

Beloved Praying Friends:

January 6, 1950

We are thanking God for each one of you and send you greetings from Japan for a Blessed New Year. Proverbs 10: 22.

How ashamed we are that it has been so long since we wrote to many of you and we trust you will understand and forgive us.

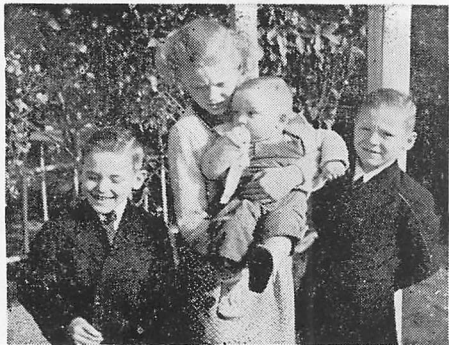
Early in June our three older children all came down with very heavy cases of the measles. Then on the 26th of June Helen had a very severe attack of beri-beri of the heart. Just at that time Kelsey's measles turned into pneumonia and then into pleurisy. For awhile all except little David and I were in bed. Helen's condition continued to be poor and so on the 3rd of November she had a double inner goiter operation. God has wonderfully undertaken and we are all fine and rejoicing in our Lord for what He is and for what He has done for us both physically and most of all spiritually.

Brother Glenn Wagner returned to Japan with his family in October and is heading up the PTL work here in Japan. Early in November Mr. Alfred Kunz executive director of the Pocket Testament League and Dr. Edwin Frizen came and were here for about six weeks and were a great blessing. They had an interview with General Mac Arthur who gave them a fine letter on behalf of PTL.

We have had quite a number of large mass meetings in Universities, High Schools, Prisons and one so far with the Metropolitan Police. During this Christmas and New Year season we have been out on the streets with the PTL sound truck playing beautiful Christmas music and offering free portions of the Gospel of John to any who have never read the Bible before as a Christmas present. The only condition for receiving it was they must read it from the beginning to the end. The response has been more than we could have thought. People lined up by the hundreds in the back of the truck to receive the Gospels of John and it was a joy to bring them the real meaning of Christmas.

On the 27th of December our missionary mail room burnt down with much Christmas mail in it. We don't have any idea what was lost. If you sent us something and don't receive an answer you will know the reason. Love in our Wonderful Lord, Your missionaries for Christ in Japan,

Helen and Tim Pietsch



Four little "Peaches"
Christmas Day 1949
at
1934 Ichome, Tamagawa
Todoroki Machi, Setagaya Ku
Tokyo, Japan
Tokyo Foreign Missionaries
APO 500 % PM. San Francisco, Calif.

1934 I-chome, Tamagawa Todoroki Machi
Setagaya ku, Tokyo, Japan
March 15, 1950

Dear Friends:

Thank you for remembering us in prayer and God has answered. On January 23rd after suffering for quite a long time Tim finally had to go to bed with chronic beri-beri of the heart (the same thing that Helen had last summer) which caused enlargement of the heart, loss of feeling in hands and feet and quite severe pain. But God has answered prayer on his behalf and he is much improved but still must take it easy. The doctors said the cause was eating too much rice and overwork. Peri-beri is very common in Japan at this time.

After much prayer we felt led to apply for admission for Kelsey and Tiny Tim to the Gakushuin (formerly known as the Peer's school and where the crown prince of Japan has gone to school). They both have been accepted as first graders and the beginning of next month start school. At first they will be taught only in Japanese but we will teach them English reading at home. Trust that you will pray for them and that this going to a Japanese school will prove a great blessing. American children have never been admitted to the school before.

During the month of February, Pocket Testament League men, Glenn Wagner, Phil Saint, Charlie Anderson, Don Robertson and Gordon Rasmussen were in a great campaign on the island of Shikoku and distributed two hundred thousand Gospels of John in mass meetings and a hundred thousand gospel tracts. It was hard for me not to be along, but it was a blessing to wait upon the Lord and we thank Him for knowing best and giving us this time of quietness. Now the second million PTL pocket sized Gospel of John are being printed and also a hundred thousand New Testaments. How we thank God for those who have given of their means to make this possible. Also we are now printing two hundred thousand copies of "What must I do to be saved" by Dr. John R. Rice. He sent the money to us for this great printing. This booklet has proved of great blessing and we have received hundreds of answers from it as we have sent them out with PTL Gospels of John. Also we have just finished printing another two hundred thousand gospel tracts for Mr. N. J. Christensen of the Lone Star Mission of Austin Texas. This two hundred thousand are about all gone and each day we have answers in the mail from these also. Please pray for the follow up work on these. We are trusting to be able to print many hundreds of thousands of gospel tracts here in Japan for it is cheaper to print here than in the U. S. A.

Love in our Lord, Jesus, Your missionaries for Him in Japan,

II Tim 4:5

Helen and Tim Pietsch



Timothy Pietsch preaching from top
of PTL Gospel truck at Asakusa on
Jan. 8, 1950 and offering a free Gospel
of John to any who will promise
to read it from beginning to end.



Tokyo Foreign Missionaries
APO 500 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho. Meguro Ku. Tokyo, Japan

November 15, 1950

Beloved Friends in our Lord Jesus Christ:

In the wonderful leading of our gracious Saviour, He has lead us to open new work which we are praying will be to His praise and glory in this great city. We would not have chosen this path of ourselves for we did not have the faith or the courage but the Lord brought us to this place and oh, how we are rejoicing in Him. The saddest things we see in Japan these days are the many hundreds of hungry hearts and the dead cold churches that give the people nothing but a stone instead of the LIVING BREAD. The largest church in Japan at this time does not have more than five hundred out on the average Sunday morning and the overwhelming proportion of churches here in Japan are modernistic and dead. Out of some sixteen hundred Japanese pastors in Japan less than one hundred believe the Bible to be the verbally inspired WORD OF GOD without error and most refuse to take a stand regarding idolatry and will never preach against it. In starting the new Tokyo Bible Center we realize that there is hardly anything left from before the war on which to rebuild new work for the overwhelming proportion of pastors gave in regarding Shinto Shrine idolatry and have not repented of this. So the Lord lead me to start the work and use new young Japanese Christians as assistant pastors and when they finish their schooling to let them take over. He has given to us, Paul Suzuki who I had the joy of leading to Christ two years ago and who really has grown in the Lord. He soon graduates from the School of Electronics of Nippon University and will then go to the new Tokyo Christian Seminary founded last year here in Tokyo by Brother Phil Foxwell and his associates. This seminary is one hundred percent true to the Word and is one of the only schools in Japan we could fully endorse for many schools are filled with teachers that are not clear on inspiration. In the TOKYO BIBLE CENTER we are emphasizing personal soul winning and house to house visitation. Our purpose is 'every Christian a soul winner'. We have found very few soul winners in Japan. We are not going to discontinue large street meetings but increase them, also we would like to get a tent and hold continuous meetings until the nucleus of a new BIBLE CHURCH is established. We believe now is the time to take a firm stand of complete separation from idolatry and modernism and all entangling alliances of the World Council of Churches, the Federal Council of Churches and the

(Please fold down and see inside)

United Church of Japan which we believe will soon be used to deceive millions into receiving the anti-Christ and the mark of the beast. We do not have much time left and no Bible believing Christian has any right to lend his weight or influence to one of these entangling alliances which are not servants of Christ but enemies of the true Gospel.

Soon for the first time in the history of Japan private radio stations will be granted licenses. Up to now all broadcasting in Japan has been run by the Japanese government and they come around each month and collect from everyone that owns a radio for the privilege of listening to their programs. If you don't like their program you just turn off the radio. They have had time allocated for religion, Shinto, Buddhist and Christianity but it is just that 'religion' and not the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now large newspapers are being granted licenses for private broadcasting and they will sell time just as is done in the U.S.A. and I am praying that we can buy time on one of these new stations and preach the WORD OF GOD. We are negotiating now with the newspapers who will probably get radio stations and will you pray that God will open the way to preach His word on the air here very soon.

The Lord greatly convicted me about not knowing His Word in the Japanese language and so I have been reading the Japanese Bible very carefully out loud each day with a Japanese teacher. I hope to be completely through the Japanese Bible this year. It was of interest to me to find out how many other missionaries in Japan have read through the Japanese Bible and with quite careful searching so far we have only found three missionaries now in Japan who have read completely through the Japanese Bible.

The Lord gave me the most wonderful summer I have ever had. I was out preaching in small Japanese village school houses in Niigata Prefecture on the west coast of Japan facing Korea, and I saw things that I had never seen in Japan before. Country people in this one of the strongholds of idolatry brought their god shelves and idols and burnt them publicly. In days before and during the war to burn these god shelves was considered treason against Japan for they represent the emperor and the sun goddess. Sad to say, many members of Christian churches, even those of faith missions still have their god-shelves and ancestral tablets and the pastors won't say anything about it in most cases. But when God begins to work we found they were glad to burn their idols publicly and give their reasons for doing it, that they had turned from idols to serve the TRUE and LIVING GOD and to wait for His Son from Heaven. Since I was in Niigata Prefecture reports have come that many more have burnt their idols and there is a real awakening. The Christians are meeting from village to village each day reading the Word, praying and dealing with those who want to be saved. I hope to go up soon and baptize those who have burnt their idols for there is no pastor or missionary in this section of Niigata Prefecture.

It has been our joy to help in the printing of many tracts. Right now we are putting out one hundred thousand copies of, "Here's your answer" by Keith L. Brooks. Of course these are in Japanese. Seeing the hundreds of thousands of copies of the Gospel of John put out in this land by the Pocket Testament League, F. J. Meldau and others, we felt a study course was needed for follow up so in faith Helen and I bought the paper for the printing of one hundred thousand copies of "The Heart of John's Gospel" by Keith L. Brooks and the printer in faith gave the labor as a work of love. These are sold for five yen apiece or about 1 1/2 cents. All funds go into a fund for reprinting. We have revised and are republishing "What must I do to be Saved" by John R. Rice. We have seen more real results from this than any other tract and now it will be done nicer than ever. Brother Rice sent us \$2724 for the reprinting of this tract and some of his books here in Japan. We hope to send a copy of his book, "Is Jesus God?" in Japanese, to every pastor in Japan for this is what they need. We are also republishing "The true God revealed in Christ" by Goto and have other tracts that should be printed right away. If you would like to help in this printing I am sure it would be of real blessing at this time. Gifts can be sent directly to us at the above address and we will send you a receipt for it.

At the Tokyo Bible Center we are starting a Bible Sunday School and trust to reach many children and their families. If you would like to send Sunday School material or cards, pictures, or used Christmas or greeting cards we can use them to great advantage. We are planning Lord willing to start a Bible kindergarten from April and in this way reach the little children and get into their homes. We are also starting a circulating library of Christian books in English and Japanese and if you have books you think young Japanese ought to read we will get them into their hands, if you send them to us.

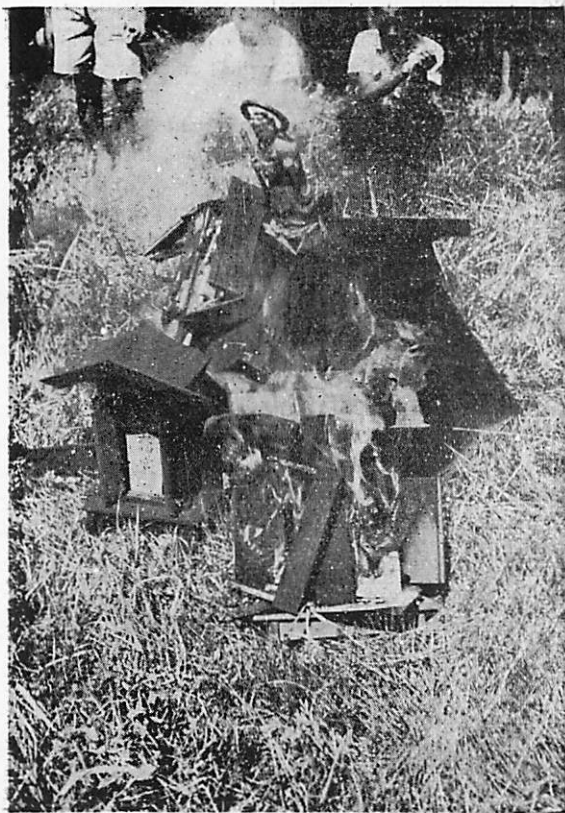
In faith, Virgil Wemmer of 1629 W. 262nd Street, Harbor City, Calif and I are making a new sound colored motion picture about the Lord's work in Japan entitled "THE NEW DAWN", which will be released soon and we hope you will contact Brother Wemmer and have this picture in your church soon. Also Paul Suzuki and I are now making the script in Japanese for Moody Institute of Science's picture "Dust or Destiny" which we hope will soon be ready. We trust also to put some of the Baptista pictures into Japanese soon.

A new school for missionary children has been opened and Sally Sue goes to this new school and it is a real blessing. The two boys, Kelsey and Tiny Tim still want to continue Japanese school and they are doing fine even though all their studies are in Japanese language. Little David is growing up and is starting to talk. The children are a great blessing to us in the work and our earnest prayer is that the Lord will call them into His service. Helen's grandmother passed away at the age of 94 on August 24. We trust Helen's mother can soon return to Japan from Honolulu where she has been since before the war. Love to you each one.

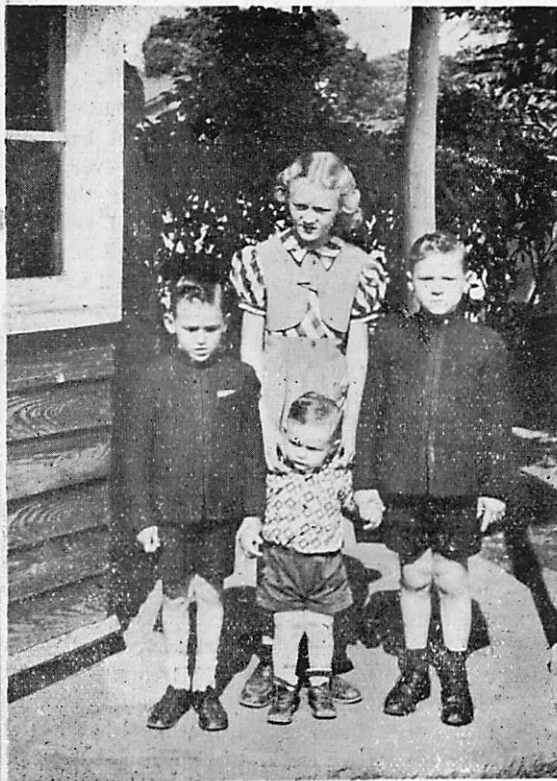
Your missionaries for Christ in Japan,

LUKE 9:23

HELEN AND TIMOTHY PIETSCH



God shrines and idols go up in smoke when country people in Niigata Prefecture, on the west coast of Japan, burnt their false gods on August 15, 1950.



Four little 'peaches' with their daddy and mother send you greetings for a Blessed Christmas and New Year from Japan.



Eager hands reach out for portions of scripture distributed by Tim Pietsch at Shibuya Station

Lord gave to us.

Today it was our joy to have our first meal in our new home. We have been receiving mail for quite a long time at the above address but the builders had been so slow in getting finished we just have not been able to move in. Even though it was not quite finished we all came over and had Japanese sukiyaki. We hope to move this coming week and before you receive this letter will be entirely settled. As a family we dedicated ourselves, the new place and all the future to the Lord and to His service. We pray that many will come to know our Lord here.

This afternoon we were able to have our first service in our new Tokyo Bible Center chapel which is right next door to our new home. This morning we put the speakers on the jeep and went around the neighborhood announcing that we would have a service for the boys and girls in the new Tokyo Bible Center at four-thirty in the afternoon. By three o'clock already quite a group had gathered and by meeting time there was a line of children over a block long. We let them in one by one as they took off their shoes and marking them so they wouldn't get mixed up. Into the little building that doesn't have seating room for even two hundred adults over six hundred and fifty boys and girls jammed sitting on the floor and over and on the benches. Outside there were many more that just couldn't get in. Calvary church Santa Ana, Calif. sent us popcicles and my, how they were appreciated. We showed a few movies and then introduced ourselves to the boys and girls. We asked them how many had ever been in church before and only about ten raised their hands. We then showed them slides on the birth of our Lord Jesus and then

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho

Meguro Ku, TOKYO, Japan

December 25, 1950

Dear, dear Friends:

Thank you for remembering us at this Christmas time and how good our Lord was to us. He met us in a very special way and it is so wonderful just to trust Him. Thank you for your letters, cards and gifts but most of all for your remembering us in prayer. Today we have thought of you and prayed for you each one and trust that you were able to have as joyful and glorious a Christmas as the

on His death and resurrection and told them something of what it meant. We announced to them that we would begin Sunday School for them the first Sunday of the new year and most all of them promised to come. This first service in the new Tokyo Bible Center was a great victory. From the very beginning our building is too small and we are praying and planning to someday have a great church at this place for the glory of our Lord.

Am sure that many of you have been praying with us about preaching the Bible on the radio here in Japan. In our last letter we wrote that free radio broadcasting is soon to be permitted in Japan for the first time and that large newspapers were planning to build new radio stations and sell time to the general public. In wonderful answer to prayer out of a clear sky a reporter from the Yomiuri Shinbun, one of the largest newspapers in Tokyo and the one most expected to get the first license for broadcasting, called me on the phone and said he would like to interview me. He said that he had heard me preaching at Shibuya and was interested and would like to write up our story for a special Christmas supplement for their paper. He said it was for the young people of Japan and that he would be glad to print any message we would like to give the young folks of Japan. We told him the real meaning of Christmas was not Xmas which is so commonly used here in Japan but that it was the birth of Christ who came into the world to save us from our sin. We told him this was from the Bible and to please urge the young people of Japan to read the Bible. I then mentioned that I had heard that his newspaper was planning to build a new radio station and he said "yes" and it was almost finished and they hoped to be granted their license soon and hoped to begin broadcasting by spring. I told him that we had been praying that we could preach the Bible on the radio just as I had been doing on the street. He said "That is just what Japan needs" and he promised to introduce us to the head men of the newspaper who were in charge of the radio station and he thought there was very good possibility of getting time. Now dear friends will you please pray much that just the Lord's will way be done. This is probably one of the great opportunities of Japan.

Some of you have read reports undoubtedly of hundreds of thousands being saved in this land. As you can see from the picture at the head of this letter many reach out their hands for portions of the scriptures. This has been taken by many as a real revival. I am sorry to say that I have seen little real awakening. In my experience I have found that when we preach on the street to about two thousand people, (often when the children come and sing in English and Japanese that many will gather because American children singing in Japanese is such a curiosity to them) about a hundred will respond at the invitation and come and kneel with us right in the dirt on the streets in front of the rest of the crowd and

pray saying they are making a decision to accept Christ. We give them as clearly as we can the plan of salvation, get their names and addresses and give them follow up literature on how to live the Christian life. Yet we have found that of the hundred that come and kneel and pray professing to make a decision about only one or two really comes through to burning their idols, being baptized and joining the church. In the U. S. when a hundred people profess to accept Christ quite a large percentage will make a clean cut stand and come out and witness for Christ by baptism and joining a group of Christians but here in Japan we find that it is only about one percent or so. Too many people have been counting the professions which don't tell the whole story. If there has been any wide revival in Japan so far, it has not been in the Christian church but in the Shinto Shrines for more people than ever before, since the end of the war are again going to the Shrines. Large department stores have great sections where you can buy a little god shelf or a great large one ranging from about fifty cents to hundreds of dollars.

Taking all things into consideration it has probably never been easier in the history of missions in Japan to preach the gospel than it is right now. Though prices are very high and the army has made an artificial barrier between Americans belonging to the occupation and those that don't, still we are able to buy all necessary things here, even American products, which we were not able to do before the war. The army has taken away the rights to use the APO from all missionaries and business people in Japan but we find the Japanese mail adequate though about five times higher in price for air mail. Please send all mail to the above address as this will be our permanent address D. V. from now on. We are very thankful to our Lord for the privilege of being in this land at this time and we feel very unworthy to bear the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We ask your most earnest prayer that we may bear it well and without flinching bear the reproach of taking a clean cut stand on His word without fear or favor. Our own failures are ever before us and we have confessed to our Lord and to His children all He has revealed to us and will continue to confess and forsake as He brings things to our attention.

Many evangelical organizations have entered Japan since the end of the war that never worked here before and we are thankful to our Loving Heavenly Father for His great mercy to Japan. It is a joy to see many new missionaries coming. Many organizations here are talking about following up the great mass meetings that have been held and and it certainly is essential and I am convinced with all my heart that there is only one effectual follow up and that is the establishing of Bible believing Bible teaching churches. This is the only thing that will stem the tide in case of another great upheaval in this land and the missionaries are again forced to

leave. There are now many evangelical organizations working here in Japan but we find most of them wanting to be neutral and avoid an issue on the tremendous questions regarding the World Council of Churches and the International Council. They say they don't want to fight and so say nothing about the idolatry and modernism of the United Church of Japan and do not warn the people about it. They say "well we haven't any where else to send them except to the United Church of Japan even though we know they won't get the gospel and be built up in the faith". This type of thinking and action so very prevalent here now is exceedingly dangerous for I am convinced that no church at all is better than one that denies the diety of my Lord. When one has a headache it is better to take no medicine than to take poison in all sincerity from a bottle marked "aspirin" and thinking it was aspirin. Many of those who profess to accept Christ are being sent to the United Church of Japan whose leadership is as a whole modernistic and unitarian to swallow the poison in all sincerity thinking it is the true gospel because some evangelical missionaries won't take sides and warn the people about the modernism and idolatry so prevalent in Japan at this time.

Reading the Bible in Japanese has been such a blessing to me that I have set up a schedule to read it through six times during the next year.

Yesterday, which was Christmas eve, I had again the privilege of preaching on the street. I try to spend at least ten hours a week preaching on the streets. Yesterday Brother Dave Morken came with me and his new worker Ken Swanson. About six weeks ago while preaching at Yokosuka the great naval base near here, on the streets God touched the hearts of many sailors and marines to stop and listen and I preached to them in English and fifteen knelt right on the street in front of a crowd of Japanese confessing their sins and asking the Lord to save them. It was a great thrill for me to see my own countrymen in this far away land bow to my Lord as we preached His Word.

With much love to you each one and asking you to please uphold us in fervent prayer, not to just say prayers for us but to hold us up before Him.

Your missionaries for Christ in Japan,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9 : 23

THE BIBLE TIMES

— For The Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ —

THE MESSAGE JAPAN NEEDS TO HEAR

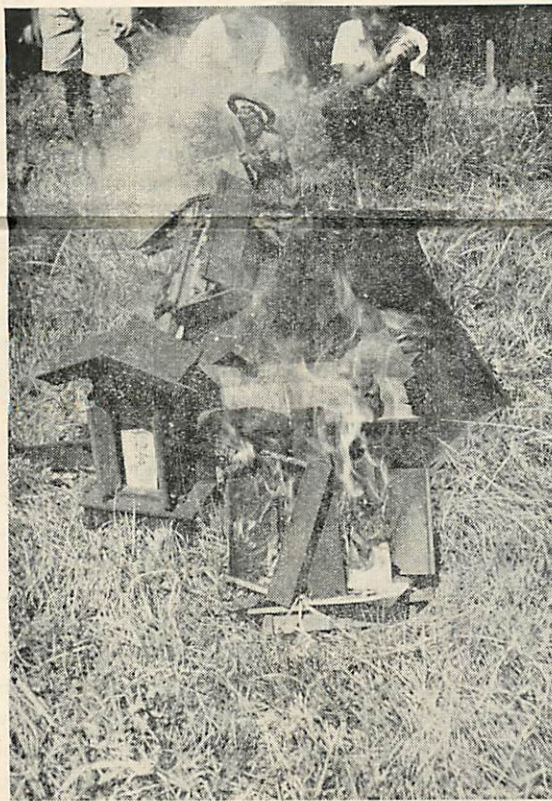
The fine contributed article below contains, we believe, the ingredients of the message which ought to be proclaimed throughout the islands of Japan today. It does not hold out the illusionary promise of a man made Utopia in this wicked world, but it does hold out the heavenly peace of God through the acceptance of Christ and His forgiveness, and the glories of heaven throughout eternity. In a land where there are more than eight million gods, and idols in every home, it clearly faces the problem of idolatry and invites men to believe on the only true and living God. We believe that in Japan the new convert to Christ and His truth can make no better testimony to his faith in God and release from the old, heathen supers-

tions than that of taking out his idols, be they kami dana, But-sudan, images or ihai and publicly burning them, as the new Christians in the accompanying pictures did last summer. This is their great privilege and duty, and faithful pastors and missionaries should point this out to them. Only when Christians in Japan are so filled with the zeal of their Lord as to burn up their idols and go out to aggressively evangelize for Him will the churches begin to come to life. We may yet see that in the proportion fire is put to the idols by His people so the fire of God will fall from heaven to send them out flaming in evangelistic zeal for Christ.

Ed.

MAN'S GREATEST PROBLEM AND ITS SOLUTION

In Japan, a great many people seem to think that the majority of their troubles are economic and I hear them say, 'if we only had plenty to eat and wear then all would be fine'. They seem to think that if Japan could become a 'have nation' then nothing further would be desired. May I remind you that America has been a 'have nation' more or less ever since the civil war and as a nation we have known no major shortage of anything in almost a hundred years. Yet we have just as many criminals, thieves, liars, adulterers, juvenile delinquents as has Japan in proportion. Having things has not solved our most important problems. At the time I was in college there was a very severe depression in the United States. People lost their jobs, they had no money and some even starved to death. What was the cause of this depression? Was it shortage and famine that made people starve to death? No it was over abundance, having too many things. We had too much so the prices of



things went down, farmers could not sell their crops and so had no money to buy manufactured articles. The government had to step in and pay people not to grow things and it also bought crops and burnt them in a world where in other lands there was wide spread famine. What was the trouble? Shortage? No! Too much! There seems to be just as many perils and problems in having things as in not having them. Man's greatest problem does not lie in having things or not having them but it is much deeper.

Some Japanese and many others seem to think our greatest problem is the atomic bomb. I don't believe it is or that we as human beings fear the atomic bomb itself. Just think about this for a moment. What do we fear? Is it not the way men will use the atomic bomb? The Americans fear how the Russians might use it in the future and the Russians in turn do not trust the Americans. So here we find something more terrible than the atomic bomb itself. The men who conceiv-

ed and use the atomic bomb we fear more than the bomb. It is not the instrument of death that we fear but man fears man. Why? Is it not the very nature of man that man fears? We fear that the greed of others may take away from us what we have or our greed may force us to take things away from others which belongs to them so we say "everything belongs to the people". Yet is it not greed that is the motive behind all this? If we honestly stop to think of the deep causes of war we have to come to the sad conclusion that they lie in man's own character. What is man's character? God's Word, the Bible, calls it 'sin'. This character of man is manifested by lying, cheating, stealing, adultery, the making and worshipping of other gods and worshipping them because we do not know or do not want to know and serve the true Living God who made us. May I

ask you, reader of these words, did you ever tell a lie? Did you ever steal anything? Did you ever cheat or commit adultery? Do you worship your ancestors? Do you worship anything else besides the True God who created you? If you are honest I am sure you have to admit that you have done some of these things as I have done them. Then in my very nature and in yours lies the seeds of war. NOW THIS IS MAN'S GREATEST PROBLEM. How may I change my nature? How may I have a heart or nature that is pure instead of evil, and how may I love instead of hate? We look at a boy and say about him, "He is a bad boy". What is bad about him? Are his eyes bad? No, he can see very well. He can hear well, he can smell, he is very smart. What is bad about him? Is it his chest or his lungs? His arms or his legs? No, he is a fine specimen of a

boy but he is still a bad boy. What is it that makes him bad? Is it his stomach or his liver? No, you say 'it's his heart, he is a bad boy because he has a bad nature.' Alright then, let's call a doctor and have him take out the old heart and put in a new one". You say, "Don't be absurd, there is no such doctor who can take out the boy's old nature and give him a new one". Oh my friend, but you are mistaken for there is such a doctor. His name is Jesus and He is called the Great Physician for He alone can take wicked, bad hearts and replace them with a new heart, a new nature, a new character. I came to Him and He gave me a new nature, love instead of hate, joy instead of fear, life instead of death. God's Word, the Bible, which has no mistakes in it says in I Cor 5:17, 'if any man be in Christ He is a new creature.' By coming to the great Doctor and turning my case over to Him He changed me. In I Tim 1:15 the Bible tells us that He came to save sinners. Are you a sinner? If so He can change you and save you. None of us can come to Him as Ame-

ricans or Japanese or English or Chinese. We must come admitting our disease, 'sin', and ask Him to change us. My dear Japanese friends, none of us can come to Him as descendants of famous ancestors but only as guilty, lost, condemned sinners, helpless to help ourselves, and then He will help us and cure us. My ancestors were savages of Europe and when our fathers first turned to God they had to admit the words of Jeremiah 16:19 "Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity and things wherein is no profit". If you are ever going to have a new heart, a new nature, you are going to have to throw away your ancestor worship, your kamidana or Butsudan, all false religion, all pride of nation or family and come to Jesus Christ who can give you a new nature and a new life. He loves you though you are still a sinner and He is calling you still, "COME UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST"

Timothy Pietsch

Christ's Testimony to the old Testament

The usual view today of those who do not believe the Bible to be the divinely inspired Word of God is that the Old Testament is a collection of materials, the parts of which have some loose relation to one another. They do not think of it as a unit or a single book. They quote from those parts which have some *moral or religious* value to them. They assume that Jesus Christ had this same attitude toward the Old Testament, but His testimony as we find it in the New Testament is entirely opposed to this view.

In examining the statements of Christ regarding the Old Testament, we find one passage in particular which indicates the extent of the canon which He accepted as Scripture. After His resurrection, He said, "These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets and in the psalms, concerning me." (Luke 24:44). Here He recognizes the usual three divisions of the Old Testament. The law of Moses refers to the first five books, and the prophets to the historical books and the books by the writing prophets. In referring to the Psalms, Christ probably meant the single book of the third division which contains many prophecies concerning Himself.

His manner of referring to the Old Testament is another indication that He thought of it as a unit. In Matthew 26:54 He said that it was necessary for Him to be taken and to suffer if the Scriptures were to be fulfilled, using the word "Scriptures" in a plural or inclusive sense. This indicates that He thought of the Old Testament Scriptures as an organic whole.

Christ not only spoke of the Old Testament as a unit, but He appealed to it as the ultimate authority. When the Scripture speaks, man is to obey. We find this attitude clearly indicated in the account of the Lord's temptation in the wilderness where three times He quotes the Old Testament to Satan with the introductory phrase, "It is written."

This authority Christ attributed not only to the Scriptures as a whole or to particular verses, but He also extended it to include words and even letters. In Luke 16:17 He said that it was easier for heaven and earth to pass, than for one stroke of a letter of the law (the Old Testament books of the law) to fail. In another case (John 10:34 35), He based an argument on the difference between the singular and plural of a single word.

Since Jesus Christ evidently taught that the Bible was the divinely inspired Word of God, we are faced with only three possible conclusions. That is, He deliberately deceived His disciples, His knowledge was limited, or He spoke the truth.

The first possibility is one that no one who calls himself a Christian would be willing to accept. Even those who regard Christ as merely a human teacher or a perfect example rather than the Son of God would not say that He knowingly deceived His followers.

There are those who say that the Lord's knowledge in His human nature was so limited that it was possible for Him to make mistakes. If it was limited, the only indication we have is in Mark 13:32 which applies only to the time of His Second Coming. At all events, His knowledge of all things was an absolutely true knowledge. If He had been in error on the question of inspiration or anything, then we must admit the possibility of error in any part of His teaching, and we are left with neither Christ nor the Bible for an absolute authority.

Christ's true testimony concerning the Scriptures is contrary to the Barthian view that we find the Word of God in a book filled with errors. They are our only infallible rule of faith and practice, and the Holy Spirit of God in our hearts persuades us that they are the very Word of God.

Next month we will discuss some of the recent archaeological confirmations of the Old Testament.

Anne Wigglesworth

Dr. H. H. McConnell, a United Presbyterian minister presently visiting Japan, is not to be confused with the Bishop McConnell of the U. S. Methodist Church, whose book "The Christlike God" we quoted from last month. Like the Bishop Dr. H. H. McConnell is a leader and spokesman of the heterogeneous Federal Council of Churches in the USA and comes to Japan as their representative. Three months ago this Council amalgamated with other agencies to form the new National Council of the Churches of Christ. Many of their leaders have written books which reveal their great departure from the historic Christian faith and at a later date we will have more to say on this matter. Next month we plan to bring you Rev. S. Boyle's timely article on "The Church Under Communism". Many thanks for the many new subscriptions. Keep them coming. Rates: Yen 100 in Japan, per year; \$1.00 outside of Japan.

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TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamaecho, Meguroku, Tokyo, Japan

Beloved Friends in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Some of you have been wondering perhaps just what is the TOKYO BIBLE CENTER and what is its aim and prospects for the future, God willing. Here in Japan there is a very great amount of modernism and most of Christianity is apostate as proved by the last war when most of the leaders of the church here in Japan went to the Shinto Shrines and accepted the worship of the emperor of Japan simply as patriotism. In Korea and Manchuria where the Japanese imposed their Shinto Shrine worship there has been repentance on the part of many who compromised but here in Japan we have discovered little if any repentance on the part of the Japanese pastors who went to the Shinto Shrines or allowed their children to go. Rather there has been a marked defensiveness regarding their war time defection of the faith. Christianity as a whole in Japan contradicts the Bible. Many have adapted Christianity to conform to Japan. I call it **MADE IN JAPAN CHRISTIANITY**. Therefore when we started this new work we felt it necessary to Center in the Bible. Our aim is to get the Japanese people to read the Bible and to establish Bible believing churches. Amongst the Japanese there are very few Christians who know the Old Testament and the stern warnings against idolatry are not observed. Sad to say even to this day most of the churches of Japan will say nothing directly about idolatry and many many church members still have idols in their homes. About eighty five per cent of the churches of Japan prior to the war were started in modernism and there is not even a nucleus of evangelical Christians among them. You can see the great danger of working through the existing churches as is the custom in America.

It is my firm conviction that there is hardly anything left from before the war that is worth building new work upon. We must start new and afresh. Before God and His people I confess my own failure to stand one hundred percent in faith for Him. I let fear rule my heart and govern my action. I was afraid of losing our support if I took a stand and afraid of being stranded in Japan with a war coming on. The Bible clearly states 'that which is not of faith is sin'.

I did not stand in true trust to the Lord Jesus but was afraid to take a clean cut stand and did not speak out on these things as I should have. Until last year I never fully trusted the Lord about all things but feared what man could do unto me, and so I never wrote about these things and I now realize that to keep quiet for fear is sin and that my compromise

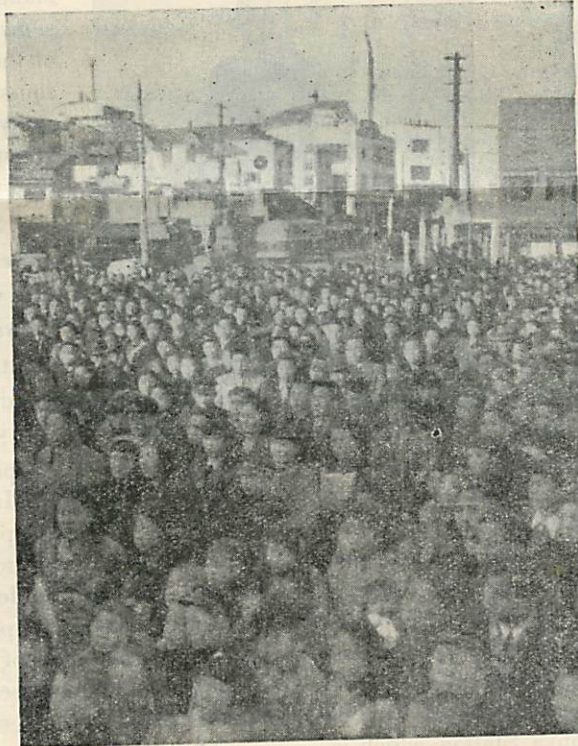
for fear of the results is just as serious in God's sight as those who compromised and sent their children to the Shinto Shrines in fear of what might happen if they did not do so. I confess my failure and ask God's forgiveness and that of His people. Before Him I know of nothing that I have not made right and I can welcome Him with a clear conscience when He comes.

You have heard reports of thousands being converted in this land but we have discovered it otherwise. Yes, we find hundreds will stand and listen to us preach the gospel on the streets and many many will raise their hands or sign cards but it is quite another thing to get them to turn from their idols to serve the true and Living God and to "wait for His son from Heaven." All the customs and culture of Japan is against true Christianity. Your hearts would be deeply saddened if you could see what takes place in many 'faith missions' here in Japan. They have Japanese pastors that do not believe the

Bible to be the infallible Word of God and who teach Barthian doctrines, which say the Bible has mistakes in it. Most of their pastors will not say anything against idolatry for fear, and most of these faith missions have missionaries who belong to churches in the **Federal Council of Churches** and thus the policy of the mission is to compromise with the spiritual idolatry and not take a clean cut stand against modernism to the extent of completely separating from it. I have discovered that when a missionary himself refuses to take a clear cut stand in regard to the apostasy in America he is not adequate to meet the situation which is a hundred times worse here in Japan. It is my strong conviction that before our Lord returns there will be a great falling away from the true faith and we see it taking place before our eyes. My stand before God is that it is wrong to be in any way connected with the **Federal Council of Churches** or the world Council. It is not only those who approve of the **Federal Council** that are members but each person who holds ordination or mem-

bership in a **Federal Council** denomination. Are you a member of this apostate organization? If so, God says 'Come out from among them' It is not enough simply to denounce the apostasy but the Lord says: "renouncing the hidden things of iniquity" If you belong in any way to a denomination in the **Federal Council** you are numbered with them as Lot was in Sodom.

The position of a Bible believing Christian in the apostate organizations is going to be more and more like that of righteous Lot in Sodom. The World Council and all its children are progressing to its doom and to witness truly for Christ we must get out of them. When a man in any way remains con-



*Crowd Listening to Gospel
at Shibuya station*

nected with such an organization he is himself compromising though perhaps unconsciously and therefore is in no position to fully warn. How can a missionary that belongs to the Federal Council in America say to a Japanese pastor that it is wrong to remain in the United Church of Japan for both are under the world council of churches.

May I ask you dear reader of this letter, Are you supporting a missionary that belongs to a church in the Federal Council? Are you supporting a mission or missionary that refuses to take a clear cut stand in regard to the Federal Council? Are you supporting a mission that has Federal Council or World Council members as missionaries? If so you are giving aid and comfort to the apostasy. It would greatly surprise you which missions do have Federal and World Council Members, and such missions will do every thing to keep from facing the main issues. They call a man who brings up these very critical issues 'unloving', 'hard to get along with' and 'misrepresenting the facts' In my experience we have seen every method possible used to distort, discredit and throw dirt in to the air to confuse the issues, but God has laid it upon my heart that I must now write these things and not fear what man can do unto me. Recently the representative of a great mission who is making a survey of Japan said to me after I had stated that it was my firm conviction every Bible believing Christian must get out of the Federal or world council: "Pietsch, if we took that stand we would have to ask the head of our mission to resign for he belongs to the world council of churches"

Just what are we doing here at the Bible Center.? Twice a week we have Bible School for about four hundred boys and girls. Every week day morning we have a Bible Kindergarten with eighty small boys and girls. You can see that from their earliest days we are teaching them the Word of God. Helen takes charge of this personally so that we can make sure that they are memorizing their verses and learning God's word. Sunday morning we have worship service at ten thirty and the average attendance is about a hundred and fifty. The largest church in Tokyo at this time has about four hundred in attendance on Sunday morning and is over sixty years old. Sunday evenings we have an evangelistic service and with much announcing and inviting people to come we get about a hundred on the average. The largest Sunday evening evangelistic service in this great city does not even have two hundred out on the average. Sunday afternoons we hold a street meeting in front of Shibuya Station which is one of the largest in Japan. I did try to hold street meetings three times a week but had to cut down my schedule on doctor's advise. because of beri-beri which is still causing some trouble. Tuesday evening I have an English Bible class, Wednesday evening 'read through the Bible in a year' and Thursday is teacher training course and Friday evening is Young People's gospel hour. Every morning at six we have a prayer meeting here at the Bible Center. Our aim is to make every Christian a soul winner. To this end we have published, 'Soul Winner's Guide' by Max Zimmerman and "Christians Guide" by Gibbs. God has given us quite a number of young 'Timothy's in the faith and we hope to see them be real gospel preachers. Paul Suzuki is a great help and blessing to us and we have others coming. along. Our aim is to get them to trust the Lord, help them get training and see them start Bible Believing churches which are self supporting from the beginning.

Have just finished an evangelistic campaign with the Bible Baptists and I went three evenings and Paul Suzuki twice and we saw some make a decision for the Lord. We feel evangelism must be centered around a Bible believing church and it is such a joy to help others who preach the gospel. In the Spring I had the joy of being down in Kyoto with the Evangelical Free church missionaries and in the Nagoya area with the Mino Mission.

Realizing that the church in Japan has largely departed from the true faith, a group of us got together on the 8th of March and founded the JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL. This is perhaps the first time in the history of missions in Japan that a group of missionaries got together and frankly and openly discussed the tremendous issues of idolatry and modernism in the church in Japan. The object of this council is to have a united witness to the absolute infallibility of the Bible, God's word, and to take a hundred percent stand against idolatry and modernism of all kinds. Our intention is to unite with International Council of churches. The groups forming the Japan Christian Council include: The

Independent Board, Mid Missions, Japan Gospel Fellowship, Bible Baptists, Mino Missions and a few others of us who are not directly connected with any foreign missionary society. It would surprise you who it is that stands against us but it is mostly those missions that are inclusivist and allow members of the Federal council to belong to their missions. When a Christian compromises a little many times he is more friendly to the modernists than to those who want to take a clean cut stand on God's word.

So far there is not a single continuous gospel program on the air in Japan. Please pray with us that if it please Him we can get to preach His word on the air here. The situation looks very black but God can work and does.

Shintoism is by no means dead in Japan.

Recently when the Japanese team went to the Asian Olympic Games at New Delhi India, before leaving Japan they went to the Shrine of the emperor Meiji (grandfather of the present emperor) and prayed to the spirit of the emperor to give them victory. There is evidence on many sides of a resurgence of Shintoism and the Japanese fearing communism are rushing back to the old gods of Japan. Yet in spite of this the great proportion of Japanese pastors will never say a word about Shintism being a false religion.

Our children are a great help in the work and a great joy to us. Kelsey and Tiny Tim are still going to Japanese school and are now in the 2nd grade. The other day Kelsey came and brought his little Japanese school friend and told us he had brought him to the Lord Jesus. The children help us at street meetings and in many ways. Sally Sue goes to the school for missionary children and has just finished the sixth grade. Little David goes to our Bible Kindergarten here at the Center. Helen's mother has returned to Japan and it is such a joy to have her back again. She is helping the little boys with their English which they don't get in school for all their studies are in Japanese. We have been sending our letters to quite a number from whom we seldom hear and if you would like to continue receiving these letters would you kindly drop us even a post card to let us know. Please write to us to the above address which is our permanent address.

Yours because His
Helen and Timothy Pietsch.



Tim, Kelsey and Timothy Pietsch
Speaking & Singing at Street meeting

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguroku, Tokyo, Japan

October 20, 1951

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Thank you for remembering us in prayer and God has answered. In July I had a very bad case of infectious yellow jaundice. Was just getting nicely over that when I got a severe attack of asthma which caused my old condition of beri-beri to flare up again. BUT GOD wonderfully heard and answered prayer and I am much better and able to again preach three times a week in front of Shibuya station. In front of this station though (which about a million people pass each day,) is a large open plaza. From the Japanese police I have obtained a permit to preach in this plaza on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday afternoons. Hundreds of University students on their way home from school and business men on their way home from business will stop and listen. I have discovered that they desire to hear a message in English. So I give out English Gospels that have been supplied to us through the Bible Meditation League. They read with me the English Gospel and then I speak both in Japanese and English. Many have told us they first begin to understand their own Japanese Bible after reading the Bible in English. This is because the Japanese Bible is written in a highly classical style which is difficult for the average Japanese person to understand. A new translation of the Gospel of John has just been finished by Brother Robert Wright from Ireland, and now the people can read part of the Bible in ordinary spoken Japanese. Since I have discovered this real interest on the part of University students and business men in reading the Bible in English I feel I must continue this ministry in front of Shibuya station. I give out at least a thousand gospels of John a week in English and can use many more.

It is now over four years since I returned to Japan at the end of the war and during this time I have had the joy of preaching to between two and three million Japanese on the streets, in schools, auditoriums, factories, in front of shrines, temples etc. It has been my privilege to distribute over four million gospel tracts. We have seen many thousands raise their hands, sign cards and make a profession of receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. I am sorry to say I have seen very few tears of repentance, very few acts of restitution, only a few cases of burning of idols and serving the Lord. ONLY MUCH PRAYER can make this work that is just on the surface, a deep work of the Spirit of God. With all this hard work and pleading with the people to be reconciled to God still we only

have about a hundred and fifty out on the average Sunday morning to worship service here at the Bible Center. This is considered to be very good for Japan. At this time in this great city of over six million people there are only five churches that have even two hundred and fifty out on the average Sunday morning. Three of these churches are over fifty years old and do not preach the gospel. It is most evident that those who are sending back reports of the conversion of hundreds of thousands are not following up by trying to build Bible believing churches or they would soon see how superficial is the profession of most, who raise their hands and sign cards.

God has blessed us here at the Bible Center and we had to enlarge to make room for the growing Bible school and Bible Kindergarten, but we find it a constant hand to hand fight against the forces of evil and we have discovered that fruit that abides is mostly hand picked. Holding large services in the open air gives us opportunity to meet those with

whom we can deal personally. Since much of the culture and customs of Japan is hostile to the gospel it takes long application of God's word to bring these people through to a clear understanding of the Bible. Will you earnestly pray (not just say prayers) for us that we may be faithful to Him, and not compromise the message for fear or for the favor of men.

God has given us two fine young assistant pastors here at the Bible Center and both are now attending the Japan Christian Theological Seminary established by Brother Phil Foxwell and

Brother John Young of the Independent Board. This school is a great blessing and we can wholeheartedly endorse it. With sorrow we have seen some of the faith missions stand against this work of God, saying it is belligerent and too strong against idolatry. We have never had such a school in Japan prior to the war and surely God is going to richly bless, and young men will come forth who will not be afraid to stand against Shinto nationalism which is again fast returning to this land. Twice in recent months we have seen a deplorable return to prewar state religion when the children in government schools were ordered out to say prayers to or for the dead. The first occasion was on the 22nd of June at the funeral of the Emperor's mother. When the emperor was worshipping the spirit of his departed mother the school children were taken out into the school yard faced toward Tokyo and told to pray to her spirit. The 2nd occasion was at the signing of the peace treaty when the school children were ordered to pray



Helen and Timothy Pietsch and our little 'Peaches'
send you greetings in our Lord's name for
CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

to the dead heros of Japan. The Japanese government declares that saying 'silent prayer' is only an old Japanese custom and all must do it. By declaring it to be non-religious they demand that all comply, just as they did prior to the war when they claimed that bowing to the Shinto Shrines was only patriotism and not religious. Though at the same time they insisted that the spirits of the dead ancestors and the gods of Japan resided in these shinto shrines. We are now once again faced with a real missionary crisis here in Japan. The missionary movement in Japan prior to the war as a whole compromised on this issue and now we have it before us again in just a little different form. Freedom of religion is definitely being challenged in Japan at this time. Another political turn and the same old educational hypocrisy and state shintoism will again be taught in the public schools.

We are very thankful that God has raised up THE JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL for just such a time as this, and we are making strong protests to the Japanese government against the reintroduction into the public schools of this heathen custom of saying silent prayers to or for the dead. Before the war we did not have such a council of missionaries that would bring these issues to the attention of the government leaders or even to the Christians at home. Believing you would be interested in the stand of the Japan Bible Christian Council, I am going to state for you the preamble to our constitution. "Whereas it is the duty of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ to make common testimony of their faith in Him, especially in these darkening days of apostasy in the professing churches and their foreign missionary institutions, by which apostasy whole denominations in their official capacity, as well as foreign missionary organizations, local churches and individuals, have been swept into a paganizing stream of modernism under various names and in varying degree; and "Whereas, in Japan today, due to the influence of modernist missionaries and institutions on the one hand, and the influence of the glorification of race, national tradition and pagan cultural practices by the Shinto militarists on the other hand, the majority of churches have fallen into and continued to follow the way of a quasi Christianity which regards truth as relative, the Bible as containing errors which neutralize its authority, and the pagan religious customs of the ancestors as not inconsistent with Christian practice. Such attitudes being notably present in the United Church of Japan (Kyodan) and the groups comprising the National Christian Council of Japan, component parts of the World Council of Churches, and, "Whereas, in Japan there are pagan cultural practices which have been common occasion for Christians stumbling, we hereby specify the following: 1). Worship of the Imperial Portrait 2) Going to the Shrines to worship 3). Distant worship of: (a) The sun goddess Ama Terasu Omikami (b) The emperor of Japan (c) Imperial sanctuary in the palace compound which includes (1) Kashikodokoro-repository of the replica of the sacred mirror of Ise (2) Koreiden (god house of the imperial ancestors 3) Shinden-gods of heaven and earth. 4) Ijin suhai, worship of great men such as emperor Meiji, General Nogi, Admiral Togo 5) Sosen suhai, ancestor worship such as: a. offering of food to the spirits of the ancestors, b. burning of incense to the dead; c. praying for the dead. d. bowing before the body or portrait at a funeral; e. holding memorial services for the dead as practiced by the Bhuddists.



PAUL SUZUKI ASSISTANT
PASTOR AT BIBLE CENTER
PREACHING AT SHIBUYA

"Whereas, the commands of God to His servants to preach His Word are accompanied by the clear and positive injunction to reprove and rebuke unbelief and to call upon God's followers to separate from it; and "Whereas, we believe these circumstances impel the formation of an agency to bear this testimony in Japan, to provide fellowship and co-operation on the part of true believers interested, to proclaim and defend the Gospel, to encourage the establishment of churches able to discern and repudiate all forms of unbelief and idolatry whose witness will be pure, and steadfast to the great revealed truths of historic Christinity, and especially to the great doctrines of the Protestant Reformation, and to accomplish tasks which can better be done in co-operation than separately; "Therefore, those forming this Council do now establish it as an agency unequivocally opposed to all forms of unbelief, idolatry and compromise with them, and unreservedly dedicated as a witness to the faith once for all delivered to the saints."

The above stand it seems would be very obvious but we have never had such a stand taken by a group of missionaries before the founding of the Japan Bible Christian Council. Many so called evangelical missionaries will not take this stand and oppose on every possible occasion. May I ask you dear reader of this letter if you take the stand that is borne in this

preamble to the Constitution of the Japan Bible Christian Council? If you do stand with us are you helping to support a missionary who refuses to take this stand for truth and right. If you know a missionary in Japan perhaps you ought to write him and ask if he stands with the Bible Council and if not why not. This is time for men to show their colors and stand up and be counted while we still have a semblance of religious freedom in Japan. Some seem to fear that if they protest against Shintoism they will be marked and put out of Japan. But if we don't point out these things now the Japanese government may again adopt Shintoism as a state religion and then all our opportunity to preach the gospel will be gone. One missionary put it this way: "Protesting the reintroduction

into public schools of pagan Shinto customs may get me kicked out of Japan but we all may be kicked out quicker if we don't."

We now have a school for missionary children in Tokyo and after much prayer Helen and I felt we could not allow our children to go on with a heathen education when a Christian education is available so we have taken them out of the Peers School and put them into the Evangelical Missions school. It was a question for us between a Christian education and a heathen education. How could we dare choose for them a heathen education? The boys are back studying English again and having a hard time. They are much better at reading and writing Japanese. Please remember them in prayer.

Love to you each one in our Wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,
Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23

FLASH—ON THE AIR! In miraculous ways God has opened the way for us to preach the gospel on the new radio station JOAR located in Nagoya each Sunday evening from 7:30 to 8:00. I have just signed a contract for six months at forty five thousand yen a broadcast (\$125.00) Please pray much and trust!

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Timothy Pietsch-Director
Paul Suzuki-Assistant Pastor

(December 25, 1951)

Dr. W. E. Pietsch-Director in USA
P. O. Box 508, Waterloo, Iowa

Beloved Friends in our Lord Jesus Christ:

We are thinking of you and we are praying for you on this Christmas day. Thank you for remembering us at this Christmas time and how wonderfully good our Lord has been to us. It was just a year ago today that we held our first meeting at the Bible Center. Today again we had over five hundred boys and girls crowd into the Christmas program. Last year when we asked them how many had ever heard the story of the Lord Jesus only about ten raised their hands. But how different it was today. I wish you could have seen the way they had memorized their Bible verses and had their Bible School program. It is amazing how much these little ones have picked up of the Bible in just this one year. The program for the Bible Kindergarten held on the 14th was also a great joy and many fathers and mothers came to that as well. We feel that this work with the children has paid off best of anything we have tried to do here in Japan for the Lord Jesus.

Yesterday and today we have received over eight hundred letters and cards in response to our Christmas radio program of last Saturday evening. In the goodness of our Lord we began broadcasting the gospel on the radio on Nov. 11th. The radio station asked us to charge the time from Sunday evening to Saturday evening at 9:30, and we reduced the time to fifteen minutes. This also reduced the price to twenty seven thousand yen which is just about seventy five dollars U.S. money for each broadcast. When I signed the contract to preach the gospel on the radio for six months I had no idea where the money would come from only I knew for certain that the Lord told me to do it. Now in wonderful ways He has sent in the funds to pay for it and enough has come in to pay for three months broadcasting including all the month of January 1952. Most of the funds have come from soldiers right here in Japan who see the tremendous need and the wonderful opportunity. The G.I. Gospel Hour in Tokyo and Chaplain Robert Rayburn and his men of the 187th Paratroopers have helped most, and there have been gifts from individuals in America and Japan as well. It is so wonderful to just trust the Lord and see the way in which He works. This is the first time in the history of Christian missions in Japan that any missionary has ever preached the gospel on the radio to the people of Japan. At this time there is only one other gospel program on the radio in all of Japan and that is the Lutheran Hour of the Missouri Synod. They use Japanese as their speakers but the Lord lead me to speak from

my heart to our dear Japanese friends, even in my far from perfect Japanese. We are praying that many others will see this wonderful opportunity of radio evangelism and take advantage of it. It is now possible for anyone to buy time from the new commercial stations and preach the gospel on the air for radio broadcasting is now open to the public just as in the United States.

Surely we can say from our hearts as did the Apostle Paul in Phil. 1:12, "But I would ye should understand brethren, that the things which have happened unto me have happened for the furtherance of the gospel". Though some had selfish wicked purposes at heart and seem to greatly hate our stand of complete separation from the World Council of Churches, the Federal (National) Council and all of its affiliates, God has turned it around that we might serve Him in a greater way than we ever dreamed of before. We hold no hard feeling in our hearts to any and can say as did Joseph to his brothers

in Genesis 50:20 "But as for you, ye thought evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring to pass as it is this day. . . ." We are answering every letter and card that come to us in response to the radio messages with gospel tracts including "What must I do to be Saved?" by John Rice. To those who send us five yen (1½¢) in postage stamps we send a home Bible study course, "The heart of John's Gospel" by Keith L. Brooks which has been translated into Japanese. Brother Harry Swan has also supplied us with tracts in English and Japanese for reply to those who write in. Answering all these letters

and cards has been a great task in itself but our young Christians here at the Bible Center have taken it as a privilege to be done for the Lord. WILL YOU PRAY AS WE PREACH EACH SATURDAY NIGHT OVER STATION JOAR IN NAGOYA? This station is ten thousand watts and reaches into about six hundred thousand homes in five prefectures in Central Japan. If it please our Lord we would like to get on some of the other new stations, in other cities that have just opened since last November. This is the first time in the history of Japan that radio could be used for the preaching of the gospel. Could you imagine what our beloved country would be like if there were no gospel on the radio. Yet that is what Japan has been up to just two months ago. Now we have this wonderful new opportunity and we must take it while we can.

It was my great joy and privilege to be able to attend the Conference of Christian Churches of Asia held in connect-



Pastor Mitsuzo Goto, first Japanese to return to Philippines since end of the war shakes hands with President Elpidio Quirino

ion with the International Council of Churches at Manila from the 24th of November to the 1st of December. Five of us from Japan went including our dear friend, Pastor Mitsuzo Goto, Dean of the Christian Theological Seminary where Paul Suzuki, our assistant pastor, attends. Pastor Goto was the first Japanese since the end of the war to be allowed to enter the Philippine Islands. When he entered the conference hall, all stood up and sang, "There's a welcome here, a Christian welcome here". After Brother Goto's greetings which included a plea for forgiveness for Japan, Pastor Dayot, a Filipino jumped up and said, "Though I was not scheduled to respond to Brother Goto's greetings, I would like to say", as he threw his arms around him, "we welcome you as a brother in Christ and we Filipino Christians have forgiven Japan long since" Pastor Dayot's wife and three children had been deliberately killed by the Japanese when he escaped from their lines during the war. It was one of the most spontaneous and loving Christian acts I have ever seen.

The delegates to the Conference were invited by the President of the Philippines to his palace for a tea party. He made a speech in which he referred to Pastor Dayot and said "my wife and three children were also killed by the Japanese in the cross fire here in the battle of Manila. President Quirino shook hands with Pastor Goto saying he officially called upon the Filipino people to stop passing on to their children hatred to Japan since God had placed both nations in the Far East together.

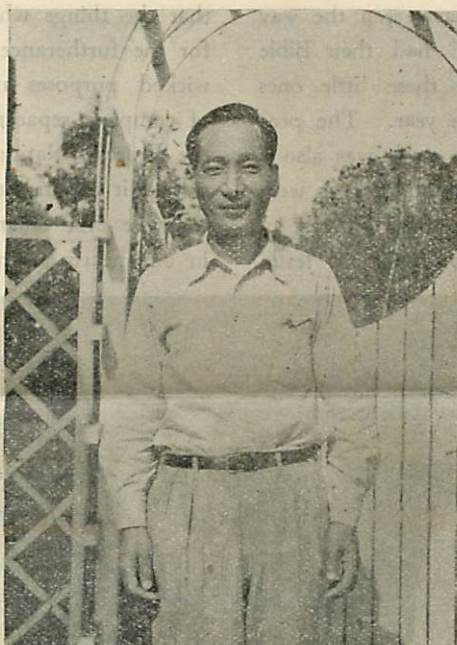
While in the Philippine Islands Pastor Goto and I with several others went to Bilibid Prison and preached to the Japanese war criminals held there including sixty men under death sentence. What a joy it was to have a message of salvation and hope for such men. We thought prices here in Japan were high (any they are about fifty percent higher than the U.S. after we get through paying duty to the Japanese government) but Manila is much worse than Japan for higher prices.

This last summer and Fall it has been our joy to have our dear Brother in Christ, Mitsuo Fuchita twice in our home for about a week each time. This man received a tract from me in front of Shibuya station where I preach three times a week, in February 1949. The tract he received was entitled "I was a prisoner of Japan" and was the story of Sgt. Jacob DeShazer who was on the first bombing raid of Japan with General Doolittle. This tract was printed and sent to Japan By the BIBLE MEDITATION LEAGUE. Mr. Fuchita wrote me telling me how impressed he was with the tract. He wrote that he had been the commanding officer of all the planes that attacked Pearl Harbor but was now a farmer in Nara Prefecture near Osaka. I asked our printer, Brother Kinichiro Endo to write and answer him. In the Spring of 1950 when I was in Osaka we wrote again telling Mr. Fuchita that we would be near his home and how he could contact us. He came to the hotel where we were staying and spent the night with us. That first evening I spoke to him about four or five hours and

showed him with others in the hotel the sound movie, "God of Creation" put out by Moody Institute of Science. The next morning Brother Glean Wagner, foreign secretary of the Pocket Testament League spoke to him through his interpreter, Brother John Fukuda, and Mr. Fuchita claimed to make a decision for Christ.

When he came to see us this last summer here in our home in Tokyo I asked him if he was sure of his salvation. With a sad smile he replied that he was not sure. It was at the time I was very sick with jaundice so did not have strength to speak to him for a long period at a time so I called in others to speak with him including our dear Brother Bob Wright from Ireland and Brother Malcolm Frehn who works in the Military Headquarters. Helen and Paul Suzuki also spoke to him very carefully. When he was leaving after his first visit, I asked him, "Do you have confidence now that you are truly saved?" With a big happy smile he replied, "I am sure there is a place reserved in heaven for me from before the foundation of the world"

Most competent observers here in Japan are all agreed that there is a tremendous return to Shintoism. When I asked our Brother Fuchita on his second visit to our home this last October, "Why are the Japanese people returning to Shintoism?" He replied, "The Japanese people as a whole are not particularly interested in keeping Shintoism going. However the Japanese know nothing else on which to depend. America is demanding that Japan rearm as speedily as possible. The Japanese government wants to get volunteers for its new forces and so stirs up patriotism. It knows of only one way of getting patriotism and that is through the old Shinto Shrines"



*Our dear friend and Brother in Christ
Mitsuo Fuchita*

Recently a Japanese newspaper carried the story that before Premier Yoshida who signed the Peace Treaty in San Francisco went to the Yasuguni Shrine to worship the spirits of the war dead he asked permission from General Ridgeway's headquarters. On at least three occasions in recent months United States Army and State Department facilities have been dedicated to Shinto gods of Japan. Some of us are wondering if some of the leaders of our beloved nation have so forgotten the God of our Fathers, THE GOD OF THE BIBLE that they are now willing to use the Shinto gods of Japan as a bulwark against communism? Is the United States primarily responsible for the great resurgence of Shintoism in Japan???

We have published a doctrinal statement for the Tokyo Bible Center. If any of you would like a copy of this basis on which we work you could have one by writing to my beloved father, Dr. W. E. Pietsch, P. O. Box 508, Waterloo Iowa, who is director in the United States for this work. We plead with you to earnestly pray for His work here including, the Bible Kindergarten, The Bible school, Orphans, tracts, radio and preaching on the streets that all might be pleasing to Him.

With love in our Wonderful Lord,
Yours because His

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23

Phil 1:20 our verse for 1952

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Timothy Pietsch-Director
Paul Suzuki-Assistant Pastor

(April 25, 1952)

Dr. W. E. Pietsch-Director in USA
P. O. Box 508, Waterloo, Iowa

Beloved Friends in our Lord Jesus Christ:

How wonderfully good the Lord has been to us and we are rejoicing in Him and in What He is. Thank you for remembering us in prayer and we have seen God working in this land, snatching one here and two or three there from the burning. We count it a great privilege and honor to be His servants in this land at this very important time. We see many signs these days of Japan returning to her old ways and a rising tide of nationalism. BUT GOD IS JUST THE SAME and His grace is sufficient to meet this new situation as well.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed in the work of the Bible Kindergarten and on the 20th of March we had the first graduation with forty-three graduates. Our center was packed with mothers and fathers and they listened to the children say their Bible verses and sing their songs. During the year they had learned more than fifty Bible verses. Forty of the eighty-three we had last year remain with us for another year, before entering the first grade. We have now started another new class with sixty new children. At Christmas time the Christians here gave special offerings toward a new addition to the Center, which was being crowded out. With that and help from the parents of the kindergarten children we have been able to add another new room to take care of these hundred children in the Bible Kindergarten and in the Bible School which is growing all the time.

Some of the parents have asked us where they should send their children to the first grade, wanting to continue a Christian education for them. They ask is it better to send them to the Methodist school or to the Catholic, Sacred heart? They think all Christianity is the same. This is a very great problem in Japan, for in the one case at the Methodist school the diety of our Lord would be denied or ignored and the Bible said to have mistakes in it. At the Catholic School they would be taught to worship Mary and that the pope is infallible. In this great city of almost eight million people, in fact throughout Japan, we know of no really evangelical grammar school for Japanese children. We are very thankful for the Evangelical School for missionary children to which our three older children go but we need a school for Japanese children like it. Though there are good schools on the higher level for college and seminary

that we can heartily endorse we know of nothing on the grammar school level. We don't know what the Lord would have us do about this very definite need and we would plead with you to pray about it with us. If we could secure a suitable piece of land for such a school it might not be hard to start for we would only have to begin with one class at first and add a new one each year for the six years. How can we honestly tell the parents to send their children to modernism or catholicism even if they don't know the difference. The other choice is the public schools which are again under great pressure to reintroduce idolatry. We find it extremely difficult to lead a Japanese man who had a pre-war grammar school education in the Japanese public schools to clear cut faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, because

of the fact that from their childhood they were taught that the emperor is a god and that Japan itself is divine and has a divine destiny. We are earnestly praying that this will not again be reintroduced into the public schools. However many are making every effort to do so. Recently Mr. Amano, the Ministe rof Education in charge of all the public schools through-out Japan, made the public statement: "The moral center of the nation is the emperor", as though truth

and virtue and love all emanate from him. How can we ever hope to have strong pastors and churches in Japan if again small children are put under such teaching. One of the reasons so many Japanese pastors seem willing to compromise with idolatry in one form or another is that it has become so much a part of them from childhood. Ancestor worship is so much a part of them they hardly recognize it themselves. Is not true Bible training on the grammar school level one of the greatest needs in Japan at this time for the building of truly Christian homes and strong churches in this land?

In order to keep in touch with her graduates from the Bible Kindergarten Helen is starting a special class in CHILDREN FOR CHRIST for them each Wednesday afternoon. This is a temporary expedient to meet the great need at this time. If you have some good ideas and helps for this class and for the Bible Kindergarten and Bible School we would like to have them. We can still use and give out used Christmas and birthday cards.

Helen's mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier, comes over every Thursday afternoon to teach Bible to the mothers of



Helen Pietsch with her teachers and first graduating class from the Bible Kindergarten

the kindergarten children. This class is growing and is a great blessing.

God has wonderfully blessed in the ministry of preaching the gospel on the radio over station JOAR each week. We have received hundreds and thousands of answers to the gospel messages. To each one we have replied sending gospel tracts and Bible study courses. We have seen some come to accept the Lord Jesus Christ, however most of the letters we have received are letters of inquiry wanting to know more.

A business man from Osaka, Mr. Eiichi Nakamura, wrote saying he had heard the gospel broadcast. I wrote him enclosing tracts and encouraging him to accept the Lord Jesus. He replied in English: "Thank you for the letter and several tracts which you have sent to me. For the last two days I have enthusiastically perused these treatises on religious subject and by which my thoughts for God have more deepened and purified than ever before. Having read through the tract entitled, "Is Jesus God" I may say without any hesitation that I believe in Jesus' birth from the virgin Mary and in the divinity of Jesus Christ and also believe that "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" II Tim. 3:16. After having conned your forwarded tracts, "The true God revealed in Christ" and "What must I do to be saved" by John R. Rice I am very much pleased to send according to the instructions therein each enclosed herewith the two coupons on which I and my wife write our respective names and present address as proof of our conviction that we now accept Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. Last night I had the pleasure of again hearing your voice through the radio and listened to your sermon in regard to the works of the flesh and of the spirit and man's rebirth in Christ. Now I am just indeed in such a condition of mind in delight as messaged in II Cor 5:27 "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature, old thing are passed away, behold all things are become new".

A high school lad writes: "I Am very glad if you are kind enough to answer my question as I heard your sermon by the broadcast last night. I have much interst in Christian from a few years ago. the priest said, "You do believe God at first" but I can't understand it. If we believe everything with no criticism it is equal to heresy or superstition isnt it? There are many antiscientific points in the Bible. We don't believe any miracle from the view of modern science. Moreover there are many people who lost their life because of their belief to superstition". What a joy it is to send good tracts to such earnest inquirers. Some Japanese and missionaries are urging us to put some of the material we have used in printed form as a tract. Will you earnestly pray with us about this also?

Many English school teachers and students write to us in English and we have answered in English. They also

ask for names of those in the United States with whom they can correspond. Would you like to write to such a lad as the above and help him come to Christ? Send us your name and we will send it on to a Japanese who needs help and guidance.

A missionary writes to us: "An encouragement to your radio program. My teacher and her old mother-in-law listen to your program faithfully . . . as if it were an hour program once a week and the king speaking. They would not think of missing it and once when they did am sure it spoiled their whole week. The old mother is not yet a Christian but very close."

It is estimated that at least a million people each week listen to our gospel program and we are earnestly praying to be able to get on other stations to reach all of Japan with a gospel message each week. Will you pray with us to this end?

God has wonderfully blessed in the showing of the picture, "God of Creation." It is now our joy to have two men out full time showing this fine sound motion picture in the Japanese schools. Last month they showed it in twenty one different schools to ten-thousand four hundred and fifteen school children. Now Paul Suzuki has put 'Dust or Destiny' into Japanese for the Moody Institute of Science and we have that now to show also in the schools. We are earnestly praying to have other men out soon in full time in this ministry. Will you please pray for this?

It was my joy to go down to Kyushu, the southern island of Japan, and preach for the soldiers of the 187th paratroopers who sponsor a gospel service each Saturday night for Japanese in cooperation with an Australian Missionary, Milton Whan, endeavoring to bring the Japanese to Christ. What a joy it was to preach to those with whom they had been dealing. Quite a number made an acceptance of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In the service was a strapping big MP, Axel Hirschberger, who was born in Japan but now a soldier here. That night listening to the gospel in the Japanese language he made a clear cut stand for the Lord Jesus. The next night he got up and gave his testimony and how though he had heard many messages in English he had never understood the gospel until the night before when he heard it in Japanese. It is the first time since I came to Japan as a missionary that I ever saw a white man accept Christ after listening to a message in the Japanese language. Please remember this man in prayer as he now testifies in Japanese to them.

Perhaps some of you have friends or brothers here in Japan or in Korea. You are welcome to send them our names and tell them to come and visit us here. Our phone number is Tokyo 08-0746 and they can call us when they get to the city. We shall be glad to welcome them. If they are not saved we will show them the plan of salvation and try to bring them to our Lord and if they are saved will encourage and give them fellowship in our Lord. Some Japanese still ask us for used clothing from time to time and there is still need. Thank you for all your love and prayer and help. With love in our Wonderful Lord, Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch



Tim Pietsch, holding some of the hundreds of answers received from the gospel radio broadcasts.

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Timothy Pietsch-Director
Paul Suzuki-Assistant

(Aug 1, 1952)

Dr. W. E. Pietsch-Director in U.S.A.
P. O. Box 508, Waterloo, Iowa

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

God continues to work here in Japan and we rejoice in Him, THE LIVING GOD. Our opportunities for making known the good news of Our Lord Jesus Christ in this land are as open as ever. Since the peace treaty we feel our meetings for making known our Lord have been better than before. In the year and a half since we began this work here at the Tokyo Bible Center God has blessed and we have had to put on two new additions. Our Sunday School is overflowing and our church is about full every Sunday which is rare for Japan. We have found it pays to trust the Lord and to stand on His Word, and to obey it and not simply admire it.

Because of the communist riots which continue the police banned all meetings in the plaza in front of Shibuya Station where I had preached to great crowds for so long. We had to discontinue our meetings at Shibuya but the Lord wonderfully opened to us another plaza in front of the Jiyugaoka Railway station which is nearer our Center and we feel the meetings are even better than before. Also the Lord lead us to start street meetings for children. We take the jeep and from the hood do flannelgraph lessons and Japanese picture lessons right on the street. The children gather in flocks and love it and this is the equivalent of childevangelism. We organize them under CHILDREN FOR CHRIST. We hold these meetings right on the street and as many as fifteen a week. The young people here at the Center have taken to it and it is a great help for them. We get as many as three or four hundred children at each place.

We have made another contract for six months to continue preaching the gospel on the radio here in Japan. Hundreds upon hundreds of answers have come and we have answered each one. We have a young lady who spends full time just answering those who write in. Up to now we have continued on radio Station JOAR from Nagoya. It is now nine months since we began these gospel radio broadcasts and God has supplied every need and we do rejoice. We have found it really pays in every way to trust the Lord and we would not go back to that old path of compromise for anything. It is again evident that many missionaries in this land are willing to compromise with idolatry and apostasy and be silent about it. It amazes us, some of the excuses that are given for not taking a clear cut stand on the Word of God. Missions that appear to be wholly sound in the United States here in Japan

take a half hearted stand and have Japanese pastors who are not clear on idolatry or on the inspiration of the scriptures. Immediately after the signing of the peace treaty came the communist May Day riot in the plaza of the Imperial Palace. This has been greatly publicized but on the 2nd of May the Japanese government requested all to pray for the felicity of the spirits of the war dead and to offer silent prayer lead by the emperor. The JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL issued a statement showing this to be idolatry and why we could not co-operate, but instead called for a day of special prayer for Japan on the 5th of May which was the first Sunday then Japan regained her independence. Our Bible Center here with

two other churches and the Japan Christian Theological Seminary sent out this statement to all the churches in Japan as our stand. Except for this no other voice was raised in Japan against this ominous return of Shintoism sponsored by the government. The large evangelical missions in Japan said absolutely nothing about this and kept silent as was done prior to the war. Much of the compromise with apostasy and idolatry by good missions has been the compromise of silence, which was the sin of Eli. Bowing to the dead in Japan has always been an act of worship, for the heathen believe the spirit must be sent off in a happy mood at a funeral. For that reason Bhuddists and Shintoists put up a picture of the dead at funerals and worship it. Many Christians not wanting to appear too different from the customs of Japan also put up a picture of the dead at funerals but they say they only bow to it out of respect. Right here has been one of the basic compromises

with heathenism in this land by good evangelical missions. Last year one large mission that is considered sound in the United States finally after much opposition by some of the older missionaries took a clean cut stand on idolatry and apostasy declaring it to be a sin to bow to the dead. When this stand was presented to the mission's Japanese pastors they refused to accept it so the mission issued a statement saying: "where a funeral is held in a church, they would bow a bow of respect to the deceased and an explanation would be made by the pastor so there could be absolutely no misunderstanding that the Christians bow out of respect only and not in worship". To bow to anything in Japan that cannot return that bow involves worship. Shintoists and Bhuddists bow to the dead spirits at funerals in worship. Simply to say that is it respect does not change things. This is the same excuse many Christians



A father teaches his small son how to pray to the spirits of the dead at the Yasuguni Shrine in Tokyo

gave during and prior to the war for going to the Shinto Shrines. They said they only went out of respect for the spirits of the ancestors though all the rest of the people went to the same shrines to worship. THE JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL has taken a clean cut stand on these issues saying it is idolatry to bow to the dead. Perhaps you are wondering why Christians in Japan would want to continue a practice which is so definitely heathen. It is that they don't want to appear too different from all the rest of the Japanese people around about them and ancestor worship is very deeply ingrained into this land, and so they try to give it a different interpretation while continuing to practice it. The United Church of Japan and the National Christian Council of Japan have been the leaders in this compromise with idolatry. Mr. Akira Ebisawa, executive secretary of the National Christian Council of Japan writing in the magazine "Contemporary Japan" stated: "It may be fairly stated that the missionaries who lead Christians in the Far East to break with their ancient traditions, branding them as superstitions, and to for-sake the custom of ancestor worship in its entirety were extremely narrow minded in their views. In Japan the destruction of the family Buddhist Shrines and the throwing away of the ancestral tablets in the early days of Christian missions were considered to be expression of earnest faith by missionaries of conservative and bigoted tendencies. Inasmuch as Christianity is not a destroyer of former culture but a fulfiller of the law and the prophets it is unfortunate that some believers are moved and controlled by fundamentalist views" Many Christians we are sad to say still have idols in their homes and the preachers and many missionaries will never say a word about it. Many evangelical missions take no stand and acquiesce to this idolatry by silence. In spite of the fact the United Church of Japan is lead by apostates and has been the leader in this compromise with idolatry many missionaries will say nothing about it to their people. For instance, recently the President of the Evangelical Missions Ass'n of Japan stated in a meeting, "The Evangelical Missions Ass'n of Japan would hesitate to name the United Church of Japan by name as it is a Japanese organization and we are guests in Japan" This is typical of many who refuse to take a clean cut stand. May I state that I do not consider myself primarily a 'guest' in Japan but an ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ, standing in His stead beseeching men to be reconciled to God. II Cor 5:20.

My dear friend, reader of this letter: are you helping to support a mission or missionary that refuses to take a clean cut stand on these issues? Perhaps it might be well to find out what kind of a stand the mission you support takes on these issues? Are you unwittingly helping the compromise by sending your tithes and offerings to a mission that acquiesces by silence? How long are separatist churches going to support missionaries in inclusivist missions? A mission that refuses to take a clean cut stand regarding the apostasy of the National (Federal) Council

in the United States is not strong enough to take a clean cut stand regarding idolatry in Japan because it is backed by the government. Perhaps some are wondering just what an inclusivist mission is? It is a mission that has amongst its members those who belong to the Federal Council of Churches and the policy of the mission is that it doesn't matter if one stays in a modernistic denomination or not, just so they preach the gospel. This violates the command of Eph. 5:11 "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them". Many missions do not want to take any stand on these issues and so say, "Just preach a positive gospel" They don't want to deal with modernism or idolatry and thus try to avoid it. It sounds like saying: "Turn on the positive electricity". But how much light would you get? The gospel demands both a negative and a positive as Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me"

Last year I met with the field council of one of the large missions here in Japan. I told them they would never be able to take a clean cut stand on idolatry in Japan until they dealt



Boys and girls listen to a gospel message on the street at a children's street meeting.

with the issues of modernism and apostasy at home in the U. S. One of the members of the committee replied: "Our home board in the U. S. will never make a statement concerning the Federal or World Council for that would be inviting trouble". You can see that it is fear that keeps some from taking a clean cut stand. Fear of trouble and fear of loss of support. Dear reader: Are you supporting such an inclusivist mission or missionary? If so you are helping aid and abet the compromise.

My stand before God is this: "It is wrong for any Bible believing born again Christian to belong to a group that claims the name of Christ but is lead and controlled by men who are not born again". An inclusivist mission says it doesn't matter.

God blessed us here with wonderful evangelistic meetings with Brother Yamanaka a fine Plymouth Brethren brother who went to prison on the issue of the Shinto Shrines and the emperor during the last war.

Of course you have heard that Major General Wm K. Harrison has been made head of the peace delegation in Korea. He is our very dear friend and counsellor and a man of much prayer and a deep student of the Bible. One of the finest Christians I have ever known. Please pray much for him.

It seems wise for me to make a trip to the U. S. this Fall for three or four months. I will leave my family here in Japan as I did four years ago. Hope to have all my radio broadcasts made up in advance and my dear wife and Paul Suzuki will carry on the work here at the Center so that it will go on DV without interruption. If you would like to have us come to your church please contact my beloved father of, P.O. Box 508 Waterloo Iowa. Please remember us in prayer.

Yours because His

Luke 9:23

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
LATEST WORD: A booking for the 15th of October on the Nicoline Maersk sailing from Yokohama has been received. Hope to be able to see many of you dear friends.

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Timothy Pietsch - Director
Paul Suzuki - Assistant

Board of Directors

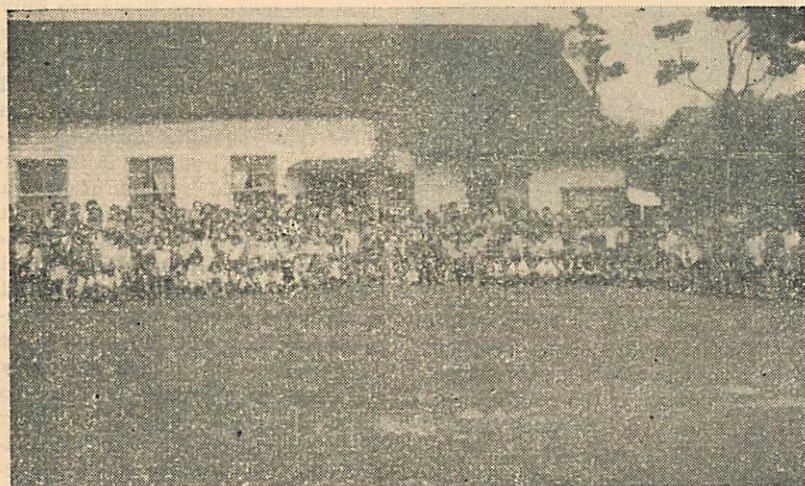
Dr. W. E. Pietsch - Chairman
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Dr. Robert G. Rayburn - Secretary
450 Avenue 64, Pasadena, Calif.
Mr. Ronald Birchard - Treasurer
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August 1, 1953

Bible School, 1953, Tokyo Bible Center



Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Greetings from Japan in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ with Ps. 37:4-5 and II Cor. 9:8.

What a joy it was to meet so many of you dear praying friends while in the U. S. and Canada. In the gracious kindness of the Lord I arrived safely back in Japan early in May to find my wife and family well and happy and healthier than ever. Thank you for remembering

them in prayer while we were separated. My wife and our young pastor Paul Suzuki did a tremendous job while I was away and the Lord wonderfully blessed and the work here at the Bible Center has grown spiritually. The Bible School has grown a great deal and we are crowded out for room. The Bible Kindergarten graduated its second class and it is a very great means of witness in our community

for the truth of the gospel and against idolatry. Street meetings for children and street meetings in front of Jiyugakko and Toritsudaigaku Stations continue. The "four little Peaches"



"Four Little Peaches"

are a great help and continue to help us with the street meetings. They are one of our greatest assets in the ministry of the gospel in this land. Though I was away from Japan a little over six months we did not miss a single broadcast of the gospel over station JOAR - Nagoya where we had the contract. I made some tape recordings before I left Japan, and then others from the U. S. with my dear father and mother taking part. It was a great joy for me to interpret into Japanese for my father as mother played the background music. Since returning to Japan I have signed another contract with station JOAR which is in Nagoya, Japan's third largest

city for another six months. It will be two years this fall since the Lord put us on the radio here and we have been on without interruption ever since. Praise His name. We are now praying that if it so please our Lord we can widen the ministry of the gospel on the radio to other stations.

Radio In Japan

Almost every home in Japan has a radio of some sort. Usually a very small one that is able to only pick up the local station. There are comparatively few short wave sets in this country. There are now nineteen commercial radio stations in Japan that will receive the gospel programs for broadcasting. That does not mean that there are only nineteen radio stations in Japan or that they are primarily interested in broadcasting the gospel. In all of Japan at this time there are three types of radio stations in operation. The first type is the government owned station of which there are forty-five. These are run by a Japanese government corporation known as Nippon Hoso Kyokai (Japan Broadcasting Corp.) and they do not sell time, but each owner of a radio set in Japan must get a license to own it and must pay so much each month in order to keep this radio corporation going even if one listens or not. They allot time for different public interests including religion but seldom if ever have a gospel program. The second type of station is that of the American Armed Forces of which there are now seven in operation in Japan. They broadcast only in English — mostly programs from the U. S. for the troops stationed here. Then the third type of station is the new commercial radio station of which there are at present nineteen which are owned and

operated by private individuals or companies, mostly newspapers. They sell time to anyone for advertising purposes just as is done in the U. S., and they now will sell time to us for the preaching of the gospel, not of course because they are primarily interested in the gospel but in the finances, because there are so comparatively few commercial stations in Japan that sell time they can charge most anything they like and anything they can get. Since I began broadcasting when the first commercial station went on the air in Japan less than two years ago the rates have almost doubled. When I began in October, 1951, fifteen minutes of class 'A' time over station JOAR was twenty seven thousand yen (\$75.00). Now it has been raised to fifty one thousand yen which is about \$140.00. This is for a station of only ten thousand watts. However by means of radio it is possible to now reach most of Japan with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What A Wonderful Opportunity to reach Japan now. The time is short and what is going to be done now for our opportunity for preaching the gospel on the air may not last much longer as things are tightening up in this land in many ways. To my knowledge only the Roman Catholics have been able to secure a radio station of their own among the so called "Christian" groups working here. They have a majority holding in the Tokyo Cultural Broadcasting station. Of the nineteen commercial stations now on the air in Japan all but one have gospel programs on them at least once a week. The one exception at this time is the large station JOOR in Osaka. We are earnestly praying that if it please our Lord we can widen the gospel preaching to

this station. Will you pray with us about this wonderful opportunity in the second largest city of Japan.

A Missionary Writes To Us

A beloved missionary of many years experience in Japan prior to the war wrote us saying: "Heard your broadcast this A. M. Many in this section are listening and the Lord is using His Word for the salvation of many we believe. One girl we visited in the hospital had heard your broadcast several times before entering the hospital and she was, I believe, truly saved before we visited her. She was reading the literature she had received from you."

Board of Directors

The Tokyo Bible Center was raised up of the Lord here in Japan to bear a clean cut testimony to the infallibility of the Bible and to the message of our Lord Jesus Christ and for raising our voices against the apostated Nippon Kirisuto Kyodan (United Church of Japan) and the World Council of Churches of which it is a part along with the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A. While honestly desiring to co-operate with all God's children we realize that this is an inclusivism which excludes our Lord Himself and so our Bible Center stands completely separate from all the apostate system and takes a clean cut stand regarding idolatry. The work of the Tokyo Bible Center began the first Sunday of 1951, as a Japanese organization started in Japan raised up of God for the specific purpose of organizing Bible believing, Bible governed churches. Now while I was in the United States the Lord led us to form a board of directors to co-operate with us in setting the policy of the work, in accepting missionary candidates and in handling matters of business.

The chairman of the board is my beloved father,

Dr. W. E. Pietsch

who has stood with us all during the years. For those of you who possibly may not know him he is a radio preacher in Waterloo, Iowa broadcasting the gospel every night in the year over station KXEL. How I do thank God, that this godly man is not only my father but for his faithful stand to the Lord. What a joy it is for us to have my dear father standing so firmly with us in our stand for the Lord here in Japan. Much of what we have learned regarding the issues of separation and apostasy we have learned from him. The secretary of our board is

Dr. Robert G. Rayburn,

President of Highland College in Pasadena, California and formerly pastor of the Wheaton College Church before he came out here to Japan and Korea as a paratroop Chaplain with the 187th Airborne Infantry. We were school mates at Wheaton College together and what a joy it was to have him here in Japan last year with us. He was one of the most God blessed chaplains we have ever seen in the Far East and he stood with us and helped us in the work here. Upon his return to the U. S. last year he accepted the tremendous challenge of the presidency of the newly started Highland College. Our treasurer is

Mr. Ronald Birchard

who for fifteen years was in the regular army of the U.S. While here in Japan for over three years he was the director of the very influential Tokyo G. I. Gospel Hour. All gifts for the Bible Center or its ministry of gospel preaching on the radio should be sent directly to Mr. Ronald Birchard at his address in

Turlock, California and he will send you a numbered receipt, a copy of which will be sent to us here in Japan so that we can acknowledge your gift. Every six months a report will be made of the financial standing of the Bible Center which will be open to all interested. These men forming the board of directors of the Bible Center have all been here in Japan and know the problems of the field first hand. These men stand with us one hundred percent in our stand for the truth of the gospel in Japan. We have also formed a board for reference and advice which includes: Pastor Max Belz of the Bible Presbyterian Church of Cono Center, Walker, Iowa, Mr. Lloyd Buchanan, an attorney in Washington D. C. who is trial examiner for the Taft Hartley law, Dr. Carl McIntire, President of the International Council of Christian Churches, Dr. M. R. Siemens, Pastor of Calvary Memorial Church in Racine, Wisconsin, Pastor Lyman Wendt of the Riverside Bible Church in Riverside, California, and Pastor G. Arthur Woolsey of the Walnut Street Baptist Church in Waterloo, Ia. We have accepted as

Missionary Candidates

for the work in the Bible Center Mr. and Mrs. James E. Wilson. Jim was director of the Gospel Hour here in Japan when he was here as a Sergeant in the Air Force. Mrs. Wilson was born here in Japan and is working in the Bible Center now but soon hopes to join her husband in the U. S. when he gets out of the service soon. They plan on some further training before returning to Japan.

Idolatry-Apostasy

The Board of directors of the Tokyo Bible Center has adopted a statement on idolatry

which is very similar to that of the Japan Bible Christian Council with which we are in hearty sympathy. This is open for all to see and you are welcome to a copy by simply writing to our secretary. Many missionary organizations say that they are against the apostasy of the the World Council of Churches, but when asked to put their stand in writing they seem to refuse to do so. The Board of Directors of the Tokyo Bible Center, meeting on April 8, 1953, adopted the following as part of our doctrinal statement: "MODERNISM — Since the major denominations have largely been taken over by another gospel, which is not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ they are accursed of God, and the Lord Jesus calls His people to separate from them. We believe no true Christian should remain in any relationship with the World Council of Churches or any of its affiliates, since they are largely led by infidels and modernists. The large denominations are largely apostate and a true Bible loving Christian should break all affiliation with them at the earliest possible moment. God's road to revival is separation from Apostasy. There is no adequate answer to apostasy but a clean cut separation from it. II Cor. 6:14-18, Gal. 1:9, II Tim. 2:17-18."

More Copies?????

This little paper which we hope to be able to publish more regularly

from now on is dedicated to bringing the challenge of the field of Japan to its readers and to making known the facts and problems of missions as we know them. Perhaps you would like more copies for distribution to your church members, especially for the members of your missionary committee. If so, please write to our printer, Mr. Max Belz, Walker, Iowa and tell him how many you desire. Perhaps you know of others who would like to be on our list to receive these letters. If so, please send their names. If you are not interested and don't want to receive these letters please let him know also. We trust that many will be raised up of God to uphold us faithfully in prayer.

Latest News

In wonderful ways the Lord opened the way for me to sign a contract with radio station JOOR-Osaka which is one of the largest commercial stations in Japan in this the second largest city in Japan. We began the first week in July every Friday morning at 6:40-6:55 just before the special news of the Crown prince of Japan's visit in Europe. By this means hundreds upon hundreds will hear the gospel we believe. Will you uphold this work in prayer?

With Love in our Wonderful Lord,
Yours because His

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
Luke 9:23

In cooperation with the American Council of Christian Churches



Tokyo Bible Center

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

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Paul Suzuki - Assistant

Board of Directors

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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

October 1, 1953



Helen Pietsch Teaching at Tokyo Bible Center Bible Kindergarten

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us here in Japan and made it possible for us to broadcast the gospel on another large radio station which is JOOR in Osaka. It is now two years since we began broadcasting the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ over station JOAR in Nagoya, the first weekly commercial broadcasting that ever went on the air here in Japan and we have been on ever since without a single miss. How thankful we are for answered prayer in being able to widen the

ministry of the gospel on the air and we are praying if it please our Lord to soon be able to be on all nineteen commercial radio stations in Japan and thus cover much of Japan with the gospel. This is perhaps the greatest opportunity we have ever had in the history of missions to reach Japan and we must take advantage of the opportunity while we have it now for it may not last much longer. The response to the messages of the gospel on the radio have been very gratifying and we have a young man who spends

all of his time just answering the radio mail and sending out gospel tracts and Bible studies to those who write in to us. The Lord has wonderfully blessed the ministry of the Bible Center and we now have twelve full time workers. From many parts of Japan we receive answers from our radio preaching, street preaching and tract distribution. Most of these letters are in Japanese but some write to us in English.

JAPANESE WRITE TO US

"I am much obliged to you for sending me tracts, and I could enjoy to study Bible and those tracts. Finally I found myself sinful and I was considered intensively that I should embrace Christianity and I want to be a devout Christian. I believe in God who sent us our Saviour in the world. I want to know what to do to be a devout Christian."

Yours sincerely,

Kenjiro Ebihara

"I can't understand the God's will for I am only a son of proletarian and being agonized by the inconsistency between God's will and actual life. Would you mind telling me how I will be enabled to rescue from inconsistency."

"Dear T. Peach

To his grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury,

My Lord Archbishop:

I am sorry that I cannot write English very well, then I am going to write slowly. I am seventeen years old and I came to Tokyo before few weeks.

At last the war is over, we were criminals and blind person. I have so much to ask you about Christ because I believe him. It is so much fun to hear about him. You have no idea how glad I could to catch useful lesson. Lesson is that believe Christ. Please show me how become Christian.

So long, I remain with high respect my Lord Archbishop,

Our graces most devoted,
Yasuhiko Aibara

"Now I am very glad to tell you that I can believe in Lord Jesus. I make up my mind to be a good Christian. From five years before to this night I had read many book of religious, many chapters of New Testament, sometimes I had many question to Christianity. But I couldn't believe Jesus. I went to church and listen to many explanation. How often, had I discuss for Christianity but I gained nothing. But listen to your radio I suddenly convinced of my haughty heart. The reason I couldn't believe the Lord. This problem is solved in this moment.

Your loving friend
Tadashi Murayama

MATTER FOR URGENT PRAYER

Recently one of the leading newspapers of Japan reporting the proceedings in the Japanese Diet stated:

"Prime Minister Yoshida in reply to another interpellator, said he is contemplating revision of the Educational Basic Law and educational policies. Yoshida said the occupation forces misunderstood the Japanese as a bellicose nation and sponsored legislation of the Educational Basic Law, which decentralized educational administration. The government he said intends to rectify this extreme policy.

"Education Minister Shigeo Odachi said he wishes to revise the contents of school text books to stir up racial spirit and patriotism among the students."

The background of all this, is of course,

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S DIRECTIVE

of December 15, 1945 entitled "Abolition of Government Sponsorship, Support, Perpetuation, Control and Dissemination of State Shinto" in which he stated:

"They took the legend of the divine descent of the Imperial family from the sun goddess Amaterasu Omikami, and through school and other agencies attempted to inculcate into the minds of the Japanese the belief that the emperor is an actual living god; as such is by divine right entitled to rule all lands and all peoples.

"Going still further they claimed all Japanese are descended from one deity or another and therefore are superior to the people of other lands and that the islands of Japan themselves were of divine origin and therefore superior to any other lands.

"The most important factor in conditioning the people to acceptance of a Shinto-centered state was the education system. The Japanese government used a device cleverly calculated to bar all other such teachings from schools. First in 1889 it issued an order forbidding the teaching of religion in public or private schools. Then with all other religions thus out of the schools, it declared State Shinto was not a religion and made its instruction compulsory in public schools.

"Through textbooks, highly indoctrinated teachers, and deeply impressive ceremonies all the threads of Shinto's nationalistic policies were woven into the student's mind from the time he entered school until he finished his formal education. In this way Shinto was made the principal instrument of inculcating submissiveness, loyalty to the state and unquestioning acceptance of the

official views as to the proper nature of society and political and social morality.

"Just how successful this program proved has been demonstrated by the ease with which the militarists came into power in Japan and led the nation into wars of aggression. (It is well to remember, that even today in 1953 the majority of Japanese voters were educated in the system mentioned above by General MacArthur and were taught from their early days the doctrines of Shintoism as the basis of patriotism. TP).

"It is hereby directed: (we cannot give all the provisions, but will state a few)

"All financial support from public funds and all official affiliation with Shinto and Shinto Shrines are prohibited and will cease immediately.

"The dissemination of Shinto doctrines in any form and by any means in any educational institution supported wholly or in part by public funds, is prohibited and will cease immediately.

"All teacher's manuals and textbooks now in use in any educational institution supported wholly or in part by public funds will be censored, and all Shinto doctrine will be deleted. No teacher's manual or textbook which is published in the future for use in such institutions will contain any Shinto doctrines.

Many of the Japanese people and particularly many leaders in the Japanese government have taken General MacArthur's dismissal as a repudiation by the United States of those principles for which he stood.

A VERY GRAVE MISTAKE

Though the peace treaty with Japan guarantees freedom of religion it does not guarantee the separation of Shintoism from the Japanese government for many Japanese leaders assert that Shintoism is the Japanese form of patriotism and in order to be a good Japanese one must be a good Shintoist. We earnestly trust that many will pray that God will stay the hands of wicked men who would again introduce Shintoism into the public school system of Japan and again make it the standard by which loyalty is judged (II Thess. 3:2).

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

On July 8, 1853 Commodore Perry landed off Uraga in Japan (near Tokyo) and on July 16th of the

same year delivered to the representative of the Japanese government the letter from President Fillmore of the United States. Now a hundred years have passed and even yet less than one half percent of the people of Japan are even professing Protestant or Roman Catholic Christians. Even of this very small percentage the greater majority by far are modernists and do not believe the Bible to be the infallible Word of God or our Lord Jesus to be God Himself the creator of the universe, or in his resurrection bodily from the grave. Modernism and the social gospel probably claim a larger proportion of the professing Christians of Japan than it does in any other land including Germany. Because of compromise the Church is very weak.

DID YOU PRAY

as we requested in a letter last year for Sgt. Axel Hirschberger? You will remember we wrote about his being converted when I was invited to preach to a group of Japanese who were invited by the soldiers of the 187th Airborne Infantry of which Chaplain Bob Rayburn was the leader. The Sgt. was born in Japan. His father was a German rubber merchant. Axel was here during all of the war and spoke Japanese well. At the end of the war he got to the U.S. as an immigrant but was soon drafted and sent back to Japan as a soldier. Because he spoke Japanese he was made a special investigator for the military police. Axel heard the message in Japanese and the Lord touched his heart and when we asked the Japanese to come forward and to pray and to ask the Lord's forgiveness for their sins and to receive Him, Axel came with the Japanese to repent and to receive the Lord Jesus Christ into this heart. The next evening he stood before his G. I. buddies and publicly confessed

Christ as his Lord. He is the only white man I have ever heard of that was brought to Christ through listening to a message in the Japanese language. In July I received a call from the Red Cross saying that Sgt. Axel Hirschberger was in the Tokyo Army Hospital and wanted to see me. When I got to the hospital I discovered that he had been in the last action against the Communists in Korea just before the signing of the truce and he had been hit by a communist mortar shell and his right leg was blown off and he had other serious body injuries. I read to him from the Bible and prayed with him and then he prayed so beautifully for the men who had fired the shell that had blown off his leg, that God would forgive them and save them. He told me he couldn't wait until he was better and could get a wooden leg and come to Japan as a missionary. He accepted all this from the Lord and rejoiced in what the Lord had done for him. Having to leave Tokyo to attend the Conference of the Far Eastern Council of Christian Churches in Karuizawa (which was blessed of the Lord and was a real time of encouragement and refreshing) I asked Mrs. William K. Harrison, wife of Lt. General Wm. K. Harrison, to visit the Sgt. and to encourage him in the Lord. She went faithfully each day to see him and on the 28th of July while reading to him the 14th chapter of John she asked, "Sgt., if you should die this moment are you sure you would go to be with the Lord?" never realizing how serious his condition really was. He replied, "I most certainly am sure." The next day when she returned to see him he was in great pain for gangrene had set in and that same night he went to be with the Lord having had a good testimony before many witnesses during the year and a half the Lord per-

mitted him to witness for Himself. We wonder if there is a man who reads this testimony of a brave Christian soldier who will offer himself in Axel's place to come to Japan as a missionary for Christ whom he loved.

OUR DAUGHTER, SALLY SUE



who was born in Japan in the city of Fukuoka on June 19, 1939 now has passed her 14th birthday and has finished the 8th grade at the Japan Evangelical Christian School and now begins High School. She is a great blessing to our home and a great help to us in the work of the Lord. With her three younger brothers she comes faithfully with us in the corners to give out tracts and standing with them on the hood of the jeep sings in Japanese and English and says Bible verses. In Japanese her name is Keiko. Perhaps some of you young people would like to correspond with her and she has promised to answer those who write. The address is that given at the heading of this letter.

With love in our Wonderful Lord
Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Tokyo Bible Center

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

December 1953



Pietsch Family

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

What a joy it is to greet you at this time when we especially remember the coming into this world of our Lord Jesus Christ. We send you each one greetings in His love from Japan, praying for you a blessed Christmas and joyous new year. May He abundantly bless you.

ANOTHER RADIO STATION ADDED

Beginning the first of November we went on another radio station

with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the city of Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, and its fourth largest city. Brother Calvin Hanson of the Evangelical Free Church has had a program on this station for some over a year each Sunday night at 9:30. Since he is going home soon on furlough he asked if we would take it over since we did not want this very strategic time to be lost to the preaching of the gospel. We prayed much about it and the Lord assured us that we

must get the gospel out on the air now while we have the opportunity, so in faith we went ahead and signed the contract, believing that God will supply the funds since He ordered it.

IT IS OVER TWO YEARS

since we began broadcasting the gospel over station JOAR in Nagoya in September, 1951, and we have been on that station ever since. This station has an area of ten million listed listeners. JOOR in Osaka, where we began on July 1st of this year has thirteen million five hundred thousand listeners, and JOBR in Kyoto where we began on November 1st has four million five hundred thousand listeners. Though radio time in Japan is much more expensive than in the United States because there are so few stations, (there are only nineteen commercial radio stations to cover all of Japan, besides the government owned stations of the Nippon Broadcasting Co.,) yet comparatively we find radio one of the cheapest and certainly the quickest way to reach much of Japan with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Per capita there are as many radio sets in Japan as in the USA, yet they are usually very small sets and can only pick up the local station and therefore getting the gospel on the local stations is essential. For approximately five thousand dollars it is possible to put on a gospel program once a week for a whole year over station JOKR in Tokyo which has twenty-nine million listeners. Three thousand dollars will put a fifteen minute program on the air for a year, once each week over station JOHR in Sapporo, reaching five million people on the northernmost island of Japan. Hiroshima, the city of the atomic bomb, has a radio station, JOER, and for \$4,420 a gospel program can be broadcast each

week for a year, reaching five and a half million people in that area. Radio Kyushu, which is station JOFR in Fukuoka, the capital city of Kyushu, will carry our gospel program of a whole year for about four thousand five hundred dollars in U. S. money, payable in yen at the current rate of three hundred and sixty yen to the dollar. This opportunity of freely broadcasting the gospel over the radio may not last much longer and we must take advantage of this most wonderful opportunity while we can.

"A SAVIOUR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD"

This is the wonderful message that we have the privilege of bringing to the people of Japan. The Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Creator Himself, deigned to become our Saviour. The choicest object of the Father's eternal love was sent to suffer the agony of the cross, in order to pay our ransom and free us from the penalty and power of sin that held us in bondage as its slaves. How we need to keep this wonderful fact always before us and it is in honest recognition of this fact that one is saved. The Bible clearly teaches that if we confess Jesus as Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead we are saved. The resurrection is the act by which God highly exalted Him and gave Him a name that is above every name, and as Peter preached on the day of Pentecost, "God hath made that same Jesus whom ye crucified both Lord and Christ." God hath made Him Lord and we are to receive Him and confess Him as such in order to be saved. We have found a tendency among some to

MAKE A DISTINCTION

between Jesus being Saviour and His being Lord. They preach that

if we believe that Jesus died in our room and stead on the cross and if we will receive Him as our Saviour we will be saved. If by this they mean it is not necessary to accept Christ as Lord in order to be saved and that as Saviour He is less than He is as Lord we believe that they do great despite to the work of the Cross by which He paid the terrible price of our redemption. The very message of Christmas is this glorious, wonderful truth, THE LORD BECAME OUR SAVIOUR. Every recorded conversion in the New Testament is the record of the acknowledgement of Jesus as Lord. Paul on the road to Damascus, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?"; the dying thief, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom;" Thomas, "My Lord and my God;" Zacchaeus, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor." The Bible makes absolutely no distinction between His being Saviour and His being Lord and it makes no two steps in our receiving Christ. It is not first receive Him as Saviour in order to be saved from the penalty of our sins and then some day later if we feel like it, (and it is optional in order to get a reward in heaven) we receive Him as Lord. Hebrews 5:9 reads, "And being made perfect He became the author of eternal salvation to all that obey him." One who is truly saved and born of the Spirit of God cannot say, "He is my Saviour but He is not my Lord," for by the Holy Spirit we confess that Jesus is Lord. If He is not your Lord He is not your Saviour. This vital, positive truth is essential for preaching the Gospel in Japan, and is the secret of preaching the Gospel to the Japanese. Like Rome of old the Japanese government has taught that the emperor is a god. (The greater majority by far of Japanese voters today

were in their childhood ingrained with this.) Many Japanese seem to be willing to say "we believe in Jesus as our Saviour and we believe that He died for us, but we are Japanese and we must put our country first." How easy it would have been for the Roman Christians to make this distinction and say "Jesus is our Saviour but not our Lord," in order to avoid persecution, and yet it was to Romans that Paul so clearly wrote, "WHOSOEVER CALLETH UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED." In a Roman garrison city he declared, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." This is the message that the world hates because this message shows that the world is in rebellion against the Lord and against His anointed. Yet this is the message that the Holy Spirit will honor and bless. Paul preached "repentance toward God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ." All the promises regarding salvation are based upon the fact that Jesus Christ is Lord and must be received, trusted and obeyed as such. "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD;" . . . "Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I wonder, dear friend, reader of this letter at this Christmas time, if you can truly make this personal and say, "Being justified by faith I have peace with God through my Lord Jesus Christ?" If you cannot honestly from your heart by the Holy Spirit confess Him as Lord, what right do you have to say that you are saved? This glorious truth that He is Lord is the very basis of missions and we are commanded, "PRAY YE THE LORD of the Harvest that He send forth laborers into His harvest field," and we

need to pray, "LORD, here am I, send me." We are missionaries for one primary reason and that is that Jesus Christ is our Lord and He commanded, "GO." Any distinction that makes Jesus as Saviour and less than He is as Lord, grieves the Holy Spirit and cannot be blessed of God.

BIBLE CENTER NOTES

Brother Paul Suzuki, assistant director at the Tokyo Bible Center, spent a week in Aomori Prefecture with beloved Brother and Mrs. Dale Crowley, Jr., doing country evangelistic work, during his vacation between semesters at The Japan Christian Theological Seminary where he is in his third year and from which, Lord willing, he will graduate next March. Lord willing, we trust that he will be able to do further work next fall at Faith Theological Seminary as a graduate student, and we would ask many of you to pray for this fine young man that God has raised up to be such a help and blessing in this land.

Mrs. C. K. Dozier, Helen Pietsch's mother, teaches faithfully a class of mothers at the Bible Center each Thursday afternoon. It is now over forty-seven years since she first came to Japan as a missionary and is now retired by the Southern Baptist Board and has come to make her home in Japan for her remaining years. She is a very great blessing to all that know her.

Timothy Pietsch held special meetings of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Mino Mission in Ogaki and then evangelistic meetings in Kyoto and Takatsuki with the Evangelical Free church missionaries, in October and early November, and with the Lutheran Brethren in Akita Prefecture on northern Honshu, in late November.

RAIN AND FLOODS

The rainiest year in the history

of Japan is what the weather men called it. Flash floods left hundreds upon hundreds homeless, and a severe typhoon lashed Japan, killing over a hundred and sixty. The coldest August day in the history of weather records and also the hottest day in the records came almost side by side. The weather cost Japan billions of yens worth of damage. Many think the gods are angry and so the Shinto festivals this year have been more luxurious and more well attended than ever.

THE JAPAN EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

which our three older children attend, is in dire need of Christian teachers. How thankful we are for this school where our children can go to be under the influence of Godly teachers. We wonder if there is some one who reads this letter who is qualified could come to Japan to teach missionary children. It would not be necessary to learn the Japanese language, but service for Christ could begin the day you land in Japan. Since the school is a co-operative effort of evangelical missionaries for the training of their children it would be necessary for the volunteer teacher to raise her support and passage since the school is unable to pay salaries. We are continuing to pray for a Christian grammar school for Japanese children but so far have had no indications that the Lord wanted us to go ahead with it. It is a very great need in Japan. Love in our Wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,
Helen and Timothy Pietsch
Luke 9:23



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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

February, 1954



Tim Pietsch and Paul Suzuki answer radio mail

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

How wonderfully good our Lord has been to us and given wonderful response to our messages of the gospel on the radio. Never before have we had such response as we had at Christmas and New Year's time and we had over a thousand answers in one week. This is better than we have ever known since we began broadcasting the gospel on the radio here in Japan in the fall of 1951. We have answered each one who has written to us,

sending gospel messages and we have tried to get them in contact with a gospel preaching church in their area. Our meetings for the Sunday School and Bible kindergarten at Christmas were a great blessing. We wish you could see the way the used Christmas cards you sent us were made into lovely little calendars in Japanese for the children to take home. If any of you would like to send us your old Christmas cards, they can be put to good use for the Lord. Also old

clothes can still be used for the poor and needy. Please address the packages direct to us at Tokyo.

A GREAT VICTORY IN ANSWER TO PRAYER

In our October letter last year you will remember that we requested special prayer that God would stay the hands of wicked men who would again make Shintoism in Japan the basis for patriotism. We believe that many of you did pray as we requested. On the 13th of November the following item appeared in the Nippon Times, the largest English newspaper in Japan:

NIXON TO LAY WREATH AT YASUKUNI SHRINE

U. S. Vice President Richard M. Nixon, due to arrive at Tokyo International Airport, Sunday afternoon is scheduled to place a wreath at the Yasukuni Shrine Monday morning, it was learned yesterday. The Yasukuni Shrine is dedicated to the souls of Japanese who died in war. The planned gesture of the American Vice President was regarded as a possible response to that made by Crown Prince Akihito in September when he similarly paid respects before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington.

When I saw this in the newspaper I immediately asked the Lord what we should do about it. I called some missionaries by telephone and then we also called the American Embassy about this and protested. Others I know also wrote to the Embassy about it. However the Lord laid on my heart to write an open letter to the Editor of the Nippon Times, using my pen name, to show the difference between 'laying a wreath' at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and going to Yasukuni Shrine. The following letter was published on the 15th of November:

While greatly desirous of true friendship and good will between Japan and the United States, we are greatly concerned by the account in your fine paper this morning (Nov. 13) stating that Vice President Nixon of the United States is scheduled to "place a wreath" at Yasukuni Shrine as a gesture of good will and friendship and "as a possible response to that made by Crown Prince Akihito in Sep-

tember when he similarly paid respects before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington.

While realizing that some will state that both acts are similar and that Vice President Nixon would simply be showing a gesture of friendship and good will to Japan, we wonder if the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Yasukuni Shrine are similar for the following reasons: (1) Yasukuni Shrine is a Shinto Jinja (god-house) whereas the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is connected with no religion, denomination or sect and has no religious significance. (2) At the Yasukuni Shrine it is not customary simply to "place a wreath" but rather to bow. Many even pray to spirits of the dead soldiers who are purported to reside there. (3) The Unknown Soldier is not looked upon as a spirit-god who protects the nation, whereas the dead enshrined at Yasukuni are looked upon by many Japanese as the guardian spirit-gods of the nation. Few Japanese openly deny that "gods" reside at Yasukuni Shrine.

With much prayer I sent this off to the editor of the Nippon Times and also a copy to Vice President Nixon and one to the American Ambassador in Japan. We prayed much that God would keep Vice President Nixon from going for the leading Japanese newspaper carried the item under the headline: **VICE PRESIDENT NIXON-**

FORMAL SHRINE WORSHIP

In Japanese they did not call it simply to 'place a wreath' but actually worship of the dead spirit-gods. The article pointed out that the Allies questioned the advisability of the continued existence of these State Shinto Shrines and stated that Mr. Nixon would be the first Allied personnel to do 'Jinja Sanpai' (worship at a Shinto Shrine) since the war.

The Lord wonderfully answered prayer and on the 17th of November the United Press carried the following item in the Nippon Times.

WREATH LAYING PLANS CANCELLED FOR NIXON

Plans for Vice President Richard M. Nixon to place a wreath on a shrine dedicated to Japanese soldier dead were abandoned yesterday at a hint of protest from the American religious community here.

The original schedule for yesterday called for Nixon to place the wreath at the Yasukuni Shrine in return for a similar act by Crown Prince Akihito at the Tomb of the



Helen and Timothy Pietsch Broadcasting the Gospel in Japanese

American Unknown Soldier at Arlington.

The shrine is, however, for followers of the Shinto religion and is not non-denominational as is the Arlington burial place.

A letter to the Nippon Times protesting that it would be inappropriate for an American Vice President to make a gesture at a Shinto shrine and the probability the issue would be taken up by American religious leaders in Japan resulted in the visit being cancelled due to a "tight schedule."

This was the greatest slap in the face that government sponsored shinto nationalism has had for many a day, for of course had Nixon gone, pictures of him at the shrine would have been taken and the Japanese papers would have headlined that the Americans now openly worship at shinto shrines. On the 3rd of December the following letter appeared in the Nippon Times:

"TOMB OF UNKNOWN SOLDIERS"

To the editor:

When Vice President Richard M. Nixon visited Japan, it was scheduled that he lay a wreath at the Yasukuni Shrine, but the program was cancelled due to the protests of Christian missionaries in Japan. Their complaint was that the second highest official of the United States, a Christian, should not pay homage to pagan deities.

Christianity and Islamism are monotheistic religions, while Buddhism is pantheistic and Shintoism a polytheistic. Christians and Islamites believe in one supreme being; their creeds forbid them to worship any other deities except one true God.

I have no objection to the Yasukuni Shrine consecrating the Shinto war dead, but it is ridiculous that Buddhist, Christian or Islamite heresies should, through a sweeping enrollment be enshrined among the Shinto gods and their memorial services be pure Shinto ritual.

In nearly every civilized country, there is an unknown soldier memorial belonging to no single religion. When any distinguished foreigner visits one of these countries, he, as a rule, pays homage to the monument and lays a wreath at the foot of it. It has almost become international etiquette now.

Unfortunately, Japan has no such unknown soldiers' monument which is free from religious affiliation. There is a plan to erect one on the site of the Gokokuji Temple in Bunkyo-ku Tokyo, but since the temple is Buddhist the selection of the site may incur misunderstanding.

To avoid this, as well as to select a more suitable place, let me suggest Hibiya Park or the Palace Plaza; both of these are located near Tokyo Station.

(signed) S. Muraoka

Now if once for all the people of Japan can find out that Shintoism is not synonymous with patriotism we have gained a great point. We

ask you to continue to pray much for the battle is yet far from being fully won. On the 7th of December the Tokyo Evening News carried the following item by Koiku Saito:

His Majesty the Emperor on New Year's Day 1946 publicly repudiated the traditional title of "living god of Japan." Now that a change of the war-renouncing Constitution is being contemplated, he may take a suitable opportunity to eat back his word of seven years ago and declare

Tennoheika which means—heaven's descended majesty) guest book.

This year may well determine which way Japan will go. We earnestly trust that many will pray that God will enable us to widen the ministry of the Gospel on the air to include all of Japan. This opportunity may not last much longer. We are now on three stations cov-



Workers at Tokyo Bible Center

himself once more a living god of Japan which he really is.

On New Year's day this year two million three hundred thousand people went to worship the spirit of the Emperor Meiji at the Meiji Shrine here in Tokyo. On the 2nd of January seventeen people were crushed to death in the mobs trying to get into the Imperial Palace to sign the emperor's (in Japan they do not call him emperor but rather,

ering an area of twenty five million people and desire to honor our Lord by spreading out to cover all of Japan. With love to you each one and we would be so encouraged to hear from you. With love in our Wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23

Tokyo Bible Center

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

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Paul Suzuki - Assistant

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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.

Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

September, 1954



Street Meeting for Children

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

This fall marks three years since the Lord put us on the radio here in Japan preaching to countless thousands each week the gospel of His grace. It was in the fall of 1951 when the first commercial radio station went on the air in Japan that the Lord laid on my heart the burden of broadcasting the gospel over the radio to the millions of this land. Never before had the gospel ever been on the air in Japan for

up to that time all the radio stations in Japan were owned by a Japanese government monopoly called the Japan Broadcasting Corporation. In the fall of 1951 a new law went into effect in Japan that also gave permits to commercial stations and the first one to go on the air in Japan was JOAR in Nagoya where we had worked as missionaries prior to the war. In faith we signed a contract to start broadcasting the gospel on that station and have been on ever since with-

out interruption. It is now also our joy to be broadcasting on three other stations as well. We are praying that we can widen this ministry of preaching the gospel on the air in Japan to include all of Japan at least once each week with a gospel message. Nearly every home in Japan has a radio, and many turn the radio on in the morning and leave it on all day. We believe that radio is one of the finest means of getting the people of Japan under the hearing of the gospel. An item in the Japanese newspapers states that the Japanese government is again contemplating the censoring of all radio stations. Not only those under government management but commercial stations as well. Things are definitely tightening up in this land and Japan in many ways is fast returning to her old totalitarianism. We must take advantage of this great opportunity of getting out the gospel by means of radio while we still have it. We are earnestly asking our Lord for those who will earnestly pray for this radio ministry and give just fifty cents a week. If only one thousand of God's children would say

COUNT ME THEREFORE A PARTNER

and enter into this partnership in the gospel with us for getting out the gospel to the millions of Japan now, we could reach most of Japan each week with a gospel message. We trust that many of you who read this letter will be our partners for His sake and get others to be also. We are not asking for our personal support for the Lord has always taken care of us but we are pleading for the ministry of getting out the gospel over the air to all of Japan NOW. We will keep in touch with you regularly and every gift will be receipted for and all funds for radio will go for that purpose. We are enclosing for you a little

card and ask that if you will enter into this partnership with us that you will sign it and send it in to our treasurer, Brother Ronald Birchard in Turlock, California. If you are already one of our partners in the gospel we trust that you will use it to help get some one else interested in this wonderful opportunity that the Lord has given.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGNS

During the last year the Lord has given many wonderful opportunities to help others in evangelistic efforts. It is our great delight to co-operate with those who faithfully uphold our Lord Jesus Christ. It has been my joy during the last fall, winter and spring to hold twenty evangelistic campaigns in local churches. We have had the joy of co-operating with Mid Missions, The Evangelical Free Church, The Bible Baptists, The Mino Mission, the Lutheran Brethren and others as well. We have not held union campaigns that might have the possibility of putting live chicks under dead hens and the new born babes out to the wolves to be devoured. Though it is our delight to help build up the testimony of others we cannot honestly before our Lord co-operate with those who are connected with the National Council of Churches or the United Church of Japan for we are convinced that the leadership of these groups has departed from the "faith once delivered unto the saints," Jude 3, and preaches "another gospel" and so is under the anathema of God, Gal. 1: 9. We are not claiming that there are no "good" men in these groups but we firmly believe they would be better men if they would obey the explicit commands of our Lord, "Come out of her my people and be not partaker of her sins" and "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." The position of a "good" man in one of these apos-

tate organizations is going to be more and more like that of "righteous Lot" in Sodom. We cannot conscientiously before our Lord help to build up numbers for the World Council of Churches which we believe to be led by men who are conspirators against the gospel any more than we could honestly co-operate with the Roman Catholic church and help add numbers to it. We have discovered that much mass evangelism in this land because no definite stand is taken on this point goes to help build up these apostate systems. It is my definite conviction that the New Testament teaches that God has chosen

THE LOCAL CHURCH

as the means for the evangelization of the community. All true evangelism should be centered in the local church that preaches the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. True evangelism is to seek to establish and build up the local churches that are true to the gospel. Organizations that work above the local church and do not establish local churches but commit such labors to others for fear that they might become denominations are not fully obeying the great commission and I am convinced with few exceptions cause great harm on the mission field and their efforts as a whole go to help the organized apostasy. In Japan approximately ninety percent of the so called Christian churches are either connected with the National Council of Churches which is part of the World Council or with the Roman Catholic system both of which are apostate. When evangelism is done in the name of Christianity in general without naming those who have departed from the faith and without warning concerning the false teachers as we are commanded to do, the results of such evangelism in the long run can only go to help build up the "existing church-

es" ninety percent of which are apostate or connected with apostate systems. If a group that sends missionaries to the foreign field does not start local churches that teach the whole Word of God they are not obeying the great commission. No matter how much they talk about "follow up" by mail or Bible study courses they are still not obeying the New Testament commands. True follow up is the establishing of local churches that fully obey the gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ in His Revelation addressed his seven messages to local churches. He did not commend them all. Of one he had nothing bad to say and of another nothing good. It was to a local church he addressed his invitation: "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and open the door I will come into him and sup with him and he with me." This church had shut Him out and was lukewarm and he warned them that he would spue them out of His mouth. When a church is lukewarm our Lord says of it, "I would rather that ye were cold." Mass evangelism must be done in the name of a local church or group of local churches that are true to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and which are not connected with the apostate systems. I can never believe that our Lord Jesus Christ would ever work through a committee in a union campaign representing all groups. Could you imagine him saying: "Now if you will arrange a committee to represent all the churches, the Pharisees, the Sadducees and the Herodians and the publicans, then I will come and preach for you and represent you all." Could you imagine the Apostle Paul conducting union campaigns in the name of religion in general simply to be able to give out great reports of how many souls he had

won to Christ? Though Paul greatly rejoiced each time Christ was preached even by those who preached Him out of "envy and strife" yet he did not join their efforts nor commend them. We find that there is a tendency when evangelism is done in the name of Christianity in general to

COUNT NUMBERS.

The Lord Jesus does not judge us by how many souls we win but how faithfully we have represented Him and brought men face to face with His claims. Is it necessary to disobey Him in order to try and honor Him? He told us very carefully to "BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS," Matt. 7:15, and we are to be good shepherds of the sheep—guarding and protecting them from the wolves in sheep's clothing. We are commanded to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather to expose them to the light. Eph. 5:11-13. Certainly our Lord will judge us as to how faithfully we have witnessed to His gospel and even if there are no visible results one can still be counted faithful. However He also will judge us as to how faithfully we have taught them "all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Soul winning is only part of what He will judge us about and mass evangelism must never be used as an excuse for not obeying the rest of the explicit commands of our Lord.

BIBLE CENTER NOTES

We had a blessed time in special evangelistic meetings here at the Center for children. We put on this campaign to bring the children to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible Center continues to expand and we are having to enlarge it to make more room for the Bible Kindergar-

ten and Bible School. The enlarging is all being paid for by the Japanese here at the Center. Brother Paul Suzuki left here on the 10th of July to attend the Congress of the International Council of Christian Churches in Philadelphia and then to enter graduate school at Faith Seminary in Philadelphia. We trust many of you will get to meet him. Our children are growing and are a great blessing to us. Sally Sue, grade 10, Kelsey, grade 6, and Tiny Tim, grade 5, attend the Japan Evangelical Christian school for missionary children. It is a very long way each day for them as it takes about two hours each way by electric train, which means about four hours a day coming and going. We do trust that you will pray for them as they get very tired. David is still in the Bible Kindergarten here at the Bible Center and is learning Japanese the right way from the beginning. Mrs. C. K. Dozier, Helen's mother who is a retired Southern Baptist missionary is still faithfully teaching a class of mothers and ladies each Thursday afternoon at the Center. Helen's brother, Edwin Dozier and his family who are Southern Baptist missionaries left for furlough in the U.S. on the 27th of June. We wonder if you have read our little pamphlets, "Even a Dog" and "Questions." If you as yet have not received one of these, please write to our beloved printer, Brother Max Belz, Cono Center, Walker, Iowa and he will be glad to send them to you. It would be so good to hear from many of you directly. We all send love in our wonderful Lord.

Yours Because His

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23

—In cooperation with the American Council
of Christian Churches

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November, 1954

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

We greatly rejoice in your fellowship in the gospel of our Lord Jesus and what a great joy it is for us to be able to serve our Lord in this needy land of Japan. We are now beginning our fourth year of preaching the gospel in Japanese over the radio. Our response continues to grow and is better than ever before and each week we receive many, many letters and cards in response to the gospel messages over the air. Recently we received a letter addressed to:

MR. GOOD NEWS

Our radio programs in Japanese are entitled Yorokobashiki Otozure-Seisho no hanashi (Good News — A message from the Bible) and that is the reason we received such a letter. What a joy it is to bring to the needy, heavy laden because of sin, the glorious message of eternal hope concerning God's eternal Son our Lord Jesus Christ who now calls men to repentance and faith. We are fully convinced that radio is one of the quickest ways in which to reach the millions of this land with the gospel and also to establish Bible believing churches. We urge our listeners who are Christians to be living gospel cells and to expand themselves. We cannot honestly before our Lord co-operate with all the churches for some have departed from the faith once delivered unto the saints but we do seek to help those who are true to the Lord and are not connected with a program of unbelief or compromise. We believe that Christians lost a good deal when we started the idea of a big church building and organizations and forgot the cell system of expansion which the Communists have now taken over. We need to get back to the principles of the New Testament where every Christian has a vital ministry of his own for the Lord and is not just a sermon listener and offering giver. For this very reason we are praying about opening an evening school for laymen. At this time we are also conducting a class in personal soul winning.

PASTOR, WON'T YOU PLEASE READ THE BIBLE WITH ME?

The other day a young lady came to our front door who hadn't been to the Bible Center for quite some time. When we opened the door she bowed and said, "Pastor, I haven't been able to attend services for almost two years because the bakery shop in which I work won't allow me to come and this is the first day I have had off. Won't you please read the Bible with me and

sing and pray?" We found that this young lady is kept in almost actual slavery (not too uncommon in Japan even these days) and isn't even allowed to turn on the radio to a Christian program. She is forced to get up before five each morning and to work until after ten each night, and this is the shop where we have been getting our bread. What a joy it was to open the Word of God with her and encourage her, that she might have hope. Romans 15:4. What an encouragement to see the faith of this young babe and I have often wondered if there are many Christians in the U.S. who ever go to their pastor and say, "Pastor, please read the Bible with me and sing and pray because I am so lonely for Christian fellowship.

GOD'S WAYS — NOT OUR WAYS

Though we cannot confirm many of the stories coming out of Japan these days that seem to exalt men we want to send to you one of the sweetest and most wonderful stories (true) that we have heard in this land for many a day. Mr. and Mrs. Folke Persson of Sweden are

impossible for them to return. The Swedish Mongol Mission, lead of God, decided to enter the wide open field of Japan; and so Brother and Mrs. Persson proceeded to the U.S., preparing to enter Japan. They were all set to sail for Japan early in 1951 when they had a terrible traffic accident and had to cancel their passage and delay their coming to Japan. They wondered how God's hand could be in such a disaster. Convalescing in Williams Bay, Wisconsin, near the Yerkes Astronomical Laboratory, he often saw Oriental students and professors on the compound and wondered if there might be a Japanese there who could teach them the Japanese language. Upon inquiry they found that Dr. Yoshio Fujita of the Tokyo Imperial University was doing special work at the observatory and upon contacting him he agreed to teach them Japanese twice a week. He claimed to be a Christian and a member of the United Church of Japan, but it was soon evident to Brother Persson that Dr. Fujita did not know the living Lord Jesus Christ and had never been born again. After the Perssons came to Japan in June of 1951, Dr. Fujita also returned to Japan and he called upon them and began to attend the gospel meetings that they were conducting in their own home. He began to realize that he was not a true Christian and had never been born again, and he came to see the necessity of a personal relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ. He opened his heart to the Lord and gave testimony that though a church member for sixteen years he had not been born again. This last summer Dr. Fujita was commissioned to



The Pietsch Family at Tokyo Bible Center

our nearest missionary neighbors here in Tokyo working about three miles away from the Bible Center. The Perssons were formerly missionaries in Mongolia. At the time of the Japanese invasion of Inner Mongolia they fled to Peking and worked there during all the last war, until 1946 when they returned to Sweden on furlough. In Sweden Brother Persson took further studies in preparation for returning to Mongolia. However, the Communists soon took over Mongolia, North China and all of China forcing out all the missionaries and making it

go to England to purchase and supervise the grinding of the lens for Japan's new telescope which is scheduled to be one of the largest in the world. On his way to England, Dr. Fujita went to Boraas, Sweden to visit the parents of Mrs. Persson. He spoke in their home church — the Swedish Free Lutheran Church, and visited in their home. Mrs. Persson's father had never been born again, but hearing the testimony of Dr. Fujita, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his own personal Saviour. Brother and Mrs. Persson now understand a

little of Romans 8:28, "All things work together for good to them that love God," and begin to understand the reasons a loving Heavenly Father had for the automobile accident and delaying their coming to Japan. We ask you to remember these beloved Swedish missionaries in prayer and also Dr. Yoshio Fujita who is one of Japan's leading astronomers.

During October we had the joy of holding an evangelistic campaign with the Bible Baptist missionaries in Chiba City. What a delight it is to work with these men of God. The Lord blessed us here at the Bible Center in special meetings conducted by our beloved Brother Tamezo Yamanaka. These meetings were about the best attended meetings we have ever had here at the

of the fantastic and preposterous reports of some who come over here for a few days at a time and who make no effort to learn the Japanese language or to understand the people and who preach through an interpreter and then return to the U. S. to give such glowing reports as to make many think that Japan is turning to the Lord. Actually, (our hearts are so sad because it is so true) there is no larger a percentage of Christians in Japan today, or no larger a percentage of church attendance than there was in 1940 when the Tojo militarists were in control.

PAGANIZED CHRISTIANITY

One of the missionaries killed in the ferry boat accident was a missionary of the United Church of Canada working with the United Church of Japan. His funeral was held at the Fujimicho Church here in Tokyo, which is one of the largest churches of the United Church of Japan. At his funeral the old pagan custom of putting up a picture of the dead, bowing to it, and reading a message of condolence to send away his spirit in a happy mood was carried out. The Nippon Times carried a picture of the State Minister of Transportation, Mitsujiri Ishii, reading a message of condolence before his picture, since he was killed on a Japanese government ferry boat. This is typical of most so-called Christian funerals in Japan, and is simply a carry over into Christianity of the pagan customs of placating the dead. Most religion in Japan (including most Christianity), boiled down to simple words, comes out, "ancestor worship of the dead." It is not uncommon that when two Japanese quarrel that one will threaten to commit harakiri (honorable stomach cutting) and come back to haunt the other if he will not give in to his desires. That the "placating of the dead" and "sending off the spirit in a happy mood" should have a part in a Christian funeral service and be published in the leading newspaper in the country can only give the impression that Christianity is little different than Buddhism and Shintoism. Bowing to the picture of the dead at funerals is one of the points on which even many evangelicals compromise with paganism in this land.

RADIOACTIVE RAIN

has been falling on the west coast of Japan facing Russia, and Japanese scientists claim it comes from atomic explosions carried out by the Russians in Siberia. Many Japanese are greatly concerned that their country will be caught between the two atomic testing powers. The death of Kuboyama Aikichi, one of the fishermen on the Fukuryu Maru, which was dusted with atomic ash from the hydrogen explosion at Bikini on April 1st, caused much ill feeling in this land towards the U.S., but strangely there has been little outcry against Russia, and it seems that the communists are exerting more influence than ever. Please remember us faithfully in prayer and let us hear from you that you are praying for us. With love in our wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
Luke 9:23



Shoes at Our Front Door

EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS

It is our great joy to co-operate with others in helping them build up their local churches. In September we worked with the Lutheran Brethren missionaries in the city of Noshiro in Akita Prefecture in a tent campaign and some came to make definite decisions of acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ. The last night of the meetings a great typhoon blew the tent over, but no one was hurt nor was anything damaged. It was in this same typhoon that the ferry boat, Toya Maru, capsized and over a thousand people were killed, including about sixty American soldiers and two missionaries. It was also our joy to conduct services with beloved Brother and Mrs. Dale Crowley and Brother and Mrs. Carl Harrigan at Mukae Mura in Aomori Prefecture and with the beloved missionaries of Mid Missions in the city of Fukushima where they have their headquarters.

Bible Center and we saw some come to definite decisions and we would ask your earnest prayer for them. Recently the mother of one of the young men who has been coming to the Center for about three years made a profession of faith and he said, "Now my mother is a sister in Christ, and from now on she won't have to be referred to as Mr. Takahashi's mother!"

TOKYO HAS MORE PEOPLE

A report in the Asahi News states:

"Tokyo's population rose 356,077 in the last year to 7,706,339 on June 1, according to a Metropolitan Government survey. This was 41,570 increase over May 1. There are 3,961,166 men and 3,745,773 women in Tokyo, comprising 1,851,067 households. Government officials predict a ten million population for Tokyo by 1962 if the present rate of increase continues."

Undoubtedly you have heard some

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Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

February, 1955

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Thank you each one for your gifts of love for the work of the Lord here in Japan so that His word may have free course and that our Lord might be glorified. May our Lord bless you each one who honestly upholds us in prayer and are our partners in the gospel and who do not just say prayers for us but really intercede on our behalf that we may not fall before any of the wiles of the evil one. We wish you could see the hundreds of letters that have come to us in answer to the preaching of the gospel over the radio here in Japan. Once each year at the Christmas time we put our children on our radio broadcast. They sing and say their Bible verses in Japanese and this is always the best response that we receive during the whole year. This last Christmas we had at least a thousand answers to that one program. Of course most of the answers are in Japanese but one young man wrote to us in English saying:

"On May 10, 1954 I received your kind letter and nice pamphlets. Thank you very much for them and I'm sorry my letter was so late. Today I heard you and your family on the air through Chubu Nippon Broadcasting Company. I was very much ashamed to hear your son's announcement. Because he's so young and he is believing in God so eagerly. As for me at more than 21 years, still have no God to believe. What a sorrow thing it is! But these days I'm in a hard atmosphere and have no God to believe in. In this point I wanted to know something about Christianity. In order to believe in Jesus Christ there is a serious and big problem. That is, why must we believe we are sinners, to be saved? I think I done no mistake that is called sin. The kind pamphlet told me, 'you are a sinner. Believe in God and you shall be saved.' Please let me know what is the best way to believe in God. Allow me if my letter is too ignorant and selfish. Very sincerely yours," Kinji Yada.

We answer each letter that we receive with gospel tracts and endeavor to answer their personal questions and seek to get them to study the Bible for themselves and to start a local church in obedience to the commands of our Lord.

FIVE MORE STATIONS?

Since October of 1951 we have been broadcasting the gospel over the radio here in Japan without missing a single week. At this time we are broadcasting on four Japanese radio stations in the cities of Nagoya, Kyoto, Toyohashi and Takayama. We have just had a request asking us to consider taking over the contract of some beloved missionaries in Fukushima Prefecture on a network of five stations. We would ask you to remember this matter with us in earnest prayer. We are confident that the Lord will provide the means if he orders us to go ahead. We believe that we must make every effort possible to get out the gospel now on the radio. The Lord has wonderfully blessed this ministry over the radio and we love it very much. Recently I have been down in the Nagoya area holding meetings with the Mino Mission and many came to the meetings after having heard us

on the radio. What a joy it is to hear some say, "I heard your gospel message over the radio and I came to the Lord." We are convinced that many Japanese are willing to listen to the gospel over the radio who would not at first be willing to come to the church because of prejudice and fear. We must warn all that we can to flee from the wrath to come and we are convinced that radio is one of the very best means to warn the people as a whole.

PAUL SUZUKI—JIM WILSON

Our beloved young pastor Brother Paul Suzuki is at Faith Seminary, Elkins Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in graduate school. We do trust that while he is in the United States that many of you will invite him to your churches. He can explain to you the true conditions in this land and what it costs a Japanese to be a true disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are so glad to be able to write to you that Paul Suzuki's family are now coming to the Bible Center to the meetings and we ask you to pray for them. Brother Paul Suzuki has both motion pictures and colored slides of the gospel work here in Japan and will be glad to come to your church to show them. Brother Jim Wilson who is accepted to come out and work with us here at the Bible Center is continuing his studies at Baptist Bible Seminary in Johnson City, New York and he too will be very glad for an invitation to come and present the work of Japan to you.

SHINTOISM AGAIN THE STANDARD?

New Year's day 1955 was a great Shinto festival in Japan. In Japanese it is "Shihohai." They worship in four directions, at which time the emperor of Japan, called Tennoheika (Heaven's descended majesty),



Worshippers Before the Meiji Shrine

worships the gods of the universe at the three imperial sanctuaries inside the palace. Millions of Japanese went to the Shinto shrines throughout Japan on this day to worship. Time Magazine of January 17th, 1955 carried this item about it:

The Old Look

Beneath the twin rows of cypresses that lead up to Tokyo's Meiji Shrine, an old Japanese farmer paused last week to explain his year-end pilgrimage. "The people's feelings are settling down," the farmer said. "From now on it will be best for us to be what we really are—Japanese." In Tokyo a Japanese editorial writer echoed the sentiment more formally: "The whole nation is searching for its lost pride."

Last week the search was in full swing. All Japan pulled wooden shutters over store fronts and quit offices to celebrate *Osho Gatsu*, the Japanese New Year. For five days virtually all work stopped while millions of Japanese slipped back into kimonos, and women spent painful hours at their beauty shops getting their hair pulled and greased in the old-fashioned

style, now worn mostly by geisha girls. Although Japanese have celebrated *Osho Gatsu* for centuries, never since the war have so many poured out to the ancient Shinto shrines.

More than 2,700,000 Japanese visited the shrine of the Emperor Meiji (Hirohito's grandfather). Five hundred thousand padded to the Yasukuni Shrine, above which the souls of Japan's war dead are said to hover, and clapped hands respectfully to get the souls' attention. Amid the wooded hills of Ise, southwest of Tokyo, 360,000 worshipped at the Grand Shrines of Shintoism.

Among the worshipers at Ise, in striped trousers and cutaway, was Japan's new Premier Ichiro Hatoyama, full of the knowledge that his nationalist pronouncements had done much to stimulate Japan's search for its old look. Hatoyama is the first Prime Minister to make the pilgrimage since the Japanese surrender;

he did so in defiance of Article 20 of the MacArthur constitution, which lays down that "the state and its organs shall refrain from . . . religious activity." And although Hatoyama himself is a Christian, fond of caroling hymns like *The Old Rugged Cross*, he solemnly reported his appointment to Amaterasu O-mikami, the sun goddess who, Shintoists believe, passed the divine right of succession to the present imperial family.

The partially crippled Hatoyama hobbled painfully up to a white pine altar at the entrance to the shrine, closed his eyes, bowed his head and paid silent attention to the sun goddess—and, in doing so, paid heed also to the votes of Japanese nationalists in the forthcoming general elections. As Hatoyama clambered back into his black Cadillac, a reporter asked him why he had come to Ise. Answered Hatoyama without hesitation: "As a renovation of popular sentiment."

THE JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

which the Lord raised up for just such an occasion as this to give witness to the people of Japan was led of the Lord to send in a letter of

protest to the leading newspapers of Tokyo about this matter. The letter was written by our beloved Brother John Young of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions:

The Lord laid it also on my heart to write one of my Vigilant letters to the Nippon Times which is the leading newspaper of this great city, under the title:

READERS' FORUM

Revival Of Shinto

To the Editor:

Sir:—It is with much sorrow of heart that we have read the recent stories in your newspaper of the Prime Minister reintroducing the Shinto tradition of prime ministers making the long pilgrimage to Ise Jingu to report to the mythological "Sun Goddess" worshipped there, that they have acceded to this high office.

As Christians, we deplore the example and utter inconsistency of one who has received baptism as a Christian and who professes belief only in the one Creator God of the Christian Faith and in His Ten Commandments, acknowledging the living presence of a Shinto deity and worshipping it.

The Decalogue begins with the injunction, "I am the Lord thy God . . . Thou shalt have no other gods before me—Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I

the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

When Japan is so desperately in need of Christian example and virtue, for one who professes to be a Christian and is elevated to the highest governmental post, deliberately to break the one commandment with which is associated the specific curse of God is truly calamitous. It is to be hoped that the Prime Minister will truly repent of this ill advised action and take no more part in such compromise of Christian principles and confusion of the new Constitution's clear separation between religion and state.

THE JAPAN BIBLE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL, Tokyo

* * *

Breach of Freedom

To the Editor:

With the deepest concern I looked at the picture of Premier Ichiro Hatoyama reporting his assumption of office before the Ise Shrine of the sun-goddess in your respected paper this morning (Jan. 6).

Every lover of freedom can look upon a picture with only the gravest of concern regarding the future of freedom in Japan. The Ise Shrine is a Shinto god-house dedicated to the mythological goddess-Amaterasu O-mikami, and is for the followers of the Shinto religion. Is Shintoism again to become the basis for loyalty and patriotism in Japan? Are all matters of State now to be reported to the Shinto goddess? The Constitution of Japan very clearly declares that the Government shall establish no State religion or sponsor religious rites. It can hardly be argued that Premier Hatoyama went as a private individual since he went to report a matter of State business.

Since eternal vigilance is the price of freedom, this breach of one of the very basic principles of freedom—separation of State and religion—can only be looked upon with the most serious of concern that the freedom now so greatly enjoyed in Japan is fast being breached.

VIGILANT

LATEST NEWS: The board of directors of the Tokyo Bible Center meeting in Pasadena, California on January 22nd voted to invite Helen Pietsch to return to the U.S. for 6 months of rest and deputation work. We would ask you to please remember this matter in prayer. Helen has been in Japan over seven years without a furlough and needs a change. If the Lord leads her to go she probably will take with her David who will be six years old on the 24th of February and has never been in the U.S. If the Lord sends her back to the U.S. would you want her to come to your church to present the work in Japan? Please let us know as soon as possible.



Working on Christmas Cards

In co-operation with the American Council of Christian Churches.

"And he said unto them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Luke 9:23).

YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

were put into good use for the work of the Lord here. They were used in the Bible Kindergarten and also the Bible School teachers cut out the cards and pasted them on cardboard with Bible verses to make calendars that shall send out the gospel to many homes for the whole year. If you have any old cards left over we can use them.

Just send them to us at the address at the top of this letter. We want to write to all who write to us personally and trust that you will be patient with us in this matter. With love in our wonderful Lord to each one of our partners in the Gospel,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Timothy Pietsch - Director
Paul Suzuki - Assistant

Board of Directors

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Dr. M. R. Siemens, Racine, Wis.
Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

April, 1955

BIBLE KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Thank you for your gifts of love to the work of the Lord here and we do rejoice in each one of the PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL that our Lord has given to us. You will rejoice with us in the evident blessing of the Lord upon the work here and upon the stand that we have taken, out of honest love to Him and in obedience to His word. We are continuing to broadcast the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ over stations JOAR-Nagoya, JOAO-Takayama, and JOAE-Toyohashi each Tuesday morning at 8:45 and over JOBR-Kyoto each Sunday evening at 9:45 just before the news. The response to these gospel programs continues to increase and we answer each one who writes to us and we are earnestly praying that we may be able to widen this ministry. There are over twelve million radio sets in Japan registered with the Broadcasting Company of Japan (A Japanese government corporation) and radio reaches into most every hamlet and home in the nation and we believe it is one of the finest ways to get hundreds and thousands under the hearing of the gospel who would never otherwise come to a gospel service.

ANOTHER ADDITION TO THE BIBLE CENTER

building is being added at this time which consists of a large room that can be divided into two Sunday School rooms and also will enable us to add another class to the Bible Kindergarten. This is the fifth addition put on the Bible Center since it was finished in 1951. It is being paid for by the Japanese Christians themselves and even the boys and girls of the Sunday School have been giving faithfully their offerings to add this new room. It is our conviction that the local Christians should be encouraged to take care of their own work and not depend upon foreign funds to build them church or Sunday School buildings. We are encouraged as we see how the Christians here are growing. The establishing of the local church that will be able to stand and witness to the community is the aim of all true evangelism and the true evangelist does not leave such work to others.

was held on the 18th of March at which time fifty children were graduated after two years in the Bible Kindergarten. During this time they learned more than a hundred verses in the Japanese Bible. Among those graduating this year was our youngest son David who was born here in Japan and has never been in the U.S. He has been attending the Kindergarten ever since it was started four years ago and will be in Kindergarten Post Graduate School until he leaves for America with his mother on the

HIKAWA MARU

of the NYK Line on the 19th of May. In the Spring of 1947 we left the United States to return to Japan. At that time no missionary children were being given permits to enter Japan so I came alone to Japan and Helen and the three children stayed in Honolulu. After five months they were able to join me here in Japan in the fall of 1947. Though I have been back twice to the United States since that time Helen has been here all the while without a furlough and we are so thankful that now she can make the trip to the U.S. and we trust that she will have the opportunity of visiting many of you dear friends. If you would like her to come to your church contact us here in Japan as soon as possible or in care of Ronald Birchard, P.O. Box 388, Turlock, Calif. (Please note the new Post Office Box of our treasurer. Envelopes bearing the 1311 Cahill Avenue address will also be promptly delivered since he has not actually moved)

BROTHER PAUL SUZUKI

will be in the U.S. Lord willing for another year at Faith Seminary in Graduate School but has summer vacation from the 24th of May and will be heading to the west coast and would like to visit churches and groups bringing before God's people the work of the Lord in Japan. He can be contacted at Faith Seminary, Elkins Park, Philadelphia, Penna. He has paid a very great price to stand true to our Lord and there are very few in this land who see the issues so clearly and are willing to honestly teach the true implications of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in relation to the customs and traditions of Japan.

??? 40,000 born again Christians ???

The October, 1954 issue of the Japan Harvest which is the official organ of the Evangelical Missionary Association of Japan, which is similar to the National Association of Evangelicals in the USA carried the following item:

"While the population total soars by a round million every year, the full count of all Protestants in Japan stands near the quarter million mark. Think of it! Only 250,000 Christians in a nation of 88,000,000 people! And according to the estimate of one well informed Japanese leader, probably less than forty thousand of this total can be counted as being truly born again."

?CHAMPION OF CHRISTIANITY?

During the summer of 1954 the name of a young man, Kazuo Kusano was sent to me by a godly lady in California asking me to contact him. He graduated from the Tokyo (Imperial) University and went to the United States on a Full-bright Scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania. While in the U.S. he is supposed to have become a Christian and came in contact with an evangelical Christian group that works among foreign students in the Universities. On his leaving to return to Japan they wrote him up in flaming headlines in their paper: "Business man takes Christ back to Japan, finds faith while visiting U.S." We of course were delighted that a young Japanese studying in the U.S. should come to find the Lord and we were expecting a good deal when we read: "When Kusano left for the University of



Bible Kindergarten Graduation



David receives his diploma

Pennsylvania on a Fullbright Scholarship one year ago he was an atheist professing no religious beliefs. Now he has returned as a firmly convinced believer in Christianity. He is not only a believer but also a champion of Christianity. . . We believe that the conversion of this prominent alumnus of Tokyo Imperial University will mean much to the future development of Christianity in Japan." With very expectant hearts we contacted him and invited him to come to the Bible Center and fellowship in the things of the Lord. He did come to several services here and we wrote him letters encouraging him in the Lord and in the life of discipleship. He wrote me that the lady in California had written him that he should not under any conditions marry a non-Christian girl that he was contemplating doing, and that she had told him it would be better for him to be an old bachelor all his life rather than to disobey the commands of the Lord. He asked me what I thought about it and said: "If she were in Japan with me and had a chance to observe this society she would change the strict principle she asked me to have in this matter for there is a limit to human effort in following the commands of scripture." I answered him and told him that the lady in California really was concerned about his eternal welfare and had written to him out of love to Christ and he ought to seriously consider and I told him that indeed there is a limit to human endurance in obeying the commands of scripture and wondered if he had ever seriously considered it: "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life" Rev. 2:10. I also sent him a little booklet with an article entitled "The

Tragedy of the Unequal Yoke" and asked him to read it carefully and then come and speak to me about it and we would search the Word together as to what a "yoke" really means. He called me by telephone and we arranged that he would come to the Bible Center on Sunday the 19th of December to the morning service and then stay with our family to dinner afterwards.

After the morning service while dinner was being prepared he came into my study and I asked him, "What do you think of that little booklet I sent you?" He replied, "That is all right in theory but it won't work in Japan." I answered, "That sounds to me like many who said, 'we know that the Bible says one should not bow to other gods but we don't bow out of worship but only out of respect, and refusing to bow in Japan in compliance with the customs just won't work.'" He replied, "That is the way I feel about it." I then asked him, "Do you have a kamidana (Shinto god-shelf) in your home?" "Yes," he replied. "Do you offer food before it and bow to it?" "Yes, I do," he replied. I then took him to I Cor. 10:20 and showed him that such offerings were to demons and not to God. He replied, "I do not offer food but only put it there in love to my ancestors and when I bow I only do it out of respect and not out of worship." I showed him that a bow before any "other god" is strictly prohibited in the scriptures, Ex. 20:5, II Kings 17:35. I showed him that the Hebrew word

Shachah

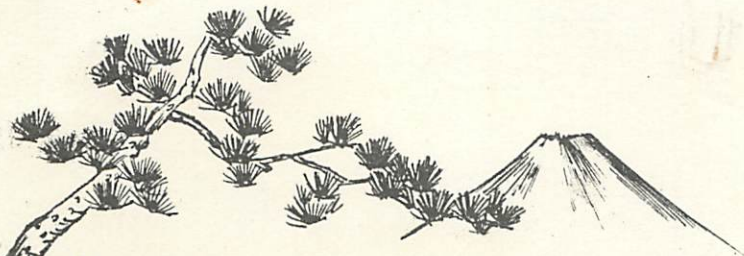
translated "bow down" was also used in Gen. 18:2 when Abraham bowed to the sons of Heth and in Gen. 33:3 when Jacob bowed to his brother and though the scriptures

recognized bowing as a legitimate salutation to individuals it strictly prohibits it to anything that is called a "god" except to the Creator and we are to shachah before Him Ps. 45:11. I showed him from the third chapter of Daniel that the three young men not only refused to worship the golden image in their hearts but also refused to bow down before it and refused to show it any respect. He then got very angry at me and said, "You have no right to come to my homeland and teach we Japanese that our customs are idolatrous." I then showed him Jer. 16:19 "The Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth and say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit." He then got very angry and stormed out of our home and would not stay to dinner with us, though I pled with him to do so and to accept God's Word on these matters. I then sat down and wrote him very carefully a letter concerning the whole matter of idolatry and that though it is all right to bow to one another we are not to bow to "things" and if we bow to anything that cannot bow back it involves more than salutation. In reply to my letter he sent me a fifteen page letter in Japanese in which he stated that he only bowed to the godshelf out of respect and put the food there in love to his ancestors and therefore it was not disobeying the commands of scripture. We showed his letter to some of our Christians here at the Bible Center and they all agreed that Kusano was not a true Christian. One of our men here at the Bible Center, Mr. Isao Kondo, is a graduate of the same university here in Tokyo and was led to the Lord by Miss Weidner of the Mino Mission before the war, and is now a professor of law at a large university and a lawyer for an oil company here in Japan. When he read the letter he said, "When I tried to avoid persecution during the last war for being a Christian I tried to entertain such thoughts but I know I did wrong and asked the Lord's forgiveness." Brother Paul Suzuki delighted our hearts again when he wrote about this matter and said: "I firmly believe that it is very hard to preach the gospel which is containing the teaching to disobeying the custom of Japan, but because it is the teaching of God who saved us from sin and its result so we must obey to it and preach it to the people." In reply to his fifteen page letter we again wrote to Mr. Kusano asking him to come here and to speak to the Japanese Christians about these matters of idolatry and the customs of Japan but he replied that since he felt the same way there was no use for him to come and speak to us. We would ask you to pray for this young man and the many "professing Christians" of Japan of which he is just so typical and for this reason the church in this land has no power to proclaim a Living Lord because like Israel of old "they feared the Lord and served their own gods." II Kings 17:33. With love in our Lord Jesus Christ to each one of our PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL.

Yours because His

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Acts 20:24



神の言と
イエスの
證との
爲に

ヨハネ黙示録一：九

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER
179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku
Tokyo, Japan
May 19, 1955

Beloved Partners in the Gospel:

Greetings from Japan in the love of our Wonderful Lord Jesus Christ
with Psalms 31:15 and Psalms 138:8

Today Helen and David were scheduled to sail for Honolulu on the Hikawa Maru but due to the illness of Helen's mother they have had to postpone their intended trip to the United States. Helen's mother, Mrs. C.K. Dozier, who came to Japan in 1906 as a missionary was retired about five years ago as a missionary by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Upon retirement mother came back to Japan to spend the rest of her life here in seeking to bring Japanese to the knowledge of Our Lord. She built a little home not far from us here and has been very active in the work of the Lord. In fact she overworked and just got too tired. Her trouble was diagnosed as glaucoma and she feared that she might be going blind and asked Helen to postpone her going to the US for rest and deputation until she is better or until Helen's brother Edwin Dozier who is also a missionary returns from furlough early in September. It is wonderful to know that our times are in His Hands and that "the Lord will perfect that which concerneth me" and to just leave the choice to Him. Mother does seem some better and we would ask you to continue to remember her in prayer and also that if it please our Lord He may open the way for Helen to get away for a time of rest which she so greatly needs after eight years in Japan since the end of the war.



HELEN AND DAVID

My beloved father, Dr. W. E. Pietsch of Waterloo, Iowa has had another heart attack and has had to be confined to bed. How thankful we are to the Lord for him and trust that many of you will earnestly pray for him.

You will rejoice to know of God's blessing upon the work here and we feel greatly encouraged. We have recently seen some definite decisions for Christ. The Lord gave a series of very fine meetings with Evangelist Yamanaka Tamezo and our church building was filled to capacity every evening and the Lord worked in the hearts of many. We are grateful for each one of you are Partners in the Gospel and send you love in the Name of our Wonderful Lord.

Yours because His

Helen & Timothy Pietsch
Helen and Timothy Pietsch and Family
Luke 9:23

Tokyo Bible Center

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

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Paul Suzuki - Assistant

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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

August, 1955

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Thank you each one for your love and fellowship in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord has been very good to us out here in Japan and we are increasingly encouraged in the work of the Lord and we believe with all our hearts that though it does cost to take a stand in complete obedience to the Word of God, it costs much more in the long run to compromise and take a half stand pretending that it is a stand honoring to the Lord, for our Lord surely will never bless such hypocrisy. The Lord has increasingly used the broadcasts of the Gospel over the radio to touch the hearts of the Japanese. They write to us telling us they have made definite decisions to accept the Lord Jesus Christ in increasing numbers. Among those who have recently written to us is Dr. Kusuo Ishiguro, an instructor of areo-dynamics at Osaka University. He also writes that he has been invited to instruct and do further research



in his field at MIT in Boston. We trust that you will remember to pray for him and for the others who have professed to come to our Lord through the ministry of the gospel broadcasts in the Japanese language over local Japanese radio stations. We are earnestly praying that we shall be able to increase this ministry to cover all of Japan and know that many of you are praying with us to this end.

CAST THY BREAD UPON THE WATERS

In a recent letter from Brother Sergio J. Bartoli of Southbridge, Mass. he states:

"It may interest you to know that my brother who was stationed in Japan married a Japanese girl. His wife had received a Bible from your Tokyo

Bible Center and has become a Christian and was married in a Christian ceremony. So I have been thinking what little I have given, has come back many fold. More power to you. God does work in strange ways."

OFF TO THE USA

In the goodness and tender mercy of our loving Lord, finally on the 15th of July, Helen and little David were able to get off for the USA. It was in the Fall of 1947 that Helen returned to Japan at the end of the war with our three older children and she has been here ever since without a furlough. She was scheduled to go on the 19th of May on the Hikawa Maru but had to postpone her going because of the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier. We know that many of you were praying for her and the Lord granted recovery so that she urged Helen to go to the US at this time for a time of rest which she so greatly needs. David was born in Japan and never had been to the US before so was very excited at the prospect of going with his mother. We trust that they will be able to visit many of our dear friends while in the US. If you would like them to come to your home or church you can contact them in care of Mr. Ronald Birchard, Treasurer, Tokyo Bible Center, P. O. Box 388, Turlock, California or in care of my beloved father, Dr. W. E. Pietsch, P.O. Box 508, Waterloo, Iowa. Your help and encouragement to them will be greatly appreciated. We trust that you also will remember to pray for the other three children and for me as we remain here in Japan and carry on the work of the Lord. We are lonely without our dear wife and mother but rejoice that the Lord has opened the way for her to go and we are very grateful for the great privilege of serving the Lord in this very needy land of Japan.

SIMILAR TO SALUTING THE FLAG

Those of you who have received our letters from Japan for some time I think must begin to realize that one of the greatest problems we have in missionary work here in Japan is the matter of many professed, even evangelical, Christians, carrying on idolatrous practices and excusing it in the name of "custom", "patriotism", "culture", "love of ancestors" or simply respect. This problem is greatly enlarged however when our position upon the Word of God is undermined and undercut by men who profess to be evangelical leaders in the U.S.A.

In the March 1955 issue of Eternity Magazine appeared a news item with editorial comment entitled:

SHINTO WORSHIP REVIVED

Early in January Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama visited Japan's foremost Shinto shrine and paid homage to the sun goddess, reviving a pre-World War II tradition. Premier Hatoyama is a professing Christian and his action has revived the discussion about the shrines in Japan. There are those who say that this act of homage constitutes worship to a demon god, while there are others who claim that the act is roughly similar to saluting the flag.

In the United States Jehovah's Witnesses refuse to pledge allegiance to the flag, saying that this constitutes worship. Most people in the U.S.A. do not agree with this. If we study our own institutions, we discover many things in them that show traces of paganism. The fact that we use *inaugurate* as a word to describe the induction into office of the President of the United States is not, in the twentieth century, evidence of pagan worship, but the word itself shows that in ancient times the *augurs* had a part in similar ceremonies.

Since there are those who claim that a similar transformation is now taking place in Japanese customs the matter seems to be an individual one, left squarely up to the conscience of each man. God knows whether there is faithfulness to Him in the heart of any individual, and the individual answers to God alone. "To his own master he stands or falls" (Rom. 14:4). Christians should pray for the three leaders in the Orient who are professing Christians, Chiang Kai-shek, Rhee, and Hatoyama.

Many true evangelicals were greatly concerned about this matter. To the President of the Japan Bible Christian Council I pointed out six points of difference, between bowing at Ise Shrine and saluting the flag. At the annual meeting of the Council these were carefully discussed. They are:

1. Ise Shrine is a shinto jinja (god house). No one refers to the flag as a god and it is connected with no religion.
2. There are no religious priests attending the flag with religious ceremonies, whereas at Ise Shrine, Shinto priests are always in attendance and regularly perform rites such as waving the holy sakaki tree to drive away evil spirits, saying prayers, and offering food and sake to the enshrined 'deity'.
3. No offerings of any kind are ever made to the flag, but these are regularly offered to the 'sun goddess' at Ise Shrine.
4. At Ise Shrine one is expected to wash hands and mouth before bowing to the sun goddess in a ceremony symbolizing purification in mind and body. No such religious ceremony ever takes place before saluting the flag.
5. At Ise Shrine worship is rendered the so-called sun goddess who is purported to be the ancestress of the emperor of Japan and prayers are made to her. The flag is never worshipped, no one says prayers to it, and no one ever suggests that it is a deity.
6. The 'sun goddess' at Ise receives a bow: The flag receives a salute. The Bible prohibits a bow except to the True God our Creator, or to living beings who can return the bow as a salutation. The Bible says nothing about a salute.

These points were incorporated into a letter by the executive committee of the Japan Bible Christian Council and sent to evangelical editors in the USA and Canada, because of the very serious nature of the compromised position advocated by the editor of Eternity magazine. Individual missionaries also wrote directly to the editors of Eternity protesting. On March 17th I wrote the Editor of Eternity asking that it be printed in their column "letters to the editors". It read in part:

"It is impossible to see how any one could so mishandle the Word of God as to make the reporting of his assumption of office to the sun-goddess Amaterasu Omikami at the Ise Shrine by Prime Minister Hatoyama as similar to saluting the flag, unless they were trying to avoid persecution, and being labeled as a traitor to the customs and traditions of Japan."

"In recognizing the 'living presence' of the sun-goddess and reporting to this false god an affair of state accompanied by Shinto Priests waving holy sakaki trees to exorcise the evil spirits he committed as outright an act of idolatry as would have the three Hebrew children had they bowed to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar. No one familiar with the demands of God's Word concerning one's attitude toward 'other gods' (II Kings 17:35) could ever possibly accept the position that it is a matter to be 'left squarely up to the conscience of each man'."

"As for Mr. Hatoyama professing to be a Christian; as a young man he attended the English Bible class of an American Unitarian missionary and was baptised in the Unitarian church here in Tokyo. When questioned by a reporter from the Asahi Newspaper he recently stated that he could not believe in the 'existence of God' as do the Christians though he likes to sing hymns in his home with his family for the 'mental relaxation' that it brings. Certainly true Christians should pray for Mr. Hatoyama but he does not profess to be a Christian in the same manner as do Chiang Kai Shek and Sygmund Rhee."

ca, we might have said, 'Roman Catholics hold one position and Protestants another'. This would not have been misinterpreted, we hope, as an espousal of the cause of Rome! It is unfortunate that some good, well meaning brethren in Christ seem to lack the intellectual critical faculty of understanding the meaning of plain words, and it is even more unfortunate that in circularizing the religious press they did not have the fairness to present all that had been said in favor of their own position but seized only the phrases that suited their purpose.

"I am well aware of the nature of Shinto shrine worship and I have always held that a truly informed Christian should have no part in it. But we must be honest and not force the conscience of those who sincerely believe that there is a transition going on in Japan similar to that which took place in Rome in the fourth century when old pagan institutions were being transformed in a slow process which may be illustrated by the changing of the Saturnalia to Christmas."

Again in protest to the position advocated by the Editor of Eternity we wrote on May 27th asking him to print our letter as an answer to his editorial:

"Your editorial entitled 'Distortion' cannot be accepted as a satisfactory answer to the objections raised to your editorial pronouncement relative to the attitude an evangelical

claimed to be a Christian had gone and bowed before the image of the virgin of Guadalupe, and that while Protestants looked upon this as idolatry Roman Catholics consider it only a means of worshipping the true God this would be news. The propriety and value of such an item in Eternity would undoubtedly be questioned by some. However if you went yet further and stated, 'Since some claim that there is now a transition taking place within the Roman Catholic church the matter is an individual one and should be left squarely up to the conscience of each individual and the individual answers to God alone who knows whether there is faithfulness to Him in the heart,' you would be doing the same thing you did under the item 'Shinto Worship Revived' and if true evangelicals did not protest such a pronouncement which is so contrary to the Scriptures (Exodus 20:5 and Deuteronomy 5:9) it would be exceedingly strange. **When God has condemned an action and called it sin no individual has a right to choose the opposite course.**

"We are well aware of the magnificent stand you took about Shinto Shrine worship prior to World War II and we greatly admired you for that stand. We also know about your very fine stand concerning modernism and your refusal to participate in the communion service with the signers of the Auburn Affirmation in your own presbytery, and your stand against some of the leaders of your USA Presbyterian denomination. However it is with the utmost regret that we have heard that you have



Mrs. Pietsch and Little David

Neither my letter or any of the others sent in protest were printed but rather a copy of the editorial entitled "Distortion" from the June 1955 issue of Eternity was sent to each one and we were told it was an answer in full of our letters of protest. This editorial we believe to be one of the most wicked things we have ever seen in print written by a man who claims to be an evangelical Christian. It read in part:

"A close friend of mine who is the editor of one of the outstanding conservative Christian publications has sent me a copy of a form letter that was sent to him, and evidently, to other Christian publications. The letter was a distorted attack on a news item that we published in our column 'A window on the world'."

"The form letter ends, 'We trust that Christians neither in America nor Japan will be misled by the very erroneous concept contained in the Eternity editorial.' The editor of Eternity trusts that no Christians will be misled by the very erroneous concept contained in the form letter. Note that we did not publish this on the editorial page but on a news page. If we had been writing about affairs in Latin Ameri-

should take concerning the act of bowing before the Shinto Shrine of the Japanese sun-goddess. Not only was it a news item you carried on your page Window on the World in your March 1955 issue under the title of 'Shinto Worship Revived' but you editorialized after giving the news and the attitude you have advocated in that editorial pronouncement cannot be accepted by true evangelicals in Japan as obedient to the Word of God. That is, that bowing before a Shinto Shrine is a matter to be 'left squarely up to the conscience of each man'. This same position you have again advocated in your editorial 'Distortion' and for the same reasons we must again object. In defending your position you used the illustration that if you had carried a news item concerning affairs in Latin America and stated that 'Roman Catholics hold one position and Protestants another' this would not have been likely misinterpreted. However in your item 'Shinto Worship Revived' you did not leave it simply as a news item but made editorial comment upon the news and advocated the attitude that should be taken by evangelicals. If you did the same thing with a similar news item from Latin America and advocated a similar position I am sure you would have a tremendous wave of protest from true evangelicals in those lands. For instance, if you carried a news item entitled 'Worship of the Virgin Revived' and stated that a prominent official who

now made peace with these very men and with the modernistic leadership of the USA Presbyterian church, and consider this a great tragedy. Is it not conceivable to think that since you have changed your position in regard to modernism that you might also have now changed your position on Shinto Shrine worship and that you are now willing to take a conciliatory attitude toward those who practice this idolatry under the guise that it is 'similar to saluting the flag'? Compromise of the truth has a very blighting, searing effect on discernment. 'If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness?' (Matthew 6:23).

"We are earnestly praying that the course you have taken will be checked by the Holy Spirit and that you will stand for the truth of God's Word without any conciliatory attitude of appeasement toward either idolatry or modernism."

Praying God's blessing upon you each one our dear Partners in the Gospel and hoping many of you will write to us.

With love in our Wonderful Lord,

Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

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Rev. Lyman Wendt, Riverside, Calif.
Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

December, 1955

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Thank you for your love and fellowship and partnership in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for all your kindness to our dear Helen and David while they have been in the USA. How wonderfully the Lord has undertaken for them and provided for them. Sometimes "furlough" and deputation work can be a time of great disappointment and discouragement to a missionary, in trying to arrange a schedule and arouse interest in pastors and church members that seem mostly concerned about "our own work" and little concerned about carrying the gospel to the ends of the earth. Helen seemed to be quite discouraged at first for she had never done deputation work before and then having a six year old son with her did not make it easier, but the Lord wonderfully undertook for her and we are grateful to each one of you dear friends who helped her. Lord willing, she will be sailing from San Francisco on the President Wilson on the 8th of January. It would be so nice if some of you could get a note off to her before she sails; it would be an encouragement to her. You can reach her: Mrs. Helen Pietsch, % Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Grunigen Jr., 77 Fairview, Atherton, California. You can imagine the happy scene when she and David arrive, Lord willing, in Yokohama on the 24th of January.

5TH YEAR OF GOSPEL BROADCASTING

The first week of November marked the beginning of our fifth year of broadcasting the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ over local Japanese radio stations in the Japanese language. It was in the fall of 1951 that the Lord wonderfully opened the way for me to get a contract with radio station JOAR in Nagoya. This was the first commercial station ever to go on the air in Japan, and the Lord from the inception of this station opened the way for us to broadcast the gospel. Though now this station has expanded into a network of stations, we are still on it, and on the network as well. We are earnestly praying that we can continue to expand this ministry and would ask you to pray with us, for radio reaches right into the homes, and almost every home in Japan has a radio. Though few will come to church because of the long standing prejudice against Christianity, still they will listen, and the response is encouraging.

YOROKOBASHIKI OTOZURE

or Glad Tidings, the radio program of Brother Calvin Hanson of the Evangelical Free Church that we took over at his request in November 1953 over station JOBR in Kyoto, was returned to his sponsorship as of the first of November 1955 after his return from furlough in the USA. It has been a great joy to help this work of our Lord during these two years and how we do rejoice in the blessed ministry of these dear missionaries. During the last week of November it was my joy to help in an evangelistic campaign in the Kyoto Ev. Free Church and to speak to the students in their Bible school.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

On the 10th of November we had our 2nd annual "Evening of Gospel Music", inviting representatives from evangelical churches, and in all, seventeen were represented, including all the churches and missionaries of the Japan Bible Baptist Fellowship. This was the largest crowd we have ever had here at the Bible Center and the hall was jammed to the doors and many were standing. Following this meeting for three nights Brother Misao Amari, pastor of the Bible Baptist church in Makuhari preached in special evangelistic services, and we saw some decisions for our Lord. Most evangelistic efforts in local churches in Japan seem to be limited to three or four days, for after this the people complain of getting tired. I wonder if it is not because they were used to the three and four day festivals at the shrines and temples. One of the things that shows so clearly the weakness of the church in Japan is that there is hardly any Japanese evangelist

one can call to help in evangelistic meetings who will really preach the gospel and bring people to a decision for Christ. Though some missionaries hold one night stands showing a motion picture (to date we have only three Christian moving pictures in Japanese. They are: "God of Creation", "Dust or Destiny" and "Thirst of Life"! The first two have little gospel in them and can only be used as a crowd gatherer) and bringing a short message through an interpreter. There are hardly any Japanese evangelists now working in local churches strengthening their testimony and helping them witness for Christ. "Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest that He will send forth laborers into His Harvest field."

UNGUIDED MISSILES

One of the ways to find out if one is truly trusting the Lord and walking with Him is to drive an automobile in Japan for there seems to be little quite so exasperating. Unlike Canada and the US, where vehicles are pretty well standardized, in Japan, cars of all countries are to be found from the cheapest to the most expensive, both small and large, though by far the largest number are of small Japanese make called Datsan and Toyopet, modeled after the small European cars. Japan is famous for her large Diesel trucks and busses which she exports to Asian, African and South American countries, as well as using them here in Japan. In all there are only about sixty thousand cars registered in Tokyo but these are but a very small proportion of the traffic which consists of millions of bicycles, all of which have a rack for hauling and a stand, the principal purpose of which seems to be to be able to park it in the middle of the street. Bicycles are of all varieties, with side cars, rear cars, and now many with motors. Three-wheeled vehicles of an immense variety abound from small tricycles for children to large two-ton affairs for hauling lumber. Motorcycles are becoming very numerous, and horse or ox-drawn carts carrying buckets of sewerage are still very common. Baby buggies used for bringing home the groceries seem to have a wide use. Of course, if there are



side walks, they usually are in such bad repair to make walking impossible, and if used for anything at all, mostly seem to be used by merchants to show off their wares. Even when there are no side walks there seem to be no restrictions in piling vegetables, fish, lumber or any kind of merchandise right along the streets, many of which are so narrow that two cars can hardly pass. Besides all this, the ever expanding crop of new children uses the streets as its playground. Since most Japanese have used the streets since childhood, they walk right in the middle of the streets, and seem almost oblivious to the traffic as it passes. The din of traffic is tremendous, for it seems every car, no matter how small, must have a large claxon to blow, and the smaller the car or three-wheeler, the larger the horn. The psychology of a horn in Japan seems to be to the man in the street, "he sees me so he blew his horn and I am safe". Tokyo is reported to have the worst and loudest traffic in the world. Though it is not too difficult for one who has had a driver's license in a foreign country to get one here it is quite difficult for the Japanese, for usually they must first go to a driving school and learn, and then stand in line for many days being tested for eyes etc. (there is only one place in all of Tokyo where one can secure a driver's license) but after they get it, it seems to be a license to do just as they please, especially for the small taxicab drivers who dart in and out at high speed making "U" turns at the most unexpected time to pick up or let off passengers. It seems that the present taxi drivers here must be the men left over from the special attack forces (Kamikaze pilots) of the last war for they seem very willing to take their lives and that of their passengers into their hands at any time. Since so many people have been killed and injured by these "unguided missiles," the government has now passed a compulsory insurance law so that if one is killed one's family will get at a maximum three hundred thousand yen (about \$800.00 US). Road taxes on trucks and busses are quite cheap but since the government considers a car a luxury, the tax is very high, except on the taxis, which are considered necessities. No matter how old a car may be, the road tax is the same, and for the standard American sized car it is thirty-six thousand yen (\$100.00 U.S.). We have an old 1947 Plymouth that we can hardly keep running, but the road tax is the same as on a brand new one. In all, having and operating an automobile in Japan is a very nerve-racking proposition, but our Lord has given grace even in this also, for His grace is sufficient. II Cor. 9:8 and Phil. 4:13.

INTERDENOMINATIONALISM

One of the sins of the flesh condemned in Galatians, chapter five, is sectarianism, which in the King James' version is translated as "variance". In Japanese, this is translated "tohashin", which means a factious spirit or a desire to make one's own faction in order to get fame or gain. However, it is not right to include all denominations in this category, for the Bible shows how men banded themselves together for the work of the Lord, as did Paul and his group, to carry the gospel to the western world, and the Bible certainly does not condemn this. It is when a group becomes a "faction" and an end in itself and feels that all truth resides with it that it comes under the con-

demnation of the Lord as a work of the flesh. Some have asked if the Tokyo Bible Center is interdenominational and just where we stand. As I understand "interdenominationalism" it means that it includes those from all the denominations without any restrictions. Recently, the general director of a large interdenominational "faith" mission was in Japan, and during his stay here he made the statement that no matter how bad a denomination got, one should stay in it and not leave it. Such interdenominational missions seek support from all the denominations and want to stand in good with them all and include missionaries in their groups from the modernistically controlled denominations. This, we believe, is contrary to the clear teaching of the Word of God that teaches us we must not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather we are to rebuke them. Our position is that of Spurgeon many years ago when he wrote:

"I have taken a deep interest in the struggles of the orthodox brethren, but I have never advised those struggles, nor entertained the slightest hope of their success. My course has been of another kind. As soon as I saw, or thought I saw, that error had become firmly established, I did not deliberate, but quitted the body at once. Since then my counsel has been 'Come out from among them'. I have felt that no protest could be equal to that of distinct separation."

The all too typical type of "interdenominationalism" that includes those with compromising connections in the denominations of the organized apostasy of the National Council of Churches and World Council we entirely repudiate because of its co-operation in union evangelistic campaigns including modernists, and its refusal to obey the direct commands of our Lord such as II Tim. 4:2-3. It is our earnest conviction that the Bible teaches that no true Christian should help or aid or abet in any manner a program of unbelief but rather with a loving gentle spirit to rebuke it. II Tim. 2:25. We are not seeking the endorsement or support or aid of those who remain

in modernistically Christ-denying denominations but rather in the name of our Lord gently plead with them to obey His word, and we seek to show them the peril of remaining in a denomination upon which rests the "anathema" of God for preaching another gospel. Gal. 1:9. We believe that ministers who knowingly remain in denominations that are under the control of liberal or modernist leaders or work with such leaders as though they were sheep, instead of exposing them as wolves, are certainly compromising the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though our own position before the Lord is that of independents (rather dependents upon Him) seeking to establish independent local churches, we delight to co-operate with all those who are faithfully standing for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Some of the finest work for our Lord that we see in Japan today is being done by men in faithful denominations that have separated from the organized apostasy and worldliness and have banded together to honor Him, such as the Lutheran Brethren, Evangelical Free church, Bible Baptists, Mid Missions and ABWE (both of which are missions endorsed by the GARB denomination), Bible, Orthodox, and Reformed Presbyterians, and the Regular Baptists of the US and Canada. We delight to co-operate in any way possible with those who are taking a stand that is true to God's Word, and only in this sense are we willing to be known as "interdenominationalists", but we entirely repudiate as contrary to the Word of God that "interdenominationalism" that includes those with affiliations in apostate denominations.

FAMILY NOTES

Helen's mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier, is much improved and is continuing to teach the mothers' class here at the Bible Center. Helen's brother Edwin Dozier and his wife and family returned from furlough early in September. Kelsey celebrated his 13th birthday on November 9th and Tiny his 12th on the 24th. Sally Sue has been doing a wonderful job while mother is away. We all send love.

Yours because His,
Luke 9:23 Timothy Pietsch



Pietsch Children — Sally Sue, Kelsey and Tiny Tim singing at evening of gospel music.

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March 1956

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

In the wonderful goodness and kindness of our loving Heavenly Father, Helen and David landed safely back in Japan on the 24th of January. How good it is to have them home again after their being gone six months and nine days from Japan. Thank you each one who had a part in helping them and for your gifts of love that made the trip possible after Helen had been in Japan almost eight years since the end of the war without a rest. They travelled from coast to coast and visited many of you and though it wasn't too much rest for Helen it was at least a change and a great joy. We surely do appreciate all you did for them and if we have not written you personally thanking you, will you please accept this as our appreciation for your kindness and love to us the least of all His children. Helen has been greatly encouraged by the growth in the things of the Lord of the dear Christians here at the Bible Center and her return is a great blessing to all. We trust you will pray for and encourage in our Lord beloved Brother Paul Suzuki who graduates from Faith Seminary in May and prepares to come back to Japan. A note of encouragement to him would be a blessing. His address is Faith Seminary, Elkins Park, Philadelphia, Penn.

AOMORI PREFECTURE

In early January it was my joy again to go up to the northern part of this island of Honshu to help some beloved missionaries and my heart was greatly encouraged in the Lord by what I saw the Lord doing in new small groups of young Christians. I am convinced there is very little in Japan from before the war worth building new work upon and a new church is an absolute essential. In Hachinohe City I had the joy of helping Brother and Mrs. Carl Harrigan. They entered this city only last year and already the Lord has given them a joyful group of dear young Christians. For their services they rent an upstairs room of an abacus school. While I was with the Christians in Hachinohe they rented a large public bath house on its rest day and in the large tub held a baptismal service and we also held a communion service together. It was a time of blessed fellowship and the first time I had ever taken communion service in a bath house. It was a delight to see how the young Christians got right out in front of large theaters even when

there was much snow on the ground and it was very cold and without even the aid of a loud speaker just shouted out the gospel. When a person makes a profession of Christ they expect them to get out on the street and give their testimony publicly. One day we had the joy of spending most of the day in prayer, Bible study and hymn singing with some dear lonely Christians in a small village along the northern Pacific sea coast. We sat around the kotatsu (a charcoal fire with a blanket over the top to hold in the heat. Sitting on the floor, one puts hands and feet under the blanket, though outside the room is below freezing) rejoicing in the fellowship of 'like precious faith'.

In Sannohe it was my joy to cooperate with Brother and Mrs. Dale Crowley and to minister the Word of God there for three days. Brother Nishikawa from our Tokyo Bible Center also came up and encouraged the folks in the things of the Lord. While at Sannohe a young lady came to the meeting from the town of Takko asking to be baptised. I had preached in Takko once before and a young lady had come

A BABY EVERY THIRTY SECONDS

The total population of Japan is now 89,283,823, an increase of 6,084,186 over the total for 1950 according to the preliminary figures gathered by the Cabinet's Statistics Bureau. The increase for the year 1954 was a huge 1,044,313 or an increase of about one new baby every thirty seconds. Of the 720,813 deaths in Japan during 1954 over twenty thousand were suicides which is the highest suicide rate since 1899 in a land famous for its suicides. Though Japan at present does not have a total area as large as the state of California and only approximately 17% can be cultivated because of the very mountainous terrain yet it now is the 5th most populated nation on earth following China, India, Russia and the USA and has one of the highest densities of population of any country in the world. Tokyo has shown the largest increase in population of any city or prefecture jumping by 1,746,021 in the past five years with a population now of 8,033,529. The highest previous Tokyo population was in 1942 when the figure reached 7,830,000 after which it began to drop as a result of mass recruiting of men for the Japanese armed forces. By 1945, when the war ended, Tokyo's population was down to 3,320,000. Now it is over eight million and approximately one tenth of all the people in Japan live in this one huge city. In spite of such a tremendous population there is not in all of Tokyo a single Christian church that has a regular attendance of even four hundred people on a Sunday morning. We believe the Lord has called us to work in this great city where so



Baptism in Cold Weather

to know the Lord there and so she came with some of the other Christians requesting that we baptise her. She had come prepared to be baptised in the river and so after thorough questioning as to her faith even though the temperature was well below freezing and there was quite a bit of snow on the ground and some ice on the swift flowing river we baptised her. It was the first time I had ever taken part in a baptismal service when the temperature was below freezing. Some unbelievers gathered around and the faithful young Christians witnessed to them the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

few actually are doing evangelistic work and we are earnestly praying that soon it will be possible for us to

BROADCAST THE GOSPEL IN TOKYO

We have been broadcasting the gospel over local radio stations in Japan since the fall of 1951 when for the first time commercial radio was introduced into Japan. We started on radio station JOAR in Nagoya and have continued to the present time on that station which now has affiliate stations in the cities of Toyohashi and Takayama. We have also broadcasted on stations in Kyo-

to and Osaka but we are now earnestly praying about a program in Tokyo. The prices for radio time here are much higher than in other places because of the denser population and scarcity of available radio time. A fifteen minute program on class 'C' time (before seven in the morning and after ten at night) costs thirty six thousand yen (one hundred dollars US) per broadcast. However in this great city of Tokyo we believe it is one of the quickest ways to get out the gospel and in reaching Tokyo we reach much of Japan. As we have been invited to different parts of Japan to minister God's word by various groups people have come to me and said, 'we remember hearing you preach in front of Shibuya station in Tokyo.' This privilege of preaching in front of this great station we had for about four years until all services of any nature were prohibited there because of the communist agitation. However it is our joy to continue street meetings here in our own area in front of the Jiyugaoka railway station. However we feel the great need of widening the ministry and we believe our Lord would have us go on a Tokyo radio station. Will you faithfully pray with us about this?

??? HATE THE BRETHREN ???

Any man who will stand up and firmly declare on the Word of God that it is wrong to be affiliated with any of the large denominations now led and controlled by modernist unbelievers and will clearly teach that no true child of God should at any time aid or abet or help in any manner a program of unbelief is immediately accused of seeking to belittle or ridicule his Christian brethren. In firmly declaring 'come out from among them and be ye separate' we are accused of seeking to make ourselves better than others and we are chided for carrying on a 'hate the brethren' campaign. The Bible clearly teaches us that we are 'to love one another' and 'to give our lives for the brethren.' In truly loving them and giving our lives for them we are to bear their sins as our own and seek to restore in the spirit of meekness, remembering ourselves and our own failures and weaknesses. In no case should we act contrary to God's revealed will and plan and agree for the sake of 'peace' or 'Love' to an affinity with a program of unbelief, (II Chron. 19:2 and Jer. 48:10), or to union evangelistic campaigns which include modernist unbelievers as though they were sheep when actually they are wolves come to destroy the flock. However while never agreeing with brethren who are willing to work and co-operate with 'false prophets' we must always remember that they are brethren and never hold them up to public ridicule or slander but must diligently seek for them the very best even to the sacrifice of our own lives. Just as in our homes we never, to show 'love' or keep the 'peace', make an agreement with our children to allow them to play with matches or taste all the bottles of poison in the medicine closet but in truly showing love never compro-

mise their safety, so in the great family of God we must show our brethren the true nature of modernist poison and never compromise their spiritual safety simply to be 'easy to get along with'. Though Paul rebuked Peter to his face 'before them all' (Gal. 2:14) we believe that this means before the local church and not before the unbelievers of the general public. The reputation of God's servants must be very carefully guarded, but at the same time we are to expound unto them the way of God more perfectly with all humility as we are taught by the Holy Spirit Acts 18:26; I Pet. 3:15. I would ask you dear praying friends to particularly pray for me in this regard in the light of II Tim. 2:24-26; Phil. 4:5 and Col. 4:6.

BAPTISM OF SLANDER

One of the devil's chief weapons is slander and a true believer is never on any occasion to use it either towards another believer or to unbelievers. To slander according to the 20th Century dictionary is:

1. To defame, to injure by maliciously uttering a false report respecting; to tarnish or impair the reputation of by false tales maliciously told or propagated.
2. to detract from, to disparage
3. to disgrace, to dishonor, to discredit
4. to reproach

Even the truth told in such a way as to disparage, to dishonor or to reproach can be classed as slander. The devil in Rev. 12:10 is called the accuser (slanderer) of the brethren, and in Prov. 10:18 we are instructed 'he that uttereth a slander is a fool.' A Child of God is never to slander no matter what the provocation (I Pet. 2:23). However through all the ages men of God like David, the man after God's own heart, have 'heard the slander of many,' (Ps. 31:13). No matter how much training a recruit may have had he is never considered a tested soldier until he comes under the gunfire of the enemy and realizes that someone is trying to kill him. In the last war this was called the 'Baptism of fire'. Just so, it seems to me that one never becomes a 'good soldier' of our Lord Jesus Christ, able to 'endure hardness' until he comes under the "baptism of slander." Our Lord was slandered and told us to expect it and to rejoice when falsely spoken against for we are found worthy to be counted with the prophets and we will have a reward in heaven (Matthew 5:12.) Actually it is much better to be slandered than to be

praised of men. If we are slandered and there is found to be a basis in fact of what is spoken against us we are to receive it and correct our ways. Thus slander becomes an opportunity for repentance and this is very valuable in the sight of our Lord. We are not to pay attention to the source of correction. An enemy is often of greater value in correcting us than a friend because he is not influenced by sympathy. To receive praise from men is exceedingly dangerous and our Lord Himself warned, "How can ye believe which receive honor one of another and seek not the honor that cometh from God only" (John 5:44), and he cautioned us "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets" Luke 6:26. False prophets receive no slander for they are loved of the world and the true children of God will not slander them for it is a forbidden weapon of spiritual warfare. There is nothing like being slandered to show if a man is truly walking with the Lord or not. If when one is slandered he can commit himself to 'Him that judgeth righteously' and revile not again nor threaten, this is a sign that he is truly walking with the Lord who gave us 'an example' as to what to do when slandered (I Pet. 2:21). If on the other hand one is not truly walking with the Lord he cannot rejoice when evil spoken of and will turn and revile and threaten. I would ask you dear praying friends to particularly pray for me concerning these things (John 13:17). I have written



Opening the Radio Mail

of things that the Holy Spirit through His Word has been teaching me and ask for grace to put them truly into practice.

Yours because His,
Helen and Timothy Pietsch
Luke 9:23

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Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

May, 1956

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

How thankful we are to our loving Heavenly Father for the wonderful privilege of being in Japan. We count it the great joy of our lives to be here as His representatives. It was just twenty years ago this month that I landed in Japan for the first time as a young missionary on the 3rd of May, 1936. How wonderfully good our Lord has been all these years. I have not the slightest regret that I obeyed His call to Japan back before the war when there were so few who thought of this needy land as a mission field. I am only sorry that I have failed Him so often and caused shame and sorrow to His name. Now, we look forward with great joy to the future and, forgetting those things which are behind, press forward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:14. Our message to the people of Japan is the same as that of the great first missionary to the "regions beyond"—"Repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" Acts 20:21; and like Paul we desire to have true humility and ~~and~~ never to let any evil design of the enemy deter us from the great call that He has given, "that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God" Acts 20:24.

We are indeed thankful for those of you who have stood faithfully by us since I first came to Japan, and we are praying to be worthy of the confidence and trust placed in us by the Lord and by you His children, and we want to in all things be our best for Him. We are grateful too, for the new friends that He has given. It will be a wonderful day when we all meet together in the land of our true citizenship to be with Him and to remember the short battle He allowed us to endure.

"Behind the roaring cannon, Behind the flashing steel

The defenders of the inner line, steady and constant kneel;

Some bent, some gray and crippled, some three score years and ten,

Just praying, always praying for the front line fighting men"

The Work of an Evangelist

We have received many invitations to go out in the work of evangelism and to help others build up local churches. In April it was my joy to hold evangelistic meetings in Urawa, Kyoto, Yamazaki, Takatsuki and Fukuchiyama with the beloved missionaries and Japanese Christian workers of the Evangelical Free church. It was also my privilege to bring the graduation message at their Bible School in Kyoto on the 8th of April. How thankful we are for

the faithful testimony given by these who love our Lord. We are greatly encouraged by what we see our Lord doing in Japan in small groups of dear young Christians who through many trials and struggles are maintaining a true witness to Him our Lord.

I was deeply impressed with the courage and step of faith taken by Miss Blanche Becker who with a young Japanese

lady helper has started a new work in the very difficult town of Fukuchiyama. It was also my joy to help Brother M. D. Ross in the new mission hall he has opened in the slum districts of Tokyo at Mikawashima. This beloved Brother is over seventy years old, and though he does not speak Japanese (for he only came to Japan about four years ago) the Lord has used him to start a group of joyous happy young Christians that really delight my heart. At this writing I am holding meetings with Brother and Mrs. Jack Mason of the Bible Baptists, in the new mission that they have started in faith in the city of Matsudo in Chiba Prefecture. The end of this month I am scheduled to go up to Akita Prefecture which is the northernmost part of this island to help the beloved missionaries of the Lutheran Brethren Mission in the cities of Akita, Tsuchisaki, Odate and Noshiro for three weeks. This latter city has recently had a tremendous fire and a large part of it was destroyed. This is the second time that this city of Noshiro has been mostly destroyed by fire since the end of the war. With Brother Paul Blickstad we hope to put up a tent in the burnt out area and preach the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We realize our Lord is calling us more and more out into evangelistic meetings and we are anxiously waiting the return to Japan of our beloved Brother Paul Suzuki. He finishes his graduate work at Faith Seminary in Philadelphia this month and then will be travelling for a time in the churches, and we hope that he will be safely back in Japan by Fall, Lord willing. When he returns he will take over the work here at the Bible Center in pastoring the flock, and that will make it possible for me to get out more into evangelistic work. Also greatly upon my heart is a

Radio Broadcast in Tokyo

We have been praying about this for some time, but as yet the Lord has given us no sign that we should go ahead with it. In fact, the board of directors of the Bible Center meeting in Pasadena



Street Meeting for Children

in February felt we should not go ahead until we could see our way clear to sustain such a program. We are praying that the Lord will touch hearts if it is His will for us to undertake a gospel program here in Tokyo, which has a population of over eight million people and in which reside approximately one tenth of all the people in Japan. . . . The Lutheran Hour of the Missouri Synod Mission is the most widely broadcast Christian program in Japan followed then by the Voice of Prophecy of the 7th Day Adventists and the gospel programs broadcast by the Pacific Orient Broadcasting Company of which Brother Art Seely is President. Because of the very high price of radio time in Tokyo most Christian broadcasters have used stations outside the city in other areas where it is cheaper. This is what we also have done up to the present but we feel greatly burdened to reach Tokyo. A fifteen minute program once a week would cost approximately a hundred dollars per broadcast. We believe that if the Lord wants us to go ahead with this broadcast in Tokyo He will touch the hearts of some of His children to make it possible and then we will know it is His will.

Family Notes

Some of you have written us requesting the names and ages of the children and it seems it doesn't get put into our printed letters, so this time we trust it will be printed. Sally Sue, our only daughter, will be seventeen on the 19th of June. She was born in Japan in Fukuoka in Kyushu prior to the war. She is finishing the 11th grade at the Christian Academy in Japan and has one more year before returning to the United States. With her mother and two younger brothers she returned to Japan on October 18th, 1947, and has been here in Japan ever since. She is a great blessing and joy to us and still goes with us faithfully to street meetings and sings with her brothers gospel songs in Japanese. We trust you will particularly remember her in prayer as she finishes High School. William Kelsey is now thirteen but quite a big boy and a real joy to us. He will be in the 8th grade this Fall. For two years with his younger brother he attended the Peers school and studied only in Japanese, and for this reason is a little behind in school for his age. The Peers school is the same school where the emperor and crown prince of Japan graduated. Kelsey's birthday is the 9th of November. His younger brother Timothy Arnold whom we call "Tiny Tim" was born just a year and fifteen days later on November 24th, 1943 in Turlock, Calif. His name in Japanese is Taijiro. Kelsey's name is Taiichiro and Sally Sue's name is Keiko. David, our youngest, is Kiyoshi in Japanese and he was born in Tokyo on February 24th, 1949. He started the first grade in February of this year when he returned from his visit with his mother to the United States. All the children attend the Christian Academy in Japan which is a school for missionary children with missionary teachers, for which we are very thankful. It takes them almost two hours each way to school each day, but it is worth it to have them at home and still that they can get a truly Christian education while they are young.



Tiny Tim Pietsch Holds Song Sheet at Street Meeting

Helen's mother is much improved in health and teaches the mother's Bible Class here at the Bible Center each Thursday. My beloved father will be seventy years old on August 8th this year, and has moved to Long Beach, California. The doctor has told him he must not continue the heavy pace at which he has been going because of a bad heart condition and because of several heart attacks he has had already. It would be so nice if some of you would write him a note for his birthday. He can be reached at P.O. Box 890, Long Beach, Calif.

Prince Mikasa

In the Spring of 1949 it was my privilege to have a personal conversation with Prince Mikasa, the youngest brother of the present emperor of Japan. He told me then that he was attending the Tokyo (Imperial) University and particularly studying the Hebrew Bible as a basis for understanding the history of the Near East. I have been praying for him ever since and would request that you join me in particular prayer that he will come to the knowledge of The Truth. Recently he has written a very courageous book in Japanese entitled "Emperors, Graves and People—The Daze of the Orient" in which he is very frank and open about the fallacy of the "Sacred War" and the Imperial Family System. He states:

"There are two things for which I wish to apologize. When I was a young instructor giving spiritual training I used to quote Shigemori Taira. 'If I want to be a good son I can't be loyal to the emperor, and if a good subject I can't be a good son.' What should be done, I asked, and giving the answer myself used to say: 'For the great loyalty you must even kill your parents'. This is utterly wrong. I want to apologize for this mistake to those who had been under my command at that time.

"When I went to Nanking as a staff officer I had completely lost faith in the 'sacred war' and the only thing I wanted was peace. I was astonished at the real truth of the so-called 'sacred war'. There is no need listing here the abominable atrocities committed against the innocent Chinese people. Under the masquerade of 'just war' looting, violence, arson and rape were committed . . . as the situation was like that they stressed even more the 'sacred war' fable to conceal the truth.

"While many were put into jail as war criminals, or dragged before crime tribunals, I was liberated from the jail without bars if I may so very frankly say of the extremely abnormal Imperial Family System."

The newspapers report that Prince Mikasa has received threatening letters accusing him of being a coward and a traitor to Japan. We are grateful that he has been so courageously frank; and I am sure that there are some in Japan who appreciate that the youngest brother of the emperor was willing to apologize for what he felt he had done wrong.

Prayer Requests

1. The safe return of Brother Paul Suzuki to Japan. 2. Evangelistic efforts with other groups. 3. Radio broadcast in Tokyo. 4. For the salvation of the family of Brother Paul Suzuki. 5. For the salvation of Prince Mikasa who we believe is close.—With love in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours because His,
Helen and Timothy Pietsch

(Luke 9:23)

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

TIMOTHY PIETSCH—*Director*

PAUL SUZUKI—*Assistant*

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July, 1956

BELOVED IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:

We greatly rejoice in your love and fellowship in the gospel of our Lord Jesus, and count it a great joy and privilege to be here in Japan as the servants of our Lord. Our Lord is so kind and patient and willing even to use us who are so weak and frail. We are thanking Him for each one of you who faithfully stands behind us. During June and the first part of July it has been my privilege to conduct tent campaigns in the cities of Akita, Odate, and Noshiro in Akita Prefecture, and in Sakata City in Yamagata Prefecture. My heart greatly rejoices at what I see the Lord doing with groups of dear young Christians who are standing true to Him, and it is such a joy to be able to cooperate with them in building up the local church that is founded upon His Word. It is my firm conviction that evangelistic efforts must be held under the auspices of a local church that is obeying the Word of God or the effort will come to naught, for there will be no one to follow up the effort. Further it is my conviction that there is very little if anything that remains from before the war in Japan which is worth building new work upon. As I travel around Japan I find that those who are willing to start out entirely new without the old prewar Japanese pastors who compromised with idolatry and who refuse to repent are being blessed of the Lord. Though the work is hard and it takes much longer, it is on a strong and solid foundation. My heart greatly rejoices at those who are willing to pay the price to start local churches that are on solid foundations. Here at the Bible Center we started entirely new in 1951, convinced that to build upon the old foundations of prewar Japanese pastors was futile. We have found the Lord's blessing through many heartaches. Finally now, we have a trained young pastor to take over the work with the coming of Brother Paul Suzuki back to Japan this fall. He first came to my Bible class while a university student, in order to learn English, so that he could get further in the black market, but the Lord touched his heart and he was saved. He finished the Nippon University and then for three years attended the Japan Christian Theological Seminary here in Tokyo, and now this May has finished his graduate work at Faith Seminary in Philadelphia. He recently had an operation at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, which was completely successful and he is setting his face to return to Japan. His heart is in the local church here and to build it up to be a testimony and lighthouse in this great city. It would have been much easier to have just started the work and then called in an old pastor but we know of very few that refused to compromise with idolatry. Recently here at the Bible Center we have seen wonderful answers to prayer, and our hearts are encouraged. Last Lord's day sixteen young people made definite decisions to receive the Lord Jesus Christ and to obey Him. At this writing, we are conducting our first Daily Vacation Bible School here at the Bible Center. Since Japanese grammar schools do not let out until the last week of July, we have not been able to hold it before this. We are praying

that it will be of lasting value in the lives of many of these children, practically all of whom come from heathen homes. We have twenty-four of our Christians here who are now helping as teachers, and it is a wonderful experience for them.

A Courageous Appeal

In preparation for the coming of Billy Graham to Japan last February, early morning prayer meetings were held for a week prior to his coming in the Salvation Army Hall. At one of these prayer meetings, our dear friend and neighboring pastor here in Tokyo, Pastor Tokiwa of the Nippon Kirisuto Kaikaku ha (Japan Reformed Church) spoke to the assembled pastors. He pled with them to face up to the whole issue of idolatry in Japan. He stated that God's blessing never could rest upon the United Church of Japan (which claims about seventy percent or more of all protestants in Japan) until it would repent of its official act of sending its moderator as its official representative to the grand shrine of the sun-goddess at Ise to report to the sun goddess the founding and affairs of the United Church of Japan. It was about this same time that Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa also went to the shrine of Ise and reported his contemplated trip to the United States. Pastor Tokiwa pointed out that not only did the leaders of the United Church of Japan go as individuals to this false god but the United Church of Japan by an official action sent its official representative; and until this was repented of and repudiated, God would not listen to their prayer for revival coming to Japan. This was not the first time this matter was brought to the United Church of Japan, but each time it has been rejected and the matter covered over by stating that it happened during a time of national emergency and that it had no real religious significance, and if the United Church had not accepted the Japanese government's directives regarding the shinto shrines it would have been exterminated. At the end of the World War in 1945, before any missionaries had returned to Japan, Pastor Tokiwa and some other pastors left the United church of Japan and formed the Kaikaku ha. They left the United church because of the disgraceful sellout to the shinto militarists by the leaders of the United church of Japan. They did not leave the United church at the pleading of



Japanese Throng to a Shinto Shrine

missionaries and the promise of financial support, but because they refused to endorse its idolatrous actions. We would ask our praying friends to remember this beloved Pastor and his fellow workers in faithful interceding prayer. In a personal conversation with Pastor Tokiwa not long ago, I asked him if he knew of any Japanese pastors in the United Church of Japan at the present time who believe and teach the Bible to be the infallible, plenary inspired, Word of God. He replied that he did not know of a single pastor who so believes and teaches who still remains in the United Church of Japan. I then asked him if he knew of a single pastor who believes and teaches that our Lord actually rose from the dead and is now in heaven at God's right hand. He replied that he did not know of a single one. It is my firm conviction that the United Church of Japan today is one of the greatest hindrances to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in this land. I would plead with you to pray with us that they will repent and turn to the Lord with all their hearts. Until such a time no true lover of our Lord and His gospel should allow a cent of his missionary money to support this machine which is such a hindrance to the gospel. At this time, the United Church of Christ in Japan is supported by missionaries and financial aid from the following organizations:

American Board of Commissions for Foreign
Missions (Congregational)
Evangelical and Reformed
Evangelical United Brethren
The Methodist Church
The Presbyterian Church USA
Reformed Church in America
United Church of Canada
United Christian Missionary Society (Disciples
of Christ)

These denominations have formed the Inter Board Committee for co-operation with the United Church of Japan. All their missionaries in Japan are obliged to work under the supervision of the United Church. This last year the United Church of Japan has refused to invite Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Chapman of the USA Presbyterian church to return to Japan because they were willing to co-operate with pastors who had left the United Church. It will not surprise us if it refuses yet others to return who are evangelical. Perhaps you have the idea you can designate your funds and that it will go to only "sound" missionaries under these boards. However the United Church of Japan does not welcome the "sound" missionaries, because if they are really sound they must rebuke the leadership for its idolatry. The United Church of Japan is no more worthy of the aid and support of true Bible loving Christians than is the Roman Catholic church. In truly loving them we must stand against their terrible acts of idolatry and plead and pray for them to repent.

"What shall I do when my father dies?"

was the anxious inquiry of Brother Tanaka as we examined him for baptism. Before baptising any one here at the Bible Center we request that they read a little booklet entitled "Pagan Traditions of Japan and the Christian Faith" which includes seven articles by seven different authors and published by the Bible Times of which our beloved Brother John Young is the editor. One of these articles is entitled "The Christian's attitude towards a Buddhist Funeral" by Yamanaka Tamezo who spent some years in prison during the last war for his stalwart testimony to our Lord Jesus Christ. In this article Brother Yamanaka shows that a heathen funeral is an idolatrous service in which a Christian cannot take part. (I Cor. 10:20). That the loved one who has died desires that those



DVBS Teachers' Meeting

still living should repent and not come to "this place of torment" (Luke 16:28). Brother Tanaka had read this article and it troubled him since he is the oldest son. His wife and children already had come to the Lord and the little children prayed for him and pled with him, saying, "Daddy, unless you repent and believe in the Lord you will be the only one in our family who is not in heaven". He had the terrible habit of drinking, but began to come to the services here and opened his heart to the Lord and was delivered from drink. They put out the god shelf and Buddhist altar from their home. However, like most Japanese who become Christians, he was troubled about what to do for the dead. I replied to him, "You are very fortunate". He was surprised and wondered why I said that. "But your father is still living, and you can tell him he must repent, and receive the Lord Jesus Christ or he will never be in heaven. You can tell him now that when he dies he will not become a god and that you will never worship him nor put food up in front of the Buddhist altar for him." He turned to me greatly relieved and said, "That's true, isn't it? That's what I will do." It was our joy to baptize the whole family, and they are happy and joyful in our Lord.

"The Smell of Smoke"

After reading our prayer letter for March and the item entitled "The Baptism of Slander" a beloved Christian lady wrote me saying:

"Do you know, I think the greatest part of the miracle of the three Hebrew boys was that after they came out of the fire there was no smell of smoke on them. To me the 'smell of smoke' has symbolized bitterness, and how often the Holy Spirit has reminded me of it to purify my heart under this most bitter of trials, because slander is evil speaking and malice usually from hearts which should be full of love toward us; reasonless, baseless, deliberately cruel. It fills our hearts with incredulous dismay especially when it comes, as so often is the case, in the form of a Judas kiss for the Lord. What I mean is that the slanderers so often claim that it is love for God which constrains them to calumniate a brother. But God has provided the anadyne for the smell of the smoke: "Pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you for my sake." It is for His sake, or because of Him, for the principalities and powers are ever aiming at Him through us and using weak brethren many times to do it. We may surely say with Stephen: "Count not this sin to their charge."

I would particularly request that you pray for me that there may not be the slightest trace of bitterness or belligerent spirit about us but that I may humbly walk with the Lord giving thanks to Him for all things. Eph. 5:20.

We all send love to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

HELEN AND TIMOTHY PIETSCH AND FAMILY

LUKE 9:23

Tokyo Bible Center

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

TIMOTHY PIETSCH—*Director*

PAUL SUZUKI—*Assistant*

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Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

October, 1956

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

We are very grateful to our loving Heavenly Father for granting us the wonderful privilege of being here in Japan and in Christ's stead to beseech men to be reconciled to God. More and more I am grateful to the Lord for calling us to be His servants and granting us the joy of serving Him in the "regions beyond." We feel our own inadequacy and inefficiency and know that it is not by might nor by power but "by my spirit". We are indeed thankful for each one of you dear partners in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ who has given of your means to make it possible for us to be in this land. We are earnestly praying for you and rejoice in your love to our Lord and for His Gospel.

FIVE YEARS OF RADIO PREACHING

In the fall of 1951 in very wonderful and strange ways the Lord led us to start broadcasting the gospel over radio station JOAR in Nagoya, which was the very first commercial radio station to go on the air in Japan and from which we could buy radio time for gospel preaching. Up till five years ago all radio stations were under the control of a Japanese government corporation and free radio as we know it in the U.S. was not permitted. However, a new law made possible commercial radio stations and when the very first one went on the air it was our joy to start proclaiming the wonderful gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by means of radio once each week. Now five years have passed. When we started we had no idea where the funds would come from to pay for this very expensive radio time. We said we would sell our car and keep going as long as possible. To date we have never sold the old 1947 Plymouth and it is still running but now it is hardly worth enough to pay for more than two or three weeks of broadcasting. The Lord has indeed been very gracious to us and supplied the needs in accordance to His word for what the Lord orders He pays for. In the meantime radio station JOAR in Nagoya has enlarged and become the main station of the Central Japan radio network and it is our privilege to each week broadcast on this network of stations. Now for some time the Lord has been burdening our hearts about radio here in Tokyo and we are earnestly praying that soon we may be able to start a gospel program in this great city which is as far as gospel radio broadcasting is concerned next only to Hokkaido (which is the northernmost island of Japan) the most unreached part of Japan. Tokyo is now celebrating its

FIVE-HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY

Few countries on earth have undergone more extensive changes in less than a hundred years than has Japan. And no aspect of this country's life has been transformed more drastically since the restoration of power to the Imperial throne at the time of the Meiji restoration than has the capital city of Tokyo, which is

this month celebrating the fifth centenary of its founding by Ota Dokan who in 1457 A.D. built a feudal castle on the site of the present Imperial Palace grounds and thus began the development of the desolate hamlet of Yedo into one of the world's major cities, with a population at this time well over the eight million mark. During the last war Tokyo was one of the main targets for the B-29 fire raids and suffered accordingly. By the end of the war more than a quarter million of its inhabitants had been listed as dead or missing. Three million had suffered loss and nearly eight hundred thousand separate homes and buildings had been totally destroyed. From a population of seven and a half million in 1942, Tokyo had decreased to three and a half million by August, 1945. In the little over ten years since the end of the last war, Tokyo has regained all its lost population and is now bigger than at any time in its history. With a current density of population of around one for each one hundred and twenty square yards of the city's 784 square miles it is in the words of one city official "not so easy to breathe, especially in streetcars and buses". Yet still the great trek to the Imperial city continues without letup. In 1955 the increase from immigration alone from other parts of Japan was 163,077 persons. In ten years' time, if the present rate of increase continues unchecked, Tokyo's population will number over eleven millions—the largest agglomeration of people ever to congregate in one spot in human history. In spite of this terribly dense population in Tokyo there is not a single church with an average attendance of even five hundred on a Sunday morning. Yet in one day more than a million people will flock to one shinto shrine to worship the gods of Japan. Perhaps you can understand our great burden to get the gospel out in this great city now while we have opportunity, for we believe that in reaching Tokyo with almost a tenth of all Japan's entire population we reach into much of Japan. Radio enters practically every home in the city and it is available to us now and are we to pass by this wonderful opportunity? We are looking to the Lord for His "go ahead" and ask you to pray with us.



Bible Kindergarten Band

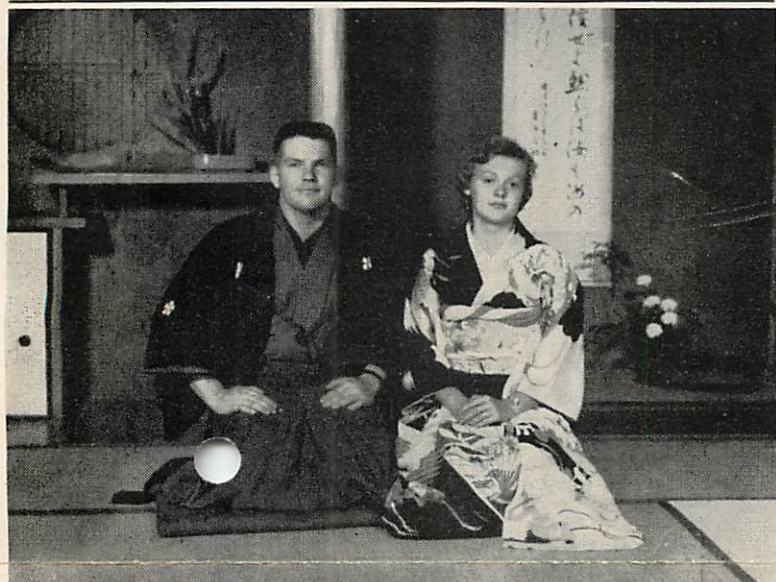
TENT MEETINGS

The last week in September it was my privilege to go to Toyama Prefecture which is on the Japan Sea coast of this main island of Honshu to the city of Takaoka and help Brother and Mrs. Frank Pickering of the Regular Baptist Mission of Canada in tent meetings. We had two meetings each day, one for children and one for adults. This kind of work is extremely tiring and sometimes I had hardly enough strength to get to bed at night but it is so wonderful to be tired in the service of our Lord. Since returning from Takaoka, Brother Pickering has written me:

"I just heard yesterday of one girl, Ichimura San, who decided to yield to Christ and ask for baptism at the lunch we had together at the house here a week ago Sunday. She had previously believed but only then decided to go all the way with Christ. Another lady said when she came to the house to

and in humility and power in the Word. Already besides the work here at the Center he is teaching in the Bible Baptist Seminary in Chibas, and has been invited to teach at the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Mission's Seminary here in Tokyo where he graduated, before going to the U.S.A. We are including a testimony from Brother Paul:

"By God's grace, I came back to Japan, my country, on September 21st. Thank you very much for your prayers, kindnesses and all your thoughtfulness to me during my stay in the States. It was more than two years ago that I left for the States but it seems like day before yesterday, and yet I was able to complete two years of post-graduate work at Faith Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. It was my joy to visit many of your churches and homes and to have personal fellowship in the Lord. Since it was a short trip to the States I could not meet many of you



Charles Weinberg and Sally Sue Pietsch

buy a Bible that and her husband had believed after listening to our messages. Time will probably reveal other good things accomplished by your ministry."

How wonderfully good our Lord is in allowing us to know of a few who have turned to Him after we have preached His word. We have heard of sprinklings of rain but we yearn to hear of the great showers — yea, abundance of rain. But we are asking our Lord to humble us — give us grace to truly humble ourselves that when it comes we shall know that it is not of ourselves or our efforts but simply of His great mercy.

RALLY FOR CHRISTIANS

On the 23rd of November which is a national holiday in Japan we are planning on our annual gathering of Christians from the different evangelical churches in this area for a time of fellowship and testimony. Last year we had eighteen different churches represented. All these were separated from the organized apostasy of the National Council of Churches and the United Church of Japan. How thankful we are for the different small groups the Lord is raising up and what a joy it is to fellowship with them in our Lord. This year we are meeting in both the afternoon and evening and would ask your particular prayer for this gathering.

BROTHER PAUL SUZUKI

arrived safely back in Japan on the 21st of September. It is so good to have him back and he is a great help and encouragement in the Lord. It is a great joy to see how he has grown in the Lord

which I would liked to have done but I hope that perhaps in the future the Lord may grant me the privilege. Since my return to Japan I have been keeping busy in preaching, teaching at the Bible Baptist Seminary in Chiba and helping other Christians. Besides this I am assisting in making a gospel film in Japanese by Evangel Films of Portland, Oregon, of which Mr. L. J. Smith is the manager and producer. I flew back with him from the U.S.A. I am so happy to be back and see the Christians in the group here grown in the grace and knowledge of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. The preaching of the gospel in Japan is getting more difficult but we are going to start regular meetings in another place soon. Mr. Pietsch is also hoping to have a radio program in Tokyo. Please pray for the work of the

Tokyo Bible Ce and for me so that we may glorify Him in this land of Japan. Please pray for my father and mother and brothers and sisters who are not yet saved. Thank you again for your kindness and prayers for me. I would surely like to keep in touch with you by letter so I will know you are praying for me. Please write to me at our Tokyo address. Please let me know if you do not have my prayer card for I would be glad to send you one. I hope that I can write of the progress of His work here in our next news letter so that we can all praise Him together. May His richest blessings be yours. (I John 3:16)

Paul A. Suzuki

FAMILY NOTES

We are delighted to announce the engagement of our beloved daughter Sally Sue to Charles Weinberg of Woodburn, Oregon. Charles was out here as a soldier and had a fine testimony for our Lord. He was the assistant director of the Tokyo G.I. Gospel Hour until he left for the U.S. on the 21st of September. He plans, Lord willing, to finish his course at Oregon State College where he was attending before entering the service. He feels called of the Lord to return as a missionary to Japan. Sally Sue was born in Japan in Fukuoka and has another year in the Christian Academy in Japan. Charles believes he is called of the Lord to return to Japan and be a teacher in this school where all our children now attend. With love in our Lord from us all.

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
and family

(Luke 9:23)

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Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

January, 1957

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank you for all your love and kindness; your cards and gifts of thoughtfulness were a blessing and encouragement to us. We are indeed thankful to our loving heavenly Father for the wonderful privilege of being His servants in this land and we greatly rejoice in each of you He has given to us to be partners with us in carrying His gospel to the lost. We are indeed thankful for each one of you and the trust you have placed in us in sending gifts for the work of the Lord and we realize the great and grave responsibility He has given to us. We know that many of you are earnestly praying for us and we want you to know also that we pray for each one of you who gives for this work and our earnest prayer for you is found in Phil. 1:8-11.

CHRISTMAS IN JAPAN

These are the best years we have ever known for preaching the gospel in Japan and we are thanking our Lord for the privilege of so freely broadcasting the love of our Lord over the radio that goes right into the homes of millions, and they hear the gospel where they would not stand on the streets or come to a church building. At this Christmas time it has again been our joy to broadcast to millions the true meaning of Christmas—that the Only True God, Creator of all things, Himself came into this world to redeem us from the bondage and slavery of sin and to make an atonement to satisfy divine justice by which we could be counted as righteous in His sight. That no longer is He the babe of Bethlehem but raised from the dead and exalted high to be a Prince and a Saviour and that He shall yet come in great power and glory to set up an everlasting kingdom of righteousness. Those of us who were here in Japan prior to the war hardly could even conceive of such a privilege as we now enjoy. December 25th, prior to the war in Japan was a day of national mourning for the death of the last emperor, Taisho. Few, if any, dared to have any kind of a celebration on that day for if they did, they were accused of loving a "foreigner" more than their last emperor. Now all this is changed and we seldom even hear anything about emperor Taisho who was reported to be demented but whose death was used to obstruct the message of Christmas and to stir up Japanese intense nationalism. However the pendulum has now swung to the opposite side and Japanese have commercialized Christmas perhaps even more so than has the U.S.A. for they have never known the true meaning of Christmas. On Dec. 25th, 1956 the Nippon Times carried an article by Kiyoaki Murata and I would like to quote this in part:

"Either because of a shortage of campaign slogans or because of intrinsic disgust, a well known nationalist organization has come out with a new shibboleth with which to adorn the Tokyo street scene.

"The 'patriotic' society now deprecates the 'nonsense' of commercialized Christmas and urges Japanese to 'return to the true spirit of Christ'.

"One need not be a Christian to agree with the slogan that deplores the annual, increasingly blatant travesty of the birth of Christ.

"Encouraged by the 'unprecedented' prosperity the nation is supposed to be enjoying, unscrupulous business establishments have done their best to capitalize on the holiday season.

"Department stores have spent more money than ever before on decorations, and cabarets are said to have sold 'Christmas party tickets' whose prices go up as high as ¥20,000 (\$56.00 U.S. money).

"The Christmas eve frenzy demonstrated in big cities in Japan is an excellent example of disparity between what appears and what is.

"An unwary visitor to these shores observing the multitudes filling the main streets and night spots may conclude that this is a vigorously Christian nation.

"In spite of the tremendous outburst of the 'Christmas spirit' however, Japan is still statistically, as un-Christian as the United States is un-Islamic."

HELEN'S MOTHER

Mrs. C. K. Dozier in October completed fifty years since she came to Japan as a Southern Baptist Missionary. On the 3rd of November a special service commemorating her many years of fruitful service in Japan was held at the Mejirogaoka Baptist Church here in Tokyo at which time many gathered to honor her. On the 9th of November she was taken to the hospital and the doctor diagnosed it as a stroke. It now seems that the sickness she had in early 1955 which delayed Helen from going to the U.S. for a time was also a slight stroke but we did not know it. The doctor has warned her that she must not overdo and that she just must not carry on the schedule she was carrying. After some weeks in the hospital she was able to go to the home of Helen's brother, Edwin Dozier, where she is now. At this writing she is able to be up for a little while each day, but from her bed is now dictating a book in Japanese which she says she desires to be her last effort to bring many



Helen's Mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier — After Fifty years in Japan

Japanese to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust that many of you will pray for her as she writes this book.

CROWN OF REJOICING

In I Thess. 2:19 Paul writing to the Thessalonian Christians tells them that they are his crown of rejoicing "in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming". He had preached to them the wonderful good news and some had "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven" and these were to be his crown in the presence of the Lord.

It is now over six years since the Lord led us to start this work here at the Tokyo Bible Center.

and out of the hospital. Last summer the doctors gave her up but the Lord raised her up again in answer to special prayer. At this writing she is again very bad but greatly rejoicing in the love of the Lord. She has been able to lead the lady in the bed next to her in the hospital to the Lord. This lady, Akitmoto San is now dying and last Sunday when I went to see Mrs. Nishikawa she asked me to go to the room where they now have Akitmoto San and "pray with her and commit her safely to the bosom of our Lord Jesus." Perhaps Mrs. Nishikawa does not have much longer for this earth but both she and her husband greatly rejoice in all God's dealings and we trust many of you will uphold them before our Lord in prayer.



Paul Suzuki preaches on street first Sunday after returning to Japan

It was on Christmas day 1950 that we held our very first service here. Up to the present time we have written very little about any who have made decisions here because we did not want to hurt them by publicity or to give the impression that we were specially skillful missionaries who are winning many for Christ. Each one that has truly come to Him is a miracle of His grace. In this letter we would like to introduce to you Brother and Mrs. Takeo Nishikawa who made decisions for Christ soon after we first started the work here and who were baptized in the very first group of eight. Of that group, Brother and Mrs. Nishikawa are the only ones that we know of that have remained faithful to the Lord and they are indeed a great joy and blessing to us. Brother Nishikawa graduated from Meiji University here in Tokyo more than twenty years ago. This university is one of the "big six" in Japan. After graduation Nishikawa San was on Japan's championship basketball team and toured the United States and Canada for three months. During the last war he was an officer in the Japanese army in China, but since his repatriation to Japan at the end of the war has been running a clothing factory. Six years ago he heard me preaching the gospel in Japanese in front of the Shibuya railway station. He was terribly bound in sin but with his wife Hisako began to attend the services here at the Bible Center when we first started. Gambling bound him in a terrible vice but the Lord freed him and gave him deliverance. This dear couple have been a real help to the other Christians here for they have faced head on the issue of idolatry in this land and given a good testimony. In 1955 when Mrs. Nishikawa's mother died they refused to attend the funeral because it was a heathen idolatrous ceremony and they didn't want to be a stumbling block by even attending and they set an example for the others here who have had the same problems. They have been faithful Sunday school teachers and Brother Nishikawa has at every available opportunity gone with me to even distant parts of Japan at his own expense to give testimony of the saving grace of our Lord. For some time Mrs. Nishikawa has been suffering from cancer and has been in

NEW WORK STARTED

Brother and Mrs. Eiji Narita invited us to open new work in their home in Tamukai which is about two miles from here and we have begun regular services there. Brother Morinaga Susumu who helped me so faithfully here at the Bible Center while both Paul Suzuki and Helen were away has the responsibility under the Lord for this new work. Brother Morinaga's father has been seriously ill and since he is the oldest son the family have been asking him to return to Kagoshima, (the southernmost part of Kyushu) and take over the family responsibilities.

Please pray for him. Brother and Mrs. Tanaka and family are still faithful to the Lord. They have moved to another area about seven miles from here but try to come faithfully to services. They have asked us to start new meetings in their home and we are praying about doing so.

TAX DEDUCTION GRANTED

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has notified our treasurer Brother Ronald Birchard that gifts for this work are deductible from income taxes according to the Internal Revenue Code. In part his letter stated:

"Upon consideration of all the circumstances of the instant case it is the opinion of this office based upon the evidence presented, that you are exempt from United States income tax as an organization described in section 501(c) of the 1954 Code, which corresponds to section 101(6) of the 1939 Code as it is shown that you are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes."

You may deduct from your income tax up to 20% of your net income gifts given to the Tokyo Bible Center. We are very thankful that the U.S. government is so kind to missionary work for if it did as some other governments do about taking money out of the country it would be almost impossible to carry on missionary work in foreign lands. Pray for our government and its leaders that they may truly trust in the Lord.

Since 1949 I have been bothered with chronic beri-beri which causes quite severe pains in the legs and causes enlargement of the heart. Since September 1956 I have again had quite a bad siege of it. I am taking regular injections of heavy doses of vitamin B one, right into the veins and am some better but still tire very easily. Trust that you will uphold me in prayer. We all send love in our Lord.

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
and Family

LUKE 9:23

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER
179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku
Tokyo, Japan

February 10, 1957

Beloved Friends in our Lord Jesus Christ

Greetings in the love of our Lord
with Numbers 6:25 and III John 2

We are very grateful to you each one
for your love and kindness, and your
faithfulness to our Lord is a great encour-
agement to us.

It will soon be ten years since we returned to Japan at the
end of the war. We cannot thank our Lord enough for the priv-
ilege of being here as His servants. Considering all factors it
seems to us that these are the very best days we have ever known
in Japan, as far as opportunities to get out the gospel. In the
last two months we have been able to start work in two new places
besides carrying on the work here at the Center and over the radio.

Though I have been back in the US twice during the last ten
years and Helen and our youngest son David, were able to make a
trip for six months in 1955 our three elder children have been
here now for almost ten years without once being back in the USA.
Kelsey and Tiny Tim don't even remember the States at all, but
they are very happy here and seem to have no desire to return.
One of the reasons for this is the fine school they are able to
attend which is called The Christian Academy in Japan. This is a
school for missionary children and with dedicated Christian teachers
We are enclosing for you a folder about the school and would request
prayer for it. Recently the Academy has had some financial stress
and has had to raise the tuition thirty dollars per child per
semester which now makes it eight dollars per semester for grammar
school and a hundred and five for junior and senior high school.
We are praying that the Lord will touch the hearts of His children
concerning this need and also to designate support for Helen and
the children which they have not had for some time since a large
church in California cut off the supporting they were giving for
them. We are not in the least complaining and we know our Lord
will supply every need but we believe some of God's children will
interested in designating support for this purpose. A beloved
school teacher in Iowa has just written to us that she would give
twenty five dollars a month towards Helen's support. This is a great
encouragement to us and we are trusting the Lord. Phil 4:19

Our daughter Sally Sue and her fiance, Charles Weinberg
of Woodburn, Oregon are hoping, Lord willing to be married this
Fall and they want me to go to the USA to perform the ceremony.
We are praying for guidance and the leading of the Lord in this
matter and would ask you to pray with us. Sally Sue graduates from
the Christian Academy on June 13th and I am sure would be delighted
if some of you would write to her. We are all fine and I am much
improved after quite a bout with beri-beri. We all send love
and appreciation in our Lord,
Luke 9:23

Yours because His



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April, 1957

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

THESE ARE wonderful days for us here in Japan and how thankful we are to our loving Heavenly Father for the privilege of being here — not in just being here but being here to stand in Christ's stead and beseech men to be reconciled to God. II Cor. 5:20. We are grateful to each one of you who have part in this work of the Lord. Considering all factors we feel that these are the best days we have ever known for getting out the gospel in Japan. We do not mean that Japan in any sense is becoming a Christian nation and leaving its idols, but that we do have freedom to preach the gospel, and to deal with souls and they do not have to fear coercion from the government, if they believe the gospel. Most Japanese still seem to have natural reluctance about coming to a Christian church but seem willing to listen to the gospel over the radio that comes right into their homes. We wish you could read with us the hundreds of letters that come to us in answer to our gospel messages over the radio. We will quote from a few taken at random:

"Please do forgive me for writing you, since I have never been introduced to you. However through your messages on the radio I have come to trust Jesus Christ and you have led me to the Lord. Thank you for all the material you sent me to help me study the Bible for myself while I am here in the hospital. I am not allowed to go out and not able to attend church and make the acquaintance of Christians." — Kimura Shinako, Central Hospital, Gifu City.

"I listen to your radio program every Tuesday morning at 8:45. I am interested in learning how to become a Christian. Will you please help me. . ." — Kikuko McCain (Japanese wife of US serviceman).

"Please send me a gospel of John as you promised." — Kobayashi Masao, Aji Machi, Mie Pref.

"I believe in Jesus Christ as the only Saviour and confessing my sins I decide to become his disciple." — Aikawa Akiko.

"Please will you send me material for studying the Bible." — Kenji Kondo, Kyoto City.

"Every time I hear your broadcast I am interested. Can you answer my question? If I die, what will I

become? Surely you know that I as a Japanese cannot understand about your God, Christ. Please help me to understand." — Yasuo Kobayashi, Matsusaki City.

It keeps us busy answering the many hundreds who write to us. We answer each one with gospel material suitable to their case and send their names and addresses to faithful pastors and missionaries in their area. We are sorry to say that in many cases there are none such to be found very close. Therefore we must start new local churches as soon as possible. This is our sixth year of preaching the gospel over radio JOAR and the Central Japan network from Nagoya where we worked prior to the war. As you know we are earnestly praying to be able to widen this radio ministry, especially to have a broadcast in this great city of Tokyo, where as yet we have never had the privilege of broadcasting the Gospel. Our particular prayer is that the Lord will touch the hearts of a thousand of his children to be our partners, in getting out the gospel now and who will earnestly pray for this work and give even just fifty cents a week for this purpose. We could then put on gospel radio programs in many different parts of Japan regularly.

"NOT AS OTHERS WHO HAVE NO HOPE."

In Japan if one should boil down religion, that is Buddhism, Shintoism and we are sad to say even most of Christianity into a few simple words it would come out: "Ancestor worship". Ancestor worship is the system that has controlled Japan for centuries and is also referred to as the family system. It is the rule of the dead. In his book *Japan — An Interpretation* Lafcardio Hearn likens the Japanese family system to the ancient Greek ancestor worship in the land of his birth:

1. "The dead remain in this world, haunting their tombs, and also their former homes and sharing invisibly in the life of their living descendants.

2. "All the dead become gods, in the sense of acquiring supernatural power; but they retain the characters which distinguished them during life.

3. "The happiness of the dead depends upon the respectful worship rendered them by the living; and the happiness of the living depends upon their fulfilling pious duty to the dead.

4. "Every event in the world, good or evil, fair season, or plentiful harvest, flood or famine, tempest, tidal wave and earthquake is the work of the dead.

5. "All human actions good or bad are controlled by the dead."

The dead rule Japan and for the above reasons a funeral is a very important occasion in Japan. When a person dies the relatives gather and sit up together all night with the corpse. They make a feast of things that the dead liked and eat it with the corpse. This is called Otsuya. The funeral is a time of sending off the spirit of the dead in a happy mood and of saying "good-



Brother Takeo Nishikawa Giving Testimony at the Funeral of His Wife

bye." Usually a picture of the dead is placed over the box containing the ashes and incense is burned before it. The picture is considered a whist in which the spirit of the dead resides. Prayers are said to the dead and even a man's enemies come to his funeral and plead with his spirit not to persecute them and they make special offerings of rice and wine and food. Funerals in Japan generally are very idolatrous affairs and funerals in Christian churches too often are times of terrible compromise with idolatrous customs, but they can be used to be one of the greatest times of witness to our Lord "Who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel".

On the 20th of March Mrs. Hisako Nishikawa went to be with our Lord. She is the first of our group of believers here that has gone to sleep in Jesus. There was no Otsuya after she died. When the relatives gathered the night of her death Brother Nishikawa invited Paul Suzuki, Helen and me also. Brother Paul gave a short message on what happens to the soul of a believer at death and then I brought a message on the joyous hope of the resurrection of the body. There was no feast or offering made to the dead or bowing to the corpse. The next day we had the funeral here at the Bible Center. We put up no picture

of the dead, had no flowers except one vase for decoration as we have at our usual services. According to the Bible we believe a funeral is simply burying the body and committing it to the Lord unto the day of resurrection. Anything beyond this is compromise with idolatry. At the funeral we preached to the relatives and told them they could do nothing for the dead and if the dead could return they would tell them to repent and believe the gospel. We had no bowing to the corpse and Brother Nishikawa gave his testimony of how with his wife he had come to our Lord and how she had quietly gone to be with the Lord in great peace after many months of sickness. It was a time of great victory and joy for us all here.

"THAT THY DAYS MAY BE LONG"

Our daughter Sally Sue and her fiance Charles Weinberg talked about getting married this coming September and urged me to go to the US to perform the ceremony. Helen and I and others as well felt that since Sally Sue is still quite young (she will be eighteen on the 19th of June) it would be well if she would wait another year before marriage. Charles wrote to us from Oregon, where he is now again attending Oregon State College (where he was before entering the army) saying:

"Believe me I understand your reasons behind wanting Susie to stay another year. I also realize that she is young so I feel that you should make the decision about her coming. I really want you to be sure of what you do and please don't think you will hurt my feelings. Do what you feel the Lord would have you do, and what you feel is best for us. Don't get me wrong I do love her, but you are far more mature than either of us so I leave it in your hands."

Chuck called Sally Sue by long distance telephone from Oregon and they decided to take the advice we had given them. Please pray God's richest blessing upon these young people, who are willing to listen to loving advice given them in the name of our Lord. Therefore, Sally Sue and I won't be going to the USA until next year. Pray for her continued training here. We would like to begin to arrange an itinerary for my time in the

USA next year and if you would like me to visit your church or group please let us know as soon as possible. I do trust to be able to visit many of you while in the USA next year, Lord willing.

"THE CHURCH IN THY HOUSE"

One of the joys that comes to us as missionaries and which we see very seldom is the head of a family come to the Lord and start a truly Christian home. Very few men in Japan above the age of thirty make decisions for Christ. Last year Brother Yasuo Tanaka came to the Lord. He was the one about whom we wrote under the title "What shall I do when my father dies?" in our July 1956 letter. Brother and Mrs. Tanaka



Brother and Mrs. Yasuo Tanaka

have grown in grace and have opened their home in Kitami which is about seven miles from here to start a new work for the Lord. Please remember them and their two children in faithful prayer. We are hoping soon to be able to hold tent meetings in their town which has no gospel church.

BIBLE CENTER NOTES

Rejoice with us in the organization of the Tokyo Bible Church. They have called Brother Paul Suzuki as their pastor. On the 11th of April he was ordained into the Christian ministry and on the 14th of April he gave a ring to Miss Atsuko Kiyota before the church announcing their engagement to be married. Miss Kiyota was saved here at the Bible Center about six years ago and Paul had been keeping company with her before he went to the USA for studies. We hope to carry a picture of them in our next letter. Early in April, Helen and Sally Sue and Kiyota San went to help the Lutheran Brethren in a Sunday School teachers convention in Sakata in Yamagata Prefecture. In March Brother Paul Suzuki helped in evangelistic meetings in Takaoka with Brother Frank Pickering where several made decisions for our Lord. Helen's mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier is steadily gaining strength after the stroke she had last November. She has sold her home and is living with her son, Edwin Dozier, a Southern Baptist missionary. We would request prayer for my sister Mercy Pietsch, who has been in a wheel chair more than twenty years with infantile paralysis, who is quite sick at this time in Walworth, Wisconsin. Pray for special meetings we are holding in Urawa and Warabi with the Evangelical Free Church. With love in our Wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
and Family

Luke 9:23

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June, 1957

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

JUST this last week I have returned from a trip to the northern part of this island, to Aomori Prefecture with Brother Takeo Nishikawa of our Bible Center here. It was our joy and privilege there to help a group of about forty independent Christian evangelists, which is composed of nisei, Japanese and Americans. In the last four months this group has gone to every home in the city of Hachinohe, which has a population of a hundred and fifty thousand, and preached the gospel two by two. It is now impossible to walk on any main street of Hachinohe without coming face to face with a large gospel signboard with a gospel verse on it bringing the people to their responsibility of receiving and obeying the Lord Jesus Christ. Brother and Mrs. Carl Harrigan, our dear friends, invited us to go and help and it was indeed a time of rich blessing for both Brother Nishikawa and me. The absolute love and loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ displayed by this group, their great love for one another irrespective of nationality and their fearless proclamation of the gospel, and their intense zeal made indeed a refreshing experience for me. This group bears no name except that of the Lord Jesus Christ. At this time two of the Japanese brethren are praying about going to New Guinea as missionaries. While in Aomori Prefecture Brother Nishikawa and I joined this group in going out to the rice fields and preaching to the farmers as they transplanted their rice shoots. We spoke generally for about ten to fifteen minutes each to little groups of four or five as they worked together in their fields. To me it was quite tiring to go from early morning to evening, but this group does it every day in the year except on the Lord's day.



Preaching the Gospel in the Rice Paddies

THE MEEKNESS AND GENTLENESS OF CHRIST

Those of us who are separatists, believing it is wrong in all and every case to co-operate with modernists in the work of the Lord because they are enemies of our Lord and under His anathema for preaching another gospel, Gal. 1:9, and who

believe that those Christians who do work with modernists disobey our Lord's direct commands, and should not be received as "faithful brethren" until they repent and forsake such practices so dishonoring to our Lord (II John 9-10) have perhaps greater temptation than some others to be proud of "our stand for Christ". I would ask you who are our faithful prayer partners, to pray for me that I may have grace to humble myself under His mighty hand at all times, and that His humility and meekness and gentleness shall mark our every thought and word and deed, and that we might glory only in our Lord (Gal. 6:14). The corruptness of my own natural heart is ever before me and I dare not lean on my own understanding, but commit all my ways unto Him. Prov. 3:5-6 and Romans 7:18.

GOOD MISSIONARY PRACTICE

Some have stated that our stand, "We refuse to work with modernists, or with those who work with modernists until they repent" is secondary separation. Though they agree that the Bible does teach that a true Christian should not be unequally yoked with unbelievers they claim that the Bible does not teach us what we ought to do about those Christians who are yoked with unbelievers. It is our earnest conviction that Christians who are joined with unbelievers in the denominations that are controlled by modernistic unbelievers are as guilty of disobedience to God as were the children of Israel when they were joined with the Canaanite idolaters. Christians that receive as brethren in Christ those that bring another doctrine other than the doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ are "partakers with them in their evil deeds." Not alone does the scripture teach separation from darkness (Eph. 5:11) but prohibits the mixing of light and darkness (II Cor. 6:14). Not only must the true servant of God have a clear testimony against the organized apostasy but against the subtle influences of inclusivism. The Israelites as a nation never entirely repudiated Jehovah. They simply "feared the Lord and served their own gods after the manner of the nations . . ." (II Kings 17:33). They became inclusivists and tolerated the idolaters in their midst. Some holders of the "doctrine of Balaam" (teaching God's children to work with God's enemies and vice versa) were tolerated by the church in Pergamos and for this the Lord had something against it. (Rev. 2:14). It was not that the whole church held the doctrine of Balaam but that they tolerated in their midst those who did hold such false teaching and practice. No testimony for the Lord can long endure if it refuses to take issue with the practices of inclusivism. If it tolerates those who work with modernists to work in their midst without rebuke it will soon lose its keen edge of witness against the organized apostasy and such testimony will soon become an embarrassment. I do not mean that we should not pray with Christians who are in the denomina-

tions controlled by modernists. But rather that we should love them by showing them the dire peril of their position and the results of disobedience and plead with them to obey His commands. (II Kings 17:18). The position of a godly man in one of the denominations controlled by modernist unbelievers is becoming more and more like the position of "righteous Lot" in Sodom. (II Pet. 2: 7-8). We are convinced it is just good honest missionary practice to obey the Word of God even though it may not be very popular (II Kings 17:39).

A WORD OF GREETING FROM PAUL SUZUKI

Often I think of the very happy two years that I spent in the United States when I had the privilege to visit in some of your homes and churches, while I was attending Faith Seminary in Philadelphia. I request your continued earnest prayer especially at this time when I need health and strength and guidance as I try to pastor the new Tokyo Bible Church here. On the 11th of April Pastor Toyama and I were ordained here and on the 14th Miss Atsuko Kiyota and I announced our engagement. Lord willing we hope to be married about the end of October but first we must find a house to live in, since the church does not have a parsonage nor funds to build one. Because of the great housing shortage in Tokyo it is cheaper many times to build than to try and rent. Please pray with us in this matter and we are waiting upon the Lord to supply our need.

I am now teaching in three seminaries. One week out of each month I travel to the city of Fukushima which is about two hundred miles north of here and teach twenty hours of classes at the seminary run by the Japan Baptist Mid Mission. Also I am continuing to teach at the Japan Christian Theo. Seminary here in Tokyo where I graduated before going to Faith Seminary in Philadelphia. Each Saturday I go to Chiba which is about fifty miles from here to teach in the Bible Baptist seminary. Please pray for me as I continue this heavy schedule.

JIMMU IRAI

is a Japanese saying heard here very often these days. Jimmu was the mythological first emperor of Japan who is purported to have ascended the throne in 660 B.C. Irai is the Japanese word for since. In other words "Jimmu irai" simply means "since the founding of the empire" and is used to refer to the present time of such unprecedented prosperity that Japan is now enjoying. Truly these are wonderful days for us here in Japan and never before in all the history of Japan has there been such a freedom to proclaim openly the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We must take advantage of this time, while God is being so kind to Japan. Our earnest prayer continues to be that we may enlarge the work of the gospel broadcasting over the radio. Specifically we pray that God will touch the hearts of a thousand of His children who will fervently pray for this work and give even just fifty cents a week for gospel broadcasting here. Then we could put the gospel on many of the eighty commercial stations in Japan that are now willing to sell radio time for gospel broadcasting. Though we do now have unparalleled freedom in Japan to preach the gospel openly and frankly it is possible that the situation can change very quickly. Perhaps the following is

AN INDICATION OF THINGS TO COME????

In April, the National Council of Churches of Japan sent a delegation to Communist China at the invitation of the Three Self Love Country Church of Red China. In May this delegation returned and reported to the churches. On the 3rd

of June the Asahi Evening News carried the following item in English. The Asahi newspaper is the largest in all of Japan and puts out an evening edition in English. The following is a word for word quotation:

CHRISTIAN LEADER HERE AIRS VIEWS ON RECENT CHINA TRIP

"A Japanese Christian church leader has urged that Japan oust foreign missionaries to gain the same kind of freedom of religion now prevailing in Communist China.

"Kaneyo Oda, a Free Methodist who returned from a recent visit to Red China as a member of a 15-man Christian mission made his statement during a 'welcome home' rally held May 24 at the Tokyo YWCA.

"Mr. Oda, who was a pastor in Peking twelve years ago, said before he made the trip to Communist China, 'I received many letters and warnings from missionaries and others telling me not to go . . . for they said I would become brainwashed, Communist and pink: but I had to go in spite of their protests.'

"He said he found no more robbers or prostitutes, no tipping was demanded, and no more discounts were asked.

"Mr. Oda added that the Red Chinese offer people freedom of faith . . .

"Mr. Oda added that if it had not been for the concerted efforts of the Chinese Christian Church, the nation would not have been able to win its independence from foreign missionaries".



Paul Suzuki and Atsuko Kiyota

FAMILY NOTES

On the 12th of June our only daughter Sally Sue graduated from the Christian Academy in Japan, receiving the highest honor that the school could give, in being selected by the faculty and student body as the one who had the best influence on the campus during the past year. Lord willing, Sally Sue will remain in Japan with us for another year, studying; and she is hoping also to be able to find a job. Each one of our boys successfully passed to the next grade so in the fall Kelsey will be in the 9th grade, Tiny Tim in the 8th and David in the 3rd. Helen works harder than ever in the Kindergarten and her many duties here at the Bible Center. She requests that you pardon her for her not writing you each one personally for all your kindnesses. She suggests that it would be so nice if some of you remember Paul Suzuki and Atsuko Kiyota and send them gifts for their new home and perhaps have a shower for them. They are praying to be able to start building a house in July. During the summer vacation Sally Sue and the boys are studying the difficult Japanese reading and writing and like all the rest of us find it extremely difficult. With love in our Wonderful Lord,

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch and Family
Luke 9: 23

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SPECIAL NOTICE

WORD HAS just been received of the home-call of our beloved brother, Lyman Wendt, who has served so faithfully on our board of references, and has been a loyal supporter and friend of the work in Japan. We know you will be praying for his beloved wife and children for sustaining grace in this hour of trial. How good to know our loving, heavenly Father makes no mistakes, and we can trust His wisdom.

We have greatly appreciated your heart interest and prayers for the work in Japan. Eternity alone will reveal what has been accomplished and, on behalf of the Board of Directors, we wish to thank you.

We are exceedingly anxious to expand our radio ministry, especially in the Tokyo area, and your prayers and support for this ministry will be greatly appreciated in the light of world events and the imminent return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Let us hear from you this month.

W. E. Pietsch
Chairman of the Board

September, 1957

Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ:

THESE ARE WONDERFUL DAYS for us here in Japan in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ and we are very grateful to Him for the privilege of being allowed to in some small way try and magnify His name in this needy land. How we wish you might be able to read with us the hundreds of letters and postcards that we have been receiving in response to the gospel messages preached over the Central Japan network out of Nagoya. The response this last summer has been the best we have ever known it to be. There seem to be hundreds upon hundreds of hungry hearts. When I realize that we have a listening audience of well over two million each week and that less than one half of one percent even make any profession of knowing Christ we realize the tremendous responsibility and the privilege the Lord has given to us. We are thankful for each one of you, our partners in the gospel, who uphold us in faithful prayer and have a part in this work of the Lord.

PRAY YE THE LORD OF THE HARVEST

During July, our eldest son, William Kelsey, (named for his grandfathers) went on his first missionary journey. He went to the northernmost part of the northern island of Japan to the city of Wakkanai in northern Hokkaido (from here it is possible to see Russia in the distance), to help Brother Bob Klutz, a young missionary who is working there all alone in this strategic center. Brother Klutz came to know the Lord here in Japan at the end of the last World War, when he was stationed here as a GI. He heard the call of the Lord to come back to Japan as a missionary, after seeing the great need here. After getting his missionary training at Bob Jones University, he returned to Japan as a missionary under a very well known interdenominational mission which had a long history of missionary service in China. Upon returning to Japan, he studied the Japanese language and then went out onto a mission station. He saw the actual conditions and after about

two years in the mission, resigned because of what he believed to be definite compromise with idolatry and modernism. This was a very courageous act of great faith and trust in the Lord, for not only did he lose his missionary support from the mission, but had to pay back to the mission money for his passage, even though it had come from his own friends and supporters. Now he is working alone in the city of Wakkanai. Kelsey had the joy of helping this fine young missionary at the time of a large festival. When the people were out on the streets, they carried banners with Bible verses, sold copies of the Scriptures, and preached to the people. Kelsey is fourteen and will be fifteen on the 9th of November, and how thankful we are that he has had this opportunity to start in the work of the Lord. We must pray that the Lord will call our children into His Harvest field. The reason we have so few real soldiers of the cross, is, I believe, because so few fathers and mothers have earnestly prayed and enlisted their children in the service of Christ. How can we honestly pray that the Lord will call others when we don't want Him to call our own children? How can young people honestly pray the Lord of the Harvest to send forth His servants when they refuse to pray, "Lord, here am I send me"? I wonder how many of you who read this letter are earnestly praying that God will call forth your children as His servants and send them to the ends of the earth into His Harvest field?

THE LARGEST CITY IN THE WORLD

According to an announcement made by the Tokyo Metropolitan government, as of August 1st, 1957 the population of Tokyo stood at 8,518,622 making it the largest city in the world, followed by London with 8,239,910 and by New York with 7,711,509. This whole area around Tokyo known as the Kanto is one of the densest population areas on earth with a population of more than thirty million people. However in all of this area there is not even a single church with an average attendance of five hundred to worship our Lord on a Sunday morning, yet more than three million people will attend one Shinto shrine in one day. As far as radio is concerned this area is one of the most neglected in all of Japan and we are still earnestly praying that we can soon start a gospel radio program here in Tokyo. This month we begin our seventh year of gospel broadcasting over local Japanese radio stations but to date we



*Kelsey Pietsch carrying a Bible banner
on the street in Wakkanai Hokkaido.*

have never had the privilege of preaching the gospel over a Tokyo radio station.

"THE TONGUES OF MEN"

One of the ever present problems of missionary work in Japan is the Japanese language. Not only do we who come from foreign lands realize the great difficulties of presenting the gospel to the people in terms that they can understand but the educated Japanese themselves realize how difficult is their language. Baron Yamakawa, once president of the Tokyo Imperial University, sighed: "Japan is perhaps the only country in the world where a president of a university cannot write a letter without consulting a dictionary". The great Japanologist, Basil Hall Chamberlain pronounced Chinese script as used in Japan to be "The most complicated and uncertain system of writing under which poor humanity has ever groaned". An old Jesuit missionary is said to have declared that the system of writing in Japan was "the invention of a conventicle of the demons to harass the faithful". Lafcardio Hearn in his book *Japan — An Interpretation* writes:

"But the underlying strangeness of this world, — the psychological strangeness, is much more startling than the visible and superficial. You begin to suspect the range of it after having discovered that no adult Occidental can perfectly master the language. East and west the fundamental parts of human nature, the emotional bases of it — are much the same: the mental difference between a Japanese and European child is mainly potential. But with growth, the difference rapidly develops and widens, till it becomes, in adult life, inexpressible. The whole of the Japanese mental superstructure evolves into forms having nothing in common with western psychological development: the expression of thought becomes regulated and the expression of emotion inhibited in ways that bewilder and astound. The ideas of this people are not our ideas, their sentiments are not our sentiments: their ethical life represents for us regions of thought and emotion yet unexplored or perhaps long forgotten. Any one of their ordinary phrases translated into western speech, makes hopeless nonsense; and literal rendering into Japanese of the simplest English sentence would scarcely be comprehended by any Japanese who had never studied a European tongue. Could you learn all the words in a Japanese dictionary, your acquisition would not help you in the least to make yourself understood in speaking unless you had learned also to think like a Japanese, that is to say backwards, to think upside-down and inside out, to think in directions totally foreign to Aryan habit. Experience in the acquisition of European languages can help you to learn Japanese about as much as it could help you to acquire the language spoken by the inhabitants of Mars. To be able to use the Japanese tongue as a Japanese uses it, one would need to be born again, and to have one's mind completely reconstructed from the foundation upwards."

Perhaps you will get a little idea of what we face if I translate for you word for word from the Japanese Bible several verses and see if you might be able to tell what they are since I will not include the reference:

"MERIT NOT DOING, GOD'S MERCY BY, JESUS CHRIST IN REDEMPTION BY RIGHTEOUS MADE"

"YOU ALL GRACE BY, FAITH THROUGH SAVED. THIS YOURSELVES BY NOT. GOD'S GIFT IS."

"FATHER ME TO GIVE PERSON ALL ME TO COME. ME TO COME PERSON ME THIS THROW OUT NOT."

"TIS LIKE YOU ALL'S LIGHT PERSON'S FRONT TO SHINE."

"ALL TOIL PERSON, HEAVY BAGGAGE CARRY PERSON, ME TO COME, I YOU ALL REST WILL."

Please remember us in faithful prayer as we endeavor to preach the gospel in the Japanese language to millions in this land each week.

BIBLE CENTER AND FAMILY NOTES

Brother Takeo Nishikawa had an opportunity to get a high position in the new Automation



Sally Sue Pietsch at her graduation from the Christian Academy in Japan.

Company of Japan but turned it down because they would not allow him to have the Lord's day free to serve the Lord. The Lord blessed in tent meetings in the town of Kitami and Brother Nishikawa took the lead in the children's services each evening. Please pray for this dear brother as he is very lonely since the death of his wife.

During the summer our boys have been studying Japanese during their summer vacation from the Christian Academy endeavoring to learn the Chinese characters so that they can read and write and they have found it very difficult even though they are fluent in the spoken language and it comes to them naturally. Since her graduation from the Christian Academy our daughter Sally Sue has attended business college and is now going to a school run by the Japanese government for foreigners to teach them the Japanese language. The Japanese government invites students from the countries of South East Asia to come to Japan to attend Japanese university and this school is primarily for them so Sally Sue has a wonderful opportunity. Lord willing she and her fiancé hope to be married next year. He is continuing his studies at Oregon State College in Corvallis. It will be ten years since Sally Sue, Kelsey and Tiny Tim came to Japan at the end of the war on the 18th of October and they have been here ever since without once being out of Japan. Please remember them in prayer. They are a great help and blessing to us. Helen's mother Mrs. C. K. Dozier has been quite weak during the summer and Helen had to be with her a good deal. Lord willing when Sally Sue is married next year I hope to be able to get to the United States and if you would like me to contact you while I am there would you be sure to let us know by sending to us the card we are enclosing for this purpose. If you will let us know we will do our best to get in touch with you.

With love in our Lord Jesus Christ we send you II Thes. 3:16.

Yours because His

Helen and Timothy Pietsch and Family
Luke 9:23

March 1958

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

We are very thankful for the wonderful privilege of being here in Japan as the servants of our lovely Lord. Please pardon our delay in getting out another letter to send to you, but many things seemed to have intervened, and we trust that you will understand, and that you will continue to faithfully uphold us in intercessory prayer. In the goodness of our Lord we did not have to go off a single radio station and we did not lack food for a single meal, and we can only give thanks to Him. Lam 3:22

How we wish you could see the hundreds of letters and cards that come to us in answer to the gospel radio programs over the Central Japan Network out of Nagoya. This last week alone we have received two hundred and ninety two letters and cards, asking for a copy of the Gospel of John that we offer to send free to any one who has never had a copy of the Bible before, if they will send us their name and address. From little towns and villages where there is no church at all many write. We are finding the response to the radio ministry more productive than ever before. This is the greatest day in the history of Japan for reaching the masses and we believe radio is one of the easiest ways to reach the people in their own homes. Radio evangelism is new to Japan having begun in the Fall of 1951 when private stations were authorized to broadcast for the first time in Japan. At that time we began broadcasting on station JOAR in Nagoya which was the very first commercial radio station on the air in Japan and we have been on there ever since. There are now eighty two commercial stations in Japan and they are all willing to sell time for gospel broadcasting, but some of them still do not have any gospel broadcasting of any kind. Gospel broadcasting is also one of the cheapest ways to reach the masses of people for we can reach one person once a week for a whole year for less than one cent. Now is the time to get the gospel out in this land and there is very little excuse for not doing it. If just one thousand people would give us even just fifty cents a week we could reach much of Japan with the gospel over the radio.

IF THE USA WERE AS POPULATED AS JAPAN all the people on earth could live within the borders of the United States. It is difficult for many to realize just how crowded Japan really is. Though its total area is about that of California only seventeen percent of the country can be cultivated because of its very mountainous terrain and yet it has a total population density of over five hundred and fifty per square mile. Perhaps you can get an idea of the crowded conditions by the following items I have clipped out of the newspapers:

"A baby held in the arms of her mother was smothered to death in an overcrowded train in Kyushu yesterday. Mrs. Fumiko Fukuyoshi, wife of a carpenter in Osaka boarded the express train Kirishima at Nishikagoshima Station, on the Kagoshima trunk line yesterday with her family of four on her way back to her home in Osaka. The woman found her thirty eight (38) day old baby

Michiyo unconscious in her arms near Mizumata Station at about 3:35 P.M. The baby was rushed to the Mizumata hospital for first aid but it was too late."

"The express train Koshiji left Niigata for Ueno with passengers crowded to three times the train's capacity. It was so overcrowded it could not go up the slope near Yuzawa station and had to return to the station. With the help of an auxiliary engine, it finally was able to leave the station after a two hour delay."

"A train that left Nagaoka for Ueno was forced to stop near Mizukami station because an overloaded coach broke a spring. The train left for Ueno about two hours behind schedule after changing coaches."

Because Japan is so compact radio stations reach more people in any given area than in most other countries and for this reason radio time is more expensive than in the USA but cost per listener is cheaper. Advertisements run in Japanese newspapers offering a free copy of the scriptures to those who have never read it before reach millions and bring fine results. We wonder if some one who reads this would like to sponsor such an ad, now while it is possible.

IS IT FAIR???

In the September issue of the Kings Business I was deeply struck by an article entitled: 'The Gospel by Radio' which contained this startling sentence: "Across America ministers of the gospel have long made good use of radio. And nowhere has the use been more concentrated than in Los Angeles. For those who cared to count, the correct number of religious broadcasts in Los Angeles totaled 353 (three hundred and fifty three) per week". This made me weep as I thought of the almost nine million people in this great city of Tokyo, (now conceded to be the largest in the world) and of which less than even one half of one percent make any profession of Christ, for there are only four gospel programs each week in this whole area in which live thirty million people. We are still earnestly praying that if it please our Lord we can begin a gospel radio program here in Tokyo.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

Praise the Lord for the joyful wedding of Brother Paul Suzuki and Atsuko Kiyota on the 24th of November. They are very happy and have moved into their new little home that the Lord has provided for them. Please pray for the salvation of their relatives. Mrs. Kiyota Atsuko's mother makes a profession of faith but none of the other relatives on either side do and this is a great burden to these dear ones. Paul is indeed a gift of God to the church in Japan. It is just ten years since he made his decision to accept Christ. He is now faithfully pastoring the Tokyo Bible Church and also is still teaching in the seminary of the Ind Board here in Tokyo and the Baptist Mid Missions seminary in Fukushima.

Praise the Lord for the ten years that Sally Sue, Kelsey and Tiny Tim completed in Japan without once being out of the country on the 18th of October last year. Sally Sue has made tremendous progress since her graduation from High School and has been studying Japanese and already has learned about

Timothy Pietsch—Director
Paul Suzuki—Assistant

Dr. W. E. Pietsch - Chairman
P. O. Box 890, Long Beach, Calif.

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Rev. G. Arthur Woolsey, Waterloo, Iowa.

seven hundred Chinese Characters besides studying shorthand and tutoring about twenty students in English and teaching a Bible class here at the Center. She hopes Lord willing to be able to go to the USA this summer. The date of their wedding has not yet been set since they feel it would not be wise to be married as soon as she lands in the USA after having been away so long. **Please pray** for funds for her passage to the US and for the Lord's plans for them.

Praise the Lord, that our dear Helen did not have cancer. In January we had to take her to the hospital suddenly for 'suspicion of cancer' and she was 'extremely weak' and had to have a blood transfusion. After a biopsy her condition was declared not to be malignant. Now she is fine and doing as much as ever in the home, kindergarten each day and church.

Praise the Lord for David's recovery from an emergency appendectomy in December. He is fine now. **Please pray** that the Lord will touch hearts to designate support for Kelsey and Tiny Tim and David, also some still needed for Helen, that we have not had since a large church cut off what they were giving for them.

Praise the Lord, that I am much improved though still have some pains in the legs and around the heart at times from the beri beri that I have now been battling since 1949. This causes lack of pep and vitality and distresses me that I do so little for the Lord. Lord willing I hope to be able to go to the USA this summer when Sally Sue goes and

hope to be able to visit many of you. If you want me to visit you be sure to let me know and I will do my best. Helen and the three boys will stay here in Japan Lord willing and carry on.

Praise the Lord for good meetings that we had the joy of holding with Brother and Mrs. Frank Pickering of the Regular Baptists of Canada late in February in the city of Takao-ka. It was such a joy to be able to do a little to help build up this faithful work of the Lord.

NEW ADDRESS

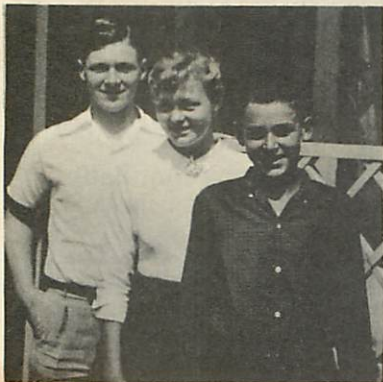
Brother Ronald Birchard has had to resign as treasurer of the Bible Center. All funds in the future should be sent to TOKYO Bible Center, Box 890, Long Beach, California. If you sent funds to Turlock P. O. Box 388 they will be forwarded to the new address. If, for some reason you don't receive a receipt for your gift for the work of the Lord please notify us. We would ask special prayer for beloved Brother Birchard and his dear family. It would be so nice to have a letter from some of you that seldom write. We all send love in our Lord.

Praise the Lord, that Helen's mother, Mrs. C. K. Dozier is able to be up and around and please **pray** for her as she writes her book 'The way home' to be put into Japanese.

Yours because His
Helen and Timothy Pietsch and Family
Luke 9:23



Paul and Atsuko Suzuki



*Three Pietsches After Ten Years
In Japan*

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER Box 890

Long Beach 1, California

March 15, 1958

Dear Christian Friend:

"And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:9, 10.

We wish to thank each one who so graciously responded to our special appeal which we sent out in January. This enabled us to meet the urgent need of the hour.

As indicated by the letter from Timothy, the Lord has opened the door for the Gospel through the medium of radio in Japan. We are exceedingly anxious to enlarge this ministry in the capitol city of Tokyo, and live within the framework of our policy, 'pay as we go'. Will you make this a definite matter of prayer, and ask the Lord what He would have you do, so we can unitedly go forward to meet this challenge.

Words are inadequate to express how much we have appreciated your prayers and financial support. Timothy and family, and Brother Paul Suzuki and wife are doing an excellent work, and earnestly contending for the faith in loyal separation from the apostasy and its allied evils. Eternity alone will reveal what has been accomplished. We are willing to leave the results and statistics in God's Hands.

We covet your earnest prayers and support. Be sure to note change of address, addressing all mail and gifts to TOKYO BIBLE CENTER, Box 890, Long Beach 1, Calif.

Yours in Him because of Calvary,
W. E. Pietsch, chairman of Board.

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 1:9

Box 890
Long Beach 1, California
May, 1958

Dear Christian Friend:

"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19

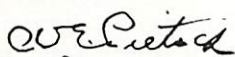
We believe that the Lord has raised up the Tokyo Bible Center in this hour of crisis as a testimony for the pure, eternal Word of God, to proclaim it without fear or favor, by means of radio, preaching, teaching and every other legitimate means at our disposal. We take a firm stand against the apostasy and its allied evils, and believe in separation from it.

We desire to thank each one of you who have so faithfully stood with us in this great ministry. We covet your prayers for heavenly wisdom, that we may do God's work, God's way.

We are exceedingly anxious to expand the radio ministry in Japan which God is so singularly blessing, and we invite you to be a partner with us in this vital ministry.

Send all mail and gifts to Tokyo Bible Center, Box 890, Long Beach 1, California. Again thanking you for all of your kindness,

Yours in Him,



W. E. Pietsch
Chairman of the Board of
Tokyo Bible Center

May, 1958

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

WE CANNOT THANK our Lord enough that He has granted us the wonderful honor of serving Him in this land of Japan, and we are grateful for you who are our partners in obeying His command to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. How we wish you could read with us the hundreds upon hundreds of letters and post cards that come to us in response to our gospel messages preached in the Japanese language over local Japanese radio stations of the Central Japan Broadcasting Company. This last week alone we have had more than five hundred replies. This is our seventh year of preaching the gospel by means of radio in Japan and the response grows all the time and reaches into homes and villages that otherwise would have no contact with the gospel. Recently I was down in Mie and Gifu Prefectures holding

meetings with the Mino Mission and as I preached on trains and street cars, people would come and say, "We have heard you over the radio." We went to a small town to hold a gospel service and some came who said that they had come to believe the gospel after hearing me preach over the radio. In each message over the radio we offer to send a free Gospel of John (the Holy Spirit's special message to unbelievers, John 20:30-31) to any one who has never seen the Bible before, and so they respond, many with seemingly very hungry hearts. With the promised Gospel of John we send a little Bible study course, *The Heart of John's Gospel*, written by Keith L. Brooks which we put into Japanese and have printed a hundred thousand copies, more than half of which we have already used. We also include gospel tracts clearly showing the way of salvation and an application blank to join a Bible correspondence course. In the last month alone more than three hundred have started this course of Bible study. We try to send the names and addresses of those who respond to the gospel messages to sound missionaries and churches, but in all too many cases there are none to be found in the area, and we would ask your special prayer for these. To those who profess to receive the Lord Jesus Christ, we send a booklet entitled *The Christian's Guide*.

AUGUST 25

is the date of the sailing of the *President Cleveland* on which Sally Sue and I have tentative bookings on third class. The ship is scheduled to arrive in San Francisco on the 6th of September. It is almost eleven years since Sally Sue came back to Japan with her mother at the end of the war. She was born in the city of Fukuoka prior to the war. Now after these many years in Japan without once being back in the USA, she is going back. Plans and the date of their wedding have not yet been set since she hopes to be able to get started in college before they are married. Her fiancé, Charles Weinberg, formerly a soldier here in Japan is now attending Oregon State College. We would ask your prayers for them that the Lord will direct and guide. Also please pray for Helen and our three sons as they remain here in Japan and carry on the work with Brother Paul Suzuki. Lord willing, we trust to keep the radio work going by making tape recordings before we leave and also from the USA, so that there will be no interruption in sending out the gospel over the air, for we must take advantage of this wonderful opportunity while it lasts. Please also pray that the funds will come in for our passage if it pleases our Lord that we should go.

INTO THE HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES

Each year in March the children of Japan are out of school for much of the month, at the end of the old school year and before the beginning of the new school year in April. Realizing the wonderful oppor-



Country people listen to the gospel message.

Timothy Pietsch—Director
Paul Suzuki—Assistant

Dr. W. E. Pietsch - Chairman
P. O. Box 890, Long Beach, Calif.

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Police sponsor a shinto ceremony.

tunity we went out from lonely country village to village holding meetings for children. We would call them with the loud speaker mounted on the jeep, and then teach them to sing gospel songs, we told them a Bible story with Kamishibai (picture cards), taught them to memorize a Bible verse, explained a gospel poster and then put it on a telephone pole in their village. We gave them gospel tracts explaining the way of salvation, told them where they could buy a Bible and then gave them an old Christmas card with a Bible verse in Japanese for a remembrance. This is the work I love most of all in Japan. It is very taxing physically but such a joy to be able to get out to places directly with the gospel. Though the meetings were designed for children, in some places we had more adults than children present. If we held the meetings for adults no one would come, but if for the children, the whole village usually attended. While we were out for about a week, we were able to get to more than forty villages and reach more than two thousand adults and children with the gospel.

During the Spring vacation season we also tried something we never had tried before, and that was evangelistic meetings in English only. Near us here in Tokyo is the large Metropolitan University and Sally Sue has many friends there and she thought it would be good to try special services in English for them. Brother Donald Hunter, a missionary formerly in China, whom we have known for many years, graciously came and spoke, and the meetings were well attended and we saw some professions of faith in our Lord.

During May, we are holding tent meetings with a Tent Evangelistic team of Brother Gerry Johnson. He has tent teams that go throughout Japan with the gospel, helping those who are standing true to the gospel. During the winter, these men are in Bible training in Yokohama and the rest of the year, out in tents. During this last winter, it has been my joy to go to Yokohama once a week and teach them. Brother Gerry Johnson has taken a fine stand for the Lord, and has refused to work with modernists, and with those who work with modernists. Would ask praying friends to remember this dear brother in special prayer.

?? WILL FREEDOM BE LOST THROUGH DEFAULT??

Japan now enjoys freedom unprecedented in her long history but there are many enemies. This next item we had hoped to include in our last letter but there was not room. About last Christmas time a new traffic signal was installed on the corner in front of our Bible Center. In the middle of January, a police officer called and asked if the police might use our yard to conduct a ceremony to be held on the 25th of January. We told him we were always glad to cooperate with the police in any way possible. Early on the

morning of the 25th of January, policemen came and began to erect an open pavilion in our yard made of red and white bunting. We watched them and wondered what kind of a ceremony this was going to be when they began to bring in branches of bamboo. As we looked carefully, we saw that they had a shinto altar and were going to erect it. I then went out and asked the police what kind of a ceremony this was going to be. They replied that the ceremony was to pray to the gods of Japan that there might not be any accidents on this corner. I replied that this place is dedicated to the Only True God, Creator of Heaven

and Earth with the clear purpose of teaching His Word, the Bible, and that we could not allow such a ceremony to be conducted here since according to the Bible, the gods of Japan are false gods, and such a ceremony is idolatry. I further pointed out to them that such a ceremony conducted by Japanese officials, was in direct violation of their own constitution, which states in Chap. III, Sec. 20:

"Freedom of religion is guaranteed to all. No religious organization shall receive any privileges from the state nor exercise any political authority. No person shall be compelled to take part in any religious act, celebration, rite or practice. The state and its organs shall refrain from religious education or any other religious activity."

The police replied that such a ceremony, "to pray to the gods of Japan," had no religious meaning, but is simply an old custom of Japan. At our request, they took down the pavilion that they had erected and carried it across the street and erected it on the sidewalk. The shinto altar was set up and food and rice was placed on it. A shinto priest came and performed rites before the altar, and then took a branch of a sasaki tree and waved it at the street lights to purify them. High police officials came and bowed before the shinto altar. When the shinto rites were completed, tables and chairs were brought into the pavilion and the police and the shinto priest had a sake (rice wine) drinking party together. All this was done with the money of the tax payers. Since we still do have real freedom in Japan, I wrote an open letter to the editor of the Japan Times, which is one of the largest newspapers in Japan, protesting this open violation of the Constitution. My letter was published on the 30th of January. However it is very doubtful that the Japanese government will be concerned about this violation of the Constitution, since the government itself so frequently violates the Constitution. Mr. Kishi, the prime minister of Japan, went to the grand shrine of the sun goddess at Ise, and reported his assumption of office, even though the constitution prohibits such reporting of government affairs to shinto deities. We wonder if the freedom now so greatly enjoyed in Japan, might not soon be forfeited through default, since so few of the people of Japan seem to care if the constitution of the country is violated or not. Pray that we may make the best of the time we have now, for certainly this is the accented time for Japan to hear the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Trust that you will write to us, and if you want me to visit you while in the USA, be sure to let me know as soon as possible, for we don't want to miss any of you, our beloved partners in the gospel.

Timothy Pritch

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 MIYAMAE-CHO, MEGURO-KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 1:9

July 1958

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Greetings from Japan in the love of our Lord with II John 12.

Before too long I trust that I shall be able to visit many of you and be with you in your churches and homes. We are so thankful for your love and kindness and faithfulness.

Our daughter Sally Sue and I have bookings on the President Cleveland sailing from Yokohama on the 25th of August and we are scheduled to arrive in San Francisco on the 6th

of September, Lord willing. Sally Sue was born here in Japan and before the war there were four generations in our family as you can see in the picture of Sally taken

when she was a baby with her mother, grandmother and great grandmother, in the city of Fukuoka in 1939.



The family in 1947 just before returning to Japan



Sally Sue, her mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother in Fukuoka in 1939

At the end of the war with her mother and two brothers (who were born in the USA during the war) she returned to Japan in October 1947 and has been in Japan ever since without once being out of the country. She has been a great help and blessing. At the end of the war I returned alone to Japan and then the family followed later, since children of missionaries were not permitted immediately to enter Japan at the end of the hostilities. Sally Sue was one of the very first, if not the first child born in Japan to return to Japan at the end of the war under missionary family status. During this time she has been a great help in the missionary work, and with her brothers has gone with us many many times to hold street meetings. The children are a great attraction and hundreds gather when they sing in Japanese



Paul Suzuki and the children at a street meeting

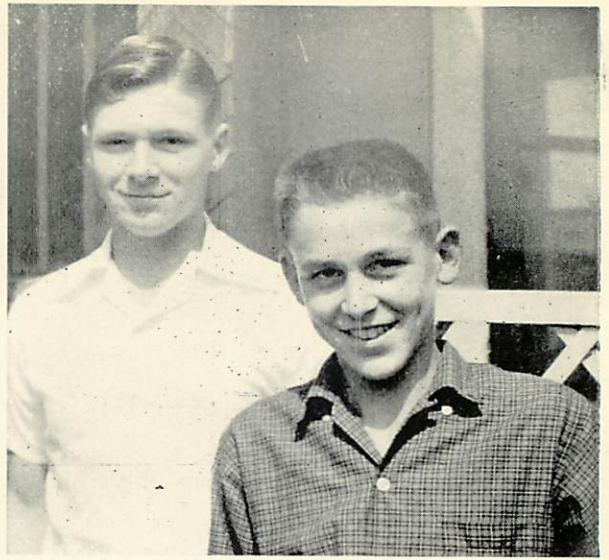
from the hood of the jeep at street meetings. Last year Sally Sue graduated from the Christian academy in Japan with the highest honor and being granted the gold medal for the student with the most influence for Christ on the campus. Since that time she has been studying the Japanese language, teaching a Bible class here at the Bible Center and she has many students that she tutors in English. Two years ago she was engaged to Charles Weinberg who was a soldier here at that time and who is now attending Oregon State College. Now after all these years in Japan she is returning to the USA. We trust that you will faithfully pray for her. They have as yet not set the date of their wedding, but are looking



Our David at School

to the Lord for guidance. Sally Sue has been invited to be in the home of Brother and Mrs L. J. Smith of Portland, Oregon. Brother Smith was out here in Japan last year and she met him then, and she feels that this invitation is of the Lord.

Please pray for Helen and our three sons, Kelsey who will be sixteen on the 9th of November, Tiny Tim who will be fifteen on



Kelsey and Tiny Tim

over local radio stations. I will make tape recordings before I leave Japan for some and make other tapes from the USA and Brother Paul Suzuki will also bring some messages.

Helen's mother Mrs C.K. Dozier is much improved but still must be very careful because of the stroke she had two years ago. Helen's Brother, Edwin Dozier and his family are to move to Fukuoka in August where he will be professor of evangelism in the Southern Baptist seminary there. Mother will move with them and so it will be very lonely for Helen here in Tokyo.

Our three boys will continue their studies at the Christian Academy in Japan. Kelsey is quite an athlete now and is taller than I am and weighs almost a hundred and seventy. Tiny Tim is beginning to grow and David is coming along. He loves to collect stamps and if any of you would send him some it would make him very happy.



The Pietsch Family in 1958

the 24th of November, and David who will be ten on the 24th of February next year, as they continue on in Japan, and carry on the work together with beloved Brother Paul Suzuki and his wife. We trust to be able to keep all the work going including the radio ministry which is so fruitful at this time. Hundreds write to us in response to the gospel messages we preach in the Japanese language

You can always reach us here in Japan at the above address or while I am in the USA at P.O. Box 890 Long Beach 1, California. I trust that if you want me to visit you that you will contact us as soon as possible. With love in our Lord,

Luke 9:23

Yours because His,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch
and Family

TOKYO BIBLE CENTER

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

September, 1958

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

IN THE GOODNESS and kindness of our Lord, Sally Sue and I landed safely in San Francisco on the 6th of September. Several friends and relatives were at the dock to meet us. Charles Weinberg, Sally Sue's fiance and his parents made the long trip down from Oregon to meet her. Upon arrival we had five hours in customs and could only talk to our friends through the wire enclosure, and some could not wait until we were through customs. My father, Dr. W.E. Pietsch had hoped to come to the ship to meet us but because of the very precarious condition of his health his doctors advised him against it. He has a very bad heart condition and cancer. Since he had not seen Sally Sue in more than eleven years we made a rush trip down to southern California to see him. My sister Grace, and her husband George Tobleman and daughters, Janet Marie and Corrine were also in southern California on furlough from Alaska, where they are missionaries, so we had a very happy family reunion. The only ones who could not be present were my sister Mercy who is in a home for the handicapped at Walworth, Wisconsin, (she has had infantile paralysis for almost twenty-five years and hasn't walked a step) and my beloved wife Helen and our three sons who are out in Japan. I am so thankful for this time again with my beloved father. When I went back to Japan the last time I thought perhaps I would never see him on this earth again, but the Lord has given me again that happy privilege. Though health is very poor, he continues his wide ministry over radio KXEL out of Waterloo, Iowa, making tape recordings for his broadcast that he has continued these many years. He has had to cancel all outside meetings, and I trust that you will remember to pray for him.

We could not stay long in southern California, but had to rush up to Portland, from where this letter is written, so that Sally Sue could start school at Multnomah School of the Bible. She is so happy to be able to study the Bible every day. She is living with Mrs. L.J. Smith of Evangel Films while Mr. Smith goes to Japan to make gospel pictures in Japanese for the missionary work there. Please pray for Brother Smith, and that the films will be truly used of the Lord to reach thousands with the glorious gospel message. Sally Sue and Charles (who is at Oregon State College) have announced March 21, 1959 as the date of their wedding. Please remember them in prayer as they prepare to return to Japan in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sally Sue hopes to be a kindergarten teacher like her mother and Charles trusts to be a teacher at the Christian Academy in Japan where Sally Sue graduated and where our three boys are now attending.

ALL THE WORK CONTINUES

without interruption. If we brought our whole family back to the USA, we would have to interrupt some of the work at least and then too, as I visit you in your homes and churches, I would have to be away from the family anyway since the boys would have to be in school. This way we can keep the work going. Along with Brother Paul Suzuki, Helen and our boys and the Christians at the Tokyo Bible Church are keeping all the work going. Before I left Japan, I made tape recordings for our gospel radio broadcast, which is broadcast over the Central Japan radio network out of Nagoya. The response continues to be very encouraging and each letter and card is being answered as quickly as possible. On each broadcast, we offer to send a free copy of the Gospel of John, which is the Holy Spirit's tract to unbelievers, to anyone who has never seen the Bible before, if they will just send us their name and address. I was so thrilled to receive a letter from Helen saying that since I have left Japan our boys along with Brother Paul Suzuki and Brother Nishikawa, have gone out on the streets and held street meetings on their own. Almost every evening in the week there is a

TIMOTHY PIETSCH — Director
PAUL SUZUKI — Assistant
W. E. PIETSCH — Chairman
P.O. Box 890, Long Beach, Calif.

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for the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." (REV. 1:9)



Kelsey and Tiny Tim help at a street meeting.

meeting at the Bible Center and Helen continues each day (except Mondays) with more than a hundred children at the Bible Kindergarten. We would ask you to pray with us, that the Lord will call our sons into His Harvest field. Lord willing, they will continue on in Japan until they have completed High School at the Christian Academy. Kelsey will be sixteen on the 9th of November and Tiny Tim will be fifteen on the 24th of November. David will be ten on the 24th of February. If some of you would write to them it would surely be an encouragement. David is earnestly collecting stamps and sends thanks to those of you who sent some to him. He is saving them to help him when he goes to college, Lord willing.

ONLY JESUS SAVES

This last summer, two young men from the Radio Broadcasters Assn. of Japan, came to our Bible Center and announced that all commercial broadcasting stations (in contrast to the stations of the Japan Broadcasting Company which is a corporation of the Japanese government) had adopted a standard of broadcasting patterned after the standards set up in the United States. They presented me with a paper which stated that I had broken their broadcasters' code which was written by some person in the office of censorship. The paper stated that I had broken their code on the tenth of June by saying that there is only one name by which men can approach the living and true God, and that is the name of his beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The paper stated that this was a breach of their broadcasters' code, since it was an attack on other religions. The criticism of our program also stated that I had said that if a person did not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ with an honest heart, he was under the wrath of God. They claimed that I could not make such a statement on a radio station even in the United States. They announced that I must never use the word *Guzo* (idolatry) on the radio in Japan because that made it appear that other religions were not true. In reply I asked the two young men if they knew the name of our radio program that we broadcast over the Central Broadcasting system. They looked it up on their schedule. It is entitled *Yorokobashiki Otozure—Seisho no Hanashi* (Good News—a Message from the Bible). I then showed them the words of Acts 4:12 and John 3:36 where the words appeared that they objected to, that I had used on the radio. I also showed them the word *Guzo* in Rev. 21:8 and I showed them that they also had to receive the Lord Jesus Christ and believe on Him for this is the only way that sinful man can meet his creator in peace, 1 Tim. 2:5. I asked them if we had liberty in Japan to preach the Bible. The Japanese constitution guarantees the freedom of religion and propagation. I told them that the person who had written the critique of our program, didn't know the true meaning of freedom and that they should go back and tell him so. Freedom does not mean that we have to accept all things as true if we believe they are false, but it

means that each man has a right under the law to make known his viewpoint. I showed them I was only pointing out clearly what the Bible teaches and warns. I had not used the name of any other religion, but had only used Bible verses making clear the way of salvation. If I did not have this right to teach clearly the Bible, then I said we should cancel our radio time and go off the air since we would only be wasting money given by God's servants to broadcast the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Since that time, I have preached more strongly than ever, but haven't had a single word from them about it. Rather, the manager of the radio station and his assistant took Helen and me out to a dinner party just before I left Japan, expressing the gratitude of the station that I had been one of their subscribers so long. It is now over seven years since we began broadcasting over local radio stations. We are earnestly praying that we can enlarge this ministry, and in particular we ask the Lord that he will give us a thousand partners who will earnestly pray and give even fifty cents a week for getting out the gospel in Japan and then we could reach much of Japan each week with a gospel program. In the USA I notice signs saying "JESUS SAVES" but in Japan we clearly teach "ONLY JESUS SAVES" and we must take advantage of this opportunity while we can for the night cometh when no man can work.

YOUR FATHERS HAVE TOLD YOU LIES

was the title of a message that I preached over the radio network in Japan this year, which has brought more response than any other message I have ever preached in Japan. Taken from Jer. 16:19, "Oh Lord my strength and my fortress, my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth and say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity and things wherein there is no profit." I pointed out to our large radio audience (the network estimates that more than two million listen to us each week) that all the first Christians were men of Asia, and that not one was a European and of course not an American. An Oriental came to our European ancestors and preached to them Jesus and the resurrection, and pointed out to them that they were following vanities and that they did not know "God that made the world and all things therein". At Athens, the very seat of western learning and culture, he had no word of praise for our philosophers but his heart was stirred within him when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Paul preached that God has appointed a day in which He is going to judge the world by that man whom He has ordained and He has given assurance unto all men by raising him from the dead, and God now commands men everywhere to repent. This same man went to



Bible verse in front of Tokyo Bible Center. Acts 16:31

Thessalonica and there for three weeks preached that Christ must needs have suffered and risen again from the dead and that "this Jesus whom I preach is Christ." A great tumult arose and Paul had to flee from the city but some believed and they turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to wait for His son from heaven. They said "what our fathers have inherited is lies, vanity and things wherein there is no profit." Now almost two thousand years have passed since that time and thousands in the world look back to those men with gratitude because they turned to the living and true God and to wait for His son from heaven and they passed unto their children the truth of God, so much so that many of you my dear Japanese friends think that Christianity is something from Europe or America. Now God is speaking particularly to Japan and it is now your opportunity to turn to God from idols for this is the day of salvation, the time of mercy and you can say "our fathers have taught us lies" and turn to the Only true God. If you do all generations yet to come in Japan will bless you and be grateful for you.

More than twelve hundred wrote to us in response to this message and we answered every one of them. This ministry goes on in Japan without interruption so please continue to pray and fellowship in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like me to visit your church while here in the U.S.A. you can always reach me by writing P.O. Box 890, Long Beach 1, California and it will be sent on to me no matter where I may be. Lord willing I hope to be in the U.S.A. until the wedding of our daughter next March. With love in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Helen and Timothy Pietsch and Family

Luke 9:23

Tokyo Bible Center

179 Miyamae Cho, Meguro Ku, Tokyo, Japan

"For the Word of God and
for the testimony of Jesus
Christ." (REV. 1:9)

Timothy Pietsch — Director

Paul Suzuki — Assistant

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P. O. Box 890, Long Beach, California

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Pastor James Baynes, Salt Lake City, Utah

January, 1959

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

GREETINGS FOR A blessed new year in our wonderful Lord. I do trust that during this year the Lord will cause us to grow in grace and use us each one to His honor and glory. I would give you Psalms 37:4-5. It has been a joy to see many of you since coming to the USA last September and we don't want to leave any one out if possible but I have been having quite a time trying to arrange an itinerary as I go along and I have gotten far behind in my correspondence. I do trust that you will understand that this deputation work is sometimes difficult. If we don't get around to see you please know that it is not because we are not interested, and in due time we will try to write each one personally. Please remember me as I hold a meeting almost every evening and then drive during the day to the next place. Already I have driven almost fourteen thousand miles since coming to this country. Brother L. J. Smith of Portland loaned me his 1951 Hudson which now has more than a hundred thousand miles on it but it goes along like a top, and I am very grateful for the privilege of using it.

At Christmas time it was my joy to be with my dear sister Mercy Pietsch, at the Christian League for the Handicapped. What a joy she is and such a wonderful testimony of gratitude to the Lord she has. As a young lady she prayed that the Lord would send her to Africa as a missionary but the Lord called her to a wheel chair, a victim of polio, for almost twenty-five years, and she hasn't walked a step during this time. She writes very lovely poetry, and if you have never seen it and would like to just write her at P. O. Box 215, Walworth, Wisconsin, and ask her to put you on her list to those to whom she sends letters. Mercy has been a great joy and encouragement to me personally since coming back to the USA, and her loving understanding has been a great help.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY

it was our joy to have a family reunion by telephone. From Walworth, Wisconsin Mercy and



Timothy Pietsch with his father, Dr. W. E. Pietsch, in Long Beach, California.

I called out to Japan to Helen and the three boys, and we had on the line my beloved father in Southern California and Sally Sue and Charles in Oregon. Helen and the boys were fine and it was so good to hear their voices. During Christmas vacation they visited down in Kyushu where Helen's mother Mrs. C. K. Dozier and her brother Edwin Dozier are now living. It is about seven hundred and fifty miles from Tokyo. Please pray for my beloved father whose health now is very poor for he has had another serious cancer operation since I last wrote you. If you could find a moment to write him a word at this time it would be a great encouragement. His address is on the enclosed envelope.

Sally Sue and her fiance Charles Weinberg hope to be married, Lord willing, on the 21st of March in the First Baptist Church of Corvallis, Oregon, and I trust to be there to perform the ceremony and then soon after that will be returning to Japan, Lord willing. After graduation from Oregon State College Charles hopes to go on to seminary before they return to Japan as missionaries. Please remember them in faithful prayer as they begin their new life together. You can reach them at 1950 Taylor Street, Corvallis, Oregon and a word of encouragement would mean a great deal to them.

All the work in Japan continues without interruption and the radio work is still bringing in very fine response. Paul Suzuki and his wife are doing fine work in the Tokyo Bible Church that is entirely self-supporting. Helen continues the Bible Kindergarten, and the boys are continuing their studies in the Christian Academy. It is my prayer that as I travel in this country the Lord will touch the hearts of His people to see the wonderful opportunity that God has given in reaching the great masses of Japan by means of radio and to enter into a partnership with us to get out the gospel now. All the eighty commercial radio stations in Japan are willing to sell radio time for the preaching of the gospel, and for one cent American money we can reach a Japanese once a week for more than a year right in his own home. If one thousand of God's children would give even fifty cents a week for preaching the gospel over the radio in Japan we could put the gospel on most of these eighty stations once a week. This is one of the quickest and cheapest ways of reaching Japan now.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

1959 marks the 100th anniversary of the coming of the first protestant missionaries to Japan. Great celebrations are planned but it seems to me rather than celebrating we ought to be in great sorrow of heart for the terrible weakness of the church in Japan and the very little real progress that it has made. Perhaps some of the readers of our printed letters would like source material on Japan and two significant books have been written that we can heartily recommend. One is entitled "A Short History of Christianity in Japan" by Professor Tomonobu Yanagita which is obtainable from Seisho Toshokan Kankokai at P. O. Box 66, Sendai, Japan, and the price is 70 cents US. The other book "The Two Empires in Japan" was written by Brother John M. L. Young and

can be obtained from The Bible Times Press at 273 Ichome, Horunouchi, Suginami Ku, Tokyo, Japan, and the price is \$1.25 US money.

Professor Yanagita in an article entitled "Problems of the Evangelical Mission to Japan" has stated that more than half, and some estimates run as high as 80-90 per cent, of those who have been baptised into the Christian faith in Japan from the time of the coming of the first protestant missionaries until the end of World War II in 1945, have apostasized and gone back, giving up the name Christian entirely and saying that Christianity is incompatible with the ways of Japan. Should this not make us weep in prayer? Of those who continued to call themselves Christians in Japan Professor Yanagita said a large proportion were compromisers and tried to change the Christian gospel rather than letting it change them. He names Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa who has been vaunted by some as the "world's greatest living Christian" as one of the leaders of this group who tried to Japanize Christianity. Of those who remain many were "escapists" who refused to wrestle with the powers of darkness and wrestling Christians in Japan were very few. One of the great sorrows in postwar Japan has been the willingness of so many groups that seem so evangelical in the USA to build upon the old prewar foundations that tried to change the Christian gospel and make it something Japanese. This we have refused to do, for it is our conviction that there is very little from before the war that is worthy to build new work upon, for it compromised the Christian gospel and has refused to truly repent. In these great struggles in Japan the Lord has shown me,

FOUR BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

1. *It is always right to preach the gospel.* II Tim. 4:2, I Peter 3:15. Ecumenical evangelism today demands a "united front" and won't preach the gospel until all get together. No longer is the unity of the faith important but union has become the "god" that is worshipped. There is a great deal of difference between union and unity. You can tie a dog's and cat's tails together and you will have union but no unity. It is impossible even to imagine our Lord Jesus saying to some town: "You form a committee of the Sadducees, Pharisees, Herodians, Publicans and put on one of my disciples and then you vote to have me come and preach, but I won't come until then." This is the ecumenical evangelism, and it is wreaking havoc on our mission fields.
2. *It is always wrong to aid and abet a program of unbelief.* Eph. 5:11. Unlike our denominations in the USA which were once born in revival but now have been taken over by "another gospel" and so are under the "anathema" of our Lord, the United Church of Japan (Kyodan) was born as a compromise with idolatry and its first official action was to send its moderator to the shrine of the sun-goddess to report the founding of the United Church. The great denominations from the USA point with pride and joy to this church as an example of union and many who make decisions under the ecumenical evangelism are added to this religious monstrosity. It is a very dangerous practice for true Christians to take the advice and counsel of men who remain in these modernistic-controlled denominations year after year. It is like taking the advice of Lot in Sodom.
3. *It is always wrong to pretend that an unbeliever is a Christian— even if by such pretense the evangelist is able to preach to great crowds and some are saved.* Romans 3:7-8. The end does not justify the means. Some evangelists say that they work with the modernists so that they can preach to their people but in

so doing they pretend that the modernists are true Christians by placing them in positions of leadership and having them lead in prayer during their campaigns. The fact that some are saved does not justify the pretending that unbelievers are children of God. Moses was judged for disobedience even though the water came forth from the rock. One ecumenical evangelist came to Japan and said, "We pretend that these men believe the Bible," when he knew perfectly well that they did not.

4. *It is always wrong to be neutral when the Word of God is at stake.* Rev. 3:15-16. One cannot really say "yes" to truth without saying no to error. Some have told me, "Just preach a positive gospel and forget about modernism and idolatry." Any one who speaks of a "positive gospel" does not really know the gospel, for it is both positive and negative; it is the power of God unto salvation. A sure sign of a neutralist is the man who speaks of the "positive gospel" and beware of them for they are legion. A man who talks about a "positive gospel" is like the man who says: "Turn on the positive electricity," but one gets no light. It is extremely dangerous to put oneself in the place where one cannot say "no" to error. Heb. 1:9.

It is our practice never under any circumstances to work with modernists who are the enemies of our Lord Jesus Christ. They are enemies of our Lord and children of darkness and must not be accepted as believers. It is also our practice not to work with men who work with modernists in the building of the local church which is the "ground and pillar of the truth" until they repent of such disobedience. We are to love all men, and edify all born again Christians. If there is a Roman priest who is born again we are to recognize him as a fellow believer, but we are only to co-operate in the building of the local church with faithful men. Any man who violates the above four Biblical principles should not be received as a faithful servant of our Lord. On the mission field in Japan I have discovered that the hardest place in Christian service is the place of the faithful pastor of the local church that is obedient to her Lord.

It has been my privilege to preach to multiplied thousands upon the streets and over the radio in Japan and to help many other groups in evangelistic meetings, but the most difficult task I have found on the mission field is to bring to fruition the required leadership for the local church that is obedient to the faith of her Lord. It is my practice by the help of our Lord never to write anything that could be read by an unsaved person about a disobedient Christian, for these are problems of the Christian family and for love we must not say or write anything that can be seen or heard by an unbeliever for I am fully capable of myself to fail my Lord. I would ask you to pray for me in the light of II Tim. 2:24-26 and that I might know something of what Paul said in Acts 20:19, "Serving the Lord with all humility of mind." In Japanese these words are translated: "Exhausting the limits of humility," and this is what I desire to do by His grace.

Lord willing, I hope to put into pamphlet form the four points given above, and if you would like copies please let us know. Brother Bryce Augsburg of Marquette Manor Baptist Church in Chicago has offered to help us get this into pamphlet form.

With love in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Yours because His,

Leahy Pitsch

Tokyo Bible Center

179 MIYAMAE CHO, MEGURO KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

"For the Word of God and for
the testimony of Jesus Christ."
(REVELATION 1:9)

Timothy Pietsch, *Director* Paul Suzuki, *Assistant*
Lloyd Buchanan, *Secretary-Treasurer*
4616-47th St. N. W., Washington 16, D. C.

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March 1959

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

WHAT a joy it has been to visit some of you during these months that I have been in the United States and Canada. I am sorry that I could not visit each one and if I missed you please pardon me, won't you? We are grateful for you old friends and for the new friends that He has given during this trip. I have travelled more than thirty-thousand miles since last September, and I am thanking our Lord for journeying mercies and I know many have been praying here and in Japan as well. On the 28th of April I sail for Japan from San Pedro on

THE SHIMANE MARU

a Japanese freighter of the NYK Line. I do hope that you will let me hear from you before I sail for Japan. You can reach me at P.O. Box 39, Long Beach 1, California. The work in Japan has continued without interruption. We are still on the radio there and the response is very good. Helen and Brother Paul Suzuki have done a wonderful faithful job and how thankful we are for them and for the sacrifice Helen was willing to make in being absent from the wedding of our only daughter so that the work might continue. This has been the sixth time that our family has been separated across the Pacific ocean for more than six months but we are grateful for the privilege of trying to do a little to take the gospel to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, so that they might see Him who is the True Light.

DR. W. E. PIETSCH

My beloved father went to be with the Lord he loved so well and served so long, on the 2nd of February. He had been suffering from a very serious heart condition and also from cancer. This was one of the reasons that I came back to the USA last September. It was my privilege to be at the funeral, flying from Chicago for it on the 4th of February, where it was held at the church of the Recessional at Forest Lawn in Glendale, Calif. It was my joy to be able to say a few words at the funeral which was conducted by Dr. Charles E. Fuller with whom my father was ordained into the gospel ministry at Grace Baptist Church in Modesto, Calif. At the funeral I mentioned that those principles for which he stood, we accept and will carry on and from which he never wavered. I am so grateful for his standing by us in the great struggles in Japan, regarding the compromise by so many groups that seem so sound in this country but in Japan are willing to co-operate with the ecumenical evangelism. From time to time through the years he re-emphasized his position so that all would know. Recently in an issue of the Pastoral Call he wrote: "In the light of II John 9-11 your radio pastor feels that he cannot join hands in modern evangelism that co-operates with liberals and modernists." Now he is with the Lord, and made perfect in holiness and his body does rest in the grave until the day of resurrection. He has served faithfully since its founding

on the board of the Tokyo Bible Center and we do miss him tremendously but rejoice in the mantle that has passed on to us. Now the Lord has given

BROTHER LLOYD BUCHANAN

to be secretary-treasurer of the Tokyo Bible Center and to help carry on the work. Brother Buchanan has been associated with our board of references since the Tokyo Bible Center was organized. His counsel and advice has been invaluable and we are thankful that now he has consented to be the secretary and treasurer for this work. Brother Buchanan is a layman, trained as a lawyer and is trial examiner for the Labor Relations Board and lives in Washington D.C. He will see that all gifts are promptly receipted for, and all accounts kept up to date. We hope to obtain a post office box in Washington D.C. but if you continue to send mail to P.O. Box 890, Long Beach 1, Calif. it will be immediately forwarded to Brother Buchanan in Washington D.C. where his address is 4616-47th St. N.W., Washington 16, D.C. We are grateful for this man who is so interested in a true separated testimony for our Lord. My father said of him, "He is the most faithful and consistent separatist in America today." Dear mother who came to our home when our own mother went to be with the Lord has carried on these months doing the actual work of receipting and book-keeping and it has just been too much for her since she also has the work of the Alaska Evangelization Society and the Evangelize America Program to take care of and is continuing that program as a memorial to my beloved father, over radio station KXEL in Waterloo, Iowa with Brother Charles Pedersen who is now co-operating with her. He is now chairman of the Evangelize America Program and is also the director of the Christian League for the Handicapped where my dear sister

MERCY PIETSCH

is working and where she is the manager of the Christian book store that they have there. It was my great joy to be with her four times in Walworth, Wisconsin on this trip. How sweet and joyous she is and truly trusting the Lord. This year marks twenty-five years since she was stricken with polio and she has never walked in all these years. If you want a real blessing take a trip up to Walworth, Wisconsin which is just north of Harvard, Illinois and visit her, and if you can't do that please write to her at The Christian League for the Handicapped, Walworth, Wisconsin and it will reach her. With our father's going to be with the Lord and my returning to Japan she will be alone since my sister Grace and her family will also be returning to Alaska, where they are missionaries in Seldovia, under the Alaska Evangelization Society. Mercy does need definite help and support and I do trust that some of you dear friends will open your hearts to her and encourage her in the Lord.

SALLY SUE AND CHARLES

were married at the First Baptist Church in Corvallis, Oregon on the 21st of March and it was my joy to perform the ceremony. They are very



Sally Sue and Charles

happy together and will remain in Corvallis at Oregon State College until later this year when he graduates. They then hope to go to seminary before coming to Japan as missionaries. They are living at 1950 Taylor Street in Corvallis, Oregon and can be reached there. Thank you for encouraging them at the time of their wedding. Please pray for them that the Lord will direct them in their further training and bring them to Japan in His time and way.

JAPAN—LIKE A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN

During this trip I have often likened Japan to a very beautiful garden with about two and a half feet of very fine top soil. When people come into it they see beautiful shrubs, flowers, grass and arbors and they are very thrilled with its beauty. However underneath the two and a half feet of top soil is about twenty feet of solid granite. Many never find out about the granite underneath, but only see the top soil of lovely politeness and the quaint customs which are on the surface. Those of us who are trying to plant the Christian

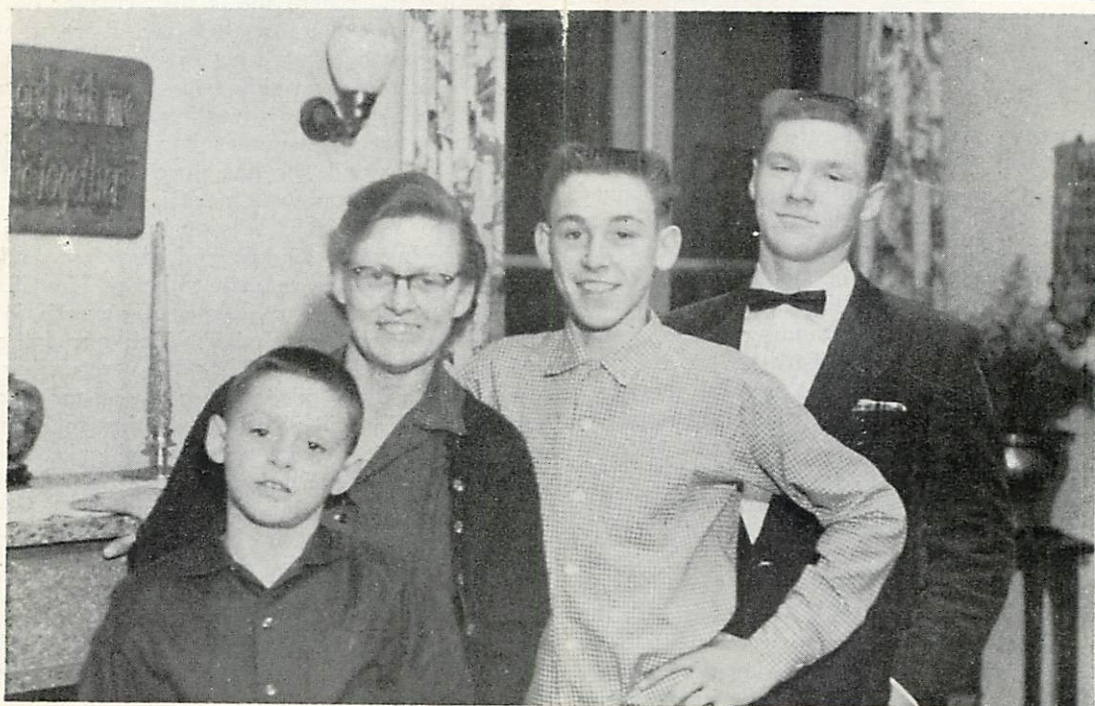
church in Japan find out about the granite soon enough, for it is in the building of the local church on the mission field that one has to deal with the granite of the iniquitous family system based upon ancestor worship, and the insidious problems of compromise with idolatry carried out by such a large proportion of so-called Christianity in Japan. It is in the local church that one must meet the problem of the arranged marriages of believers to unbelievers, and the problem of modernism so prevalent throughout Japan in the United Church of Japan, whose first action when it was formed was to send its moderator to the shrine of the sun goddess and report to this Shinto goddess that the United Church had been formed. This first action of the United Church has never been repudiated and repented of but rather has been defended by Christian leaders in Japan, who in turn have been given places of great honor and prominence in the ecumenical evangelism. The local church which is to be "the ground and pillar of the truth" in the community must meet these problems which are like solid granite. Many do not want to start local churches for it is indeed like digging in solid granite and so content themselves with planting flowers and bushes in the topsoil, but they will not stand the winds of adversity. Particularly true is this of the multitude of "religious carpetbaggers" that have come to Japan for short trips since the end of the war and who return to make such fantastic reports. Please pray for me in the light of II Tim. 2:24-26 as we return to Japan to dig in and through the granite by His grace.

Helen has written from Japan asking that old clothes be sent for our growing boys whose ages are sixteen, fifteen and ten. If you have clothes that your boys have outgrown please send them out and they can be used. Old Christmas cards can still be used but please send them directly to Japan. David is still collecting postage stamps and you can delight his heart by sending them. With love in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Yours because His,

Imothy Pitsch

Luke 9:23



David, Mrs. Pitsch, Tiny Tim, and Kelsey

Tokyo Bible Center

179 MIYAMAE-CHO, MEGURO-KU, TOKYO, JAPAN

Timothy Pietsch, *Director* Paul Suzuki, *Assistant*
Lloyd Buchanan, *Secretary-Treasurer*
P.O. Box 9652, Friendship Station Washington 16, D.C.

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California

July 1959

Beloved Partners in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

WHAT a joy it is to be safely back in Japan.
Thank you for your love and kindness to
me while I was in the United States and Canada.
In the goodness and gracious kindness of our
Lord I arrived safely back in Japan on the 15th
of May and am again in the midst of the work.
All the work has been carried on without
interruption while I have been away. I made
some tape recordings before I left and others
I made while in the USA. September will mark
the beginning of our ninth year on local radio
stations here in Japan with the gospel of our
Lord Jesus Christ. Hundreds write to us and
we answer every one of them. Here are a few
translations of parts of letters and postal cards
that have come to us during the last week:

"I am a first year student in High School.
I have for the first time become interested
in the Bible through hearing your broadcast
entitled: 'Good News - A message from the
Bible' I have never seen a Bible. Would
you please send me a Bible portion that you
offered on the radio. Goodbye

Toyama Yoshio

"Dear Sir:

I heard your broadcast over the Central
Japan radio network. Would you please send
me a Bible portion. Yamada Kohisa.

"I heard you on Central Broadcasting Com-
pany and I'd like to learn immediately about
your teaching. If you would send me a Bible
portion I would be very happy.

Sugimoto Kitoku
Handa City

"This morning I heard your program 'Good
News' and I surely would like to read the
Bible.

Kurachi Koei
Nagoya City

"My dear Sir:

I would like to know Christianity. Please
without fail send me a Bible. I am waiting
to read it. I am always listening for your
program to come on the air.

Yamanaka Toshihisa
Minato-ku, Nagoya

"I heard your message about Jesus Christ
over the radio. I would like to know about
the Bible. If you'd send me an English por-
tion I would be happy.

Uchida Seiichi
Toyota City

More than ninety nine percent of our listening
audience makes no profession of being Christian.
To every one that writes us we send a copy of
the Gospel of John that we offer free on every
broadcast to any one who has never seen any
portion of the Bible before. The Gospel of John
is the Holy Spirit's tract to unbelievers (John 20:
31). We also offer students who are studying
English a free copy. For one cent US money we
can reach a Japanese right in his own home or
shop with a fifteen minute broadcast of the gospel



Keiichi Uchida

once a week for more than a year. We believe
that this is one of the cheaper ways of reaching
the great masses of the people and we are pray-
ing to enlarge this ministry. Would you please
pray with us?

The Tokyo Bible Church has grown in grace,
knowledge and numbers while I was away and
Pastor Paul Suzuki and his wife with Helen have
done a wonderful job. The Bible Kindergarten
has grown and recently one of the mothers has
come to the Lord and been baptised. Upon my
return from the USA we held special evangelistic
meetings here at the Center and some made de-
cisions to accept Christ. Pastor Paul Suzuki
baptised five more just this last Sunday. Our
three sons also have grown in grace and
physically while I was away. We ask you to
pray for them as they continue to help us
here in the work in Japan. Kelsey who will
be seventeen on the 9th of November, Tiny
Tim who will be sixteen on the 24th of November
and David who will be eleven next February
24th are all students in the Christian Academy,
a school for missionary children. Kelsey has
two more years there and Tiny has three
more. They have been in Japan now for almost
twelve years without once being out of Japan
for we have brought up the family here on the
mission field. Helen and little David went to
the USA for six months in 1955 and I stayed
here then with the children. Charles and Sally
Sue Weinberg are very happy since their mar-
riage. He is teaching high school at Philomath,
Oregon. He hopes soon to start seminary.

Brother Keiichi Uchida who was one of the
charter members of the Tokyo Bible church has
given up his fine job at the Isuzu Automobile
factory where he was a foreman and has given
his life to full time service for the Lord and
has started to Bible school. Brother Takeo
Nishikawa whose wife went to be with the
Lord two years ago is very lonely and we would
ask you to pray much for him.

SPURGEON'S CATECHISM

One of the greatest blessings that ever came
to our home and our work was to be introduced
to the catechism that Charles H. Spurgeon
compiled for his Metropolitan Tabernacle in
London. We use it here as the basis of our
work and we ask those who make decisions for
Christ to memorize it and we use it as the basis
for starting new churches. While I was in the
USA, I suggested to some pastors that they use
Spurgeon's catechism and put one question and
answer each week in their church bulletin and
ask all their people to memorize it. It is not
enough to be against modernism but we must
have positive living faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
If you would like a copy of Spurgeon's catechism
please let us know and we will be glad to send
you a copy.



Pastor & Mrs. Paul Suzuki

RETROGRESSION

The wedding of the Crown Prince of Japan has been used to turn back the clock a good deal in Japan to the 'old ways'. Immediately upon their marriage the young couple went to report to the shinto shrine of the sun-goddess at the grand shrine of Ise. The Japanese government has now introduced into the National Diet a proposal to give a non religious status to the shrine of the sun as goddess and recognize it as above religion and as the patriotism of the Japanese people. The Constitution of Japan declares:

"No religious organization shall receive any privileges from the State."

"No person shall be compelled to take part in any religious act, celebration rite, or practice."

In order to get around this definite directive of the Constitution the government proposes to give the shrine of the Sun Goddess status as above religion. It is obvious that this is a step in the backward direction by the shinto bureaucrats to return Japan to be a country ruled by a 'divine emperor' for the particular gain of the rulers. A battle is raging in Japan amongst the Christians over this matter. The modernistic paper of Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa the *Kirisuto Shimbun*, has openly advocated giving the shrine of the Sun Goddess non-religious status and government support. Liberals in Japan for the most part desire a return to the status of state shinto shrines becoming non-religious. As long as two and a half years ago Dr. Matsushita the President of St. Paul's Episcopal University in Tokyo writing in the *Shinto Shrine News* stated:

"Shinto Shrines are a Symbol of Patriotism; It is not contradictory for Buddhists and Christians to worship at Shinto Shrines.

I do not ignore the fact that shinto shrine worship and patriotism have a close connection. Buddhists and Christians should not feel any contradiction in doing so. I as a Christian, do not feel any contradiction in doing so. As for me, shrines are not objects of faith but a symbol of my beloved country. In this meaning it is correct to regard shinto shrines as different from the other religions. Shinto shrines are considered religious at present under the law, but they should not remain religious forever like Buddhism or Christianity. They must be developed into symbols of patriotism. In order to heighten the sovereignty of the State but not to the extent of

deifying it, it is most desirable to have shrines not considered religious" (President Matsushita of St. Paul University in *Jinja Shimpō* Dec. 1, 1956)

For the most part the liberal 'Christian' leaders in Japan have advocated this position. Yet they are welcomed and lauded in the ecumenical evangelism. In the great Osaka Christian Crusade conducted by World Vision and in cooperation with the National Council of Churches of Japan from the 12th of May till June 1st this year, on the opening night, according to a report from Dr. Kagawa's paper, Dr. Matsushita was given a prominent part by being the one to bring greetings and words of welcome. This kind of honoring men who dishonor our Lord is wreaking havoc here on the mission field and only makes it harder



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weinberg

for true Christians to take a stand when well known American evangelists and missionaries honor men who advocate the recognition of the shinto shrines as non-religious and simply patriotism.

THREE POSITIONS

In their attitudes to the organized apostasy evangelical Christians take three positions:

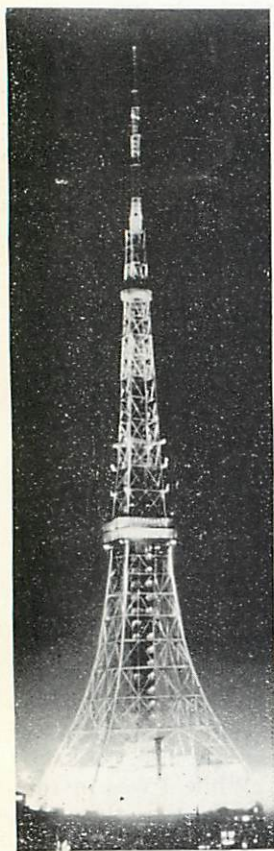
1. Work with it endeavoring to give a testimony from within it that some may be saved. Evangelicals who remain in denominations controlled by those who hold another gospel are as guilty of disobedience to the clear commands of scriptures as were the Israelites when they were joined to the Canaanitish idolates. Their position is becoming more and more like that of 'righteous' Lot in Sodom. Their position is not in obedience to the clear commands of God's word.
2. Some evangelicals would not work directly with modernists but they are in very close harmony and co-operation with these evangelicals who do work directly with those who preach another gospel. Some say 'The Bible teaches us we should not work with modernists but it does not say what we should do about those evangelicals who do work with modernists'. This position is one of neutrality and not in obedience to the clear commands of scripture Eph 5:11 II John 10:11 which demand that not only are we to separate from the works of darkness but to rebuke them.
3. The Biblical position is that while from the heart honestly desiring the unity of the faith, in the building of the local church which is the 'pillar and ground of the truth' we cannot accept as 'faithful brethren' those who honor the enemies of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. This third position is the one that brings great wrath upon one's head by evangelicals in groups one and two but this is the position our Lord will honor and bless. We ask you to pray for us as we seek with the gentleness and humility of our Lord to stand true to Him.

THE 1964 OLYMPIC GAMES

have been awarded to Tokyo and there has been great rejoicing in this land. One of the stadiums where the Olympics are to be held is right near our Bible Center and within walking distance. Tokyo is now a city of over nine million and about one tenth of all the people in Japan live within its limits. We are still praying that we can start a broadcast in this area soon and would ask you to pray with us about it. The world's highest sightseeing and television tower has now been built in Tokyo and is higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris. We rejoice in your partnership with us in the gospel and we send love in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Helen and Timothy Pietsch

Luke 9:23



Tokyo Tower