

MESSAGE of the HOUR

- SONGS
- SERMONS
- POEMS

Compiled by

MARVIN A. HICKS

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ELDER G. D. CREMEANS

The Tract Printer

2317 W. Broad St., Columbus 4, Ohio

INTRODUCTION

"The Message of the Hour" has been prepared for your spiritual enjoyment and meditation. May all who read it receive a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. It is a proven fact that songs and poems have a useful and fruitful ministry and I pray God to bless this collection to every reader.

This book, has as its purpose, to confront all men, especially the Youth of our nation, with the challenge of the hour and may many enlist in this great crusade for Christ.

We wish to acknowledge that some of the material contained herein has been selected from other writers. We shall be pleased, upon notification, to acknowledge any owner in future editions of this book. I am praying that through the reading of this selection of songs, sermons and poems, sinners will be saved, Christians strengthened and encouraged, young people inspired and the sick and shut-ins comforted. May God bless His Word to each heart.

MARVIN A. HICKS
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DEDICATION



REV. and MRS. A. W. HICKS

In loving dedication to my Father and Mother, Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Hicks. All through my life they have been my pride and joy. I truly thank God for Christian parents.

THE
HICKS QUARTET
IN
SAN DIEGO



Dedicated to the choir who assisted in our Revival Campaign in Albuquerque, New Mexico, auspices: Bethel Pentecostal Church

FEAR THOU NOT

I

Fear thou not in evening shadows,
He is with thee all the while,
Darkness hideth thee from mercy,
From the sunshine of God's smile.

Chorus

Oh why are ye so fearful?
Look up, lift up your head,
Christ still lives triumph today;
Seek not the living among the dead,
Jesus lives today!

II

Fear thou not in midnight shadows,
Death and fear in every land,
Look to Jesus in thy weeping,
Take the Master's lovely hand.

III

Fear thou not when death has entered,
All God's earth is quiet and still,
Joy awaits the weary Christian,
Peace to whosoever will.

— MARVIN A. HICKS

THE GREAT JUDGMENT MORNING

I

I dreamed that the great judgment morning,
Had dawned and the trumpet had blown,
I dreamed that the nations had gathered,
To judgment before the white throne.

Chorus

And Oh what a weeping and wailing,
As the lost were told of their fate,
They cried for the rocks and the mountains,
They prayed but their prayers were too late.

II

From the throne came a bright shining angel,
And stood on the land and the sea,
And swore with his hands raised to heaven,
That time was no longer to be.

III

The souls that had put off Salvation,
Not tonight; I'll get saved by and by;
They had no time then for religion,
But at last they have found time to die.

— Selected

SUNSHINE IN MIDNIGHT SHADOWS

Sermon by MARVIN A. HICKS

"... for the shadows of the evening are stretched out," (Jeremiah 6:4).

We are rapidly approaching the end of the age. Frequently we hear the subject discussed: "The end of the world." All down through the long dark centuries we have seen the hand of prophesy pointing to the day of His visitation. We have seen all things coming into position for fulfillment. The signs of the times are sweeping the continent with startling rapidity. The night shadows of the midnight hour are deep and dark. Surely the Prophet was moved of God when he cried: "For the shadows of the evening are stretched out."

The shadows of distress and perplexity of bankrupt nations seem to dominate the earth. And after nearly two thousand long years we are living in the closing moments of the Gentile dispensation. All are lingering shadows spoken of by the prophets only to make us realize the authenticity of the word of divine annunciation.

Now at the end of the age man has risen to the very pinnacle of human wisdom. Read in Daniel 12:4: "Many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased." But in the midst of these shadows man's spiritual disintegration is evident. Man's dream ships are being wrecked on the sharp rocks of reality. Seemingly there are no limitations to man's intellectual advancement. But the Spiritual ebb of the tide of humanity is overwhelmed by carnality.



And today the Sovereignty of God is appearing and the failure of man is evident. Man has miserably failed to impart a lasting peace to the world. His acute efforts have resulted in failure and dissatisfaction. As God's great Prophetic time clock ticks off the ages the condition seems to deteriorate in spite of man's intellectual rule.

All down through the ages the same condition has been prevalent. There was a time that all Israel had forsaken God. They turned from the fountain of living waters only to drink, from their broken cisterns, the drugs of sin and eternal damnation. Seemingly God just withdrew Himself from His earth and darkness covered the face of the deep. It was in the midst of such hopeless entanglement and confusion that the angel appeared and sang the sweet story of love. Once again the light streamed through the pure heavens with a message of peace on earth and good will toward men. The Christ child was born. The word was made flesh. Jesus, the light of the world had come. The light walked with men in a sinful world. It healed them. It cast out demons. Jesus filled their lives with joy and peace that they found not in their religious rituals. A new way of life had begun. Once again, sunshine streamed through the shadows that were stretched out.

As we follow the mocked trail that Christ trod we are made acquainted with the opposition and suffering that He came in contact with daily. We can see the foreshadowing of Calvary all through His sorrowing life here on earth. Surely He was a Man of sorrow and acquainted with grief. The believers have seen Him, time after time, as He hanged on the cross at Calvary, dying that ignominious death, between two thieves. In fancy we have seen the crimson blood as it streamed from the side of the innocent Christ, forming a fountain of life for all men. It was a dark day at Calvary. Surely

the shadows were stretched out. The sun refused to give forth its light. The long awaited hour had come. As we, by the eye of faith, view Jesus on the cross we are made to feel that appalling sense of desolation that the lovers of the Lord must have felt as they gazed upon His dying temple. Their hearts were heavy and their eyes stained with tears. But oh, they were so happy to know that He was no longer in the tomb! He had risen from the dead. He was no longer a victim of death but His resurrection brought complete victory over death, hell and the grave. Cold church member have you ever heard of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ? Does He live within your life or are you in that procession crawling toward the tomb, with a dismal sorrow-stricken face, to embalm your Lord. He is no longer there! One throb of his pulse was sufficient to burst assunder the bands of death, break the seal, throw open the door and stun the Roman guard! Thank God for the resurrection! It brings sunshine to the sorrowing hearts because as Christ has risen so shall we arise.

Again it was in the town of Philippi, Paul, that dauntless, fearless Apostle, should suffer imprisonment for the Gospel he so dearly loved. In the dark shadows of the midnight hour he and Silas began to pray and sing praises to God. The results? The prison doors fell open and they were free. Today, the wretched prisoner in the dungeon of despair, may lift his hands toward heaven, cry out to God and behold the glorious light of the Gospel! By so doing man can enter into realms of happiness found only apart from sin and into Christ.

Today, in the midst of the dark shadows that dominate the earth there is a ray of hope for the born again Saint of the Most High! The true church is waiting with great anticipation for the hour of His visitation! Yea, in the midst of the darken

shadows of the twentieth century, the bride is gazing eagerly through such sorrow into the sunshine of God's smile. Go where you will there is that expectancy in the hearts of God's chosen. A hope beyond this veil of tears. The appearing of the King of kings and the Lord of lords. It is the theme of the hour! Never has there been so many signs pointing to His second coming! The fig tree is beginning to bud and the fig tree is a type of Israel. Israel is striving to go back to Palestine. The Jews are again being brought back into the favor of God. They are going back to the land that was given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And God says, when ye see these things or the fig tree began to put forth its buds ye know that summer is nigh. But before the dark hours of the tribulation break forth Christ will come for His own. It is wonderful to be living in these closing days of the dispensation of grace. We are permitted, by God, to see these things coming to pass, and when ye see these things coming to pass, look up, lift up your head for your redemption draweth nigh.

Some believe in the coming of the Lord. Others repudiate it. And many are questioning honestly about it. Nevertheless, the promises of the King are sure. "I will come again!" (Jn. 14:3) Just as there was that breathless moment before the cry: "Behold the bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him," so in the hearts of the Bride of Christ is that Spiritual longing for that great day. It is with this awareness of the hour that God's own are turning toward the radiant East and with glowing faces looking up into heaven with an indubitable faith. It is not just a fabulous belief nor is it a random expectancy with no hope of a tangible transformation. The real Christ is coming back again. Just as He went away. Slowly, visible, in like manner as He went away, shall He return. As vigilant soldiers of the cross we

stand in our respective places, our vessels filled with Holy Ghost oil and our lamps trimmed and burning bright. It is with this revelation that the bride is looking forward through the dark shadows to the time of God's full manifestation. God's own are looking for their King.

By the eye of faith we can see angels attending, the voice of the archangel commanding, the trump of God awakening the dead, living ones rejoicing and all together rising to meet the Lord in the air. The bride is preparing herself for the one who prepared Himself for her. Coldness, worldliness and formality is being tossed assunder! Slumber is being brushed from the sleeping eye. His precious Name is engraved on our hearts! I would that every reader could look beyond the shadows that are stretched out into the overwhelming glories of God. In that perfect day there will be no more heartaches, shadows, wrinkled faces and sorrow. We shall never wish to return to the narrow bounds of this old earth. Heaven is a real place for real people. A place of abode for glorified, deathless and sinless humanity. Oh what rays of sunshine! In the presence of God, associating with pure holy beings, and forever liberated from the gross influence of sin.

We as individuals have the revelation of who the Son really is. We are acquainted with the death route and His suffering. We know that He was not only the Jesus of Bethlehem but He was the mighty God manifest in flesh. We have received this truth through the word. And Oh how the Word is treasured in these closing days. In the midst of the darkness of despair the word of God is sending forth its rays of hope and assurance. True and immutable as the Lord God Jehovah! It is a beacon light that gleams o'er land and sea. No shadows so dark, no night so black that its glorious rays cannot shine. Its rays have streamed good news across the desolate

waters of sin and deep into the deserts of unbelief. Today, we behold its searching rays sweeping the sky tracing out the second coming of Christ.

It was in a land of dark shadows that Jesus looked at the people of Jerusalem and cried, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Where is rest? Where is happiness? Where is sunshine It is not in unbelief. Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born." It is not in military glory. Alexander the Great conquered the known world of his day. Having done so, he wept in his tent, because, he said: "There are no more worlds to conquer." The joy and light the world needs comes from God only.

My message is almost finished and some of you are still lost in the mighty mountain passes of life. You are lost in the darken shadows that the prophet warns are stretched out. In the midst of such shadows the Lord is pleading with you. He is standing by your side and sweetly saying, "Oh why will ye die!" Jesus said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37) You need not remain lost in sin. You can be happy! You can have peace! But remember, it is found only in Christ. May God help you to surrender your will to His divine will and be made conformable to His death. So when He comes, you will not face the dark shadows of the tribulation period but, with a shouting praise on your immortal lips, rise to meet the Lord in the air. What I say unto you I say unto all, "WATCH!"

OLD TIME RELIGION IN MY HEART

I

I'm glad Jesus came, glory to His name,
Oh what a friend is He:
He so freely gave, His own life to save,
From the bonds of sin set free.

Chorus

I've got that old time religion in my heart,
Way down inside,
I've got that new kind of feeling in my heart,
Where joys abide,
Nobody knows what it means to me,
Nobody knows but my Lord and me,
I've got that old time religion in my heart,
Way down inside.

II

What a joy to know, one who loves me so,
He is so kind and true,
He has changed my life, from all sin and strife,
He'll do the same for you.

III

Sinner won't you now, humbly to Him bow,
Just let the Lord come in,
You'll find perfect peace, joy will never cease,
You shall a life crown win.

— Selected

I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT MY LORD

I

While traveling through this world of sorrow,
I'm on my way to glory land,
I'll not turn back for some tomorrows,
My trials here I'll understand.

Chorus

I want to know more about my Jesus,
I want to know more about my Lord,
I want to know more about that mansion,
I'm going to receive as my reward,
I want to know more about that homeland,
I mean to go there someday somehow,
And after I reach that heavenly city,
I want to know more than I know now.

II

I'm glad I know the blessed Saviour,
For through His blood He made me free,
Though rough the road I shall not waver,
For some glad day His face I'll see.

III

He promised when His soul ascended,
I'm coming back the Lord did say,
If on this promise you're depending,
On wings of love, you'll fly away.

— Selected

HE'LL UNDERSTAND AND SAY, "WELL DONE."

I

If when you give the best of your service,
Telling the world that the Saviour has come,
Be not dismayed when men don't believe you,
He'll understand and say, "Well done."

Chorus

And Oh when I come to the end of my journey,
Weary of life and the battles all won,
Taking the staff and the cross of redemption,
He'll understand and say, "Well done."

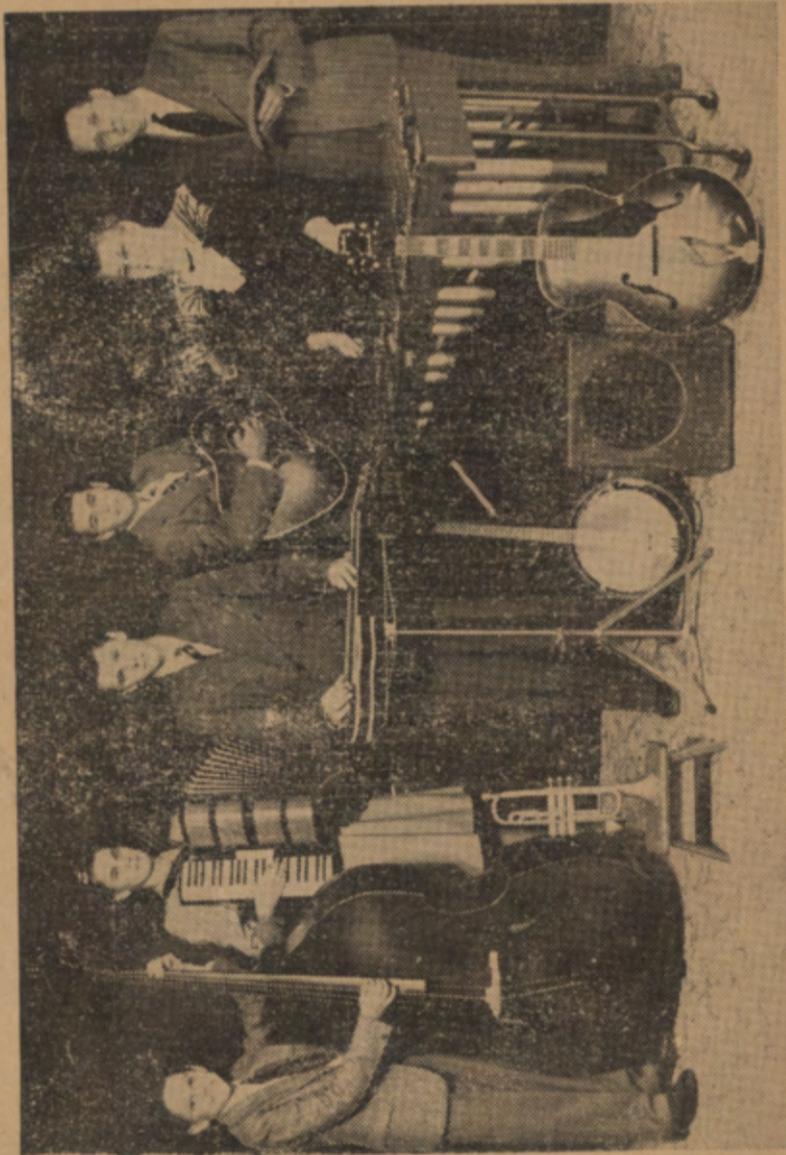
II

Misunderstood the Saviour of sinners,
Died on the cross He was God's only Son,
Oh hear Him calling His faithful to greet him,
He'll understand and say, "Well done."

III

But if you've tried and failed in your trying,
Hands sore and scared from the work you've
begun,
Take up your cross and run quickly to Jesus,
He'll understand and say, "Well done."

— Selected



THE HICKS SIX EVANGELISTIC FAMILY
Left to right: Edward, Joyce, Marvin, Allen, Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Hicks

OUR THEME SONG
OH I LOVE TO HEAR HIS VOICE

Oh I love to hear His voice,
Saying you belong to me,
And the melody that He gave to me,
Along life's pilgrim way:
And I love to hear Him say,
You are my own child by grace,
And when we get to glory,
It will then be better still,
For I shall see His face.

"MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY"
MRS. A. W. HICKS

So many of our religious beliefs have been inherited. And many of us have never stopped to compare them with our guide book, the Bible! There are blind leaders leading the blind, who have never been born again themselves, therefore they cannot properly interpret the many Bible truths. I am glad that God spoke to me and gave me the knowledge of this great truth in the early years of my life. Then I had the privilege of teaching my children the merits of this wonderful Salvation. When my children were small, I asked God to help me teach them to walk with Him. God has wonderfully answered my prayer! We have three boys and one girl. They all are living for Jesus, playing and singing for His glory. I wouldn't give my experience with the Lord for all the wealth in the world. I am burdened for those who really love the Lord, but through ignorance and fear, are being cheated out of this glorious experience. I recommend the Christ of Calvary to every sorrowing heart. Everything you need you will find in Jesus. We are complete in Him! So why must we look for another? May the joy of the Lord be yours throughout the endless ages of eternity. Bless His Holy Name!

HAVE YOU ANY TIME FOR JESUS?

I

Have you any time for Jesus,
While the fleeting moments roll,
Is this mortal life so busy,
That you cannot save your soul?

Chorus

Soon the summons from the portals,
Of those mansions in the sky,
Will be sounding your departure,
You must then take time to die.

II

Time for business, time for pleasure,
Time to revel on in sin,
Won't you now take time to serve Him,
Oh invite Him to come in.

III

Are you weak and heavy laden,
Are you burdened down with care,
If you will take time to serve Him,
He will answer every prayer.

— Selected

I'M GLAD I AM SAVED!

I

In darkness I wandered, in sadness I pondered,
No shelter, no shepherd, no place to call home;
For light I was hoping, in sin I was groping,
But Oh hallelujah, I'm glad I am saved.

Chorus

I'm glad I'm saved this very moment,
I'm glad I'm saved this very hour;
So hid away in my redeemer,
While drops of mercy round me shower.

II

Since Jesus has saved me, I'm feeling so happy,
Such joy so transporting, I ne'er knew before;
I feel such a shouting, since I lost my pouting,
I'm so happy in Jesus, I'm so glad I'm saved.

III

In this world of sorrow, no hope of tomorrow,
Won't you cheer up my brother, let Jesus come in,
No drooping or pining, God's light is e'er shining,
I'm so happy to tell you, I'm saved from sin.

— MARVIN A. HICKS

DRIFTING TOO FAR FROM THE SHORE

I

Out on a perilous deep, where danger silently creeps,
Out on a perilous deep, where danger silently creep,
And storms so violently sweep,
You are drifting too far from the shore.

Chorus

Drifting too far from the shore,
You are drifting too far from the shore,
Come to Jesus today, let Him show you the way,
You are drifting too far from the shore.

II

Today the tempest rolls high,
And clouds o'er shadow the sky,
Sure death is hovering nigh,
You are drifting too far from the shore.

III

Why meet a terrible fate,
Mercies abundantly wait,
Turn back before it's too late,
You are drifting too far from the shore.

— Selected

THE BEAUTIFUL HOME

There's a beautiful home, far over the sea,
There's a beautiful home for you and for me,
That beautiful home so wonderfully fair,
That the Saviour for me has gone to prepare.

Chorus

There's a beautiful home far over the sea,
There's a beautiful home for you and for me,
It's a glittering tower the sun will outshine,
That beautiful home someday shall be mine.

II

In that beautiful home dear friends I shall meet,
Who are waiting for me, my coming to greet,
Reunited we'll stand with Jesus our King,
While the ages roll on His praises we'll sing.

III

May the blessing of God flood every dear soul,
With the thought of that home, His fullness to
know,
By that beautiful sea so shining and bright,
In that city of gold the Lamb is the light.

— Selected

GOODBY, HALLELUJAH, I AM GONE!

I

A man with his hand raised toward heaven,
 With his foot on the land and the sea,
 Swear by him that liveth forever,
 That time was no longer to be;
 When the rich man, the poor man, and the free man,
 For the rocks and the mountains they will cry,
 You're going to hear me shout, "Hallelujah,"
 Goodby hallelujah I am gone.

Chorus

Goodby, goodby, goodby hallelujah I am gone,
 When you see Jesus coming, in the sky;
 Goodby hallelujah I am gone.

II

When the voice of the great archangel,
 And the trump of God sounds so loud,
 That it wakes up the dead who sleep in Jesus,
 And they all appear up in the clouds,
 Then we who are alive and remaining,
 Will be caught up to meet that happy throng,
 You're going to hear me shout, hallelujah,
 Goodby, hallelujah I am gone!

III

Jesus spoke of these signs before His coming,
 Said the sea and the waves would roll,
 Men's hearts would fail them as they wonder,
 And the heavens depart as a scroll,
 When the seven thunders utter their voices,
 This old world is just about gone,
 You're going to hear me shout, hallelujah,
 Goodby hallelujah I am gone.

— Selected

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Sermon by REV. A. W. HICKS



" . . . what must I do to be saved."

In this modern scientific age men are working less hours than ever before. And too, they are continually striking for shorter hours and longer vacations with pay. Perhaps this is well and good and it surely proves to us that men are seeking to do less as the years roll by. So it is with the spiritual ebb of the great masses of people today. Many are walking down the broad way with a desire to be at ease. This is truly an ease-loving generation. But hear the Prophet Amos cry: "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1). Many folk today remind me of a man who wanted a job at construction work. He asked me if I would take him to see about being employed. While on the way he informed me that he wanted a job but insisted that all the work be picked out of it. So it is with myriads of people today. When it comes to real Bible Salvation, men want it, but they desire that the effort be subtracted from the Biblical plan of Salvation thus leaving an inadequate experience.

One time I heard a Minister, who was supposed to be preaching the Gospel, tell his listeners that, when Jesus said it is finished on the cross, there is nothing else anyone can do to bring about their redemption. Yes, that sounds good to the average person as folk today want to do as little as possible. Often we hear the scripture used in Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves but it is the gift of God." In other words the present-day modern doctrine is to believe and that is all there is to it. Then when we turn to James 2:17 we read these words, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." There are

many other scriptures in God's word that tell us we must put forth an effort in order to be saved. When Christ gave His disciples the command to preach, He also gave them something to preach. Well some will say, "I believe the Gospel so that is all I must do to be saved." That is not sufficient. Thousands of people believe the Gospel that will never be saved. Why? Because they haven't been born of the water and Spirit. The Gospel is something for the Minister to preach and the hearer to obey. We read in I Peter, 4:17 "What shall be the end of them that obey not the Gospel of our God?"

When the angel appeared to Cornelius in the tenth chapter of Acts, he was told to send men to Jopa and call for Peter. In other words, Cornelius, there is something for you to do. You send men to Peter and He will tell you what you must do to be saved. Surely if a man, with such a wonderful Christian life as Cornelius, must do something, every man on God's earth must. It is necessary for men to do their part. What then must one do to be saved?

In order to be saved one must obey the Gospel of Christ. Paul said, "It is the power of God unto Salvation." What is the Gospel? It is the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord. One may say, "Well I believe that!" That is well and good but to believe it is not enough to save your soul. One must obey it! How then can one obey the Gospel? All right, as Christ died, so must we die to sin. We must repent and be sorry for our past sins. As Christ was buried, we must be buried with Him in baptism. See (Romans 6:5). And as Christ arose from the dead, we can arise to walk in the newness of life by receiving the Holy Ghost which is the resurrection power. It is true, when Christ uttered these words on the cross, "It is finished," it was finished on His part. Surely we will say with those of old, "What more could He have done than what He did? His

part of sacrificing, suffering and giving was finished. But to say that our part was also finished would be unscriptural until we obey the Gospel. By dying out to sin, being baptized in the Name of Jesus and receiving the Holy Ghost, as in Acts 2:4 we obey the Gospel of Christ.

After Peter received the keys to the door of the Kingdom in Matthew 16th Chapter, we hear him, on the day of Pentecost, proclaiming this Gospel message. They were pricked in their hearts and began to inquire what they should do. "Men and brethren, what must we do to be saved?" And so Peter boldly told them to "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sin and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38).

Again in Philippi, Paul and Silas were thrown in jail for the sake of the Gospel. And as they began to pray and sing praises at midnight, the doors of the prison opened and they were free. The jailor drew his sword and was going to kill himself but Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do thy self no harm for we are all here!" And then the ignorant keeper of the prison said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shall be saved" But notice, please, in Acts 16:33, "And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes and was baptized, he and all his house." Read the account for yourself in Acts 16th Chapter.

In Acts 5:32 we read, "And so is also the Holy Ghost whom God has given to them that obey him." If we are willing and obedient we shall eat the good of the land. The blessing of God is for the doer of the word. (James 1:22). As Jesus did His part may God help us to do ours!

IS JESUS GOD?

by

REV. A. W. HICKS

For copies of this sermon in tract form write,
Rev. A. W. Hicks, 1626 Hoffner Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"In the evening time it shall be light."

With the divine love of God in my heart, I prayerfully take God's word for a foundation and guide for the answering of this question. Do we want to know the truth? Is our hope in the tradition of man or is it in the word of God? Hear the Master say in Mark 13:31: "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall not pass away." There isn't a greater question confronting the Christian people. While there are thousands of people throughout the world who have received the great revelation that the babe that was born in Bethlehem is not only the Son of God, but is God With Us as declared in Matthew 1:23. For we read in II Cor. 5:19: that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself.

Then the question: How much of God was or is in Christ? One-third, one-half, or all? We shall let the Bible, God's word, answer it. Turn with me to Col. 2:8-9, 10: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit after the tradition of men after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ, for in HIM dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and we are COMPLETE in Him which is the head of all principality and powers." What a contrast between the reading of God's word and what man has to say about it. Notice what part of God is in Christ, the fullness (or all). It is said by men of this day: To believe in the Oneness is false doctrine, and that people who accept Him not only as the Saviour of the world but know Him as the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince

of peace, as the prophet Isaiah declared Him to be, are accused of denying the Father. How can a man deny the Father, or God as Father of creation? Let's go again to the good old word of God. I John 1:23: "Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father, but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. Why can a man deny the Father and just accept the Son? For this reason: I Tim. 3:16: "And without controversy great is the mystery of Godliness"; God manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. Then who is God but the Lord Jesus Christ? In order to deny the Father, it would mean to deny the Bible. It would mean to deny the Eternal Spirit of God that spoke the world into existence.

Saint John 4:24: "God is a Spirit," some say He is a person but John writes He is a Spirit. God as Father was, is, and always will be a Spirit. The question is: Has God, the Father, a form or person other than His Sonship or His manifestation as the Son of God? All right, let's be fair with the word of God. Where is the person of God the Father, if He has a person? Hebrews 1:1-2, 3: God, who at sundry times and in divers manners, spake in times past unto the Fathers by the Prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things by who He also made the worlds, who being in the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His PERSON. God as Father is invisible. No one can see a spirit. All right, let's go on where we can see the Father. Paul writing of the Son in Col. 1:15: Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature. Jesus is the person of God the Father. That is why Paul writing said, We are complete in HIM! Then if we are complete in Him why look for a second. Just before the Lord ascended into the heavens, after

teaching His disciples about the Kingdom of God, telling them that He came from the Father and would return to the Father, and that the works that He did were not of Himself (or His flesh) but Him that sent me and so on. Then there arose a longing in their heart to know more about the truth concerning the Father. Read in Saint John 14:8 to 11: Philip saith unto Him, Lord show us the Father and it sufficeth us . . . Jesus saith unto him, have I been so long time with you and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father, how sayest thou then show us the Father? Still there are people looking for another person, the second person, after Jesus said Himself, if we see Him we see the Father. Man says that Jesus and the Father are one in twain, like man and wife are one. Let no man deceive you: that is untrue. My wife and I are one in twain, that is true, but when, if ever you see me you don't see my wife. She is not the express image of my person. She has a person of her own. I have my own person. So when you see me you don't see my wife. However, Jesus said he that sees Me, sees the Father.

I John 5:7: For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, (or God as Father), the word, (or the Son, for the Word was made flesh and dwelleth among us) Saint John 1:14, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are ONE, ONE, ONE! Thanks be to God for such a one who is everlasting. John saw Him in Revelation 1:8-18: One liken unto the Son of Man hearing Him speak with a voice like a trumpet. He turned to see him that spake and I saw Him, I fell at His feet as one dead, and He laid His right hand upon me and said, Fear not, I am the first and the last. I am He that liveth and was dead and behold I am alive for evermore and have the keys of hell and death. Verse 8: Hear Him say, I am Alpha and Omega; the beginning and the ending, saith the

Lord. Which is and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. All right, who is the first? Who is the last? Who is Alpha? Who is Omega? Who is the Almighty? Who was? Who is? And who is to come? Who lived? Who was dead? Who is alive forevermore? It is Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, the sweetest Name I know. All of God's glory we shall ever see, we will see shining through the Lord Jesus Christ. Eph. 4:5: One Lord, one Faith and one baptism. May God's grace rest and abide upon you both now and forever more.

POETICALLY SPEAKING

GOD EVERYWHERE

I fled to the highest mountain,
Condemned and would not pray,
I was fleeing from my Saviour,
But His praise, the wind would say.

I descended to the valley,
So lost in lone despair,
I was fleeing from my Jesus,
But I heard His voice down there.

I sailed the balmy ocean,
So blue, so deep and wide,
Trying to forget His loving plea
But alas He's by my side.

I ran to the sunbaked desert,
Like Elijah did of Old,
But the stars in the dreamy heavens,
Spake His love so loud and bold.

One lonely night I looked around,
And this is what I saw,
His hand in every lovely scene,
The maker of them all.

At last the race had ended,
I bowed my head in shame,
And by His blood He made me,
A warrior for His Name.

— MARVIN A. HICKS

GOD IN THE SEASONS

When autumn tints the leaves with red,
And fields are rich in goldenrod,
And ripened grain, my soul is led,
To revel in the fact of God.

As time moves on and winter's blight
Exchanges gay for somber hues
And spreads afar its mantle white,
The Father's care my faith renews.

Fantastic spring comes on apace,
Transforming drab to brightest green,
With filial pride I fondly trace
The Master's work in every scene.

When summer smiles in glad array,
And lures me forth to gather flowers,
And luscious fruits, I pause to pray
And offer praise through joyous hours.

Carefree I stand on mountain height,
Or sail His ocean deep and wide,
Through changing scenes in dark or light,
I am assured He will provide.

— Selected

I MET THE MASTER

I had walked life's way with an easy tread,
Had followed where comforts and pleasure led,
Until one day in a real quiet place,
I met the Master face to face.

With station, rank and wealth for my goal,
Much thought for my body and none for my soul,
I had entered to win in life's mad race,
When I met the Master face to face.

My thoughts are now for the souls of men,
I have lost my life to find it again,
E'er since one day in a real quiet place,
I met my Master face to face.

— Selected

A MOMENT WITH HIM

We can't understand things,
Our vision grows dim,
When all that we need,
Is a moment with Him.

Is life just a trial,
So dull and so grim?
Remember your need friend,
A moment with Him.

— Selected

*Dedicated to my Grandmothers, Mrs. Mary Hicks
and Mrs. Mary Duncan, Cincinnati, Ohio*

THY WORD IS LIGHT

Flaming, flashing, glowing in the night,
The word of God sends forth its light,
True, steadfast as God Himself,
Revealing the glories of His wealth.

The gasping, miserable, sorrowing man,
Lifts up to God his withered hand,
Beholds the beauty of our King,
With a quivering voice, begins to sing.

Arouses from despair with a new born hope,
Delivered from drink, cigarette and dope,
No longer tossed on the billows of sin,
He has lost His life to find it again.

A beacon that gleams o'er land and sea,
So bright it sets the captives free,
Dispelling all darkness, gloom and fear,
Giving to men, Salvation and cheer.

Its searching rays are sweeping the sky,
Revealing His coming is very nigh,
The word of God with all its might,
Is flaming, flashing, glowing in the night.

— MARVIN A. HICKS

ISN'T IT STRANGE

"I have walked in summer meadows
Where the sunbeams flashed and broke,
But I never saw the cattle
Or any of the horses smoke.

I have watched the birds with wonder
When the world with dew is wet,
But I never saw a Robin
Puffing on a cigarette.

I have fished in many a river
Where the Sucker crop is ripe,
But I never saw a Catfish
Puffing on a briar pipe.

Man's the only living creature
That blows where'er he goes,
Like a booming tractor engine
Smoke from mouth and nose.

If God intended he should smoke
When He first invented man,
He surely would have built him
On a widely different plan.

He'd have fixed him with a stove pipe
A damper and a grate,
And he'd had a smoke consumer,
That was strictly up-to-date."

— Selected

A PLACE CALLED HEAVEN

We read of a place that's called heaven,
Beyond the starry bright blue,
We read in God's word of this heaven,
I'm sure its glories are true.

There'll be no sadness in heaven,
No sorrow, no burdens to bear,
No sin there to tempt or try you,
For there is no devil up there.

I hear ten thousand sweet voices,
Together in praise to the King,
Echoing down through the corridors,
Like thunder the melodies ring.

The streets of that heavenly city,
Are paved with the purest of gold,
The pearly white gates of beauty,
A land where we'll never grow old.

Such joy in heaven is waiting,
No mortal pen could describe,
We're heirs of that heavenly mansion,
Partakers of Jesus, HIS BRIDE!

— MARVIN A. HICKS

FREE

Satin cast a cloud of sin
Upon a youthful heart;
And bound by powers of darkness there,
The sin would not depart.

Untill the Saviour came along,
And drove the clouds away,
Washed by His blood my heart is pure,
And free from sin today.

— Selected

THE RIGHT CHOICE

To each is given his own free will,
But remember, if we choose
To follow Christ, we always win,
If Satan, we always lose.

With His tender cords of love,
Christ draws us one and all,
As we trust Him day by day,
He'll never let us fall.

Why not say goodbye to sin,
Accept God's gift so free,
Just say in simple, trusting faith
"I know He died for me."

It always pays to follow Christ,
Will you not choose today,
To live the more abundant life,
And dwell with Him for aye!

In that land of never ending day,
How thankful you will be,
That you did make the proper choice,
For all eternity.

— Selected

THE NAME OF JESUS

Glory to the Name of Jesus,
Once it stood for sin and shame,
Now the songs of earth and heaven,
Join to bless that glorious Name.

Pardon through the Name of Jesus,
Free from guilt, fault and blame,
We may stand, beloved, excepted,
As we come in Jesus' Name.

Power through the Name of Jesus,
All His power our faith may claim,
God will work His wonders through us,
When we use that mighty Name.

Healing in the Name of Jesus,
How it thrills our suffering frame,
When we learn to take from Jesus,
Life and healing in His Name.

Tell abroad the Name of Jesus,
Round the world His love proclaim,
Till the earth's saved and ransomed millions,
Join to praise His precious Name.

— Selected

WHAT GOD HATH PROMISED

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower strewn pathways all our life through,
God hath not promised sun without rain
Joy without sorrow and peace without pain.

But God hath promised, strength for the day,
Rest for the labour, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy and undying love.

— Selected

THE HEAVENS

Gaze into the heavens of beauty,
Speak of the path my Lord trod,
The bodies of heaven uniting,
Declaring the glory of God.

The stars in the heavens are shining,
Leading to Kingdoms so free,
For that silvery surf I am pining,
To sail that celestial bright sea.

In heaven with Jesus forever,
There's islands of snowy bright spray,
Beyond all the darkness of midnight,
There's a God whom we have as our stay.

The moon with its bright smile in darkness,
The sun with its life giving light,
Will dim at the presence of Jesus,
When He comes in power and might.

— MARVIN A. HICKS

HIS GLORY

Oh friend, receive his matchless grace,
Of the Saviour's loving face,
Or felt the deep and matchless love,
That brought to us His grace?

For naught can match His glory,
On earth or heavens above,
Oh friend, receive his matchless grace,
The Saviour's deathless love.

— Selected

WHEN WILL HE COME?

Perhaps He will come at the dawning
Of a beautiful summer day,
When the birds and the flowers are awakening,
To welcome the sun's first ray.
And the Eastern sky will brighten,
With the light of the dawn's caress,
And herald the swift arising
Of the "Sun of righteousness."

Perhaps it will be at the evening,
When weary of toil and care,
We rest and watch as the darkness
Creeps o'er the landscape fair,
And behold the stars in their beauty,
Shine forth from their depths afar,
But their radiance dims in the glory,
Of the "Bright and Morning Star."

And perhaps He will come at midnight,
When earth and it's dwellers sleep.
When over the mountains and valleys,
Broods a silence vast and deep,
And the trump of the great archangel,
Shall awaken the slumberers there,
And His saints will be caught up together,
To meet the Lord in the air.

But whether at dawn or evening,
At midnight or sultry noon,
And whether awake or sleeping,
And the time be distant or soon;
May I live so that I shall be ready,
With joy my Saviour to meet,
And feel no alarm at His Coming,
But hasten His heralds to greet.

— Selected



Yours in the King's glad service,
MARVIN A. HICKS