

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Box 33, Vryhied,
Natal,
March 13, 1951.

Dear Christian Friends:

The day has arrived at last and I am in Africa, the land that the Lord has called me to. It is a strange and different country from my own, but I think very pretty.

Uta and I arrived into the Cape the evening of the 2nd and went ashore early Saturday morning. The lights of Cape Town came into view about dusk, and it was a beautiful sight coming up the Cape. We stayed in Cape Town over the week-end and left for Vryhied on the afternoon of the 5th.

We arrived in Vryhied on Wednesday morning, Mr. Kierstead and Mary were there to meet us.

Miss Chase is going to Altona with Mary and I will be staying in Vryhied with the Kierstead's.

There is to be a welcome service at Altona on the 18th.

I praise the Lord for the safe trip that He gave us. We left St. John in a storm and landed into Cape Town with one. We were two days over due in Cape Town due to the storm, also because of this we missed seeing Brother and Sister Parks. But all in all we had a very good trip.

I wish to thank everyone for their kindness to me on my tour of the churches in the Fall. Because of this trip, I have brought with me many pleasant memories.

I ask an interest in your prayers as I try to adjust myself in a new country.

Yours in His Service,
NINA SMITH.

Hartland Mission Station,
Via Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa,
March 6, 1951.

Dear Friends:—

Greetings again from Africa. We wish to thank the churches, missionary societies, Sunday Schools and individuals who sent parcels and gifts to make our Christmas so happy. We have written to most we believe, but if we did not get around to all, please accept our thanks. May the Lord bless you for your kind remembrances of us.

The day after Christmas we went to Altona for the Quarterly, and Native Christmas. After Quarterly, I spent a week with Mrs. Kierstead while Mary was in meetings at Kipanyawo and our men were busy roofing over the new Altona church. After coming home, I held a week of D.V.B.S. here at Hartland. The attendance was better than we anticipated,—there were 78 on the roll, and as high as 58 in one day, even though there was weeding to do and herding of cattle too. The children enjoyed it and some received help. It wetted my appetite, so that I hope to have another during fall holidays.

In Feb. we were at Altona again for the opening of the new church. Truly the Lord did bless. Brothers Parks and Metula preached and a Native quintette sang "I will Sing the Wondrous Story" in Zulu. In our rejoicings we were saddened to say good-bye to Bro. and Sister Parks, as they left for Cape Town to get their boat for Canada.

Last week we spent in Vryhied, getting some needed dentistry done. It was a welcome change from the intense heat here at Hartland. Charlie preached twice daily at E. T. T. Col-

lege while we were there, and some of the students received definite help.

I am having S. School on Friday afternoons now in order to contact the children who do not come to Sunday School. We are also having regular Y. P. meetings every second Sunday, hoping in this way to help the Y. P. into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Our hearts are thrilled at the possibilities. Pray for us, and them!

Yours in His Service,
MYRA SANDERS.

THIRSTING FOR CHRIST

John Ferguson

"My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God"
(Psalm 42:2)

Are you hungering and thirsting after the living God? Are you experiencing the heart-aches of a soul pining for God? Is the Holy Ghost breathing into your heart a longing after Himself—His purity, His power, His love? Are you weary of your own self, your fleshly activities, your constantly recurring failures, your spiritual impotence? Do you feel your need of that heavenly unction which alone can bring victory and purpose into your life and expel all that is not of God?

There are many who are conscious of deep need in their hearts today. Souls are everywhere thirsting for the Water of Life. No approximation, no conventionality, no isms can meet the need of such; only God Himself can satisfy—the living God revealed to us in His Son by the Holy Ghost. "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him." This heart hunger is the moving of the blessed Spirit breathing into our souls intense desire after Himself. "My soul thirsteth for God, the living God."

We are living in tragic days; sorrow and confusion abound; men's hearts are failing them for fear. On every hand there is uncertainty and instability; the pride of the nations is brought low, the insufficiency of man clearly manifest. There is hope only in God. "My soul wait thou only upon Him." The supreme need of our nation today is the living God.

God's purposes are unchanging, "Changeless in the midst of changes." The more desperate the times the greater our need of Him! Infinite wisdom made provisions for all time to meet human need, even the deep need of this hour in the world's history. "His own purpose and grace which was given us in Christ Jesus before times eternal have now been manifested by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel" (II. Timothy 1:9-10, R. V.) The world needs the living Christ proclaimed by living witnesses clothed with His power.

God is breathing this intense desire into your heart and mine, because He needs us to carry out His purposes among men. His power is unailing; the dynamic of the Holy Ghost is for you and me just as much as for those early witnesses to whom it was said by your risen Lord: "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8 R. V.) God is yearning for Spirit-filled witnesses today; men and women who hold loosely the things of time and "count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus"; abandoned souls whose only satisfaction is the living God.

Hungry soul, wait upon the living God, and rest not satisfied until the Lord Whom ye

seek come suddenly to His temple; "though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come." He will fill you with Himself, fire you with heavenly zeal; He will satisfy your longing soul.—Living Waters.

SERVANTS OF GOD—

People differ so much from one another. If you do not agree with me, then try this little experiment on a few of your acquaintances.

Choose some simple compliment which might be paid anyone. Go from one person to another and note the reactions you obtain when you pay them this compliment. No doubt some of them will resent your complimenting them; others will accept the compliment as if it were due them; still others will thank you profusely and try to let you know they feel unworthy of your kind words.

Rarely do two people accept anything in the same manner. No one here on earth can know the true feelings of any brother, for it is so difficult to express one's inner reactions.

Granted that the above is true, then how could any of us know the reason for another's actions? While I was reading the fourteenth chapter of Romans yesterday, I was struck with the verse which reads, "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth." Every Christian is a servant of the Most High God. If God accepts his work and blesses him, is there anyone who would dare judge that servant? The Master will honor or dishonor His servants according to His standards and not according to any human standards.

God looks down into the innermost hearts of His children and knows the real emotions which are there. He does not have to translate or "read between the lines," for He knows the thoughts behind the words!

It is easy to become discouraged when one hears that this friend or that friend has misunderstood him, even when what has been done or said has been perfectly free of anything which might be critical or unfeeling. The Master understands!

The Christian standeth or falleth when measured by God's pleasure or displeasure, for he is the servant of God.—Sel.

WE LIVE IN AN AGE . . .

Which thinks that being lost in the woods is a new freedom.

Which, having made a mess of civilization, petulantly cries, "Why doesn't God do something?"

Which, because it subtracts faith, multiplies fear.

In which men demand education for their children, but decline discipline for themselves.

When desire is diety and realization is futility.

Which seeks to settle every problem by denying its existence—the threat of war and the reality of sin, for instance.

Which puts the highest premium on knowledge, but, when it gets it, doesn't know what to do with it.

Which seems to think it has robbed death of its sting by transforming the cemetery into a "memorial park."

Which boasts of its unbelief, instead of being ashamed.

Which thinks a life daring which is only delirious.