

Our father, John T. Ratzlaff, was born at Jensen, Nebraska, on May 10, 1887. In February of 1909 he accepted the Lord as his personal Savior and was baptized and received as a member of the Krimmer Mennonite Brethren Church of Jensen, Nebraska. During the time of his conversion Isaiah 53:6 became very precious to him.

● "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." He gained much peace and comfort from this verse, knowing that Jesus paid it all.

On September 15, 1910, he was married to Anna Fast. To this union were born six children. One son, Jacob, preceeded him in death on July 16, 1928, at the age of 13 years. Occasional sickness seems to have been the lot of the family which caused them to look to the Lord from whence cometh all help.

● In August of 1942 the family moved to Reedley. Since that time he has won the friendship of many. Many times he expressed his thankfulness for the love and fellowship of his friends.

In August of 1943 he contracted a heart disease. For several months he was in critical condition but improved to the point where he could be up and enjoy life to a great extent. In the early part of March of this year his condition became considerably worse and he was bedridden from that time until the Lord saw fit to take him to be with the Master. He mentioned the fact that upon entering Glory he would look for his beloved son who preceeded him in death. Our father