

Jan. 15, 1960 at 2:30 I left Jerusalem for Egypt. Bob and the children were real brave and they said they would hold down the fort at Jerusalem so I left to do what ever I could for the Lord. Arriving in Cairo I rushed through customs and arrived at the train depot just in time to get the night train to Luxor. It took 12 hours, 45 minutes to get to Luxor. Bro. Sedra was waiting and Luxor was enjoying a mild winter of 65--70° weather. This was a relief from the cold, rainy days of Jordan.

The first thing we did was register with the police and then we began visiting the people to establish confidence for the baptismal service. The first night we went to a wake of a friend of the church. A middle aged man had died of a heart attack so there were about 35 women huddled on the floor around a small fire, just sitting. Bro. Sedra told them who I was and asked me to speak to them. I hardly knew how to begin, but God always comes to our needs, so I told them of the miracles of Jesus, but the greatest was His resurrection and because of Him, some day we too shall rise to meet Him if we are prepared. They all listened and were very open hearted for the Gospel.

We then visited some Luxor saints whom we had met last summer and it is sure good to greet those who are going on in the Lord even stronger in Truth as the day of His coming approaches.

I stayed at the Sedra home and Sister Sedra is a wonderful Christian. She speaks very little English and I speak very little Arabic, so we sure used sign language most of the time. Sunday morning for breakfast I experienced an Egyptian treat. It was a large bowl of brown beans with olive oil on them. They are different, but good.

We went to church and had a very good service. There were several absent due to preparation for the president's visit and any public office is open on Sunday the same as any week day, so I met them all on Sunday night. The people of Egypt are very friendly and love God. Sunday noon we took pictures of the ladies. We then went to one of the sisters house to pray. She had fasted ten days for the Holy Ghost and showed real signs of a hunger for the baptism. We prayed and prayed and she had stammering lips but did not get it so we really felt a burden for her.

Later in the afternoon some of the ladies came to the house to find out how to make a robe for baptizing. This was the first ladies baptismal service to be held in Luxor and they were excited ~~but~~ about it. The questions they asked were amusing at times. How long would I hold them under the water for their sins to wash away, etc. I really prayed that satan would not frighten them.

Sunday night service begins at 6:00 P. M. so we went early to see about the tank as it had to be painted before our great service.

Bro. Sedra has two young preachers who are a great help to him and the church, -- Bro. William and Bro. Biliem. The Lord surely blessed in the service and His presence was very sweet and the people of Luxor sure can pray. After service several came to be prayed for. They have utmost faith in God and anyone who is filled with the Holy Ghost.

Years ago a lady missionary from England came to Egypt and her good work is paving the way for us to take the whole Truth to many villages in Upper Egypt. It also helped to follow a woman in Gospel work as many countries still cannot accept a woman's work, but God holds the whole world and uses us where He wills at the right time.

Due to the tank not being finished and the ladies making the dresses Bro. Sedra and I left by bus to visit Villāhāl a village of Esna. Here we stayed in KĀhā the home of the doctor of pharmacy. They are Luxor folk and were brought up in Bro. Sedra's church there. The wife and doctor's sister both want the Holy Ghost. We visited several homes of saints who had lived in Luxor and had moved to Esna for work. One thrill we had while in Esna was a visit to a government school. We were allowed to speak to the christian girls on the coming of Jesus. In a country where the WORD is limited, this was a rare priviledge. I pray the girls will always remember the Scripture and God will lead them. We had prayer in the homes and feel that a church could be established here in the very near future. Years ago there was a holiness church there and so the Lord has preserved the Seed in the hearts of many. They are praying for a church.

We then took the train on to a town of Kombo. This complete town is built around the sugar cane mills. An engineer is a friend of Bro. Sedra, so he arranged for us to go through the mill, to visit the Nile irrigation plant and out to the ruins of an old city in the desert. It was built many years before Christ, so I enjoyed seeing it. The desert is at its best now, since this is winter time and at that the temperature was near 100°. I stayed at the company hotel and Brother Sedra stayed with a merchant. He and his wife have the Holy Ghost, in fact, I found saints of God in every village and they begged us to visit other villages where loved ones had moved and I found the same prayer everywhere, "Lord send us a pastor to feed us". The Lord surely is moving toward a great revival. In one home I met the first man in Kombo to receive the Holy Ghost. He received it twenty years ago and his wife has sought it every since. In our praying God blessed and all I could do was encourage them to keep seeking and surely God will see the need and send them a pastor.

From here we went by bus down to Aswan. We were met by a fine family named Jhon. Brother Jhon has the Holy Ghost and so does his daughter in law. The mother is seeking. I asked the son, who is a banker why he didn't have it and he said he was waiting on some one who had the Holy Ghost and New Testament experience to guide him. He had read the Bible and knew his father to be a good man but he could not go to the Protestant church as he was praying for a church and leadership in Full Truth. When it was noised that we were in town the house filled with young married folk. Several of them have the Holy Ghost but never have heard of Jesus Name baptism. Among them was a doctor's wife who has a wonderful testimony of how she received the Holy Ghost in her home near Cairo. She is an only daughter of a wealthy man. In the East a woman wears golden bracelets to denote her father or husband's wealth, so it is a disgrace for her to be in public without the bracelets. When this girl came to repentance she felt she should not wear any of the things of the world, custom or no custom, so she took off all and put it in a box. The folks persecuted her much but due to her walk with God she received the Holy Ghost and shortly after her mother received it and later on due to her father's illness and God healing him, he sought God and was filled with the Holy Ghost too.

She is a wonderful testimony of an honest heart being led to God and her life is a real influence in Aswan. They are praying for a pastor. Oh! that God would send laborers into the vineyard. These Holy Ghost saints are attending the Protestant church, but are praying for a born again pastor. While in Aswan I stayed in the doctor's home and he spoke English, however his wife didn't, so my small knowledge of Arabic was really taxed, but the Spirit of the Lord is the same in any language so we had a sweet day of fellowship. Bro. Sedra and I were guests of the doctor for a trip out to the Aswan Dam and it is lovely. After fifty years of hard work it is completed. It will bring help to the whole land of Egypt. We took a sail boat trip out in the Nile to a hugh island where there is a government park with imported trees and flowers. It is beautiful. We also visited the tomb of the late Aga Khan on this island of sand and rock. On his tomb is the sentence, "There is only one God". When the boy read it to me I had to rejoice that I who have nothing in this life know who the One God is and Aga Khan in his great wealth only knew about the One True God in a vague way. God locks on the heart and not the pocket book. We took the train back to Luxor and found the tank ready and the ladies ready too.

Wednesday afternoon and evening we gave instruction and had prayer. The ladies were eager to be baptised, but full of wonder as to how it would be and feel. I tried to answer their questions, but God had to help as you see they had never seen any one baptised in a tank, so it was a big thing in their lives. On Thursday morning, January 21, we awakened to a cold wind. Our faith was tried as these folk are so afraid of catching cold. We warmed the water on small heaters, which are used to warm the church and one by one the ladies came with a bundle of clothes under her arm. There was a good crowd and God blessed. There were seven ladies for the first baptizing and several more are looking forward to the next baptismal service and they will be ready. I was really scared when I looked at the tank forty inches high and most of the women larger than I, so I just told Jesus He would have to help and He surely did. They all came out shouting and praising God. Several had stammering lips. I just pray those who do not have the Holy Ghost will receive it soon. God blessed each one and the thrill in my heart was truly great.

I thank the foreign missionary department for making this trip possible and a tribute to my dear husband for doing both his job and mine so that I could go to Egypt.

Please pray for the many Holy Ghost filled saints in Egypt that they will be able to go all the way with God. They send their greetings to you in the home-land.

Yours because of Christ,

Sister Marjorie McFarland.