

MISSIONARY PAGE

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS IN HAITI

Often I give accounts of travelling in Haiti which is a slow, backward and sometimes dangerous process of hindrances, delays and adversities after which we praise God for His protection. But today I'd like to report some progress made spiritually as my soul has been travelling on the Highway of Holiness. At times there have been seasons when Satan, our adversary, brought attacks against us to defeat God's purpose, and at times it seemed that delays spelled defeat. There have been rivers to cross with strong currents of adversity, for we wrestle not against flesh and blood but spiritual wickedness. As we press toward the mark there are sometimes precipices on either side of the road, but by His grace we keep on the narrow ridge between as we continue the upward way. We must avoid the sloughs of dispond so much like some of the mud holes through which we have pulled in Haiti. My eyes are upon Jesus and the Celestial City beyond.

There are certain spiritual laws that are recognized by those who seek to live in touch with God. Experience teaches us that special times of blessing are most often preceded and followed by a trial of faith, courage and integrity. God has a purpose in sandwiching the blessings with the trials, for it is equally true that special trials or temptations are preceded and followed by blessings and victories if one holds fast.

The Apostle Peter was well acquainted with such trials and victories so that he could write back to us who follow on: "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations; that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ . . . "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." (I Peter).

As He deals with individuals, God in like manner works with groups such as churches or missions. There are times of crisis when it appears that Satan would destroy all that has been built up, but prayer and faith prevails, and instead of destruction the ties of fellowship are strengthened and the cords of love bound tighter. This may be so with the most humble group of native believers on the foreign field as with those groups which are more responsible before God for His provision of grace and light. Praise the Lord for such times when the purposes of Satan are defeated!

We request that you keep praying for the work and workers of Haiti Inland Mission. Many phases of the ministry of H. I. M. are unique, and all phases are dependent on a faith in God's leadings and provisions.

A WEEK-END WITH A GOSPEL TEAM

By Rev. E. A. M. Kierstead

As soon as classes and choirs were finished, Shadrack Nkosi (Rev. Johanisi Nkosi's son), three other student-teachers and I, took our blankets, clothes and books and stowed them in the Mission G. M. C. pick-up—as well as ourselves—and off we started for our new Msobotsheni church (Eugene Wilcox Memorial).

On the way we stopped in at our Paulpietersburg Mission home, for a brief chat, then farther on again at our Piet Retief preacher's nouse where we picked up Brother Johanisi Nkosi, who was to accompany us. We arrived at our destination about sevenish.

Our Bible woman, Joana Bembe, prepared a nice supper which we ate, then we started the evening service at an hour when Canadian services would be getting out. The College quartette had charge of the service.

Two services were held on Saturday—the first a children's service in the morning and an evangelistic service in the evening. The evening message was from John 7:37-39 and stressed the emptiness and futility of life without Christ and the joy, peace and satisfaction there was in Christ. A good number came to the altar and seven or eight later testified to being born again.

Saturday, Brother Johanisi and I went up to Ermelo where we saw several officials and found out that our request to post a native preacher in the native township was receiving attention. I also heard that there is a possibility of a church group, thirty miles beyond Ermelo, joining us.

Sunday morning Brother Johanisi baptised a sixteen year old boy who has shown great interest and helpfulness in Sunday School work. The afternoon message stressed "knows of the Christian life." A Basuto man publicly indicated a desire to enter our church and perhaps later to go to Bible school.

Saturday afternoon the Gospel team and I spent the afternoon putting in windows, locks, panes of glass, etc., into the old Police Camp house that we have rented in hopes of new missionaries coming out. The Msobotsheni people were very keen on having missionaries stationed near them as churches need to be built, outposts started, and Sunday schools, etc., encouraged. Msobotsheni is 25 miles beyond Piet Retief. Our nearest missionaries are 65 miles away.

We arrived back at Vryheid Sunday evening at about 8 o'clock. We all had had a wonderful week-end and were determined to be more active in the Lord's service.

P. S.—Three young men altogether were keen on going to the Bible School next year if their parents give their consent and if they can find the school fees, clothes, etc.

On invitation of H. I. M. there often visits Haiti evangelists and friends of various denominations. These give a spiritual boost to the Youth for Christ and the churches affiliated with H. I. M. as well as other places where doors are open. These visitors return home to share with others their enlarged vision of a field ripe unto harvest.

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PLANS FOR ADVANCE IN AFRICA

Our Foreign Mission Board, meeting at Fredericton, Nov. 18th, faced and accepted a strong challenge toward enlargement of our missionary endeavour on the African field. The battle cry from the field, received through the superintendent of our South African mission work, is "forward!", and the members of the Mission Board unanimously agreed to support plans for advancement. The most notable decision made, one that is historic in our missionary endeavour, was approval of the plan to open

New Work in Rhodesia

This venture has been under consideration for a year and it was felt that the time had come for action. Consequently, word will be dispatched to the field that support by prayer, finances, and additional missionary personnel will be made available as quickly as possible for the opening of this new field. Already survey trips of this territory have been made by Rev. Eugene Kierstead and his co-workers, and locations and opportunities for service have been sited.

Rev. and Mrs. Harold Kierstead

will pioneer this new venture, and they will be accompanied and assisted by one or two others of our missionary staff, a trained nurse being one of the group. Rhodesia is a territory of British South Africa. It is divided into two administrative provinces, Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia. Southern Rhodesia, where our missionaries will enter in this new venture, is north of the Transvaal, contains an area of 148,575 square miles and has a large native population. Our missionary superintendent and his co-workers believe the territory is ripe for missionary endeavour. In order to supply workers for this new project and at the same time keep our missionary programme in South Africa moving and well staffed

Several New Missionaries Will be Sent Out

Rev. Charles Sanders, who will be discharged from Roseway Hospital at Shelburne, N. S., Dec. 6th, with word from the attending physicians that he is cured and can return to his missionary work next summer (praise the Lord!) with his wife and family, and Lic. Glendon and Betty Kierstead, will, Lord willing, sail for Africa as soon after Beulah Camp of '56 as arrangements can be made. Brother Charles and his wife and Glendon will be able to take up active service immediately since they have the language and experience on the field. If arrangements with the South African government are completed on a satisfactory basis, Rev. Grace Sanders will also sail to take up work as a missionary-government nurse. We are now awaiting final word on this arrangement. That plans for this advance may be wisely laid, that arrangements for the sailing of these missionaries may be completed in due time, that the Rhodesia venture may be successful and the work in South Africa continue to advance

Much Prayer is Needed

We need missionary personnel, we need money to send them out and support them; we need equipment for the workers on the field, but most of all we need prayer! Will all who wish to see the work of the Lord prosper join with us in earnest supplication and intercession. "Let us advance on our knees."