

Contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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MAY 1960



personally . . .

Pastor, Your Help Is Needed.

For some time now there has been a consistent effort to push CONTACT subscriptions past the 10,000 mark. At this time, we are still short of this goal. We have sought to enlist additional subscriptions in various ways and in a measure have been successful but I am convinced that we will never realize our goal until we have the active support of our pastors.

Our most consistent support to CONTACT has come where pastors have led their church in the adoption of the Church Family Plan. Through this plan every family of the church receives CONTACT each month in their mailbox. The church is billed quarterly at the reduced subscription rate of \$1.00 per year. This is not a heavy expense to the church (A church with 20 families would pay only \$5.00 per quarter.), and many churches consider it as a literature item. Actually, the worth to the church is far above the price of the subscriptions. CONTACT brings information, inspiration, and challenge which will be a blessing to any local church.

Our last issue of CONTACT was mailed to approximately 17,500 Free Will Baptist families. It was a special Foreign Missions issue and went forth with a prayer that it would be a blessing to all who received it. About 12,500 families received this special issue who do not regularly subscribe to CONTACT. Surely many of these families need to be regular subscribers. Pastors, would you help us enlist them? If every pastor who reads these lines would encourage his people to subscribe, I am sure that many would respond. We can supply sample copies and subscription cards if they are needed.

So, pastor, your help is needed! Lead your church in adopting the Family Plan or secure individual subscriptions. We are depending on you. I'll be looking for those additional subscriptions from your church.

Make Your Plans Now.

It is not too early to begin thinking about attendance at the National Association this summer. The 24th annual session of our National Association will be held in Memorial Auditorium at Fresno, California. The dates are July 12-14. "Abounding In The Work Of The Lord" will be the theme of the convention.

So, make your plans now. Pastors, delegates, and visitors will be coming and you will not want to miss the blessing of this convention. Remember, it's Fresno, California, and we will be looking for you.

What About That Shepherd Station?

Almost two years ago the pastors of our church were challenged to give \$10,000 to erect a mission station in Africa. The money has not come in and now instead of talking about a need, we must talk about an *urgent* need! The urgency of this need is best expressed by Dan Merkh, missionary to Africa. He writes as follows.

"The second station, that at Koun, must be started immediately. The missionary is on the field awaiting his place to live and yet the funds have not come in. This station is to be called the Shepherd Station and 100 pastors were asked to give \$100 each so that this station could be built. Are there not enough pastors in our ranks with a real burden for the lost and enough love for *their* missionaries, that could give a gift, if not \$100, at least a gift toward the building of this second station.

The need is made even more urgent due to the fact that the third station has already been granted to us, and it is probable that we have a missionary to man that station within six months. Then, within a year, we will need a home for Dr. Miley and his family, along with adequate facilities that he may carry on a medical work. Yet, in nearly two years, less than half the funds for the second station have been received. Please bear in mind that only one station has been built. Bill and Joy Jones are here awaiting the Shepherd Station, and the third station at Doropo is now ready and needs to be started. Even with these three stations, and Dr. Miley's needs met, the missionary builder will still be without a station.

I earnestly plead with the pastors of our denomination, if you have not given, please do your best, and as quickly as possible, in order that these necessary buildings may be built in the Bondoukou Circle. We pray and trust that you will send an offering immediately to the Foreign Mission Board, earmarked for African buildings. In this way you will be encouraging your missionaries to do the work that God Has called them here to do. We wait (literally) upon you."

IN THE VINEYARD

■ A special missions service was held in Woodbine church, Nashville, in March, by **Homer Willis**, Home Missions Director. A revival meeting was held at Oak Grove church, Big Stone Gap, Virginia, and one is scheduled for First church, Armory, Miss., May 1-8; and a missions revival May 14-15, in Anderson, Indiana.

■ **Mrs. Eunice Edwards**, WNAC Executive Secretary, attended the Women's Fellowship meeting of the NAE convention in Chicago, April 25-29.

■ Executive Secretary **Billy Melvin** will speak in the Miamisburg, Ohio, area May 21-22, and hold a revival May 23-29, in First church, Dayton, Ohio.

■ **Louis Moulton**, Promotional Secretary of Foreign Missions scheduled the following services: Elwood Lane church, Kannapolis, North Carolina—May 1-2, First Church, Goldsboro, N. C., May 2-8, and Bethany church, Norfolk, Virginia, May 15-21.

■ Bible College President **L. C. Johnson** will speak at Fairmount Park church, Norfolk, Virginia, April 17-23, and at the Tidewater Quarterly Meeting April 22. He will be in a Bible Conference at the Thomaston, Georgia, church May 2-6.

■ **Dean Charles A. Thigpen** spoke in revival services in Horse Branch church, Turbeville, S. C., April 10-17.

■ The following itinerary is listed by National League Director, **Ray Turnage**: May 3, San Francisco Bay area, May 4, Southern San Joaquin Valley area, May 5, Los Angeles area, May 6, Central California area, May 7-8, California State League Convention, Ceres.

—FROM THE BOOK STORE—

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THE DEATH OF CHRIST

I KNOW OF NO SUBJECT that I had rather preach, none that thrills me more nor stirs me deeper than the cross, the death of our Saviour. This is the greatest theme of the Bible. It is the central truth of all of God's Word. All Scripture is affected by it and no Scripture can be truly and completely interpreted apart from it. If you know a person's views of the cross you have a key to his entire view of theology. Here are the most crucial teachings in the Word.

No wonder there is such a battle on the theological level in the world today. Of a truth, the greatest controversy in the world is the battle to keep the message of the cross pure, Biblical, and unadulterated by sinful, unconverted man's theories. Satan despises the cross. When Jesus died the imps of hell danced in fiendish glee. They thought the Saviour of man was conquered. Heaven had failed. Today Satan's preachers, transformed as ministers of righteousness. (II Cor. 11:13-15), continue with their theories and suppositions, and conjectures falsely teaching those about them, leading them astray and downward into the pit of hell.

It seems everybody has a theory. The old-time preaching of "thus saith the Lord" is substituted by modern man's, "I suppose" or "I'm almost sure" or "It is believed to be".

Jack Paramore is an evangelist in the Free Will Baptist Church. Though his ministry has not been a long one, it has been a fruitful one. This sermon reveals his concern for souls and his love of Christ.

Where are those who will say "This is it. Here is God's Word. Here is what it says."

I want first to point to at least four "modern" opinions of what the death of Christ means, its significance and importance. This will cause us to appreciate the truth even more. Then we will discuss the true Biblical meaning of His death.

There are those today who contend that the death of Christ was only an accident. It had no meaning. He was a good man and perhaps it was unfortunate that such a good man had to die such a death but nevertheless there is no meaning at all for anyone else. You say, "How foolish and atheistic." I say, "Amen", but yet, there are some biased, unconverted intellectuals who believe this lie. Relying upon their logic and by rationalizing they come to this unscriptural conclusion. This is the end of all who reject the truth of the Word. Any sensible person reading the prophecies of Isaiah 53 or Psalm 22 and the predictions of Christ Himself such as Matthew 16:21-23; 17:22, 23; and 20:17-19 and many more would have to say it was ordained that Jesus had to die. God had a purpose in it. It was no accident.

Then there is the martyr theory stating that Jesus' death was simply that of a martyr dying for what He thought was a great cause. His death is suppose to teach us fidelity to truth and duty. Reformation is the only thing essential for salvation. The modern way of saying it is "Do the best you

can, turn over a new leaf, do better", etc. Oh, many are the ways Satan has of keeping the sinner from the truth and thus from salvation. Can't you see it? If this theory were true you could be saved by believing in Stephen, Paul, or any other of the thousands who have been martyred for Christ's sake. Yet the Bible says, "Neither is there salvation in any other . . ." (Acts 4:12). No, His death is not just the death of a martyr.

A third theory is actually only a modification of the martyr theory. It is commonly referred to as the love of God theory, and pictures Christ playing the leading role in a passion play. It is suppose to work on the emotions of man and thus lead him to repentance. But even this is not the scriptural teaching. God must be propitiated before He can forgive man. Man had sinned against His holiness and that holiness had to be satisfied before man could be reconciled to God.

A fourth theory states that God made an example of his hatred for sin in the death of His Son. When man realizes that Jesus was willing to thus suffer it supposedly takes such a hold upon his heart that he is led to repentance. Now let's not get lost in theology. Think for a moment. Don't you believe this world would know God hates sin even if Jesus never died? Read Genesis 6 and 7. Here God destroyed all living souls except Noah's family of eight. Yes, my friend, if there were no cross I'd know from this Bible example that God hates sin. Therefore the death of Christ must have another meaning, a greater purpose, and a more peculiar significance.

What is this Biblical interpretation? "Show me the real meaning," you say. All right, here it is. The death of Christ can be summarized by three adjectives: sacrificial, substitutional, suffering.

I. IT WAS A SAFRIFICIAL DEATH.

To sacrifice means to offer a gift to satisfy diety. It implies that God has been wronged, sinned against, and angered.

Go with me back to the beginning of the world. Ah, what a privilege it would have been to stand with God and view the creation of this vast universe. The voice of God rang clear, "Let there be light!" There was light, and then step by step as God spoke this universe leaped into place: the firmament, the land and sea, the plants and animals came forth. The stars in their sockets, the moon and planets were rightly placed. How majestic! This was the moving of the Eternal God. Note Genesis 2:7, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul." More effort seems to have been taken as God brought forth His master creation, man. Lovingly, God formed him from the dust and with the kiss of God's breath man began his eternal existence. And then, God planted a garden. How beautiful it must have been before the curse of

(Continued on page 14)

In Times

Like These

A Challenging Article for All With An Interest in Young People

IT IS HARDLY NECESSARY to argue the importance of proper Christian conduct. The Apostle James wrote, "Faith apart from works is dead," and that means that faith in Christ is profitless unless it blossoms into virtue. Christianity is both belief and behavior; it is creed plus conduct. Just as a coin has two sides, the one belonging with the other, so the Christian Way is made up of doctrine and deed. The doctrinal part of our faith is extremely important, and I do not want to suggest that we deplore doctrinal instruction. Doctrine comes first, for it must determine the deed. There is not a single duty in the Christian life that is not based upon one or more of the doctrines of God's Word. It is a serious error to say, as many in our times are saying, that it matters little what one believes just so one lives well.

But let us not dare stop with doctrine. Christian faith embodies conviction and conduct. It is a working faith. Our convictions must manifest themselves in character. Do not ask, as the Modernist does, "Is my faith working an atonement for me?" but rather, "Is my faith in Christ's atonement for me working?" It is my convinced assurance that modern-day youth need to be much concerned with *faith at work*.

I. THE CHALLENGE DICTATED BY OUR TIMES

Professor R. B. Kuiper wrote, "it is no exaggeration to assert that this country of ours is rapidly becoming one large and needy mission field." To attest this statement, I invite you to evaluate the following: "What we are witnessing today is the culminating point of the long story of hu-

Paul E. Grabill

man sin and arrogance."—E. L. Allen
"We are in the midst of an unparalleled carnival of lawlessness."—Christie Innes
"We are fast reaching the point when inventions mark our progress only in the uncomfortable sense of hurrying us faster and faster to perdition."—British Weekly
"We are bringing up a generation of young people many of whom are as depraved in their taste as were the pagans of ancient Rome."—C. E. Jefferson

Whoso loves a child, loves not himself but God; whoso delights a child, labors with God in His workshop of the world of hearts; whoso helps a child, brings the Kingdom of God; whoso saves a child from the fangers of evil, sits in the seat with the builders of cities and the procurers of peace.

—Norman Duncan

It has been said that the nation's fiction is a good thermometer of its moral health. The reading tastes of our modern generation are appalling! It cannot be denied that the smutty novels generally are the best sellers and are most in demand in our city libraries and drug stores.

According to *Common Sense* magazine, American readers each month purchase 7 million "true confession" magazines, 3 million "detective story" magazines, 10 million movie magazines. What makes all this so deplorable is that it is being tolerated and even encouraged by members of the Christian Church. Dr. Charles E. Jefferson says: "It is indeed an amazing thing that a man or woman who claims to be a followers of

the holy-hearted Christ should be willing to get down and wallow in the slime that exudes from the rotten soul of a conscienceless reprobate who has sold himself to the devil."

That phrase in Newman's hymn, "Lead, kindly Light, amid th' encircling gloom," bears a close relation to the life, the religion, and the literature of our times. There is an "encircling gloom," the darkness of a dreadful moral and spiritual apostasy. *To say all this, is to say that modern-day American youth need a helping hand as never before in our history!* As Christians, and as youth leaders and workers, let us not fail to be challenged by it. In an age of spiritual indifference in which twentieth-century man impertinently says, "O Yeah?" to the commands of his Creator, we dare not, must not, be complacent. We have a *life to live* in these perilous times, as well as a *doctrine to teach!* We have a *high and holy calling to fulfill*. The challenge is clearly dictated by our times.

II. THE CURSE DOMINATING OUR TIMES

God said to His children in Leviticus 20:7: "Sanctify yourselves . . . and be ye holy." We are under obligation, therefore, not only to watch our own mental and spiritual and physical health; but we are to be watchful for young people and those who may not know that "The grace of God hath appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us, to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world." (Titus 2:11, 12).

The "amusement craze" of our rock-and-roll beatnik age is a menace not to be taken lightly by youth workers. The fashions of modernity are exceedingly treacherous.

Paul E. Grabill is the National MYF Superintendent of the Missionary Church. This article first appeared in *The Missionary Worker*.

Many young people plunge into every form of gaiety and dissipation, throwing discretion to the winds, and the false assumption that morality is a restraint that interferes with one's happiness. Soon they make wrecks of themselves, lamenting, when it is too late, *the high cost of low living.*

The curse that dominates our modern times is the idea that living for Jesus Christ is something that interferes with, and something that keeps a person from, having a good time. How frequently youth leaders are confronted with problems that arise among young people whose main occupation in life seems to be "having fun." The curse overshadowing our times certainly demands from us a positive leadership in the realm of amusements for young people. The Faith we have taught, must be *practiced!* The important thing is to make certain our young people have the *right kind of fun.* Christian young people must be committed to a course of life in which everything is done to the glory of God. Those who belong to Christ must be taught that they are permitted to enjoy as much as they can *without departing from Christ.* Susannah Wesley, mother of John and Charles, once wrote this to her sons: "Would you judge the lawfulness or unlawfulness of a pleasure then take this rule: *Whatever impairs in tenderness your conscience, weakens your reason, obscures your sense of God or takes the relish off spiritual things, that thing is sin for you.*"

The vogue of social drinking has made slaves out of multitudes of young people. It is associated with the atmosphere of good fellowship and distinction. It is now culturally imperative to toast the bride, salute the New Year, christen the ship, seal the deal, commemorate births and marriages, celebrate good fortune and speed the friend on his way, with alcohol. Have you seen the "man of distinction" in the liquor advertisements? He is the well-dressed executive type, holding a glass of whiskey in his hand. He is supposed to be the "ideal" man. What force must such have upon the seeking, exploring minds of teen-agers! After the fourth child in a year was stricken down by a drunken driver in a Colorado town, the following notice appeared in a local newspaper: "Get the children off the streets. The Man of Distinction is driving."

Dr. Andrew Ivy, a national authority on the alcohol problem, Vice President of the University of Illinois and of the Chicago Committee on Alcoholism, said in an interview: "Perfectly normal people can become addicted to alcohol because it is a habit-forming drug. The alcoholic is not, as some would argue, necessarily a weakling from heredity, experience or training. It is true that some alcoholics have a psychopathic personality, a mental deficiency or a psychosis, and their drinking may be symptomatic of disease, but the largest group consists of people who have become dependent upon alcohol through social drinking."

It is through moderate drinking that many people develop the alcoholic habit. Careful

research has established the fact that in virtually all alcoholics a period of restrained indulgence precedes the excessive use of liquor. Our advice to young people must be to keep away from alcoholism by refusing the first drink. It is all right to drink like a fish provided you drink what fish drink!

Dancing is unquestionably a worldly amusement of which we are to warn our young people. It is to be associated with those things against which the Apostle John warns us in the well-known text of I John 2:15, 16. It is an amusement that conforms to a worldly type, and it is that because worldly people, not Christians, have made it so. A Catholic priest referring to disclosures made in the confessional, is reported to have said, "We at least have the satisfaction of knowing when our young people fall, how and where they fall; and we have found that almost every lapse of female virtue is traceable to the dance." We do not want to suggest that everyone who dances is morally bad, but we do say that dancing encourages a freedom between the sexes which already is too prevalent and which is having disastrous results.

The theater, with the industry that is back of it, remains the most powerful factor in American recreation. In an average year more than four billion tickets to film showings are sold in the United States. Of a total of approximately 77 million people who spend two hours a week in a theater, 28 million are young people, and 11 million are children of thirteen years and under. Christians are generally agreed that there is nothing wrong with the moving picture as such. As an invention it can be used for good purposes. We believe, however, that the dramatic and theatrical industry is basically wrong. From a booklet, "Worldly Amusements in the Light of Scripture," I quote: "It is common knowledge that the moving-picture industry is to a large extent in the hands of unscrupulous men whose only concern is large financial profits regardless of the moral influence of the presentations. A large number of these pictures are a shameful exploitation of the sex instinct; and many others exert a baneful influence through the portrayal of crime, a flippant attitude toward parental authority, the dignity of the government and the Church. Because of these things the movie-theater is undeniably one of the most destructive forces in our country, morally pestilential."

Let me indulge several extracts from theatrical advertisements of "better-class" theaters:

"LOVE! HATE! PASSION!"

"Aflame as never before. A superior film."—Newsweek Magazine

"Magnificently acted drama of illicit love . . . a masterpiece of psychological terror."

"A slick Frenchie. A shuddery tale of intrigue calculated to shake every tingle out of your spine."

My fellow-workers, these advertisements

speak for themselves. Let me assure you, Satan and Hollywood are in partnership! Let us teach our youth to have nothing to do with this modern Sodom and Gomorrah.

III. THE CONSECRATION DEMANDED OF OUR TIMES

I have spent time in the foregoing to briefly bring into focus the stirring challenge and the stinging curse of our times. The "encircling gloom" engulfing our youth, which is settling down under the Devil's cursed lie that life is cheated if it must be lived under the restraints of God's Word, must rest an intolerable burden upon the hearts of all who love young people!

We believe that Christian young people must be committed to the practice of wholesome and symmetrical living. This is something positive, even though it involves negative considerations. Christianity has more do's than don'ts. We must teach our youth that there are some things they are expected *not* to do. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scoffers." (Psa. 1:1). But the things they *may do* and *ought to do* are far more numerous, and yield thrills and joys with which "the pleasures of sin" cannot be compared. I challenge you to make clear to young people everywhere that Christianity is not a "kill-joy" religion. Christian young people can have plenty of fun and still be Christians.

The times in which we live demand a renewed consecration on the part of all Christian young people. Will we accept the

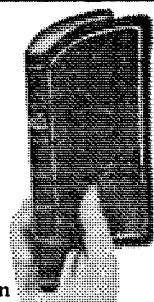
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Religious NEWSFRONT

Armed Forces Day

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Eisenhower proclaimed May 21st as the eleventh annual Armed Forces Day 1960. From May 14th through May 22nd, the public is invited to "Open House" at Military installations.

"Power for Peace" has been chosen as the theme. As Americans, we know that we cannot solely depend upon military strength to fulfill our position and our responsibilities among other nations of the world. The President has therefore urged that all religious faith participate in this observance with appropriate recognition in religious worship in order that "the interdependence of the deep and abiding religious faiths of Americans and our security may be recognized."

Armed Forces Day is an opportune time to give recognition to our men and women who are serving in the armed forces. Prayer offered for those from your church, the appearance of their names in your church bulletin, the encouragement of letter writing to those in the armed forces, are ways in which we can uphold our men and women who are serving God and country.

Special prayer for the ministry of chaplains from your denomination, whose names should also be listed in the bulletin, could be another means of supporting Christian witness in the military. Encourage members of the active and reserve military establishments to attend services in uniform. Armed Forces Day 1960 presents an opportunity to meet the challenge of support for our missionaries in the military. Every serviceman and woman from your congregation can be a missionary in uniform. Let them know their church stands behind them.

Brothers in Jesus?

PARIS (EP)—During his tour of France, the strong man of Communism greeted Greek Ambassador F. Filon as a "brother in Jesus." Premier Nikita Khrushchev made the statement on the occasion when he was introduced to the Paris diplomatic corps.

"Yes, of course we are," Khrushchev said to the surprised Ambassador. "You brought Christianity to us and we are very grateful."

In another public statement, Khrushchev told his French audience that he disagrees with Christ Who taught His disciples to "turn the other cheek." While visiting the historic city of Rouen, France, Khrushchev said, "There is much in Christianity that is common to us Communists. Only I do not agree when (Christ) says when you are hit on the right cheek, turn the left cheek.

If I am hit on the left cheek, I hit right back on the right cheek so hard his head may fall off. Christ did well when He chased the money-lenders out of the temple with a whip."

In more private sessions, Khrushchev reportedly told President Charles de Gaulle, a devout Roman Catholic, that he did not believe in God, but that he regretted it.

Dead Sea Discoveries

JERUSALEM, Israeli Sector (EP)—One of the biggest and most difficult archeological expeditions ever undertaken in the Holy Land, a two-week search of caves dotting the sheer cliff above the Dead Sea, has unearthed at least one ancient parchment fragment containing a Biblical passage. The expedition, led by Hebrew University archeologists, also produced two groups of fragile twisted papyrus documents or letters, as yet unopened, and also leather jackets worn by Hebrew rebels who fought against the Romans almost 2,000 years ago. Virtually intact, the jackets were the first of their kind ever uncovered. These and other findings are expected to shed new light on the first centuries of the Christian era.

Advocated Premarital Sex

URBANA, Ill. (EP)—The University of Illinois has announced the dismissal of an assistant professor of biology who had advocated premarital sexual relations in a letter to the student newspaper, the *Daily Illini*.

In his letter, Leo F. Koch, 44, had declared: "A mutually satisfactory sexual experience would eliminate the need for many hours of frustrating petting and lead to much happier and longer-lasting marriages among your younger men and women." He had expressed the view that students who limit themselves to mere petting may indicate "an extreme degree of brainwashing by our religious and civil authorities in the name of virtue and purity."

The university announced that Koch was relieved of all his duties upon recommendation of the executive committee of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In a letter approving the decision of the committee, Dr. David D. Henry, university president, declared: "With you, I consider Prof. Koch's letter a grave breach of academic responsibility. The views expressed are offensive and repugnant, contrary to commonly accepted standards of morality, and their public espousal may be interpreted as encouragement of immoral behavior."

But apparently the professor's views had met with some student approval. Following Dr. Henry's statement, he was hanged in effigy.

Comments on Withdrawal

NEW YORK (EP)—Charges that withdrawal of the 43,000-member First Baptist church of Wichita, Kan., from the American Baptist Convention occurred in protest to the denomination's involvement with the National Council of Churches at the time of the Air Force Manual scandal are false, according to an ABC official here.

Dr. W. Hubert Porter, the ABC's associate general secretary, said the action was "purely coincidental" with the breaking of the Air Force Manual story and that the church's board of deacons made its recommendation (by a vote of 32 to 7) more than a week before the story broke.

Largest church in the American Baptist Convention, the Wichita church contributes \$33,000 annually toward support of the ABC program. Its members voted 1,170 to 235 endorsing the board of deacons' resolution to withhold funds from the ABC following nearly a month of debate among laymen, deacons and clergy.

New Bible Law

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (EP)—A bill signed by Pa.'s Governor David L. Lawrence last December, has excused school children from reading the Bible on a written request from their parents.

Now some citizens are asserting that this new law is unconstitutional because it permits Bible-reading in public schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Schempp of Roslyn, Pa., Unitarians, were the ones who took the matter to court. Last year, this couple won a victory in a similar test of Pa.'s compulsory Bible reading law. The old legislation was declared unconstitutional by a district federal court and this decision has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Guilty of Manslaughter

MELBOURNE, Australia (EP)—Because he refused to give his infant son a blood transfusion last January, a jury here found 29-year-old Alvin Leonard Jehu guilty of manslaughter. His child died of jaundice.

Jehu, a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses sect, was sentenced to five years in jail, but freed when the jury recommended mercy. The jury urged the court to give hospitals power to treat such cases which may arise in the future, in spite of parents' religious objections, in order to save lives.

Jehu and his wife stoutly defended their action, however, stating that if placed in a similar situation again, they would not allow their children to have a blood transfusion performed.

**By
Fred Hall**



LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT OUR CHURCH MUSIC

WE AS FREE WILL BAPTISTS have one of the greatest opportunities for advancement in our history. We have unprecedented privileges to increase our ministry in every part of our field of service. Many of our churches are taking advantage of the opportunities and are trying their best to further the name of Christ throughout their community. To these churches, and to any of our Free Will Baptist churches for that matter, I would like to say, "Take a look, take a GOOD look, at your church music program."

Many churches are losing out on a music program simply because they have never really seen the need of it. While they apply all the modern methods they can find toward evangelizing their community, they forget the musical part of their evangelization obligation. I have seen many churches whose program of visitation, teaching, and preaching was the best to be found anywhere, but whose program of music was lagging far behind. The problem is that they really haven't seen the need of an effective music program. In fact, I have spoken to many pastors who have made the statement, "What does it matter what my people sing, as long as they sing something?" Doesn't that remind you of so many of the sincere, but hell-bound, people in our world who say, "What does it matter what you believe, as long as you believe something?" Let me say to the pastors that it does matter what you sing and what you encourage your people to sing. Much of the responsibility of creating a good music program in any church will rest upon the shoulders of the pastor.

If a church really wants a good music program, one that will thrill the hearts of Christians and will help to win the lost, then it can have one. There is no church too small in our denomination to have just such a program. One of the first steps in creating a good music program for any church is to consider your present condition and then begin to do something about it. In the following paragraphs try to picture in your own mind what your church is doing toward creating or enriching its music program.

ARE YOU USING THE CHILDREN?

We may as well begin at the very foundation of the church, the children in the Sunday School. Every Free Will Baptist church that I have ever had any contact with has had within its ministry a Sunday School. The size of the Sunday School doesn't matter; where there is such a school, there are children. The alert church will recognize the "Gold Mine" of musical talent contained within their young following.

Of course, anywhere you find children, especially very young ones, you will find running, jumping, yelling, crying, and a general confusion of boundless energy. Why

Fred Hall is a Junior at Free Will Baptist Bible College. He has a great love for music and is very active in the musical activities of the School.

not put that energy to work for God? Even a child I have ever seen has had a love for singing and for music in general. Organized into a choir, they sometimes outsing the best of the adult choirs of any church. Their enthusiasm will rub off on you and you will find they create a real atmosphere of Christian zeal within the church.

The future yield of using the children in singing can readily be seen if you look about you among your adult members. Many can remember their childhood days in Sunday School when they sang such choruses as "Climb, Climb Up Sunshine Mountain" and "Thank You Lord" and many others. They made a real difference in many adult lives and still will today in the lives of the children in your church.

You may be able to win some parents by using their children in the singing of the church. It is a sure thing that Mom and Dad will not stay away if little Johnny or Sue is going to sing in the Youth Choir at night. By using the Youth Choir you may be able to present the plan of salvation to the parents and win them to Christ.

HOW ABOUT THE TEEN-AGERS AND YOUNG ADULTS?

Many of our schools today are carrying on a training program that could be great help to our churches. This is the musical training that our young people are receiving in the public schools. The teen-agers who are attending these schools and the young adults who are about to graduate, or have graduated, have received this training and are able to serve the church in singing because of it. Here is a training program that costs the church absolutely nothing and may mean a great benefit if use is made of it.

It is a known fact that we lose many of our young people permanently from the church between the ages of sixteen and twenty. The main reason that we lose them is the fact that we, as a church, do not provide them with the proper activities to hold them. What better way is there to make your youth active in the church, and interested, than to let them sing? This sort of activity will not only provide them with an interest in the church, but will also help to enrich their spiritual lives.

Are your young people organized into a singing group? If not, then why not begin right now to encourage just such a group. You will be surprised at the results when your young people start singing. Keep them active in the church through your music program.

DON'T FORGET THE ADULTS!

Here is where a good music program really pays off in the rendering of good music in the worship and evangelistic services. If the music program has been followed through from the children in the Sunday School to adulthood, when an adult is ready to come into the choir they will have already received the training necessary for the type

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music the choir will sing. This is the most active group of singers that the church will have and should be the best trained.

In the average Free Will Baptist Church the adult choir is not well trained. Only recently have any of our churches begun a training program of church music. However, even among the untrained adult singers in the church may be found many talented voices. If they can be put to work, you will find that they prove to be most effective in the choir. The method of enlisting adult singers for the choir varies from church to church as different conditions are involved among specific groups of people. The best method for Free Will Baptist Churches today, I believe, would be simply a consistent encouragement for the adults to share a part in the music ministry of the local church.

The adult choir is the group which can be used for the singing of the more difficult hymns and anthems for the worship services. Many choirs have been emptied of members because all they ever sang was what could be sung by any congregation. If the adult choir has a challenge before them in the form of a difficult piece of music, they will work harder and be more interested in the music program. The choir should be reminded of their great responsibility in the church from time to time in order to insure a proper attitude toward their work.

IS THERE A POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL GROUPS?

Nothing that is within the church music program enriches it as special groups do. Groups such as duets, quartets, trios, octets, and sextets seem to add a little variety to the music of the services. The advantage of these groups is found in the fact that they are able to sing hymns or gospel songs that perhaps would not be fitted to a larger group such as the choir. These groups could also be used very effectively if the church carries on any radio ministry. It is much easier to use a group of from three to eight people in a radio studio than to crowd a thirty voice choir into the same space.

These special groups can be easily formed from the existing choir that may be in the church. Use your best soprano, alto, tenor, and bass singers in a quartet, or encourage the formation of such groups within the choir and you will probably find they will join themselves together into singing groups. If the church has any choir at all, it should be able to have these special groups for the services and special occasions.

DOES YOUR MUSIC HAVE A PURPOSE?

In any church music program the hymns and gospel songs that are used should have a real purpose behind them. No hymn should ever be sung simply to take up time before the message or to provide entertain-

Evangelicals Meet In Chicago



DR. GRADY WILSON



DR. BOB PIERCE

OUTSTANDING LEADERS in many fields were on the program to address the 18th Annual Convention of the National Association of Evangelicals held April 26-29 in Chicago.

Those bringing major messages during the convention included Dr. Herbert S. Mekeel, NAE President; Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, Secretary of Public Affairs; Rev. Arthur F. Glasser, Associate Home Director for the China Inland Mission; Dr. Fred G. Ferris, Executive Director of the World Evangelical Fellowship; and Dr. Vernon C. Grounds, President of Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary.

Two special luncheons were held with Dr. Grady Wilson, Associate Evangelist with the Billy Graham team, and Dr. Bob Pierce, President of World Vision, as speakers.

Sometimes called a "convention of conventions" because of the many sessions

which are held simultaneously, the NAE Convention again this year featured a "cavalcade of commissions."

The Evangelical Action Commission had Dr. Fred Swartz speaking two days on "The Christian and Communism," and on the program of the Foreign Missions Commission were such people as Larry Ward, Executive Secretary of the Evangelical Press Association, Dr. Clarence W. Jones, and Dr. Harold Street. Programs of the Women's Fellowship, Social Action Commission, the Commission on Evangelism and Church Extension, and the Chaplains Commission were also outstanding.

The musical part of the sessions featured gospel recording artists from many sections of the nation. These included Ronnie Avalone, Bill Carle, Rudy Atwood, John Webb, and others.

ment for the congregation. The hymns that are used in the service should lead up to the preaching of the Word. Each hymn should have in its text something of the spirit of the message that the pastor will bring to the people when the singing is ended. This will help make the service more meaningful to all present and much easier for the sinner to accept the Saviour.

Many hymns are sung in our churches only to take up time. A hymn must have a real purpose in order to be effective in the service. One brother pastor I know relates the story about a service in which the message being delivered was concerning hell. A terrible picture was painted of that awful place and many of the sinners in the service were holding on to the backs of their pews to keep from falling into such a place. At the close of the message the pastor called for an invitation number. The song leader

quietly stood up and announced the hymn number and then began to sing, "I Want to Go There." Needless to say, the effect of the message was reduced to absolutely nothing. This is an example of the attitude of someone who did not know the importance of the music having real purpose in the church.

Let the music that the church sings both in the congregation and in the choir serve a real purpose. It can thrill hearts and touch the sinner with a message of Grace and pardon if we will use it right.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Every individual in the church must bear a responsibility in developing the church music to a point where it can glorify our Lord to the greatest extent. The talent in any church can only be used as the individ-

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HAVE YOU TRIED THIS

by Robert Hill

This idea of consolidation, which has been tried for several months, has proven to be very successful. Most visitation groups are poorly attended when held on Thursday night. Usually, the reason for such poor attendance is that folks must go to church two nights in a row, Wednesday night prayer meeting and Thursday night visitation.

Make Wednesday night one of the most important of the week by beginning at 6:15 p.m., with a fellowship supper. Each family should bring a dish or two of food and spread it with other food brought by those attending. A specific menu could be arranged, asking those who plan to attend to bring a salad, meat, bread, or desert. The menu could be rotated weekly.

Visitation should then begin at 6:45, immediately following the supper. The weekly supper is important because many folks who are working do not get home until 5:30 or so, and would not have time to prepare a full meal for their family and still get to church at 6:45 for visitation. If they were responsible for only one dish, they could prepare it and come for the fellowship supper on time.

Visitation assignments should be passed out while the supper is being finished. It is important that all prospects be assigned and that all visitors go out immediately at 6:45. They are to return to the church at 7:30 for the mid-week service. This will give them only 45 minutes for visitation but in most cases they are sure to find people at home. Even though they will be able to make only one or two calls, there will be many more visitors taking part and therefore there will be more visits made.

Mid-week prayer meeting should follow from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. The attendance will greatly increase during this service. You will hear testimonies about the visits made, prayer requests, and will experience a real concern for lost souls.

The weekly teachers and officers' meeting should follow the mid-week service. This meeting is of extreme importance since plans should be made for the coming Sunday. A general assembly of all teachers and officers should be held for the first 10 minutes for announcements, promotional ideas, etc., and then the teachers and officers should meet with their superintendents for the remainder of the meeting. Teaching tips and ideas should be discussed for the coming lesson.

In Times Like These

(Continued from page 5)

challenge, also? Will we give ourselves to a resigned, unqualified, unconditional surrender to Christ? God impress us with the duty and privilege of being separate from the world! Dare to be different and enjoy it! We must combat worldliness with a vital piety. You cannot shovel darkness from a room, but you can turn on a light. Diversion is good provided it harmonizes with your conversion. There is a line that divides the Church and the World, the Christian youth from the unsaved young person. Youth Leader, do not erase it! Do not wink at it! Do not cross it! "Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:15, 16).

Our times—times like these—demand our fullest consecration. First things first! We were not born into a playground. Life is serious business!

"We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;

We have hard work to do, and loads to lift;

Shun not the struggle—face it! 'tis God's gift."



Life In The Son—Robert Shank. Westcott Publishers, 380 pp., \$4.95. Since the doctrine of perseverance is a striking point of difference between the Free Will Baptist Church and some other groups, every Free Will Baptist minister should have a copy of this book. It was refreshing for this reviewer to come across a book that so forcefully presents "the other side." The reader will be somewhat surprised to learn that this book comes from the pen of a man who serves in the Southern Baptist denomination—a group which traditionally has held to the doctrine of "once saved, always saved." Mr. Shank's attention to the Scriptures will be appreciated. His concern is "what saith the Scriptures?" There are certain areas within the book where I did not fully agree with Mr. Shank, but I am indebted to him for this fine work. It is written in a very readable style and is rich in spiritual truth and insight. The book could possibly be one of the most controversial books of 1960. The introduction is given by William W. Adams, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.—Billy A. Melvin

Premarital Pastoral Care and Counseling—Wayne E. Oates, Broadman, 71 pp., \$1.00. Every conscientious minister has to decide

what his responsibility is to those who plan to be married. When several couples whose ceremony he has performed are divorced, he wonders, "Did I do my part?"

This 71-page book offers some helpful suggestions in this area. I doubt if many pastors could carry on such a detailed premarital training program as the author suggests, but the general ideas can be applied to one's own local situation.

The suggestion that each pastor develop a detailed outline of Biblical material on husband-wife relationship is good.

Dr. Oates' own suggested outline is helpful, although previous studies in counseling would help the pastor to make more practical use of the book.

Many Free Will Baptists will appreciate the section on "Counseling in a Rural Church Setting." However, in my opinion it should have been longer.

As a whole, this work will help the Christian minister not to become a "marrying parson."—Eugene Waddell

Looking Toward Marriage, Broadman Press, 35¢, is the general theme for a series of excellent booklets. Various titles are:

Religion and Marriage by Joe W. Barton

Marriage and Money by Reuben Herring

When Faith Is Not Shared by Vernon B. Richardson

What Is Love? by Winnie R. Pearce

There They Go! by Claude U. Broach

My Folks Don't Understand by Jack Watson

Looking for Someone? by Ray F. Koonce

What Does the Bible Say? by Martha Boone Leavell

Maturity for Marriage by W. Payton Kolb

These booklets are well written and to the point and are recommended for every Pastor's bookshelf. These booklets should also be made available to the young people through the church library for their own reading and discussion.—Eunice Edwards

Through Sunlight And Shadow — Evelyn Bauer. Herald Press, 220 pp., \$2.95. This book is the interesting story of the author who spent three years as a missionary in India. Her missionary work was brought to an abrupt end by a tragedy in her life, but because of her abiding faith in God, she used this tragedy to be a challenge and blessing to many. The book is enjoyable reading and is recommended for young people as well as adults. It is another example of Romans 8:28.—MDM

Just For Mothers — Dorothy Haskins. Zondervan, 62 pp., \$1.00. Very practical reading for any mother and especially the Christian mother. The author, who is quite qualified for the task, pictures mothers as superwomen, psychologists, philosophers, coaches, public relation experts, financial wizards, social chairmen, sex authorities, spiritual guides, and human beings. You will enjoy reading this delightful approach to the problems of motherhood.—MDM

What's Your Problem?



LOUIS H. MOULTON

Q. Is the doctrine that some teach that Christ will come the second time, and set up a kingdom on the earth, and reign one thousand years in harmony with Free Will Baptist doctrine?

A. It all depends on whether you are a "pre" or "post" millennial Free Will Baptist. To the pre-millennial believer it is in perfect harmony with Free Will Baptist doctrine. To the "post" it is not. There is a group which is to live and reign with Christ for a thousand years according to Revelation 20:4. The rest of the dead live not again until the thousand years are finished. When the thousand years are finished, Satan is to be loosed from out of his prison and shall go forth to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth. The indication is certainly that the thousand year reign is to be upon the earth. This belief is not out of harmony with Free Will Baptist doctrine.

Q. We hold Easter as the time of Jesus' resurrection following his death three days before. Is this date correct?

A. The day of Jesus' birth is unknown. We are not told in the Bible to celebrate his birthday. But the day of his death (Nisan 14, A. D. 31), Jesus asked His disciples to observe—"in remembrance of me." It is to show his death that Christ commanded his disciples to continue the observance of the Passover meal with the symbols of unleavened bread and wine (Luke 22:19, 20). Paul explained in 1 Corinthians 5:7-8, "Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" and then went on to explain further the proper manner of our observance of the day the Savior died as our Passover Lamb.

Q. Should a church let a person be a teacher or deacon if they smoke?

A. They should not but many do. This does not make it right. Without a doubt smoking is an unclean habit. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing . . ." Paul admonished Timothy in 1 Tim. 4:12 ". . . be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Again in 1 Peter 2:21, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, *leaving us an example*, that ye should follow his steps." Certainly a person in a place of teaching or leadership should be an example and Christ is the pattern.

Q. As a general rule I think your answers to "What's your problem?" come close to New Testament Christianity. But your answer to the query concerning television in March Contact is "weak as water" to my way of thinking. Recently John R. Rice in his paper made a similar weasley defense of television vs. the movies. Each argument reminded me of a witty lawyer defending a guilty client. Thinking Christians know that movies, radio, and television all fit perfectly into the devil's subtle program. We who profess to be followers of Christ Jesus, if we are to stem the engulfing tide of atheism, will have to give up not only television and radio as now operated but many more gadgets which have caused us to be led into this "fools paradise."

A. To begin with friend I made no defense of television and do not now. If television and radio offend you then have nothing to do with them. I presume from your letter that you still use a horse and buggy and would not think of riding in such modern conveyances as automobiles or planes. These surely fall into the category of fools paradise gadgets. The Bible teaches a separated, consecrated life for Christians (2 Corinthians 6:17) and I advocate the same. For further comment on television I refer you again to my answer in the March issue of CONTACT.

Q. Quite often in my presentation of one of our national projects I challenge the congregation to give. The pastor knows that when I come with my particular message an offering is usual. Yet a pastor sometimes will announce to the congregation that an offering plate will be at the door if anyone desires to give. I wish we could do something about this.

A. So do I because I run into the same experience occasionally. Such a pastor really needs his vision enlarged. Since you and I both get to a particular church so seldom, a second offering for missions received at the close of the service after the church has already received its regular offering would not be too much. This happens quite often with me and I have never heard any real complaint about a second offering since it is such a rare thing. I wish that we could get it over to every pastor that it is to his advantage, to the advantage of the church, and to the advantage of the individual to teach his people to give. I wish also that we could get our preachers to approach the subject of giving positively instead of negatively. I have seen some preachers almost back up to a congregation to receive an offering. Such ought not to be. We are told that one out of every six verses in the four gospels deal with man's material possessions in relationship to God and our stewardship.

Cooperative Receipts Show Slight Increase

Cooperative giving is the best way to undergird the total program of our National Association. There is an increasing need for systematic income to the work of our denomination.

The month of March revealed a slight increase in total cooperative giving. We are happy to call attention to a cooperative gift from the state of Oregon and the addition of another church to our list of contributors. The Bethany Free Will Baptist Church of Norfolk, Virginia, where Rev. Raymond Riggs is pastor, is our latest addition.

MARCH COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

ALABAMA		
State Association		60.13
ARKANSAS		
State Association		219.00
ARIZONA		
State Association		38.30
CALIFORNIA		
State Association		399.59
FLORIDA		
State Association		265.85
GEORGIA		
State Association		202.95
ILLINOIS		
Oak Grove church, Scheller	8.40	
Johnston City church	75.71	84.11
MISSOURI		
State Association		690.40
NORTH CAROLINA		
Swannanoa church		88.85
NEW MEXICO		
Grants church	30.97	
First church, Hobbs	62.00	92.97
OKLAHOMA		
State Association		563.85
OREGON		
Audria Metcalf, Springfield		10.00
TENNESSEE		
Rock Springs church, Charlotte	100.00	
Wooddale church, Knoxville	37.26	
Horton Heights church, Nashville	137.20	
Oak Grove, Charlotte	12.41	
Ashland City church	113.75	
Olivet church, Clarksville	242.50	643.12
TEXAS		
State Association		135.83
VIRGINIA		
Bethany church, Norfolk		53.58
Total undesignated receipts		3,548.53

DESIGNATED RECEIPTS		
Florida	367.60	
Oklahoma	20.00	
Oregon	5.00	
Tennessee	102.50	
Total designated receipts		495.10
Total to account for		4,043.63

DISBURSEMENTS		
Headquarters Trustees	106.45	
Bible College	709.71	
Home Missions	681.81	
Foreign Missions	1,231.18	
Executive Dept.	891.67	
Sunday School Dept.	188.43	
League Dept.	120.45	
Superannuation Board	106.43	
Designated to local		
Superannuation	7.50	4,043.63



Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Executive Secretary



YPA Rally a Success

A State YPA Rally was held in Wilson, N. C. on March 5, 1960. It was a tremendous success. Approximately 500 young people from all sections of the state were present and were challenged by the missionary emphasis program. By means of the program, those present took a tour of our Free Will Baptist mission fields. All participants on the program were young people under the direction of their District Youth Sponsor.

The program was climaxed by a banquet at which the King and Queen were crowned. They were chosen by the YPA or GTA which turned in the most money for the National project which was to buy a station wagon for missionaries to use while home on furlough. The Saratoga YPA's candidates were crowned. Their YPA turned in \$263.00 on the project. The next highest amount was \$162 by the Wilson YPA. A total amount from all the groups turned in for the project amounted to \$850.25.

Two attendants for the King and Queen were chosen from the Auxiliary with the largest percentage of their members present for the Rally. They were the Grace Free Will Baptist YPA's, Greenville with 32 out of 33 members present. The other two attendants were the candidates for King and

Queen from the Auxiliary with the largest number of visitors present for the Rally. They were Malachi's Chapel, Columbia, with ten visitors.

After the banquet, the film, "Contrary Winds" was shown. Seven young people responded to the invitation for full surrender to the service of Jesus.

Women at Work

Nashville, Tennessee. East Nashville enjoyed a study course on Stewardship conducted by Mrs. Eunice Edwards March 9, 1960. The YPA is mailing out the newsletter from the Eagletons in Brazil.

Nashville, Tenn. Horton Heights reports the Installation of officers for the YPA. This group is sponsoring a church library. Mrs. Rolla Smith conducted a study course on the manual.

Lawnwood, Okla. The YPA and GTA met in January for program study and election

of the yearly officers. Both groups donated comic books for the Children's Medical Center of Tulsa as a project. The Woman's Auxiliary sponsored a Progressive Party in enlistment endeavor and gained one new member as a result.

Littleton, N. H. After prayer service on Wednesday, March 9, the women of the Littleton church met to elect officers for the Woman's Auxiliary.

Sulphur, Oklahoma. A state Auxiliary Workshop was held on March 15. Theme for the workshop was "Know" taken from Isaiah 5:19. The sessions were to instruct, inform and inspire. Those who attended were *instructed* in teaching youth and in the art of prayer. They were *informed* about the standing of the state in meeting its quota on the National Project. Everyone was *inspired* by the courses, the speakers, and the messages in song.

North Crossett, Ark. The Saline District met at the North Crossett Church on February 20th. The theme for the day was "They Remembered His Words by Enlisting Others." Mrs. Eunice Edwards of Nashville, Tennessee spoke at 11 o'clock on "We Must Die in Order to Live." Included in the afternoon session was a workshop on Enlistment.

Kingsport, Tenn. The Woman's Auxiliary of Fellowship Church met March 15. Following the business session the pastor, Rev. Winston Sweeney, gave a study course on "The Manual of the Woman's Auxiliary." After the course, the hostess served refreshments. There were 16 present.

Drumright, Okla. Those who attended the First Mission Quarterly Meeting were delighted with the unique arrangements for lunch. The women decorated a room to represent each field where we have a missionary. The room was named India, Japan, etc., and on the table was a picture of the missionaries serving that area. Before partaking of the meal, prayer was offered for the missionaries.

Norman, Oklahoma. First Church reports a reorganization of the Woman's Auxiliary. Fourteen women attended the meeting.

Bixby, Okla. A GTA has been organized with 11 charter members. The Youth Chairman and Assistant Youth Chairman of the Woman's Auxiliary helped in the organization.

Allen, Okla. The Executive Committee met the first of the year to plan activities for the first quarter. These included a meeting for business and the Yearbook program each month, one service each month at Arnold's Nursing Home in Sapulpa, and one Study Class each month. Present enrollment is 18. A GTA was organized February 3 with 7 members.

GLANCING AROUND THE STATES



Pictured above is the congregation of the Free Will Baptist Church in Littleton, N. H. It is the only Baptist Church within the city which has a population of 6,000. Rev. Mack C. Owens is the pastor.

Holds Youth Rally

BUHL, IDAHO—Approximately 100 people attended a youth rally held here recently at the Free Will Baptist Church. Rudy Johnson of King's Garden, Seattle, Washington was the guest speaker. The film "The Teenager" was also shown. Mr. Johnson remained at the church for a revival which resulted in 20 conversions and 13 rededications.

Seeks Names and Addresses

DARLINGTON, S. C.—The State Home Mission Board of South Carolina would like to have the names and addresses of Free Will Baptists living in areas within the State without a Free Will Baptist Church. The board is interested in organizing churches within these areas. Please mail names and addresses to Rev. Clarence Lambert, 104 Fleming Street, Darlington, South Carolina.

Church Is Growing

RICHLANDS, VA.—From eleven members in 1957, the Free Will Baptist Church here has grown to a membership of 52. There are presently 58 members enrolled in the Sunday School. The League is averaging about 25 per Sunday. The church recently experienced a very successful revival.

Dedicates New Building

MT. VERNON, ILL.—The Bakerville Free Will Baptist Church dedicated a new

educational building on March 6, 1960. The new building includes classrooms, baptistry, rest rooms, and basement space for future classrooms. Cost was approximately \$8,500. Dr. Burwell brought the dedication message. Rev. Howard Flota is pastor of the church.

New Conference

WINTERS, CALIF. — Representatives of five Free Will Baptist Churches met here recently for the purpose of establishing a new quarterly conference. The following officers were elected: Moderator, Rev. Paul Lee; Assistant Moderator, Frank Helms; Clerk, Billie M. Constant; Assistant Clerk, Betty Bickham; Treasurer, Lorene Ware. An executive board was also elected. The five churches that constitute this new quarterly conference known as Group 4 of the Golden Gate Association are churches from Sacramento, Mt. Pleasant, Olivehurst, Esparto, and Winters, California.

Church Organized

GRANTS, NEW MEXICO—The Free Will Baptist Mission of this city was recently organized into a church. Rev. A. F. Ferguson brought the message and Rev. McPhail presented the Bible. Officers of the church were elected as follows: Mrs. Warren Bell, Clerk; Mr. Arthur D. Cook, treasurer; Mr. Thomas Dickerson, Sunday School Superintendent; Mr. Glen Diacon, Mr. Warren Bell; and Mr. Arthur D. Cook, trustees. Rev. S. M. Aragon was called as pastor.

Church Robes Choir

MOUNTAIN GROVE, MO.—The First Free Will Baptist Church has purchased 55 robes for the choir members according to the pastor, Rev. O. T. Dixon. The robes are maroon in color, offset by a white collar and are designed with a new tailored look. The robes were used the first time during the Easter services when the new \$40,000.00 auditorium was occupied. Rev. Dixon also states that an anonymous gift for the purpose of underwriting the expense of a 65 foot tower for the new building has been received and accepted by the church.

Church Builds Parsonage

KINGSPORT, TENN.—The Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church located here recently completed a new brick parsonage. The parsonage is 70 feet long and 28 feet wide, consisting of 4 bedrooms, living room, kitchen-dining room, utility, pastor's study, and two baths. The house also has a carport and is valued at \$21,500. Mr. T. R. Hayes, local contractor and member of the Fellowship Church, was the builder. Rev. Winston Sweeney is the pastor.

Executive Committee of North Carolina Meets

MOUNT OLIVE, N. C.—The Rev. Michael Pelt, secretary of the North Carolina State Convention, reported today action taken by the Executive Committee in a meeting in Mount Olive where the Committee transacted interim business for the Convention.

The Rev. R. H. Jackson was elected vice-president of the Convention to succeed the Rev. J. A. Evans who resigned his office upon assuming the pastorate of the Free Will Baptist Church in Bryan, Texas.

A special resolution was passed commending Mount Olive College for the progress it has made toward achieving regional accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The resolution also expressed the confidence of the Committee in the administration of the College, approved Sunday, April 24, as "Challenge Day" for the College, and called upon Free Will Baptist Churches to make special gifts on this day to assist the College in its accreditation drive. An appropriation of \$500 was made to the State Convention Student Loan Fund at Mount Olive College in keeping with a motion passed at the 1959 session of the Convention.

Davis Church in Carteret County was approved as the site for the 1960 Convention, and a program committee was appointed consisting of Michael Pelt, E. E. Edwards, and R. H. Jackson. Rev. N. B. Barrow of Ayden, president of the Convention, presided over the meeting.

Kentucky Conference Meets

SHELBY GAP, KY.—The Letcher County Conference met here recently at the Hilton Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Clyde Kelley



Rev. Roy Herron of Odessa, Texas, (pictured above) was the evangelist for a recent revival at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dallas. Rev. H. Z. Cox is pastor of the Dallas Church.

was elected as moderator and Rev. Eugene Adkins as his assistant. All 16 churches of the conference reported and there were visiting delegates from Kentucky and Ohio. Rev. Robert Shockey gave a report of the work of the National Association and Charles Gallion gave a report of the Sunday School. The morning message was given by Rev. Carl Centers followed by Rev. Enoch Rose. The following contributions were noted from the conference: Home Missions \$31.00, Foreign Missions \$53.00, Youth Work \$10.00, Orphanage \$5.50.

Churches Merge

WAYNE, MICH.—Two Free Will Baptist Churches have merged in this city. The Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church merged with the Garden City Church. The merged group is now averaging more than 60 in Sunday School. Rev. Bob L. Jones is serving as pastor.

New Church Organized

DURANT, OKLA.—A Free Will Baptist Church has been organized here with fifteen charter members. This organization culminates the carefully laid ground-work of the State Mission Board and State missionary, Paul W. Inbody. Rev. Ira Smithey was elected to serve as pastor. The State Missions Board conducted the organization service with chairman, Lonnie DeVault, officiating.

New Jersey Church

ELMER, N. J.—Rev. Wilburn Massie is pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church here. He requests prayer for the church and additional laborers for this field. If you know of Free Will Baptists in the area, send their name and address to Rev. Massie at Box 237, Elmer, N. J.

Revival Comes

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—The Unity Free

Will Baptist Church here experienced genuine revival recently. There was such a moving of the Spirit of God that the services were extended beyond the announced closing date. Rev. Milton Worthington was the evangelist. Rev. Irvin Hyman, pastor of the church, reports that revival spirit is still manifest in the church.

Minister of Education

FORT WORTH, TEX.—Trinity Church now has the services of a minister of education. He is Odus Eubanks who was appointed by Pastor M. L. Sutton to the position.

Perfect Attendance

TUPELO, MISS.—The Free Will Baptist Church here had 66 pupils who won perfect attendance awards in Sunday School. Twelve pupils won the year award, eleven pupils won the two year award, four pupils won the three year award, fourteen pupils won four year awards, eleven pupils won five year awards, four pupils won six year awards, seven pupils won seven year awards, two pupils won twelve year awards, and one pupil, L. E. Duncan, won a twenty year award.

Place of Worship

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Services of the Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church are now being held at Wilson Elementary School, 1601 Wilson Blvd., North Arlington. Sunday School is at 10:00 A.M., and worship is at 11:00 A.M. Prayer meetings continue to be held in homes. Missionary Walker states, "Our purpose is to reach the lost people with the gospel and to train them in the faith. We are here to have a gospel preaching and Bible teaching church."

Pre-Easter Revival

WELEETKA, OKLA.—The Free Will Baptist Church here enjoyed true revival the week of April 11-17. During the week 14 were converted, 7 rededicated their lives to the Lord, and 12 united with the church. On the closing day of the revival 16 were

baptized. Rev. Charles H. Meyers is pastor of the church.

Receives Grant

BACLIFF, TEX.—The Little Church Foundation recently gave a grant of \$500 to the Bayshore Free Will Baptist Church. Their formal opening was on May 5 with Rev. Everett Hellard of Houston as guest speaker.

News Bits

NASHVILLE, TENN.—A study committee is currently studying the possibility of rearranging the present three quarterly meetings in southern Illinois so that a State Association would be possible. . . . Harvey Hill was in a revival recently at New Hope Church in Kansas City, Kansas. . . . Rev. Joe Haas, presently pastor of the Hyde Park Church in Norfolk, Virginia, will assume the pastorate of the Horton Heights Church in Nashville, Tennessee, on June 26. . . . Prayer is requested for Rev. J. T. Quick of Hartselle, Alabama. He suffered a heart attack recently. . . . Rev. Calvin Evans is now broadcasting from station WTCR in Ashland, Kentucky. He can be heard at 4:30 P.M., each Sunday. . . . Farmington, New Mexico, Church expresses appreciation for all gifts to their building fund.

Church Music

(Continued from page 8)

ual is willing to cooperate and offer his or her talent for use. The best thing any individual can do is to give themselves to the Lord to be used. If there is a talent for singing, then that talent should be offered for God's service.

The pastor bears the greatest responsibility in leading the church into better singing and better service through music. If every pastor will encourage his people, and share a part in the music ministry, I'm sure the church will reap the harvest of taking the gospel to the world through song. Remember, God is worthy of the best of all that we have, even in our church music.



The New Hope Free Will Baptist Church of Joelton, Tennessee, has completed this new parsonage in the last year. It has five rooms, bath, utility, and pastor's study. It is valued at \$14,000.00. Rev. John W. Vick is pastor.

The Death of Christ

(Continued from page 3)

sin. Roses with no thorns, flowers with no tares, fields with no briars. Perfect daily fellowship with God, all because there was no sin. Adam loved God then. Sin was unknown. Lust, greed, and selfishness were then alien.

How long this lasted we do know. But one day Eve had an encounter with Satan disguised as a beautiful snake. He beguiled Eve. He enticed her, lured her, tempted her, and lied to her. God had made man perfect, loved him and provided for him, but God gave man a will. He wanted more of man than the reactions of a robot. God gave man one test—the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. “Here is the tree,” God said “Thou shalt not eat of it, obey me and live, disobey me and die.” Herein is God’s promise and warning. Man made his own choice. God had given man no reason to break fellowship, disobey and go astray. How it must have broken God’s heart when He cried out “Where art thou. I gave you love, and you desert me. I made you for my own, but you have chosen to leave me.” My friend, since that day this has been the history of man. “All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way. . . .” (Isaiah 53:6). “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23). “I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.” (Isaiah 1:2). *Man has wronged God!* The venomous nature of man is to rebel against, disobey, and despise God. Psalm 14 says, “The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men to see if there were any that did understand and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy, there is none that doeth good no, not one.”

Some say today that God will not punish the wicked because He loves them too much. But my Bible tells me, “God is angry with the wicked every day”. (Psalm 7:11). God did not make hell for man. It is not His will for man to go there, but man stirred God’s wrath. By his own choice he deserves hell. He actually earns his spot in the flaming pit. “The wages of sin is death.” (Rom. 6:23).

God therefore demanded a sacrifice, an offering. The shedding of blood alone would satisfy. Trace the scarlet line of blood through the Old Testament. Abel’s offering pleased God. Cain’s did not. Noah worshipped through sacrifice and shedding of blood. Abraham worshipped through the shedding of blood. Isaac, Jacob, Moses, all sought atonement and forgiveness through the shedding of blood. God demanded it. “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your soul: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.” (Lev. 17:11).

I love to study the sacrifice on the day of atonement when the children of Israel gathered about the tabernacle for the offering of the sacrifice. Two goats were brought. One goat was to be offered alive with the sins of the people upon him. He was driven outside the camp into the wilderness signifying the separating of the people from their sins. The other goat was slain and his blood was poured out upon the mercy seat before God. God was then satisfied and the sins were forgiven.

This is typical of the death of Christ. The sins of mankind were placed upon Him and He was led outside the gates of Jerusalem bearing our sins. Then He was crucified. Literally, He was sacrificed. “For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.” (1 Cor. 5:7). Now friends, it was here that God was pleased. The Bible says, “Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him . . .” “He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied . . .” (Is. 53:10, 11) Praise God! In Jesus He is pleased and satisfied. Furthermore, all those who are found in Christ are the accepted of God. When I realize that one day I will meet God Almighty face to face my heart trembles. I know I have sinned and God hates sin. I know I have fallen short and God requires perfection. I know I disobeyed and God requires perfect obedience. If I had to meet Him in my righteousness I would deservingly go to hell. But because Jesus died for me I can stand in His righteousness and God will be satisfied with me. “For He (God) hath made Him (Jesus) to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Cor. 5:21).

This is the first great meaning of the cross.

II. IT WAS SUBSTITUTIONAL DEATH.

We know what it means today when a substitute is sent into a game. For instance, a player breaks a leg. Now, he would have a hard time playing wouldn’t he? Sure! So he is taken out and another takes his place as a substitute. The substitute then bears the responsibilities of the game.

Jesus did not deserve to die the shameful death of the cross. He had never sinned therefore the penalty of death was not even required of Him. He had not disobeyed God. He was born of a virgin therefore He did not possess the nature to sin that is common with all other who have ever lived. He was convicted by a “rigged” jury in a mock trial. Lies were blasphemously told about Him. Hatred and devilish passions were unleashed against Him. Even the cowardly unconverted king Pilate said, “I find no fault in Him.” He was the Sinless One.

“Why was He placed on a cross, then?” some might ask. The Bible plainly tells us in the following scriptures.

“Who His own self bare *our* sins in His own body on a tree, that *we* being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed.” (1 Peter

2:24). “Christ hath redeemed *us* from the curse of the Law, being made a curse *for us*: for it is written, cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.” (Gal. 3:13). “For He (God) hath made Him (Christ) to be sin *for us* that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” (1 Cor. 5:21). “But God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8).

Yes, Jesus took every sin of every person that has ever lived or ever shall live upon his body. He literally became sin for us. You were represented at Calvary because your sins were upon Christ. There on the crude, cruel cross Jesus became your substitute, presenting your life’s record of sin to God. And then God poured out his judgment and wrath upon His Son and Jesus suffered the pain and misery that you deserve. As your substitute, Christ on the cross executed your responsibilities to God.

How thrilling is the truth. Your sins have already been punished and reckoned with. You do not have to stand guilty and condemn before your maker. “He that believeth on Him is not condemned . . .” (John 3:18). You do not have to go to hell. There is an escape in Jesus. The most foolish thing a man ever did was to carry a load he need not carry, bear an unnecessary burden and die a death he does not have to die. Christ has carried your load of sin, bore your burden of guilt and died your death of penalty. Your sins can therefore be forgiven, your record can be cleaned, your soul can be saved if today you will turn to Christ and ask for this forgiveness and salvation.

This is the second great truth concerning the cross.

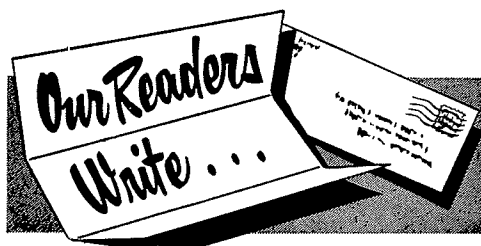
III. HIS DEATH WAS A SUFFERING DEATH.

No one with even a meager acquaintance with the Scriptures can overlook this fact. When Jesus died He suffered. Even this has special significance, meaning, and purpose.

Hell is a place of torment. Words cannot adequately describe the wailing and gnashing of teeth from that pit of punishment. If Jesus was to provide for man an escape from hell, he had to suffer. If He was to pay the debt man had incurred, He had to suffer. If He was to please God, he had to suffer.

He suffered physical punishment. Hear the smack of flesh against flesh as the rugged fist of a soldier buffets Jesus. See the purple swelling and bleeding about his eyes, nose, and mouth. Listen as the reeds and scourge scream through the pre-dawn air, and hear the cutting, slashing and sickening ripping of human flesh. Watch that blood stream from the wounds and saturate every footprint. Look! The hand of hate rips the beard from his unshaven cheek and tears the hair from his head. And those thorns, so long and pointed, pierce his brow.

(Continued on page 15)



Enjoys "Contact"

Dear Sir:

Thanks for another copy of CONTACT. We sure do enjoy the paper each month for we hear from friends in every part of the country and the foreign fields as well.

Sincerely,
Charles H. Moyers
Box 577
Weleetka, Okla.

Dear Editor:

I have enjoyed receiving CONTACT very much as it keeps us informed on the work of Free Will Baptists. We like to know what is happening throughout the denomination.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Jenneth Daggett
715 W. Broadway
Farmington, N. M.

Available for Work

Dear Sir:

I am sending my renewal to CONTACT. I would sure hate to miss a copy. Please announce in CONTACT that I am available for pastoral or revival work.

Yours truly,
Chester O'Donnell
Route 1
Ashville, Ala.

Expresses Appreciation

Dear Sir:

I would like to express my appreciation for the fine job you are doing with CONTACT

CONTACT

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Vol. 7 May, 1960 No. 7

I enjoy every issue. I wish we could get it to every Free Will Baptist family

Sincerely yours,
George W. Waggoner
Route 4,
Mt. Vernon, Ill.

"Contact" Informs

Dear Sir:

I have enjoyed CONTACT very much. I like to see the information about the work of our denomination and others. It helps to be informed. May God bless you in your work for Him.

Yours in Christ,
Bob L. Jones
31670 Carlisle Street
Wayne, Michigan

To Clarify Position

Dear Sir:

We would like to clarify our position as members of a fact-finding committee appointed at the last session of the annual South Carolina Conference. A committee of seven was appointed to confer with President Burkette Raper of Mount Olive Junior College concerning alleged rumors of the school. A report of this committee was published in your November issue (1959).

We would like to clarify the view that we are giving a blanket endorsement of the school, since the report is being use to promote the school.

The committee questioned Mr. Raper concerning the various rumors. He stated his personal convictions on the doctrine of the atonement and inspiration of the Scriptures. He affirmed his allegiance to the treatise. He also defended the theological position of the school.

During the inquiry, however, Mr. Raper verified that there is a double standard in the social regulations of the school; e.g., boys are permitted to smoke and girls are not. Students who have their parents' permission may attend movies during the week. The policies and regulations in these matters were justified on the basis that the constituents who support the school approve.

There were many questions asked and even though Mr. Raper answered them we did not agree with his thinking. For instance, there is no systematic program of student participation in evangelism or soul-winning.

On the basis of Mr. Raper's personal statements, we acted in good faith by giving nominal assent to the school. We realize, however, that we acted *hastily, unwisely, and without proper judgment in the light of the facts*. We do not subscribe to movie going, smoking, or any other laxity of social standards. Loose regulations usually reveal loose convictions which pave the way to compromise. We cannot endorse or recommend any school that is tainted with worldliness.

(Signed)
Rufus Coffee
Bob Rogers
Norman Adams

The Death of Christ

(Continued from page 14)

Listen to the hideous laughing of the blood-thirsty. Hear the hellish mockery.

The sun now bursts through the morning clouds and drives the darkness from the face of the earth but the darkness remains in the hearts of the mob. The crude cross is placed upon His shoulder and someone yells, "March." The procession begins toward Golgotha, the place of the skull.

Jesus now stretches forth the palms of His hands and the mallet drives the spikes of torment through the hands that made man in His own image. A spike sinks through His feet. The cross is lifted above the heads of the mob. The gnashing of the mob sounds like the roaring of an angry wind. Now the cross is planted. The jar rips the flesh in the hands and feet, disjoints the shoulders and twists the hips and backbone in unnatural fashion. How can He keep from screaming protest? How does He stifle the agony and muffle the cries? This is not just a man. He must be more than man. He is the God-man.

With a turn of the finger He could have landed the mob in hell. With a command toward heaven twelve legions of angels would have obeyed his voice. But He surrenders—willingly surrenders. Why? That you might not suffer the physical torment of hell. But this isn't all.

He suffers loneliness, separation and unsatisfied craving. Where are the five thousand that were fed? Where are the lepers, lame, blind, and deaf that were healed? Where are the dead that were raised? Betrayed, denied, hated, stricken, bruised, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief and we hid as it were our eyes from Him.

Listen, He speaks, "I thirst." He made the cattle of a thousand hills. He created the fruit, the vegetables, the herbs. But now instead of a drop of water, He receives a sponge of vinegar. Can't you hear the cries of the tormented souls in hell. "I hunger." "I thirst." "I am tormented." But, as there was no relief for Christ, there will be no relief for the soul in hell.

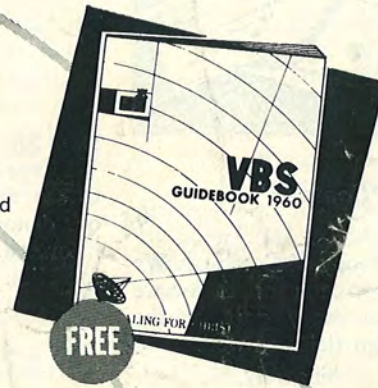
Again He speaks, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me." That is the cry of a tormented soul in hell. God turned His back on Jesus on the tree, as one day He will turn His back on those in outer darkness. Here is the greatest suffering of the cross, the greatest suffering of hell, loneliness, unsatisfied desires, and separation from God.

Oh, dear friend if while you read this you are without Christ, if you have rejected Him won't you receive Him today? Won't you turn your eyes toward heaven and cry out, "God be merciful to me a sinner?" If you will, you will be saved. Saved from sin because Jesus suffered for you.

This is the true meaning of the cross.

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