

# ***CONTACT***

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

JULY 1968

POSSESSING OUR POSSESSIONS



## **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**

NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE  
WILL  
BAPTISTS

JULY 15-18  
OKLAHOMA CITY,  
OKLAHOMA

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# personally...

## **FACING THE FOURTH**

The birthday of our nation ought to be a sacred thing. Proudly we pay tribute to our country and give thanks to God for these 192 years of progress. Our heritage of life, liberty and justice is unexcelled. To God be the glory for the greatest nation in the world—these United States of America.

This hallowed day in our history has seemingly lost much of its original purpose. Instead of a holy day of remembrance and resolution, it has become a holiday for drunkenness, pleasure and scorching the highways.

It appears we have lost the thrill of flags waving, parades, bands, speeches and patriotic exercises. Have we become so sophisticated and self-sufficient that we no longer take pride in patriotism? Have we become so calloused that we have forgotten this day's significance or our debt to those who laid their all on the altar of liberty? Our need for renewed, fervent patriotism has never been more impelling.

A nation that forgets its history and destiny is on the way to disintegration. This is why we need to ponder the present trends and return to God in genuine repentance. Renewed gratitude and prayer for revival are urgently needed. Only then can we have a rebirth of the character, courage and conviction that made our nation the land of the free and the home of the brave.

As we face another Fourth of July, we need a reminder that our nation's future depends upon our response to God's Word. We are told in Psalm 9:17, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God,"—yet, the promise in Psalm 33:12 remains, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. . . ." Only an America saturated with faith, love and the laws of God can escape divine judgment.

## **CONVENTION CONNIVERS**

The outcome of political conventions ho'ds Americans in suspense. There is always an air of excitement when the time approaches for delegates and political leaders to chart the future course of our nation.

Sometimes we who sit in the grandstands are pleased by their decisions. Other times we are appalled and disgusted with the vying, jockeying and behind the scene maneuvering of king makers who seek to impose political expediency upon the will of the majority.

Yet, there is something even more revolting. It is the fleshly efforts of men to manipulate a church convention for religious expediency. Many denominations are plagued with this problem. Free Will Baptists are no exception. This is no blanket indictment, but it becomes evident, all too often, from the district to the national meeting.

Calling attention to this carnal way of transacting the Lord's business should be sufficient to help us be on guard against unwitting involvement. Christ, our Head, does not need petty men to pull strings. He desires men of prayer who will not stoop to scheming.

As we gather in Oklahoma City, it would be well to check our heart motives and attitudes. A Christ-like spirit will help us contend for the faith without being contentious. It will preserve our unity of fellowship. It will ensure the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the will of God.



*Our Executive Secretary urges every pastor to encourage his congregation to adopt CONTACT'S family plan. (See inside covers.)*

RUFUS COFFEY *editor*  
JUNE R. CRITCHER *assistant editor*  
JANE YOUNG *circulation*

# CONTACT

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# What Are You Offering the Youth of Your Church?

## CHURCH TRAINING SERVICE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Dear Youth Leader,

Did you know that by 1970 one half of America's population will be under twenty-five years of age? Many of these young people will be graduating from college and taking their places in the business world. Young people are inexperienced in many areas of life. They have not yet faced the difficulties to be met in carrying out life plans. They have not yet been hurt by the failures that teach a certain amount of caution. Youth has not learned what it cannot do. Out of inexperience and a desire to do and to be, youth dares where experienced adults would hesitate. They learn by trying and much of the world's progress has been achieved by young people who do things which the older generation held to be impossible. Young people will be influencing our government and taking their places in our churches as adult members as never before.

High schools and colleges, businesses and politics are capitalizing on the youth of today. What are you doing with the youth in your church? Are the youth activities of such a nature that the teens consider them immature? Take a good long look at your own group and measure what you have to offer with the zeal and ambition of youth. Are you in need of help to know just what to offer your teens? The Church Training Service of the National Association of Free Will Baptists is offering a training service for our youth that gives them a feeling of accomplishment.

Heralds for Christ reach young people in grades 7, 8 and 9. Their competitive program is Bible Tic Tac Toe and teaches them Bible knowledge, sportsmanship and gives them a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. Crusaders for Christ reach young people in grades 10, 11 and 12. Their competitive program is Bible Bowl. Competition for these two groups begins at the local church level and extends to the National level.

Round up your teen-agers and head toward new horizons at the National Youth Conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, July 15-18. Attend all youth activities and see the teens in action. I will be available to answer any questions you might have concerning Bible Bowl and Bible Tic Tac Toe and offer any assistance I can in helping you organize your teams.

Youth learns by doing. You learn by coming to the National Youth Conference.

In Christ,

Peggy Paramore  
National Herald Leader

# IT'S THAT

WHY can't we go to the National this year?" comes the perennial question from the children at our house.

"Because there is very little to interest you" is the usual reply. But this year the answer had to be changed. No longer could we tell our Junior boy and Junior High girl that nothing at the National Association was planned for them.

In past years parents have taken their children to the National Associations because no baby sitter was available at home, to show their offspring to friends, or because they simply did not want to leave them behind. Babies and small children were carried to the services or left in a nursery. Older children were dragged into business sessions that did not interest them. Teens were left to entertain themselves.

The result of the family trip to the National? Jagged nerves (especially for the mother), fretful children, and bored teens. Also, a side result often occurred. Teenagers, bursting with summer's boundless energy, found outlets that were not always admirable—spitting water on hotel patrons from a vantage point atop the building, wandering aimlessly through the streets, or riding elevators with no particular destination in mind.

Parents, trying to correct these problems, were without positive alternate activities for their children. How enthusiastically will even a Christian teen respond to the suggestion that he stay quietly in his room unless he attends the business session or a service?

The Church Training Service Department has planned some activities for young people in recent years—banquets, a day of competitive activities, and outings. However, too much free time was still a problem for energetic young people. Without a special hangout of their own, they were limited to visiting one another's room or finding some undesirable outlet for their curiosity.

This year CTS has provided the remedy, if the parents and youth leaders cooperate in directing their children to participate in the youth program.

THE WIGWAM ROOM, full of interesting table games for Adventurers, will be open after night services until



by genevieve waddell

***Four action packed days are planned for Free Will Baptist youths in Oklahoma City.***

***As the teen prepares for the trip, he or she should keep his Christian testimony clearly in focus.***



# TIME AGAIN

about 11:30. Here boys and girls can meet their Indian pals for pow-wows all their own with proper adult supervision. Refreshments can be purchased. This area will be open during the day when planned activities are not in session.

On Tuesday afternoon Adventurers and Learners will ride one of the chartered busses to the Historical Indian Museum. A picnic supper will follow the field trip, all for only \$1.25. The competitive contests will interest the boys and girls all day Tuesday, too.

TEENS will have their own Corral Room in the headquarters hotel also. Activities centered around the Western theme are planned for the week, including informal teen talent sessions and games. Adults will be on hand to guide the activities in the Corral during the day's freetime and after the night services until about midnight. Contests will be an important feature.

Tuesday morning opens with a special prayer meeting for young people of all ages. A teen banquet with a setting straight out of the West is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Special discussion sessions will be held Wednesday and Thursday mornings for all young people. Subjects such as how to organize school Bible clubs and church related vocations will be covered. A youth rally will climax the activities on Wednesday afternoon.

Presently, planned activities are not available for children below the primary age. A lack of funds, workers, and space prevents an active program for this age.

Babies will have a delightful nursery area with qualified workers from a local babysitting agency. Children through three years of age may be left in the nursery in the headquarters hotel during the mornings, afternoons, and evenings. Parents must come for their children during the announced lunch and supper hours and after the night services. Take advantage of this useful service, but do not misuse it.

Provide your baby with every essential need. Label his articles clearly. As an extra precaution, prepare an arm band for your baby with his name, your name and whereabouts, his daily schedule, and

other necessary information on it.

What is *not* the plan of the CTS Department in providing youth activities? Parents must not expect these leaders to be official babysitters for the week. Parents and youth leaders are in charge of their own young people and must set the standards of conduct for them.

Young people should not be available only when the game rooms are open, ducking out of the services and other planned activities. Attendance at services, contests, and other events is expected of our youth.

Neither are these plans designed to give our Free Will Baptist youth the idea that the work of our National Association is all play and no toil. If parents and youth leaders maintain the proper attitudes of love and co-operation, our young people will welcome the opportunity to take their future places of leadership on the National level.

A week of unplanned activities will do far more harm towards shaping our youths' ideas than one full of exciting challenges and fellowship with their peers.

**W**HAT can parents and chaperones do to prepare their families and young people for the exciting trip to Oklahoma City? First of all, clarify what you expect of your young people during the week. (We might remind ourselves of these basic facts also.)

Have it understood that Christians are making impressions on every person in

the city with whom they have contact. The kind of impression is determined by the individual Christian. Children, teens, and adults should know that the services of busy restaurant and hotel workers deserve a tip, especially since much of their livelihood depends on this method.

Courtesy and honesty are basic in dealing with clerks and personnel in the hotel and local shops. Elevators are overtaxed during the busy week. Playing with them should be discouraged.

Attendance at the services and meetings is expected for adults and young people. Periods of rest should be planned in order to tolerate the physical demands of the week.

In an age of big city crimes, young people should understand the danger of wandering in a strange city, whereabouts unknown by parents. Discuss their curfew and behavior with your young people, and let them know you trust them to abide by these convictions. Above all, encourage them to fellowship with others, to form new friendships, and to enjoy the week to the fullest. Don't forget to emphasize the spiritual aspect of the National Association, for without this the week would not differ from any other convention.

The 1968 National Association proposes to be a tremendous blessing and challenge. So pack up your Learners, Adventurers, Heralds, Crusaders, Ambassadors—and even the little tyke—and meet us at the big roundup in Oklahoma City on July 15!



**THE AUTHOR** is the wife of Rev. Eugene Waddell and writer of **TEEN TEACHER**, publication of our Sunday School Department. The Waddells have five children.

# gems

FROM THE  
GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

by ROBERT PICIRILLI

In Ephesians 6:4 there is an instruction for parents to bring up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." The exact meaning and relationship of these two words, *nurture* and *admonition*, can be understood more clearly by a knowledge of the Greek words behind the English translation.

The word translated "nurture" is *paideia*, which actually means "discipline." The words in this family occur several times in the New Testament; in the twelfth chapter of Hebrews, for example, this is the word translated "chastisement" or "chastening" or "correction." This word is translated "chastened" in I Corinthians 11:32, and in Luke 23:16,22, this word is translated "chastise" and refers to the *whipping* Pilate planned to give Jesus.

So the word *paideia* means *acts* of punishment or correction taken to discipline or chastise a child who has disobeyed. How much better modern society would be if Ephesians 6:4 were now being followed in homes!

The word translated "admonition" is, in Greek, *nouthesia*, and this refers to the positive side of child-rearing, the teaching, exhortation, warning, instruction that comes from word and example. Perhaps no word better than "admonition" could be found. (See also the same word in I Corinthians 10:11 and Titus 3:10.)

These two taken together—positive teaching and warning, coupled with the administering of discipline when necessary—provide the perfect method for raising children in the Lord.



L. to R. Lonnie Skiles, Larry Hampton, A. B. Brown, Janice Baskins, Kathy Tippett, Lynn Smith.

# glancing around the states

## College Students Honored

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Six junior students at Free Will Baptist Bible College have been chosen for listing in "Who's Who Among Students In American Universities and Colleges." These are Janice Baskins, Norfolk, Virginia; Aulton B. Brown, Rockingham, North Carolina; Larry Don Hampton, Shawnee, Oklahoma; Lonnie R. Skiles, Salem, Missouri; Nancy Lynn Smith, Charlotte, Tennessee; Kathryn A. Tippett, Nashville Tennessee. Each of these students, in addition to being listed in the 1969 edition of "Who's Who," will receive a certificate in honor of their selection. Among the qualities they possess that determined their selection were Scholastic Achievement, leadership ability, and personal initiative.

## Alumni Purchase Property

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The Free Will Baptist Bible College Alumni Association has purchased a house and lot near the campus for the use of the school. The property, located at 3630 Richland Avenue, was purchased under the alumni's "Project 500," aimed at acquiring needed land and eventually constructing a gymnasium-auditorium for the school.

Nearly \$700 was raised in the Alumni Association's business meeting and banquet on April 10. A \$5,000 down payment has been made on the \$17,500 purchase.

## Early Response

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Though still several months away, a great deal of enthusiasm has greeted the Bible College's announced plans to hold a Pastor's Conference in Nashville. The Confer-

ence, to convene on the College campus August 5-9, will feature several outstanding guest speakers, including: Dr. Alden Gannett on "How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Messages"; Rev. Guy Owens on "Opportunities in the Radio Ministry"; Rev. Bill Hill on "Problems in Pastoral Counseling"; Rev. Joe Ange on "An Effective Visitation Ministry"; and Rev. Don Pegram on "Building the Mid-Week Service."

A fee of only \$20.00, which includes room, meals, and Conference expense, will be charged. Those not wishing room and board on campus may attend for \$8.00, which includes all noon meals and Conference functions.

## Pastor Resigns

GREENVILLE, N. C.—Rev. Robert B. Crawford, pastor of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church here, has resigned as pastor. Mr. Crawford's services at the church will terminate July 29, 1968. Any one desiring his services may contact him at 107 South Sylvan Drive, Greenville, North Carolina.

## Georgia Pastor Passes

ALBANY, GA.—Rev. Louis E. Sheffield, Sr. passed away May 11, 1968 after a two-month illness. He was 52.

At the time of his death, Mr. Sheffield was pastor of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Albany. He had pastored churches for 17 years in Georgia, Flor-

ida, and Alabama. During his ministry he organized two churches, Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia, and Bethel Free Will Baptist Church of Albany, Georgia.



Free Will Baptist Bible College graduates were honored at the National Offices Building May 23, 1968. Departmental directors sponsored the afternoon tea as an expression of their appreciation for those who chose our denominational Bible College as their place of training.

## New Curriculum Features Genesis

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The Sunday School Department of the National As-



## Newly Organized Church

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to make a request through CONTACT for persons and churches interested in helping our newly organized church to send their offerings to Miss Norene Parrish, 208 South 24th Street, Gadsden, Alabama. The church was organized in November. We only have 12 members and most of these are children. Pray for us.

James Wycuff  
Attalla, Alabama

## Magazine Improved

DEAR EDITOR:

Our national magazine is getting better all the time. I feel sure this is what our previous editors would like to hear all of us say. Thank God for those who help our wonderful magazine to grow to what it is. I would not be without it.

Lewis Barker  
Walnut Ridge, Arkansas

DEAR EDITOR:

Would you please publish this announcement in CONTACT? Rev. Odell Harris has resigned as pastor of the Moultrie Free Will Baptist Church. Future plans are indefinite. Address: Odell Harris 723—7th Avenue S. E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768.

In Christ,  
Odell Harris

DEAR EDITOR:

I received this month's issue of CONTACT today. I am more thrilled with our national magazine than I have ever been before in my life. The articles are well selected, the contents of the magazine are pertinent to our work, and it is hard for me to put the magazine down until I have read every word in it. Keep up the good work, Brother. Our prayers are with you.

Joseph G. Ange  
North Carolina

# readers respond

## Enjoys Articles

DEAR EDITOR:

Although I do not at present subscribe to CONTACT, I have seen several issues, and they have been a blessing and inspiration to me. As I am a Sunday school teacher, I have greatly enjoyed reading your articles on how to build a better Sunday school.

Nancy L. Meade  
Manassas Park, Virginia

DEAR EDITOR:

Praise the Lord for the wonderful article, "Outstanding Qualities of Free Will Baptist Mothers." I was so moved I could not read all of it at one time. Praise God for Christian mothers!

Owen Ganey  
Darlington, South Carolina

## Pastoral Change

DEAR EDITOR:

I would appreciate your printing in CONTACT that I have changed pastorates. I am now pastoring First Free Will Baptist Church in Booneville, Arkansas. We are getting ready to build a new church that will seat 400. Construction should begin sometime this month.

Jack Millwood  
Booneville, Arkansas

## Needs Pastor

DEAR EDITOR:

We are in need of a pastor, and any help you may give us will certainly be appreciated.

The people of West Side Free Will Baptist Church have been very patient and prayerful, but the Lord's work needs to be done and our people need a shepherd.

Mrs. Frances Taylor  
Route 1—A56 Perrie Lane  
Midland, Texas 74701

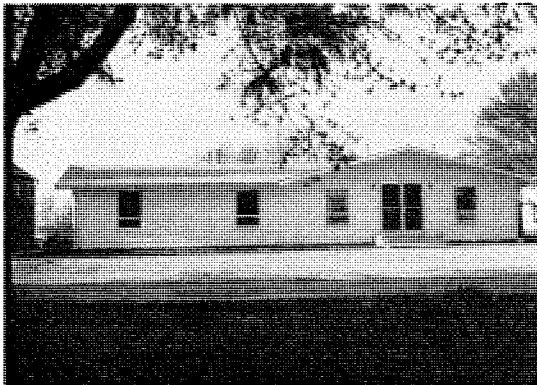
sociation of Free Will Baptists will begin their seven-year study of the Scriptures with the book of Genesis. During the first two quarters of 1969 the subject will be covered as thoroughly as possible in the 26 studies.

## Church Dedicated

KIRKSVILLE, MO. — The Free Will Baptist Church here recently dedicated a new educational building and parsonage.

Rev. Woodrow Matthews and Rev. Leland Horton, former pastors, participated in the services.

The educational building houses 18 classrooms, four departmental assembly rooms, kitchen, fellowship area, children's chapel and pastor's study. The structure contains 5,600 square feet of space on two floors.



*Shown above are the two buildings recently completed by the First Free Will Baptist Church, Kirksville, Missouri.*

The parsonage is a four bedroom tri-level with attached garage. The Sunday school has an average attendance of 150. Rev. Andy Lay is the pastor.

PROGRAM OF THE 32ND ANNUAL SESSION OF THE  
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA • JULY 15-18

THEME: "Possessing Our Possessions"

ORGANIST: Rev. Teddy Wilbanks  
PIANIST: Rev. Herman Hersey  
SONG LEADER: Mr. I. L. Stanley  
CONVENTION HYMN: "I Am Bound for the Promised Land"  
NURSERY: Room 332—Sheraton  
CONVENTION OFFICE: North Adriatic Room  
PRESS ROOM: South Adriatic Room

**MONDAY / July 15**

8:00—General Board  
Baroque Room—Sheraton Oklahoma Hotel  
8:00—WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast  
Old Timers Room—Sheraton Oklahoma Hotel  
10:30—WNAC Executive Committee, State Presidents, Field Workers  
Old Timers Room

**Monday Afternoon**

1:30—General Board  
Baroque Room  
5:00—WNAC Fellowship Banquet  
Florentine Room

**Monday Evening**

Civic Center Music Hall

Theme: "Recognizing Our Priceless Possessions"

Scripture: "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints" (Eph. 1:18).

Presiding: Rev. J. B. Fletcher

7:30—Worship through Song and Prayer  
7:40—Association Called into Official Session  
Introduction of Officers—Rev. William E. Atkinson  
Moderator's Message—Dr. Robert E. Picirilli  
7:55—Report of Committee on Committees  
Appointment of WNAC Committees—Mrs. Robert C. Hill  
8:00—Welcome from Oklahoma State Association—Rev. N. R. Smith  
8:05—Welcome from Oklahoma City—Mayor  
8:10—"Heavenly Sunshine"—Get Acquainted Time  
8:15—Convention Offering  
Special Music  
8:20—"Possessing Our Spiritual Possessions"—Rev. Eustace Riggs  
9:00—Adjourn Session (Exhibit Area Open)  
10:00-12:00—Teen Corral—Imperial Ballroom, Skirvin  
10:00-11:30—Wigwam—Oklahoma Room, Sheraton

PROGRAM OF THE 33RD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE  
WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION  
ANTIQUÉ ROOM, SHERATON HOTEL

Theme: A World in Hunger  
Watchword: "Give Ye Them to Eat"  
Convention Song: "The Breaking of the Bread"

**TUESDAY / July 16**

Presiding: Mrs. Georgia Hill

9:00—Singspiration—Rev. Malcolm Fry, song director; Mrs. Carolyn Timmons, pianist  
Devotions: Mrs. Jenell Billows, Mexico  
Quartet—The Institute of Gold  
Welcome—Mrs. Marguerite Hinesley  
Special Music—Mrs. Mary Moore  
Missionary Morsels—Mrs. Virginia Van Kluyve  
Missionaries in Testimony and Song  
Dramatization—Rev. Bill Gardner, Rev. Bronco West,  
Rev. Herman Hersey  
10:45—Recess  
10:55—Worship through Song—Rev. Malcolm Fry  
Offertory  
Special Music—Rev. Malcolm Fry  
Message—Dr. G. Christian Weiss, Director of Missions, **Back to the Bible Broadcast**

**Tuesday Afternoon**

1:00—Worship through Song  
Devotions—Mrs. Janie Aldridge, Ivory Coast  
Special Music—Edna Whittington, Barbara Dunbar  
1:30—Business Session  
Reports of Committees  
3:00—Final Adjournment

**Youth Activities**

7:00—Youth Prayer Meeting—Florentine Room, Sheraton  
7:00—CTS Breakfast for Judges—Oriental Room, Sheraton  
8:00—Sword Drill Contest—Pioneer Room, Sheraton  
Bible Tic Tac Toe—Oklahoma Room, Sheraton  
Bible Bowl—Florentine Room, Sheraton  
Adventurer Declamations—Parlors C and D, Sheraton  
Herald Declamations—Liberty Suite, Sheraton  
Crusader Declamations—Independence Suite, Sheraton  
2:30—Adventurers' Field Trip—Sheraton Hotel Entrance  
5:00—Western Youth Banquet—Imperial Ballroom, Skirvin  
10:00—Youth Talent Concert (Adults Only)—Baroque Room, Sheraton  
10:00—Teen Corral—Imperial Ballroom, Skirvin  
10:00—Adventurer Wigwam

*Are you a subscriber to CONTACT? If not, visit the Executive Dept. booth and place your subscription today.*

## TUESDAY / July 16

- 9:00—Pastor's Seminar on Stewardship  
Rev. Waldo Werning—Baroque Room  
5:00—Pastor's Dinner—Rev. Joseph Ange  
Florentine Room, Sheraton

### Tuesday Evening

Civic Center Music Hall

Theme: "Reaching Our Potential Possessions"—"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

- Presiding: Mr. Ray Turnage  
7:30—Worship through Song and Prayer  
7:35—Special Music—Youth Choir  
7:45—Presentation of Awards—National Youth Contest Winners  
8:00—Convention Offerings  
8:10—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates and Visitors from Other Religious Bodies  
8:15—Special Music  
8:20—"Possessing Our Youth"—Rev. Gordon Sebastian  
9:00—Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

## WEDNESDAY / July 17

- 7:00—Prayer Service—Rev. Carl Vallance—Baroque Room  
7:45—Bible College Alumni Breakfast—Florentine Room  
9:00—Worship through Song  
9:05—Devotional Thought and Prayer  
Rev. James McAllister  
9:15—Report of General Board, Seating of Delegates  
9:25—Business Session  
10:25—Intermission  
10:45—Historical Commission Report  
11:00—Superannuation Board Report—Rev. Chester Huckaby  
11:20—Free Will Baptist Bible College Report—Dr. L. C. Johnson  
11:40—Laymen's Board Report  
12:00—Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)  
1:30—Worship through Song  
1:35—Devotional Thought and Prayer—Rev. Neucl Brown  
1:45—Report of National Association of Evangelicals—Dr. Billy A. Melvin  
2:00—Commission on Theological Liberalism Report  
2:15—Home Missions and Church Extension Report—Rev. Homer E. Willis  
2:35—Church Training Service Board Report—Mr. Samuel Johnson  
2:55—Sunday School Board Report—Rev. Roger C. Reeds  
3:15—Foreign Missions Board Report—Rev. Reford Wilson  
3:35—Executive Secretary's Report—Rev. Rufus Coffey  
3:55—Executive Church Bonds Report—Rev. Francis Boyle  
4:05—Partial Report of Nominating Committee and Election of all Board Members  
4:15—Session Recessed

## Wednesday Evening

Civic Center Music Hall

Theme: "Reaping Our Promised Possession"

Scripture: "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Psalm 2:8).

Presiding: Rev. Robert Shockey

- 7:30—Worship through Song and Prayer  
7:40—Convention Offering—Special Music  
7:50—Introduction of Missionaries  
8:05—Congregational Song  
8:10—"Possessing Our Unevangelized Possessions"—Rev. Guy Owens  
8:50—Missionary Offering  
9:00—Adjourn Session (Exhibit Area Open)

### Youth Activities

- 9:30—Panning for Gold—Imperial Ballroom, Skirvin  
2:00—Round-Up and Branding Party—Imperial Ballroom, Skirvin  
10:00—Teen Corral—Imperial Room, Skirvin  
10:00—Adventurer Wigwam—Oklahoma Room, Sheraton

## THURSDAY / July 18

- 7:00—Laymen's Breakfast—Mr. John Noble, Speaker—Florentine Room  
9:00—Stake Your Claim (all youth)—Florentine Room  
9:00—Worship through Song  
9:10—Devotional Thought and Prayer—Rev. Fred Evans  
9:20—Report of Woman's National Auxiliary Convention—Mrs. Robert C. Hill  
9:30—National Youth Conference Report—Mrs. Jack Paramore  
9:40—Budget Committee Report  
9:50—Miscellaneous Business—Report of Committees  
10:30—Intermission  
10:45—Worship Service  
Theme: "Receiving the Prized Possession"  
Scripture: "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ" (Col. 3:24).  
Presiding: Rev. Charles Harris  
Worship through Song and Prayer  
Convention Offering  
Special Music  
11:00—"Possessing Our Heavenly Possessions" Rev. Jerry Rhoades  
11:40—Placement Committee Report for 1971 Convention  
11:45—Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers  
12:00—Final Adjournment

*Meet your friends in the exhibit area of the Sheraton-Oklahoma Hotel. Share this time of fellowship before and after the regular sessions. Become better acquainted with the various ministries of our denomination by directing questions to the personnel of these departments.*

# Are Preachers Looking for an Easy Way Out?

by Malcolm C. Fry

The minister is responsible for the spiritual dearth in his church if he fails to adequately prepare and preach God's message.



A LAYMAN WRITES: "Many times the Christian fails to have a time of person Bible study simply because he has heard no life-related messages on Sunday and therefore has no interest in studying the Word. The consequences? Stunted Christians!" Quite an indictment, isn't it, brethren in the ministry?

Be assured that this writer is quite aware of the fact that he is no authority on a subject as broad as one dealing with the preacher and his preaching. However, this article is written from a concerned heart and the main objective is to share a burden with the trust that others will be encouraged and perhaps challenged. It is not my purpose to present a primer on preaching but rather to look subjectively at our preaching.

THE LATE T. T. Shields of Toronto said: "Perhaps I am not a very good judge, but according to my standards at least, preaching is a lost art. We have plenty of hysterically emotional entertainers, any number of prophetic speculators, who know much more than what is written; but not many sane, solid expositors of the Word of God."

Call the roll of the great preachers of the past. How did they succeed in drawing the vast crowds into their churches to hear them preach? By giving prizes? By serving suppers? By announcing such hair-raising themes of speculation as "flying saucers" and "men from Mars"? By featuring religious vaudeville acts and other forms of entertainment? No, a thousand times no! They merely preached the Word.

God didn't say, "How shall they hear without a three-ring circus?" He said, "How shall they hear without a preacher" (Romans 10:14)? Andrew Bonar, who addressed multitudes weekly in Glasgow, had a very weak voice and an admittedly poor delivery, but the people came and hung on his every syllable because they were assured they would receive *the Word*. It was the same with G. Campbell Morgan, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, R. A. Torrey, and Harry Ironside.

BISHOP CHANDLER of Atlanta used to tell of a worldly minister in Philadelphia who spent the great majority of his time following the hounds after foxes. One day a pious old Quaker decided to call his hand and said, "Friend, I understand that thou art clever in fox-catching." With a proud gleam in his eye the parson replied, "I have few equals and no superiors in that field, sir." "But," said the Quaker, "if I was a fox I would hide where thee would never discover me." "Where would that be?" frowned the derelict preacher. "Oh, Friend," said the Quaker, "I would hide me in thy study!" No doubt that fox-hunting preacher from the City of Brotherly Love has many golf-crazy, ball-game fanatical, bowling-addict counterparts even among fundamental ranks today.

Perhaps the best method of preaching, and no doubt the least used, is that called *expository*. Of all the methods, this requires the most study. Could this be the reason why it is so sadly omitted? Our former Executive Secretary, Dr. Billy A. Melvin, said: "When can we expect to see a return of expository preaching to our pulpits? It seems to me that this will come when pastors are willing to spend hours instead of minutes in the preparation of their sermons" (CONTACT, August, 1967).

CONTACT

A Christian leader was once asked, "What is the difference between an English minister and an American minister?" The answer was, "An English minister has a study, but his American brother has an office." This is a sweeping generalization, but it has its sting.

Preachers should not be afraid to study and spend considerable time in research. So important is study that the early ministers ordered deacons appointed to attend to other matters while "we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4). The late B. H. Carroll said to a group of ministers, "Make the Word of God your life-study. Let down your buckets into the wells of salvation; lengthen your cords and let them down deep, and draw up the water fresh and sparkling every day, and give it out freely to your thirsty congregations."

The Apostle Paul said, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood" (Acts 20:28).

We need to study the Word and know the needs of our own flock in order to preach from a full heart that in study has sought the Spirit's guidance as to the theme and the Spirit's power as to utterance. We cheat our congregations, disgrace ourselves, and belittle our Lord when we fail to adequately prepare before entering the pulpit. "Brethren, these things ought not so to be" (James 3:10).

F. L. PATTON charged: "The modern minimizer of the Gospel takes a few tablets of the Bible doctrine, dissolves them in a gallon or two of rose-water of sentimentality, puts a little in an atomizer and gently sprays the congregation." No! No! Not that, fellow ministers. We must preach against sin—sin in the church and sin without the church. Well did Dr. W. B. Riley cry in disgust, "Sinful is this perfumed preaching, trite teaching, and thoughtless theology that does not make sin stink." The preacher who is not shocked at sin and doesn't shock his hearers is failing in his divine obligation before God and His servant. The Bible commands, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isaiah 58:1).

Bible preaching includes unsparingly showing God's people "their transgressions" and boldly pointing out "their sins." A minister cannot preach expository messages without preaching on sin—

its cause, consequences, and cure.

Good preaching will result in changed lives. Alfred P. Gibbs in his book, *A Primer on Preaching*, says that expository sermons "make for variety in the ministry and the practical application of all God's Word to the audience. This is calculated to edify or build up the audience by letting the Bible speak for itself."

Perhaps the greatest expository preacher of recent times was the late Dr. Alexander Maclaren. It was said of him that "all the wisdom of the world was to him contained in the Bible, but his business was to apply the Bible to life. His whole effort was to bring Bible truth into effective contact with the human heart." (An Appreciation by W. Robertson Nicoll, *Expositions of Holy Scripture*)

The great preacher from Hamburg, Helmut Thielicke, said in *Eternity* magazine, May, 1967, "In practical terms, preparation for a great sermon starts with a study of the Scripture portion and ends with its application to people. The poor sermon evokes one of two reactions. Either the listener says, 'It is all true, but I was not personally involved' or he mutters, 'Always the same old stuff.' These sermons were boring not because of poor delivery but because they were lacking in content." Expository preaching will never lack in content!

T. Harwood Pattison, in his book *The Making of the Sermon*, said "Exposition allows of the impartial treatment of many portions of Scripture which would otherwise be neglected, or from which the preacher might turn aside out of a super-sensitive fear of being thought personal." Many portions of the Word of God which would otherwise receive little or no attention will thus be given their right place through this method of preaching. "All Scripture" is essential to the complete furnishing of the man of God (2 Timothy 3:16). It thus makes for a broad knowledge of the Scriptures on the part of both the preacher and hearer.

EXPOSITORY preaching will cause the congregation to bring their Bibles with them and follow the exposition with opened Bibles. This will motivate individual study throughout the week as well as advocate the authority of the Scriptures.

The expository preacher must be cognizant of what he himself can do best, what parts of the Bible are especially needed by his congregation, and how to deal with the portion selected. He must remember that the church is not the classroom, for if not he will soon lose his pulpit power and fervor. Expository preaching becomes dry and sapless when the congregation is treated to details which belong to the *preparation* rather than to the *presentation* of the sermon.

Another danger of the expository method of preaching is that the sermon may degenerate into a mere collection of little disconnected sermonettes that have no vital bearing on the overall theme. **Unity** is the aim and keynote of true expository preaching. Broadus states: "Unity in a discourse is necessary to instruction, to conviction, and to persuasion. . . . But unity in an expository discourse is by many preachers never aimed at." (*On the Preparation and Delivery of Sermons*, by John A. Broadus, p. 145)

This writer takes exception to the claim of a famous preacher, writer, and editor who implies that expository type preaching is non-evangelistic and is powerless and convictionless. Although subject preacher is held in high esteem by this writer, his criticism does not seem justifiable. However, his criticism certainly can be applied as a precautionary measure in the preparation and presentation of expository type messages. From personal experience it has been observed that the evangelistic fervor must ever be commingled. Else why preach? We are to preach the Word in order to *evangelize and edify*. To fail in either respect is useless.

The words of Ezekiel draw this article to conclusion. "Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? . . . And they were scattered because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field when they were scattered" (Ezekiel 34:2,5). Brethren, have we gauged these responsibilities? Have we measured these duties? Are there any sheep of our flock hungry? Is any lamb astray? Are the wolves that howl around the fold committed to our care?

THE WRITER pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Tucson, Arizona.

# woman to woman



by CLEO PURSELL

## Patriotism Is Like Religion

"Patriotism is like religion," says Mrs. Mary Lou Kieswetter of Munster, Indiana. "It has to be instilled through habitual practice just as we do with our religion."

Mrs. Kieswetter is waging a one-woman war against the indifference and apathy in our country which threatens to destroy our national heritage. She longs for a revival of that good old fashioned spirit of patriotism.

Recalling former days when sight of a military parade with its fast-stepping color guard could bring a tear to the eye and a lump to the throat, she says that Americans take for granted the inheritance we have been given. . . . That we have become negligent of our trust to preserve this heritage for those yet unborn. Each generation must endeavor to rekindle its allegiance to our flag and reverence for those in our nation's past.

"I'm a flag waver!" she writes. "And when I place my hand over my heart as that glorious American flag is raised or passes by, I feel very near to God. And that is a very good position to take in these troubled days."

## America's Greatest Need

America not only needs a revival of true patriotism but a revival of the faith of our fathers and mothers and a return to the teachings of the Bible. Their faith gave them certainty of conviction, a comforting assurance within, and an invincible courage that brought victory and strengthened them during their times of peril and distress.

And what was that old fashioned religion made of? It was made of *great beliefs*. It went deeper than guesses. It was not a walking question mark. It was a standing conviction.

## Convention Time

This month many Free Will Baptist women will converge in Oklahoma City for the thirty-second session of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention. All WNAC activities will be held in the Sheraton Hotel which will serve as convention headquarters.

Speakers include Dr. G. Christian Weiss, Director of Missions, *Back to the Bible Broadcast*; Mrs. Jenell Billows, Mexico; and Mrs. Janie Aldridge, Ivory Coast. Mrs. Trula Cronk, India, will speak at the WNAC Fellowship Dinner.

Tickets for the dinner may be ordered from WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202 at \$2.75 each. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request for tickets. Tickets for missionaries may be purchased by sending names with your check or money order.

Oklahoma women join your executive committee in extending you a cordial invitation to share in the fellowship and spiritual blessings which shall be ours.

## WNAC Schedule of Activities

Monday July 15

- 7:00 a.m.—Executive committee breakfast  
Old Timers Room
- 11:00 a.m.—State presidents, field workers, executive committee  
Old Timers Room
- 5:00 p.m.—Fellowship dinner  
Florentine Room

Tuesday July 16

- 9:00 A.M.—WNAC convention  
Antique Room

## Illinois Women Meet

Mrs. Ella Mae Hiltibidal, president of the Illinois State Auxiliary Convention, shares an interesting program with our

readers in the hope that it may benefit someone in search of new program ideas.

The program for the Illinois State Auxiliary Convention which convened May 9 at the tabernacle in Benton included a unique panel composed of a judge, a pastor, a father, a mother, a state welfare worker, and two young people. The women were encouraged to bring questions to the registration desk and a discussion on the theme *Youth in Our Modern Day* (Ecclesiastes 12:1) followed. Theme song for the day was "In Times Like These."

## Auxiliary in France

The Woman's Auxiliary of France held their first meeting on April 26, 1968, according to Dan and Margaret Merkh. The program was presented from *Co-Laborer* after it was translated into French.

"Who knows? In the not too distant future we may even send a delegate to the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention," states Missionary Merkh.

## Woman Honored

Last November Mrs. Jeannette McNabb was promoted to the position of assistant cashier by the First American National Bank, Nashville, Tennessee. She is one of the few women to be so honored since it has not previously been the policy of the bank for women to hold this office.

Mrs. McNabb is a member of a new Free Will Baptist Church in Hendersonville where she serves as church treasurer and teaches a junior Sunday school class. She is a former member of the Oaklawn Church, Pleasant View, Tennessee.

## GEM

It's hard to dislike a chap who likes you, isn't it? Well, there's your peace plan.

# cooperative giving

GIFTS FROM THE CHURCHES EFFECT A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

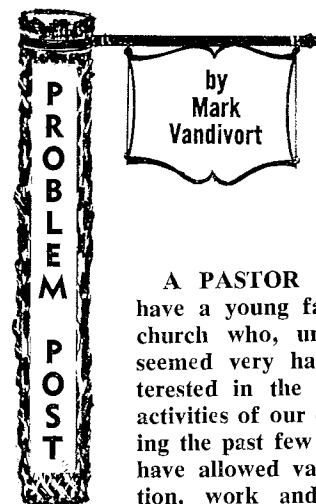
May, 1968

	May 1968	Year To Date	Total To May 1967	Designated
Alabama	\$1,143.12	\$ 2,770.03	\$1,326.77	
Arizona	—	—	450.07	
Arkansas	268.51	1,988.53	1,315.13	
California	631.02	2,386.38	2,806.88	
Florida	825.05	2,915.10	1,271.60	
Georgia	489.45	1,037.52	1,228.32	
Idaho	13.92	144.02	154.67	
Illinois	920.43	3,317.96	2,869.69	
Indiana	—	291.05	163.20	
Kansas	91.81	396.21	469.30	
Kentucky	368.61	848.25	125.00	
Louisiana	—	99.39	159.66	
Michigan	166.28	951.62	1,527.97	
Missouri	3,819.46	11,534.76	8,253.51	
New Hampshire	—	—	178.15	
New Jersey	—	—	43.00	
New Mexico	68.24	322.50	172.10	
North Carolina	197.81	897.29	740.07	
Ohio	290.15	1,349.65	1,439.73	
Oklahoma	2,204.58	8,197.33	7,007.00	
Tennessee	284.51	1,833.54	2,839.46	138.43
Texas	211.73	676.41	755.61	
Virginia	948.00	3,349.94	2,831.35	
Wash. & Oregon	—	336.47	223.61	
Wisconsin	10.00	60.00	223.61	

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

Executive Dept.	2,647.60	12,798.62	7,670.36	29.07
Foreign Missions	3,434.50	3,755.57	11,238.31	40.14
Bible College	2,980.32	9,652.36	8,170.16	29.07
Home Missions	2,037.03	6,638.86	6,252.58	22.15
Church Training Serv.	1,033.42	3,313.88	3,849.15	13.85
Superannuation Board	513.94	1,671.88	1,155.19	4.15
Master's Men	305.87	972.70	—	4.15

JULY 1968




A PASTOR writes, "We have a young family in our church who, until recently, seemed very happy and interested in the services and activities of our church. During the past few months they have allowed various recreation, work and family interests to come between them and their church attendance. How can I help them to see the danger of this trend?"

Substituting work and recreation activities in the place of church attendance can be subtly used of the devil to drive a wedge between us and our Lord. This case reminds me of Tony. I first saw Tony as I pulled my car out of the lane onto the highway leading to my office. He was carrying a heavy suitcase. I felt compassion for him and drove around the block pausing to ask God if I should pick him up. Tony's breath reeked of alcohol. As I gave Tony a gospel tract and talked to him about Jesus Christ, he reminisced that once he had been a happy Christian with a lovely wife and young family. They had faithfully attended a local Baptist church. Then his conversion seemed to trail off as he revealed that they became interested in other activities and quit attending church. Tony is now divorced and his children are in a state institution.

You could remind your negligent family that Tony's trouble started just like theirs. Problems will begin developing if they continue to turn their back on Jesus Christ and His church. May we draw closer to Jesus Christ making a recommitment of our love, loyalty, and devotion to Him.

I believe we should attend church and partake in the activities of the church because of our love for Jesus Christ and our inner desire to learn more of His Word. The Bible teaches us that God expects us to stop our work activities and worship Him one day of each week. Our activities on Sunday should honor and glorify Him and be dedicated to Him.

The Bible preaching church should be a place where the Christian is fed the Word of God and where he is strengthened and encouraged through fellowship, prayer, and testimony.



Recent surgery prompted PAUL KETTEMAN to review the Christian's attitude toward waves of adversity and to check his own . . .

# ATTITUDE TOWARD SUFFERING



"For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me" (Job 3:25). Job's statement may express your feelings sooner than you expect. Sickness, heartaches, distressing situations, and even death invade every home. No one is immune from trouble. Though money can insure you against some problems, it cannot forestall sickness and death. Even the rich face sorrow in the midst of their wealth. Job's friend said of the rich man, "He shall lean upon his house, but it shall not stand . . ." (Job 8:15).

How will you as a Christian react to your reverses? Will you be a testimony to His grace? Three different attitudes may be expressed by God's children in time of testing.

"All these things are against me"—Genesis 42:36.

Jacob's trials were indeed great. Joseph had not come home after he left wearing his newly-made coat. Simeon had been imprisoned in Egypt. All of the brothers' money was in their sacks along with the grain—but the man in charge had said Benjamin must come next time as proof of their story. Jacob, the trickster, schemer, and conniver, out of years of experience, saw the making of some trick or scheme to steal away their freedom or even to take their lives. He counted his problems and lamented. "All these things are against me."

Actually, nothing was working against Jacob. Everything was working for him if he had only known. He had

gone through the catalogue and found only three things. But he had magnified these three things out of proportion until he looked at them as an immovable mass. He then felt justified in saying, "All these things."

If he had looked back over his life and counted his past blessings, he could not have doubted that the same God who had cared for him then would care for him now. Since the day he left home, God had provided for this man. The visions of the angels at Bethel should have given him courage. The herds that he had driven away from Laban's house should have been a testimony of God's faithfulness to him. He had gone to Laban's broken in spirit and financially bankrupt. God had prospered him. Rehearsing in his mind

the wrestling match at Jabbok and the happy reunion with a once angry Esau should have convinced him that God was caring for his happiness.

No—there is more of the conniving Jacob than there is of the princely Israel in Jacob's statement. Even as he made the statement Joseph was planning for his happiness. No doubt hammers were ringing on the construction project over in Goshen. Joseph was alive. Simeon was being cared for and Benjamin would meet his brother whom he had never seen. Instead of everything being against him, everything was working for Jacob; for God had so pledged Himself to care for Jacob. God does not fail!

**G**OOD KING Hezekiah seemed to thank God for his suffering. He saw God's hand in all of his trials. He recognized God's mercies in past years. He expected God to get glory out of his illness and suffering. His purpose for living was that God would be glorified.

He envisioned himself being thrust on the wheel of adversity that his life might shine more brightly. The diamond cutter pushes the stone against his wheel to shape and polish it so that its greatest beauty will be displayed.

Trials drive us to prayer and to God's Word. Trials show us the futility of depending on *things*. Sicknesses have a way of destroying that over-confidence in our fleshly strength.

Hezekiah confidently reasoned of God's goodness but also reminded God that the grave cannot praise the Lord. He tells God that the living praise Him. Over and over again men of God are reminded of Hezekiah's words, "... In all these things is the life of my spirit."

In one of my first revivals, the pastor for whom I was conducting the meeting took me into the home of a lady whose body had been sick for years. Lying on that bed of affliction day after day had been her lot in life. What could she do for God? She met our visit with a smile, chatted happily of experiences she had had with the Lord, and ended our visit by leading us to the throne of God in prayer.

Upon leaving the house, the pastor turned to me to tell me of the vast field of service in which that woman worked. By the side of her bed was a well-worn telephone and directory. She spent her hours receiving and making calls to help people with spiritual problems. Often

during the earliest hours of the morning while everyone else was asleep this woman was leading some troubled soul in prayer to help find the answer to their problem. Through "these things" that had come to her she had found the larger place of service she would have never known had she kept a well body.

**P**AUL'S LIST of troubles was not imagined. It was longer, fiercer, sterner, darker, more terrifying than that of Jacob's. Yet he said he was more than a conqueror. How could he say this with certainty? The secret is found in the next two words, "... through Him." The Apostle Paul's unfaltering trust in God's power to care for him enabled him to say, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phillipians 4:13). He could also say, "But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phillipians 4:19).

A conqueror is one who stands a chance of losing sometime during his attempt to conquer. Paul described the Christian as "more than a conqueror." In other words, Paul was saying we are never in jeopardy. We cannot lose with our confidence in Christ. Later, the Apostle refers to death itself as a victory for the Christian when he said "to die is gain."

To conquer in spite of problems, heartaches, disappointments, sicknesses, persecution, and even death is the privilege of every Christian. This confidence can only come to the Christian who can say with Paul, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). The secret of this confidence is found in "living by the faith of the Son of God." The life we "live in the flesh" we live by "the faith of the Son of God." Until the Christian knows this and reaches for this assurance he cannot know an abiding inner peace.

**T**HE DIFFERENCE in the attitude of Jacob and Paul is easily seen as you read the passages concerning them. In Jacob's statement nothing is said about "Him that loved us." When we leave the abundant love of our Lord out of our thinking, we arrive at the same attitude of unbelief that Jacob had.

Your distress, sickness, heartache, trial must be met with a remembrance of all God's goodness toward you in the past. These must be recognized with the assur-

ance of the Apostle Peter's words, "He careth for you."

Hezekiah was confident that God would do right, therefore he sought to grow in God's grace through his present trials. We must have faith to believe that even while we are going through these trying times God is working out His very best for our lives. As in the case of Jacob, God was through Joseph making provision for Jacob's future happiness. What seemed utter tragedy was soon to turn into Jacob's greatest blessing. Many times through our trials God is accomplishing His purpose. The Lord Jesus, our Joseph, is presently occupied with planning for our greatest blessings. Out of our darkest hour will come His happiness for us.

Will you fret in unbelief like Jacob when your trials come? Or will you like Hezekiah know that sooner or later the bitter and gall of life must be tasted? Do you realize that this bitter medicine of the present will drive the fever of sin from your life? Can you not be thankful for the great Physician who so carefully handles the scalpel of adversity to carve the cancer from your soul that would destroy your spiritual life?

The triumph of the Apostle Paul is ours too by faith. God is no respecter of persons. He is anxious that you learn the lesson of abiding trust and confidence as you wait for "the joy that cometh in the morning."

How ashamed Jacob must have been when he heard the wagons creaking under the load of blessings that Joseph had sent from Egypt! His conscience must have reproved him for his unbelief as he was lifted into the arms of his beloved Joseph. His soul must have cried out in shame before God as his cattle were driven into the verdant pastures of Goshen. As he sat at his table with his twelve sons, no doubt he wondered why he had ever doubted God's loving concern for him. The promise God had made him had been forgotten when trials came.

If your trials are for your good and His glory, you can bear them today through His sustaining grace. But to bear them victoriously His past blessings and promises to you must be reviewed. Through a confident faith that He will do all He has promised, you wait in peace for tomorrow's blessings to come out of today's sufferings.

THE AUTHOR is Director of Public Relations for Free Will Baptist Bible College.



# religious news

## Dr. Cory Passes

WHEATON, ILLINOIS—Dr. Victor E. Cory, 74, founder and board chairman of Scripture Press Publications in Wheaton, Illinois passed away suddenly at his home June 2, 1968. At the time of his death he was an active board member of the Evangelical Teacher Training Association, Pacific Garden Mission, Light-bearers Association, Winona Lake Corporation (president) and the Great Commission Prayer League.

## Bible References

NEW YORK (EP)—A survey by the Evangelical Press Association revealed that 466 Bible references were noted in 365 editorials published by the *New York Times*.

## Catholic Population

CALIF. (EP)—There were 47,468,333 Roman Catholics in the United States as of January 1, 1968, representing an increase of 603,423 over the previous year and accounting for 23.7 per cent of the total population.

## Minister's Counseling Service

ENGLEWOOD, COLO. (EP)—A pastoral counseling service will open here, initiated by the Rev. Jerry D. Springton, in space furnished without charge by Gerri Von Frellich, developer of a shopping complex.

The Rev. Mr. Springton is president of the Englewood Ministerial Alliance. He is quoted in the *Denver Post* as stating that the purpose of the center will be to provide free counseling on personal, marital, family and spiritual problems.

Mr. Von Frellich is an internationally known builder of shopping centers and a devout Christian, attending as a member the Riverside Baptist Church in Denver.

## Church Wealth Denounced

MINNEAPOLIS (EP)—Madalyn Mur-

ray O'Hair delivered a scathing attack on churches for hiding their wealth and withholding support from the government.

"Churches are not stained glass windows and beautiful cathedrals. Churches are not green lawns, tree-shaded schools and colleges. Religion is not a private affair. Churches are big business, power groups and political machines."

In contrast to Mrs. O'Hair's speech, Dr. Elwyn Smith also appeared in the same city to deny that churches are exploiting their privilege of tax exemption, or that they own vast properties whose tax-free status is a drag on the public.

The professor of religion at Temple University in Philadelphia said: "The churches are discussing their own tax exemption for fundamental reasons—religion, relevance and responsibility. Religious exemptions are universally justified in both legal opinion and popular sentiment by the service that religion renders society. On grounds that religion teaches respect for morals and public order, uplifts the whole community, performs services of secular importance such as maintaining charities, courts have repeatedly refused to deny exemption to religious institutions," he said, citing the 1965 Maryland case which Mrs. O'Hair lost.

## No Bibles into China

HONG KONG (EP)—Recent claims that Scriptures are being smuggled into the China mainland are ridiculous, according to Christian escapees from the Communist country. "It is hardly possible to meet together for brief fellowship," one Christian man formerly imprisoned for his faith is quoted in Asia News Report. "It would be absolutely impossible to distribute Bibles in our fanatically Communist land."

## 'Mischievous Myth'

MILWAUKEE (EP)—The charge that Americans collectively were guilty of the

death of Dr. Martin Luther King because of racial prejudice, as suggested by some religious and public leaders, was called a "mischievous myth" in the current issue of *Living Church*, unofficial Episcopal magazine published here.

"All these sermons and pronouncements about collective guilt are essentially erroneous in substance. Moreover, they have the mischievous effect—surely not intended by the people who issue them—of providing a kind of surreptitious blanket absolution.

"To make our point in the first person singular: If my sin is my sin simply because all 200 million Americans are committing it and I am one of them, my share of the guilt is only 1/200 millionth of the total, and I guess I can carry that if the next fellow can."

## 'Christmas Cross'

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EP)—Is it an establishment of religion to place a lighted cross atop a public building at Christmas time or is it just a friendly way for the community to say "Merry Christmas" to its residents?

The U.S. Supreme Court left the question unanswered. It refused to render a decision on a case brought by a Florida atheist, Nishan Paul, who claimed that when public officials placed a lighted cross atop the Dade County Court House in Miami they are playing "religious favorites."

## Alabama Governor Christian

MONTGOMERY (EP)—Lt. Gov. Albert Preston, who became Alabama's 48th governor, is the seventh Baptist to serve the state in its highest office and has been described by his pastor as "a dedicated Christian man who will witness for Christ in the Capitol as well as the church."

# here's something

# HOT!

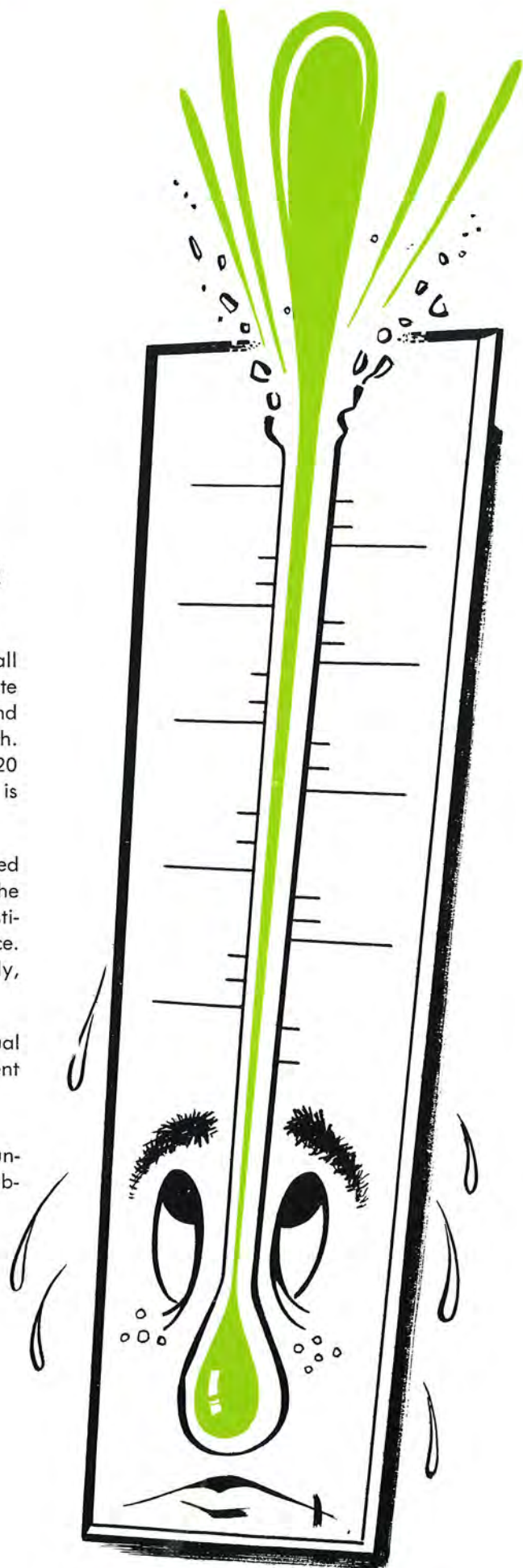
## LET'S ENROLL EVERY FREE WILL BAPTIST AS A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER TO CONTACT!

**CHURCH FAMILY PLAN** is the best method you can use in enrolling all the families of your church. After the church votes to participate in the plan, subscriptions are paid for on a quarterly basis. Send us the names and addresses of all active families in your church. We bill the church quarterly at a reduced rate. For example, 20 families would cost the church only \$8.60 per quarter. The cost is 43¢ per family.

**BULK SUBSCRIPTION PLAN** is also inexpensive. The magazines are mailed to one address, and one person is in charge of distributing the magazines. Or they could be placed on a table in the church vestibule, and members could secure a copy following a church service. The church is billed at the rate of \$1.80 per year for each family, or 20¢ per copy (monthly).

**INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION PLAN** is \$2.00 per year. The individual sends in his subscription to CONTACT. He may send in his payment with the subscription or wait until the office bills him.

(Use the convenient order form on page 2. Plan to have a special Sunday in August when every family will be given the opportunity to subscribe to CONTACT.)



## CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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# Round-up for 1000 Youths

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

July 15-18, 1968

- ◆ **FOUR ACTION PACKED DAYS**
- ◆ **TEEN CORRAL**
- ◆ **WIGWAM**
- ◆ **TALENT COMPETITION**
- ◆ **WESTERN BANQUET**

**DAVID W. BREESE** of Wheaton, Illinois, will be speaking at the youth banquet. He is an internationally known author, lecturer and Christian minister serving in the field of evangelism. He is President of Christian Destiny, Inc., a national organization committed to the advancement of Christianity through church and city-wide meetings, radio and literature.

