided an excellent, twentieth-century example of what takes place when law is disturbed, uprooted, and discarded.

Man sees the need for law. Together with his fellow men he sits in council, and decrees laws by the score. The books are filled with them. Some are good; others are bad. Many have filled their place and are no longer relevant; nevertheless, they were created to be helpful, to form a basis of guidance, and to protect the rights of all.

Though man-written laws are many, relatively few are rigidly enforced. Some are naturally obeyed by the pious and the well-meaning. Others are obeyed by many simply because the arm of the law is long.

God's Laws

God's laws are good. Excepting the ceremonial laws, His statutes have not grown old or irrelevant. They reflect His eternal character, and do not fade away as the popular song that tops the polls for a week.

God's law is found on the pages of His Word, but has its chief abiding place in God's own heart and mind. The law forms part of His nature, and cannot be separated from His person.

All His laws are enforced. Plainclothesmen, speed traps, radar, the familiar blue uniform, the shining badge of authority, have no place in its enforcement. Convictions are not found recorded in daily papers, but nothing escapes His eye. Every

infraction is mentally recorded and duly noted.

Approximately one third of Nyasaland's crime is detected by the police. This presents a fair record, but does not begin to compete with the ever-watchful eye of God, which sees and perceives. "The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men."

Obedience to God's law is not universal. Some obey from the heart; others obey for fear of future judgment. Disobedience may be due to ignorance or prejudice, spiritual blindness, or willful violation.

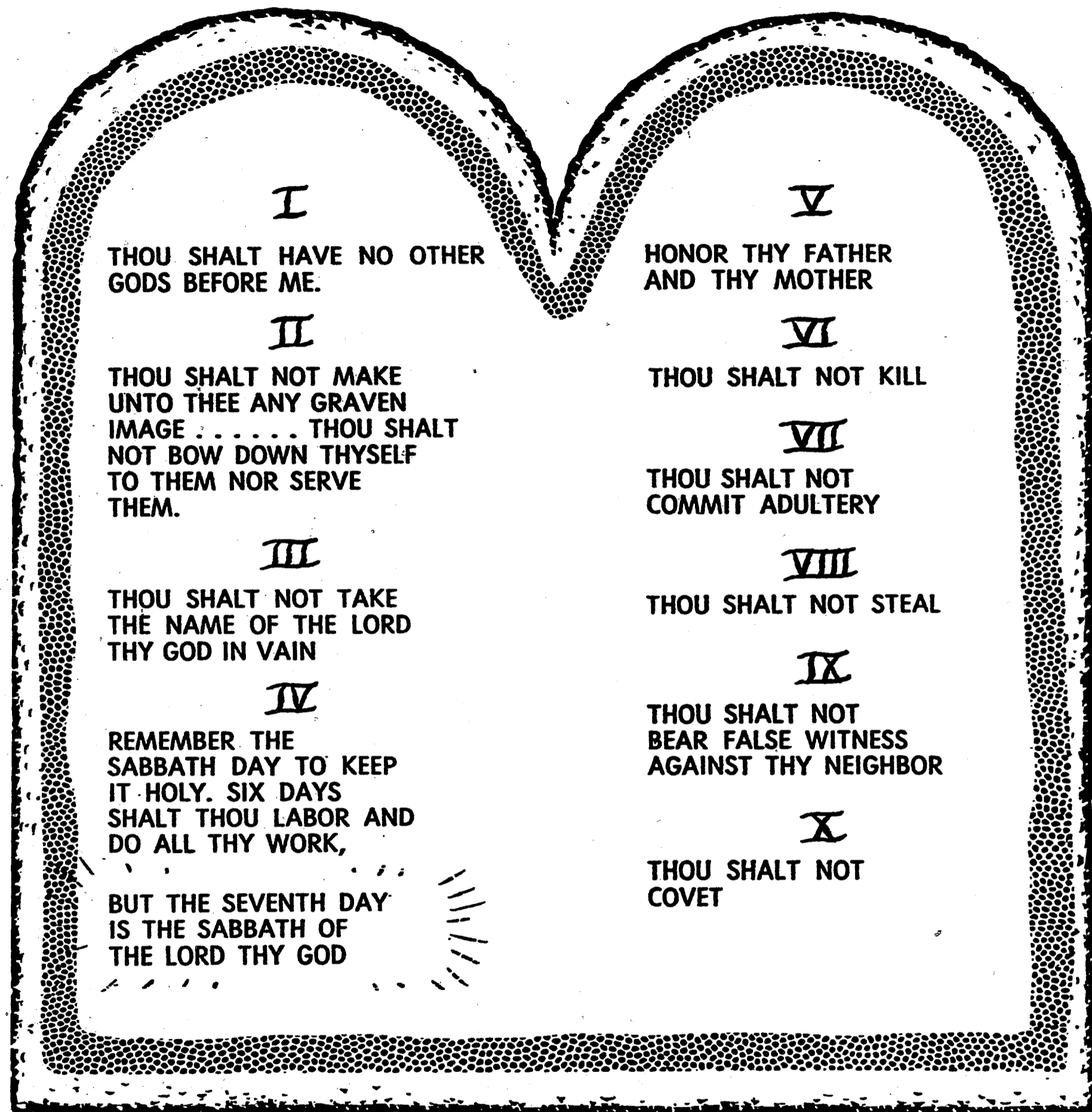
"No Law" vs. Legalism

There is a danger that our topic be misunderstood. Though God's laws are good, the subject has become distasteful and wholly undesirable to many. Ardent followers of Christ, basing their beliefs on misconstrued passages of the Apostle Paul, have sometimes declared there is no law. Fortunately, their position today is probably not as strong as it once was. Antinomianism, as it is called, is false. There is a law. Christ and Paul both acknowledge this.

On the other hand, law not rightfully understood "gendereth to bondage" (Gal. 4: 24). It is certainly not the ideal of the writer to lay aside the freedom and blessing which Christ has made ours. Whereas the antinomian has gone too far to the left, the legalist has certainly gone too far to the right. The Sabbath has been presented as a legal yoke of bondage; consequently, it has been spurned by many who have come to know the riches of God's grace. Their rejection is no wonder, however unfortunate it is. The letter of the law has passed, but the spirit abides. This is what Christ meant when He said that He had come not to destroy the law, but rather to fulfill it.

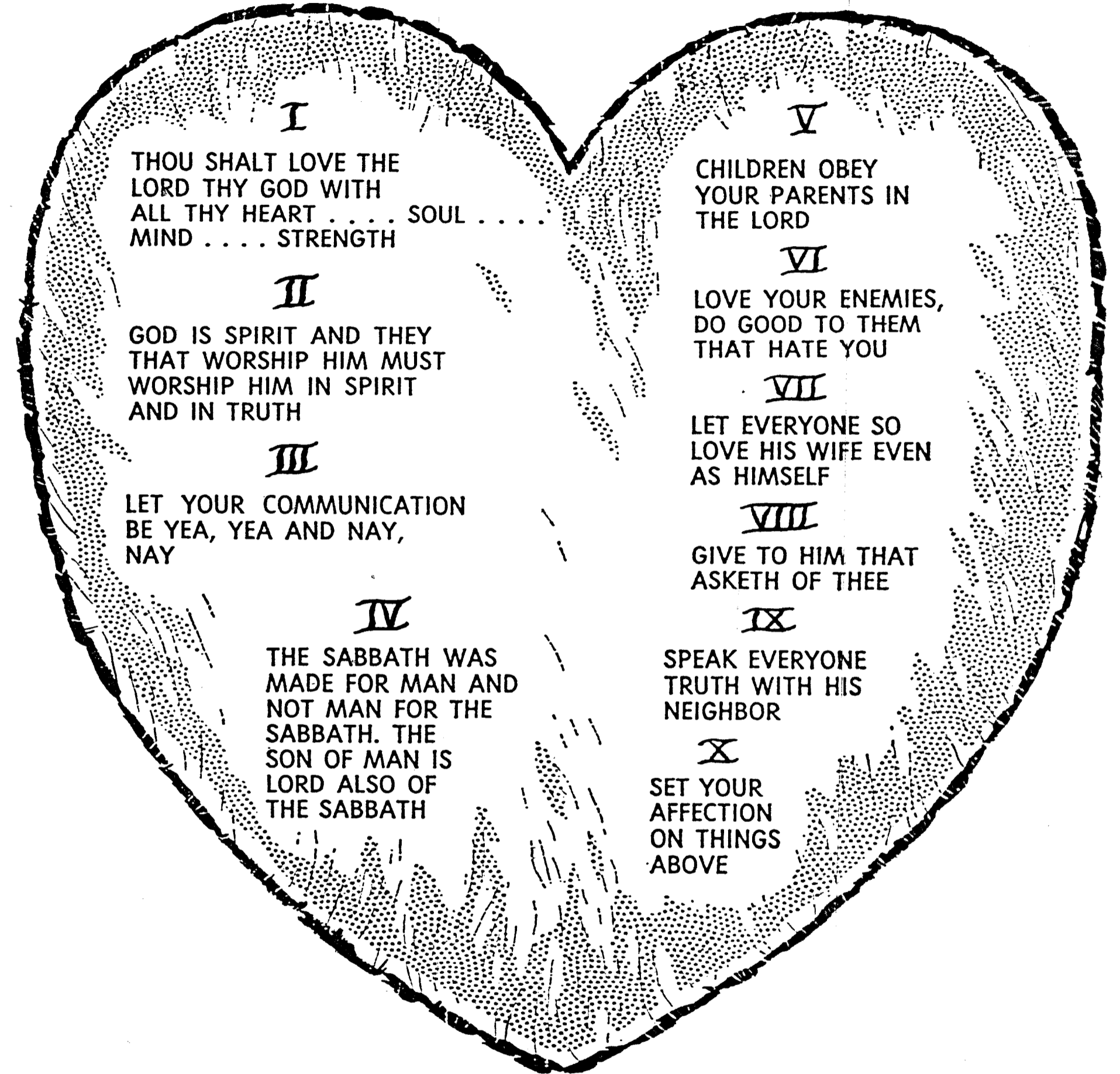
(Continued on page 14)

The Ten Commandments on Stone



Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine (Exodus 19: 5).

The Ten Commandments on the Heart



For, Brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word; even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself (Gal. 5: 13, 14).

(Continued from page 11)

The Conflict Resolved

Christ today is able to transplant His law from those ancient tables of stone, to the fleshly tables of our hearts. This He has done for many. Seventh Day Baptists believe that this law includes the Sabbath. Properly observed, the Sabbath is a spiritual blessing which was never abrogated by the fiat of God. It has a rightful place in heart and mind along with love for God and man, and other commandments generally accepted.

True, the psalmist lived in a dispensation which has been characterized as legal, still he sought the Lord with his heart, not merely out of harsh obedience to any written or unwritten law. Listen to some of his sublime utterances: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes." "O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day." "The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver."

Solomon in his wisdom wrote, "Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye. Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart."

Jeremiah, speaking of a new covenant, gives the words of the Lord, "After those days I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts: and will be their God, and they shall be my people." Ezekiel said basically the same thing in different words, "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you: and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep my ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

This prophecy has been fulfilled in part, and Christ has become the mediator of the new and better covenant. (Note Heb. 8: 6.)

The Law of Liberty

Paul of the New Covenant, in a dispensation of grace, wrote, "Wherefore

the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." "For we know that the law is spiritual. . . ." "I delight in the law of God after the inward man. . . ." "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." It appears from this last quote that there are at least two laws: the law of God and the law of sin and death. The Christian by his very nature and conformity to Jesus Christ is compelled to align himself with the former.

James has been questioned by some; nevertheless, his work forms a valued part of our sacred canon. His theology seems to combine works and faith, the former serving as evidence to the latter. He spoke of a "perfect law of liberty," which is truly an apt expression. Law? Yes, but one of liberty, not of the letter, but of the spirit, ". . . for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." The law written upon the heart is truly a well flowing with obedience, prompted by one's love of God. What can be finer?

The new law controls man from the inside out. Working from within, man's total being becomes submissive and in union with God's ideal. The mind and heart are centers of the natural and spiritual man. These are the seat of character, the area in which God's judgments are accurately made, for ". . . out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." The Lord is to be loved and obeyed with heart and mind, one's total self.

Revealing God

The chief purpose of the sermon is to reveal God. Whereas strivings about the law are rightfully said to be vain (Titus 3: 9), careful study of the law reveals much of God's nature and character. Dwelling upon the attributes of God alone would not convert the sinner, but may well create desire on the part of the estranged one to imitate these excellencies of the Heavenly Father. Such might aid one in his quest for the cross.

The carnal mind is not subject to the law of God. Conversion is needed. The preacher aims at the heart, for it is the heart that must be changed. It is on the

heart that the law of liberty must be written.

On the day of Pentecost those hearing Peter's sermon were "pricked in their heart(s)." Wondering then what they could do to be saved, Peter exhorted them: "Repent and be baptized . . . in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Many responded, for the Holy Spirit, through the message, had pricked their very hearts.

Preaching must produce. Informing is good, excellent for the classroom, but the preacher must do more than this. Men must be moved to genuine saving belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. "We preach . . . that ye should turn . . ."; ". . . so we preach, and so ye believed." "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Spurgeon was once asked by a young preacher, "Why is it that you have so many conversions, and I never seem to have any?" Spurgeon responded, "You do not expect to have conversions every time you preach, do you?" "No," said the young man, "Certainly I don't expect anything like that." Spurgeon diagnosing the case, replied, "Then that is the reason you don't have them. I aim for conversions and expect to have them every time I preach."

God's Law in the Heart and Mind

—A Goal of Child Evangelism

"Of such is the kingdom of Heaven"

By Bettie Pearson

The upturned black faces of the group of youngsters clustered on the hillside gave evidence of attention. Just outside the large new brick church, the story of a young king was being told. As they heard how Josiah found the book of the law of God, and was sad that he had not seen it before, then how thankful he was to know the law, that he might obey the Lord whom he honored, these boys and girls seemed challenged to have God's law written in their hearts.

God has chosen the "foolishness of preaching" as a means of saving man from the law of sin and death, bringing him to His perfect law. Herein the preacher greatly assists, but the actual transition of law, from stone to heart is the work of the Lord.

When this transition takes place, the law will be kept by nature. The commandments will no longer be grievous to keep. The law will be the "perfect law of liberty," and will co-exist with grace.



Rev. David Pearson, graduate of Bob Jones University, superintendent of Makapwa Mission since October 1954. He is confronted with a wide variety of problems each day from construction to counselling. His wife Bettie, now mother of two girls, Debbie and Joanna, keeps busy not only with household duties, but with a large share of general mission work.

to obey. Young hearts are so soft and pliable. If not guided, they automatically become molded and hardened in the way of sin and selfishness, their human desires taking strong hold upon them. Yet if God's just and righteous law can be deeply impressed upon them, it will be more likely to remain there throughout life, as Proverbs 22: 6 tells us. Adults who have grown up in sin, constantly practicing heathen customs, are so prone to fall back into their old ways when they have thought they wanted to follow Christ. A country or a continent cannot be changed with a few months or even years of preaching. It is as generations of children grow up, each learning a little more of God's will and serving Him a little better from their hearts, from their innermost desires, that the Christian Church becomes more firmly established and makes a change in the country. Our desire is to work with the little ones to accomplish this aim, helping them to have a better knowledge of God, His laws, and His love manifested through Christ, and thus practice the Christian way while their hearts are being molded.

As one looks into these little dark faces, he can see a challenge, a need to have something worth while stamped upon their hearts. We often wonder just what is going on inside a small mind. Do they really grasp the idea of God's love for them, and is a love for Him being created? Is His law beginning to be impressed upon their hearts?

The Challenge

One day a number of young boys were in our home enjoying the toys which a white child possesses. After they had finished playing, they courteously said goodby as they left. But that evening, several items were missing. This showed that, although a number of them had a knowledge of God and His will, having often attended Sabbath School, His laws had not really reached their hearts. It was discouraging, but really a challenge to work harder at showing them God's ways, and inducing them to give their lives to Him, and to place His laws upon their hearts so firmly that they will be able to resist temptation.

A certain Sabbath afternoon some friends were playing with Debby. "Let's sinja (pound maize)," someone said. "Oh, we don't sinja today. Today is Sabbath," came the reply from another. It is often difficult to help the children to use the Sabbath hours in a way that helps them to form the right habits of honoring the holy day. This little incident gave encouragement in that regard, a suggestion that God's law had reached someone's heart.

What specifically is being done in the field of child evangelism to achieve our goal of bringing the little ones to Christ, and helping them to obey from loving hearts?

Sabbath School

The majority of our work is carried on through the Sabbath Schools, with African teachers. Hundreds of children meet each week in the various churches, listening to stories of the working of the Lord, and His will for all. The teachers are untrained men who may have been Christians for only a short time, or may be faithful members of long standing. They know little if anything about child psychology, or principles of teaching, yet they are willing to accept their great responsibility of meeting with the boys and girls each week and challenging them with the lessons that are provided from the mission headquarters. There have been some brief teacher-training classes, and we hope to do more in this area, but it is difficult to accomplish much as teachers are often changing. They have very little with which to work in order to make the stories vivid and meaningful to the children, but are encouraged to have the pupils dramatize the story or aim of the day, and to use what natural resources are available for some handwork or object lessons, such as stones, sand, sticks, and grasses. There are Bible pictures available to illustrate a few of the stories, and the children have "take home" picture cards reminding them of the day's story, and containing the memory verse which we want to be stamped upon their minds. Thus an endeavor is made to write God's will in small hearts and minds from week to week, although the time in which they are reached is very brief.

A Bible School is held at Makapwa during the school holidays. As the children are present for a number of consecutive days, their hearts should be more deeply impressed. This is a relatively new effort. Plans are to develop it further, and it is hoped that schools can be conducted in other churches in the future.

Some village evangelism for children is carried on weekly around the area of the Mission by one of the single missionaries. Children eagerly listen to the flannelgraph stories that show God's love for them. As they hear God's Word over and over again, who can know just what permanent imprint it may leave upon them?

One of the best means of carrying on child evangelism is right in the home. Parents who truly love the Lord, and have His laws in their own hearts and minds are perhaps the best evangelists through their constant contact with the child. In Nyasaland, many of the homes are very weak. Even in the comparatively small percentage of "Christian homes" the parents are often not really strong Christians. Marital problems are not uncommon among our church people. However, we believe that some mothers and fathers are to some extent impressing God's way on their youngsters' hearts and minds, as they live before them lives that are different from those outside the church. From time to time encouragement and challenges are given to the parents of their great responsibility in training up the child in the way in which he ought to go, including first in importance, giving himself to the Lord, heart, mind, and strength. It has been said that the happy homes of missionary families are sermons in themselves. We most surely need the daily help of the Holy Spirit in this solemn responsibility.

Parents everywhere can share in this planting of God's laws in small hearts and minds, as one sees the mission field in his own home and community. One's

own children are his first responsibility. Let us ever be striving to help our children know the Lord and mold their minds and hearts to love and obey Him. Then we can help them become aware of God's love and concern for all children throughout the world, and let their hearts be impressed with consideration for, and a desire to help those in need in their own community and nation, as well as in other countries. As families, all should do their utmost in praying and giving for God's work, that His laws might be written in small hearts and minds throughout the world, and that His Church might grow, being made up of stronger young Christians, who have from childhood served Him because of love.



A group of children at Mphedza village, with garments of new clothing, need to be clothed with the love and righteousness of Jesus.

O FOR A HEART TO PRAISE MY GOD

O for a heart to praise my God!
A heart from sin set free,
A heart that always feels Thy blood
So freely spilt for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
My dear Redeemer's throne,
Where only Christ is heard to speak,
Where Jesus reigns alone.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;
Come quickly from above;
Write Thy new name upon my heart,
Thy new, best name of love.

C. Wesley.

God's Law Written Upon the Heart — a Goal of Teaching

Preparing for Life Eternal and Abundant

By Joan Clement

A Miracle Conversion

As he stood in the living room of our home, he was rather frightening to behold. He stood as erect as he possibly could and as he spoke he didn't look at any of the four of us sitting there that evening, but he seemed rather to be talking to someone far away. Nevertheless, his words were for all of us to hear. He was so very angry that his whole body trembled and it was all he could do to contain himself. We have always been grateful for whatever restraining power was present in that room that evening.

When he had finished saying what was on his mind, he turned abruptly and stormed out of the house. A little while later on that evening there were some rather difficult times of discussion and argument involving this particular individual and for the next few days there were a number of rather similar events.

What kind of a person was this? Was he a stranger to the name of Christ? Had he never heard of the precious salvation which is the heritage of each one of us as a child of our Father, God?

This was a boy who lived on the mission as a boarding student. He was in the seventh grade and scholastically was in the top segment of his class. In stature he was a full-grown man. He was one of those students whom teachers can enjoy so very much because he had a keen and inquiring mind. He knew God's laws and God's ways for he had been studying the Bible for a long time. What he lacked was God's ways written on his heart.

As the days passed, many prayers went up for this boy, for by his very nature he was a threat to the security and well-being of a great part of the mission program.

The last time I saw this boy, his whole countenance was changed. When he came by the house to tell me goodbye at the close of school he was happy and at

peace in his heart. What had happened to him? Some wonderful day during the closing weeks of school, God's love and God's laws were written on his heart, and indeed he had a new heart. It was our very great joy to see this boy baptized on the Sabbath Day of Conference that year.

When God said that He would give the people new hearts, and that His laws would be written upon their hearts, He was speaking of His children, the Chosen People, whom He had led, nourished, and sanctified, and yet who had disappointed Him so much, for they had hearts as hard as the very stones upon which the Commandments had first been written. But God in His infinite love and wisdom knew that we would be His, with new hearts of flesh upon which His laws would be written.

Today God is still changing hearts of stone to hearts of flesh. . . . We are still seeing the wonderful inscribing of God's laws in the lives of men, women, boys, and girls. It was a miracle when God's own finger carved out those Commandments there on Sinai, but is it not a greater miracle to see the wonderful change in a life which comes to each one who surrenders a heart of stone to God to receive in its place a wonderfully soft and loving, understanding heart which is yielded to the will of God?

The conversion of this boy is an example of the aims of mission education. Though not all of the conversions which we see are as dynamic as this one was, it is nonetheless thrilling to see those who have sat before you in your classes for many days standing on the bank of the river waiting their turn at baptism.

Our Purposes

Just as no teacher can go before a class of pupils without first having stated clearly in his or her mind certain definite aims in teaching, so we who teach in

mission schools also state our aims prior to beginning our work. We find, however, that in addition to the common aims of education in general, we have an important aim, perhaps unique in our work and our calling, in that we endeavor to fit our students not only for this present life but for that wonderful life which is to come. If the overall aim of education is to prepare the young man or woman for life and all of its challenging situations and problems, so the aim of our educational program is to prepare them for the life of which Jesus spoke when He said, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

We of the teaching staff of the school always rejoice to see students converted, baptized, and beginning to walk with Christ. It is especially wonderful if conversion comes early and the students continue on in the school and can grow in their Christian experience. A number of those won to Christ in the school remain to work on the mission from time to time and in that way contact can be maintained and Christian growth and development observed.

Our Methods

Since conversion does not automatically place the new Christian on a level of complete understanding, it is necessary for him to learn to master the basic concepts and practices of the new way of life just as a child in kindergarten or first grade must begin to master the basic skills of reading, writing, and arithmetic. God's laws must be written day by day upon their hearts.

In order for anything learned to be of real value to a person it is necessary that it become a very real part of him. First knowledge is often gained by sheer memory work. This is especially true of education in Africa in times past. But there comes a time a bit later on when experience fixes the knowledge firmly in the mind and life of the child. This is no less true in the spiritual realm than in the physical. First knowledge of God is often "head knowledge" only. Only when a true experience of God's forgiv-



Joan Clement began her missionary career at Makapwa Mission as a nurse in October 1953, but has devoted most of her time to the school as principal. Here she presents Makapwa Mission, and the Mission School.

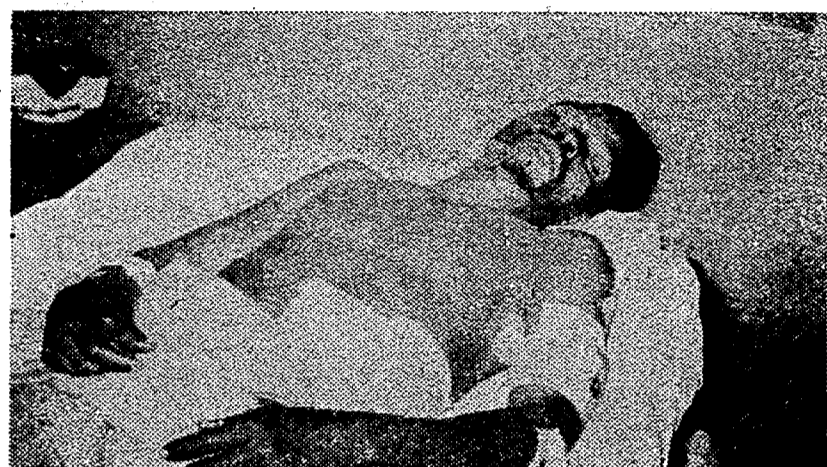
ing love and kindness, through His Son Jesus, is gained in the life, can those stony hearts be replaced completely by hearts of flesh which will let Christ shine through. We would endeavor to create the kind of atmosphere in the school and over the whole mission that would be most conducive to such an experience for our students. Part of such an atmosphere is the example which is shown to the child by all those with whom he comes in contact, both in and out of the classroom. Much of this atmosphere is created first in the closets of prayer as the teacher brings her problems and pupils before the Lord. Much is created by the church and chapel services held regularly.

We are fortunate to have in our beautiful house of worship an eloquent reminder of this lovely miracle of God's transforming power, in the plaque behind the pulpit. Our aim is truly that God's laws may be written indelibly upon the heart of each and every student who attends the mission schools. We trust that our aims may never fall short of this. May we also remember that we are object lessons to those who are entrusted to our care. May God help us each one to a greater respect and a keener understanding and a genuine sympathy for the needs of those about us, especially of the young lives with which we come in contact in the educational program.

God, create more hearts of flesh and write upon each Thy perfect law of love!

Spiritual Surgery

By Dr. Victor Burdick



In great need of both physical and spiritual surgery, this man Nakaninga (injured in a village beer brawl), can find both at Makapwa Mission.

Modern man needs no reminder of the rapid progress of medical science today, as new and marvelous discoveries are made every day. Take heart surgery, for example.

Not so many years ago, surgeons developed the technique of aortic transplantation. An aorta (main trunk artery) hardened by arteriosclerosis sometimes literally splits its seams and begins to swell up with blood in its walls. Of course this causes the person considerable distress and endangers his life. From the body of some deceased who willed his body for medical purposes, a soft, pliable aorta has been removed and waits in an "artery bank" for future use. Surgeons may remove that swollen, hardened, "stony" aorta and replace it with the soft, pliable "fleshy" aorta from the artery bank, adding years to the patient's life.

More recently, surgeons have developed techniques for entering the heart itself in patients suffering from faulty valves. Packing the anesthetized patient in ice to reduce body temperature and metabolism, they shunt the circulating blood through artificial heart and lungs. Then they can open the heart to correct the defects in the valves. Modern day surgical marvels indeed!

Yet greater still is the marvel of spiritual surgery that God performs upon men's hearts, when, according to His promise in Ezekiel 11: 19, He "will take the stony heart out of their flesh and give them an heart of flesh." Greater than exchanging a hardened aorta for a pliable one, greater than opening a heart to correct faulty valves — God changes the heart completely.

The disease of sin has hardened men's hearts. Disobeying God's laws, rejecting His claims upon them, men are walking "in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart." Men's hardened hearts are failing them for fear; men's hearts are breaking under the strain of sin.

"And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." For the Master Surgeon can remove the old stony heart — the failing, blind, burdened heart which characterizes the man of this world — and replace it with a new heart of flesh. A heart with new emotions, compassion, love; a mind with new attitudes, purpose, spirit.

Nor does the Master Surgeon stop there. For upon this new soft, pliable heart, He embeds His laws — His law of love and obedience to Him, His law of love for our fellow men. This is not an event, but a progressive experience as God etches His laws more deeply day by day. "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts, and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people."

As medical evangelists, it is our privilege to observe and to assist the Master Surgeon as He performs this operation upon men's hearts — not only for the

patients entrusted to our care for physical healing, but for ourselves and members of our staff. He has called us to assist Him in this transforming work, through the healing ministry, presenting us with a command to heal, a reminder of our debt, and an example to follow in Christ.

Jesus is our Commander in the healing ministry. Whenever He commanded His disciples to preach, He also commanded them to heal. To the twelve sent forth two-by-two, He commanded, "As ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils, freely ye have received, freely give." To the seventy He commanded, "Heal the sick that are therein, and say to them, The kingdom of God is come nigh you."

Jesus is our Creditor in the healing ministry. He says, "Freely ye have received, freely give." Paul understood this when he said, "I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise and to the unwise." For God's unspeakable gift to us, for Christ's incomparable sacrifice for us, for our daily blessings — we are in debt to Him beyond our ability to repay. So He places us in debt to our fellow men — the premiums due: a cup of cold water to the thirsty, bread to the hungry, clothing to the naked, a visit to the sick or imprisoned, a kind act to the fatherless or widow, friendship to the stranger, a word of comfort or hope to the depressed. In whatever ways we have been given blessings and advantage over others no matter how small, be it health, wealth, learning, Christian training and experience, professional skill, we are in debt to those less fortunate, and to the utmost of our power we owe them service.

Our Example

Jesus is our example in the healing ministry. Every act, every word, every thought in His life proved this saying, "I delight to do thy will, O my God; yea thy law is within my heart." He manifested a deep compassion for those afflicted by disease of body or soul, deformity or pain, and He gave Himself without reserve to alleviate their suffering. Yet He revealed the limitations of His human nature, and the source of His divine power,

in the times He spent alone in prayer with His Father. Leaving the crowds and villages, He went alone or with His disciples to the desert or mountain for prayer, for rest, for restoration. There He found refreshing of soul, renewing of the knowledge of God's will, refilling with the Holy Spirit for healing power and insight into men's hearts. There by teaching His disciples, He prepared them for carrying on His work.

He taught that even His great power was of no avail unless faith was exercised by those concerned. By faith in Him they might receive not only the earthly blessings of physical health they sought, but also the blessing of salvation. To others He taught that their sickness was not physical alone, but was basically a soul sickness, and that they first needed forgiveness of sin. With the paralytic, Jesus' first step was to remove the burden of sin from his heart with the words, "Thy sins are forgiven thee." With a change of heart, restoring of physical health and strength was simply a matter of the command, "Arise, take up thy bed, and go home."

With the example of Jesus' healing ministry before us we too desire to see transforming faith which can heal and save. But first we must have transformed hearts ourselves. We must draw upon that same source of power. We can point to a conversion experience in the past in which in a very real sense God did take from us the stony heart of self-will and self-direction of our lives, and gave us a heart of flesh — one soft, pliable, and ready to say, "Thy will be done." We can testify to the presence of His Holy Spirit in our lives, and His laws written in our hearts.

Yet how incomplete this experience! How we yearn for a deeper infilling by the Holy Spirit, a deeper etching of God's laws of love within our hearts. For again and again we find impatience expressed in our actions as daily circumstances press us; or we find indifference appearing as tasks become routine. We know these things hinder our witness for Christ and cripple our happiness in Him. And so we ever need Jesus' example of the "Alone Hour" with the Father for

refreshing and infilling with His patience, understanding, and deep concern.

Our Staff

Our native workers also need a change of heart and a maturing of their faith and Christian life. We have a duty to help them in this through example and guidance. For they, to a much greater extent than we, have an intimate, prolonged contact with the patients as they work with them in the wards and treatment rooms. They are of the same culture and language; they know the customs and problems of the patients. To them then is the opportunity given to present a witness that will be effective in turning the hearts of the patients to the Lord for transformation. It may be their privilege to pray with a patient tense and anxious about having surgery, to assure him of the trust of all of us in the Father's guidance, or to show God's care by giving some unexpected kindness. It may be that the patient will listen to the Bible read, or accept and read for himself parts of the Scripture.

How much then our staff members need the soft, warm heart of compassion that Christ can give, that their acts of kindness may work a softening of hard hearts. How much they need to know and love God's word.

Our Patients

Our patients need a change of heart. Many who are suffering from physical disease also need Christ's compassionate

words, "Thy sins are forgiven," whether the sin is related to the disease or not. For along with their physical needs they have spiritual needs. Often sin is the basis of their physical suffering. Physical disease has come as a result of transgressing God's natural or moral laws. So we need to help our patients learn that along with the medicines or surgery needed to restore physical health, they need a change of heart for spiritual health.

It is our privilege and duty, with our staff, to point sin-sick men and women to Christ, that in beholding Him, they may become like Him. We must present to them the Gospel in its purity and power as the cure for illness caused by sin. However, preaching the Gospel in words may have no effect on hardened hearts. Perhaps only through our efforts to relieve physical suffering can we reach their hearts. Many with no faith in God will appreciate acts of sympathy and kindness. In gratitude for healing and kindnesses shown, they may see God's love, develop faith, and become willing to listen to the words of the Gospel.

So as we labor, giving medicines here, a word of cheer there, healing a broken arm here, comforting a breaking heart there, we labor for Christ the Great Physician. We try to point men to their deepest need — the spiritual surgery the Master Surgeon can perform — an exchange of the stony heart hardened by sin, with a new heart of flesh. We rejoice to see faith develop and hearts become willing to obey God's commands.

God's Law in Heart and Mind

— Impact on Others

Heart of Flesh Meets Heart of Stone

By Barbara Bivins

Have you ever been ill, and longed desperately for someone to devote a few minutes just to you? This desire seems to be a very real part of illness, and one that should not be ignored either by the patient or the family.

I guess that this was Likelaya's idea. He was here when I arrived at Makapwa

in 1959. Such a pathetic little boy I had never seen before. He had been mauled by a leopard while sleeping on the verandah. He had a long gash running from his chin up the side of his face, behind his ear and into his scalp. The scalp was so badly torn and became so infected that soon a large area of skull was exposed.



Barbara Bivins, missionary nurse at Makapwa since November 1959, assists in the wards, clinic, and surgical departments at Makapwa. With her particular fondness for children, evident in this article, she spends much time with them in wards and nearby villages, telling stories, playing, and just cuddling.

Daily dressings were torment for the little fellow. His eyes followed my every move. One day I slipped him a candy from my pocket. He relaxed a bit after that. Only one eye watched me. The other watched my pocket!

Before he was discharged we had cause for great rejoicing. His uncle, who had held and comforted him while his dressings were changed, acknowledged his need for a personal Savior at a Sabbath afternoon worship service. Was it not, perhaps, the kindness and concern on the part of all the workers that melted his heart? I'm sure that the Holy Spirit uses genuine human efforts as a "softener" before He works His miraculous conversion of hardened hearts into hearts alive and aglow for Him.

Ciposi

Sometimes though, our prayers, love, and tears seem to reap nothing for His harvest. Ciposi was a dear little boy who came to the hospital with a badly infected eye tumor. There was no choice but to remove the eye. Soon we discovered that the tumor was malignant.

Daily we watched the terrible progress of the disease. It spread backward to the ear, forward to the bridge of the nose and down into the cheek. I don't know how many pictures I drew for him during those days, or how many glasses of chocolate milk I fed him while

he sat on my lap. I don't know how many times the dressers and other patients stopped to express their sympathy to the heartbroken parents. Nor do I know how many times we witnessed to them of the love of Christ, always receiving the same answer, "We are not Christians."

Each day he grew weaker. The swelling pushed outward until his poor little forehead was about one and a half inches in front of where it should have been. And though we could not see it, it spread inward, inward, causing frequent hemorrhages.

One afternoon after a particularly severe hemorrhage, I knew that the end was near. With one of the dressers I again told Ciposi of the love of God for little boys like him, and about heaven and that Jesus had made it possible for even sick little boys to go there. He made no reply, but what would you expect of a child whose parents never knew, and so never told him about the Gospel — a little boy who had no pastor or Sabbath School teacher to tell him? But even so, it seemed to me that perhaps a faint flicker of peaceful understanding did cross his little face just then. I pray so. What a comfort it is at such a time to know that the Holy Spirit can do, even near death, the thing that we in our striving have failed to do.

Finally the terrible work was done. That night as I sat on the window sill in his room there was a sickening silence. Then I heard the mother say to the father, "Alibe moyo (There is no life)."

In the morning, Pastor Kawere had a service at the hospital. Then we went to the graveyard down among the blue gums. The next day as the parents left to return to their home they could hardly speak. But they spoke with their eyes and the way they clasped my hand. To our knowledge they still had not accepted Christ. But there was no longer the stony silence or suspicious stares that had been such a part of the mother's attitude. As they left, the sorrow of my heart was lessened as I thought of the precious comfort found in the words of Isaiah 55: 10, 11:

"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not

The Sabbath Recorder

WE GIVE THEE THANKS

REVELATION II:17

我們感謝主

מוֹדִים אֲנִי לְךָ

Te damos gracias

Εὐχαριστοῦμέν σοι

Nous te rendons grâces

благодарим Тебя

Noi ti ringraziamo

Wir danken dir

See story on page 3.

thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Christ Our Example

It is my feeling that we, as Christian medical workers, should look always to Christ as our example. I was very upset when I first arrived here because I felt that I was getting to do so very little "real missionary work." I was referring, of course, to evangelism. If it were a matter of just nursing I could have remained at home with my loved ones, and have done it there, but here I was 8,000 miles and a wide ocean away, doing what? More nursing! How I rebelled! Now I can see that doing things for people makes them ever so much more responsive to the Gospel. And isn't that exactly what Christ would teach us?

Let us look at the case of the leper described in the eighth chapter of Matthew. He came to Jesus in his need. Jesus' first act was to put forth His hand to touch the man, and he was healed. True, this man was already worshiping Christ, even before he was healed; but is it not necessary to strengthen those who are already believers, as well as to seek new babes for Christ? Even as continual care and nourishment are important in the physical life, so also are they in the spiritual life.

When He found Peter's mother-in-law sick of a fever (Mark 1: 30, 31), He lifted her up, and then she ministered unto them. Don't you suppose that she was full of praise for His kindness and attention? Reading on in the same chapter we see that all that were diseased or possessed of devils were brought to Him. The whole city gathered at the door and He healed many.

Some whom He healed were not already connected with Christian service as was Peter's mother-in-law. Such was the case of the woman loosed of her infirmity after eighteen long years of suffering (Luke 13: 11-13). Jesus called

her to Him and healed her. As she straightened her back for the first time in those many years she glorified Him.

On the contrary, when He healed the ten lepers (Luke 17: 11-19) only one returned to give Him thanks. But Jesus went on healing people, loving them, serving them, and blessing their children.

These examples serve to remind us that our example, Jesus, continued to carry on His healing work for all kinds — those already in His service, those already worshiping Him, those who were unthankful, as well as those in whom His healing produced thanks, praise, and conversion.

Meaningful Evangelism

Now I realize that if He called me to be a nurse even where it seemed I was little of an evangelist, I'm not to complain. He knows my abilities and my shortcomings better than I myself do. Please don't misunderstand me. I'm not leaving my desire to spread the Gospel. Rather, I am finding that this desire is fulfilled.

The woman who knows that I will change her dressing is willing to listen while I work. As we see the infection clear little by little, it is just natural that we talk of the goodness of God.

The little children who know they will be pampered a little and played with are willing to come to storytime at the hospital. They seem to enjoy it even though the message must be given through an interpreter. You see, love, concern and smiles don't need to be interpreted. They are of a language universal in nature.

Our dressers, midwives, and our hospital aide are wonderful people. The patients look at them as friends, not just as medical workers. How we thank God for them! I'm sure it's their helpfulness and willingness to serve that make our patients want to come to Makapwa instead of some of the larger hospitals. Naturally, if they come here they hear the Gospel. That's why we're here. Christ has just given to us this means of reaching out to them. Our prayer is that the Author of Compassion might make us ever more compassionate, ever more zealous, as we seek to win more souls for Him.