

# Contact

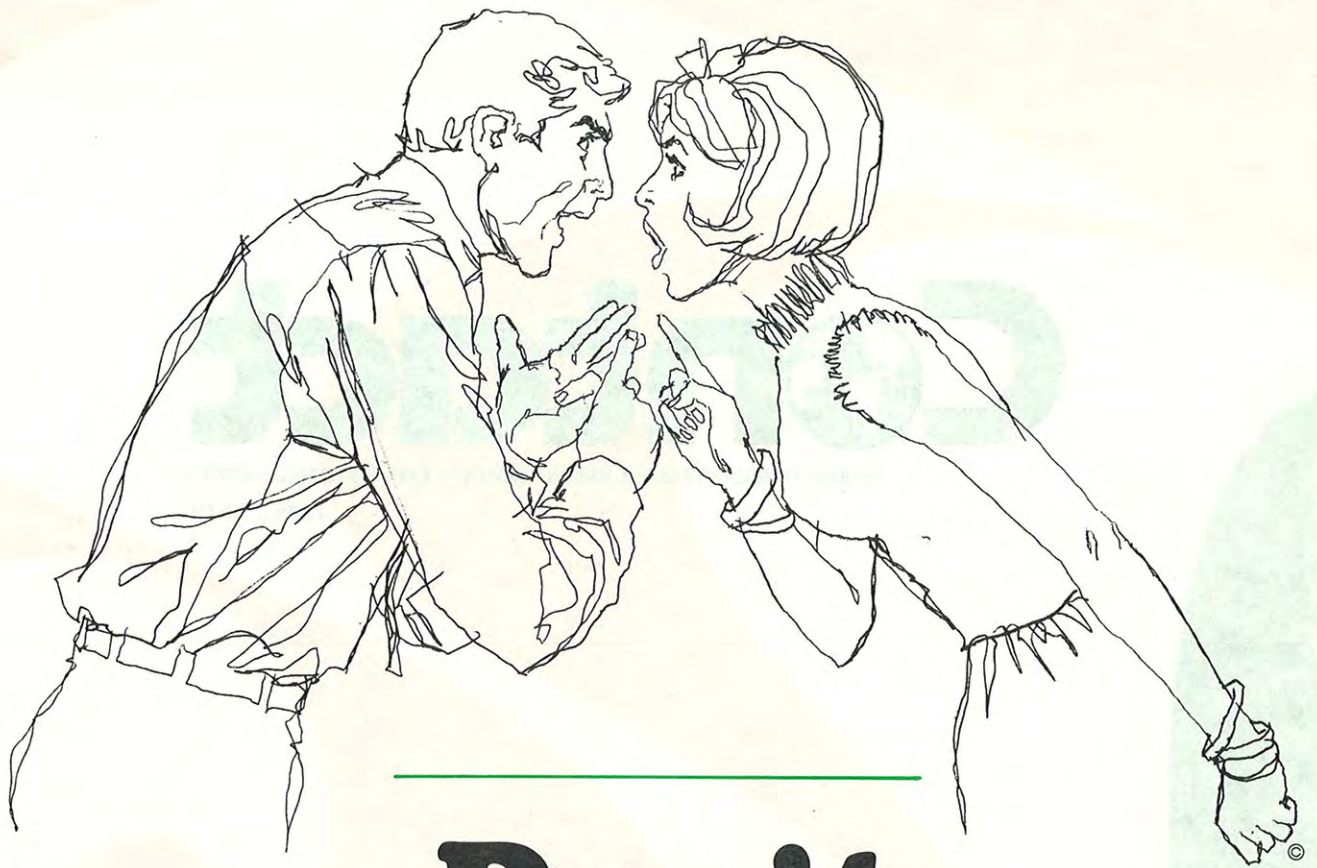
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

JUNE, 1979



*The Spirit-Controlled Life*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
43rd Annual Convention  
July 15-19, 1979 Charlotte, N.C.



---

# Don't

---

# Get A Divorce

---

William S. Deal

**W**ith almost three out of every five marriages ending in divorce, and with around 800,000 children each year from broken homes being left for society to try and help in some way, it is high time everybody took another good, hard look at *divorce*.

Divorce is by no means the answer to all marital problems. Every normal marriage has its good days and its poor days, with few exceptions.

Yes, that's right, don't get a divorce if you can avoid it. Most others who have done so have

been disappointed and deeply hurt, though few have had the courage to admit it, or to try to rectify it. But there have been some happy marriages resulting from couples who have taken a good, hard look at it and decided to remarry each other.

#### FLAWS IN PRO-DIVORCE STRATEGY

If you go through with a divorce, you will find it is not what you may now think it will be. When it is all over and you are back home alone, or in an apartment somewhere, crying your heart out to four lone walls, you will know then what we mean.

For no matter how "innocent" you may be, morally, you will get a

scar from it which will never disappear from your life till your dying day. If you doubt this, ask anyone who has been through a divorce if they would recommend it if it can be avoided.

"But why shouldn't I get a divorce? My companion is no 'companion' at all, really; is mean to me, selfish and uncooperative; we can't get along. We are always quarrelling, and I don't want to bring my children up in this atmosphere." Sounds very reasonable in this modern age, doesn't it? Others complain, "He's *mean* to me, so why should I live with him? She's stubborn and *frigid*, and what's the use putting up with this way of life?"

So the story goes on and on. But none of these complaints are justifiable grounds for divorce! Yet, great lines of people cue up for the divorce courts daily, preparing to smash up their homes, send their children out into the world with broken hearts and open the floodgates for them to all sorts of other evils.

Often children from such broken homes are nervous, neurotic and emotionally sick. They are starved for love, attention and the care they should have. Many cry themselves to sleep for their parents, one of whom has been tossed out of the home through the divorce. Often, the other is off with someone else, flirting around—or worse yet—living with another person without marriage.

So the poor children wind up with virtually neither parent. Unfortunately, in many divorces, it is not the children who are being considered. It is the stubborn, unforgiving husband or wife who wants his/her own pleasure far more than they are considering the children.

All too often Jesus Christ and the Bible are not even consulted in the matter preceding the divorce. Non-Christian psychologists and psychiatrists and even many non-Christian counselors now do not hesitate to recommend divorce with no recourse to the Bible whatsoever.

But, although considered outdated by modern professionals, the Bible is still the most important book in human life and society. Its message, if taken at face value, would correct most of our social evils today.

### ONE-CAUSE DIVORCE TOLERATION

Let us see what Jesus said about the matter of divorce. For the Christian and all others, this is the final Book of authority. Jesus said in the passages recorded in Matthew 5:31,32 and 19:3-9 that "fornication" was the only grounds upon which divorce was to be granted.

In each of the Matthew passages the word "fornication" is

used as the only sanctioned grounds for divorce, looking toward remarriage. (And is not remarriage the goal in nine out of every 10 divorces?) Fornication, in each case, is used instead of adultery.

While some maintain that these two words are interchangeable, it does not prove so when one examines the two words from the original Greek, in which the New Testament was written.

Adultery refers to the act of illicit sex between a married person and a single person or between two married persons belonging to other companions. It may refer to the single act, committed once in a lifetime.

But the word "fornication" comes from a Greek word which means not only adultery but may also embrace much more. It carries the thought of *continual illicit sexual relations*. The thought here expressed is that of a person who not only commits adultery, but who continues to indulge in such illicit relations until all foundation for a stable life has been destroyed.

Fornication destroys all moral character. It turns one into a liar, a deceiver and betrayer of others, a truce-breaker and a genuine cheap-skate. There is no way around this conclusion. No one has seen an honest, truthful, good, straight-forward living fornicator in his life. Might as well ask for an honest thief or a sober drunk or a truthful liar.

Fornication destroys all foundation for a happy marriage—except in cases where the fornicator has been truly saved from his sins and made a "born again believer" in Christ Jesus. God's grace has a miraculous way of restoring what the "cancer of sinful living" has eaten out of one's life.

Please note, however, that the Saviour did not recommend divorce at any time, nor under any circumstances. He merely granted a "toleration" of it only for fornication. But He said, "For the Beginning, it was not so." "What



## Contents

June, 1979

- 2 Don't Get a Divorce**  
William Deal
- 5 Briefcase:  
Let's Try Biennial**  
Jack Williams
- 6 How to Defang Anxiety**  
Larry Hampton
- 9 The Separation Principle**  
Charles Thigpen
- 13 Program:  
National Association**
- 16 Program:  
National Youth Conference**
- 18 Program: Woman's National  
Auxiliary Convention**
- 21 Free Will Baptist Newsfront**
- 25 Currently**
- 28 Christian Doctrine  
Part X**  
Leroy Forlines
- 29 News of the Religious  
Community**
- 31 No Energy Crisis Here**  
Delois Loveless

Front Cover: Ken Powell

Editor-in-Chief: Rufus Coffey  
Editor: Jack L. Williams  
Editorial Assistant: Pat Moore  
Circulation: Geneva Trotter

Volume XXVI, No. 6

CONTACT (USPS 130-660), published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to this address. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$5.00; church family plan, \$4.20 per year; church bundle plan, 38 cents per copy. Individual copies 50 cents each. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright privileges, reserved ©, 1979 Member of the Evangelical Press Association.

## DIVORCE (from page 3)

God hath joined together, let not man put asunder," is still today His divine way.

Granted, neither adultery nor fornication should ever occur in anyone's life, but where it does, there should be Christian forgiveness and healing. Is anything that happens between two married people sufficient grounds to tear up a home, wreck the children's lives and tear apart two people who once so loved each other they pledged unending loyalty "until death do us part"?

"Yes, but you write from pure idealism, and not from cold hard facts," objects someone who has had the bitter experience of divorce. Most certainly. I admit that the above is somewhat "idealistic," but no one can ever say that it is not also *Christian and realistic*.

It is within the bounds of God's loving and redeeming power to do just this for any unfortunate couple where each will surrender to God and let Him work out the problems. I know a dear couple who have been three times in the shadows of the divorce courts. But now, through forgiveness and God's redeeming grace, they are a happy couple with sweet happy children and they are engaged in the Lord's work.

*It can be done*, if only people will *allow it to be done* for them by God's grace and power.

### SEVEN ANTI-DIVORCE PRINCIPLES

Consider these further reasons why one should not get a divorce if it can be avoided:

Many divorced couples have gone to an empty, cold house with a broken heart and shattered hopes, and to weeping and sorrow they never quite overcome. Years later, living alone, the woman cries herself to sleep now and then and dreams of the memories of better days.

"Oh, that's only a neurotic who would do that after years, isn't it?" Not on your life! You just don't

know the millions who have suffered from the fate of divorce.

Many a man has married again, only to find out the "sweet little thing" that tripped him up and wrecked his marriage was not a "sweet little thing" at all, after the marriage. She was a tiger in the kitchen and a lousy, cold lover in the bedroom!

She became a demanding, snarling money-grabber every time his pocket book was open. How many hours he has spent wishing for the good old days when he was happy with his first wife, no one will ever know but God Who keeps all our secrets inviolate.

Oh, no, it's not all sunshine and roses in the second marriages that occur following divorces.

One should realize, too, that often the hoped for marriage after divorce does not so easily occur. Often the poor girl who is left behind with children is not sought for by engaging young men.

Divorce is an emotional-shattering experience no matter how easy each tries to make it on the other. One or both parties are bound to feel that they have utterly failed in one of life's most important ventures. This often brings a sense of futility and anger to the persons in such a state of mind. It leaves them less capable of surviving successfully other shocks of life that are bound to come.

No marriage, however happy, is free from all stresses and strains. All marriages must survive bad situations at times. "No two intelligent people ever yet lived together who did not disagree," said a wise man. Overcoming the unpleasantnesses of a marriage is one of the things that make marriages stronger, not weaker.

Youth has been badly brain-washed by these perfectly ideal marriages on television which are by no means realistic. The facts are quite to the contrary in all successful marriages. Stop demanding perfection of each other and start working out your problems, and your marriage will become healthy in no time at all.

Couples should face the brutal facts that statistics show where there is one divorce in a second

marriage, there is about a 60 percent likelihood that this marriage also will end in failure. And where both parties in a second marriage are divorced, there is about a 75 percent chance this marriage will also end in divorce. Third marriages run even higher risks.

Any married couple, no matter how bad the situation has become between them, can *mend* their marriage and *make it successful*—if they are both willing to forgive and forget the past and start *working together* to build a happy marriage. There is no love like tender first love.

Most divorces result from teenage marriages or from that other sad fact, that one or both of the couple has seen someone else they prefer to live with. If they will renounce their sinful pursuits and seek God for forgiveness and salvation and start again on the new pathway, they can build a permanently happy marriage and home.

Consider the *children*. They get the worst end of the situation in every divorce. Even if the couple wait until the children are all grown and gone away from home, they still suffer humiliation, embarrassment and disappointment from the parents' divorce.

Divorce should only be granted where one or both partners have become gross fornicators, adulterers and where the brutality and insane actions of one or both make the marriage impossible to carry out as God intended.

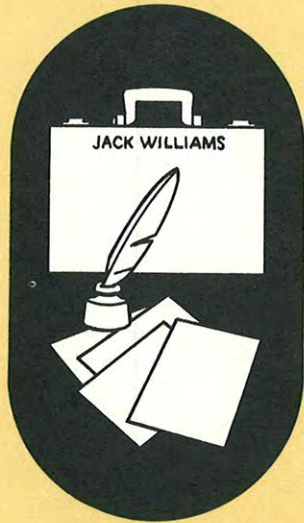
Even then if they would repent, turn to God and be saved, the marriage could be restored to happiness and success. Sinful selfishness, wicked lust after another person, greed, spitefulness and hatefulness are at the bottom of almost every divorce.

Repentance and turning to God, forgiving each other and accepting God's grace can heal any marriage going on the rocks.

Try it!

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. William Deal holds the M.A. and Th.D. degrees. He has written 30 books, hundreds of articles and features for many magazines and papers and is a California state licensed counselor in Marriage, Family and Youth Relations. ▲*

## Briefcase



# Let's Try Biennial!

We need to be dashed in the face by a cold cup of reality. Our July national convention has fallen victim to the law of diminishing returns.

Economically, we've reached breaking point with families struggling to pay \$800 annual convention tabs. Practically, there's serious doubt that we really need the yearly pilgrimage. We could meet less often and do as much good.

This might be the year to consider shelving our annual confab in favor of a biennial (every two years) meeting.

## **CONSIDER THE ADVANTAGES**

There are distinct advantages to biennial national conventions, not the least of which is stewardship. Is it wisdom to continue funneling half to three-quarters of a million dollars each July into gasoline and motels just to perpetuate the yearly convention tradition?

A shift to biennial meetings frees pastors and national leaders for long overdue vacations. Unless, of course, you consider a 2000-mile drive spiced with four days in business sessions a vacation.

Enormous gulps of time and energy are expended each year simply arranging and implementing the annual caucus. We might find it more spiritually uplifting one July to stay home, prevent summer slumps in our local churches and use the money saved to pay off family debts.

Biennial sessions mean a year when no controversy is needlessly stirred. Plus, we'd all probably be more eager to see each other after two years and less inclined to scrap over trivia. Hopefully, our conventions could become more issue than personality oriented.

## **WEIGH THE ADJUSTMENTS**

We've hashed biennial national conventions among ourselves on numerous occasions. Grass roots support *seems* apparent. With a few adjustments, the idea could really work.

One of the first items to be considered is how binding are our long-range agreements with convention sites. Those contracts could probably be altered no later and not much sooner than 1982. Which means even if we vote for biennial gatherings next month, we're still obligated for hotel and convention space for two or three years. Maybe inflation and fuel prices will wait on us that long.

Of course, our national constitution would undergo modification to allow for biennial meetings. This presents no great obstacle since constitutional changes can be made by a two-thirds vote of the delegation at any regular session providing

changes are presented in writing one day in advance.

Election to all national boards, including the General Board, would need constitutional adjustment. On years when the national convention did not meet, it would be far more economical for the denomination to jet 90 board members to Nashville for three days of business-only sessions than for 5000 of us to drive anywhere for a week.

Board decisions could be scrutinized on alternate years. All boards would still submit reports to the General Board as usual. The Digest of Reports could be compiled and distributed to state associations.

General Board decisions and actions could be shared denomination-wide via *CONTACT* and news releases circulated to state papers. To be sure, we certainly need improved communication procedures to compensate for biennial meetings.

## **ONE FINAL PRECAUTION**

If biennial national conventions are to succeed, we must declare a moratorium on special interest, summer national rallies. Individual departments should be firmly discouraged from sponsoring off-year extravaganzas which by their very nature negate the Sabbath concept of biennial sessions.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists could easily revert to annual conventions if the biennial experiment proved unworkable.

Right now we have a choice. We may not in a few years.

Today, retooling for biennial conventions is a hassle. Tomorrow it could be necessity. ▲

# How To Defang Anxiety

By Larry Hampton

**J**ill nervously paced the floor of her room as she explained her "problem" to Betsy. "I have three H-U-G-E assignments due next week! I don't know how I'll ever finish them all. My parents will *kill* me if I get a bad grade in any of the classes. What am I going to do?"

"John, I'm at my wit's end" sighed Bob Wright. "I've been out of work two months. We've used all our savings. Our house payment is due. If something doesn't happen soon, they're sure to repossess our car. I just don't know how we'll ever make it."

Sound familiar? Nearly everyone occasionally finds himself overwhelmed when pondering the future. If the path ahead appears steep and rocky and bordered on both sides by deep canyons full of snakes, bears, lions, tigers and (gulp!) a few alligators—you know you're suffering from anxiety.

Anxiety has been defined as "concern over the unknown and uncontrollable future that tears one apart." In another's words, "anxiety is that state of being uneasy, apprehensive or worried about what might happen; the habit of crossing bridges that aren't really there."

How widespread is anxiety (also known as worry)? Is anxiety sinful? Does it help to worry? Can you avoid worrying? Let's take a look at this beast called anxiety.

## ME WORRY?

"Pastor Fletcher says everyone suffers from anxiety some time," mentioned Jim Todd.

"But I don't think I do," objected Mrs. Todd.

"What about last spring when you were afraid we would lose the house because of my extended illness?" reminded Jim.

"Well, maybe I do worry a *little*," admitted Mrs. Todd.

Who does worry? That same group that likes a rather famous

hot dog. "Fat kids. Skinny kids. Kids who climb on rocks. Tough kids. Sissy kids. Even kids with chicken pox." Get the picture? Right, you're in it—at least part of the time. Anxiety is as American as apple pie.

House payments. Sunday school attendance. Inflation. Church problems. Medical bills. Rebellious children. Growing old. Grades. Boys. Girls. Sports. Clothes. Money. Parents. In short, anything and everything is fair game for worry.

No matter how worthy the cause, anxiety is never justified in the life of a Christian. Your age, sex and position in life determine where your anxiety will focus.

## DOES ANXIETY HELP?

Elijah is a classic example of the "value" of anxiety. Queen Jezebel worried Elijah. Not without cause. Her fondest ambition was to see how many pieces it takes to make one prophet.

Elijah, one of Israel's greatest men, was so hassled by this godless woman he wanted to die. Actually, he feared he was going to die whether he wanted to or not. The funny thing is he never did.

Jezebel didn't "wipe him out" nor did he die of natural causes. God carried him (still very much alive) to Heaven in a whirlwind accompanied by a chariot of fire. That's the way anxiety is, pointless and counterproductive.

## WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT ANXIETY?

If everyone worries about almost everything imaginable on some occasion, should I feel guilty when I worry? Good question. There's an answer.

Someone has written "worry is really an insult to God. He is running the universe, and worriers are 'back-seat drivers' trying to tell Him how to run it."

Jesus commanded us not to be anxious about anything. "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor yet

for your body what ye shall put on" (Matthew 6:25).

"Take no thought" doesn't mean don't think about it. Rather, Jesus was saying "don't worry."

Genuine concern prompts an individual to do all he can while leaving the results with God. Anxiety ties the person's hands making him unable to contribute to the problem's solution. He may even come to doubt that God can and will effect a solution.

"But everyone knows you have to have something to eat and drink just to sustain life. And modesty forbids going without clothes." True enough. The point is these are insignificant when weighed against God's eternal plans for man. Or, as Jesus put it, "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?"

ing about being short? If you could, it might help your chances for a career in the NBA, but you can't. No one else can either.

Some people think Jesus was asking "can you add extra years to your life by worrying about how long you will live?" The answer's the same. To be exact, such worry is known to be physically harmful. It has been proven that anxiety leads to ulcers and a whole lot of other problems you can do without.

Pity the wife (or husband) who is married to an anxious person who always sees everything in its gloomiest perspective. She deserves combat pay for living on the edge of Ulcer Gulch.

A church infested with anxious saints will find it difficult to fulfil its commission to evangelize the community and world-at-large.

---

*"Pity the wife who is married to an anxious person who always sees everything at its gloomiest . . . . She deserves combat pay for living on the edge of Ulcer Gulch."*

---

Besides, anxiety won't put food on the table. In fact, it could cause you to develop an ulcer or at least destroy your appetite.

There's another side to this coin. God cares for the birds. Why, not one sparrow falls without God taking note. "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them" (Matthew 6:26).

Surely, He will take care of YOU. After all, "are ye not much better than they?" That takes care of the hamburgers, french fries and cokes.

"Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?" (Matthew 6:27). Answer this question. Can you grow a foot and a half (a cubit) taller by worry-

Anxiety turns one's thoughts inward. The needs of others are ignored, even such pressing needs as salvation. The church worried about paying utility bills will do little to erase deficit missionary accounts.

"And why take ye thought for raiment (clothes)? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these" (Matthew 6:28, 29).

I've got to admit it. I've never seen a tailor-made suit or a designer's original that can hold a candle to a lily, rose or carnation.



ANXIETY (From page 7)

Jesus said that being anxious about such necessary items as food and clothing displays a lack of faith. Besides, these are the sorts of things the Gentiles (unbelievers) concern themselves with. "Remember, your heavenly Father knoweth ye have need of all these things." Incidentally, such a lack of faith may hinder unbelievers from trusting our heavenly Father.

**WHAT'S THE ANSWER?**

"I know the problem. Is there a solution?" I thought you'd never ask.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).

First things first. Doing God's will should consume your energies, not worry over a Big Mac, a Pepsi or Levi's. If you put God first, He will provide your needs. "All these things shall be added unto you."

Next, live one day at a time. Every day has its own problems. Don't worry about tomorrow. Today's enough to handle. And you can. "My grace is sufficient for thee."

Focus on God, not your circumstances. The God who has the hairs of your head numbered will keep you in perfect peace if you trust in Him (see Isaiah 26:3).

Such peace producing faith remains firm regardless of the situation. Daniel's faith was not contingent upon walking out of the lion's den unscathed. Like Job, Daniel trusted God even if it meant death (see Job 13:15).

Paul adds a final step to this method of de-fanging anxiety. Prayer. "Be careful for nothing (don't worry about anything); but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6, 7). In short, learn to cast ALL your care upon the One that cares for you (see I Peter 5:7).

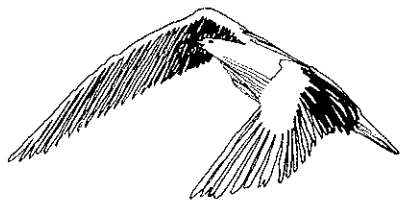
It's much more productive to ask God to supply your needs than it is to worry about what you don't have. And you'll enjoy what you do have a whole lot more.

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Larry Hampton is editorial manager of Sunday School and Church Training Department, Nashville, Tennessee. He is a member of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. ▲*



**July 8**  
**Day of Prayer**  
**For**  
**National**  
**Convention**





# The Separation Principle

By Charles Thigpen

**P**erhaps everyone who reads these words professes to believe in biblical separation. Just what does this sort of separation mean? Does it mean that women must wear their hair in buns and men must grow beards and wear black hats and suits? Is separation just a system of "thou shalt nots"? What kind of persons will we be if we hold to biblical separation?

One of the best places to begin this subject is by defining biblical separation. There is a two-fold aspect of separation taught in the Word of God. God's people are to be separated "unto" God and "from" the world or from whatever is contrary to the mind of God.

God desires the full allegiance and identification of His people with Himself. In the conversion experience, God clothes us with His righteousness, puts His peace in our hearts and gives us the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts. This union with the Lord is so complete that such persons are spoken of in the Bible as being one spirit with the Lord.

It does not seem improper then for the Lord, who has so dramatically and thoroughly changed us, to insist that we exemplify this separation unto Him by life and character.

## SEPARATION'S OTHER SIDE

The other side of separation is that the believer is to be separated from evil. Scofield says, "... in a moral universe, it is impossible for

God to fully bless and use His children who are in compromise or complicity with evil." Paul speaks of this as "the unequal yoke," and clearly commands believers not to be so joined to unbelievers.

Paul uses many contrasts in II Corinthians six to show the vast difference between the believer and the unbeliever. The believer is righteous, the unbeliever unrighteous. The one is light and the other is darkness. The other contrasts

are Christ—Belial, the believer—the infidel, the temple of God—idols.

God is here stressing that He has changed us to be like Himself, therefore, He expects us to refrain from yoking up with those who would in any way cause us to lose our Christian identity and distinctiveness. Certainly this is not too



## SEPARATION (From page 9)

much to expect of those who have "become partakers of the divine nature," as Peter describes true believers.

This matter of the unequal yoke is not a light consideration; it is serious business. God is not giving us the option to be separate or not to be separate. There should be no misunderstanding here, for this is a definite command. God insists, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." In the same passage He says, "come out

from among them and be ye separate . . . ."

## FACE THE KEY VERSES

God has stated the principle of separation from the world and unbelievers so clearly there should be no one who could misunderstand or plead ignorance. Note carefully the following additional scriptures:

If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; . . . Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself (I Timothy 6:3,5).

And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the Lord (II Chronicles 19:2).

And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus: Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity (II Timothy 2:17-19).

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple (Romans 16:17-18).

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us (II Thessalonians 3:6).

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an anti-christ . . . . Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God

speed is partaker of his evil deeds (II John 7, 9-11).

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron (II Timothy 4:1,2).

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them (Matthew 7:15-20).

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears (Acts 20:28-31).

No one can find an "uncertain sound" in any of the above verses. The sound and meaning are certain, definite and clear. These scriptures give a mandate from God that His people are to separate themselves from unbelievers.

## ETERNAL VIGILANCE

We are to separate ourselves from those outside our fellowship who hold false doctrines, but we are also to separate ourselves from those *within* our fellowship who hold erroneous views. We must not grow weak at this point. We are to be eternally vigilant.

Everything and everyone must be measured by the Word of God. This is no place for pet peeves and personal preferences. If a person does not hold to the essential truths of the Word of God, we are to separate ourselves from him.

When we learn that a brother has adopted a false view, our first effort should be to help him return

# CONTACT SUBSCRIBER SERVICE

Attach your mailing label to all correspondence.

Mail coupon to:

CONTACT Magazine  
P. O. Box 1088  
Nashville, Tn. 37202

Please check below:

- Change of address. Affix current mailing label; enter new address below. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks.
- New Subscription. Fill in coupon below.
- Renewal. Affix current mailing label; check coupon below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- Please send a one year subscription of CONTACT — \$5.00.
- Payment enclosed.  Bill me.

to a correct position. This is Paul's admonition in Galatians 6:1,

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Stringent, pointed, tireless effort should be exercised to, hopefully, bring restoration to this person. When this effort to restore fails, we have no alternative but to withdraw from him.

Church laypeople should be alert and biblically knowledgeable. If a pastor departs from the fundamental truths of the Bible, spiritual leaders in the congregation should seek to bring him back.

Pastors should be prayerfully alert in considering one another. Care should be exercised at all levels when examining candidates for deacons and ministers. Pastors should be especially careful before joining ministerial alliances with those who hold unbiblical views.

Churches should exercise extreme caution before joining or participating in "joint" Thanksgiving services or united days of prayer with other churches whose biblical positions are incorrect.

God has insisted that His people be a people of biblical doctrine, a people of pure lives and a people who separate themselves from those who are unbelievers. God has separated us "unto" Himself in the conversion experience. We must be diligent in separating ourselves from all known sin and from any behavior contrary to God's Word. We must remember that our separation includes being separate from those who hold unbiblical views on essential doctrines as well as from unbelievers.

This is never an easy thing to do but surely it is a rewarding experience. Please consider the loving, tender words from our Heavenly Father to all who separate themselves from those who compromise essential doctrines in belief or behavior. He says, "I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (II Corinthians 6:17b-18).

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Dr. Charles Thigpen is president of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. ▲

# Light on Life's Questions . . .

By Wade T. Jernigan

*QUESTION: I graduated from a Free Will Baptist college. Now I want to attend seminary and earn a Master's degree, but there is no Free Will Baptist graduate school. What should I do? Should I attend a non-Free Will Baptist seminary?*

**ANSWER:** Denominational leaders have moved almost too cautiously in the field of education. As late as the mid-1940's leading Free Will Baptists advocated that two-year schooling would afford enough education and training for ministers and missionaries. Those wanting to continue through a four-year program were generally discouraged.

This gradually changed and a four-year college program was inaugurated. Much reluctance has been evidenced on the part of the denomination's educational leaders. Those who should have been at the forefront in this matter of education (seminary or graduate school) have tried to discourage what seems to be a grassroots movement for a graduate program.

At the same time, these leaders have directed our young college graduates to schools that have at the least tainted their thinking with Calvinism and other errors.

There is at this time great promise for a graduate school. In 1980, a program is to be proposed. It is hoped that our educators will back the program and help establish the school.

In the meantime a desiring student could wait or else go to a seminary which is known for its advocacy of truth. There are any number of reputable schools in America. Care should be taken in selection as there are some schools that would throw a cloud of suspicion around the student and cause him difficulties within the denomination.

*Readers may address their questions to Mr. Jernigan at P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Please limit each question to one specific topic. There will be no personal correspondence regarding those questions which are not used in the magazine. The column will not necessarily be considered the official voice of the denomination relative to the problems involved.*

# Convention Insights

## LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_  
is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free  
Will Baptists from \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of church)  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(District Association) (City) (State)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Clerk or Secretary

IMPORTANT: This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$10 registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting privileges.

**RESERVATIONS—3 Easy choices**  
See reservation form for hotel prices and locations.

**REGISTRATION—New Time—  
New Place**

Registration starts on Saturday, July 14 at 3:00 p.m. in the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Then on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. registration moves to the Civic Center Lobby.

**PARKING—Handy and Dandy**

Guests at the three main convention hotels park free! Civic center parking is \$1.50 per day.

**DELEGATES—Tax Deductible**

Duly-elected church and state delegates and pastors only "may deduct unreimbursed expenses for travel and transportation, and a reasonable amount for meals and lodging while away from home overnight in connection with the convention" (IRS publication 526). This includes gas, oil and parking fees.

**TAPES—Instant Replay**

Take time to contemplate what you learn at the convention, or enjoy sessions you won't be able to attend. Buy tapes at the convention or order them. A form listing all sessions taped—including seminars, major addresses, and WNAC highlights—will be available in the August *CONTACT*.

**NURSERY—Special Rate**

Nursery services are provided during all convention sessions at a charge of \$1 per child per session or \$8 for the entire convention. But at this price, bring your own pampers!

Nursery is located in Civic Center's VIP Lounge A on the North Foyer mezzanine level.

# CONVENTION 1979

## REQUESTS FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS 1979 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Number	Meal	Total
_____	<b>WNAC Banquet</b> —\$6.00 each Monday, July 16, 5:00 p.m./Civic Center Speaker: Kay Arthur	\$ _____
_____	<b>Music Fellowship Breakfast</b> —\$5.00 Tuesday, July 17, 7:00 a.m./Civic Center Speaker: Lindsay Terry	\$ _____
_____	<b>Pastor's Dinner</b> —\$6.00 each Tuesday, July 17, 5:00 p.m./Civic Center Speaker: Robert Picirilli	\$ _____
_____	<b>Master's Men Breakfast</b> —\$5.00 Wednesday, July 18, 7:00 a.m./Civic Center Speaker: Delmar Priest	\$ _____
_____	<b>FWBBC Alumni Luncheon</b> —\$4.00 each Wednesday, July 18, 12:00 p.m./Civic Center	\$ _____
	Total Enclosed	\$ _____

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL REQUEST to Ticket Sales, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Please send check or money order. DO NOT send cash. All requests must be received by **July 2, 1979.**

(NOTE: Order all youth banquet tickets from NYC Office.)

# THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## 43rd Annual Convention/July 15-19, 1979

### Civic Center/Charlotte, North Carolina

### Theme: "The Spirit-Controlled Life"

**THEME SONG:** "The Spirit-Controlled Life"  
Special composition by Doug Little

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Blaine Hughes

**ORGANIST:** Doug Little

**PIANIST:** Rebecca Pugh

**NURSERY:** Civic Center, Mezzanine, VIP Lounge A

**CONVENTION OFFICE:** Civic Center, Lobby Entrance

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON/July 14

2:00 REGISTRATION for National Youth Conference Sheraton Center Lobby, Check Room

3:00-6:00 REGISTRATION for National Convention Radisson Hotel Lobby  
Ministers, Delegates, other Members and WNAC. (Registration continues through 12:00 p.m. Wednesday.)

#### SATURDAY EVENING/July 14

7:30-9:00 Film: "Pilgrim's Progress" Radisson Hotel Ballroom  
Presiding: Johnnie Floyd, Jr.

#### SUNDAY MORNING/July 15

10:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL Radisson Hotel:  
Primaries: Pat Moore Polk Room  
Juniors: Kay Hampton Jackson Room  
Teens: Jonathan Thigpen Goldroom A, B, C  
Adults: Robert Morgan Ballroom  
Special Music: The Watchmen Quartet

10:45 Intermission

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP Radisson Hotel Ballroom  
Presiding: Jack Richey  
Song Service: Charles Hampton  
Special Music: Malcolm Fry  
MESSAGE: "Being Filled with the Spirit" — Paul Thompson

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 15

3:00-6:00 REGISTRATION for National Convention Civic Center Lobby

3:00 REGISTRATION for National Youth Conference Sheraton Center Lobby, Check Room

4:00 Mass Adult Choir Practice Civic Center Auditorium

#### SUNDAY EVENING/July 15

6:00 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE Keynote Speaker: Eugene Hales Civic Center Auditorium

8:30 Youth Social Activities (See National Youth Program)

#### MONDAY MORNING/July 16

8:00 WNAC Executive Committee Meeting Radisson Hotel Room 821

8:25-8:50 MORNING MANNA Civic Center Auditorium  
Special Music: Blaine Hughes  
Bible Study: Guy Owens

9:00 GENERAL BOARD CONVENES Civic Center Section F

9:00 Youth Competition and Children's Activities Sheraton Center Quality Inn  
(See National Youth Program.)

9:00 WNAC Nominating Committee Radisson Hotel Gold Room, A

#### 10:30-11:30 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

"Activating Senior Citizens in the Church"— Rashie Kennedy Civic Center Sections G & H

"Implementing a Church Building Program"— T. L. Burch Civic Center Sections D & E

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16

1:00 Youth Competition and Children's Activities Sheraton Center Quality Inn  
(See National Youth Program.)



**PROGRAM (from page 13)**

1:00	WNAC State Presidents, Field Workers and Executive Committee	Radisson Hotel Gold Room, B & C
1:30	GENERAL BOARD Meeting Reconvenes	Civic Center Section F
1:30-2:30 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS		
	"Christ's Mandate: Teach the Church"— Douglas J. Simpson	Civic Center Sections D & E
	"Baptism of the Holy Spirit"— Leroy Forlines	Civic Center Sections G & H
	"How to Plan an Effective Layman's Day"— Presiding: Bill Creel	Civic Center Plaza Level
2:00	EXHIBIT AREA OPEN	Civic Center Section A
3:00-4:00 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS		
	"Promoting a Growing Sunday School"— Connie Cariker	Civic Center Plaza Level
	"Exercising Authority in the Home"— Charles Hampton	Civic Center Auditorium
4:05	Mass Adult Choir Practice	Civic Center Auditorium
5:00	WNAC FELLOWSHIP DINNER Speaker: Kay Arthur	Civic Center Plaza Level
5:00	Men's Chorale Practice	Civic Center Auditorium

**MONDAY EVENING/July 16**

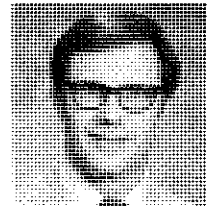
7:00	WORSHIP SERVICE	Civic Center Auditorium
	Presiding: Bill Jones Song Service: I. L. Stanley Special Music: Mass Adult Choir	
	Session Called to Order and Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk	
	Report of Committee on Committees: Bobby Jackson, Moderator	
	Welcome to Charlotte, North Carolina Henderson Belk, Belk Store Services	
	Offertory: Lindsay Terry	
	Special Music: Mini Concert, Lindsay Terry Nan Fulcher	
	MESSAGE: "Walking in the Spirit" Charles Thigpen	
9:00	Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)	
9:00	Instrumental Ensemble Practice	Civic Center Auditorium



Paul Thompson



Charles Thigpen



Gordon Sebastian

9:00	Youth Social Activities (See National Youth Program.)	Quality Inn
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

**TUESDAY MORNING/July 17**

7:00	FWB Music Ministries Breakfast Speaker: Lindsay Terry	Civic Center Plaza Level
8:25-8:50	MORNING MANNA Special Music: FWBBC Quartet Bible Study: Guy Owens	Civic Center Auditorium
9:00	WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION Presiding: Clara Picirilli, President	Civic Center Auditorium
9:00	Music and Arts Festival (See National Youth Program)	Sheraton Center Quality Inn
9:30	Children's Activities (See National Youth Program)	Sheraton Center Quality Inn
9:30-10:30 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS		

"The Ministry of Associate Pastors"—  
James McAllister  
Civic Center Section F

"Helping Small Churches Grow"—  
David Joslin  
Civic Center Plaza Level

11:15	WNAC Missionary Service Message: Jimmy and Janie Aldridge	Civic Center Auditorium
12:15	State Leaders' Luncheon (By Invitation)	Radisson Hotel Mecklenburg

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17**

1:00	Youth Competitive Finals and Children's Activities (See National Youth Program.)	Sheraton Center Quality Inn
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes	Civic Center Auditorium
1:30-2:30 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS		
	"The Deacon's Authority"— J. D. O'Donnell	Civic Center Section F
	"Organizing and Administrating a Successful Sunday School"— Gene Parrisher	Civic Center Plaza Level

3:00-4:00 EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

"The Pastor's Authority"—  
Jack Stallings Civic Center  
Plaza Level

"Planting and Growing a  
Free Will Baptist Church"—  
Roy Thomas Civic Center  
Section F

4:05 Mass Adult Choir Practice Civic Center  
Auditorium  
Instrumental Ensemble Practice Civic Center  
Plaza Level

5:00 PASTOR'S DINNER Civic Center  
Plaza Level  
Special Music: Blaine Hughes  
Speaker: Robert Picirilli

5:00 Adventurer Banquet Quality Inn  
Marco Polo Room

**TUESDAY EVENING/July 17**

7:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Civic Center  
Auditorium  
Presiding: Richard Adams  
Song Service: Blaine Hughes  
Special Music: The Watchmen Quartet  
Offertory: Rodney Whaley, trumpet  
Special Music: Bill Gardner

MESSAGE: "Ministering in the Spirit"  
Gordon Sebastian

9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

9:00 Men's Chorale Practice Civic Center  
Auditorium

9:30 Youth Banquet Sheraton Center  
Omni Hall  
(See National Youth Program.)

10:00 Exhibit Area Closed

**WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 18**

7:00 Master's Men Breakfast Civic Center  
Plaza Level  
Speaker: Delmer Priest

8:25-8:50 MORNING MANNA Civic Center  
Auditorium  
Special Music: Vernon and  
Beth Whaley  
Bible Study: Guy Owens

9:00-11:40 CONVENTION BUSINESS Civic Center  
Auditorium  
SESSION  
Moderator's Message: Bobby Jackson  
Report of Credentials Committee and  
Seating of Delegates  
Partial Report of General Board  
Partial Report of Nominating Committee

REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS  
(Board members are elected at conclusion of  
each report.)

- \*Home Missions and Church Extension: Roy Thomas
- \*Sunday School and Church Training: Roger Reeds
- \*Free Will Baptist Bible College: Charles Thigpen
- \*Foreign Missions: Rolla Smith
- \*Retirement and Insurance: Herman Hersey

9:00 NYC Recognition Assembly Sheraton Center  
Omni Hall

12:00 REGISTRATION closes

12:00 FWBBC Alumni Luncheon Civic Center  
Plaza Level

**WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/July 18**

12:30-5:30 Youth Special Event Excursion  
(See National Youth Program.)

1:45 CONVENTION REASSEMBLES Civic Center  
Auditorium  
Song Service: Blaine Hughes  
Devotion: Clarence Burton

2:00 REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS  
(continued)  
\*Master's Men Board: Loyd Oisan  
\*Executive Office: Rufus Coffey

2:30 General Board Final Report  
Partial Report of Nominating Committee  
Election of General Board Members

4:00 Business session recessed

5:00 Men's Chorale Practice Civic Center  
Auditorium  
Instrumental Ensemble Practice Civic Center  
Plaza Level



Delmer Priest



Laverne Miley



Edward Johns

**WEDNESDAY EVENING/July 18**

7:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Civic Center  
Auditorium

Presiding: Dan Merkh  
Song Service: Blaine Hughes  
Special Music: Men's Chorale,  
Vernon Whaley, Director  
Introduction of Missionaries:  
Trymon Messer  
Special Music: Instrumental Ensemble  
FWBBC Quartet  
Carolyn McEvers  
Offertory: Instrumental Ensemble

MESSAGE: "Evangelizing in the  
Spirit" — Laverne Miley

Missions Offering: Roy Thomas

9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

10:00 Exhibit Area Closed



PROGRAM (from page 16)

**THURSDAY MORNING/July 19**

9:00	CONVENTION WORSHIP SERVICE	Civic Center Auditorium
	Presiding: Lawnie Coffman Song Service: David Parrish Special Music: FWBBC Quartet	
	MESSAGE: "Praying in the Spirit"—Edward Johns	
10:00	CONCLUDING BUSINESS SESSION	Civic Center Auditorium
	WNAC Report: Cleo Pursell	
	Historical Commission Report: Robert Picirilli	
	Commission on Theological Liberalism: Leroy Forlines	
	Report of Committees —Registration —Budget —Resolutions	
	Nominating Committee's Final Report Election of General Officers	
11:45	Adjournment	
12:00	Exhibits Closed	

**1979 NATIONAL  
YOUTH CONFERENCE  
July 16-19 / Charlotte, NC**

**THEME:** "Approved . . . unto God . . . and of Men"  
—II Timothy 2:15; Romans 14:18  
**NYC DIRECTOR:** Malcolm C. Fry  
**NYC COORDINATOR:** Mike Boggs  
**REGISTRATION COORDINATOR:** Nancy Cole  
**MUSIC COORDINATOR:** Charles Hampton

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 15**

3:00	NYC Registration	Check Room, Lobby Sheraton Center
------	------------------	--------------------------------------

**SUNDAY EVENING/July 15**

6:00	NYC KEYNOTE SERVICE Speaker: Eugene Hales	Civic Center Auditorium
8:30	Adventurer after-service activities  Youth after-service activities (Heralds, Crusaders, and Ambassadors)	Imperial Room C Quality Inn Imperial Room A&B Quality Inn

**MONDAY MORNING/July 16**

7:45	Breakfast meeting with NYC staff, judges, and officials	Marco Polo C Quality Inn
9:00-11:30	Adventurer crafts  Discoverer/Learner activities	Imperial Room C Quality Inn Rooms 202-208 Quality Inn
9:00	Bible Tic Tac Toe Assembly ALL teams and coaches	Atlantic Room Sheraton Center
9:00	Bible Bowl Assembly ALL teams and coaches	Imperial Room A, B, Quality Inn
9:30	Bible Tic Tac Toe Winners #1  Bible Tic Tac Toe Winners #2  Bible Bowl Winners #1  Bible Bowl Winners #2  Bible Sword Drill Preliminary	Atlantic Room Sheraton Center Blue Ridge Room Sheraton Center Imperial Room A&B Quality Inn Imperial Room C, Quality Inn Piedmont Room Sheraton Center
12:00	LUNCH	

**COMING  
NEXT MONTH . . .**

- *Anger Has Nine Lives*
- *What Makes a Nation Great*
- *Bobby Jackson Profile*
- *Kingdom of Smiles*
- *The Journey*



**MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16**

1:00-2:30	Bible Tic Tac Toe Winners #1 (continued) Bible Tic Tac Toe Winners #2 (continued) Bible Bowl Winners #1 (continued) Bible Bowl Winners #2 (continued)	Atlantic Room Sheraton Center Blue Ridge Room Sheraton Center Imperial Room A & B Quality Inn Imperial Room C Quality Inn
1:00-3:30	Discoverer/Learner activities	Rooms 202-208 Quality Inn
1:00	Bible Memorization Program Grade 1	Piedmont Room Sheraton Center
2:15	Bible Memorization Program Grade 2	Piedmont Room Sheraton Center
2:30-5:30	Bible Tic Tac Toe Consolation #1 Bible Tic Tac Toe Consolation #2 Bible Bowl Consolation #1 Bible Bowl Consolation #2	Atlantic Room Sheraton Center Blue Ridge Room Sheraton Center Imperial Room A & B Quality Inn Imperial Room C Quality Inn
3:30	Bible Memorization Program Grade 3	Piedmont Room Sheraton Center

**MONDAY EVENING/July 16**

7:00	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Civic Center Auditorium
9:00	Adventurer after-service activities Youth after-service activities	Imperial Room C Quality Inn Imperial Room A & B Quality Inn

**TUESDAY MORNING/July 17**

9:00	Music and Arts Assembly ALL coaches and contestants	Piedmont Room Sheraton Center
9:00-11:30	Discover/Learner activities	Rooms 202-208 Quality Inn
9:30	Music and Arts Section 1 (music) Music and Arts Section 2 (music) Music and Arts Section 3 (music) Music and Arts Section 4 (oral) Music and Arts Section 5 (oral)	Imperial Room A & B Quality Inn Atlantic Room Sheraton Center Blue Ridge Room Sheraton Center Imperial Room C Quality Inn Piedmont Room Sheraton Center
12:00	LUNCH	

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17**

1:00-2:45	Competitive Finals— Bible Sword Drill, Bible Tic Tac Toe, Bible Bowl	Carolina Center Sheraton Center
3:00-4:30	Music and Arts Section 6 (music) Music and Arts Section 7 (music) Music and Arts Section 8 (music)	Atlantic Room Sheraton Center Blue Ridge Room Sheraton Center Imperial Room A & B Quality Inn
5:00	Adventurer Banquet	Marco Polo B & C Quality Inn
7:00	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Civic Center Auditorium
9:30	Youth Banquet	Carolina Center Sheraton Center

**WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 18**

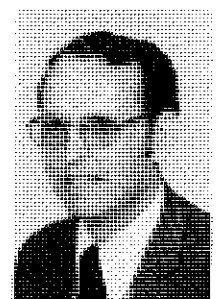
9:00	NYC Recognition Assembly	Carolina Center Sheraton Center
11:30	LUNCH	.
12:15	Preparatory	Board buses Sheraton Center
12:30-5:30	SPECIAL EVENT	Excursion— Carowinds
5:30-6:15	Return to hotel	
7:00	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Civic Center Auditorium
	END OF CONFERENCE	



HALES



FRY



C. HAMPTON

**Woman's National Auxiliary Convention  
44th Annual Session, July 16-17, 1979  
Civic Center, Charlotte, North Carolina**

**Theme:** KNOWING AND GROWING

**Scripture:** "Grow up into him in all things which is the head, even Christ . . ." (Ephesians 4:15b).

**Song:** "More About Jesus"

**Song Director:** Pat Zeigler

**Organist:** Marcia Moran

**Pianist:** Carolyn Riddick

**WNAC Registration**—Sunday 3-6 p.m.—Civic Center

Chairperson: Pat Hamrick

**MONDAY MORNING/July 16**

8:00-8:45 WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast  
President Polk Room, Radisson Plaza

8:50-11:45 WNAC Executive Committee Meeting  
Room 821, Radisson Plaza

9:00-12:00 WNAC Nominating Committee  
Gold Room, Radisson Plaza

11:45-12:45 WNAC Luncheon  
President Polk Room, Radisson Plaza



ARTHUR



PURSELL



PICIRILLI

**MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16**

1:00-3:00 State Presidents/Field Workers/Executive Committee  
Gold Room B & C, Radisson Plaza

5:00-6:45 WNAC Fellowship Dinner  
Civic Center, Plaza Level  
Kay Arthur — Speaker

**TUESDAY MORNING/July 17**

9:00 WNAC Annual Meeting  
Civic Center, Auditorium  
Clara Picirilli presiding  
Congregational Singing — Pat Zeigler  
Trio — Douglas and Kathy Henderson, Patty Raper  
Devotions — Jerry Barron, Mexico  
Welcome — Joanne King

9:35 Creative Writing Contest Awards  
Nancy Trimble

9:45 Credentials Committee Report  
Seating of Delegates  
Resolutions Committee Report  
Appreciation Committee Report  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report

11:15 Congregational Singing — Pat Zeigler  
Solo — Beth Whaley  
Message — Jimmy and Janie Aldridge, Ivory Coast  
Offertory

12:00 Recess

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17**

1:30 Congregation Singing  
A skit—"Model, Mannequins, or For Real"  
Brenda Evans  
Solo — Pat Zeigler  
Speaker — Lorene Miley  
Offertory  
Nominating Committee Report  
Election of Officers  
Registration Committee Report

3:30 Adjournment

***Last call to make your  
National Convention hotel  
reservations!***

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## APPLICATION FOR HOUSING RESERVATIONS

**Charlotte, North Carolina**

**July 15-19, 1979**

Please fill out form completely  
and mail to

Charlotte Convention Housing Bureau  
P.O. Box 32785  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28232

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

THE CHARLOTTE CONVENTION HOUSING BUREAU WILL HANDLE ALL HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

Applications must be submitted in writing on this official form.

Confirmations will be mailed directly from the hotel to only one person. Please allow at least three weeks for confirmation.

After confirmation has been received, any reservation changes must be made directly with the hotel.

If you share a room with others, please send in only one housing application listing the names of all occupants.

Applications must be postmarked no later than June 15, 1979.

At least two choices of hotels/motels are desirable. Reservations will be filled in order of receipt.

**ACCOMMODATIONS DESIRED:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) for one person (one full size bed)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) for two persons (one full size bed)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) for two persons (two double beds)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) for ( ) three or ( ) four persons (two double beds)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Room(s) with twin beds for two persons
- \_\_\_\_\_ Suite-Parlor and ( ) one bedroom ( ) two bedrooms

**DEPOSIT**

Unless a deposit of one room night's room rate is received with this application, rooms will only be held until 6:00 p.m. (E.D.T.) on the designated arrival date. Deposits are refundable provided cancellation notice is given to the hotel up to 72 hours prior to arrival. Make checks payable to "Charlotte Convention Housing Bureau."

**HOTEL OR MOTEL**

1st choice .....

2nd choice .....

3rd choice .....

Planned arrival date .....

time ..... a.m. .... p.m. ....

Planned departure date .....

time ..... a.m. .... p.m. ....

**NAMES OF OCCUPANTS**

Street

City

State

Zip

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_

(Names of all parties must be listed. Please print names and complete addresses. Bracket the names of those staying in the same room. We cannot confirm unless rooms requested balance with number of persons listed.)

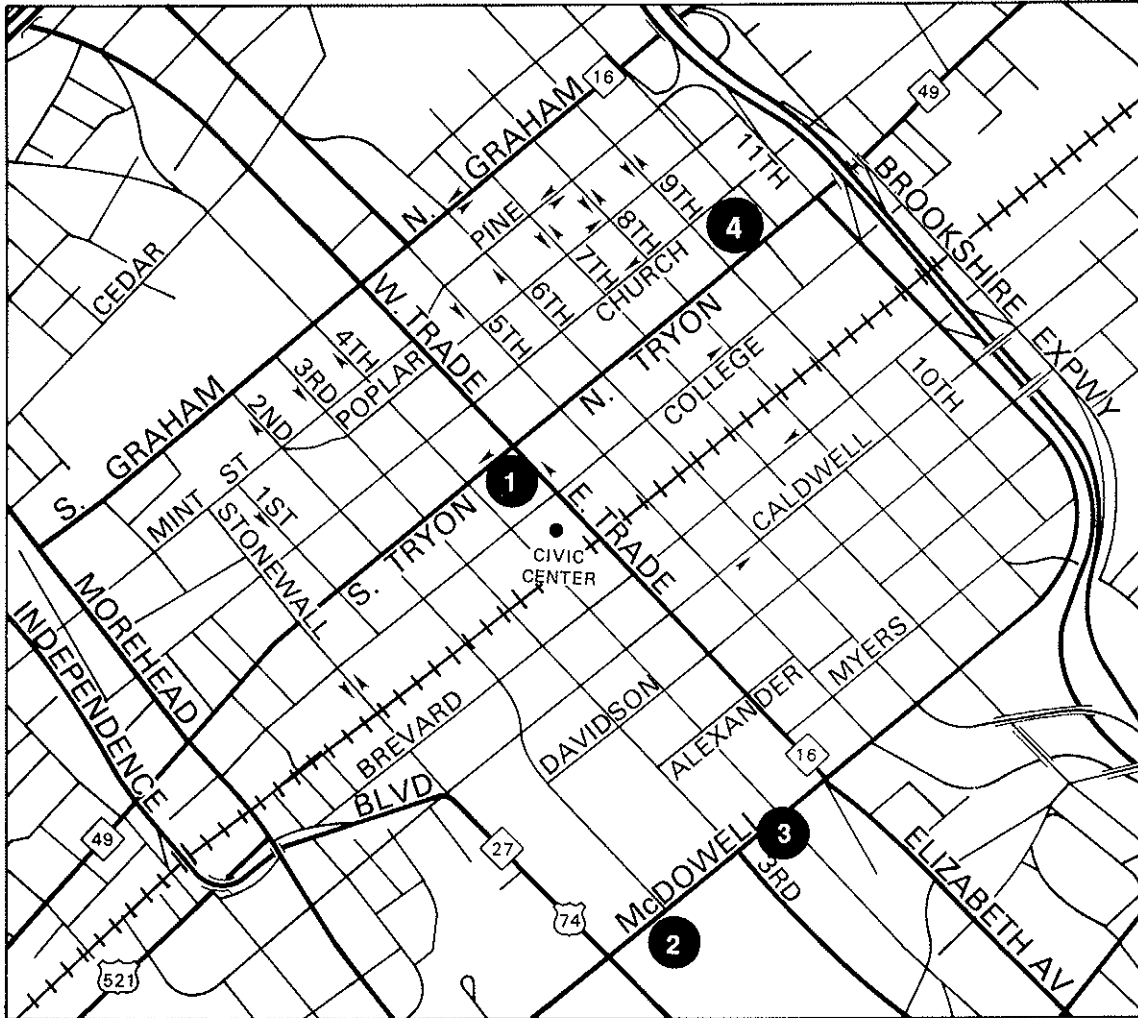
SEND  
CONFIRMATION  
TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

July 15-19, 1979 / Civic Center

Charlotte, North Carolina



## Hotels & Motels

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD
(1) Radisson Plaza Hotel* Headquarters Hotel	\$30	\$36	\$39	\$42
(2) Sheraton Center Hotel** NYC Headquarters	\$28	\$34	\$37	\$40
(3) Quality Inn — Downtown	\$24	\$28	\$30	\$32
(4) Manger Inn*	\$21	\$23	\$27	\$31

All hotels provide free guest parking

\*Children under 16 stay free in room with parents

\*\*Children under 18 stay free in room with parents



FREE WILL BAPTIST  
**newsfront**

**SPRING ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN  
NETS 35 PERCENT INCREASE**

NASHVILLE, TN—Sunday schools in 26 different states participated in the "Enlarge Your Vision" Enlargement Campaign sponsored nationally by the Sunday School and Church Training Department.

An impressive net increase of 35.20 percent over the fall quarter's average attendance was recorded for those churches reporting.

Appropriate trophies are being awarded to first and second place winners listed below.

Division			Sep-Nov Avg.	Camp. Avg.	Increase
A	1st Place	First — Bakersfield, CA	530	638	20.38%
B	1st Place	West Tulsa — Tulsa, OK	489	696	42.33%
C	1st Place	Collinswood — Portsmouth, VA	340	348	2.35%
D	1st Place	First — Mountain Grove, MO	241	316	31.12%
	2nd Place	Noble — Noble, OK	206	261.5	26.94%
E	1st Place	Northside — Tulsa, OK	153	242	58.17%
	2nd Place	Fourth — St. Louis, MO	177	231	30.51%
F	1st Place	Village Chapel — Ceres, CA	140	219	56.43%
	2nd Place	Sheraton Park — Greensboro, NC	113.69	172.25	51.51%
G	1st Place	Mt. View — Mt. View, CA	64	132	106.25%
	2nd Place	First — Salinas, CA	62	118.25	90.73%
H	1st Place	Patmos — Leary, GA	30	80.2	167.33%
	2nd Place	Eastern Gate — Springfield, MO	28	67	139.29%

**MINISTERIAL QUESTIONNAIRE ADOPTED IN ILLINOIS**

DECATUR, IL—Delegates to the Illinois State Association voted overwhelming endorsement of a uniform, state-wide questionnaire for ministers seeking licenses or ordination. The two-year study course containing four major sections won approval at the March 23-24 state association meeting at First Free Will Baptist Church, Decatur.

According to questionnaire compiler, Wilford (Bill) Cathey, both forms and answer keys are now stockpiled at the district level and distributed on request to ministerial candidates by the local associations.

Strong preaching by out-of-state speakers focused the gathering on the Church and its mission. Dr. Charles Thigpen, Free Will Baptist Bible College president, spoke twice as did Jim McAllister, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Farmington, Missouri. Missionary to Africa Lynn Miley addressed 85 at a Friday afternoon banquet in Redwood Inn.

Moderator John Hollis led the group in electing 10 members to various state boards. Wallace Malone was re-elected as national General Board member. Illinois' 1980 session moves north to Moline.

**GIANT TWISTER BUTCHERS  
NORTH TEXAS TOWN**

WICHITA FALLS, TX—At exactly 6:09 PM, April 10, a mile-wide black funnel roared out of the Texas sky and crunched through Wichita Falls' residential and shopping areas. Scant minutes later 10 miles of the city disappeared in the ferocious 225 m.p.h. winds of a killer tornado which left 46 known dead, hundreds homeless and staggering property damage.

Jerry Walser, secretary at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, said, "It's like a war-zone out there. The town looks like it's been bombed. Homes are levelled and people are walking around hollow-eyed and in shock."

Wichita Falls was declared a disaster area by President Carter and federal agencies began pumping in relief. Some Free Will Baptist families received government trailers for emergency housing. Ten families from First Free Will Baptist Church had their homes totally destroyed. First Church Pastor Earl Scroggins had both his cars extensively damaged as well as the parsonage.

Hardest hit was Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Wichita Falls. Initial reports filtering out of the city said the church building was completely destroyed. However, Pastor M. L. Sutton and members raked enough debris away to conduct services Easter Sunday. Pastor Sutton's home suffered major loss; several other church families lost everything.

Miraculously no Free Will Baptists were killed or seriously hurt in one of the nation's worst tornado disasters. Officials think the 45-minute warning to residents prevented what could have been a night of horror in this Texas town.

Within three days of the tornado's aftermath, Texas Executive Secretary Allen Moore mailed a hurried plea to denominational leaders assessing initial damage and appealing for prayers and funds. Communication was sketchy as long as 10 days after the tornado due to downed phone lines and uprooted families.



# newsfront

(continued)

## ENTHUSIASM SURROUNDS CCC BIBLE CONFERENCE

FRESNO, CA—Dr. Daniel W. Parker, president of California Christian College, reports participants impressed and delighted with the revamped format for CCC's Bible Conference and Hospitality Days, March 7-9.

The theme, "Ministry of the Local Church," included several seminars as well as preaching services. Attendance was very good. Participants' evaluations at the close of the three-day session were quite positive. Most complimented the speakers and seminars.

One pastor says, "Best I've ever attended." A visiting student, "Excellent! Gave new insights toward our college. I plan to enroll." Others, "Terrific. I'm proud to be associated with CCC and its family." "Excellent preaching." "Very impressed with speakers and content." "Wish we had these more often."

Principal conference speakers were Floyd Wolfenbarger, Pastor of Newark Free Will Baptist Church, Newark, Ohio; and Alton Loveless, Ohio Promotional Secretary. Other seminar and workshop leaders were Californians June Rolen (Fresno), Ronald Young (Bakersfield), Ted Wilbanks (Fresno Pastor) and James Cox, academic dean at CCC.

## QUARTERLY MEETING CONVERTED INTO PIONEER DAY

WAYCROSS, GA—The South Georgia Association celebrated "Pioneer Day" during its January 27 quarterly conference at Okefenokee Free Will Baptist Church in Waycross. A program was conducted giving special recognition to Georgia pioneers in Free Will Baptist work.

William Morris, Pastor of Statesboro Free Will Baptist Church and association moderator, presided. Morris recognized all the pioneers who were present starting with those who had been attending 20 or more years. Before the service ended 29 pioneers acknowledged their veteran status.

Rev. J. B. Brigmond from Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church took the honor of having attended quarterly meetings the longest—59 years. Also among the pioneers was retired missionary Laura Belle Barnard. Miss Barnard was presented a plaque in recognition of her years of faithful service.

Moderator Morris led a testimony time for the pioneers who all witnessed to the greatness of God's watchcare and protection over them through the years. After the testimony service, Brother Morris presented each pioneer with a key-shaped lapel pin signifying that Jesus is the key to life eternal.

J. E. Wood, one of the pioneer ministers, brought a stirring message. Rev. Wood pastors Marietta Free Will Baptist Church in Lyons, Georgia.

## CONGREGATION PILOTS OUTREACH TO MENTALLY RETARDED ADULTS

COLUMBIA, TN—Two years ago Pastor Wendell Trussell of Loyal Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, led the church into a ministry with mentally retarded adults. Now more than a dozen adult mentally retarded students attend church every week. Mrs. Irene Matlock provides Bible lessons, activities and leads the special Sunday school class in rousing songs and choruses.

Students look forward to riding to Sunday school in a van provided especially for them by the church. They come as welcomed guests and participants of a church well known for its missions outreach in the community.

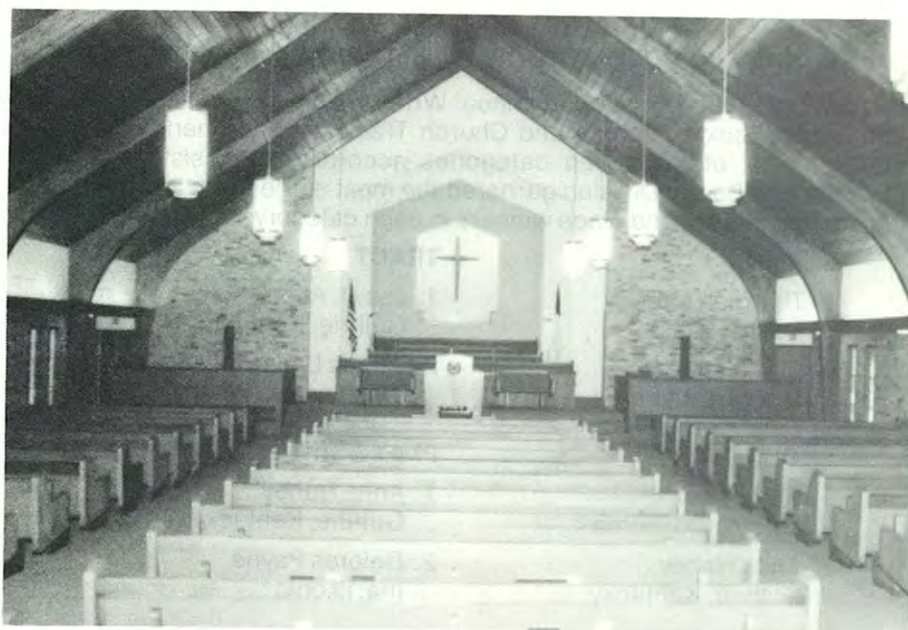
This unusual project began more than 24 months ago when students, all members of Fletcher Hall Home for Retarded Adults, visited several churches in the Columbia community. They discovered that many churches provided classes for the mentally retarded children, but had no provisions for adults. After several weeks attending Loyal Chapel, one of the mentally retarded adults asked Pastor Trussell if they could have their own class.

That question began a unique ministry in the community. The church provides Primary-aged Sunday school literature for the students, and Mrs. Matlock shares her love and keen understanding of biblical truth.

Since the program's inception all but two of the mentally retarded adults have made professions of faith. One of the church lay leaders commented, "You receive special joy everytime one of our 'kids' gives a personal testimony. You know, they love the Lord and Pastor Wendell." Reverend Trussell said, "These people are special to us. We are all proud to have them as part of our ministry here."

CCC speakers: (L) Loveless, Wolfenbarger, Cox





### TEXAS CHURCH DEDICATES 500-SEAT AUDITORIUM

HOUSTON, TX—First Free Will Baptist Church, Houston dedicated a new 500-seat auditorium. In addition to the new auditorium, the structure includes office space, nursery and numerous classrooms.

The additional 8500 square feet enlarges the total church plant to approximately 17,000 square feet. Cost of the new building was \$180,000. The church raised \$55,000 and borrowed \$125,000.

First Church has enlarged its facilities three times since relocating in the suburbs of north Houston.

For the past two years the congregation has been seriously handicapped by lack of space. During this time attendance fluctuated from a high of 230 to a low of 130. With the new facilities, attendance is again on the rise, increasing every Sunday.

During March Pastor Bobby Ferguson baptized 15. New members are being added to the church each Sunday. Offerings are adequate to meet the new obligation and both pastor and people anticipated another surge of significant growth.

### HILLSDALE BOLSTERS EXTERNAL CURRICULUM PROGRAM

MOORE, OK—The External Studies program at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College has been expanded by adding several new courses according to Director Thomas Marberry. Some of the new courses are: Literary Study of the English Bible I (Old Testament), Literary Study of the English Bible II (New Testament), Evangelism and Introduction to Missions.

"We feel that these new courses are a significant addition to our program. These courses should be of benefit to many of our Free Will Baptist people," Marberry said. "The

Evangelism course includes a section on what Free Will Baptists are doing in this area. Likewise, Introduction to Missions includes a special section on Free Will Baptist missions."

The college also added the non-credit course, Free Will Baptist Doctrines, to its course offerings. FWB Doctrines is especially good for instructing converts and others who need to know and understand more about the beliefs of Free Will Baptists.

"The cost of credit courses is \$25 per semester hour. This fee includes

textbooks. The Free Will Baptist Doctrines course costs \$5.95 each if purchased individually. The cost is \$5.00 each in lots of ten or more," Marberry explained.

In order to present the program, a new External Studies Catalog has been printed containing the latest information. Anyone who wishes to receive a copy may write: Director of External Studies, Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Box 6343, Moore, Oklahoma 73153.

### CONVENTION MUSIC AVAILABLE FOR MASS ADULT CHOIR

NASHVILLE, TN—Blaine Hughes, convention music coordinator, announced that guest conductor Lindsay Terry will direct the Mass Adult Choir in singing two songs during convention sessions held in Charlotte, North Carolina, July 15-19.

The two songs selected for the July performance are special arrangements of "At the Crossing" and "Shall We Gather at the River?" Both songs are included in LINDSAY TERRY'S ALLTIME FAVORITES, a compilation Mr. Terry is making available to mass choir participants.

Write to CONVENTION MUSIC. The cost of the music is \$2.50 per book. This price includes postage. Payment must accompany order.

#### ADULT CHOIR MUSIC

Lindsay Terry's	Quantity
ALLTIME FAVORITES	_____
Total cost	_____
(@ \$2.50 per copy)	_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT SEND CASH.

ORDER FROM: Convention Music  
P.O. Box 1088 / Nashville, TN 37202.



**SPRING EVANGELISM  
CONFERENCE ATTRACTS  
OVERFLOW CROWDS**

MODESTO, CA—More than 250 Californians rallied in North Modesto Free Will Baptist Church March 26-28 to attend the West Coast Evangelism Conference sponsored by the National Home Missions Department, the second such conference hosted in the state in four months.

Conference coordinator Trymon Messer, associate director of Home Missions, said enthusiasm concerning the central California meeting had built since a similar gathering last December in Bakersfield, California. Messer cited the Bakersfield conference as the catalyst urging a number of ministers within the state to double church attendance.

Stirring testimonies of personal and church commitment swept over the three-day festival. Conference speakers were Farmington, Missouri, Pastor Jim McAllister; Home Missions Director Roy Thomas and coordinator Trymon Messer. Mr. Messer credited success for the conference to a widespread revival spirit preceding the North Modesto meeting coupled with an attitude of spiritual expectancy.

The practicality-oriented conference resulted not only in excitement and encouragement among pastors but also in several conversions.

Brother Messer analyzed, "I left the conference with a greater faith, a clearer vision and confidence that Free Will Baptists in California are going to make an impact for Christ in their state."

**WRITERS' CONTEST WINNERS  
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

NASHVILLE, TN—The second annual Writers' Contest, sponsored by Free Will Baptist Sunday School and Church Training Department, resulted in entries in six of the seven categories according to Assistant Director Malcolm Fry. Poetry Division garnered the most entries with 23. The following are first and second place winners in each category.

**SERMON**

1. Thurmon Murphy  
Dayton, Ohio
2. Bill M. Jones  
Moore, Oklahoma

**SHORT STORY**

1. Bill M. Jones  
Moore, Oklahoma
2. Anita Haney  
Guthrie, Kentucky

**POETRY**

1. Rebecca Purkey  
Chesterfield, Indiana
2. Joe D. Allen  
Guthrie, Kentucky

**TRACT**

1. Joe D. Allen  
Guthrie, Kentucky
2. James L. Carrington  
Washington, North Carolina

**PLAYS/SKITS**

1. Anita Haney  
Guthrie, Kentucky
2. Delores Payne  
Ina, Illinois

**BOOK**

1. Lois J. Peters  
Monticello, Florida
2. Steve Lytle  
El Dorado, Panama

**300 ATTEND  
FWBBC WELCOME DAYS**

NASHVILLE, TN—A record 307 visitors from 67 churches in 18 states attended Free Will Baptist Bible College's spring Welcome Days, April 12-14, according to Tom Sass, coordinator. This is a substantial increase over the 172 from 13 states who came to the school's first Welcome Days last fall.

Of the total number of visitors, 78 were sponsors and 229 were prospective students. Most visitors brought sleeping bags and shared rooms with FWBBC students. They visited classes, enjoyed a special choir/drama program and generally sampled campus life. When Welcome Days drew to a close, visitors voiced one nearly universal complaint: It was too short!

The 1979-80 Welcome Days will be held November 29-December 1, 1979, and April 10-12, 1980. Schedule the time that suits you best and reserve your place by writing:

Welcome Days  
Free Will Baptist Bible College  
Box 50117  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

**WHEN  
YOU GET  
READY TO  
BUILD . . .**

**Let us help you.**

Executive Church Bonds  
P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, TN 37202





## Currently . . .

Every once in awhile we publish an edition of *CONTACT* that, in spite of our best efforts, becomes a comedy of errors. The April issue is a prime example of how the error grinch invades the editor's office.

We reported a new pastor at **Sunset FWB Church** in **Bay Minette, AL**, but pastor **Gary Winsett** called to assure us he hasn't left and has no intentions of doing so. We've also received a number of telephone calls regarding another directory update change—**Roger Johnson** at **Mt. Trolley Church, Galivants Ferry, SC**. We apparently have Mr. Johnson coming from the wrong area to this church.

And then there's the case of two misplaced paragraphs in one of our articles, plus repeated information in the *Currently* column. Since it all happened in the April issue, the only thing we know to say is "April Fool! We really didn't mean it."

How many chapters of the Bible can 153 people read in a year? The answer is 79,659. That's how many chapters members of **Fairwood FWB Church, Fairfax Station, VA**, read during 51 weeks of 1978. Pastor **Lester Horton** said the group is pushing for 100,000 chapters in 1979. Horton's 79-year-old mother, **Maude Horton**, reads over 200 chapters each week.

Part of the excitement at **Central FWB Church, Huntington, WV**, on Easter Sunday was the 221 who attended. Another side of the excitement was the heavyweight offering received. Pastor **Carl Vallance** says ushers received \$12,513 from the congregation in a special resurrection offering.

Members of **Skiatook FWB Church, Skiatook, OK**, moved into a new sanctuary Easter morning. **Henry Braisher** pastors.

Pastor/evangelist **Wally Beebe** of Ruskin, FL, was featured speaker at **First FWB Church, Russellville, AR**, May 21. Beebe's bus outreach seminars have attracted large crowds throughout the United States. **Fred Warner** pastors.

For several months, the church at **Mena, AR**, was closed, but thanks to the efforts of **Bennie Fisher** and **Roger Osthoff**, the **Midway FWB Church** has now been reopened.

A plaque underscoring the generous contribution of **Unity Association** to Arkansas' youth camp was presented by **Jim Purcell**, State CTS Director. Unity Association, apart from giving by local churches and individuals, contributed in excess of \$11,000.

This is the second time a thief has broken into the office of **First FWB Church, Farmington, MO**, according to Pastor **James McAllister**. The April 5 break in resulted in over \$300 being stolen.

College Day became victory day March 4 at **Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, TN**. Besides including Free Will Baptist Bible College in its annual budget, the church sets aside two Sundays each year when all undesignated offerings go to the college. The March effort was to help ease short-term indebtedness. Cofer's surpassed its own record, giving a total of \$4,502. **Eugene Waddell** pastors.

Getting a vote of confidence sometimes results in a pastor being ousted by the congregation, but that's not a problem in **Petaluma, CA**. Pastor **Carl Young** was given a vote of confidence as he began his 23rd year leading **Petaluma FWB Church**. Pastor Young has seen the northern California congregation grow from a struggling handful to become one of California's leading churches.

**First FWB Church, Ardmore, OK**, has an accelerated method by which new members learn who other members are. Pastor **Delbert Akin** said 75 extra copies of pictorial church directories were printed. Every church family receives one. New members also are given a directory—not only naming members, but furnishing pictures as well.

**Bethel Bible Institute** has printed new red-and-gold brochures describing the school's outreach and total ministry. President **J. D. O'Donnell** invites interested persons to write the institute at Box 1226, Paintsville, KY 41240.

Members of **First FWB Church, Glasgow, KY**, have some radiant testimonies. What's more, they don't mind sharing them with the community. The church monthly publication usually carries one or more testimonies of members. Not only is this a good idea, but the

testimonies we've read have been well written. **John Gilliland** pastors.

"Black-out Night" lasted seven weeks at **Spencer Road FWB Church, Spencer, OK**. Due to the importance of church revival and an Easter pageant Pastor **Waldo Young** asked members to commit one night a week for seven consecutive weeks when they would not turn the television on but would give the time to prayer and preparation for revival. Enough black-out nights could get the attention of sponsors and change some television programming.

Those who have known **Roy Rikard** over the years and have marvelled at his ability to maintain such an incredible pace in the Lord's service will be slightly amused at the new cards Brother Rikard, now retired, had printed. In addition to his name, the card contains the following information: "No phone, no address, no business, no worries, no prospects, no money, no responsibility, and when I have the urge to exercise, I lie down until it passes over." The **Gastonia, NC**, minister is still very active in Free Will Baptist work.

**Eastern Oklahoma Conference on Evangelism** was hosted by **First FWB Church, Poteau, OK**, April 5-7. Conference theme was "Evangelism through the Sunday School." Highlighting the conference schedule was **Leon Kilbreth** of Sunday School Revivals, Herring, IL. Kilbreth is known across America as "Mr. Sunday School." He was joined on the conference program by West Tulsa Pastor, **Connie Cariker**, Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College President, **Bill Jones**, and Cavanaugh FWB Church Pastor **Carl Cheshire** of Fort Smith, AR.

Pastor **Billy Bevan** of **Tupelo FWB Church, Tupelo, MS**, wrote an interesting, hard-hitting editorial in his church paper, **The Reporter**. Bevan cautioned his congregation about doctrinal errors of the 700 Club which was saturating one of the local television channels reaching into his area. Bevan said, "I believe the 700 Club as well as PTL is very dangerous for many Christians. It is subtle, devious, and a dangerous tool that Satan is using to deceive many people."

Radio station **WBEX** carried a five-hour gospel program featuring **Chillicothe FWB Church, Chillicothe, OH**, in February. Pastor **Clifford Ball** says this type event usually happens three or four times a year in addition to his thrice-weekly radio broadcast.

Come to find out these holy land tours can be dangerous. Pastor **Winston Sweeney** took a spring trip to the Middle East. On the way from Jordan to Petra, after having unloaded and gone through certain check-points, an



explosive device was set off in the luggage compartment of one of the tour buses. No one was injured, but it does point up the dangers of international travel in tumultuous times. Sweeney pastors **Fellowship FWB Church, Kingsport, TN.**

**Joe Ange**, director of the Christian Service Department at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN, was the resource person at the April 5-7 evangelism conference sponsored by middle Tennessee Free Will Baptist churches. **Mt. Zion FWB Church, Joelton, TN**, hosted the conference.

**Alvin Hook** reports 18 attended the first services at a new Free Will Baptist work in **Blue Springs, MO.** The March 11 service was conducted at Blue Springs Community Center. Hook is interested in receiving names and addresses of your friends or relatives who may live in the Blue Springs area. He can be reached at P.O. Box 443, Blue Springs, MO 64015, telephone number 816-228-4213.

**Tim Young** and family arrived in **Lansing, MI**, January 9 to begin a new Free Will Baptist church sponsored by Michigan's **Wolverine Association.** Brother Young says, "We are starting the work from scratch. Until recently we had nothing at all—no place to meet, no people, no materials." He, too, requests prayer for the work and names and addresses of anyone you might know in the area. His address is P.O. Box 22061, Lansing, MI 48910.

**First FWB Church, Tuscon, AZ**, has opened the Wee Care Day Center, a new ministry of the church. Pastor **Dan O'Donnell** said the center is licensed as a day care center.

The mission work at **Globe, AZ**, has had a difficult existence. But **Johnny Williams** is working with the church now and things are looking up. The group averages 20 and has had a high of 43.

**Donalsonville, FWB Church, Donalsonville, GA**, celebrated the conclusion of a six-month remodeling program by dedicating their remodeled building. Pastor **Cecil Mock** led the service. Visiting speaker was **Billy Sharpston**, pastor of Bellview FWB Church, Colquitt, GA.

**CONTACT** welcomes **Sunrise**, publication of **First FWB Church, Tulare, CA.** **Ron Scott** pastors.

The **North Florida Ministerial Fellowship** was organized February 5 at **Lake Jackson FWB Church, Tallahassee.** Members elected **J. D. Norris** president.

In a March 6 meeting at **Garner FWB Church, Garner, NC**, the **Randall Association Master's Men** was organized with a membership of four churches. Thirty-three men from **Garner, Tippet's Chapel, Unity**, and **West Calvary** Free Will Baptist churches met for the session. National Master's Men board member, **Lee Thomas** brought the devotional message. **Jack Forlines** was elected president. Secretary **Carl McCabe** says, "We trust that other Master's Men chapters will organize into district associa-

tions and share the blessings of fellowship with Master's men of other churches.

Youth of **Calvary Fellowship FWB Church, Trenton, MO**, raised over \$600 for the church building fund in an 18-hour rock-a-thon. Pastor **Jerry Norris** says 13 church youth participated in the event.

Two Free Will Baptist pastors conducted a one-hour talk show on television station GTG, **Goldsboro, NC**, in March. Pastor **George Lee** of **Victory FWB Church** and visiting evangelist **Winston Sweeney** of Kingsport, TN, were on the tube for an hour talking, preaching, and singing.

A conference featuring Home Missions work was sponsored by Florida's **Indian River Association Home Mission Board** April 4-7. **Cocoa FWB Church, Cocoa, FL**, hosted the conference. Speakers were **Jim Turnbough** of Enterprise, AL, and **Norlin Jones** of Daytona Beach.

Evangelist **Calvin Evans** of **Pedro, OH**, has signed a contract with the National Christian Network of Cocoa, FL, to air his program on Sundays from 3:30 until 4:00 p.m. According to Evans, the program will be broadcast to some 2,000 cable systems across the nation via satellite later this year. **Evangelistic Outreach Incorporated** (Evans' organization) will become a member of the National Christian Network, and Evans will serve on the board of advisors.

**Walnut Street FWB Church, Fort Smith, AR**, passed a resolution that is very likely one-of-a-kind. The congregation voted to allow Pastor **Leonard Crowder** and his wife to live in the present parsonage until they die. The church felt the difference in giving the preacher the parsonage is that the church will keep it up and no taxes will have to be paid by the preacher or any insurance either. That's quite an incentive to remain at one pastorate for a long time. Of course, it took a great deal of confidence on the part of the church to issue that kind of resolution. It also takes a special kind of confidence on the part of a pastor to agree to stay.

Vandals struck **College Lakes FWB Church, Fayetteville, NC.** According to Pastor **Bobby Smith**, the intruders poured anti-freeze on bus seats, broke three stained glass windows and a bus headlight.

**Choctaw FWB Church, Choctaw, OK**, observed ground-breaking ceremonies March 25. Pastor **Jerry Dudley** and his congregation have passed a major plateau in constructing a new church.

"Our little church building runneth over," writes **Larry Russell** from **Baton Rouge, LA.** The national home missions worker reported the primary class meeting on a bus because they outgrew their classroom when they hit 20. Pre-school class enrollment has hit 12.

Russell reports morning worship averaging in the 70's.

Last year at **Wesconnett FWB Church, Jacksonville, FL**, it was the cookie monster that struck. This year it's the cracker monster. The **Keebler Company** furnished approximately 700 boxes of onion crackers for the church. Pastor **Howard Bass** says the church in turn shared the crackers with **Free Will Baptist Children's Home** in **Greeneville, TN.**

The spring tour of **Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College's** choir resulted in more than 2300 people in 12 Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas churches attending concerts.

There's a new church near **McMinnville, TN.** It was started by **Kenneth Kirby** in the suburb **Newtown.** Kirby said this is the second Free Will Baptist church in Tennessee's Warren County. He also organized the first church in McMinnville. **Victory FWB Church** began in March and averages in the 30's. Services have been conducted at the **Community Improvement Club.** The church had 34 in attendance on Easter Sunday with an Easter offering of \$198. Their Tuesday night Bible club began with 22 and has grown each night since.

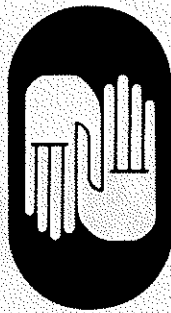
**CONTACT** welcomes **The Small Voice**, publication of **Bloss Memorial FWB Church, Arlington, VA.** **Murray Southwell** pastors.

Here's another break-in story. It seems that only the quick work of **Moore, OK**, policemen saved the public address system of **First FWB Church.** Police observed two men carrying off the PA system on a Thursday night. They caught one of the men outside and the other inside the building. **Dan Farmer** pastors.

The **National Home Missions Board** sponsored a graduation banquet for the graduating seniors of Free Will Baptist Bible College. After a dinner courtesy of the mission board, Associate Director **Trymon Messer** spoke at length to the assembled guests.

**Cliff Holland** says he thought the first service at **Albuquerque FWB Church, Albuquerque, NM**, would never happen. What caused his doubt was the night of the first scheduled get-acquainted meeting, Brother Holland suffered a kidney stone attack and was rushed to the hospital. Undaunted, they scheduled a second meeting, only to be greeted by four inches of snow. Even the third session was snow-plagued, but the Lord sent 40 to the grand opening anyhow. The church sent special thanks to **First FWB Church, Florence, AL**, for purchasing 52 folding chairs and shipping them to New Mexico. ▲

# DIRECTORY UPDATE



*Thank You for  
Your Gifts to the...*

## ARKANSAS

Bob Francis to First Church, Star City from Home Mission work in Minnesota

Bobby Cox to Pine Hill Church, Star City

## CALIFORNIA

Harry Hernandez to Greenfield Church, Greenfield

## FLORIDA

Harvey Henderson to First Church, Panama City from Corinth Church, Midland City, AL

## OKLAHOMA

Herbert Rogers to East Tulsa Church, Tulsa

William Phillips to First Church, Barnsdall

Bill Jones to Calvary Church, Norman from Hillsdale FWB College, Moore

Jack Markland to Cincinnati Church, Tulsa

Earl Judd to Oilton Church, Oilton from Community Church, Kiefer

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Elro Driggers to Bethany Church, Timmonsville from Woodbine Church, Nashville, TN

## TENNESSEE

Jim Walker to Woodbine Church, Nashville from Bethel Church, South Roxana, IL

## OTHER PERSONNAL

Dave Chamberlin to First Church, Jesup, GA, as minister of music and youth

Jim Cook to First Church, Poteau, OK, as associate pastor

Dwight Whitworth to Tupelo Church, Tupelo, MS, as minister of music

## COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT March, 1979

### RECEIPTS:

State	Mar. '79		Mar. '78	Yr. to date
	Co-op	Design.		
Alabama	\$	\$	\$ 12.53	\$ 489.34
Arizona	398.75		531.20	398.75
Arkansas	1,775.39		1,771.15	7,476.69
California	825.61	(825.61)	1,068.66	2,634.52
Florida	293.85	(277.19)	292.43	993.57
Georgia	382.00	(67.00)	372.41	1,249.16
Idaho				193.50
Illinois	146.13		1,731.02	2,206.75
Iowa	391.03			851.62
Kansas	208.50		206.65	380.01
Kentucky	175.00			175.00
Maryland			40.00	163.45
Michigan			60.30	1,130.71
Mississippi	138.48		98.49	318.04
Missouri	4,663.63	(4,663.63)	5,506.02	10,039.59
New Mexico	26.73			48.59
North Carolina	377.93	(79.00)	161.15	821.67
Northwest Assoc.			131.34	261.76
Ohio	736.00		800.00	1,654.00
Oklahoma	5,614.46	(5,583.84)	10,910.95	16,568.43
Tennessee	576.07		646.36	3,314.47
Texas	169.30		162.50	610.59
Virgin Islands	197.00		123.00	533.00
Virginia	32.17		35.00	155.89
West Virginia	10.82		16.30	31.55
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 17,138.85</b>		<b>\$ 24,677.46</b>	<b>\$ 52,700.65</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 7,260.63	\$(1,862.38)	\$ 6,882.57	\$ 21,648.51
Foreign Missions	3,844.90	(3,773.08)	6,265.72	11,761.01
Bible College	2,187.54	(2,121.53)	3,674.95	6,652.25
Home Missions	2,229.73	(2,196.54)	3,485.70	6,530.19
Church Training Serv.			1,989.39	
Retirement & Ins.	1,007.80	(960.16)	1,559.26	3,705.09
Layman's Board	474.84	(450.42)	665.38	1,833.05
Commission on Theological Liberalism	133.41	(132.16)	154.49	392.20
Other Ministries				178.35
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 17,138.85</b>		<b>\$ 24,677.46</b>	<b>\$ 52,700.65</b>

# We Are Not Animals



## PART X

By Leroy Forlines

Those who have been reading this series will recall that I believe in a four-value approach to Christian ethics: holiness, love, wisdom and ideals. In this article, I want to introduce a discussion on ideals.

Holiness deals with right and wrong. This gives it inflexibility. Christian ethics goes beyond concern for right and wrong. Love is sensitive to how things we do affect other people. Wisdom is concerned with sound judgment. This involves a concern with the way actions affect testimony. Christian ethics must have strong emphasis on love and wisdom. Yet, love and wisdom have room for flexibility.

Christian ethics must also have a strong emphasis on ideals. Ideals are concerned with excellence and that which is lovely or pleasing (see Philippians 1:10 and 4:8). We cannot dwell long on thoughts about God without thinking of excellence (see Psalm 8:1).

Ideals are concerned with refinement, manners, good taste, dignity and poise. Our generation

witnessed a reaction to much of what belongs in the ideals category. Perhaps the strongest reaction was seen among 1960's hippies. This influence is still evident, especially among those of high school and college age.

While the hippie influence is more visible in this age group, it is by no means restricted to it. The declining ideals influence originated from sources other than hippie communes. The hippie phenomenon was the product of something else . . . the influx of non-Christian philosophies.

Movements do not just happen. They grow out of the way people think. It is no accident that people who take the Bible and Jesus Christ seriously have a different life style from those who do not. As Christians, we believe we are created in God's image (see Genesis 1:26). We are members of God's family (see John 1:12). This gives value to man.

By taking into account who we are and who God is, we have an interest in how we look. We want to show that as God's creations and members of God's family we care about how we look and conduct our-

selves. These concerns rise naturally out of our beliefs.

There are contrary philosophies that have won many to their viewpoints. In the western world, for the most part these philosophies have taken the form of naturalism or humanism. Naturalism views all that exists as the product of natural causes and effects. Naturalism either denies the existence of God or does not have a God who is active in the affairs of men. According to naturalism, man is the product of evolution. He is highest in the animal kingdom.

Christian values still strongly influence the thinking of many in our society who are naturalists. However, the more people follow naturalism the farther away they get from Christian values. It is obvious that a person who views himself as an animal will not have as high value of himself as one who believes he is created by God and is a member of God's family by redemption. It is not hard to see how two quite different life styles emerge from these conflicting views of man.

Humanism is usually related to naturalism, but is mainly concerned

with how man finds answers to life's basic questions. In humanism, man does not receive knowledge from God as "giver." Rather, man begins with himself and seeks to discover the answers to man's questions without any message from God.

The farther humanism goes, the more it becomes separated from the influence of Christianity and the greater conflicts which surface between Christian values and humanism. To the humanist man is on the sea of life with no meaning. There are no standards. Each person is a law unto himself.

It is obvious the life styles of such people must be drastically different from Christians who receive meaning and values from God in the Bible.

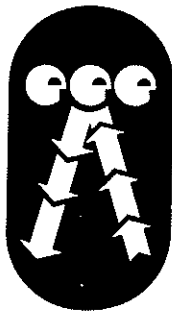
The conflict over life styles in our day arises out of far more than differences in personal tastes. It emerges in many instances out of a totally different view of man, life, meaning and the ultimate source of things.

In ideals we have more flexibility than in other values. However, this does not mean we can take an indifferent attitude. We cannot approve shabbiness and sloppiness. We cannot afford to dress in such a way that we lose respect of people even though the dress may not be immoral.

If we expect to have an impact on people, we must give attention to making our appearance acceptable. Clothing and hair styles frequently have symbolic value. They may convey a message contrary to the Christian message. If we could consider clothing and hair styles apart from their message, they might be harmless. But when they convey an unchristian message, they are not harmless.

God says in Zephaniah 1:8, "I will punish . . . all such as are clothed in strange apparel." The strange apparel referred to dressing like members of a foreign nation. Such dress separately considered might have been alright, but it tended to convey a sympathy for the ways of a heathen nation and was thus forbidden.

We must be alert to the values and influences behind what is happening. ▲



## NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

### NEW TESTAMENT REQUIRED READING FOR BRAZILIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN

SOUTH HOLLAND, IL (EP)—The Living New Testament will soon be a required textbook for 200,000 students in a small Brazilian state northeast of Rio de Janeiro. Professor Edilson Amaral, secretary of education of the rural state of Espirito Santo (meaning "state of the Holy Spirit") requested recently that the World Home Bible League print and distribute 200,000 New Testaments to be used to teach religion to public school children aged 12 and older.

Many of the state's 400,000 predominantly Roman Catholic students have never owned or read the Bible, particularly a modern paraphrase version, according to the Rev. Chester Schemper, South American director of the World Home Bible League, headquartered in South Holland, Illinois. One hundred and eight pastors of the Brazilian Baptist Convention agreed unanimously to assist in placing the Bibles and in teaching the religion courses.

Amaral, a member of the Brazilian Baptist Church, requested the New Testaments for his schools after a similar program was begun in the Rio de Janeiro school system.

Unlike the United States, where separation of church and state regulations ban the use of the Bible to teach religion in classrooms, several South American countries have sanctioned the use of New Testaments as teaching tools. The World Home Bible League has also provided one million New Testaments for the Bolivian school system since 1974 after a Wycliffe Bible translator's friendship with a colonel in the Bolivian army resulted in his conversion. Bibles are also used as textbooks in schools in Arequipa, Peru, where the director of religious education conducts a regular training session for teachers who are encouraged to "work toward conversion" of their students, Schemper said.

Teachers in Rio de Janeiro report that students are eagerly reading their New Testaments and some are taking them home to be read by family members. One teacher, when asked whether the New Testaments were effective in the classroom said, "I do not know how it is affecting the students, but I wandered far from God. After receiving the New Testament for the classroom, I began reading it myself, and I have been brought back."

### OLFORD JOINS NAE AS MINISTER-AT-LARGE

ORLANDO, FL (EP)—Dr. Stephen F. Olford, well-known expository preacher and radio broadcaster, has accepted the position of minister-at-large with the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE). The announcement was made at the closing banquet of NAE's annual convention in Orlando Thursday night.

A superb communicator, Dr. Olford comes to NAE from his position as president and minister-at-large of Encounter Ministries, Inc., Holmes Beach, Florida, where he has served for the past five years.

"We've watched this new avenue of ministry for both Dr. Olford and NAE being formed by God," said Dr. Billy A. Melvin, NAE Executive Director. "Through this appointment we hope to bring Dr. Olford's God-given gifts to the larger evangelical community through NAE's resources.

"We firmly believe God will bless what He has begun."

Prior to joining Encounter in 1973, Dr. Olford served as pastor of the historic Calvary Baptist Church in New York City for 14 years; and before that as the minister of the Duke Street Baptist Church in London. During his ministry at Calvary, Dr. Olford gained worldwide recognition as the voice of the "Calvary Church Hour" radio program.

His current radio program, "Encounter," was also begun while serving the New York pastorate.

Dr. Olford's responsibilities as NAE minister-at-large will include a weekly 30-minute radio broadcast, seminars with pastors and seminarians, speaking engagements at NAE sponsored events and some writing.

### FORMER 'MOONIE' SUES, COLLECTS \$16,732 FROM UNIFICATION CHURCH

SALEM, OR (EP)—A former member of the Unification Church collected \$16,732 from it because the Church failed to return his belongings. He is Christopher Rudie, 24, who left the Church in 1976 after being "deprogrammed." His brother, Peter Rudie, Salem lawyer who represented him, expressed belief that he is the first plaintiff to collect money from the Church founded by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

Christopher Rudie said he was a "Moonie" for 2½ years and "made \$70,000 for them and they took all my personal possessions." He said he sued to "recoup losses and finance my college education."



### ABORTIONS WORLWIDE NUMBER 30 MILLION, INSTITUTE SAYS

NEW YORK (EP)—More than 30 million legal abortions are performed worldwide each year, with more than 1 million of them in the United States, according to a report by The Alan Guttmacher Institute, an affiliate of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Since the 1973 United States Supreme Court ruling liberalizing abortion, more than 5 million United States women have obtained legal abortions in 3,000 clinics, hospitals and physicians offices, the report said.

The number of legal abortions in the United States has increased from about 745,000 in 1973 to 1.3 million in 1977. In recent years, United States women have terminated almost 3 out of 10 pregnancies by abortion.

"United States women obtain legal abortions at a somewhat higher rate than women in Canada and Western European countries, the Guttmacher report said, "but at a considerably lower rate than do women in Cuba, Japan, the Soviet Union and most Eastern European countries."

### ONE-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS PREDICTED FOR NEARLY HALF OF 1978 CHILDREN

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—Some 45 percent of children born last year in the United States may live part of their childhood with only one parent because of the rising divorce rate, according to a Census Bureau prediction.

Census analysts Paul Glick and Arthur Norton said 43 percent of black youngsters are already growing up in one-parent households. Their predictions appeared in the current issue of American Demographics magazine.

Because of the high divorce rate in the overall population, "we have estimated that 45 percent of all children born in 1978 will become members of one-parent families, for a while at least, before they reach the age of 18 years, if present circumstances continue, they said. "That is indeed a very large minority and the subject of concern for many about the potential damage to children and future society."

### RELIGIOUS CONSTRUCTION REPORTED NUDGING UPWARD AGAIN AFTER DROP

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—Religious construction continued to nudge upward in 1978, but still amounted to less than half of what it had been a decade earlier, according to the United States Department of Commerce.

For the second year in a row, construction costs topped a billion dollars, amounting to 1,244,000,000 in 1978. Aaron Sabghir, of the Commerce Department's Bureau of Domestic Business Development, predicts that the increase in religious construction will continue in 1979 and may reach \$1.4 billion.

Included as religious construction are churches, synagogues, funeral parlors, mausoleums, crematoriums, parish educational facilities (excluding elementary and secondary schools), convents, monasteries and seminaries.

### BOWLING ALLEY REFUSES BUSINESS OF NON-DRINKING CHURCH TEAM

BLOOMINGTON, MN (EP)—A bowling alley has refused to renew a contract with a church bowling team because its members don't drink beer.

Gordon D. Biehl of South Covenant Church here said that the bowling alley "management feels it does not make enough money off bowling and depends on beer-drinkers to make a profit." The church team had bowled at the same place for 15 years, but the alley recently came under new management.

"I wasn't aware that liquor licenses also permitted discrimination against non-drinkers," Mr. Biehl said. "It seems to me that our city fathers should look into the issuing of liquor licenses to businesses which discriminate in this manner."

### TV PROGRAM ON FAITH HEALING FORBIDDEN TO MENTAL PATIENTS

JOHNSON CITY, NY (EP)—Patients in the psychiatric unit at Wilson Hospital here are forbidden to watch "The PTL Club" television program because of what hospital officials describe as a "disturbing effect" on some patients.

Dr. Q.D. Schubmehl, chairman of the psychiatric department, told a reporter for the Binghamton (NY) Press that "many of our patients do have serious problems and we find that (the PTL show) has exaggerating pre-existing symptoms."

According to Dr. Schubmehl, the program promotes the idea that "if you had faith, you wouldn't be sick." He said that "the suggested interpretation by patients is one of anti-physician and anti-medical. Maybe, it's not anti-physician or anti-medical, but it at least puts things in a way that you can get better through faith alone."

### COURT RULES 'HEBREW CHRISTIANS' CANNOT CLAIM ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP

JERUSALEM (EP)—The Israeli Supreme Court has ruled that a "Hebrew Christian" woman cannot be considered a Jew under the Law of Return because she believes that Jesus was the Messiah.

It ruled in a case brought by Eileen Dorflinger, 35, of Connecticut, who was refused Israeli citizenship although she had applied for it under the Law of Return on the ground that her American parents were Jewish.

Under the Israeli Law of Return, a Jew is defined as "a person born to a Jewish mother or who has become converted to Judaism, and who is not a member of another religion." While Ms. Dorflinger said she believed Jesus was the Messiah, she asserted that she remained a Jew.

The Interior Ministry had indicated that Ms. Dorflinger was associated with the "Jews for Jesus" movement, which it described as "the operator of a ruse to bring Christianity's message to our nation and make Jews renounce their religion."

### CHINESE TO RETURN \$19.4 MILLION TO U.S. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—Thirty American religious organizations will be compensated \$19.4 million for property confiscated by Chinese Communists in 1949 under a United States agreement with the People's Republic of China. The total represents about one-fourth of \$80.5 million the Chinese government has agreed to pay to American claimants. Seven of the 31 religious groups will receive more than \$1 million, according to the United States Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

The Congregation of the Mission (Vincentian Fathers) will be reimbursed \$6.1 million. Lingnan University, a private Christian school once in Canton, will receive \$5.7 million. The United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, a consortium of Christian university claimants, will receive \$2.3 million.

The American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, will receive \$2.4 million; the Board of World Missions, United Presbyterian Church in the United States, Nashville, \$1.7 million; the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's, Emmitsburg, Maryland, \$1.3 million; and the Young Men's Christian Association, \$2.2 million.

Payment will be made over a five-year period, with the first payment of \$30 million to be made by October 1 and the balance in five equal yearly installments. ▲



# No Energy Crisis Here

By Delois Loveless

While we were living in Atlanta, Georgia, an electrical storm knocked out an electric transformer. We were suddenly without many appliances we had taken for granted. The electric clock stopped. The stove was useless. The refrigerator got warm and we had no ice.

Man's electrical power can fail but God's power never fails. What if He suddenly withdrew His love and power from our lives! Who would heal the sick? Who would comfort the broken-hearted? Who would protect us from the evils of Satan? Who would guide us in our major decisions?

We go through life enjoying our jobs, health and good friends. Then it seems that everything reverses: our health fails; business is lost and our friends forget us. What should we do?

If we are Christians, we still have the same great God to help us. When our electricity went off, the service men were soon at the trouble spot and had it repaired. We should remember in troublesome times that the source of our strength and power is just as great as ever. We fail when we neglect to call upon that power and grow bitter as we turn away from God's help.

It is harmful to have a power failure for just a few moments, but it is foolish for a Christian to turn away for a long period of time saying, "I have been hurt. God has neglected me and I will not worship Him again."

When the power seems gone from your life, do you wish you knew One strong enough to hold your burdens so you could rest?

I Samuel 10:7b assures "God is with thee." We know that God has a purpose for all things. We do foolish things at times and blame them on God. He knows the choices we should make even when we fail to ask Him.

To call on the power of God for help, we must first give Him our hearts. If our hearts belong to God, we are His children.

God asks for our hearts because He owns all other things. But we are free agents and can withhold our hearts from Him.

After we have given our hearts to Him, we need a powerline of prayer and Bible study that is always in good repair. These are two simple things, yet they keep us strong and able to meet life.

There are forces in the world that try to break our powerline. Sin will burden it down until there is a break in communication. Uncertainty about life wrecks a Christian. Fear, depression and guilt will destroy our powerline. When we feel these things gripping our lives, we must put them behind us.

Psalms 55:22 concludes, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

How wonderful it was when our electricity came back on that day. We turned on the lights, cooked good warm food. It was a joy to have power again.

When you feel there has been a power failure in your life, turn back to the source of all power, Jesus Christ. How happy you will be! You will try to help others and seek to give rather than receive.

Working in the Ambassador Bible Bookstore these four and one-half years has been a real blessing to my life. I had never realized the ministry of a Christian bookstore. I would like to suggest a few books to you ladies.

*Lord, Change Me* by Evelyn Christiansen is a great book. *You Can Be the Wife of a Happy Husband*, by Daren Cooper, is excellent. *For Women Only* by Peterson is inspiring. For the pastor's wife *The Unprivate Life of a Pastor's Wife*, by Frances Nordland is a must. She gives many helpful thoughts for the minister's wife.

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Delois Loveless is a member of Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Loveless works with her husband, Alton, in Ambassador Book Store which is owned by the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists. She writes the monthly women's page for *AMBASSADOR* magazine. ▲

**CONTACT**

**P. O. Box 1088**

**Nashville, Tennessee 37202**

Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee

# Church Directory

**ON SALE JULY, 1979**

**1979 Edition**

**still \$4 each**

**A Listing of Churches and  
Pastors with Addresses and  
Telephone Numbers.**

**ORDER FROM**

**Your nearest Free Will Baptist Bookstore**

**or**

**Randall Bookstore**

**P.O. Box 17306**

**Nashville, Tennessee 37217.**



**ORDER YOUR COPY  
TODAY!**