

A WORD OF TESTIMONY

This is the testimony of a boy born into a Christian family on the 16th July 1929 the fourth of four boys followed by one sister. His home was in a very rural part of South Antrim between Carrickfergus and Ballyclare. The early Christian influence came from a Sunday School held in the local Primary School and other Mission Halls in the area. An early memory of spiritual thoughts was joining the 'Golden Star Brigade' and wearing a badge with the motto 'Look Up And Aim High' from the children's page of 'The Christian Herald'.

It wasn't until the age of 15 during a mission conducted by two lady Faith Mission Pilgrims that the necessity to be saved came sharply into focus. In a very quiet, undramatic way a silent prayer went up - "Lord save me" on the 27th October 1944. Not having lived a life of outward rebellion against God or in overtly sinful practices, the change outward in behaviour was not marked but new desires for spiritual things and company followed. Because conversion hadn't the 'before and after' experience of the Apostle Paul and others, doubts (no doubt from the devil) crept in like a dark cloud but deliverance came while standing in the back of a bus on the way home from work when the great truth of Romans 10 v 9 brought that assurance "thou shalt be saved".

The boy referred to above is me Stanley Hilditch and after 60 years on my earthly pilgrimage towards the 'Celestial City' I would like to bear testimony to the Lord's faithfulness and preserving mercies. He has overruled my mistakes and made all things work together for His Glory and my good. My burning desire now is still to press towards the prize and finish the race well. I have endeavoured throughout my life to make the Will of God my topmost priority. His Word my sole and unfailing guide and His Atoning Work on Calvary's Cross my glory and sure hope for eternity.

Stanley Hilditch