



WATCHMAN'S TRUMPET



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August 2020



FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

Hello,

With gratitude to God I hereby present to you August 2020 edition of "Watchman's Trumpet" The focus of this edition is believers' social responsibilities.

Salvation implies the cancellation and blotting out of all records of sin held in God's account against us based on our confession of them, forsaking them and accepting Christ's sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. It has been variously described as Repentance, Conversion, New Life, New Birth, becoming Born Again and Redemption.

Repentance, salvation or redemption is usually followed by a definite commitment to righteous living and good works which are fruits of repentance. A fruitless repentance is a worthless repentance. John the Baptist preached that those who have repented must possess remarkably changed lives, Paul the apostle did too. 2 Corinthians 5:17

Immediately a person's salvation is settled and his/her position in God's book and record secured, he begins to express a desire for the salvation of others and their preservation in faith. Evangelism is every believer's ministry. Those who have been saved are expected to spare no time and effort in helping others to get saved and abide in Christ. For every found sheep returning to Christ's fold, there are ninety-nine who are still lost and wandering.

We are expected to show concern for the plight of our relations, friends, neighbors and even the strangers we meet on life's road who have not fully grasp the true meaning and importance of John 3:16.

We are Watchmen over the souls of those within our realms of influence. If they die without Christ and without us preaching repentance to them, their blood will be required from us. Besides, we are also to watch over one another in the household of faith, we are to be helpers of one another's joy and hope of eternity with Christ.

Those who are converted should be brought into the church. We are to represent Christ here in the world; go where He will go and do what He will do. Christians should live as good Samaritans in the world.

"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them" John 13:17 (NIV). May God help us to do them!

WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER?

Genesis 4:9

"And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9

In Genesis 3:9 God asked a previous question "where are you". After man has discovered where he is in relation to God and issues pertaining to God's kingdom, the next question he will need to answer is "where is your brother" Genesis 4:9a. John 1:38-41



Cain, as a result of jealousy, hatred and envy cut short Abel his brother's life, service to God, and prospect with a brutal stroke.

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God came and questioned him "where is your brother"

Cain's answer "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Verse 9b) showed that he did not recognize his responsibility of protecting and keeping his brother safe.

Brothers and sisters, we are live in a world of companionship and relationship. No man is an island. However intimidating your virtues and values are, you need others. People need to contribute into your life just like you are under obligation to God to contribute to other people's lives.

As we move about in our places of work, at home, on the streets and in the nation, do we ever reflect on this one fact that God expects us to be our brothers' keeper? He does.

Let us consider these three points:

1. Our responsibility of being our brother's keeper
2. Recovery plans for renewal and restoration of our ailing brothers
3. Rewards for responsible relationship and care for others

1. Our responsibility of being our brother's keeper

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me" **Ezekiel 3:17**

Today the Lord wanted us to know that we are not living alone in the world. We are our brother's keepers. The welfare of all the people we know by name and even those we did not know by name but whom circumstances of life and God placed across our way or intend to place across our ways in the future depend on us. God wanted us to know that their salvation, safety and welfare are on us.

If like Abel, we cut short their lives, ministry and prospects in life; the Lord will be asking us *"where is your brother"*

God placed a severe sentence on Cain for killing his brother. He became a vagabond and fugitive. He was cursed. The ground he tills as a means of livelihood was no longer to yield its strength to him. Many means of livelihood have been cut off, many businesses have closed down because owners of such missed an important point that they are God's stewards and are blessed so they could be a source of blessing to others.

The severity of divine punishment on Cain was to impress upon man's conscience the sanctity of blood. God seeks to impress upon our minds that *"all lives are precious"*. Otherwise, life will become cheap, living will become dangerous and bloodshed will be meaningless. Men will devour and kill one another like beasts.

By punishing Cain severely, God seek to make us recognize that we are our brother's keeper.

He seeks to make us accountable for the love, care, safety, support and security of other fellow human beings even when their spiritual status or spiritual convictions differ from ours. All men are from one physical family and therefore of the same blood.

Believers are watchmen over everyone within their realms of influence whether they bare leadership or church titles or not. Believers are watchmen over everyone within their realms of influence whether the people concerned realize it or accept it or not. We are watchmen over their souls. God will ask us in the end *"Did you ever preach to them? Did you do enough to get them saved?"*

How concerned are we about the souls and eternal welfare of our brother in-law or sister in-law, your cousins, uncles, your saloon managers or barbers, the people we buy from in the market, our house girls, our neighbors, co-landlords, our spouses and children; We should do something for them while there is still time. We should give them the bread of life before they die.

If you fold your hands and feel unconcerned, after this time and after this life, there will be judgment. God will ask you *"where is your brother"*

2. Recovery plans for renewal and restoration of our ailing brothers

Now that we know that we are our brothers' keepers, what can we do? Or what should we do?

We should develop plans, activities and programs aimed at recovering our *"brothers"* lost in sin and are in danger of missing heaven.



When Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued after their captors. **Genesis 14:13-14.**

Like Abraham, We must plan and execute a rescue mission. There must be individual and corporate outreaches and evangelism to all whom we have identified as our *"brothers"* We must support, partner with or sponsor efforts such as the one that Watchman outreach Mission is making to reach the lost in the world. We can send or forward the download links of this kind of materials **"Watchman's Trumpet"** to them

We must look for them. We must visit them if they are close by. We can give them a call, send SMS, contact them and /or stay in touch with them via any of the social media platforms

We must love them, we must help them, and we must woo them with love and affection into Christ if they are sinners or back into Christ if they have backslid. We must support them and continue to do so till the life of Christ is formed in them. **Acts 10:38** Believers like Christ should be Good Samaritan in the world. We are and we should be our brothers' keepers.

3. Rewards for responsible relationship and caring for others

If we do these things, and do faithfully, if we do so consistently throughout our life, if you develop a nature like Christ who is always seeking the welfare of others, what will God do?

Proverbs 11:25 *"The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself"*

Psalms 41:1-3 *"Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies".*





ABOUT WATCHMAN OUTREACH MISSION

Watchman Outreach Mission as envisioned fundamentally comprises of men and women of faith who watch over one another and together watch for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Next to this primary assignment is an equally important responsibility of bringing others into the same state of watchfulness and readiness as the coming of the Lord draws near. Ours is a trans-ministerial, trans-denominational mission. Our core values include expository teaching, prayer and counselling. We train in principles and practice of Christian discipleship and equip for effective Kingdom Service.

The Lord Jesus Christ in one of His parable said “*While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept*” **Mathew 25:5**. Watchman Outreach Mission is a response of faith to this and similar warnings about events in the last days. Our response is based on the premise that prophecies, visions and revelations about the future such as the one documented in the Lord’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins are sign-posts by which men are warned to keep vigil to avoid disastrous end. We serve to wake up the church and men everywhere to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return.

The Mission, based in Ibadan, Nigeria, was launched in 2009 and its maiden outing took place on the 20th November of the same year. On that day, we partnered with All Nations Evangelical Ministry (ANEM), Akobo, Ibadan for Evangelistic and Medical Mission Outreach to Idi - Ose Village on Arulogun - Olorunda Road in Lagelu Local Government, Ibadan.

In the years that followed we networked with churches and other Christian groups too to implement our mandate which include conducting gospel outreaches, discipleship training for new converts, organizing and facilitating workers and ministerial training, conducting administrative reviews in churches and ministries, writing of proposals for reforms and church growth strategies that can enhance social cohesion, improve church finances and foster overall development, unity and growth of such ministries; monitoring and/or supervision of the implementation of such reforms and strategies.

Some of these Christian groups and ministries include with Christ Apostolic Church, Oke - Ife in Ajangboju, Ibadan, Nigerian Military Christian Fellowship, Adekunle Fajuyi Cantonment Chapter in Oyo - State Nigeria, Christ Gospel Mission International, Light of Jesus Evangelistic Ministry with branches in different cities in South Western Nigeria, and Ark of Salvation Church of Christ (ASCC) with headquarters at Molade, Monatan Ibadan.

Till date, although partnered ministries change from time to time depending on the leading we receive from the Lord, we remain committed to our main purpose and vision; that of service to the church and in the world to wake up men everywhere and encourage them to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return. Through our activities, souls had been saved, believers edified and church workers’ spiritual growth and development enhanced, all to the glory of God.

WATCHMAN PRAYER HOUR



Prayer Points - For August 2020

1. Salvation of all on our network including stakeholders and partners
2. Life of consistent victory over sin and dominion over the strivings of the flesh
3. Deliverance from satanic attacks and influence
4. Recovery and restoration of all that the enemy - the devil have stolen from our families
5. Restoration of all backsliders and those who have wandered away from the faith and are on a downward road to hell
6. Serious commitment of all believers to the task of evangelism
7. Commitment to living lives that add value to others wherever we find ourselves
8. End to the reign of selfishness among believers and God’s people
9. Meeting of all our needs as we love and care for others

“ men ought always to pray, and not to faint;” Luke 18:1

May the Lord hear and answer all our prayers - AMEN!

Watchman Prayer Hour holds every Saturday from 10.30am - 12.00MD. We invite you to join us at our office in 78/80 Nepa (IBEDC) Building, Opposite U.I. Second Gate, Ibadan . Oyo - State. You can also follow us live on any of our Social media platforms during the prayer session and send inquiries or prayer requests to any of our digital addresses.



CLARION CALL



JOURNEY FROM JERUSALEM TO JERICHO

“And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spends more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

Which now of these three, thinks thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that showed mercy to him.

Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.” Luke 10:30-37

The story of the Good Samaritan was Christ’s response to a lawyer’s question. The question is “*who is my neighbor?*”

Lawyers are trained to teach, interpret and apply Old Testament laws and commandments. These include scriptures like Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18 which mandated Jews to love God with all their hearts and their neighbors as themselves. Unfortunately at that time Jewish interpretation and application excluded Samaritans and Gentiles in their definition of “*Neighbor*”. This lawyer wanted to justify such practice by asking the question “*who is my neighbor?*”

In response, Jesus told him the story of a man who went on downward journey from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell into the hands of robbers who stripped him of his valuables, wounded him and left him half dead or unconscious. A priest and a Levite came that way but neglected him. He was eventually rescued by a Samaritan. Lessons from this story form the focus of this article as we consider these three subtopics:

1. The danger in a downward journey
2. The love of a concerned neighbor
3. The charge to Christians and all men

1. The danger in a downward journey

“.... A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead” Luke 10:30

Physically, a journey from Jerusalem to Jericho is a downward journey. Jerusalem lies on a mountain range 1,600ft above sea level, while Jericho lies 1,300ft below sea level. The close to 3000ft downhill journey in Christ’s days takes one through 15miles of crooked, winding road that provides places where robbers can hide to attack unsuspecting travelers.

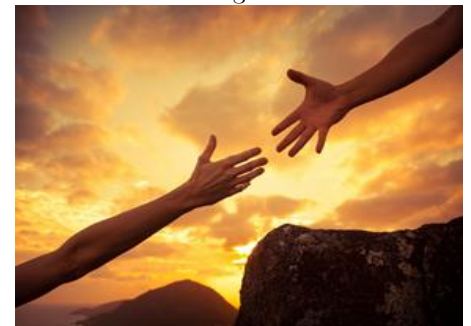
Spiritually, a journey away from God’s presence, a trip of adventure in sinful living can be likened to a journey from Jerusalem to Jericho; a downward journey. Many like Samson (**Judges 14:1-2**), Judas Iscariot (**John 13:25 – 30**) and the Prodigal son (**Luke 15:11-14**)

who have taken such a journey have fallen into the hands of Satan and his agents. Such persons have been stripped of precious possessions, wounded and left half dead. They need help.

“The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead” Proverbs 21:16.

Sin imparts negatively on sinners by (1) the direct consequences and effect of the sins to which they are addicted, (2) by providing legal right for devils’ access and afflictions in their lives and (3) by God’s judicial pronouncement against sin and sinners – the wages of sin is death Romans 3:23.

Today, living in adultery, drunkenness, occultism, idolatry, bitterness, hatred, anger and strife, envy, jealousy and murder, have produced many casualties who are half dead; some of them in denominations and churches while they focus on religious duties and neglect the profit and gains of personal holiness. Those who are still saved and standing have responsibility towards those dying or half dead. Those who are saved should be concerned and be involved in rescuing others.



2. The love of a concerned neighbor

The wounded man in Christ’s story, forsaken and neglected by his own leaders, brethren and friends received help from an outright stranger: a Samaritan. Jesus wanted the Jews to acknowledge an obvious fact that Samaritans are their neighbors.

By implication, He desires the elimination of all kinds of discriminations that hinder the hurt, injured and wounded or dying in human societies from receiving life-saving and life giving help.



A world polarized along cultural, ethnical, racial and social divides would make casualties out of many for the want of a good and concerned neighbor.

The Samaritan demonstrated his love and concern in nine ways:

1. He postponed his own program, appointment and journey to be able to help someone in more desperate need.
2. He sacrificed his convenience.
3. He prioritize the medical, social and financial needs of his dying neighbor
4. He provided first aid.
5. He provided connection and introduction.
6. He brought him to a place of safety and further care
7. He sacrificed time to stay with him throughout that day till the next day, caring for him to ensure that he is out of danger list.
8. He paid deposit that is the equivalent of two days wages in that economy for continuing cares.
9. He committed himself to follow up and pay the balance of the medical bill.

A nations whose citizens are committed to doing these; a church, a denomination, a community or family whose members are committed to doing these things will be a better one. The world will be a better place if all Christians today will devote our lives and time to doing these things. This is what the Lord wanted us to do.

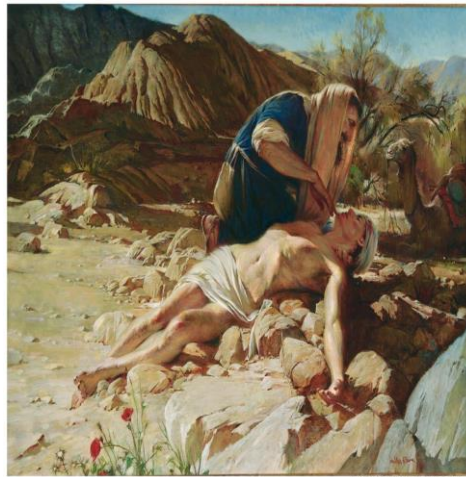
3. The Charge to all Christians and all men

“Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy” Mathew 5:7.

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” Mathew 5:14,16.

Jesus said **“Go and do likewise”**

Jesus is the Good Samaritan who came to the world to save fallen and half-dead humanity. Having been saved, we should be involved in efforts to save others.



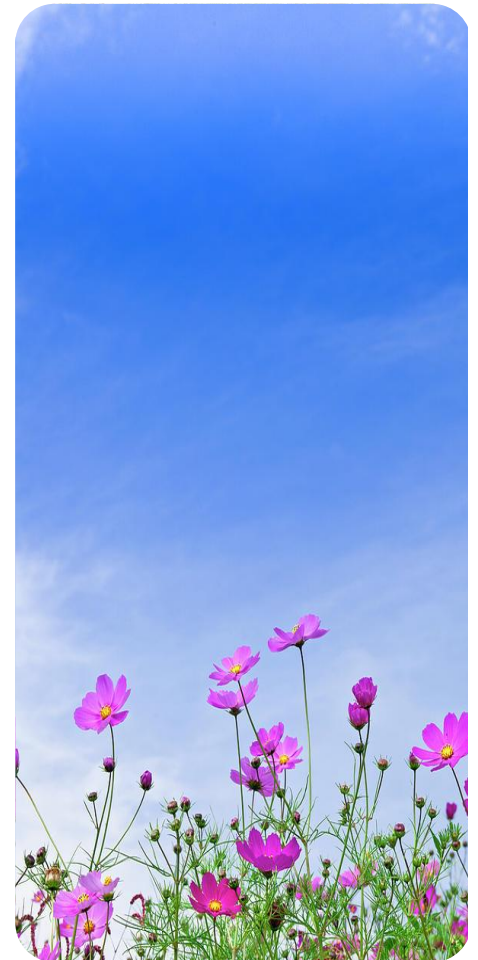
Every believer should be a good Samaritan in the world; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting and helping the sick, comforting the afflicted, praying for salvation and recovery of the dying either physically or spiritually. We are to fully represent Christ to the people among whom we live and work.

We are to go where He would go if He had been physically in the world today and do what He would do. Finally, all men are and are expected to be good neighbors to one another.

Men are all from one physical family; in that sense, we are all brothers and sisters. We are to be our brother's keepers.

We are to show concern for the safety and wellbeing of people other than our own.

We by our love and concern should add value to other people's lives and together create a better world or at least leave the world around us better than we met it. That is what Jesus did; that is what He expected us to do. May God help us to do so.



JOHN 3:16



In the city of Chicago, one cold, dark night, a blizzard was setting in. A blizzard is a severe snowstorm characterized by strong sustained winds of at least 56 km/h (35 mph) and lasting for a prolonged period of time—typically three hours or more. A little boy was selling newspapers on a street corner. People around were running to wherever they could find shelter but none cared about the little boy. The boy felt so cold that he couldn't continue the sale.

He walked up to a policeman and said, "Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you? You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and it's awfully cold in there at night. It will surely be nice if I can have a warm place to stay."

The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, "You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they open the door you just say **John 3:16**" and they will let you in."

So he did. He walked up the steps to the door of the house and knocked on the door. A lady answered. He looked up and said, **John 3:16.** The lady said, "Come on in, Son." She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocking chair in front of a great big old fireplace and she went off.

He sat there for a while, and thought within himself, "John 3:16.... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm." Later she came back and asked him "Are you hungry?" He said, "Well, just a little. I haven't eaten in a couple of days and I guess I could stand a little bit of food."

The lady took him to the kitchen and sat him down in front of a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more.



Then he thought within himself "John 3:16.... Boy, I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a hungry boy full." She took him upstairs to a bathroom and a huge bathtub filled with warm water and he sat there soaked for a while.

As he soaked, he thought within himself, "John 3:16...I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big old fire hydrant as they flushed it out."

The lady came in and took him to a room and tucked him into a big old feather bed and pulled the covers up around his neck and kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights.

As he laid in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night he thought within himself, "John 3:16.... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a tired boy rested."

The next morning she came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food. After he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and she took a big old Bible and sat down in front of him and looked up at him and she asked, "Do you understand **John 3:16**?"

He said, "No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it."

She opened the Bible to **John 3:16**, and she began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus.

He sat there and thought, "John 3:16. I don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe."

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either, how God would be willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand it either, but it sure makes life worth living!!

- Author Unknown

GOD SO LOVE THE WORLD HE GAVE

1. God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save, That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive
2. Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death; All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
3. God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh; His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done; And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
5. If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
6. Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To Thee, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Johann Olearius

"For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten
Son, that whosoever believeth
in him should not perish, but
have everlasting life
John 3:16

On August 27, 1910, a child named Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born at Skopje, Macedonia. Agnes was also known as the famous **Mother Teresa**.

Throughout her life, she helped others and lived a poor life from the time when she was merely an adolescent, to when she was old and ready to go to God in heaven. Her life was dedicated to caring for others and helping those in need of love and affection.

When she was just at the age of twelve, she felt the call of God and knew that she had to be a missionary to spread Jesus' love. When she was eighteen, she left her guardian home in Skopje and joined the Sisters of Loreto. Sisters of Loreto are an Irish community of nuns with missions in India. She was sent to India after a few months of training in Dublin and took her initial vows as a nun on May 24, 1931.

Mother Teresa taught at St. Mary's High School in Calcutta from 1931 to 1948. She had caught glimpses of the poverty and suffering of others outside the convent and she was so moved that she got permission from the authority to leave the convent school and devote herself to working with the poorest of the poor in Calcutta.

She had no money, but she started a school for poor children. She was later joined by voluntary helpers and some people who also helped with financial support. That helped her to carry on with her work.

Towards the middle-age, Mother Teresa obtain permission from the Holy See to start her own order, *The Missionaries of Charity*.

Their main job was to give love and care to people that had no one to look after them. By 1965, the Society had become an International religious family because of a decree issued by Pope Paul VI.

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

MOTHER TERESA
1910 - 1997



Now, The Missionaries of Charity works in many countries of the world providing effective care for the poorest of the poor. Mother Teresa's order, assists the most needy and vulnerable in times of disasters, floods, epidemics, and famine. They care for refugees who are in desperate need of help.

The *Missionaries of Charity* became an official International Association on March 29, 1969. By the 1990, there were more than one million staff of the association in more than 40 countries of the world. The lay Missionaries of Charity try to follow Mother Teresa's spirit and attitude wherever they go.

Everywhere in the world, Mother Teresa's work has been recognized and given awards for her selfless love and care. Pope John XXIII awarded Mother Teresa the Peace Prize in 1971. She was also awarded the Nehru Prize for promoting international peace and understanding in 1972.

Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997 in her convent in India at the age of 87.

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you"
JOHN 13:14,15

SONG OF THE MONTH

To the Work, To the Work

1. To the work! To the work! we are servants of God,
Let us follow the path that our Master has trod;
With the balm of His counsel our strength to renew,
Let us do with our might what our hands find to do.

*Toiling on, toiling on,
Toiling on, toiling on;
Let us hope, let us watch,
And labor till the Master comes.*

2. To the work! To the work! let the hungry be fed,
To the fountain of life let the weary be led;
In the cross and its banner our glory shall be,
While we herald the tidings, "Salvation is free!"
3. To the work! To the work! there is labor for all,
For the kingdom of darkness and error shall fall;
And the name of Jehovah exalted shall be
In the loud swelling chorus, "Salvation is free!"
4. To the work! To the work! in the strength of the Lord,
And a robe and a crown shall our labor reward
When the home of the faithful our dwelling shall be
And we shout with the ransomed, "Salvation is free!"

Author: Fanny Crosby

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BANK DETAILS FOR DONATION

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