

# CONTACT

*of the National Association of Free Will Baptists*

JUNE 1966

*The Christian Imperative*

**WORLD EVANGELISM**





# National Association of Free Will Baptists

Little Rock, Arkansas / July 11-14



## *The Christian Imperative* **WORLD EVANGELISM**

"THE CHRISTIAN IMPERATIVE—World Evangelism." This is the theme as some 3,000 concerned pastors and lay people from Free Will Baptist Churches throughout America gather expectantly in Little Rock, Arkansas, July 11-14 for the 30th annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

The scriptural text for the 1966 theme is John 15:16—"I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit.

Meeting in Robinson Auditorium, delegates will have opportunity for rewarding fellowship, prayer and worship. Special features designed for pastors, men of the church, women of the church and youth will bring challenge and inspiration to every area of the church.

Addressing the convention will be Rev. Ronald Creech of Durham, North Carolina, "Whitened Harvest"; Rev. Russell Spurgeon of St. Louis, Missouri, "God's Good News"; Rev. Wade Jernigan of Jerome, Idaho, "Measured Responsibility" and Rev. E. E. Morris of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, "Joy At His Coming."

Awards to the national youth winners and the annual "Layman of the Year" award will be presented during the convention. Some 25 exhibits presenting the work of the National Association and related ministries will be open to the public.



CREECH



SPURGEON



JERNIGAN



MORRIS

---

**NOTE SPECIAL CONVENTION FEATURES ON BACK COVER**

---



June, 1966

# CONTACT

Volume 13, Number 8

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

**Editor** Billy A. Melvin  
**Production Editor** Harold Critcher  
**Circulation** Linda Smith

### STATE REPORTERS

Alabama	Charles O. Hollingshead
Alaska	Lee Whaley
Arizona	Malcolm Fry
Arkansas	Lloyd Thomas
California	Winston Lawless
Colorado	Roy Thomas
Florida	Elro Driggers
Georgia	Mance R. Cason
Hawaii	Luther Sanders
Idaho	Wade Jernigan
Illinois	George Waggoner
Indiana	Don Jackson
Kentucky	Bob Shockey
Maine	John Ruth
Michigan	William Hill
Mississippi	Billy Sharpston
Missouri	Bud Hill
North Carolina	Herman Hersey
New Mexico	S. M. Aragon
Ohio	Homer Nelson
New Hampshire	Bill Evans
Oklahoma	N. R. Smith
South Carolina	Bennie Turner
Tennessee	Paul Woolsey
Texas	Odus Eubanks
Virginia	J. B. Chism
Washington	Edwin Wade
West Virginia	Carl Vallance

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moderator	Robert Picirilli
Assistant Moderator	Wayne Smith
Clerk	Malcolm Fry
	William Atkinson
	Paul Long
	Elro Driggers
	Frank Davenport

### PUBLICATION DATA

Contact is published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board.

All sermons and articles represent the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies or position of the National Association of Free Will Baptists or its constituent members. While the editors are responsible for the contents of the magazine, it does not follow that every viewpoint represents those of the editors.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single subscriptions, \$2.00 per year. Family subscriptions, \$1.72 per year. Bundle Plan subscription, 15 cents per copy. Single copy, 20 cents. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Billy A. Melvin, Editor, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Entered as second-class matter at Nashville, Tenn.

### ARTICLES

Robert E. Picirilli	4	Authority In Christianity
Daniel Merkh	8	The Challenge of Europe
	14	National Association Program
Jack Paramore	16	The Pastor's Part
Daniel Parker	17	The Layman and His Lord
Don Robirds	18	Claiming the Power
Eddie Payne	19	Gods of the Heathen
J. C. Lynn	20	Lest We Forget
	21	Youth Activities at the National
Francis Boyle	22	The Growing Church
Violet Cox	23	Recreation With Purpose

### FEATURES

	6	Religious News Front
Louis E. Moulton	10	What's Your Problem?
	10	In the Vineyard
Robert E. Picirilli	11	Gems From the Greek New Testament
	12	Glancing Around the States
	25	Inspiration . . .

### COMING ARTICLES

Why Begin the Day with God?  
The "How" of Effective Bible Study  
Facing Tragedies and Trials

### ABOUT THE COVER

Confronted with a world in which the population will double by the year 2,000, Free Will Baptists will assemble in Little Rock, Arkansas, for its national convention under the theme "The Christian Imperative — World Evangelism." You are encouraged to pray for this important meeting.



Dr. Robert E. Picirilli addresses the 24th annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals held in Denver, Colorado. This timely address is carried in this issue of CONTACT for the benefit of our readers who were not able to attend.



# Authority In Christianity

by Robert E. Picirilli

**A**N ADDRESS on authority in Christianity could be very broad; perhaps that is why the program committee asked that today's message be devoted in particular to the authority of Scripture for Christianity. And such a limitation is right, for when all else is said and done, the authority in Christianity is, in fact, Holy Writ. I am aware that it could as easily be said that the source of authority in Christianity is Jesus Christ, or God; and such statements would be as true as mine. But it remains that what we know of the voice of God and words of Jesus depends, after all, on their preservation in the Bible; and so the authority of the Scripture is the authority of God and of Jesus Christ.

Before pursuing this, we must give some attention to the subject of the need for authority in religion. After all, we live in a world where the denial of such a need is commonplace, but all such denials overlook one basic ingredient of man's nature that is fully recognized only by the "spiritual" man. That ingredient is depravity, and herein lies man's need for an authority outside himself. God warned Adam and Eve that in the day they would eat of the forbidden tree they would die; they ate, and died. The light of God went out in their souls; their powers of reason were seriously distorted; their minds were blinded; unholy passions of the flesh were released to rage unchecked within their bosoms. As the plow point is inclined so that it automatically pulls itself into the soft earth, so man's whole nature was corrupted and came to possess what the hymn-

writer has aptly called our "bent to sinning." On that day mankind deliberately set his feet on a path of rebellion and willful ignorance. As the Bible puts it, "there is none that understandeth."

Here then is the fact of man's need; we will not dwell on the point at length. But we ought to say, before passing on to other matters, that there is obviously great testimony available in the world, testimony that ought to convince the most optimistic of "dreamers," testimony that declares clearly that man is unable, in the midst of his depravity, to attend unto religion without authority. The Greeks divined the existence of many Gods who cavorted and raged and played and sinned, much like men. Thales thought water contained the explanation of ultimate reality; Pythagoras saw deity in mathematical law; Xenophanes decided that God is everything there is; and there are the other philosophers—Democritus, Plato, Kant, Hume, Leibnitz, Brightman—each giving an entirely different picture. The situation is the same in the religions: the Buddhist tells us God is this; the Jain that he is that; Islam discovers he is quite another being entirely; and the millions of animists among primitive peoples tender yet another theory. By what possible stretch of human reason and language can it be so glibly stated that "we are all worshipping the same God"? Well, we may be on the same road; but if we are it is a twisting path that goes in circles, leading nowhere. We come back to the ancient pondering of Job, "Canst thou by searching find

out God?" The answer, in all human experience, is emphatically "No!"

In spite of it all, modern man buries his head in the sand like an ostrich and continues to mouth the pious—not to say, impious—platitudes of a Froebel or Dewey who steadfastly set their faces against what they called "the imposition of authority from above," and insisted on "the conduct of man" as "governed by himself," "rather than by arbitrary laws." The factor they refuse to admit is human depravity, and the implications they will not entertain are that man, by his unaided reason, has not, does not, can not find God, and that God must therefore give an external, arbitrary, authoritative self-revelation. Evangelicals insist that man's need lies in his total depravity.

But, although the need may be granted, there are those in the pale of so-called Christianity who suggest a source of authority other than the Bible. Some would say that the "church" is so constituted as to possess the ultimate authority to direct the Christian's beliefs and life. Pius IX declared: "The Roman Pontiff, when he speaks *ex cathedra* . . . by virtue of his supreme Apostolic authority . . . is . . . possessed of the infallibility with which the divine Redeemer willed that His Church should be endowed for defining doctrine concerning faith and morals."

Of course, Martin Luther led his generation away from such a concept, and evangelicals of the twentieth century are, like him, *pro-tes-tants* against this usur-



pation of authority by an ecclesiastical and human pontificate. Or have we forgotten the seriousness with which Luther viewed the matter? Erasmus, on one occasion, admitted he was willing to subject his understanding to the Church, even if he did not understand Scripture. Luther ejaculated: "What is that you say, Erasmus? Is it not enough that you subject your mind to the authority of the Scriptures? Do you subject it to the decisions of the Church also? What can the Church decide that has not previously been decided in the Scriptures?" At another place, he said: ". . . the Papacy is a sovereignty that exterminates faith and the Gospel. . . . What we condemn is not the wickedness of the sovereign, but the wickedness of the sovereignty, for it is so constituted that it cannot be administered by a pious, upright sovereign, but only by one who is an enemy of Christ."

### Precious Freedom

Therefore we are not inclined to look with sympathy upon those who want to "run" with Rome. Here is an authority assumed, based upon false interpretation of Scripture, usurped, exercised without restraint, turned into dictatorial rule. The precious freedom we now enjoy from such abusive authority was purchased for us with the blood and sweat of heroic evangelicals of another day; we must not compromise their stand, or lightly and foolishly make their sacrifices vain. I know we do not need to spend our days shouting insults; it is agreed we must love and try to convert all men. But neither ought we to stand idly by and forget the millions of people who are enslaved by this usurped authority; we ought to try to free them by preachment of the truth. We cannot afford to be naive about the effects of conciliation and sympathetic contact with Rome; there is nothing to be gained by confusion, and everything to be gained from clarity of the issues.

There is another suggested source of authority within the professing "Christian" world that probably presents even more a problem than the Romish position; that is the position of non-evangelical Protestants who claim that the enlightened conscience and reason of the individual is the ultimate authority in matters of belief and life. This is an ancient error, as witnessed in the old passage, "every man did that which was right in his own eyes." The core of "liberal" theology is that truth ultimately rests on the judgment of what Schliermacher called the "pious self-consciousness." Let me give you an example of the kind of "pious" double-talk one encounters at the hands of those who enthrone "enlightened reason." C. H. Dodd, in his *Authority of the Bible*, speaking of

Jesus, says: "His authority, therefore, is the one and only authority we have declared to be absolute, the authority of truth, the authority of God!" This sounds quite evangelical, but read on: "If by this is meant that the sayings reported as His in the Gospels have this authority, it cannot be maintained. There are sayings . . . which either are simply not true . . . or are unacceptable to the conscience or reason of Christian people. We no longer accept a saying as authoritative because it lies before us as a word of Jesus, but because we are rationally convinced that it is a word of His." We note, then, that the authority he recognizes is not even the authority of Jesus; it is what he calls "the conscience or reason of Christian people." As John Witmer says: "The end result is that the professed authority of Jesus becomes in reality the authority of C. H. Dodd."

I submit that the authority ultimately recognized by the so-called "neo-orthodoxy" is, as well, the "enlightened conscience" of the "Christian." The contention of Barth and Brunner that the "Word of God" is only crisis enlightenment of the individual leads ultimately to a clearly subjective revelation that recognizes no external authority by which it may be tested.

Again, we do not labor the point. But I wish to say as seriously as I can that it is high time we were aware of the "great gulf" that is "fixed" between liberal and evangelical theology. The modernist recognizes the difference; in the January 3, 1924, issue of *Christian Century*, this was said: "The differences . . . are foundation differences, structural differences, amounting in their radical dissimilarity almost to the difference between two distinct religions." If we could only be fully aware that when we deal with those who recognize reason as authority, we are certainly dealing with another religion, as different from genuine Christianity as is Buddhism, Islam, or animism.

Before leaving this matter entirely, let me observe that there are often temptations to enthrone "enlightened reason" even among evangelicals. The temptation is seen in a so-called willingness to "re-study the inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture" or in a suggestion like that recently heard from an "evangelical" that we may have to come to the place when we regard "inerrancy" as guaranteeing no more than an accurate reproduction of a sometime errant original record; or sometimes in our hermeneutical tendency to interpret Scripture contrary to its obvious intent—what Barton Payne of Wheaton, in an Evangelical Theological Society *Bulletin* called "Hermeneutics as a Cloak for the Denial of Scripture." God help us be aware—and shun it—when we are tempted to substi-

tute human reason, enlightened or otherwise, for the authority of Scripture.

At this point, let us turn our attention to that source of authority which evangelicals recognize. Indeed, we are not ashamed that we do, in fact, recognize the Holy Scriptures as the only safe and adequate source of authority; we have a high view of Scripture. And we are confident Scripture possesses this authority because Scripture is *God's Word* and so has God's own authority. Nor are we afraid of the clear-cut avowal that the Bible is either this or it is nothing at all; there is no gray land in between. The Bible's affirmation for itself is everywhere that it is nothing other than the very breathed words of God. It is so filled with such claims from one cover to the next that its whole message is inseparably linked with these declarations; thus if it cannot be trusted when it speaks of itself, it cannot be trusted at all. I only remind you that Peter said "prophecy came not by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

### Authority Recognized

We do not believe, of course, every caricature of our position as, for example, that each word came by a mechanical dictation. No, we believe "holy men spoke!" The Scriptures are as truly the works of their human authors as they might have been had there never been a God. The human authors searched for facts, interviewed witnesses, scoured ancient documents, and endured the agony of laborious thought-processes to produce their writings. *But*—they spoke "as they were moved by the Holy Ghost!" The Spirit of God so directed, controlled, superintended these processes that the final product was as truly the message of God, word for word, as might have been had He taken the pen in hand Himself. The Bible is the theanthropic Book, as Jesus is the theanthropic Person. The Scripture is the incarnation of the divine message in human language. It is, almost literally, no less the incarnate "Logos" than the God-man Himself!

So I insist it is a wholly false and pernicious distinction that some would make between the authority of God and the authority of the Book, between the Lordship of Jesus and the authority of Holy Writ. I like the way Carl Henry puts it: "The church confesses no ultimate authority but that of the true and living God. . . . Finally, this means that the church recognizes no ultimate authority but that of the true and living God, incarnate in Jesus Christ, known to us as Lord by the Holy Spirit, who has inspired chosen men and inscripturated God's purposes intelligibly in the sacred canonical writings." Again, he says, "A conflict

(Continued on page 24)





## Round-Up of **World-Wide** RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

### **Congress Draws Worldwide Interest**

WHEATON, ILL. (MNS)—Easter Sunday morning found nearly a thousand conservative Protestant church and missionary leaders from some eighty countries worshipping together in Pierce Chapel on the campus of Wheaton College here.

Called by the Interdenominational Foreign Mission Association and the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, out of a deep concern to bring the supreme task of the Church into Biblical focus, The Congress on the Church's World-wide Mission was well under way.

Main drive of the Congress, held April 9-16 at Wheaton College during the spring vacation, was an intensive in-depth study of the contemporary issues facing the Church today in her fulfillment of the Great Commission.

The co-chairman of the Congress, Dr. Vernon Mortenson and the Rev. Louis L. King, had agreed in the initial session on Saturday that "Christian forces face a tough world growing tougher."

### **Scriptures in Spanish**

NEW YORK CITY (MNS)—The American Bible Society is publishing this year the entire New Testament in the Spanish "Version Popular," a translation in contemporary language which uses correctly that part of the total language resources common to both upper and lower educational levels.

### **Church Dedicated In Korea**

SEOUL, KOREA, (MNS)—Approximately 175 persons attended the recent dedication of the newly completed building of the Church of God here. About 100 of them testified they were Christians.

Initial efforts toward starting a church in Korea were made by Church of God servicemen, led by Sgt. Richard Jackson.

Soon the leadership abilities of young David Kim became evident, and since then he has led the church in expansion and growth.

Dr. R. Leonard Carro'l, assistant general overseer of the Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.) who was present at the dedication service, said, "The Church of God has a great future in Korea."

### **Encouraging News From Congo**

LONDON, ENGLAND (MNS)—Writing from Stanleyville, Republic of Congo, on March 7, Missionary H. Harms of the Unevangelized Fields Mission, says: "The other day our colporteur was selling books at the ferry which crosses the river Congo. The Governor of the Province stopped. He asked the colporteur if he sold many Bibles. 'Yes, sir!' was the reply. 'That is good,' said the Governor. 'What the people of Congo need is God's Word.' Then he bought a French Bible for himself and a Lokele New Testament for his wife."

### **Coal Miners Evangelized**

NORTHWOOD, ENGLAND (MNS)—The International Miners' Mission reports that in Puertollano, Spain, 73-year-old don Salvador Gonzales, once imprisoned for his faith, is carrying on a fruitful ministry to coal miners. Recent relaxation of restrictions on Protestant missionary activity has made possible an effective door-to-door visitation ministry.

### **Dramatic Turn of Events**

BROOKLYN, N. Y. (MNS)—Missionaries of the Africa Evangelical Fellowship have reported to their headquarters here that there is a new and great potential for the Gospel witness in Indonesia since the attempted coup last September.

Since the threat of communistic domination has been removed, the army chiefs are urging religious leaders, both Christian and Muslim, to intensify their activities. Open access has been given to the jails for the purpose of "indoctrinating the Communists" who are prisoners.

There has been a sudden increase in the number of those wanting to unite with churches, student groups, and other Christian organizations. Meeting places are packed out, and pastors are abandoning their prepared sermons to preach the Gospel to those crowding into the churches for the first time.

### **Suppressing Religion**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MNS)—A study made by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee reveals that Communist China has adopted a more subtle approach to suppression of religion than most Communist nations. "Although the Chinese Communists believe that religion is a form of reactionary idealism which must eventually be abolished, practical considerations in mainland China prevent its immediate elimination," the study says.

The report prepared by Library of Congress experts at the subcommittee's request, states that while the Chinese Communists constitution gives lip service to freedom of religious belief, steps have been taken to hasten the gradual disappearance of religion and that perhaps the most notable thing about the methods used is their subtlety. "Not religion but reactionary sentiments are punishable; these ultimately turn out to be the same thing, and love of God must be replaced by love of the country."

### **Annual Day of Prayer**

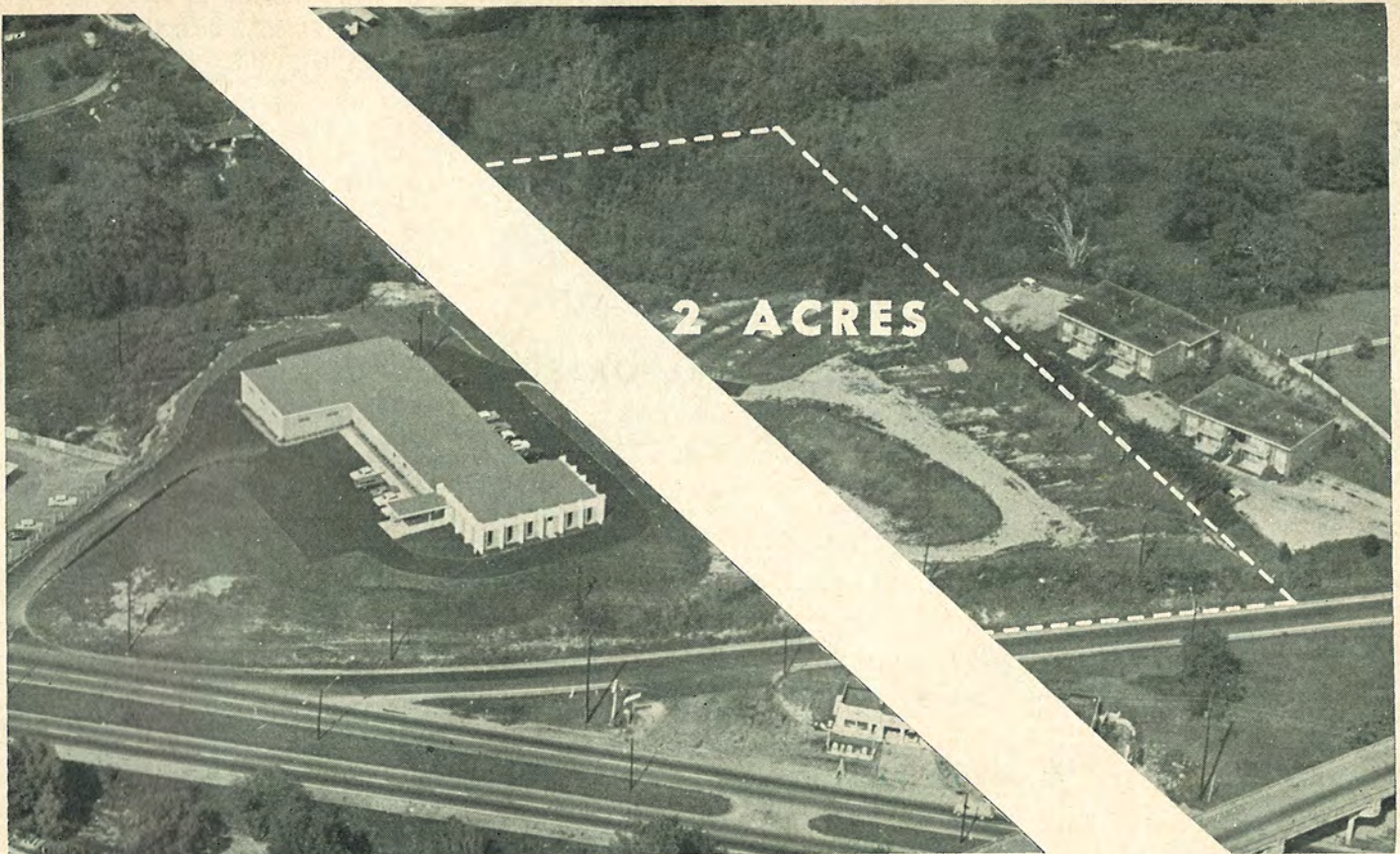
DOWNERS GROVE, ILL.—Each year the International Christian Broadcasters sponsor an Annual Day of Prayer for Gospel Broadcasting around the world. This year the date is June 12, 1966.

There are currently 53 missionary radio and television stations on the air, scattered across the world. In addition, hundreds of programs are produced and released over commercial stations. Presently there are over 400 million radio receivers, or an average of 13 sets for every 100 people.

Some 12,600 transmitters are in use throughout the world, and the transistor pocket radio has brought millions of people within the reach of the gospel. Approximately 2,500 TV transmitters are now in use and the opportunities for the church of God are unlimited.

Pray especially on June 12 for effective communication and gospel broadcasting everywhere.





*Present building is located on 2.3 acres. Additional two acres urgently needed for future expansion of National Association ministries.*

**Will We Have The Purchase Price?** The National Association of Free Will Baptists has had two acres of land under option for almost three years. This option expires September 24, 1966, and we are still some \$20,000 short of the purchase price. Many of our churches have expressed concern that we have this property (worth several thousand dollars more than our price) and have given generous offerings to help us realize our objective of a new office building with the entire tract of 4.3 acres. It should be understood that we will be greatly handicapped in future expansion without this additional property.

Most of what has been done to provide these essential facilities has been done by a small segment of our churches. We must now appeal for significant gifts from those churches which have not responded, along with those churches which may be in a position to help us still more. The need is urgent and time is running out.

Will we have the purchase price? You hold the answer. Will you make a personal offering? Will you encourage others to give? Will you suggest that your church receive an offering or designate a gift for this need?

A major effort to raise this money will be made on Tuesday night, July 12, during our national convention at Little Rock, Arkansas. Individuals and churches are asked to bring or send special offerings which will be received at that time. Your generous response will help assure victory. If you prefer to mail your gift, the address is 20+8 Campaign, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

## **Plan Now To Bring Or Send An Offering To Little Rock**

**Gifts Urgently Needed From  
Individuals—Sunday Schools—CTS Groups—Auxiliaries—Master's Men Chapters—Churches**

**Special Offering — Tuesday Night, July 12**





*Rev. Norwood Gibson and Dan Eaddy are shown presenting a check to missionaries Dan and Margaret Merkh. They are standing in front of a mission started by the First Church of Florence, South Carolina. The mission will contribute substantially to the support of the Merkhs who will be going to France.*

## The Challenge of Europe

by Daniel Merkh

EUROPE PRESENTS a real challenge to Christians in the United States. It is a needy field, but with the pressing need, there are pressing obstacles and problems. There is a place for a Free Will Baptist witness, but we must proceed only under a barrage of prayer in order that God will direct in every detail.

For centuries much of Europe has been under Roman Catholic domination. In countries where the greatest Roman rule has existed, there is the greatest need. In Italy, with a population of 50 million, an estimate has been given of 200 thousand born-again believers. Of course these numbers can not be established for a certainty, and one of the outstanding leaders in Europe feels that the figure would be closer to 100 thousand, or just two percent.

Austria, with close to eight million people, has only an estimated 400 thousand Protestants.

France, with its 43 or 44 million people, may have one million Protestants and seven or eight million Roman Catholics, leaving 35 million people committed to no faith, and little more than pagans.

Other needy areas are Greece, Portugal and Spain. The picture in these countries is much the same as in the areas mentioned above.

While the need is great, the obstacles to the Christian witness are also enormous.

Space will not permit the mention of all the problems, but let me point out just a few.

### Government Hindrances

Under Roman Catholic domination, many of the governments make it next to impossible for Protestant missionaries to enter the country. Portugal, for example, will not grant visas to Protestant missionaries. There are several missionaries working in Portugal at present. One missionary and his family, under an evangelical European board, are living in Portugal as tourists. This permits them to remain in the country for sixty days, so that every two months the missionary and his family must cross the border into Spain and then return to Portugal for another sixty days.

It is also difficult to obtain visas in Spain and Italy. In Italy, one American missionary, after spending some time there, returned to the United States. He applied for a visa to return through the Italian consulate office in his home city in the States. That consulate had more than 50 pages of typewritten history on that one missionary and his activities while in Italy. The government keeps a close eye on all missionaries. Visas are usually granted from six months to two years, and occasionally a visa is granted as permanent.

The Gospel goes out in spite of the

hardships. In another Roman Catholic dominated country, all Protestant Bible schools are strictly forbidden by law, yet in one of the larger cities an evangelical group is holding an "Underground Bible School." The Lord is blessing, and will continue to bless even though tribulation and suffering accompany the work.

### Open Doors

In Italy, the Lord has opened doors and is wonderfully working in the government. Recent court decisions, based on the new constitution, have opened up new channels of religious freedom. It is no longer necessary to notify local police officials in advance when religious meetings are to be held, and thus the Protestants are able to meet in churches and homes with freedom. It is still necessary to notify officials in advance to get permission to hold open air services.

The courts also ruled that it is no longer necessary for one to arm himself with a permit to distribute gospel tracts. However, just last year one of the missionaries in a large Italian city was detained in jail overnight for giving out gospel tracts. He was told that he must purchase a permit and pay the local government  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent for each tract that he distributes. This is against the new constitution of Italy, and has been ruled thus by the higher courts, but in this instance the missionary can do nothing. He was told by an official of the government that the local Roman Catholic priest was opposed to his giving out tracts, and as long as the priest had the power he had, the missionary nor the local government could do a thing.

Another real problem exists between the present Protestant groups and any new denominational workers that may enter the country. We must not look too harshly at these European believers because of their outlook. These believers under great difficulties, hardships, and in some cases real tribulation, have carried on their work. In the past some groups have gone in and worked in cooperation with the existing groups, and then, as soon as contacts were made, they withdrew to establish their own denominational work, doing great damage to the original work. European believers will welcome us to help them, but we must first make certain our policy, and then make it clear to the existing groups. In no instance must we go back on our word, or make a promise or obligation that we are not certain of carrying out.

### Possibilities

With the problem of government regulations, the problems within existing groups of believers and the European reserve toward Americans, how can we



establish a witness in Europe that will bring glory to our Saviour and lead the lost of Europe into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ?

In a recent conversation with the director of one of Europe's leading evangelical mission groups, he gave what he believes to be the answer. The Holy Spirit must place a real passionate, burning vision on the heart of some individual for a particular field. God has the right man, and only God's man can fill the place. He warned that personalities are extremely important in working among Europeans. It is advisable that older men, men well-trained, men that are mature, and have had actual experience in the pastorate should be sent. These men should have a real message. The message should be burning within them. As these men, led by the Holy Spirit, burdened, passionate men of God, with a living, burning message enter their particular places that God is preparing for them, only then will we see our witness established for winning the lost to Christ.

The start will be small, possibly colportage, or one contact, one family, willing to use their home for a meeting place, but the witness can and must be established.

It is also thought best, because of the particular circumstances of European missions, that around the one missionary or missionary family, a core of native European workers be established and financed by the sponsoring mission society. It would seem that this is contrary to establishing indigenous work, but in Europe it is an excellent method of establishing the indigenous church. As the churches are built, they must be instructed to take on the support of their local, native leader. Thus the indigenous church will be established.

Surely in the ranks of the Free Will Baptist pastors and ministers there are trained, experienced men that have a burden for the lost, and a vital message.

Here is a pastorate, destitute of help, oppressed on every hand by the wiles of the Devil.

Here is a difficult field, a labor of love, with trials and tribulations, but a labor that will pay eternal dividends. As God lays the burden on your heart, may you respond to this Macedonian call for help—the call to Free Will Baptists to enter and win Europe for Christ.

Here, too, is the real meaning of Matthew 9:37, 38. May all of you who read this report, truly pray the Lord of the harvest that He will thrust forth laborers into this part of the field. Europe, white already to harvest! ■ ■

MR. MERKH spent some time in Europe during language study in preparation for service in Ivory Coast. He goes to France in the early fall as our first missionary to that continent.

# Little Rock Hotels and Motels

## Make Reservations Early

### Marion Hotel—Headquarters

Markham and Louisiana Streets  
Single: \$6.00; Double: \$9.00; Twin: \$10.00  
Air conditioned, TV, free parking, children 14 and under free if in the same room with parents. One block from auditorium.

### Grady Manning Hotel

Markham and Main Streets  
Single: \$6.00 to \$8.00; Double: \$9.00 to \$11.00; Twin: \$10.00  
Air conditioned, TV, children 14 and under free if in the same room with parents, free parking. Two blocks from auditorium.

### Lafayette Hotel

6th and Louisiana Streets  
Single: \$5.00-\$10.00; Double: \$7.00-\$13.00; Twin: \$9.50-\$18.00  
Air conditioned, free parking, children 14 and under free if in the same room with parents. Nine blocks from auditorium.

### Albert Pick Hotel

7th and Scott Streets  
Single: \$6.00-\$16.00; Double: \$9.00-\$20.00; Twin: \$9.00-\$20.00  
Air conditioned, connecting garage, free parking, children 14 and under free if in the same room with parents. Nine blocks from auditorium.

### Downtowner Motor Inn

6th and Center Streets  
Single: \$8.00-\$10.00; Double: \$10.50; Twin: \$12.00  
Air conditioned, swimming pool, children under 13 free. Eight blocks from auditorium.

### Coachman's Inn

East 5th and Ferry Streets  
Single: \$7.50-\$9.50; Twin: \$12.50-\$16.00  
Air conditioned and swimming pool, children under 12 free. Nine blocks from auditorium.

### Colonial Court

3405 Roosevelt Road  
Single: \$5.00; Double: \$7.00; Twin: \$10.00  
Air conditioned, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Four miles from auditorium.

### Alamo Plaza Hotel Courts

3200 West Roosevelt  
Single: \$5.50-\$7.00; Double: \$7.50-\$9.00; Twin \$8.50-\$12.00  
Air conditioned, TV, swimming pool, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Four miles from auditorium.

### Acme Motel

3301 West Roosevelt  
Single: \$5.50-\$6.00; Double: \$8.00-\$10.00; Twin: \$10.00-\$14.00  
Air conditioned, swimming pool, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Four miles from auditorium.

### Little Rock Travelodge

308 East Capitol  
Single: \$7.00-\$9.00; Double: \$9.00-\$11.00; Twin: \$10.00-\$13.00  
Air conditioned, TV, swimming pool, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Ten blocks from auditorium.

### Sam Peck Hotel-Motel

625 West Capitol  
Single: \$6.20-\$10.30; Double: \$8.00-\$11.00; Twin: \$10.00-\$13.50  
Air conditioned, swimming pool, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Five blocks from auditorium.

### Magnolia Courts

3601 W. Roosevelt  
Single: \$7.50-\$13.00; Double: \$9.00-\$10.00; Twin: \$12.00  
Air conditioned, swimming pool, children free according to number in room. Extra charge for baby beds and roll-a-way beds. Three miles from the auditorium.



## WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

by Louis H. Moulton



Your questions for use in this column are invited. All questions not answered in the column will be answered personally. Send your questions to Rev. Louis H. Moulton, 8 Richmond Drive, Savannah, Georgia.

*Is it ever right for a Christian to work on Sunday? Did not God command that the sabbath day be kept holy?*

He did indeed in Exodus 20:8. Those under the law were commanded to keep the seventh day as the sabbath and it was to be a holy day. Though we are living in the dispensation of grace today, we should not work on the Lord's day—Sunday. It should be a day of worship and rest and we should set that day apart to honor and glorify the Lord by being in His House attending the services of our church. However, in this modern day there are some who are compelled to work. For example those who man the power plants which furnish the electricity with which we cook our food and heat our homes, the men who work at public transportation (buses, street cars) by which many people are conveyed to their place of worship. Men will not go to hell for working on Sunday though it may mean a loss of reward for them. Men will not go to hell if they do not tithe, but they lose the spiritual blessing now and a reward in eternity. We are not under the law to keep the sabbath day, but our love for Christ should cause us to keep the Lord's Day.

*Please tell me if Jesus made intoxicating wine when he performed his first miracle recorded in the second chapter of John? And did he drink any of it himself?*

There is no record that Jesus drank any of the wine himself and I'm afraid that we miss the entire point in recording this event when we quibble over what kind of wine it may have been. The reason for this miracle is found in John 2:11, "This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him." I'm sure that the devil is happy when he can get Christians arguing over various details and cause them to forget the real purpose for which the miracle was performed. I am not a Greek student but I am told that this word "wine" in this passage is the same word used elsewhere for "fermented wine."

*Do you believe Adam and Eve were saved after they had plunged the whole of their posterity into a fallen condition?*

Yes, I think they were. God made coats of skin and clothed them after their fall. They already had sewed fig leaves together but God provided the covering of an innocent substitute whose blood was shed. The shedding of the blood of innocent animals pointed forward to the shed blood of Christ. The skins actually were a type of the righteousness of Christ with which we are robed when we believe on Jesus as our Saviour.

## IN THE VINEYARD

■ Director of Foreign Missions, **Reford Wilson**, will attend the Illinois State Association June 24 and the Ohio State Association June 25.

■ **Homer E. Willis**, Director of Home Missions and Church Extension, will be in revival services at Horney Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina, June 6-12. He will speak at the Michigan State Association June 17 and 18; Hazel Park Free Will Baptist Church, Hazel Park, Michigan, June 19 and will attend the Ohio State Association June 24-25.

■ Director of Conference Ministries, **Rufus Coffey**, will attend the Mississippi Youth Camp, June 2-5. He will be in the Central Association in California June 13-17; California State Association, June 21-24 and Missionary Conference at Exeter, California, June 26-July 1.

■ **Harrold Harrison**, Director of Teacher Training, will be in Tallahassee, Florida, May 30-June 3. He will be in Columbus, Mississippi, June 13-17 and MacArthur, West Virginia, June 20-24.

■ Director of Sunday School Department, **Roger C. Reeds**, will attend the Indiana State Association, June 3-4. He will attend the West Virginia State Association, June 10-11; Kentucky and Virginia State Associations, June 16-18, and Ohio State Association, June 24-25.

■ **Billy A Melvin**, Executive Secretary of the National Association, will attend the Illinois State Association June 24 and the Ohio State Association June 25.

■ Director of the Bible College Development Program, **Jack Paramore**, will be in a Cooperative Revival, Beaver, Ohio, June 5-12. June 13-19 he will be in revival services at the Unity Church, Smithfield, North Carolina. Promotional work for the college is scheduled for June 27-30.

■ **Samuel Johnson**, Director of Church Training Service Department, will be attending the Ohio State meeting June 24. Mr. Johnson will attend the Central Florida Youth Camp June 27—June 30.



# 1966 COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

APRIL, 1966

## COOPERATIVE GIFTS FROM THE CHURCHES . . .

	April 1966	Year to Date	Total to April, 1965
Alabama	\$ 228.38	\$ 857.69	\$ 365.31
Arizona		492.50	151.84
Arkansas	363.62	1,529.03	1,017.52
California	725.63	2,690.96	2,314.69
Florida	542.99	1,058.42	486.07
Georgia	337.10	875.77	633.12
Idaho	34.44	157.41	93.69
Illinois	115.09	2,030.47	2,263.58
Indiana		94.00	91.00
Kansas	250.00	850.00	627.85
Kentucky	125.00	231.84	297.63
Louisiana	39.43	64.43	
Michigan	158.00	165.90	
Mississippi			54.00
Missouri	1,571.32	4,832.69	5,262.82
New Hampshire	31.54	64.70	86.08
New Mexico	36.08	141.67	68.73
North Carolina	9.93	466.14	579.79
Ohio	288.34	1,252.36	731.12
Oklahoma	1,232.22	5,351.81	2,101.48
South Carolina			6.84
Tennessee	281.85	932.40	1,539.87
Texas	256.39	770.16	988.79
Virginia	1,004.40	2,303.60	833.20
Washington and Oregon		152.25	80.00

## . . . . MAKE POSSIBLE A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

	Cooperative Receipts		Designated April Year to 1966 Date	Total Receipts to Date
	April 1966	Year to Date		
Foreign Missions	\$2,213.21	\$7,936.19		\$7,936.19
F. W. B. Bible College	1,602.67	5,746.90		5,746.90
Executive Department	1,526.35	5,473.24		5,473.24
Home Missions	1,221.08	4,378.60		4,378.60
Church Training Service	763.17	2,736.62		2,736.62
Superannuation Board	228.95	820.98		820.98
Stewardship Commission	76.32	273.67		273.67

JUNE, 1966

# GEMS

## FROM THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

by Robert Picirilli

WE CONTINUE, THIS month, to take note of the Greek words involved in the idea of "perfection" in the New Testament. Last month, we studied the meaning of the first of these words, *holokleros*, which refers to completeness, a possessing of all the parts something should have. In reference to the Christian, the word is used to refer to one who possesses all the graces which he ought to have as a Christian. As observed, the word occurs three times in the New Testament, James 1:4, I Thess. 5:23, and Acts 3:16.

The second word, which we will note this month, is *artios*, and it occurs only once in the New Testament. This is in 2 Timothy 3:17, where the purposes of the Scriptures are being given as "in order that the man of God may be *perfect*, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

It is *artios* that is translated "perfect" here, but "fitted" would probably be a better translation. Like the word we noted last month, *artios* refers to a kind of completeness, a finishing, but to a special kind of completeness that includes whatever equipment and furnishings are needed to make something well-suited for carrying out the purpose for which it was intended.

Actually, the verse explains itself, for the following phrase, "thoroughly furnished," is actually a translation of another form of the very same Greek root as *artios*. The word, therefore, does not suggest sinless "perfection," but the complete *equipment* with which the man of God ought to be furnished in order to be adequate to the job of doing "every good work." The verse sees a Christian as a man at work, and the Scriptures give him the necessary equipment, tools, fittings, furnishings with which to be able to carry out that work.

Perhaps such a translation of the verse as follows will help us better understand the meaning: "Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for discipline in righteousness, in order that the man of God may be equipped, thoroughly outfitted for every good work." ■ ■

PAGE 11





*Free Will Baptists were well represented at the 24th convention of the National Association of Evangelicals. Those attending were (front row l. to r.) Homer Willis, Billy A. Melvin, Roy Thomas, Mrs. Roy Thomas, Mrs. Billy A. Melvin, Mrs. Robert Stepp; (second row) J. D. O'Donnell, Jerry Ballard, J. Reford Wilson, Malcolm Fry, Roger Reeds; (back row) Samuel Johnson, Robert C. Hill, Rufus Coffey and Robert E. Picirilli. Not pictured, W. Stanley Mooneyham.*

#### Commencement Speakers

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Special speakers for Free Will Baptist Bible College commencement week were Rev. Reford Wilson, Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Director, and Dr. James R. Faulkner, vice-president of Tennessee Temple Schools in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Mr. Wilson delivered the baccalaureate sermon and Dr. Faulkner was the commencement speaker.

Among the 32 students honored at the final commencement service were 22 Seniors receiving B.A. degrees, two Th.B. graduates, five recipients of the Business Certificate, and three who will complete requirements for the Christian Workers Bible Diploma.

#### Robinson Joins Staff

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Rev. Jack Paramore, director of the Bible College Expansion Campaign in Nashville has announced the addition of Rev. Bill Robinson, North Carolina pastor, to the Expansion Campaign staff.

Mr. Robinson, now ministering in Durham, will be employed as an area worker in the state with his responsibilities to include the setting up of rallies, handling correspondence, making personal contacts in behalf of the Campaign, and representing the Expansion Program at denominational meetings across the state. "Bill was chosen because he has been faithful to the school over the years and has displayed an unusual concern for the success of the Expansion Campaign," stated Mr. Paramore.

Mr. Robinson has been instrumental in promoting a successful Campaign rally in Raleigh recently.

#### Name Changes

EAU GALLIE, FLA.—The Free Will Baptist Church here recently announced a change in the name of the church. The name now is First Free Will Baptist Church of Eau Gallie, Florida. Rev. Glenn Spence is the pastor.

#### An Urgent Plea

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Construction of the new half million dollar classroom building for Free Will Baptist Bible College is scheduled to begin this month. Jack Paramore, director of the expansion campaign, said, "We feel that we must have an immediate response if we are to advance on schedule in our building program."

To this date response to the campaign has been good. Approximately \$40,000 in cash and another \$45,000 in commitments have been raised. It is the desire of the college officials to raise \$100,000 during the first six-months of this year. This will liquidate the debt of the college and increase the total assets.

Mr. Paramore said, "I urge you to pray about the immediate need. Send your gift today to help us build this much needed classroom building."

#### Progress Reported

FLAT RIVER, MO.—The Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church here recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary. For a month the church was in a Sunday school

## Glancing Around The States

enlargement campaign. The campaign terminated on Easter Sunday with a total attendance of 413. The total offering for the church was \$1,241.64.

Plans are being made to secure property for a building program. Rev. Tom Malone is the pastor.

#### Pastoral Changes

NASHVILLE, TENN.—There is a need for a pastor in the area of Grants, New Mexico. Any interested party may contact the Rev. S. M. Aragon, P.O. Box 93, Grants, New Mexico.



*Rev. Wayne Smith, pastor of Faith Church in Knoxville, Tennessee, presents missionary Dan Merkh a check for \$30.42. The church has been organized for about three months and regularly supports national ministries.*



ONE OF THE periods when a rattlesnake is most dangerous is when it comes forth in the springtime after a period of hibernation. The rattler is hungry, sometimes shedding and blinded, full of poison and will strike at most anything that comes near that puts forth enough heat to change the temperature.

But there is something that can be done about the rattler. First, one needs to know something about where they might be found and then with a watchful eye you will be ready for the danger. Secondly, a good rock and a strong throwing arm can either kill the poisonous reptile or discourage any further attempt to attack.

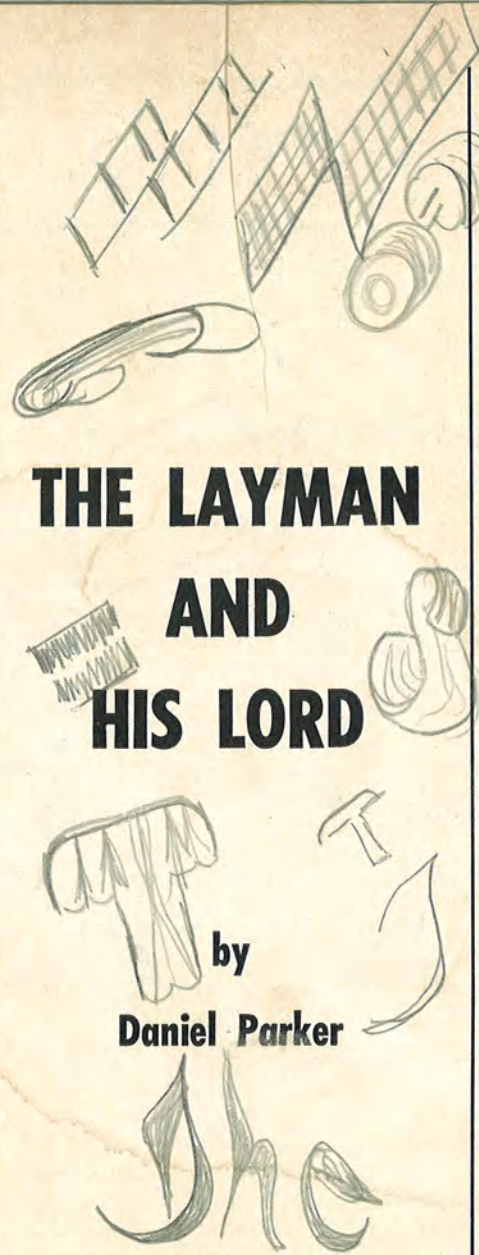
I believe that a similar approach can be taken by the church in this present day. The body is the church; the strong arm is the evangelistic thrust and the rock is the layman dedicated to God. I am convinced that the church needs to thrust forth the layman to accomplish Christ's work of bringing the Gospel to those who need its message.

This idea is not a new one. The plan is clearly given in God's Word, Acts 8:1 and 8:4. "All church members except the apostles were scattered over the countryside of Judea and Samaria. . . . Those who were dispersed by this action went throughout the country, preaching the good news of the message as they went" (Phillips).

Several thoughts can be gleaned from this passage of Scripture. First—These were laymen spreading the message. Secondly—They had to labor for their living. Thirdly—They had to live the life they professed. Fourthly—They had to love the Lord greatly.

For some reason, known only to God, the disciples felt it necessary to remain with the infant church in Jerusalem and only the lay members were affected by this first dispersion.

As they made their way through the different regions, I feel sure that the majority of those with whom they came in contact would not be overly joyed at giving handouts to those who could be classified as traitors to their country; atheists, for worshipping "the man, Christ Jesus";



and other names attached to those who followed the carpenter from Nazareth. And so most, if not all, found it necessary to labor or work for the meat that perishes.

There is no part of the Word of God which might indicate that it is dishonorable to work for a living. Rather the Bible teaches that all should work hard and honestly in the vocation of God's choosing. These early laymen did not count it a drag on their lives to place their service to God above their labor to live.

I remember some years back a young preacher who was having to work at another job while pastoring a struggling mission. He was very unhappy about the situation and was becoming quite disturbed with his flock for not sacrificing more to place him on "full time." In trying to counsel with the young man I said to him, "If this other job doesn't do

anything else for you, I hope it will help you to understand what your people are faced with every day; their worldly associates; the desires to attain worldly possessions and in general the push and pull of the world against Christ and His church."

A layman who faces these obstacles and still labors first for Christ is a powerful force.

Many people are won to the Lord or lost to Him because of the lives of professing Christians. I feel that the early church members were faced with similar circumstances. As they went forth telling the message of God's love, Christ's perfect life, His atoning death, resurrection and ascension, the people to whom they spoke could tell that "they had been with Jesus."

Those outside the church expect the preacher to act in a certain way, but a dedicated layman still "shocks" an unbelieving world. That one can walk every day into worldly situations and come out living for Christ will make more of an impact on the world than powerful explosives make on a pile of rocks. Even hearts hard like stone can be broken by the force of Christ living.

These early laymen must have loved the Lord greatly to leave homes, jobs, families, friends and other things and face the life of being a friend to Jesus. Not many laymen are asked to leave home for Him today. Pastors come and go, but laymen usually stay in approximately the same location. What better opportunity could one have than to become familiar with the Gospel message; labor faithfully in their job while working for the Kingdom of God; live the Christian life or rather let Christ live it in each one; and love Christ above all else and "thy neighbor as thyself."

I say to the laymen. Yours is a great privilege and opportunity to serve Jesus. Fulfill the challenge which is yours. ■ ■

MR. PARKER is a graduate of Free Will Baptist College and the University of Oklahoma. He is now working in a Navajo Indian Boarding School on the Navajo Indian Reservation in northern Arizona. He serves the school as the Materials Center Coordinator and teacher.



# CLAIMING THE POWER

by Don Robirds

**B**UT IN VAIN they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9).

To be sure, the present age is veiled with a corruption that has surpassed anything the historians have revealed of such for centuries. The modern church has drifted into a coldness that has found the Saviour, on most occasions, standing outside and saying: "Behold I stand at the door and knock."

The dangers of this age are drastic. The tragedies which occur daily are despairing. But worse than this, the traditions of men are despicable.

Chaos in the world, confusion in the church and cowards in pulpits have made the effect of the church almost crumble. Liberalism has swept the country like a cold wave. How much longer things can continue as they are, remains only to be seen.

With all these things taking their toll today, churches in many areas have sensed the danger of drifting into a "cold, formalistic type of worship." They have sought to stay clear of the tide of the times. And in doing so, they have sought refuge in some of the methods of the "church fathers" of our time.

In this strategy, one must recognize a positive attempt to "stay true" to what was once delivered to the saints. This is commendable and should be credited as such. While following this trend, however, on many occasions there have been those who have lost sight of the purpose or goal which was sought when they began in this direction.

## Satan's Subtle Approach

In taking this line of action, there is a danger far greater than outward appearance would reveal. To steer clear of formalistic, programized worship, there has been the turning away to a non-progressive, informal, ritualistic type worship that is kin to that of the pagans in the jungles of many a country.

The attitude that "ignorance is bliss" and that "anything different to what our fathers did is not right" when the Bible

says absolutely nothing about such means and methods, has held many churches in the sway of Satan himself by making them have a "form of *Godlessness*" and yet "claiming to have the power" which the more formal churches do not.

To be proud of any particular type of ritual—form of worship—whether programized or nonprogrammed is to draw men into a shell of self-satisfied saints having no real need of God because they have created a god for themselves. And when anyone becomes more interested in the actions of the people than he is in acceptance by God, he has left the worship and adoration of God and has become a follower of men.

No one enjoys a service any more than I when the shouts of praise to God are heard. But when these shouts cannot be raised without a certain beat in the music or a certain action on the part of another individual, then question may be raised concerning the real cause of such action. The power and presence of God are not dependant on man-made actions or methods, but upon yieldedness and faith in the hearts of those desiring to "know Him (Christ) and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings" (Phil. 3:10).

## Ecumenism Threatens

The threat of this man-made worship may become even more prevalent as churches and pastors attempt to steer clear of the ecumenical tide that is sweeping the world today. The fact that most groups interested in ecumenical deliberations are those with a more formal worship could very easily draw our churches into an extremist position. Taking the opposite direction they could fall easy prey to Satan's tactics of leading men away from the Word of God and from worship in Spirit and Truth.

To be noted the world over today is the consciousness that "cold ritualism" whether Catholic, Episcopalian, Methodist or any other, is not giving men what their souls need and long for. There is no drinking from the fountains of living waters! It is in this light that we have noted, even on the mission field, the trend to turn to anything that deals mainly in the emotions and works of men.

Certainly, we must admit that there is emotion to be connected with our relationship to and worship of God. Out of love for our Lord we certainly must feel something of emotion. Some may express these emotions in crying, others by shouting, and others by simple quiet adoration of the Master, but never-the-less there is emotion.

The sad part is that many of those who have entered into a type of hyper-emotional circumstance have left off the study of God's Word, have become satis-



fied to see and hear of the experiences of others, and have accepted what man has said rather than searching the Scriptures "to see if these things be so." One has but to spend some time with a Spiritist, some (not all) Pentecostals, and a few others of this nature to know that Satan is winning a victory.

### Jesus Gives The Answer

What, then, must we do? What is the answer?

I feel the answer lies in the words of Jesus when he was speaking to the resurrection denying Sadducees: "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). Our greatest areas of error will fall in these two categories: Ignorance of the Word of God and ignorance concerning the power of God. An ignorance of the Word will cause us to follow the commandments and ideas of men. Lack of knowledge concerning the power of God will make us easy prey to any type of program or plan which has the appearance of power. And any power program which takes the place of God's power program is of the devil.

So let's get down to business with studying to show ourselves approved unto God and let's get in on this power program which comes through the Gospel of Christ activated by the Holy Spirit: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the POWER OF GOD unto salvation to everyone that believeth . . ." (Romans 1:16). "And ye shall receive POWER after that the HOLY GHOST is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . ." (Acts 1:8). "For our GOSPEL came not unto you in word only, but also in POWER, and in the HOLY GHOST, and in much assurance" (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

Knowing the scriptures is our responsibility as well as our privilege. We CAN know the truths of God's Word! We dare not fail in this area of Christian duty. To know the power of God is not always easily determined, but according to His Word we know that it is manifest through the Gospel of Christ under the direction or application of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works "with" and not contrary to the Word of God. Let's claim this power as set forth in the scriptures!

The Psalmist has written, ". . . let thy saints shout for joy" and we believe it should be so, but let us also say with the Psalmist, "Teach me thy way, O Lord; I WILL WALK IN THY TRUTH: unite my heart to fear thy name" (Psalm 86:11). ■ ■

MR. ROBRIDS is a literature missionary to Brazil. He will direct the expansion of our literature program in South America.

## Gods Of The Heathen

by Eddie Payne

JUST INSIDE the courtyard, near the main entrance to the long, low, mud house stands a pillar about three feet high. It is made of mud, roughly in the form of a man. A beautifully carved wooden head tops it. This is "god" for several Lobi families. His body is stained with the blood of a multitude of chickens offered to appease Satan. He blindly stares across the enclosure never seeing his subjects. Wooden ears register no response to the many prayers and pleas of his worshippers. His lips have never opened to speak a word of comfort or cheer. His hands rest forever at his side, never lifted to console or heal. He rests unmoved unable to go to the aid of his faithful followers. His coat of blood mingled with chicken feathers is a mute testimony to the power of the prince of darkness, for he is god to many precious souls.

"Wherefore should the heathen say, where is now their God? But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they but they smell not: They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. They that make them are like unto them: so is every one that trusteth in them" (Psalm 115:2-8).

Picture yourself falling down before him pleading for your child sick unto death; begging for a good crop so your family will not be hungry again this year; seeking satisfaction for the gnawing hunger in your heart for peace and joy; asking guidance for your life. See . . . Feel . . . Know the complete hopelessness and helplessness, the lostness of the heathen who has for god the work of his own hands.

Hear his plaintive cry and the awful death wail when his loved ones die. See his children scared and ruined for life to please his god. The unbearable, constant agony of being lost without hope. Blackness so black that not one ray of hope shines through. Turmoil of soul, anguish, suffering are all his lot. For his god is dead, the work of his own hands. Impotent, helpless, cruelly demanding and never giving in return.

All that our God is to us, the heathen must be to his god. The idol mentioned above must be cared for by his owner. Not many weeks ago during the regular preaching service in this village, it was

evident that someone had tampered with their family god. The well carved wooden head was missing, leaving only the clay trunk standing lone and grotesque. Upon inquiry we were told that during the night someone had come and stolen the head of their god. This unknown visitor had hoped to gain some help from another's god. The original was never recovered, but soon another replaced it.

"How foolish," you say. "If their god isn't closely watched he will be spirited away in the night." Yes, foolish, but remember that "the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God should shine unto them" (II Corinthians 4:4). It is very difficult to imagine the utter darkness of the heathen mind in regard to such spiritual matters. We must say, however, but for the Grace of God we too would be in such darkness. Bowing before these idol gods; asking, pleading, fearing for our very lives.

You ask, "What can be done for these? How can you bring them out of this terrible damning and dooming darkness and blindness?" The Bible tells us that these men are the servants of sin. But Jesus said, "If the Son therefore make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Yes, Jesus Christ is the answer. For those in darkness and superstition, the Gospel gives real hope. In Jesus, the shackles all fall off and the captive is set free. The sin darkened mind and soul are enlightened by the entrance of the Son of God, who is the light of the world.

Does it happen? For this man whose soul belongs to Satan and the multitudes like him . . . does it happen? Yes, praise God, it has, it does, and it will continue. The son of the chief of this very village is one of our young men now in preparation to preach the Gospel to his own people. Jeremiah, called out of darkness into the glorious light, is a marvelous testimony of the saving grace of God. Miracles occur today when men turn from their idol gods to Jesus Christ. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord" (Psalm 150:6). ■ ■

MR. PAYNE is a missionary to Ivory Coast. With his family, he is serving on the station formerly served by Dr. and Mrs. Laverne Miley.



---

## AN OPEN LETTER

I gave considerable time and thought to the insurance feature of the superannuation program in the early years of its history, and was among the first ministers to apply for a policy. I considered the insurance a top value investment from the beginning, and an opportunity for my denomination to make a substantial contribution to the future material security of its ministry. I have been blessed by our kind and loving Lord to experience the full benefits of this endowment: Just last week the Ministers Life and Casualty Union paid off. And now I am privileged to share with the Lord and our common cause an offering of thanksgiving and service. This I shall do with exceeding great joy.

Yours in Christ,

L. R. Ennis  
Goldsboro, North Carolina

---

## LEST WE FORGET

A TRIBUTE TO OUR ELDERLY MINISTERS

by

J. C. Lynn

I DESIRE TO offer a salute to our Free Will Baptist ministers who have reached a ripeness in years which calls forth the greatest possible admiration. God's respect for old age is expressed in these beautiful words, "Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old" (Proverbs 23:22). We praise God for the faithfulness of our elderly ministers whose labors continue until this good

hour. Their hearts are alive to the needs of others; they are alive to the bubbling joys of little children; they are ever ready to offer words of encouragement to our younger ministers who would do well to take their advice and save themselves the experimental pain and loss of time of the trial-and-failure method. These wonderful ministers have kept themselves abreast of the needs of this old world and have inspired all to press

on in the cause of winning a lost world to Christ.

### The Fact Of Old Age

Whether we like to think of it or not, we cannot escape the truth that Father Time takes his inevitable toll from each one. The telltale marks of age cannot be effaced at the drug store nor by denying our birthdays. One day King David, whose age beginning to manifest itself, took a look in a highly polished mirror and truth of old age came home to him, for he wrote, "I am become like a bottle in the smoke . . ." (Psalm 119:83). In his day bottles were made of skin and to make them effective they had to be cured by being hung in the smoke. The action of the smoke toughened them and made them shrivel, wrinkle and turn dark. It was from this the ancient writer got his striking and apt simile.

God recognizes that we advance in years and makes suitable arrangements for the aged. His servants, the prophets, grew old and He dealt tenderly with them and blessed their old age with the fullest of His promises. In his old age David wrote, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread" (Psalm 37:25). Isaiah's inspired pen has given a sweet promise from the Lord, "and even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you . . . and will deliver you" (Isaiah 46:4).

### The Fears Of Old Age

As men travel along the downward slope of life's trail, some seem to gather fears which become an awful burden. That peace of mind, the abiding rest of soul, and the measure of wisdom gleaned from the sweet, the bitter and the perplexing experiences of life are not theirs. There are fears of physical helplessness, fears of mental lapses, fears of poverty and of disease. Some of our aged ministers express the fear that in the end their family will not want to be burdened with them in their infirmity.

It is a sad thing to see one of our dear, aged ministers come to the closing years of his life beset with worries of one kind or another when not a sparrow falls to the ground without the knowledge of the heavenly Father.

Cicero, the ancient Roman wrote, "An old man has nothing to hope for, yet he is in so much happier state than a young man, since he has already attained what the younger is only hoping for. The one is wishing to live long and the other has lived long." Paul wrote to those who have upon their brow the winter of age, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7).

Of all the seasons autumn is most



beautiful. The autumn is the time of golden harvest and the gathering of luscious fruit. We have sown in the spring, cultivated and worked through the summer, all for the glory of autumn.

### The Faith Of Old Age

As our body grows weaker, our faith grows stronger. This is the plain statement of the Word of God and also our experiences. When we were young we wondered if God would keep His word, but now that we have come near to the end of the journey the genuineness of Christ and His word should be very real to each of us.

It is a blessing to read, "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Proverbs 4:18). So we should never waste our time and flutter away

faith by living in the past as some are prone to do. Mourning over the failures of yesterday and the mistakes and errors of long ago will not help matters. Paul wrote, ". . . forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14).

Do we believe our Bible concerning God's daily care for us that we can live free from worry? Do we accept by faith what Christ taught about Heaven so that we actually become homesick for heaven? Nothing is so inspiring to me as to find elderly people full of faith and hope and love, never sounding a sour note, but always singing God's praises and looking forward to the time when they shall see Christ face to face.

Our aged ministers not only have a strong faith in God's Word; what it teaches about salvation and the many promises for the aged, but I believe that they have a strong faith in the younger ministers and laymen, that all will continue for the faith once delivered unto the saints; and that we will never cease to pray, to help in every way possible, to build a strong Superannuation program for aged Free Will Baptist ministers.

June is Superannuation month. Please, Christian friend, take time to pray, take time to help our aged ministers with a special offering for our National Superannuation Program. ■ ■

MR. LYNN is pastor of Hyde Park Church, Norfolk, Virginia, and a member of the National Superannuation Board.

# Youth Activities

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED AT THE NATIONAL

**A** FULL PROGRAM of events is planned for Free Will Baptist young people at our National meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas. There are interesting things planned for those not involved in competition as well as for those representing their state in the various contests.

The summary of activities below is given to help you plan your personal schedule.

**Youth Choir**—Rehearsals for the youth choir will begin on Monday, July 11, in Little Rock. Check by the CTS booth for exact time and place. For the performance on Tuesday night girls will wear white blouses and dark skirts and the boys will wear white shirts, dark long ties, and dark trousers. If you have secured copies of the music in advance, please bring them with you.

**Competitive Activities**—Eliminations in the following contests will begin at nine o'clock Tuesday morning: declamations for Adventurers, declamations for Heralds, declamations for Crusaders, Bible tic, tac toe for Heralds, and Bible bowl for Crusaders. A practice Sword drill for Adventurers will also be held.

Finals in the contests will be held on

Tuesday afternoon in a joint meeting of all youth groups. Further information will be available at the CTS display area.

Registration deadline for competitive activities is July 1. Forms are available from the CTS office.

**Children's Rally**—A program for children in the Helpers and Learners age groups will be held on Tuesday morning from 9:30 until noon. The activities will take place on the ground floor of the auditorium across the hall from the display area. All children will be welcomed whether they are a member of CTS or not.

**Adventurer Field Trip**—Adventurers and older Learners will have an opportunity to go on an outing to a city park near the convention auditorium. The cost is \$1.00 per person for each child. Adults who wish to go along and help provide supervision may pay the same price.

Recreational activities will be provided, a trip to the museum located in the park is planned, and a picnic supper will be spread for all who have tickets.

You may write for tickets now and we urge you to do so. Tickets will be

available at the CTS display booth until one o'clock on Tuesday.

The group will leave from in front of the auditorium at four o'clock. The picnic supper will be spread at six o'clock in the park. The group will arrive back at the auditorium at 6:45.

**Youth Banquet**—A banquet for Heralds and Crusaders will be held on Tuesday evening at five o'clock in the convention hotel. Tickets for this banquet are \$2.50 each. Reservations may be made now by sending your money to the CTS office. Facilities will limit the total number which can attend. Tickets not reserved in advance will be on sale at the CTS display booth. (No formal dress, please.)

**Youth Speaks Out**—A meeting for all young people will be held on Thursday afternoon at 1:30, in the assembly hall on the lower floor of the auditorium across from the display area. The purpose of the meeting is to secure response from the young people on matters which relate directly to them and their church. The young people will be given an opportunity to elect representatives to a youth committee of advisors on CTS programming and expansion. ■ ■



**N**OT BY MIGHT, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zechariah 4:6). Many things contribute to the successful growth of a church. These are worship, Sunday school, visitation two by two, good officers and leaders, love for the brethren, Church Training Service, church auxiliaries, organization and programming. These things are not only important for a growing church, but necessary for a successful church. To say what is important, as the foundation of true growth, we must say it is the authority of God's Spirit in our lives.

We must first realize that we do not control the Spirit in any way. The Holy Spirit must control us if we are to be effective for the Lord. The Holy Spirit has a mission in the world, and our lives. This mission is to evangelize the world. We must come in unconditional surrender, emptied of self, that He may work in us. The growing church must be made up of born again people that have turned their lives over to the service of the Master. We are the instruments through which the spirit of the living God must do His work. Here is true success in the work of the church.

The Holy Spirit convicts the world, regenerates the believer, indwells the child of God, seals the saints, and is our comforter and guide. The Bible says, "He that believeth on me, as the scriptures hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). The scriptures teach that the Christian is to be filled with the Spirit, pray in the Spirit, sing in the Spirit, worship in the Spirit, walk in the Spirit, and be led by the Spirit. The Christian must grow if the church is to grow. The scriptures and the Holy Spirit are never in conflict. The

growing church promotes Christ first and promotes Him above all other names.

Today, with so many "isms," "osophies" and "ologies" that are utterly foreign to the basic way of life, it is time for us to return to the Word of the Lord. It is time for us to go back to "THUS SAITH THE LORD." Let us not settle for less, especially not for the ideas, or private interpretations of man. Let us return to the great Master Teacher for true leadership in the growth of the church.

Let me be the first to admit that we can have a great amount of outward growth in the church today by promotion, organization, and programming. But these alone are not enough. Let us remember that it was Christ that died and shed his blood that the church could exist today. Nothing less than this blood can save us. Nothing less than the Holy Spirit can lead us to victory. The Kingdom of Christ is made up of those that go in His name "by His Spirit."

The growing church must be a church that is about the Father's business. The church must fill the commission of Christ, "go ye." A total church program, with a world-wide vision, is the challenge that the growing church needs today. We must be willing to reach into the regions beyond. How can we say that we love God, sleep well at night, and let one-half of the world that has never heard of Jesus, go unnoticed? When we look at the total church program and reach out with our substance, the Lord

can reach deeper in our church and lives to do His work.

The growing church is made up of the fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22 which are: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." These are the result of the Spirit in our lives. The growing church extends these to a lost world. In these things there will be a continuous growth taking place in the church. We depend on God, and God depends on us, and how can we be satisfied as long as one soul is lost in the world.

God intended that the church should grow. We have all the elements of success. God has provided for our success in that He sent the Spirit to lead, guide and overcome. God has spread unlimited opportunities and fields of usefulness before us. There is no excuse for failure because we are given quality, coupled with God's infinite grace, to succeed. "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

The individual that makes up the growing church must be growing himself. He must have a deep, rich experience of salvation. He must have determination. Successful men have always been men of decision. He is a person that thinks and acts continually for Christ. He will seek and find his place of service for the Lord, not where he wants to be, but where the Lord wants him.

A growing church must have a true knowledge of God's Word. We must hide ourselves that the Lord may be the truth that all may see. Let us, as the Apostle Paul, acknowledge our personal unworthiness and utter insufficiency. Let us, "so run, that ye may obtain," (I Corinthians 9:24) that when this life is over, "we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (II Corinthians 5:1).

Here is the secret of success. ■■

MR. BOYLE is pastor of the First Church, El Sobrante, California.

by Francis Boyle

## THE GROWING CHURCH



**Y**OU HAVE probably heard all your life about the things a Christian *must not* do. However, there is little said about what a Christian can do for rest and recreation. There was a time when "dinner on the grounds" was the only type of social function that the church engaged in at all. However, this certainly wasn't a sufficient program of church recreation, if it cou'd even be called that.

Many times people of the world pity Christians because they have the mistaken idea that Christians never have any fun. But who are the people of the wor'd to describe fun? Movies, card tables, and dancing are all that some people know. Therefore, they assume that they're having fun. But real joy comes from serving Jesus and fellowshiping with other Christians.

Solomon once said, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine" (Proverbs 17:22). No doubt you've heard the saying many times, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." This old proverb is true. Yet, there are some people who think that recreation is necessarily sinful. This is *not* true. The Bible gives its approval of Christian recreation. God's Word speaks of God's people playing music, singing, and feasting. Of course these things must be kept in their proper proportion, but there is nothing wrong with them. What the world needs is more God-fearing and fun-loving Christians.

Marion L. Jacobsen in her book, *Good Times for God's People*, has mentioned rules regarding recreation that Christians should follow. A Christian must never let a good time keep him from doing the things he should be doing, such as having private devotions or worshipping God.

A person shouldn't be so involved in recreation that he fails to give his body the rest that it needs. It is not good to be completely occupied with just having a good time.

The Christian must leave time in his schedule to serve Christ and his church. We should not try to have fun just for fun's sake. Instead, we should participate in church recreation with the attitude of "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31).

Never spend too much money on having fun. A Christian should choose his fun, and those with whom he has that fun, with great care. Church recreation should always begin with a prayer to God that He will bless and be glorified in each activity.

There are many activities that church groups can enjoy together. The men of the church will especially enjoy having a baseball team. Friday night or Saturday afternoon would be a good time for their games.

Mothers might enjoy several types of

## Recreation With Purpose

by Violet Cox

missionary clubs. They could make gifts for missionary families, and at the same time enjoy Christian fellowship. The women will also enjoy planning recreational activities for the younger children. Some women have discovered that having "Secret Pals" is an enjoyable activity.

Teenagers especially need planned recreational activities. Most Christian teenagers like to get together for fun at least once a month.

January is a month of ice and snow. A skating party could be planned. In areas where there is not a lot of ice, the church could rent a roller rink for a night. After skating, the group could go to a young person's house for refreshments and a devotional.

You simply must have a Valentine's banquet in February. Valentine decorations can be made with very little cost and time and they are so pretty! Perhaps you could use "love" as a theme. It is a very popular subject, you know! The devotional part of the banquet would offer opportunity to mention Christ's love for us, which is the greatest love of all. This would be an excellent way of reaching unsaved young people who might be attending.

March comes around and winter is almost gone. The young people have been in all winter and will want to get outside. Why not have a weiner roast? If the air gets too chilly, the young people can gather around the fire, sing songs and share Christian testimonies.

The month of April initiates the year's baseball season. The teenagers will definitely want to get their softball teams organized.

The church will probably have several young people graduating from high school in late May or early June. Have a special dinner in their honor. Let them know that the church appreciates their personal accomplishments and their service to the church. Recognition and honor mean a lot to a young person at this

time in life, and they will appreciate any kindness shown to them.

The summer months will bring opportunities for picnics, hiking, and youth camps. The young people are out of school and need to be kept busy. Why not take a group of them to the National Association. They would certainly enjoy the fun and fellowship and their lives would be challenged by hearing God's Word.

An activity that could be enjoyed at any time of the year is a progressive dinner. Several of the adults must get together and do the planning.

Don't let the teenagers know anything—keep them in suspense! Just tell them that after church on Sunday morning they are all invited to go on a progressive dinner. Have adults volunteer to "chauffeur" the young people in their cars. The leader will direct the young people to the first home at which time they will be served a salad or appetizer.

They will then proceed to the next house where they will be served juice and various kinds of crackers. Remember, don't tell them where they're going next! They have great fun guessing. On the next stop they will be served the main course of the dinner. This stop will take longer.

Serve the dessert on the last stop. After everyone has finished his dessert, the father of the house, or the pastor, will want to lead the young people in a devotional. Try the progressive dinner with your young people. They will enjoy and appreciate it.

It is important that the church give its members, and especially its young people, something to do. If not, they will be attracted to the activities offered by the world. Plan wholesome recreation for your church and let it be recreation with a purpose. ■ ■

MRS. COX serves as a secretary in the Woman's National Auxiliary office and is a member of Cofer's Chapel Church, Nashville, Tennessee.



over Scripture soon becomes a conflict over Christ Himself. . . . Those who profess to honor Christ but reject the role of Scripture dishonor His view of religious authority." Ramm says: "The only real Christ is the Christ presented in the Scripture. Christ came to that one generation in the likeness of sinful flesh; he comes to every other generation in the garments of Sacred Scripture. The only Christ the church may recognize is the Christ clothed in garments of the inspired apostolic witness."

If this be Bibliolatry, so be it. But this very accusation by the sneering intellectual is but a lie, born to intimidate the true Christian. There is no such thing as Bibliolatry! The higher regard one has for the Scriptures, the more subject he is to the authority and Lordship of Jesus; the greater one's devotion to Scripture, the greater his devotion to Christ. Even David said, "Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." Theodore Engelder, a great Lutheran divine of a season ago, unashamedly avows: "The Christian *loves* the Bible. He loves it because he owes to it everything he prizes. Searching the Scripture, he has found therein eternal life, certainty in doubt, comfort in affliction, strength in weakness, and all spiritual blessing. And, loving this Book above all things, he will not permit any man to cast aspersion upon it and dishonour it." No, we do not worship the Bible, but we do worship the God whom we would not know were it not for this precious book. Indeed, we ought give no occasion to anyone to accuse us of letting the Bible replace Christ in our devotion; but let it be clearly understood we are devoted to the Christ of the Book. Let others who will construct "Christs" of their own choosing and fancy—they are all idolators!—we know what Christ we serve by the authoritative picture contained in the Scriptures.

## One Authority Infallible

Edward J. Young puts it thus: "There is one authority that is infallible. When we turn to it and hear its words, we know that we can believe those words. We can entrust our souls to the Savior of whom those words speak, for those words tell the truth. They will never change; they will never lose their authority; they are infallible. We need not be ashamed of that rich word. The Scripture is infallible, and for that reason, when we turn from the changing scene about us and the shifting sands of human opinion, we may rest secure upon the words which were spoken by Him that cannot lie. Ever before us we may hold

the truth which was enunciated by our Lord, 'The Scripture cannot be broken'."

With such a God-breathed, infallible guide, we rejoice, then, that we are possessors of a unique authority that can—indeed that *must*—be brought to bear in every area of our lives, belief, practice, and witness. We have, for example, an authoritative source of doctrine. Quite apart from the confusion of man's multiplicity of philosophies stands an authoritative theology—one built on an assent to God's self-revelation rather than a rational "search" for truth. God forbid we should build our teaching on the shifting sands of philosophical speculation; we must continue, as did the early church, in the Apostles' doctrine—and their doctrine is the Bible. Evangelicals stand for scriptural doctrine.

We also have an authoritative direction for life. The commandments of the Scripture (whether the "ten" or Christ's) are, after all, commandments, not options. Bishop Robinson's book ought to be named *Dishonest With God*. Evangelicals stand for the authoritative morality taught in God's Book. The "new" morality is only the old immorality.

We have authority for our love; even that is a commandment. In one sense, we are to love all men; in a unique way, one another. God helping us, evangelicals must show the world what Christian love, that "seeketh not her own," really is.

We have authority for our discipline as well—an area important for its implications concerning Christian fellowship. I will not stray, here, too far from the purpose of the message by dwelling on a "testy" subject; but it appears to me that unscriptural fellowship is a problem among evangelicals—some fellowshiping naively with heretics, and others in a spirit of bitterness excluding genuine brethren. You and I might not each agree on all the fellowship questions, but let every one be absolutely certain he sincerely seeks the position and attitude of the Bible.

We have authority for our goals. Without elaboration, let it simply be said that the Scripture gives us our mission; we are not left to determine for ourselves worthy ends, nor to discern between primacy among the ends. Evangelicals are committed to the tasks outlined in the Bible.

But we have authority for our methods as certainly as our goals. It is not the end that justifies the means: the Scripture gives us both.

We could go on, and yet we could not, for the time is upon us. What will be our response to such precious authority

as we have in the Book? This authority is not just an item for intellectual admiration, it imposes *obligation* upon us.

For one thing, it means we must speak authoritatively on the issues of our day: the moral, social, ethical, judicial, legislative, educational issues of our times where God has something to say. Indeed, we can speak out on the racial problem, the pornography problem, problems in pre-marital sex, problems of lawlessness, crime, and punishment; but we must be careful to speak with the authority of the Bible. Harold Lindsell says that "The great lack of our day is the failure of the Church and Christians to make known the relevancy of the Bible to current movements and problems. There is a 'Thus saith the Lord' for a world which faces apocalyptic catastrophe. We need prophets neither of doom nor of gloom. Rather do we need men who know what God has said and who will speak with complete abandonment as prophets of God to the nations." Would God the unregenerate world in every area of life could hear evangelicals saying over and over, "The Bible says!" In a way, the people of our day are unconsciously calling for just such an authoritative voice; who knows but that they will react as did those of long ago who were astonished and grateful that Jesus "spoke as one having authority"?

For another thing, it means we must preach an authoritative gospel. Let us not allow the henchmen of Satan to carry the point that even God's people are not agreed. We must—at all costs—present an authoritative and unanimous gospel to the world; else what good is it to profess Scriptural authority? We do not have to agree on every non-essential; but evangelicals can, with *many* voices, confess *one* message. Herein lies true ecumenicity.

Finally, and most important, it means we must exemplify the authority of Scripture in our lives. When all is said and done, the authority of the Bible is not really a question of dogma, nor an intellectual tenet to be rationally explored and proved. It is a faith to be demonstrated in life. We must, for example, live *in* the Book if it is all that authoritative; but, more important, we must live *under* the Book. What your neighbor and mine need most is not so much to hear us *say* what God has said; it is to see us *show* what God has taught in lives submitted to the authority of the Scriptures. ■ ■

MR. PICIRILLI is Moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He formerly served the association as Clerk for five years.



# INSPIRATION . . .



WILLEY



MILEY

Sometimes Dad will kiss a bump  
(That's only when you're small)  
And when there's time to play with us  
We have great games of ball.

I'm glad that God made fathers  
Out of men who once were boys;  
Who remember boys have troubles  
And need Dads to share their joys.  
—Grace S. Clark

HEDLEY

## SPECIAL CONVENTION FEATURES

---

### WNAC Fellowship Dinner

Monday, July 11, 5:00 p.m.  
Hall of Fame, Marion Hotel  
Mrs. Thomas H. Willey, Sr., Speaker  
\$2.50 per plate

---

### Pastor's Dinner

Tuesday, July 12, 5:00 p.m.  
Hall of Fame, Marion Hotel  
Dr. Laverne Miley, Speaker  
\$2.50 per plate

### I'm Glad God Made Fathers

I'm glad that God made fathers  
Out of men who once were boys;  
Who understand boys' troubles  
And put up with their noise.

'Course Dad's not good at cooking  
Meals a family requires,  
But you ought to taste the flapjacks  
Baked on hiking-trip camp fires!

Some Dads are even smart enough  
To explain arithmetic;  
And why you'd better lose a game  
Than win with a mean trick.

Id Trip & Picnic  
, 4:30 p.m.

t, we urge you to get tickets  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202.





THE  
EDITOR'S  
PAGE

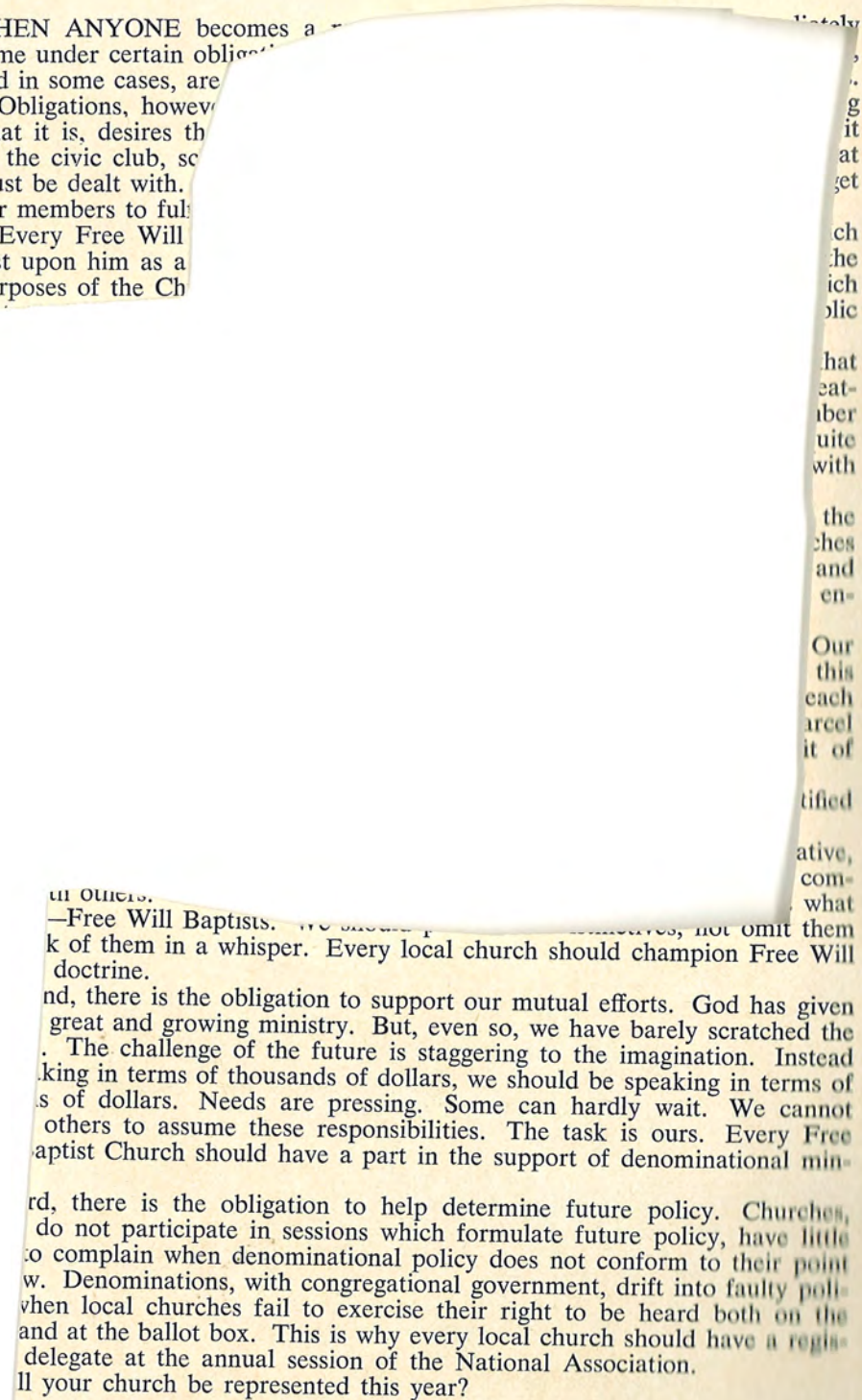
**THE OBLIGATIONS  
OF MEMBERSHIP**

# personally...

WHEN ANYONE becomes a member, he comes under certain obligations, and in some cases, are

Obligations, however, are not what it is, desires that he be the civic club, so must be dealt with. Our members to fulfill

Every Free Will member rests upon him as a trustee for the purposes of the Church



...in others.  
—Free Will Baptists. We should not omit them  
k of them in a whisper. Every local church should champion Free Will  
doctrine.

...nd, there is the obligation to support our mutual efforts. God has given  
great and growing ministry. But, even so, we have barely scratched the  
. The challenge of the future is staggering to the imagination. Instead  
king in terms of thousands of dollars, we should be speaking in terms of  
s of dollars. Needs are pressing. Some can hardly wait. We cannot  
others to assume these responsibilities. The task is ours. Every Free  
aptist Church should have a part in the support of denominational min-

...rd, there is the obligation to help determine future policy. Churches,  
do not participate in sessions which formulate future policy, have little  
to complain when denominational policy does not conform to their point  
w. Denominations, with congregational government, drift into faulty poli-  
when local churches fail to exercise their right to be heard both on the  
and at the ballot box. This is why every local church should have a regis-  
delegate at the annual session of the National Association.  
Will your church be represented this year?





**WILLEY**



**MILEY**



**FRANCK**



**HEDLEY**

## **SPECIAL CONVENTION FEATURES**

---

### **WNAC Fellowship Dinner**

Monday, July 11, 5:00 p.m.  
Hall of Fame, Marion Hotel  
Mrs. Thomas H. Willey, Sr., Speaker  
\$2.50 per plate

---

### **Pastor's Dinner**

Tuesday, July 12, 5:00 p.m.  
Hall of Fame, Marion Hotel  
Dr. Laverne Miley, Speaker  
\$2.50 per plate

---

### **Banquet for Heralds and Crusaders**

Tuesday, July 12, 5:00 p.m.  
Continental Room, Marion Hotel  
Mr. Jack Franck, Speaker  
\$2.50 per plate

---

### **Master's Men Breakfast**

Thursday, July 14, 7:00 a.m.  
Hall of Fame, Marion Hotel  
Mr. Evon Hedley, Speaker  
\$1.75 per plate

---

#### **ALSO**

Fellowship of Church Musicians  
Monday, July 11, 3:00 p.m.  
West Room, Marion Hotel

#### **AND**

Adventurer's Field Trip & Picnic  
Tuesday, July 12, 4:30 p.m.  
City Park

**NOTE:** All meal functions will be limited. To avoid disappointment, we urge you to get tickets early. All tickets may be ordered from TICKETS, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Please enclose an addressed, stamped envelope with your check.



**CONTACT**

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

MRS JAMES STACK

RT-7

CLARKSVILLE TENN 37040

C

Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee

AN INTERNATIONAL FILMS PRESENTATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH FREE WILL BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONS

# CARNIVAL OF PRETENSE

*A search for reality in a world of make-believe*

Filmed in Brazil  
Written by KEN ANDERSON  
Directed and Photographed by DAN DUNKLEBURGER  
Special consultant JERRY BALLARD



Featuring **MARLENE FRANCA & FAUSTO ROCHA & HORACIO DA SILVA**

**NATIONAL YOUTH PREMIERE, LITTLE ROCK, LATE NIGHT EXTRA ON JULY 13**