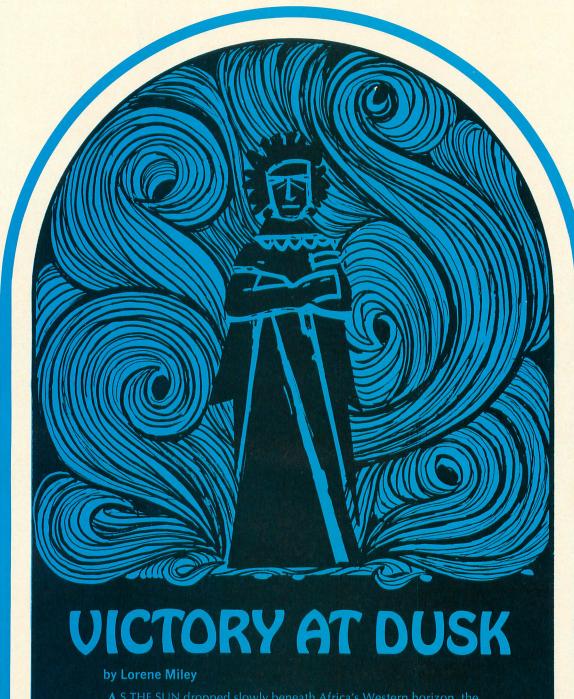
HEARTBEAT

DECEMBER 1968



AS THE SUN dropped slowly beneath Africa's Western horizon, the only sound in the village was the loud clapping of the hammer, crushing, bending, destroying the reminders of a life lived >>>

"a god that could be burned with fire was no god at all."

>>> under the domination of heathenism. He tossed the twisted metal into a mass of other kerosene-soaked objects. A swish of the match ignited it all and he slowly stepped back.

What was he thinking as he squatted there, gazing intently into the crackling flames? Was he remembering how each one came to be possessed? The chant or price of the fetish priest? The gifts offered in vain, the useless sacrifices, the prayers unheeded? Or was he thinking as I? — that a god that could be burned with fire was no god at all.

Two days before, Omboune Kambiri was a heathen. Today he is a Christian. Now he is destroying his fetish and amulets as a testimony to his family and friends that he meant what he said as he knelt at the altar that Sunday morning.

His two junior-age children had been the first in his family to pray. Then, seven months ago, his wife became a new person in Christ Jesus. After baptism, she took the name Mary. Her faith was severely tested and strengthened from the beginning. She came to the Doropo clinic for treatment of bruises after Omboune had beaten and chased her from home, even threatening her life because she had left the worship of the fetish.

Besides her own, three other abandoned children had been left to her care. Once Omboune refused to let them stay. Surely only the grace and love of God could change someone such as he.

I don't know what I expected when I finally met him. A giant ogre, I suppose. An "ole meaney," to be sure. But he wasn't. At least, not in appearance. He was smaller and younger than I had expected, with smiling eyes and a friendly personality. Immediately one could sense a potential for Christ. We prayed more earnestly for him.

One Sunday night he came to hear the Word of God. Then he came again . . . and again . . . and again. At last he understood. The testimonies and prayers of believers, the messages from God's Word, the conviction of the Holy Spirit, these all culminated to bring about his conversion.

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." Thank God, these are *His* words, not ours. It is *His* promise, not our hope-so. As evidence of this, we received his note:

I am happy that I am now in God's way. But what about my fetish and amulets? What shall I do with them? I would be very happy for you to come get them and throw them in the bush.

We sat in his courtyard and discussed what should be done and why.

"It is you who must do it," we explained.

"How?" he inquired.

"Are they wood or metal?" we asked.

"Both," he answered. Then he hastened to add, "But I really don't have very many. Only one . . . or" Satan had began his struggle; he didn't want to let this one go.

The Scripture at last convinced him that they should be burned. All of them. He thought about it. We waited. It was his decision.

Suddenly he stood, tall and triumphant. Yes, he would get them! He disappeared into the house with his wife trailing along after him. She would see he didn't overlook something!

We sang, "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," as they went from place to place. At last he dumped a pile of stuff down before us. I was shocked! How could Satan so blind them with their importance? A few crude metal bells, a huge empty pod, a couple metal hooks, a feather attached to a wooden rod, a forked piece of rotten wood....

"This is all," he said confidently.

"Yes, this is all," Mary affirmed, radiant in her joy. This victory was hers as well as his.

An Unseen Presence lingered with us as the flames slowly died. We sang and prayed until only a smoldering mass of ashes remained. In the rapidly gathering dusk, we turned our backs on the scene and followed the path toward home, rejoicing in this victory and confident of the ones just ahead.

Mrs. Miley, wife of missionary doctor LaVerne Miley serving at Doropo, Ivory Coast, has written numerous articles for Heartbeat. Her stories about life in West Africa are authentic.



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BOBBY and SUE AYCOCK





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EARNIE and WILLIE JEAN DEEDS



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DANIEL and TRULA CRONK



JIMMY and JANIE ALDRIDGE





ARCHIE and SARAH MAYHEW





ROBERT and JUDY BRYAN





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J. REFORD WILSON, general director JERRY BALLARD, director of communications HENRY VAN KLUYVE, director of deputation

HOW TO USE THIS DIRECTORY

Remember missionaries daily by name. Make this directory your missionary prayer list.
...as a reminder to write!
Always send letters airmail. Do not enclose money or checks since theft is common. Special gifts are transferred by bank draft by the home office upon request. Always use green customs stickers when sending packages. And before sending packages, be sure to correspond with missionaries regarding his needs. Sometimes he can buy it cheaper there.
...as a reminder to give!
Your regular monthly missionary offering designated to your missionary keeps him on the field. This is a vital link with him and a sacred responsibility before the Lord. Missionary support needs are continually published in Heartbeat to keep you informed.



emphasis

EVENTS OF NEWS AND PRAYER SIGNIFICANCE

brazil: decisions reported

Pirassununga — Several decisions were reported in November in Brazil. One decision for Christ resulted when Missionary Dave Franks at Pirassununga answered a late night plea for help with a sick child.

"At midnight," Dave said, "someone clapped at our gate outside. A stranger was desperately looking for someone with a car to take his neighbor's child to a doctor.

"I was faced with an unusual decision," Dave continued. "Pat was concerned about my leaving with a stranger. He could have been a thief for all we knew.

"I dressed and went out into the rain to see him, and knew immediately that he was not armed. I began to believe his unlikely story.

"As I drove to his home six blocks from mine a lady came running out in the rain to show me in. The boy had had a convulsion from high fever. Later the doctor prescribed medication, and we had to awake a pharmacist to get it.

"Two days later the boy was broken out in chicken pox. After prayer I invited them to attend our services.

"The lady and some of the children began coming," Dave reported, "and within a month the mother was converted. There remains the task of winning the father and the 17 children.

"We feel that the man found our house that night, not by accident, but it was an answer to prayer. We had been praying that the Lord would show us someone who wanted to hear the Gospel."

Several other conversions were reported by the Combses in a weekend meeting in November with Bobby Aycock at Jaboticabal.

dave franks ministers to brazilians



The steady increase in conversions in Brazil and Uruguay resembles closely the recent activity in Ivory Coast where national evangelists and numerous decisions for Christ have evidenced prayer support.

brazil: churches join in thanks

Araras — "Thanksgiving isn't celebrated here but sometimes we missionaries try to remember to prepare a special time to thank the Lord for His blessings."

These were the happy words of Missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs in their news letter in October. And they were indicative of the spirit that prevailed among Free Will Baptist missionaries in Brazil that gathered at Araras Nov. 2 for an all-day meeting with dinner included.

Special numbers were presented by missionaries, and Dirceu Biason, a student at the Free Will Baptist Bible Institute, preached.

IMPORTANT!

Commitments made in support of Free Will Baptist missionaries have been our primary means of income for field operations.

Confusion has arisen lately, however, when supporters wish to transfer their commitments. Support is sometimes changed to missionaries not in as much need as others. For this reason, Director of Deputation Henry Van Kluyve encourages those who for some reason wish to transfer their support to contact him first. He wishes to clarify needs and direct support to those missionaries who need financial help. This, of course, would be done only with the willingness of the supporter.

Mr. Van Kluyve has asked especially that those who support the Gages contact him before redirecting their commitments. Channeling money in this manner would help alleviate unbalanced accounts.

uruguay: revival breaks

Rivera — Sixteen conversions and five rededications were fruits of a revival here in November. It was a sudden upsurge from the steady progress the Rivera church has made in the past several months.

In a week-long meeting at the Rivera Free Will Baptist Church pastored by Missionary Bill Fulcher, attendance ranged up to 130.

Hubertil de los Santos, national pastor of the Santa Teresa Church near Rivera, led the revival. Twenty persons were baptized on the closing night.

ivory coast: news bits

Doropo — Four conversions were reported in this northern village in November under the ministry of one of Free Will Baptists' national evangelists, Koffi Jacques.

One of the four was a blind woman, brought to church by another new convert, Martha.

Another young national evangelist, Koffi David from Goumere, has accepted a challenge to begin a church at Bouna. It is his first effort in the ministry, having studied under Free Will Baptist missionaries.

In other news, Lonnie Palmer is said to be improving in his round with hepatitis. The Palmers are stationed at Laoudi Ba in northeastern Ivory Coast.

The Lonnie Sparkses plan to return to Ivory Coast Jan. 6 from their language refresher study in Switzerland.

koffi david



HEARTBEAT | DECEMBER 1968 | 9

Nashville — Three missionary families arrived in the States for furlough in November and December.

The Howard Gages, missionaries to Ivory Coast, West Africa, arrived in mid-November after serving two years abroad. Mr. Gage has been involved in construction throughout Free Will Baptist territory in Ivory Coast, and has ministered in numerous areas with general missionaries from Koun to Doropo.

Mr. Gage took a leave of absence from the pastorate in 1966 to assist Free Will Baptists in special building projects in that West African country.

The Don Robirdses arrived in San Francisco, California, Nov. 30 from Brazil where he ministered for five years as a literature missionary. During his interim there he studied Portuguese, then began translation of several Free Will Baptist doctrinal publications. His ministry has included translation and production of materials and development of a literature program for Free Will Baptists in Brazil.

The Carlisle Hannas returned from India Dec. 2, arriving stateside Dec. 8. They have spent 16 years in North India in village evangelism, establishing churches and preaching points.

stateside: poole's father dies

Nashville — Vernon Poole, Sr., father of Brazil Missionary Bobby Poole, died in Clarksville, Tennessee, Nov. 23, from a heart attack.

Bobby was notified by his family via telephone. He was unable to return to the States for funeral services. In his sadness he was able to express in a note to the home office gratefulness for his father's gain in heaven.

The senior Poole was a member of the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church at Clarksville.

howard and willie gage, home from ivory coast



india: religion law contested

Orissa — A law which has been used in this North India state to arrest and harass Christians is to be contested in India's Supreme Court by the churches of Orissa, according to Missionary Trula Cronk.

Proponents of religions other than Christianity have sought to use the Freedom of Religion Law to resist the spread of Christianity, insisting that the law protects them from such influence. Therefore, they advocate, Christianity should be stopped. And they have tried to stop it over the years through sporadic outbreaks of torture and harassment. But in recent years the resistance has lessened because of the Indian government's intervention.

The Information Service of India says in its book entitled India, the World's Largest Democracy, (page 15), "it has been the guiding principle of Indian life since times immemorial to let a variety of beliefs and faiths flourish together in the search for truth. . . . During the Freedom struggle the makers of modern India had visualized the birth of a nation in which no citizen would be discriminated against on account of religion. . . . India therefore has no State religion and people belonging to various religions enjoy equal rights and privileges. The purpose of India's secular policy is not to create a godless society but rather to encourage the growth of all religions without any prejudice." Therefore, Article 25 of the Indian Constitution gives one freedom to

don and carol robirds, home from brazil



believe and propagate his faith.

Conflict with the freedom law is in interpretation. Those who oppose Christianity say that it infringes on their religious freedom. This has been especially true in the northeastern state of Orissa and the central state of Madya Pradesh.

Christian churches expect to challenge the erroneous interpretations of the religious freedom law in both areas.

There are more than 13 million Christians in India. Hindus, however, comprise 80% of the Indian population of 480 million and Muslims number about 55 million.

"The success of these cases against the laws," reported Mrs. Cronk, "should be made a matter for prayer by Christians everywhere."

stateside: project income lags

Nashville — After a good beginning in which supporters of Project 5000 responded to a letter calling in gifts to the Japan project, response has dropped off sharply, according to Mrs. Hubert Sloan, bookkeeper.

Of more than \$10,000 expected from commitments to the project for a Japan church, only \$2,449.56 had been received by Dec. 1.

"We may not have made it clear in our letter to supporters," General Director Reford Wilson pointed out, "that we are calling in gifts. Those who have pledged to give \$10 each six month period as projects are announced are asked to send in their money. Once they understand the campaign," Wilson continued, "it will go much smoother, I'm sure."

Wilson said that this project designed to help new churches in Japan will be kept open until a larger percentage of commitments is in.

carlisle and marie hanna,



'out of my heart'

HAVE YOU SURRENDERED the world to the devil? A lost world is waiting to be saved. An enslaved world is waiting for deliverance.

The church is under the command to "Go into all the world . . ." Thus it is constantly engaged in a campaign of offense. True, Paul writes that he was "set for the defense of the gospel." The best defense of the faith is its ability to overcome the world. It was a violent crowd who demanded the death of Jesus. It was a hostile world which rejected, imprisoned and martyred the apostles. There was no ticker-tape parade in Athens, Corinth or Ephesus to welcome Paul, the missionary. With a message of hope in the man who arose from the dead, he faced a violent mob. A violent world places no value on human life, and 180,000 souls a day pass into eternity. The church is under the attack of anti-moral, anti-Bible, anti-Christ critics. I believe the church can meet this attack with an effective counterattack. I believe God is at work in our generation. Across the campus of the University of Illinois more than 7,000 students came last December to the Urbana missionary conference sponsored by Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Why were they there? Not all had come for the same purpose, but all were made aware that God through His Son Jesus Christ seeks to save our world. Nearly 1,000 Free Will Baptist youth came to Oklahoma City in July to participate in the youth activities of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. They competed, played, sang and prayed with each other. They heard youth leaders, missionaries and pastors speak of open doors for Christian service at home and abroad. Across the denomination, hundreds of young people attended summer camps. I believe these young people can invade a hostile world with a conquering faith. The church can see the prophetic tragic end of a wicked world. But it must also declare that "Today is a day of salvation." A missionary church waits for the coming of Christ but works for the salvation of a lost world. Inside our churches are the people whom God would use to "go into the world" to dispel darkness, inspire hope, declare forgiveness and offer eternal life to every man. I do not believe Christians are ready to surrender our generation to the devil. Are you? If not, what are you doing today?

J. Reford Wilson
GENERAL DIRECTOR



the financial story

october 1968*

FUNDS ON DEPOSIT OCTOBER 1\$	54.198.36
RECEIPTS DURING OCTOBER	47,672.76
DISBURSEMENTS DURING OCTOBER	36,950.70
Foreign\$29,646.45	
Travel, Promotion 1,433.92	
Administrative 5,870.33	
FUNDS ON DEPOSIT OCTOBER 31\$	64,920.42

state quotas - 1968

	OCTOBER		TOTAL	UNDER (OVER)
STATE	RECEIPTS	QUOTA	RECEIPTS	QUOTA
Alabama\$	1,729.31	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 13,187.12	\$ 8,312.88
Arizona		500.00 3,500.00	1,615.72	500.00 1,884.28
Arkansas	1,093.04	21,500.00	16,080.01	5,419.99
Canada	2,897.27 87.49	36,000.00 300.00	22,051.51 457.11	13,948.49 (157.11)
Colorado	28.02	1,750.00	419.39	1,330.61
Florida Georgia	1,478.79 2,723.01	18,750.00 28,500.00	12,591.72 16,294.20	6,158.28 12,205.80
Hawaii	10.00	500.00	110.00	390.00
Idaho	10.00 855.17	1,500.00 18,000.00	239.43 8,367.79	1,260.57 9.632.21
Indiana	321.74	4,000.00	3,629.83	370.17
Kansas	124.50 62.43	2,500.00 5,500.00	1,249.49 2,034.27	1,250.51 3,465.73
Kentucky	617.05	10,000.00	8,499.86	1,500.14
Louisiana	10.00	500.00	241.45 1,105.00	258.55 1,395.00
Michigan	4,601.08	55,500.00	45,418.98	10,081.02
Mississippi Missouri	1,678.76 3,839.65	9,750.00 38,750.00	8,441.83 31,099.78	1,308.17 7,650.22
New Hampshire .	60.00	1,250.00	522.60	727.40
New Mexico North Carolina	48.53 6,329.31	1,500.00 67,750.00	582.08 63,566.16	917.92 4.183.84
Ohio	2,381.45	22,750.00	18,929.06	3,820.94
Oklahoma Oregon	1,865.02	55,500.00 500.00	42,095.75 165.25	13,404.25 334.75
South Carolina .	3,388.71	34,500.00	31,704.60	2,795.40
Tennessee	7,073.62 673.75	55,500.00 15,000.00	52,473.80 7,166,66	3.026.20 7.833.34
Virginia	1,555.40	19,750.00	13,812.61	5,937.39
Washington West Virginia	11.93 850.71	1,500.00	531.49 8,053.29	968.51 8,196.71
Miscellaneous	736.12	8,317.96	6,924.44	1,393.52
\$	47,211.86	\$581,367.96	\$439,662.28	\$141,705.68

missionary accounts**

Jimmy Aldridges	\$2,846.46	Eddie Paynes	\$ (794.52)
Bobby Aycocks	3,609.60	Bill Phippses	716.37
Miss Molly Barker, R.N.	1,811.82	Bobby Pooles	784.52
Robert Bryans	(1,276.39)	Mary Ellen Rice	6,733.13
Wesley Calverys	(1,699.07)	Norman Richards	8,637.51
Jim Combses	432.00	Paul Robinsons	4,257.78
Maurice Cousineaus	(1,117.00)	Don Robirdses	(1,184.42)
Louis Coscias	222.96	Lonnie Sparkses	3,402,24
John Crafts	5,677,46	Josephine Stevens	338.60
Dan Cronks	1,719.43	Patsy Tyson, R.N.	3,267.73
Earnie Deedses	6,740.44	Herbert Waids	(415.71)
Ken Eagletons	(4.674.27)	Sam Wilkinsons	(821.97)
Walter Ellisons	3,061.71	Tom Willeys, Sr.	264.50
Dave Frankses	8,087,62	Tom Willeys, Jr.	(1.783.51)
Bill Fulchers	1.150.17	Miss Volena Wilson	(267.07)
Howard Gages	150.78	Africa Bible Institute	282.80
Estenio Garcias	1,709.53	Africa Medical Bldg.	714.99
Dr. Ruby Griffin	1,283.93	Audio-Visual	(15.940.61)
Joe Haases	2,180.30	Brazil Bible Institute	14.60
Carlisle Hannas	(1.855.78)	Brazil Vehicle	5,772.19
Fred Herseys	1,510.42	Cuba Emerg. Relief Fd.	(5,445.75)
Bill Joneses	1,624.39	Furlough Car Loan Fund	(45.74)
Ella Rae Jones, R.N.	2,414.49	Operation Fund	(8,705.84)
Sherwood Lees	9,519.42	Project "5.000"	
Archie Mayhews	458.28	Japan Church Loan Fd.	1,192.50
Dan Merkhs	(2,076.35)	Tom Willeys, Sr	
Dr. LaVerne Mileys	3,517.38	Memorial Fund	489.00
Jim McLains	8,315.28	Repatriation	3,370.73
Lonnie Palmers	1,741.36	Trust Fund	3.000.00

\$64,920,42

1968 FOREIGN MISSIONS BUDGET	581,367.96
NEEDED THROUGH OCTOBER 31	484,473.30
RECEIVED THROUGH OCTOBER 31	439,662.28
INCOME NEEDED DUBING NOVEMBER	03 250 35

board of foreign missions: Joseph Ange, chairman; Raymond Riggs, vice chairman; Rolla Smith, secretary; Winford Floyd; Guy Owens; Gene Rogers; R. Eugene Waddell

executive staff: J. Reford Wilson, general director; Jerry Ballard, director of communications; Henry Van Kluyve, director of deputation

*Financial report is for last complete month prior to press

**Amount in parenthesis indicates deficit.

***On leave of absence.

