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MEDITATION

By Rev. J. H. Dudgeon

We will leave the story of Martha and Mary this time, for it may be, some one has been saying, "It is alright for you preachers to talk about this life of rest and victory, of complete surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ; to have a calm and constant trust in Him; the one we cannot see but to take Him by faith." We know the Bible talks of such a life but that is in the long ago. We wonder if such is possible in this modern age with all its selfishness, greed and competition.

Let me tell you of one who I know and who has been living this life of quiet rest, whose trust is so implicit in the Lord, everything that comes into his life he is still on the victory side.

It was one of my first pastors that I had this man for a member. He lived in a community which was a fair farming district. He had a farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres. If you were passing along the road there was nothing to distinguish his place from any of the others in the community. In fact his neighbors said "He was no great farmer, he was just lucky." Did you ever hear that statement?

When I came to know him he and his son were batching; his wife having died a few years before. Although he lived some eight miles from my church he started coming to us and it was not long until we knew he had an experience beyond the ordinary church member. He let us know he believed God and His promises, that the Bible was to him a precious book and no other literature was allowed to rob him of the quiet moments with the Book, for there he said God came very near to him. At this time he was supporting a missionary of his own in Japan, receiving reports regularly from them personally, of the work. He was very liberal in his contributions to the local church or any cause that he believed stood for the upbuilding of the kingdom of Christ no matter of what denomination, color or race. He never counted it waste of time to attend the prayer meeting even if there was only a small company.

If any special effort was being made to reach others for Christ, it made no difference what he was doing he would leave it to lend his influence to the work. I knew him to leave his harvest standing ready for cutting to attend a three day missionary conference. I tell you all this so you may know him and I am sure you would say "Poor farmer, no business man."

No perhaps not, but he had God and he loved His service and had great joy in serving Him. I spent a night with him in his home, and I shall never forget the fellowship we had together as we talked and prayed and read the word. How free he was to talk about his Lord, a very quiet talking man, sometimes scarcely a whisper in prayer in his home or in the church. But he was like what the old lady said when she was asked "What she thought of her new minister?" (a very common question). Replied: "I like him well, he is so familiar with my Lord."

During my visit I enquired of him how he came into such a happy experience and he told me his story.

My wife and I were both members of the church at ——— and as many of my neighbors are still doing, we attended its services and supported it from a sense of duty. It never was hard for us to stay at home if a neighbor dropped in or friends from a distance to visit us. Or if the day was fine we would return a visit. The minister called on us and he reckoned on us to bear our part of the financial responsibility of the work which we did always enquiring what others were doing.

But there came into the community a few years ago a man to work for one of my neighbors who we all got to know very soon. He was always at church when we were there and we were soon attracted to him for he had a story to tell how the Lord was answering his prayers from time to time. This was new to us. Wife and I invited him to our home for we saw he had a secret we knew nothing about. He spoke about a place of quiet rest a place of victory and he pointed out to us from the word of God that all of God's children who would be willing to follow Him, obey Him, take Him at His word may find that in the place of us keeping religion, He, the Lord would keep us "In perfect peace whose mind was stayed on Him"; that what the Lord desired

of us was to take Him as a partner in life so we would work together and all we would do in word or deed would be for His Glory. About farming this man said He (the Lord) knew more about farming than I did. This was the dawning of a new day for us. After this the work on the farm or in the house we would talk it over with the Lord as a partner in the business. Everything, plowing or seeding, ironing or getting meals. Yes and even when we had to make a quick decision we would take the moment and say: "Father direct us now."

We also recognized almost at the beginning that if He was a partner in the business that He should share in it. If the hired man expected to be paid then when the Lord sent the rain and the sunshine he had more to do than the hired man. We had never thought of it in that way before. So now we began to set aside as the Lord's portion ten per cent of the income (not the profits) but the proceeds of the farm from the sale of grain or stock, etc.

When we started this new principle of life we had as mostly all my neighbours, had a mortgage on the farm, and it may seem strange to you but it only took a few years and out of the nine-tenths we were able to discharge that mortgage. I asked how did he account for that and his financial success?

Well pastor I do not reckon this farm mine, but the Lord's and I am His steward and He has entrusted me with this "Pound". So when the spring comes at seeding time we talk it over with Him and reckon on Him to guide us in all our transactions and decisions. And this is what I found so often almost constantly. When oats were a good price in the Fall I would have a good acreage and a good crop, the same with barley or any other grain. When hogs were a good price on the market usually I had a batch of hogs ready; same with cattle, I would have a fat cow or a pair of steers ready for market.

Pastor it is a pleasure to farm with such a partner and we do not have to worry about trusts or combines or the cornering of the market. My partner knows and he takes the worry from me.

He had learned the secret of Mary of Bethany. He had "Chosen the good part". The same way as Mary "At Jesus feet hearing His word."

My dear reader have you found this secret? The Lord has given you farmers a bumper crop this year. You had to hire extra help and the town folks came out and helped until their dainty hands were blistered and their back ached. You expressed your thanks to them did you not? You paid your hired man or at least you will. Now honest how about the Lord? Suppose in place of sending the sunshine and rain that you had nothing to do with, He had allowed drought, hail or frost where would you have been? You got a thousand bushels of wheat. Don't you think He is entitled to one hundred of it? You might only have had nine hundred or less but for His goodness.

The government is suggesting we give ten per cent of our income and salary to carry on the war. We are not grumbling very much about that. I wonder if we had remembered the Lord in the years past as we should if we would be asked to do this for the war. You know the Gospel is still the power of God and because those of our enemies lack the knowledge of this Gospel is why they are warring us and all true people. Perhaps the Lord is letting us pass through these trying days to show us we have been forgetting Him, robbing Him.

We have forgotten that there is one who can handle all things for us. Your need and mine will never be greater than Phil. 4:19. That promise may cover it, "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus." He is the God who is sufficient. Take Him as a partner in all your affairs.

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TESTED RECIPES

WARTIME RELISHES & PICKLES

It is possible to fill the larder shelves with a variety of relishes without contravening the wartime restrictions on the use of sugar. Sour and dill pickles which form a large part of the most commonly used recipes need no added sweetening, and mustard and chopped pickles, which are more palatable when some sweetening is added, require such a small amount that the sugar may well be taken from the weekly ration or replaced by corn syrup. Sweet pickles require considerable sweetening, and it may be effected by honey or corn syrup, or part of both.

Directions for making relishes and pickles, together with many recipes, will be found in the circular "Wartime Pickles and Relishes", which may be obtained by writing to Publicity and Extension Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

DILL PICKLES

Place a layer of dill in the bottom of a crock. Fill it to within three inches of the top with washed cucumbers of from three to four inches in length. Add another layer of dill. Prepare a brine, using 1 lb. salt, 1 pint vinegar, and two gallons boiling water. Allow to cool to room temperature and pour over cucumbers. Cover with a plate and weight so that the brine completely covers the cucumbers. Let stand ten days to two weeks or until active fermentation has stopped. When scum forms it should be removed. Pack pickles in sterilized jars, adding a little dill to each jar. Boil brine 5 minutes, cool, and pour over pickles. Seal and store in a cool place.

CUCUMBERS

(for salad for winter use)
Wash, peel, and slice cucumbers; pack in a crock in layers beginning with a layer of salt, then a layer of sliced cucumbers until the crock is filled; finish with a layer of salt; put a plate and weight on top. Soak in cold water overnight before using, changing the water several times.

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Markham Twp. Red Cross Report

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH

Unionville Unit—Mrs. G. Murphy
28 men's pyjamas, 28 boys' pyjamas, 3 women's nightgowns, 4 children's nightgowns, 1 pr. bloomers, 70 sanitary pads, 10 boys' suits, 4 girls' coats, 1 boy's shorts, 1 blouse, 1 dress, 9 quilts, 30 pr. socks, 3 pr. seamen's stockings, 2 scarves, 17 pr. mitts, 2 pr. rifle mitts, 9 children's sweaters, 2 bonnets, 2 knitted dresses and panties (2 yr.), 3 turtle-neck sweaters.

Cashel Unit—Mrs. G. Wagg
3 large quilts, 1 cot quilt, 3 women's nightgowns, 4 turtle-neck sweaters, 1 helmet, 2 pr. socks, 2 pr. rifle mitts, 1 pr. child's stockings.
Milliken—Mrs. R. Risebrough
27 pr. socks, 6 pr. children's pyjamas, 4 quilts, 3 pr. seamen's stockings, 2 helmets, 8 pr. mitts, 1 pr. blankets, 3 pr. slippers.
Ringwood—Mrs. A. Summerfeldt
3 pr. socks.

Victoria Square—Miss M. Sanderson
1 pr. seamen's socks, 3 pr. ordinary socks, 3 scarves, 7 pr. mitts.
Cedar Grove—Mrs. Lapp
24 quilts, 1 pr. men's pyjamas, 4 women's nightgowns, 16 pr. mitts, 5 girls' nightgowns, 1 turtle-neck sweater, 1 seaman's cap, 1 helmet, 3 pr. rifle mitts, 2 pr. cloth mitts, 10 pr. socks, 5 pr. girls' pyjamas.
Polling Div. No. 1—Mrs. G. Cowie
2 scarves, 1 helmet, 3 pr. socks, 13 pr. bloomers, 3 girls' slips, 11 pr. boys' pyjamas, 2 layettes (made by Markham Presbyterian Y.W.).
Locust Hill—Mrs. A. Armstrong
4 quilts, 6 scarves, 2 helmets, 25 pr. mitts, 1 pr. gloves, 15 pr. socks, 5 pr. seamen's stockings, 7 turtle-neck sweaters, 1 pr. seamen's socks, 7 crib quilts, 3 girls' pyjamas, 6 women's nightgowns, 4 pr. boys' pants, 2 boys' caps, 1 girl's pullover (yellow), 6 children's knitted garments (2 yrs.).

Buttonville Unit—Mrs. A. Newson
5 girls' coats, 5 tams, 1 jacket, blouse and jumper, 10 yrs.; 1 jumper, 1 sweater, sweater and beret, 12 yr.; 1 blouse, skirt and mitts, 4 yr.; 8 quilts, 1 afghan, 11 pr. mitts, 21 pr. socks, 2 balaclava helmets, 5 sleeveless sweaters, 5 turtle-neck sweaters, 4 scarves, 1 body belt, 3 turtle-neck tuck-ins, 10 helmets, 6 pr. pyjamas (10 yrs.), 4 women's nightgowns, 10 pr. men's pyjamas, 6 pr. panties, 4 slips, 1 waist, 8 pr. seamen's stockings, 2 pr. rifle mitts, 3 red sweaters 10 yrs., 3 boys' clothing units each including blazer, cap, shorts, sweater, blouse, 2 pr. stocks, braces.

Shipped to Headquarters in January, February, March
January—14 large quilts, 2 crib quilts, 17 handkerchiefs.

February—25 large quilts, 9 crib quilts, 11 pr. girls' pyjamas, 3 girls' nightgowns, 3 women's nightgowns, 1 boys' pyjamas, 2 children's slips, 6 pr. girls' bloomers, 4 pr. boys' pants.

March—27 quilts, 30 girls' nightgowns, 1 afghan, 24 pr. men's pyjamas, 5 women's nightgowns, 6 pr. boys' pyjamas, 6 girls' sweaters, 2 pr. cloth mitts, 4 pr. flannelette panties, 3 pr. girls' bloomers, 1 flannelette waist, 4 children's slips, 1 child's knitted outfit (2 yrs.) including 2 dresses, 1 pr. panties, 1 coat, 1 cap; 9 girls' coats (long) and caps, 1 blue cloth hat, 1 child's dress including 1 sweater, 1 skirt, 1 pr. mitts; 1 girls' outfit including jumper, blouse, velvet jacket; 4 girls' wool dresses, 5 knitted suits 1 yr., 1 child's sweater 6 mos., 2 wool caps, 2 pr. socks, 1 soaker (infants), 3 layettes, 11 boys' units each including 1 flannel jacket, 1 pr. shorts, 1 cotton blouse, 1 sweater, 2 pr. wool stockings; 7 boys' sweaters, 10-14 yrs.; 3 pr. felt children's slippers.
Yrds. for comforts—8 pr. seamen's long stockings, 6 pr. seamen's boot stockings, 4 pr. long seamen's socks, 12 pr. ordinary socks, 4 sleeveless sweaters, 16 scarves, 5 steel helmet caps, 8 helmets, 3 balaclava caps, 18 turtle-neck sweaters, 40 pr. whole mitts, 4 turtle-neck tuck-ins, 1 aero cap, 1 body belt, 5 pr. 2-way mitts, 5 pr. rifle mitts.

April, May, June, July
Unionville Unit—Mrs. G. Murphy
8 women's nightgowns, 1 girl's nightgown, 9 boys' shirts, 3 pr. bloomers, 5 layettes, 15 quilts, 4 women's suits, 1 child's romper, 13 women's blouses, 2 children's sweaters, 1 turtle-neck sweater, 1 turtle-neck tuckin, 9 pr. socks, 1 sleeveless sweater.

Buttonville Unit—Mrs. A. Newson
6 pr. sea boot stockings, 6 helmets, 8 pr. socks, 4 pr. rifle mitts, 3 sleeveless sweaters, 1 turtle-neck tuckin, 6 pr. flannelette panties, 12 quilts, 6 blouses, 2 ladies' suits, 1 blanket, 2 pr. girls' pyjamas, 4 pr. men's pyjamas, 2 boys' red sweaters, 1 pr. mitts, 1 pr. refugee mitts, 10 pr. boys' pants, 3 girls' jumpers and jackets, 3 berets.
Locust Hill—Mrs. A. Armstrong
17 pr. pyjamas, 4 women's nightgowns, 3 turtle-neck sweaters, 2 parkas, 1 scarf, 1 helmet, 22 pr.

mitts, 1 pr. sea boot stockings, 1 pr. long seamen's stockings, 4 pr. socks, 6 quilts, 1 crib quilt, 1 blanket, 2 knitted units each including 1 sweater, 2 dresses, 1 cap, 1 pr. mitts, 1 soaker; 1 knitted suit 1 yr., 5 bonnets, 1 pr. mitts, 1 pr. socks.

Victoria Square—Mrs. R. Brumwell
3 pr. seamen's socks, 12 pr. socks, 5 scarves, 2 sleeveless sweaters, 6 pr. mitts, 16 quilts, 1 afghan, 2 cot quilts, 4 boys' sweaters, 3 turtle-neck tuck-ins, 1 scarf, 15 pr. 12 yr. pyjamas, 15 dresses 8-12 yrs., 1 coat, 1 skirt, 1 bonnet, 2 layettes.

Cashel Unit—Mrs. G. Wagg
7 pr. seamen's stockings, 20 pr. socks, 1 sweater beret (refugee), 4 boys' sweaters, 13 pr. 2-way mitts, 2 helmets, 4 scarves, 7 turtle-neck sweaters, 15 quilts, 8 crib quilts, 1 afghan, 15 nightgowns, 1 pr. pyjamas, 2 boys' blouses, 7 girls' coats and hats, 1 boy's suit, 4 dresses (6 yrs.), 2 pr. socks, 4 pr. mitts, 2 jumper dresses.

Cedar Grove—Mrs. A. Lapp
11 quilts, 6 nightgowns, 3 sweaters.

Milliken—Mrs. A. Risebrough
2 sweaters, 5 nightgowns, 4 pr. boys' pyjamas.

North Markham—Mrs. C. E. Hunt
4 pr. sea boot stockings, 1 scarf, 2 pr. socks, 1 pr. mitts.

Shipped to Headquarters
April, May, June, July
74 large quilts, 4 blankets, 11 crib quilts, 1 afghan, 1 child's slip, 10 pr. children's bloomers, 1 pr. children's panties, 9 layettes, 8 women's suits, 16 women's blouses, 12 boys' sweaters, 5 girls' sweaters, 4 berets, 4 rib scarves, 1 pr. rib socks, 15 pr. rib mitts, 7 parkas, 4 pr. rib bed socks, 24 girls' dresses 4-12 yrs., 13 pr. boys' pants, 2 knitted units 1-2 yrs., 1 knitted unit 1 yr., 1 boy's clothing unit including blouse, coat, pants, cap, braces, sweater, socks; 5 pr. girls' stockings, 1 girl's skirt, 1 child's coat, 1 bonnet, 11 boys' shirts, 7 girls' hats and coats, 1 boy's suit, 3 yrs., including coat, shorts, blouse; 15 turtle-neck sweaters, 12 pr. sea boot stockings, 13 pr. long seamen's stockings, 95 pr. ordinary socks, 4 pr. seamen's socks, 55 pr. whole mitts, 11 pr. rifle mitts, 17 pr. 2-way mitts, 4 steel helmet caps, 9 helmets, 7 sleeveless sweaters, 16 scarves, 5 turtle-neck tuck-ins, 1 pr. gloves, 2 pr. girls' pyjamas, 59 pr. boys' pyjamas, 7 pr. men's pyjamas, 22 women's nightgowns, 29 girls' nightgowns 2 children's nightgowns.