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Book May 1963 - B'ham "cooling"; Jackson exploding

# For The Living Of These Days

By Mrs. J. Fount Tillman

## LEARNING to Prepare for the Facing of this Hour.

That brings us to my second concern. We have been thinking about LIVING in these days. Now we turn to LEARNING to prepare us "for the facing of this hour." God has matched us with this hour—you and me, young and old. We are living these days together. In these revolutionary times, we are all learning. As one man said: "Nothing is like it used to be, and never was."

Today, we have to adjust to changing situations. We must learn new techniques in new jobs; we must learn how to live in crowded apartments instead of in spacious houses, how to adapt our way of living to different cultures, languages, peoples.

No longer can a wall be built around a pattern of living with the INS isolated from the OUTS. No where is change more evident than in the status of women. We are told that in another generation, there will be 8 to 10 million more women than men. (The speaker who quoted that said "there could be too much of a good thing.") Women predominate as stock holders in United States Steel and in American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Family life is changing. The center of industry, education and recreation is no longer in the home. The school and the church are expected to share more of this responsibility.

Since I live in a rural area, I will continue with that type of illustration. You may think of Automotign as centering in the city but it affects rural life. My Church School superintendent's wife works in a plant in town. He farms and builds poultry houses for an automated plant in another town. A cotton broker and poultry shipper from Atlanta told me at a recent National Council of Churches meeting that he ships thousands of chickens from such a plant monthly to Hong Kong. He entertained the father of Tshombe of the Kantaga in Africa who was amazed at such poultry shipments. I heard a man say he had finished a machine for decapitating turkeys but had not made the final adjustment on head sizes. I told that story in India. There was general laughter. It seems a friendly American had shipped some turkeys to a U. S. team stationed at a nearby school not knowing that this school raised turkeys for exporting. Thus are we involved in new trends and in world trends!

We live in what has been called a time of bewildering change. It takes intelligence, knowledge and understanding if we are to be trusted with freedom in making right choices. It calls for mature persons and the process of maturing is costly, hard—not easy, painful—not pleasant. Scientific thought is reshaping our physical and our philosophical world. Politically, colonialism is out of date. Other countries are not just resources of raw materials, as they once were. Their peoples resent exploitation and paternalistic favors. Now we read of their political and economic revolutions without fully realizing the challenge and potential threat to the political and economic patterns of the West. We have not faced up to the significance of the population explosion, to the changing trends in cultures, to the resurgence of non-Christian religions, and to the power of new nationalisms.

You graduates are at the half-way mark of four-year college requirements. Today is a milestone in your progress. A free society demands education to achieve its goals. If we are to direct changes into channels of service and enrichments for mankind we must keep alert and learning whether in college or not. In the May issue of the Journal of the American Association of University Women, a British scientist has "A Letter to Posterity". He indicates some of the changes that may have occurred when

this letter is read by posterity, changes as a blooming Sahara, space platforms and other now-unknown marvels. "But," he says, "I am living in the revolution which is creating your way of thinking." He goes on to say that the world changes faster than our habits of mind. He reminds us that "truth is more than mere facts, that all the facts of the world are only the materials but that in science true insight is something more! The sun did not stand still for Copernicus to study; when he said the earth moves round the sun, he was backing a most unlikely guess against what he saw. The creative mind does not draw a line between imagination in science and outside. One scientist says this about the creative mind: "Whether its raw material is fact or feeling, whether it practices science or history—it has no patience with our prejudices". He concludes that science will be rich life for posterity. He is troubled for our world, because of ugly physical abuses and ugly moral ones, has now begun to feel that "science has destroyed ancient values and our world." With the development of technology, we must try to understand scientific thought and that requires great learning.

## The Supreme Value

Now we turn to our final emphasis, the supreme value. We faced the challenge of LIVING these days, then we recognized the necessity of LEARNING if we are able to face this hour. This has brought us to see the need for insight along with wisdom and courage. The frontiers we face in today's world are no longer geographic or physical. They are the realm of human relationships getting along with other people. Our Christian motivation was expressed by taking a basket to a neighbor family over the hill. Today, it may be the establishment of a Christian chapel across from the United Nations where representatives of world governments convene. Some of them are graduates of our mission schools but they may see little of what they learned in mission school after they reach these shores. This is a new form of witness in Christ's love.

Why do some youth respond to the challenge of the Peace Corps but not to ministry or to some Christian vocation? We have insights as to the importance of such choices? A number of Peace Corps youth have become candidates for service under the church. They have a new sense of values and have made new commitments in their experience. I remember saying to a long time friend, "If I had my life to live over again, I would not change any of the major decisions I made." She replied, "Yes, but don't you think that it was the day-by-day choices that you made that led you to the final decisions on the issues?"

Some are on trial daily. When a man or some of our petty arguments over money or income or some social event, in my eyes I see a truck load of women in white and white uniforms, their dresses and they wear to the meetings of their Women's Societies in certain African countries. The women are being parted off to jail because they dared to hold their meetings. They are making decisions under these testing conditions. Where does freedom of choice begin? When does it end? How do you make your choices? What are your standards of measurement?

I have seen a fetish, a straw man, over a garden to keep away evil spirits and a skyscraper. Past and present are both representing man's efforts at security; can either guarantee it? Power. Wherein lies power? It is abused by management, by labor by

## CHURCH SCHOOL LESSON GOD'S CARE

Scripture: Psalms 136:1-2  
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of Israel's history illustrations are found of the fact that God care for his own. Me ought to be grateful for such care. The should remember his mercies, tell other about them, and express thanksgiving in prayerful praise.

His Covenant I (105:7-11). This brief section is a word about the "covenant" into which entered with the people of the covenant relationship was the concept in the religion of the Bible. It meant that there to acknowledge God's and obey his command and they would never be for him. This was clearly stated in one of the prophets: their God, and they shall (Jer. 21:33b).

The Psalmist was saying was people ought not to forget for he never forgets them. times in the past they exactly this; and their and to call them to renewed. Man may forget God, never forgotten by God, of his covenant for

of his betrayal Jesus with his disciples and the cup, saying, "This new covenant in my blood, often as you drink it, in of me" (1 Cor. 11:25). is Unfailing (105:37-41) author refers to Israel's from the Egyptian bondage and protection provided in the years of considering as evidence of God. His providential has been withheld from never gone back on a always provided general things that were essen-

ings of Jesus there is a upon God's care for a group over another, a small nation, even a younger brother, obtain it. Do you think thing in the world or unrealistic dreamer or Wherein lies power? wise writer in Proverbs is the principal thing and with all thy (In the Inter defined as insight) said in Phil 1:9, "This our love may grow ever knowledge and insight may this bring you. Or as Moffat sense of what is vi "I want you to I seize the highest and missionary has just w to appear in a church trying to explain ti the country as this is the world. Here, in

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Book May 1963

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSON

GOD'S CARE FOR HIS PEOPLE

Robert R. Goodbold, Jr.

Plantersville Methodist Church

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 105:7-11, 37-45; Psalm 136:1-26.

The theme of both of these Psalms is the care of God for his people. In the events of Israel's history illustrations are found of the fact that God cares for his own. Men ought to be grateful for such care. They should remember his mercies, tell others about them, and express thanksgiving in prayerful praise.



In His Covenant (105:7-11). This brief section of the poem is a word about the everlasting covenant into which God had entered with the people of Israel. This covenant relationship was the central concept in the religion of the Hebrews. It is reflected at many points in the Bible. It meant that the people were to acknowledge God's sovereignty and obey his commandments, and they would never be forgotten by him. This was clearly stated in the words of one of the prophets: "I will be their God, and they shall say people" (Jer. 31:33b).

What the Psalmist was saying was that the people ought not to forget God, for he never forgets them. In many times in the past they had done exactly this; and their prophets had to call them to renewed faithfulness. Man may forget God, but he is never forgotten by God. He is mindful of his covenant for ever" (vs. 8b).

On the night of his betrayal Jesus broke bread with his disciples and passed them the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me" (I Cor. 11:23).

His Goodness Is Unfailing (105:37-45). Here the author refers to Israel's deliverance from the Egyptian bondage and the guidance and protection that were provided in the years of wilderness wandering as evidence of the goodness of God. His providential care has never been withheld from them. He has never gone back on a promise. He has always provided generously the things that were essential to their well-being.

In the teachings of Jesus there is a similar stress upon God's care for his people. He said, "The face of America on

man and the gracious way that he provides for man's everyday needs. Each individual is important in his sight. He is not just concerned in a general way about humanity en masse, but he cares about every individual. "Even the hairs of your head are all numbered" (Mt. 10:30). Not a sparrow falls but that he knows it, and a human being is infinitely more worthwhile. There is no need for people's minds to be filled with anxiety about the things that are truly necessary in life. Said Jesus: "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them" (Mt. 6:26). He knows what a person really needs before he is ever asked. More than any human parent, he provides life's good things for his children. He bestows his blessings upon the people of earth whether they deserve them or not: "He makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (Mt. 5:45).

One day, as Jesus and his disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee, they sailed into a dangerous storm. Tossed about by the furious winds and violently churning waves, the anxiety of the disciples turned to panic. Awakening the Master, who was asleep in the stern, they asked, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" (Lk. 4:38b). The winds ceased and the sea became calm "when he spoke the words, "Peace! Be still!"

No doubt the men and women of the Early Church saw in this event in his ministry an illustration of the way that Christ overcomes the fears and anxieties of people's lives. Living in an age full of things which cause apprehension and worry, we need to cultivate the habit of daily trust. Confidence in God's care is the answer to the fretful cares that weigh heavily upon us today.

This was the secret of Jesus' own life. His trust in the care of the heavenly Father (renewed and refreshed in many hours of communion in secret places) enabled him to have poise and power in the face of mounting adversities.

The Psalmist would have Israel not forget that God "led forth his people with joy, his chosen ones with singing" (vs. 43). And let it not be forgotten that his goodness is shown to them for a purpose: "that they should

To The Memory Of Marie Clark

By Hubert B. Scrivener

WOOD COLLEGE, Miss.—The memory of Marie Clark of Louisville, Miss., will live on forever at Wood Junior College. Her class mates have seen to it that those who pass this way from here on will be reminded of her friendship and devotion to her dedication.

You see, Marie Clark would have been a member of this year's graduating class. However, her school work ended late last spring with a sudden illness and followed by death.

Marie, who came to Wood after keeping his statutes, and observe his laws" (vs. 45).

People in our time should learn to be thankful for the dependable mercies of God which undergird our days. Our response in gratitude for the goodness of God must not be a mere matter of words of praise, but also a life dedicated to his service.

His Steadfast Love Is Sure (136:1-26). Every verse of this Psalm tells of the "steadfast love" (RSV) of God. His love is expressed in mercy and kindness which eternally endure. As in the other poem of this lesson, this one also uses historical incidents as illustrations of God's loving care of Israel. Our reading of it reminds us of the fact that God's love is shown to us in manifold ways.

The love of God is set forth unforgettably in the New Testament. This is the message contained in the most frequently quoted verse in the Bible: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16).

Paul, in the Letter to the Romans, rejoices in the fact of God's abiding love in words that almost sing: "I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor heights, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (8:38-39).

In the knowledge of his steadfast love we can live confidently today and with a hope for tomorrow.

Memory Selection: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever" (Ps. 136:1).

graduating from the Noxapater High School, did Missionary work with the Choctaw Indians even while still in high school. At Wood she chose a course in Religious Education in preparation of a full time Missionary life.

Described by Dr. Felix Sutphin, Wood College President, as "wholly dedicated," Marie was a living example of her dedication with a friendly smile and personality that won for her the friendship of every student.

Her class mates have left a memorial to Marie Clark—some that is in keeping with the life she lived and her intentions of life.

Wood College is soon to have a new class room building that will also include the school's sanctuary.

It is here where Marie's life will be projected forever.

Her class mates have presented to Dr. Sutphin a check of sufficient amount to erect a large glowing cross in the sanctuary in Memory of Marie Clark.

To know Marie was to love her and now we can share her love with those yet to come to Wood College. It was the parting word of a class mate.

Wood Annual Dedicated To Miss Huitema

By Hubert B. Scrivener

WOOD COLLEGE, Miss. — Forty years of devotion and service to Wood Junior College by Miss Sylvia Huitema has been recognized by dedicating this year's school annual, "Chips of Wood" to her.

This was revealed today in a joint statement by Dr. Felix Sutphin, president, and Miss Myra Tumlin, annual editor and member of the graduating class.

Miss Huitema's picture will appear inside the cover along with an expression of appreciation for having rendered the greater part of her life to the institution.

Miss Huitema came to Wood College, which was then known as Bennett Academy, 40 years ago as a commercial teacher. She spent the greater part of her service here in that department of the school.

In later years she served as financial secretary and four years ago took over the work of the college alumni serving as its executive secretary.

dom some youth respond to the Peace Corps but not to some Christian vocations. Insights as to the importance of becoming candidates for the church. They have use of values and have commitments in their experience saying to a long time life to live over again. Many of the major decisions replied, "Yes, but don't see the day-by-day choices and the final decisions on

are on trial daily. When our petty arguments over some social event, or a truck load of women's uniforms, their dress to the meetings of the certain African being carted off to hold their meetings under these conditions making your choice? How do you make your standards of seen a fetish, a sudden to keep away evils crops. Just a few per. Past and present sending man's efforts an either guarantee herein lies power management by

dominant racial group over another, by a nation over a small nation, even by a brother over a younger brother. But we strive to obtain it. Do you think love is the greatest thing in the world or would a vague, unrealistic dreamer make such a declaration? Wherein lies power?

It was a wise writer in Proverbs who said: "Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting, understanding." (In the Interpreter's this is defined as insight).

St. Paul said in Phil 1:9, "This is my prayer, that your love may grow ever richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, and may thus bring you the gift of true discrimination." Or as Moffett puts "Give you a sense of what is vital." J. Phillips says, "I want you to be able ways to recognize the highest and best."

A former missionary has just written a letter soon to appear in a church paper in India. He is trying to explain the race situation in this country as this is "top" all over the world. Here, in part, is what he wrote. "The face of America on

which the world is gazing today is an ugly one. Racial tensions surge from smouldering resentments throughout the 20,000,000 Negroes to shocking riots in Birmingham. (He had already written about the others). Before you read these lines Astronaut Cooper may have shifted the world's gaze to a different American face." This is our dilemma. Adventurous space achievements that are incomprehensible to our minds, yet monumental failure in daily human relationships of which the Alabama problem is only a small manifestation. DISCIPLINE is one key. Our spiritual lives have not followed the orbital pattern of living that Jesus Christ blazed for us. Until we do, there will not be a "lift off" from the pad of bigotry and discrimination into the heavens of "peace with love."

What we need is the RIGHT kind of discrimination that we may choose the supreme values. In the invasion of China. A Christian editor lost all his material possessions and every member of his family was killed. He said, "If I let hate enter my

heart, I shall not be worthy of victory." Bonhoeffer worked with the Underground in Germany and was arrested. While in prison before he was hanged, he wrote a diary which is influencing theologians today more, perhaps, than the work of any living man. He probed the depths of his life to find out why he made such decisions. President Kennedy has said: "Peace and freedom do not come cheap and we are destined, all of us, to live out most of our lives in uncertainty and challenge and peril." You may not be called on to make the decision of Bonhoeffer or the evaluation of the Chinese editor, but you will be living and learning and choosing day by day. Our country needs mature citizens. Our Lord needs mature Christian witnesses. May you have the wisdom, the courage and the security of a joyous faith for the living of these days and for the facing of this hour.

"Liberty is one thing you can not have unless you give it to others."—William Allen White

Do not... in regional Methodist... National... Miss. church... 1963

Bonhoeffer  
1963

I suspect... she... with Bonhoeffer... 1963