

## PERFECTION AND PROGRESSION

Paulpietersburg, S.A.,  
Sept. 19, 1937.

Dear Homeland Friends:

Our summer rains have started, breaking a drought which lasted all winter. Things were parched and dry and the early heat oppressive at the commencement of our quarterly meeting, but before the meetings closed we were greatly refreshed both body and soul by a plentiful rain. Everything is beginning to look so fresh and spring-like, and God has strengthened and helped many precious souls.

George came over from Altona and his evangelist, Johanisi Nkosi, Solomon Sibiyi who was baptized three weeks ago, and a fine large company of delegates and helpers.

Samuel Mavimbela, Jona Myeni. Malia Mtungwa, Thomase Ngomezulu and others from Entimgwini; George Sangwani and a nice crowd from Mbucus—all these from Transvaal beside the Emjeni people.

From Louwsburg District across the Pevaana a fine young preacher, Paul Nkosi, his wife, and a number of members were present for most of the Quarterly and the local folk attended well. Beside the daily Bible class, business meetings and afternoon preaching and testimony service, there was an evening meeting almost daily, several of which ran on till after midnight. The services were so sweet it made us reluctant to leave the house of God, and eager for the next service to commence. The hours passed too swiftly and many of the messages made one long that thousands might hear them.

The spirit of mutual help, harmony and contentment made the serving of tables easier than usual. God sent us a very capable woman from Jesinas, new outpost across the Pevaana, for our cook, and the local folk all helped, the women bringing in daily dishes of food beside tithes and offerings of pumpkins, sweet potatoes, etc. A feature which blesses us all is the marked progress which a number of our workers are making. Aaron Mkonza is deepening and sweetening and God uses him to bless us all. Filimon Nkosi is just coming up the road—I wish you could hear some of his messages. He is a fiery and extremely interesting speaker with a burning passion for souls. He now has two fine young "sons" in the Gospel, who are following in his footsteps, Johanisi Nkosi now at Altona and Paul Nkosi, who is taking over the work at Ngenetsheni, Louwsburg District. They show much the same spirit and it is beautiful to hear them praise God for the man who so faithfully swam the Pevaana river and in spite of great difficulties brought them the gospel.

We see evidence on every hand of God's hand upon His people for good. In many cases with great joy, blessing, power, success and glory; in many other cases He is leading them through the fire and through deep waters—but we know, from real experience, that often these are the ones whom He is really blessing the best. We all need your prayers, but I would like to give you the chance by your prayers to help in some of the battles of which we have come to know.

Talida Nzima (worker at Altona) married to a heathen man who drinks and snuffs and smokes Indian hemp. (This makes a man like a devil and eventually robs him of his reason.) God is giving her victory but she is heavily burdened and sorely tried.

Tulina Nkosi, a young Christian widow, now moving into a new section which seems well populated and very needy. She is very sad and lonely, but looking to Jesus for victory. Her

home, we trust will form a center from which Thomase Ngomezulu may work up a new outpost. Pray for him, too, and for this work.

Malia Nkosi, an older woman with lame feet and crippled hands, a faithful worker. Her old heathen husband, Langa Nkosi, treats her very unkindly, really aiming to drive her away so he can marry a younger woman. He tries to take all food supplies from her.

One of our younger women workers has grave fears for her young husband, a licentiate, who has recently weakened and now is not preaching.

Another good couple are almost swamped with manifold and multiplied home troubles and are in grave danger.

I could write a much longer list, but just remind you that where God is blessing the Devil is very busy, and his very wrath causes us to expect to see more blessing yet. Therefore, brethren, pray for us.

Yours following Him who goeth forth conquering and to conquer,

FAITH MacDONALD.

"And God remembered Noah." Gen. 8:1.

It might seem as if, in the wild rush of the waters from beneath and from above, the little handful in the ark were forgotten. Had the Judge of all the earth, while executing "terrible things in righteousness," leisure to think of them who were "afar off upon the sea?" Was it a blind wrath that had been let loose? No, in all the severity there was tender regard for those worthy of it. The sunshine of love broke through even the rain-clouds of the flood. So the blessed lesson is taught that, in the widest sweep of the most stormy judgments, there are those who abide safely, fearing no evil. Though the waters are out, there is a rock on which we may stand safe above the highest wave. And why did God "remember" Noah?" It was not favoritism, arbitrary and immoral. Noah was bid to build the ark because he was "righteous" in a world of evil-doers; he was "remembered" in the ark, because he had believed God's warning, obeyed God's command, as seeing the judgment "not seen as yet," and so "became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." They who trust God, and, trusting him, realize as if present the future judgment, and, "moved with fear," take refuge in the ark, are never forgot by him, even while the world is drowned. They live in his heart, and in due time he will show that he remembers them.—Dr. Alexander MacLaren.

## ORDERED TO LEAVE

For more than a century, the British and Foreign Bible Society has been interested in the publication of the Scriptures in the various languages and dialects of Abyssinia. Although the Bible House in Addis Ababa was looted just before the Italian occupation in May last year, the work has been carried on with unusual success since that time. Seventeen thousand volumes of Scripture were circulated last year. The agent, Mr. Bevan, was given to understand that he might remain to continue the work he has carried on for the past sixteen years, but suddenly he was ordered by the Italian authorities to leave, and given only three weeks in which to wind up his affairs. Protestant missionaries of any nationality have been definitely forbidden to return.—The Alliance Weekly.

## MR. MUCH-AFRAID

The following is one of Mr. Moody's illustrations, and goes straight to the point: "A man crossed the Mississippi river on the ice, and fearing it too thin, began to crawl over on his hands and knees in great terror, but just as he gained the opposite shore, all tired out, another man drove past him, gaily sitting upon a sled loaded with pig iron. And, for all the world, that is just the way most Christians go up to the heavenly Canaan, trembling at every step lest the promises shall break under our feet, when really they are secure enough for us to hold up our heads and sing with confidence as we march to the better land."—Sel.

## BLESSED ARE MY ENEMIES!

"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you \* \* \* pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." (Matt. 5:44).

Blessed are my enemies for they tell me the truth when my friends flatter me.

Blessed are my enemies, for they prevent all men speaking well of me.

Blessed are my enemies, for they tell me what they don't like in me, rather than the things they do like.

Blessed are my enemies, for they provide an object of love outside the small circle of my selfishness.

Blessed are my enemies, for they rub off the artificial varnish and make me see my natural complexion.

Blessed are my enemies, for their mirror of biting sarcasm and scathing rebukes reveals me to myself.

Blessed are my enemies, for they, like the true physician, will dare to expose my inward weakness long hidden by the deceptive coddling of friends.

Blessed are my enemies, for they cut to the heart of my self-deceit and probe to the marrow of my sinful life, and thus lead me, if I am wise, to cleanse the impure corners of my heart, to redeem myself from scorn and inferiority.

Blessed are my enemies when they revile me and persecute me and say all manner of evil against me truly for their own gratification. Let me rejoice and be exceeding glad, for such will make a strong man of me if I am wise of understanding the philosophy of One who said: "Love your enemies."—Christian Triumph.

## WHAT IS A MISSIONARY CALL?

A missionary call is a providential combination of circumstances which makes possible service in the foreign field in behalf of the Christless multitudes there. It consists, as related to the individual, of an assured salvation through faith in Christ; of a full surrender to Him; of a continued yieldingness to His lordship; of an implicit obedience to His command to preach the Gospel to every creature; of a belief in the lost condition of men and their need of turning and accepting the Gospel in order that they may be saved; of that degree of secular education as will secure the learning of a foreign language; of such physical, temperamental and spiritual equipment as will make possible living in an adverse climate and in an unfavorable social environment; and finally, of such daily fellowship with God as will produce saneness, earnestness and endurance.—H. W. Frost.

—The Bible Christian.