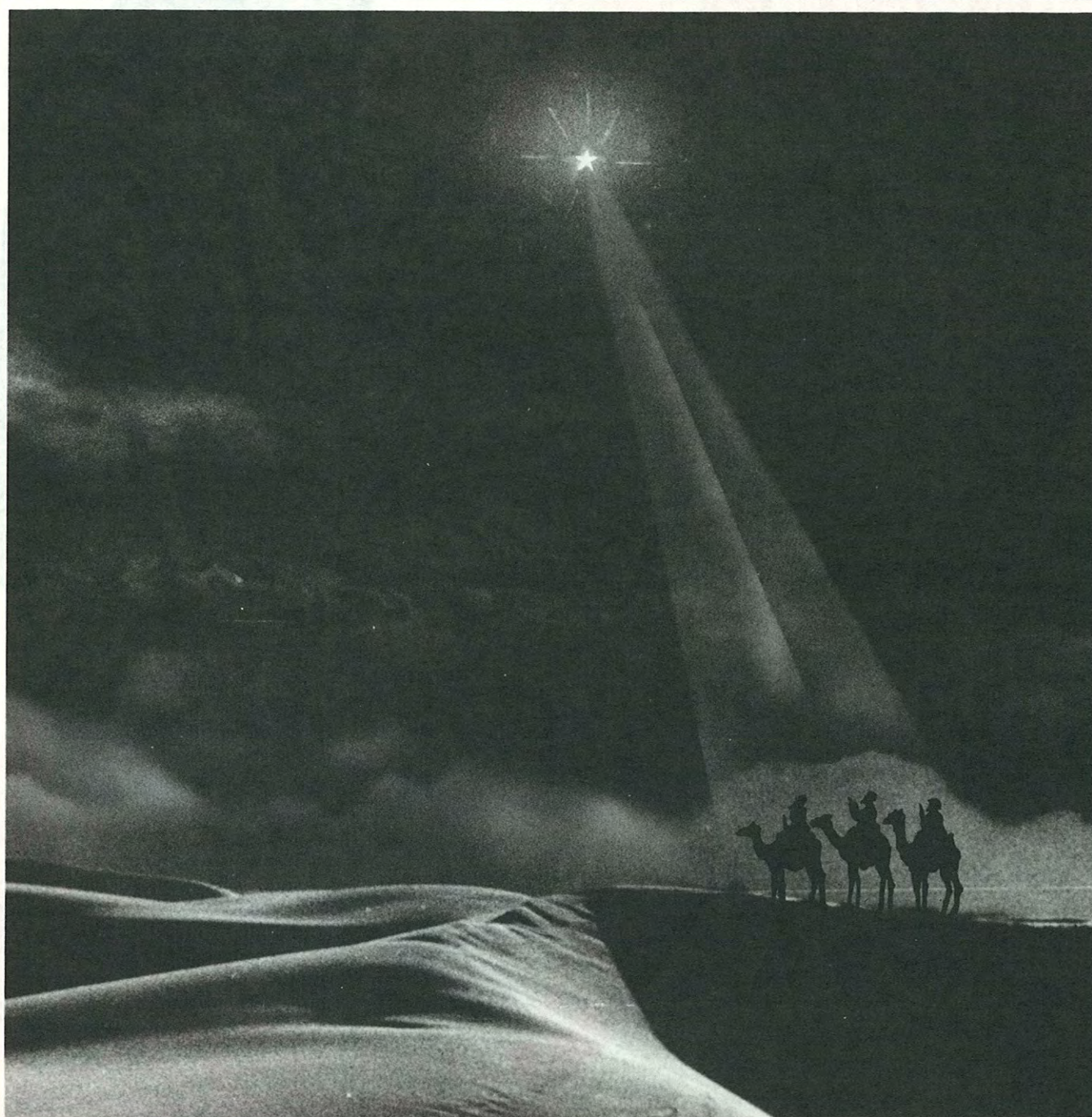


December 1988

Contact



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



The Lost Man of Christmas

By Dennis Henderson



Do you know me? Most of you do, but few have heard what I am about to tell you.

My family was part of the Jewish migration from Judea to Galilee that began during the time of Maccabean ruler Aristobulus. We were zealous Jews eager to bring our religion to pagan Galileans. Though we lived in the small town of Nazareth, we kept our ties with our hometown in Judea.

My father was a carpenter and taught me the trade as well. It was common to pass these skills from generation to generation. I looked forward to the day when I could teach my son all the different cuts, joints and other skills of woodworking.

Our family was well known in Nazareth and we were active in the synagogue. The custom was for a man to have an established livelihood, money and a place to live before becoming engaged. Men didn't usually get married too young, because times were hard and it took a long time to get into financial position to be married.

But ready or not, I met her in the marketplace one day. Her name was Mary. She was young and beautiful, and when my eyes met hers I had that butterfly feeling in my stomach. I had known her and her family for years, but I never noticed her until now. Suddenly, she had become a woman. I couldn't believe it.

I wanted to be with her all the time. Before long we were engaged. We celebrated with a joyous party where I gave her a gold necklace as a seal of my love. The whole town was excited for us and all our friends were planning the big synagogue wedding. We had to wait though because the engagement according to Jewish law was one year.

This allowed time for the husband to prepare a place to live which I had already done by adding on to my father's house. Another reason was to give time to prove the virginity of the bride. This wasn't an issue for us. We both loved God and had committed ourselves to remaining pure. I was certain no other man had been in her life.

Engagement was like marriage; divorce was required to break it. If I had died before we were married, she would have been a widow. Infidelity during this time was considered adultery and the woman could be made a public example disgracing both her and her family.

Other Jewish couples had waited, so would we.

This next part of my life is not only difficult, but almost impossible to relate in words. One day Mary said she had something important to tell me. We walked to a hillside on a beautiful moonlit night. Like a fist in the stomach, her words hit me. She was pregnant!

I couldn't speak. I could hear my heart beating as I began to perspire, and thoughts flooded my brain faster than I could handle them. Emotions I never knew were present within me began to explode as my tears erupted. I was hurt, shocked, disappointed, confused, devastated, angry.

She said something about an angel appearing to her and telling her she would have the Son of God. Did she expect me to believe that? The possibility of her being with another man haunted my mind.

We hurried back to her house without speaking. That night I didn't sleep well. I knew what had to be done according to the law, but I still loved Mary so much that I could not imagine bringing her and her family to public shame. I decided to divorce her as quietly as possible. All our plans and dreams were shattered. Hopelessness engulfed me.

You will not believe what happened next. As I dozed restlessly, an angel appeared in a dream. I don't know if it was the same angel Mary described to me, but he told me the same story. He said I should not be afraid to take Mary as my wife. She had conceived by the Holy Spirit and the Baby she would have would be named Jesus and He would save His people from their sins.

What did I do then? What would you do if an angel appeared and told you what he told me? I arose the next morning and ran to Mary's house. She met me at the door expecting the worst. After I described my experience, we both knew we had been chosen for a unique mission. We married and agreed she would remain a virgin until the child was born.

We could not be influenced by what people would think. There was no purpose in trying to explain the angelic visitations. No one would believe us anyway. You know what response we would have received had we commu-

Contents

December 1988

- 2 The Lost Man of Christmas**
Dennis Henderson
- 4 A New Occupation?**
M. J. Pritchard
- 5 Briefcase: Cowboys, Co-op and Catfish**
Jack Williams
- 7 They've Stolen Baby Jesus!**
David Copeland
- 8 Just for the Joy of It**
Brenda Evans
- 10 Free Will Baptist Newsfront**
- 12 Currently**
- 13 The Department Pages**
- 20 Top Shelf**
Thomas Marberry
- 21 Teen Scene**
- 22 On Little Lanes**
Donna Mayo
- 23 Without Christ**
Floyd Wolfenbarger
- 24 Green Tree Bible Study**
Robert E. Picirilli
- 25 Index**
- 29 Especially For Young Preachers**
Dennis Wiggs
- 30 Religious Community News**
- 30 Meet D. L. Moody**
Alton Loveless
- 31 No Other Name**
Melvin Worthington

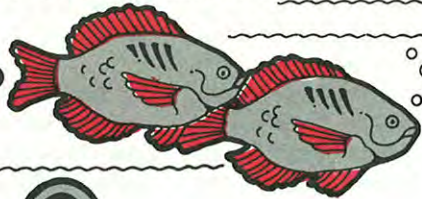
Editor-in-chief: Dr. Melvin Worthington
Editor: Jack Williams
Editorial Assistant: Marilyn Pritchard
Circulation: Geneva Trotter
Cover Photo: H. Armstrong Roberts

Volume XXXV, No. 12

CONTACT (ISSN 0573-7796), published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37217. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Phone 615/361-1010. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$9.50; church family plan \$8.00 per year; church bundle plan \$8.50 per year. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright privileges, reserved ©, 1988 Member of the Evangelical Press Association. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CONTACT, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. USPS 130-660

A New Occupation?

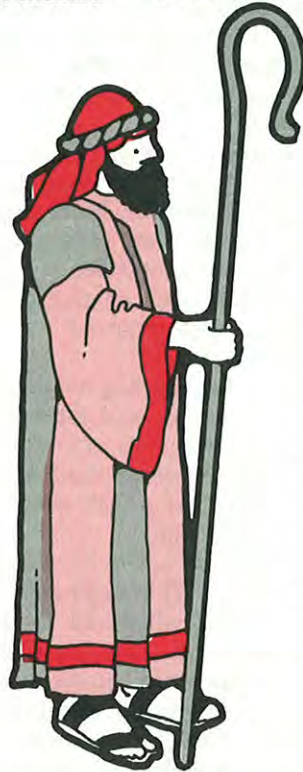
By M. J. Pritchard



He was a fisherman, accustomed to dropping his nets into the depths to snare unseen fish. Then the Master said, "Feed my lambs." And then (twice), "Feed my sheep." He told a fisherman to act like a shepherd!

Peter remembered Jesus telling him, "You shall be fishers of men." So he wasn't to stop searching the depths for the unseen. But now the Lord introduced a new dimension to Peter's fishing—"Feed my lambs," and "Feed my sheep." Is this a contradiction of terms? No, just the next logical step.

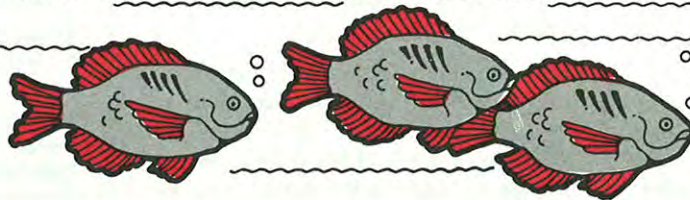
The shepherd knows each lamb, each sheep individually. The best shepherds know each sheep by name.



Those in their flocks aren't unknown fish in unseen depths waiting to be snared. They are known lambs and sheep needing care.

Jesus didn't tell Peter to stop bringing in the new ones (by fishing). He told him not to neglect those already in (by shepherding). Whether they're new converts (lambs)—the little ones, or whether they're older, more mature Christians (sheep), they need feeding and care.

So the Good Shepherd spoke to the big, burly, tough fisherman and told him to be gentle, tender and caring. He gave the fisherman a new occupation—that of the shepherd.



Lost Man . . . (from page 3)

nicated that Mary was carrying a child conceived by the Holy Spirit. It would have been as positive as the response Noah had when he proclaimed there would be a flood after 40 days of rain when it had never rained.

Things had not worked out as we had planned, but we were happy about our marriage and the future birth of Jesus. We didn't understand all that was taking place, and we did a lot of praying asking God for strength and peace to carry out His directive of parenting His Son. We felt unworthy and inadequate. Sometimes I wondered what I could teach God's Son. Would he be interested in my carpentry?

"Oh God," I asked, "How can I be the earthly father of Your only Son?"

You know the rest of the story about the birth of Jesus, the shepherds and the wise men. I know that often I am hardly mentioned during the Christmas story. Mary and the Baby are the focus. At first, I wanted to say, "Hey, everybody, I am Jesus' father!"

But God covered me with the peace that He had chosen me for a reason. Maybe He knew that I didn't need applause of people to be faithful to Him. Just think, God didn't select a rich man or a brilliant one to be the earthly father of His Son. He didn't provide a luxurious birthing place and He didn't invite the elite or powerful to be the first to see His Son. He used simple things and plain people like me to get the job done. If I occupy a lonely place in history I am not alone, for those who choose to be

servants of God find their significance in Him.

I completed my task of raising Jesus. I missed His public ministry and death, but somehow I always knew my job would be to see Him to adulthood. That I did with great honor and joy.

Now you know my side of the Christmas story.

Joseph

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Dennis Henderson is a doctoral student at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, Portland Oregon. Reverend Henderson, an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, has pastored in Texas and South Carolina. The 1975 Free Will Baptist Bible College graduate is studying for his doctor of psychology degree in clinical psychology.

Cowboys, Co-op and Catfish

Briefcase

The ultimate surprise gift came that first Christmas. No, not the angel choir. Not the wise men. Not even the bright star. That's all wrapping paper. The gift that changed everything was the man-child born in Bethlehem.

This world has never been the same. Who would have thought that the Boy from Bethlehem would add a New Testament to the Old Testament? That He would forever divide time, set armies marching and churn out millions of books? That He could launch worldwide evangelism, inspire preachers and poets, and restore hope to a tired, dirty world? Who indeed!

That first Christmas gift was exactly what the world needed. When was the last time you gave a present and later discovered it was the perfect gift?

This year I'd like to give surprise gifts to some special people. Come on, you can look over my shoulder while I check my list.

For my denomination.

Let's start with a sleigh full of tolerance for the differences that exist among us. Tolerance frees us to turn our energies toward the lost instead of labeling one another. Then our wise men from the East and West could sit down together as equals and plan global missions strategy.

Next, I'd place in every stocking a simple financial package that works. Begin with tithing, then start each church on a fully-assembled cooperative plan to underwrite denominational outreach. And for those who pull the wheels off their cooperative plan, I'd include batteries to power designated-giving vehicles.

Finally, I'd wrap an educational vision inside a wide-angle lens that sees why we need Free Will Baptist colleges from Raleigh to Fresno. I'd take away the zoom lens that focuses on ulterior motives and finds flaws in every new idea. And I'd include the courage to design educational programs for the 1990's, not the 1940's.

For my pastor friends.

New sermons! Preaching that's broader than eschatology, evangelism and entertainment. Sermons that reveal

God's answer to drug problems, teen pregnancy and the curse of AIDS. Sermons that integrate women into the church work force, tell why it's necessary to take a vacation and when to ask for professional assistance.

I'd also buy a teddy bear for each pastor, because there are times when he needs a hug but everybody walks away. And to top it off, I'd award each pastor 30 years' experience, the body of a 28-year-old weight lifter and the doctorate of his choice.

For my missionary friends.

First-termers get language tablets that dissolve in local water on Christmas Eve and liberate rookies to think and speak like natives. Older missionaries with flagging health would get the constitution of wart hogs. Furloughing missionaries get a certificate exempting them from deputation. And retiring missionaries would get titles to three-bedroom homes within walking distance of a Free Will Baptist college.

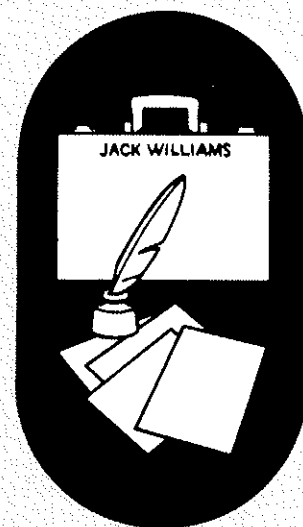
I'd give African missionaries enough height to see over the tall grass, and missionaries to Japan enough short to walk through doors without banging their heads. Missionaries to France would get anti-depressants for a weary culture. I'd equip Central and South American missionaries with geiger counters that react like Orville Redenbacher popcorn when the government's about to tumble.

For my hurting friends. A giant eraser to undo what's been done and said. To wipe away the tears and heal the broken hearts.

I'd also include a second-chance door into yesterday so they could make the right decision this time. They could tell Dad how much they loved him before he died, attend Mary Lou's high school graduation, not run that stop sign and set a better example for the kids.

For my wife. A magic wand to make me appear every time the car won't start or she feels lonely. A magic wand that multiplies her dollars by 10, stretches her Tuesdays through Friday, and makes Monday Night Football last eight minutes.

A magic wand that lets her live next



door to her allergist, her gynecologist, her dentist, the grocery store, the gas station, Sears, the bank and MasterCard. A touch of magic that melts the ice in February and keeps the kids six years old forever.

For myself. A promise from the baseball commissioner that the Dodgers can win the next World Series. A certified note from Tom Landry that the Dallas Cowboys will ride tall in the saddle come Super Bowl. Oh well, as long as it's my list—that LSU growl as Top Tiger in the Southeastern Conference football wars.

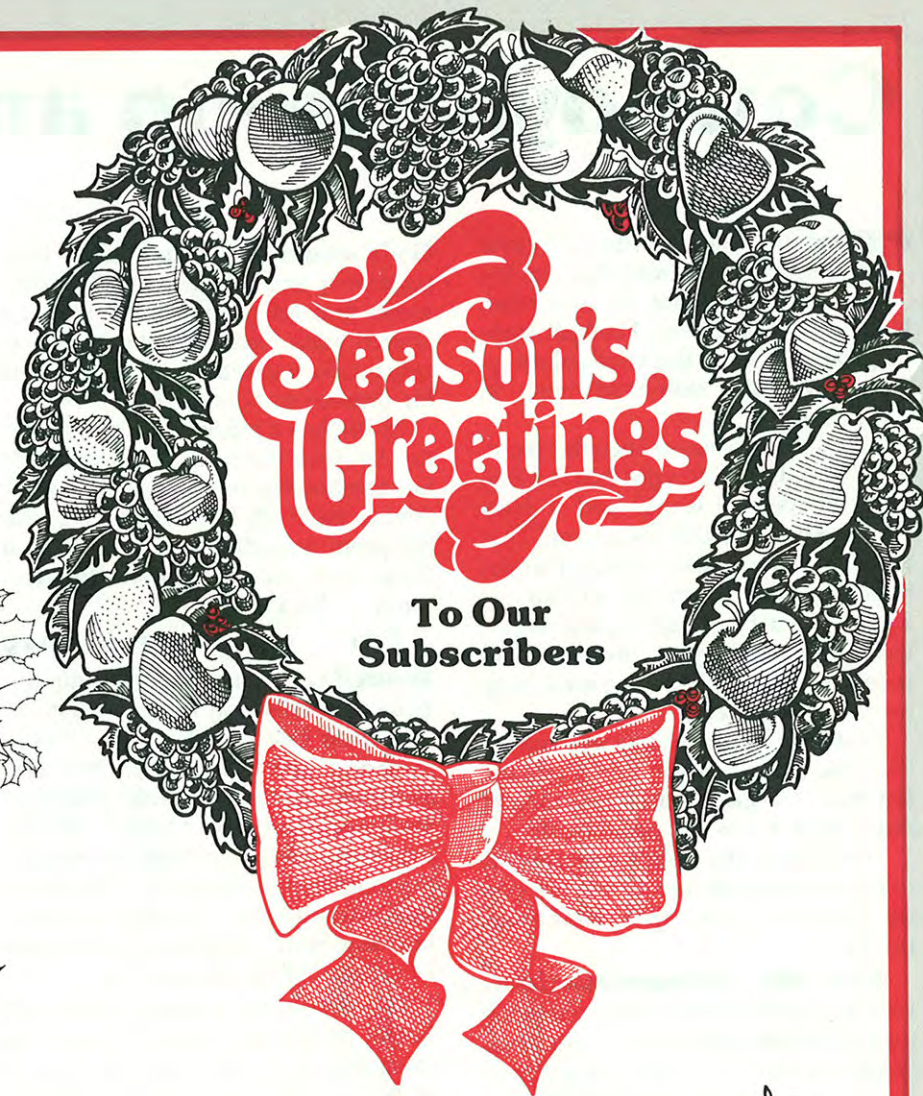
And to really trim my tree, I'd like all the fried catfish I can eat for Christmas dinner, and an uninterrupted two-week exile to the New Orleans Public Library. Just slide the red beans and rice under the door.

But who am I kidding?

I can't buy giant erasers for my hurting friends. Nobody makes magic wands. Who stocks short for tall missionaries and tall for short ones? And tolerance doesn't come by sleigh. Looking back over my Christmas list, the most important gift I can give is me. I'll give myself to God—my hopes, my dreams, my skills, my availability. Maybe that'll be enough.

Meanwhile . . . "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world. . . ."

Love —
May it touch
your holidays,
May it live
in your heart.



Geneva Trotter
Dr. Melvin L. Woolbright
Anne Warrington
Marilyn Ritchard
Jack Williams
Melody J. Hood
Jack Trotter

—CONTACT STAFF

They've **Stolen** Baby Jesus!

By David Copeland

Baby Jesus has been stolen!" That's what the television reporters and the newspapers cried out a couple of years ago. The incident referred to was that the figure of the infant Jesus was stolen from our state capitol's nativity scene. It was an event that shocked, saddened and outraged many Arkansas citizens.

Scenes from the evening newscast showed a stable with an empty manger. It was a scene that accurately portrayed our present day holiday season. For it was a picture of Christmas without Christ.

The One who ought to be at the center of our holiday festivities has become lost, pushed aside by those very celebrations. Christ, the King of Christmas, has been stolen from Christmas and it seems that few are shocked, saddened or outraged. To the contrary, most of us are accessories to the crime. Accessories by standing idly, silently by and allowing it to happen.

We stood by and watched commercialism steal Jesus from our Christmas. It has come to the point where an individual cannot enter a department store in *September* without being overcome by the Christmas decorations and advertisements. At the earliest possible moment we are subjected to the philosophy that Christmas is "giving."

Department stores and advertisement on tv would have us think that the meaning of Christmas is everything but the Christ Child. To them Christmas is a pair of gloves, a new razor, a bottle of aftershave or a can of beer with friends. Don't misunderstand, I am not opposed to gift giving. I enjoy both giving and receiving gifts at Christmas. But would you enjoy Christmas as much and would it be as special if you did not receive or give any gifts? Are gifts or Christ at the center of your Christmas?

If our attitudes and thoughts are where they ought to be, then nothing should be able to put a damper on our holiday as believers. Why? Because we have already received the one gift that satisfies every need—Christ in our hearts.

We have allowed the characters of fables to steal Christ from Christmas. At

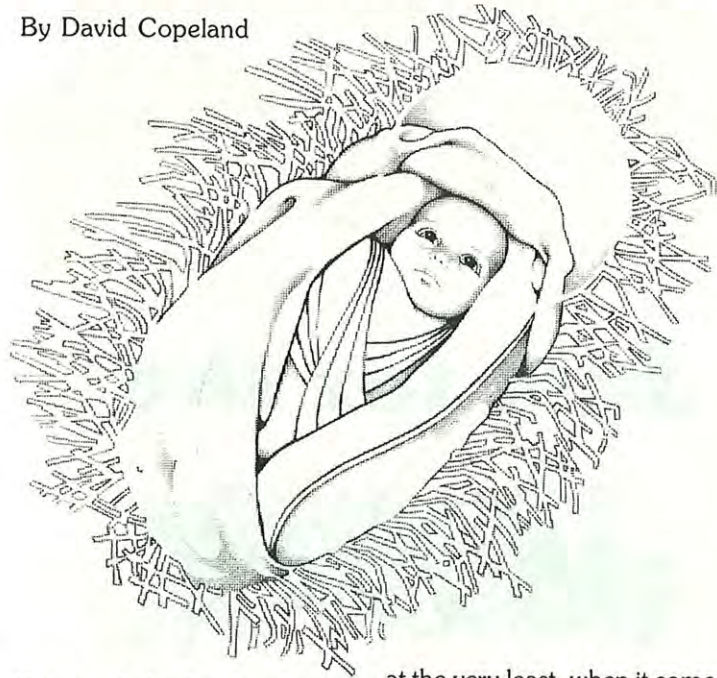
the risk of being called a Scrooge, I must say that the little fat man, dressed in red, and the deer with the bright red glowing nose occupy too much of our attention in this Holy Season. It is tragic when the first thing that comes to our children's minds when they think of Christmas is Santa Claus or Rudolph.

My wife and I decided not to teach our children about Santa Claus. There are three reasons for this decision. First, Saint Nick has become the focal point of the holiday. He has been placed in a position of prominence that only Christ deserves.

Second, because of the qualities that have been attributed to Santa Claus. He is omniscient. "He knows if you've been bad or good." He is the rewarder of those who do good. He is the giver of good gifts. He has supernatural powers. I thought the Lord Jesus was the only one who did those things.

Third, I don't teach my children about Santa because it is not the truth. Think about the potential danger. If I teach my children about Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy and Jesus, and then later on in life they discover that Santa and the Tooth Fairy aren't real, where does that potentially place Christ in their hearts and minds? *Is He just another fictional character Mom and Dad taught me about?*

These are my convictions and I would not impose them on others. But



at the very least, when it comes to these fictional characters, if you can't put them out of business, at least put them in their place. Give Christ the place of honor He deserves.

Last, I think the philosophy of the world has stolen the Lord Jesus from our holiday. The world would have us focus our attention on some beautiful things and say that these things are the true meaning of the season. The world's philosophy is that the meaning of Christmas is giving, peace, sharing, love, families, friends and such like. All these things are wonderful! They have their place in the Christmas season, but they are not the true meaning of Christmas.

Jesus is the reason for the season. Let's face it, there would be no giving, no peace, no love, no anything if it were not for the Baby Jesus.

I'm glad that our state took certain precautions to prevent the figure of Baby Jesus from being stolen again. Let's take precautions to insure that nothing will ever again take the place of Jesus Christ in our Christmas. May each of us hear the plea of a little girl, as her parents were setting up a nativity scene. She said only, "Make sure Jesus shows!"

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend David Copeland pastors Chapel Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Searcy, Arkansas.



According to an old Indian custom, my friend said, every man should choose a special secret friend to do good things for—not at Christmas only, but at every time of the year. It is the way of good people, he said, as he smiled at me, showing big ivory teeth.

Limping on one short leg and one long one, Helen shuffled into the pew and sat down beside me. Gray hair was matted and tangled about her face. Her clothes were soiled and foul-smelling, but she smiled, and then we hugged. Helen felt bony and frail in my arms.

A special secret friend, my ivory-toothed compatriot said, is called a Tillicum, someone you hide from and slip

small gifts to or send friendly notes to—just for the joy of doing and giving.

Helen came to church alone again, sitting on a bus seat to herself. She has a brother, but he can not visit at her rest home because he is sick. She has a mother, too, she will tell you, who has gone on to heaven. Wednesday evenings very often, Helen testifies, "My mama is in heaven right now, and I can't see her. But one of these days I'm going to."

The old Indian custom, my friend said, is like helping someone up a hill when he is sliding down. In an ancient village one could hide a gift under a blanket or lay it at his door in the night. "You," whispered my friend, "will have to think of another way, but the meaning is the same."

In early December Helen went to the altar. She knelt alone; no one came to pray with her, a tiny lump of humanity at the altar rail—just the kind of person



who would have been elbowed aside in the mass of people pressing forward to see Jesus in His heyday. I doubt that she could have edged close enough to touch His garment.

Part of the pleasure of having a Tillicum, my friend said, is finding ways to answer needs and wishes of your secret friend without her finding out who you are and why you are doing it. Looking for little ways to please, ways to bring



smiles, ways to encourage, ways to say, "Someone loves you; never think you are alone"—this is the special joy of a secret friend, he said.

I told him about Helen, who is 60, unmarried, indigent and illiterate. She goes to "school" a few hours a week—a county literacy program for adults who can't read and who find it hard to learn. "Worst of all," I added, "she is alone."

Two Sundays before Christmas, Helen sat with Doris a row ahead of me. From a worn plastic purse she took a

Monday I went shopping—without my ivory-toothed friend who is always prodding me, I might add. I bought a pearl and gold bracelet for Helen to add to her box. I wrapped the bracelet in red paper and perched a white bow on top. My friend with the teeth gave the gift to Helen on Sunday, simply saying, "A woman in this church who loves you and knows you like jewelry says, 'Merry Christmas and God Bless You.'"


I watched from across the room. Helen held the bracelet to the light and



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Brenda Evans is a free lance writer who resides in Simi Valley, California.

Every man should choose a special secret friend to do good things for.

small jewelry box held shut with thick rubber bands. Carefully, she removed the rubber bands and opened the box. She laid out, one by one, a ring, pin, bracelet and several earrings. With a handkerchief dampened on her tongue, she polished each piece while the pastor preached. At the end of his sermon, she closed the lid, adjusted the rubber bands and hid the box in a zippered pocket of her purse.

watched it shine. Then she wrapped it again and put it into the zippered pocket of her worn brown purse. "Helen," I whispered to myself, "someone loves you; never think you are alone." 



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—\$9.50
- () Payment enclosed. () Bill me.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

BIBLE COLLEGE'S BASICS CONFERENCE 'PRACTICAL AND CHALLENGING'

NASHVILLE, TN—The Back to Basics Conference, hosted by Free Will Baptist Bible College, September 26-28, was a hit with students, faculty / staff and visitors. The college's past president, Dr. L. C. Johnson found it "a great deal like Bible Conference, but practical and challenging."

The conference featured 13 speakers in 23 services and workshops during three jam-packed days. The sessions zeroed in on the four "basics" that formed the core of the conference: family life, biblical preaching, evangelism and Christian growth. The three guest speakers—Dr. and Mrs. Walter Fremont of Bob Jones University, and Dr. William E. Dowell, past president of Baptist Bible College, Springfield, MO—were outstanding. The college personnel and others within the denomination also did an excellent job covering the "basics."

Rev. Tom Malone, pastor of Florence (AL) Free Will Baptist Church, preached the final message on "Restoring Spiritual Passion." A number of decisions, by students and visiting ministers, brought the conference to a fitting close.

President Charles A. Thigpen commended the conference committee: Dr. Robert Woodard, Dr. Ken Riggs, Rev. Ralph Hampton, Rev. Bob Shockey and Rev. Bert Tippet. He added:

For overall content, this was one of the very finest pastors and workers conferences we have ever had. I do not recall a meeting of this type when so many students spoke to me about how they were helped and blessed. I firmly believe that this conference will bear good fruit for years to come.

PLEASANT VIEW CHRISTIAN TEACHER SELECTED 'EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR'

PLEASANT VIEW, TN—Mrs. Angela Trotter, fifth grade teacher at Pleasant View Christian School in Pleasant View was named "Educator of the Year" by the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools, according to Principal Roger Hood. Mrs. Trotter received the award at the annual TACS Convention in Gatlinburg September 30.

This marks Mrs. Trotter's seventh year of teaching at PVCS. She has served as elementary supervisor since the fall of 1987.

Principal Hood said, "Mrs. Trotter's love for her profession and her students are evident in every facet of her teaching. She is always willing to use her talent for music and ventriloquism when needed for school programs."

"The faculty, staff and students of PVCS agree with the TACS committee—Angela Trotter deserves the



recognition she has been awarded," said Mr. Hood.

Mrs. Trotter is a 1982 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. She attends Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville where she teaches a primary Sunday School class and serves as church organist.

CALIFORNIA LAUNCHES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FRESNO, CA—The California FWB Historical Society elected Reverend John Smith as president, according to newsletter editor Paul Kennedy. Reverend Smith pastors Village Chapel FWB Church in Ceres. Other officers include L. A. Yandell, vice president; June Kennedy, corresponding secretary; Paul Kennedy, newsletter editor.

Mr. Kennedy said, "We have 45 who paid their annual dues. We did display some historical material at the California State Association in Bakersfield last June."

The historical society plans to print its first brochure, "The California Connection," this winter. Kennedy said the brochure "is the story of our early work in California—mainly of three pastors and the first three churches."

The group also publishes "Historical Happenings," a column in the official California state paper *The Voice*. Mr. Kennedy said the society plans to concentrate on publishing material from the 1940's at first since much of that could be lost if it is not preserved.

OKLAHOMA CHURCH HONORS DEACON FOR 50 YEARS' SERVICE

TULSA, OK—Members of Lewis Avenue FWB Church, Tulsa, paid tribute to Deacon Jess Eldridge Renegar on September 4, exactly 50 years after he was ordained. Surrounded by Pastor Troy Staires and the other Lewis Avenue Church deacons, Brother Renegar received a plaque from the people where he served since 1956.

Mr. Renegar was ordained as a deacon September 4, 1938, at First FWB Church in Tulsa. After serving 18 years at First Church, he joined the Lewis Avenue congregation and continued to serve the Lord. Renegar was ordained under the ministry of the late Melvin Bingham.



Pastor Troy Staires (L), Jess Renegar, Warren Nelson

LOVELESS COMPLETES CHRISTIAN BOOKSELLERS SCHOOL

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO—Dr. Alton E. Loveless, manager of the Ambassador Bible Bookstore in Columbus, Ohio recently completed coursework at the Christian Booksellers School sponsored by the Christian Booksellers Association.

The week-long school, held at CBA headquarters in Colorado Springs, featured courses in advertising, merchandising, store layout, personnel, finances, management and team building. Each course was taught by a recognized expert in the Christian bookselling industry.

Loveless attended 21 educational sessions, totaling more than 40 hours of in-class study. He was tested on class material and also visited retail stores in the Colorado Springs area to evaluate their layout and design. The courses Loveless completed earned him credits toward higher Certified Member Bookseller designation, recognized as one of the highest achievements in Christian bookselling.

Bill Anderson, CBA president, congratulated Loveless saying, "We commend Alton Loveless for successfully completing the Christian Booksellers School. His dedication enhances the industry as a whole and his position in the Columbus retail community."



The Christian Booksellers Association, an international trade association serving more than 3,000 member bookstores, has encouraged its members to raise the professional standards of Christian bookselling, enhance their business skills, and exchange ideas. CBA provides a variety of opportunities to help Christian booksellers be better equipped for their profession.

Dr. Loveless serves as executive secretary for the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Directory Update

ARKANSAS

Johnny Jones to Willoughby Church, Warren

Clyde Tucker to First Church, Corning

CALIFORNIA

Jimmy McClelland to First Church, Visalia

GEORGIA

James Bruce to Perry Church, Perry

David Young to New Home Miller County Church, Colquitt

Gerald Baxley to Surrency Church, Surrency

OKLAHOMA

Steve Turner to Bixby Church, Bixby from Northeast Church, Shawnee

Waldo Young to Northeast Church, Shawnee from Enid Church, Enid

John Griffith to Lindsay Church, Lindsay

Cardell Coppin to Keefeton Church, Muskogee

Jeff Sloan to First Church, Ardmore

Roy Dale Smith to New Home Church, Tulsa from First Church, Jacksonville, AR

TENNESSEE

Mark Barber to Monterey Church, Monterey from Eastside Church, Tuscaloosa, AL

OTHER PERSONNEL

Vernon Whaley to First Church, Norman as director of music from Southern Oaks Church, Oklahoma City



life
A ~~mind~~ is a terrible thing
to waste!

Let us help you discover
God's plan for your life.

Write for a free catalog:



Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
(615) 383-1340

informed
prayer
is effective
prayer

MISSIONS
HOTLINE
(615)
361-5005

The **Northern Ohio Youth and Youth Workers Conference** met October 15 at **Cleveland FWB Church, Cleveland, OH**. Seminar leaders included **Harrold Harrison**, assistant director of the Church Training and Sunday School Department, and **Jim Lauthern**, National Youth Conference director.

Twenty-two people attended the first services at **Cornerstone FWB Church, Bloomington, IL**, according to home missionary pastor **David Burgess**. Prior to the September service, members from **Ina FWB Church, Ina, IL**, drove to Bloomington and distributed more than 1,400 invitations to the first service.

Members of **Faith FWB Church, Glenpool, OK**, voted to construct a \$70,000 all-purpose building. Pastor **David Archer**, said the 6,000-square-foot metal building will include a gymnasium, kitchen and 10 classrooms. Faith Church is five years old and averages 150 in attendance.

The sixth annual **Franklin Conference Revival in Ohio** attracted an average of 300 people nightly with 500 attending on Wednesday, according to Conference Chairman **Edwin Hayes**. At least eight conversions were noted as Kentucky evangelist **Tim York** preached.

Pastor **Wylie Perkins** reports six conversions and three baptisms at **Samantha FWB Church, Leesburg, OH**.

Tentmaker missionary **Carlos Kelsey** reports 54 first-time visitors in two months at **Smyrna FWB Church, Smyrna, TN**. The group recently leased property on South Lowry Street. Kelsey said, "The visibility of our church, the building we leased and the word of mouth promotion have

been of extreme value."

Pastor **William Jones** reports \$25,000 in fire damage to the parsonage at **Marysville FWB Church, Marysville, OH**. Although the parsonage fire disrupted the lives of the pastor and his family, there were no injuries as a result of the blaze.

Pastor **J. D. Norris** said members of **Lake Jackson FWB Church, Tallahassee, FL**, paid off the original \$40,000 land note as the church celebrated their 11th year. Some 250 people attended the morning service. Norris said there were three conversions.

Pastor **David Boggs** of **Heritage Temple FWB Church, Columbus, OH**, presented an \$8,200 check to Ohio Executive Secretary **Alton Loveless**. The \$8,200 gift included \$6,000 for the Islam-pur India project, \$1,200 for the state office to help buy a desktop publishing computer, and \$1,000 for the cooperative plan.

Members of **Bethel FWB Church, South Roxana, IL**, presented a plaque of appreciation to **Ray Chester** for 34 years as a Bible teacher. Pastor **Ivan Ryan** said, "Ray has been a dedicated teacher with much love for his class. We are thankful that Bethel was a recipient of his teaching ministry."

Pastor **Roy Hutchinson** reports 10 baptisms and six new members at **Reynoldsburg FWB Church, Reynoldsburg, OH**. Two young men also answered the call to preach—**Scottie Jensen** and **Jimmy Brazzel**.

Southern Oaks FWB Church, Oklahoma City, OK, celebrated their 50th anniversary in November. Arkansas moderator **Carl Cheshier** delivered the keynote message during the anniversary celebration. **James Puckett** pastors.

Members of **Hawkins FWB Church, Alex, OK**, celebrated the 80th anniversary of the church in late October.

Pastor **Doyle Baker** led members of **Garden Heights FWB Church, Sand-springs, OK**, in dedication services for a 5,000-square-foot building in August. Earlier, members gave more than \$16,000 in a special faith offering to offset building expenses. More than 250 people attended the dedication service. Members also dedicated a 26,000-square-foot concrete parking area. Pastor Baker celebrated 18 years in the ministry this year with 10 years as pastor at Garden Heights church.

Robert Morgan, pastor of **Donelson FWB Church, Nashville, TN**, spent most of November in **Ivory Coast, West Africa**, ministering to FWB missionaries and the churches. His activities included a renewal retreat for missionaries, lectures at **Ivory Coast Bible Institute**, speaking to missionary children in **Bouake** and touring each mission station.

Maybe Pastor **Bill Johnson** should take up golfing. Johnson, pastor of **Moore FWB Church, Berryville, AR**, took visiting evangelist **Wade Jernigan** on a fishing trip to Indian Creek. Johnson fell, broke his leg, and spent eight exciting weeks in a cast.

Pastor **George Lee** celebrated 15 years of everyday radio broadcasting on station WGBR. Lee pastors **Victory FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC**. On September 30, he logged program number 4,085.

The Woman's Auxiliary at **New Salem FWB Church, Colquitt, GA**, led the church family in honoring Pastor **Roger Russell** in a Pastor Appreciation Day. Auxiliary members praised the ministry of Pastor Russell, read poetry and participated in skits honoring him. Church members presented him with cards and gifts following the special service.

Pastor **Tim Eaton** offered members six written suggestions on how to leave a good impression on first-time visitors. The six suggestions appeared in *Focus*, a publication of **First FWB Church, Farmington, MO**.

Free Will Baptist foreign missionary **Robert Bryan** was spotlighted in *Interlit*, a publication of David C. Cook. The September 1988 issue focused on Bryan as the people's publisher. The full-page article included Bryan's picture as well as numerous quotes explaining his work in Ivory Coast.

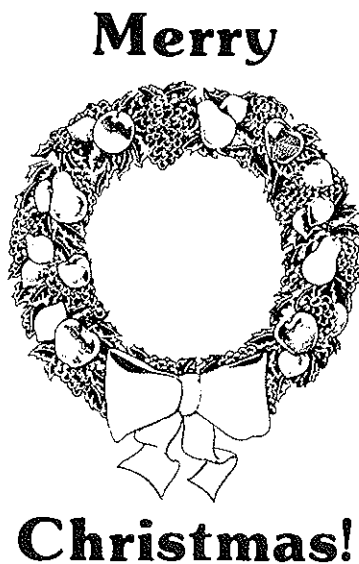
Members of **First FWB Church, Vero Beach, FL**, conducted their first annual Children's Fair in September. Pastor **Randy Bryant** said 104 children registered for the event while more than 200 attended, including parents and workers. The church gained 50 new prospective families. Members distributed more than 1,400 fliers preceding the fair. **Jan Arnoldi**, along with Chester and Rainbow, participated in a morning service geared just for kids.

Pastor **Larry Montgomery** reports that the *Church Crier*, publication of **Hollywood FWB Church, Hollywood, FL**, has a new name. It is now the *Clarion Call*. Pastor Montgomery said the new publication will announce church programs and activities but will also serve as a "call to faithful participation and involvement."

Pastor **Kenneth Edwards** reports 10 conversions at **Harmony FWB Church, West Frankfort, IL**.

Members of **Ina FWB Church, Ina, IL**, celebrated their 60th anniversary in October. One highlight of the day was the unveiling of a new pictorial church directory which outlined the history of the congregation. **David Shores** pastors.

Members at **Cornerstone FWB Church, Denison, TX**, conducted open house and dedication services in September. **Joel Kircher** pastors.



Woman's Window on the World

The Department Pages

By Mary R. Wisehart



From My Window

Anticipation! It dominated my life as Christmas approached when I was a child on the farm. I looked forward to my big sisters coming from the city with pretty, wrapped packages. I anticipated the Christmas programs in the community, the selecting and decorating of our Christmas tree, what delights could be in those strangely wrapped packages.

The anticipation was more than half the joy of Christmas to the child. My wish is that we all keep some of that joy and delight of the child in our Christmas celebrations.

Still, there is something more, something which goes beyond the excitement, something which comes after anticipation and is completely satisfying. That something is the knowledge that Christ did indeed come, the fulfillment long anticipated by the prophets and the people. Contrary to our human feeling that the anticipation is better than the thing itself, Christ is better than anything we could anticipate.

He fulfills all the promise and is just what we need. In addition, He gives us the hope that some day we will be complete in Him. Will we find the anticipation better than the fulfillment? No, by no means.

Psalm 17:15: "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

Ah! No empty feeling that it is over and somehow has not come up to what we expected. The reality of His face will far exceed anything we may have anticipated.

Enjoy Christmas in the light of that reality.

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund

September 30,
1988—\$15,903.04

Prayer at Ridgecrest

Prayer and missions was the emphasis at WNAC's fifth national retreat, September 8-10, at Ridgecrest Conference Center. Women registered from 20 states totaling 718.

Laura Thigpen directed a vesper, "On the Wings of the Wind," showing that prayer activated the missions movement among Free Will Baptists and now sustains it.

Trula Cronk stirred the women to consider what prayer is—nurturing the life of God in us. She shared how it has been with her in prayer and challenged the women to examine their prayer life, to know who God is and who they are—His children.

Marcia Ellison in brief devotionals illustrated the power of prayer with stories from her missionary experiences, always touched with Marcia's inimitable humor and her intimate knowledge of God.

Janie Aldridge led 12 missionary women in sharing specific examples of answers to prayer in their ministries. The retreat participants gave \$5,187 to be shared by the 12 missionaries.

Women prayed together in small prayer groups, worshipped together in a "Celebration of Praise" led by June Critcher, and enjoyed the music planned by Barbara Anderson, Winona Riggs and Beverly Welch.

"This was my first national retreat," some women said, "But I don't want to miss another one."

The next WNAC retreat meets September 20-22, 1990, at Ridgecrest.

February for Foreign Students

February is Foreign Student Scholarship Month. Offerings this year go to Edelmira Anaya, Ramon Zuniga and Carlos Rubio, students from our churches in Mexico. Prepare now to help them with tuition at the Bible College.

January is Enlistment Month

WNAC designates January as the time to enlist new members in Woman's Auxiliary. Maybe some women in your church need to start a new year off right by joining Woman's Auxiliary.

Look for the special enlistment program and suggestion in the January / February issue of the *Co-Laborer* magazine.

If January is a difficult month for you, enlist in March or April. Adapt the program and plans to the needs and opportunities in your church.

Retreat Tapes Available

| SPEAKER | MESSAGE | QUANTITY | PRICE | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|
| Trula Cronk | 9/8 p.m. | _____ | \$4.00 | _____ |
| | 9/9 a.m. | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Marcia Ellison | 9/9 a.m. | _____ | | |
| | 9/9 p.m. | _____ | | |
| | 9/10 a.m. | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Missionary Time | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Phyllis Bass | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Dorothy Cox | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Barbara Fletcher | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Lottie Horton | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Rudene Kennedy (2 tapes) | | _____ | 8.00 | _____ |
| Delois Loveless | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Joan Warren | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Ann Truett | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Geneva Walker | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Velda Tucker | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Jo Ann Wood | | _____ | 4.00 | _____ |
| Total of Order | | _____ | | _____ |

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

Order from: **WNAC**
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202



Board of Retirement AT YOUR SERVICE

Herman L. Hersey
Director



Georgia Meets the Challenge

By Larry Hampton

America's church members are growing older. A Gallup poll taken in 1987 revealed that nearly one-fifth of Protestant church members are at least 65 years old; two-fifths are at least 50 years old. The church must gear up to minister to this growing segment of our society. Georgia Free Will Baptists are meeting the challenge.

In 1987 Laverne Mock, senior adult coordinator for First Free Will Baptist Church, Albany, scheduled a Senior Citizens Day at Camp Mt. Bethel. Her pastor, Billy Hanna, suggested that she invite senior adult groups from across the state. Seventy-one people responded.

A year later in April 1988, adults from 12 churches gathered for Georgia's second annual Senior Citizens Day at

Albany, representing five district associations.

The theme for the day was "Old Songs." Billy Parker and Kenneth Faison led the singing. Rudy Woods accompanied on the banjo; Becky Woods played the piano. Danny and Bobby Thomas, Billy Parker and Kenneth Faison provided special music.

O. B. Everson's devotional on the role of music in the Christian life further developed the theme. Mr. Everson pointed out the scriptural emphasis on music in worship.

A "Kitchen Band" from Byne Memorial Baptist Church led a sing-along entitled "Down Memory Lane."

Members of the Patmos Free Will Baptist Church presented a humorous skit, "Aunt Daisy's 100th Birthday Celebration," and a humorous dialogue, "My Dog, Alice."

Following lunch, Danny Thomas shared a biographical sketch of Henry Archer Harbin, musician, song writer and voice teacher. Mr. Harbin, who helped strengthen the music ministry of numerous Free Will Baptist churches in Southwest Georgia, was not present due to poor health.

During the day the history of five sacred songs was discussed, and Danny Thomas announced plans for a Senior Saints musical.

Georgia's senior adults are enthusiastic about their annual get-together. Next year they hope to attract other groups. According to Martha Everson the format will remain the same. "Our Senior Adults," she explains, "seem to prefer a relaxed, simply structured program that allows plenty of time for fellowship."



I'm interested in ALERT Ministries. Please send information to me.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Church _____

clip and mail this form to

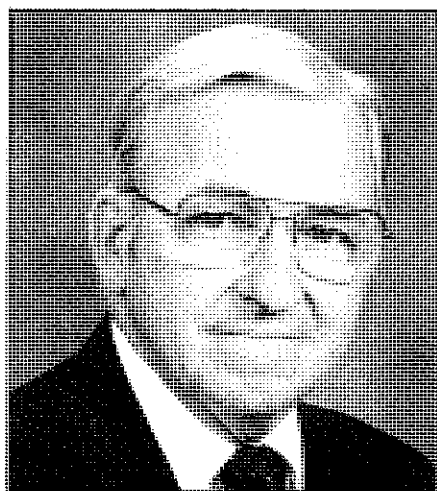
Board of Retirement

Free Will Baptist Bible College **REPORT**

3606 WEST END AVENUE
P.O. BOX 50117
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205-0117
(615) 383-1340

The Department Pages

Christmas Drive Goal is \$125,000



Rev. Paul Kettelman
1924-1987

Rev. Bob Shockey, FWBBC's Student Support Director, has announced a goal of \$125,000 for this year's Paul Kettelman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive. More than half of the goal—\$65,000—has been assigned to the college family—students, faculty, staff and administration.

Mr. Shockey is asking pastors, parents, and laymen to make a special gift to the college, in honor of Mr. Kettelman, during the month of December. All December gifts will go toward the goal. He is encouraging pastors to plan a College Day during the month. If young people from the church are students at FWBBC, he is asking pastors to give them opportunities to preach, testify and teach while they are home for Christmas vacation.

All Free Will Baptists are encouraged to send a special gift to the college in December, in addition to regular gifts, to be counted toward the goal.

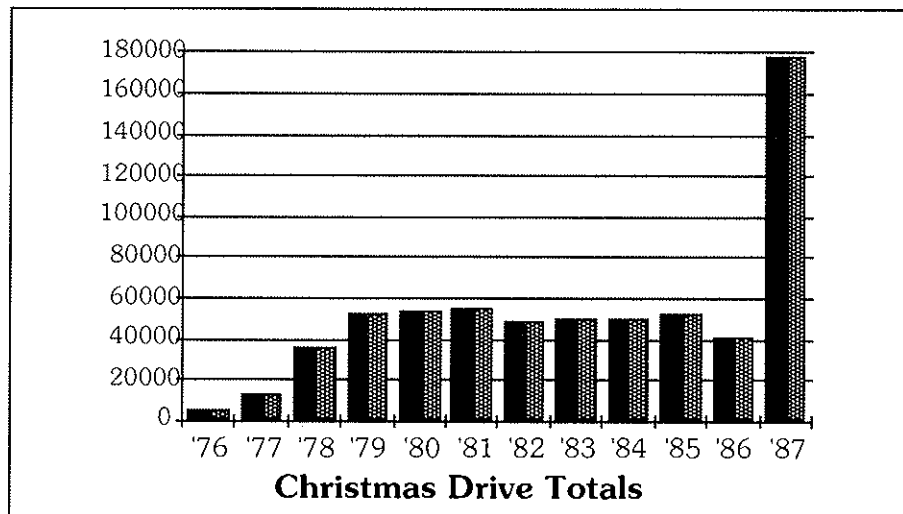
The Christmas campaign was

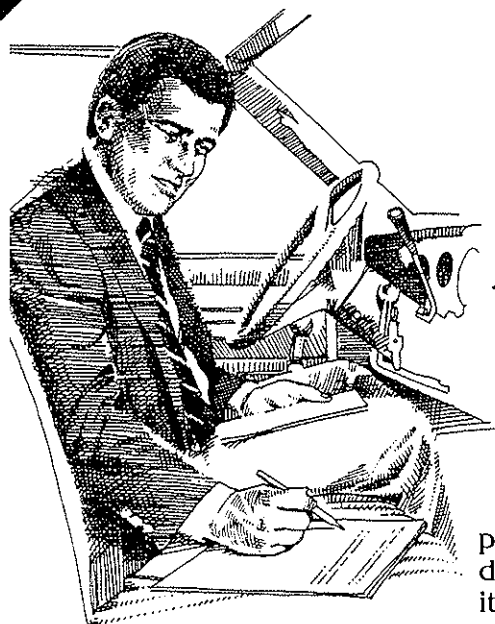
begun in 1976 and has brought in nearly \$640,000. Last year's total of over \$178,000 was more than three times bigger than any other year's total. Of that amount, more than \$91,000 was brought in by students, teachers, staff members and administrators of the college! Seventy-five of them—49 students and 26 faculty/staff—raised \$500 or more for the drive, but virtually every member of the college family took part in some way.

The annual Christmas project was one of the favorite events of the late Rev. Paul Kettelman, who served for 25 years as the college Public Relations Director. The idea began in 1975, when members of the college quartet challenged him to buy them a steak supper if they each brought back a signed monthly gift checkbook from Christmas vacation. The next year, the offer was broadened to include everyone in the college family, and resulted in gifts of \$5,500. Mr. Kettelman set aside one chapel day in January to tally the gifts—Tally Day. Those who knew him could tell that it was one of the highlights of his year, with the possible exception of the day in which he served steak suppers to everyone associated with the college. Mr. Kettelman died of cancer in May 1987. Last year, the administration renamed the Christmas drive in his honor.

As a friend of FWBBC and Paul Kettelman, please sit down now and write a check for a special gift to the Bible College. Send it to:

Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205





DEPUTATION— A Missionary Speaks

by Ron Moore

The deputational process is difficult! The many hours on the road in the United States raising funds for missionary service overseas has its disadvantages.

First of all, the missionary cannot establish a strong local church affiliation and involvement while in the States.

Before we resign ourselves to the idea that deputation is a "necessary evil," we need to remind ourselves of several facts.

Next, the extensive travel required is expensive; it takes the average missionary \$3.00 to place \$1.00 in his or her account.

Finally, family life suffers because the missionary is away so much. His relationship with the Lord can also suffer since "his time belongs to another" while in the home of his hosts.

Because of these and other

problems associated with the deputational process as we know it, many are suggesting something needs to be done. At the same time, others are indicating nothing can be done. They conclude these disadvantages are part of a "necessary evil."

I have no doubt some changes are in order. Many have been suggested and some are in the process of implementation. Regionalized support, annual conferences, and multiple services for missionaries are just a few of these changes. But before we resign ourselves to the idea that deputation is a "necessary evil," we need to remind ourselves of several facts.

First, the deputational process is thoroughly biblical. The Scriptures set the pattern. The church sent out and supported its missionaries (Acts 13:2-3 and Philipians 4:10-19); the church was encouraged to do so (3 John 5-8); and later, the missionary reported back to the sending church (Acts 14:26-27).

Second, deputation gives the church "confirmation power." The church has the ultimate say in whom she supports and sends. This is as it should be.

Third, it gives the missionary the opportunity to minister to God's people here at home. Indeed, the deputational process gives the missionary a unique opportunity to challenge people to become "world Christians" and to encourage young people to consider God's will for them. This has rewards in and of itself!

The deputational process is thoroughly biblical.

Fourth, nothing can replace the fellowship that the missionary has with God's people wherever he travels. This is part of God's promise to give him fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters "an hundredfold" (Mark 10:30).

Are there problems with the deputational process? Yes, but deputation is biblical and good. It is filled with rich experiences no other method of support could provide. Whatever changes we make to improve the process, let's not sacrifice its rich blessings.

Ron Moore is a new missionary appointed to serve in Ivory Coast. He and his wife, Linda, are in France studying the French language.

The Remarkable Ben Franklin

During the summer of 1787, fifty-five brilliant men assembled at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. They grappled with the principles of liberty and hammered out details of the most notable document of freedom ever drafted, the Constitution of the United States.

Among the delegates was Benjamin Franklin. Ben perhaps influenced the outcome of the convention more than any other delegate. According to historians, his wisdom and common sense prevented the break-up of the convention.

Ben was the main author of the Great Compromise which settled the bitter dispute over state representation and set up the two-house Congress. He helped draft the Constitution, signed it and fought for its unanimous support.

That Ben Franklin was among such an impressive assembly of great men was not surprising. From his early youth he earned a place in history as writer, printer, publisher, investor, scientist, statesman and diplomat.

However, when you consider the fact that he was 81 years old at the time and because of illness unable to attend all the sessions, it was indeed remarkable.

But, then, Ben Franklin was a remarkable man! He accomplished more in his old age than most men do in a lifetime.

From age 69 he actively engaged in the birth of our nation. He served as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress that steered the colonies toward independence. That same year, 1775, as the newly appointed postmaster, he organized a postal system.

At age 70 Ben helped compose the Declaration of Independence, signed it,

and left immediately to negotiate a treaty of alliance with France. The alliance insured the success of the revolution. Some historians refer to it as his most significant accomplishment.

From age 72 to 76 Ben arranged transportation for French soldiers and guns to America and negotiated loans and gifts to finance the revolution.

At age 77 aging Ben played a major role in peace negotiations and helped frame the Treaty of Paris. The treaty brought the war to an end. That same year he invented the bifocal lenses.

At ages 79 and 80 Ben served on the executive council of Pennsylvania as president.

At age 81 the old statesman played his memorable role at the Constitutional Convention. That same year he designed the first copper coins minted by the new republic.

At age 82 aged Ben was elected

president of the first antislavery society of America. He signed an appeal to Congress for the abolition of slavery.

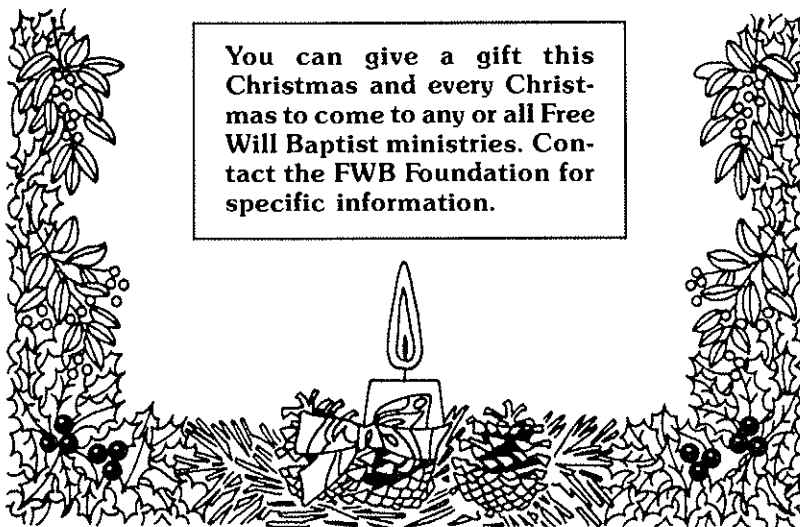
Signing the appeal was Ben's last public act. However, it was not his final act. The 84-year-old statesman at his death in 1790 did a most remarkable thing. In his will he left \$5,000 to each of the cities of Boston and Philadelphia to be used for public works, part of it after 100 years and the rest after 200 years.

So it was that the old patriot in 1890, 100 years after his death, was a benefactor of the country he loved. Part of the money left in his will went toward establishment of a technical institute and a scientific museum.

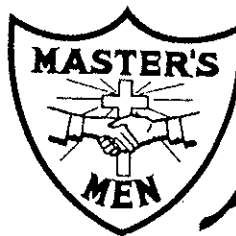
And, in 1990, 200 years after his death, Ben Franklin will once again make another notable contribution.

He was indeed a remarkable man. 🌐

You can give a gift this Christmas and every Christmas to come to any or all Free Will Baptist ministries. Contact the FWB Foundation for specific information.



MASTER'S AND DATE



Attack

Your Church Needs Master's Men

By Bob Shockey
Department of Student Support, FWBCC

Master's Men is lined up with God's program. Master's Men gives men an opportunity to serve in every area of the local church. This participation can revitalize the whole local church program. It will encourage other groups such as the youth and Woman's Auxiliaries.

When you start your Master's Men program it will mean a *New Vision*. A church full of men concerned for evangelism and missions will instill a vision in the hearts of young people and senior adults alike.

Your new Master's Men will mean a *New Enthusiasm*. A group of men who will emphasize the Great Commission will not be spiritually flabby. Spiritually enthusiastic Christian servants will breathe vitality and life into every avenue of the church.

Finally, the Master's Men will mean *New Values*. Men's hearts will be changed and the material things of this world will mean less and less. These men will pray and begin to serve. Before, they stood back and let others do the work. Now they invest their time, talent, gifts and love.

Yes, the Master's Men want to know God's will for their lives—whatever,

whenever, wherever. God's will is foremost in their minds. They remember Philippians 2:13, "It is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

If your church doesn't have a Master's Men, start one today. If you do have one, encourage them in the way. ☺

LifeMember Listing Lengthens

The LifeMember list shows exciting growth this year. The October 1 listing totals 246 LifeMembers. Since the August listing 32 names were added. And four names join the LifeFriend list, bringing its total to 22. Another 48 men and women are making monthly payments toward Life fees.

The \$100 fees are deposited in the Master's Men Endowment Trust Fund held by the Free Will Baptist Foundation. These funds will never be spent. They will earn interest until the Lord returns. That interest will help fund the work of Master's Men. Memorial gifts and Tribute gifts may be sent to be included in the Endowment Trust. Appropriate cards will be sent to families notifying them of memorial and tribute gifts.

We welcome these new additions:

LifeMembers

W. P. Durden, GA
Jim Judkins, MI
Jim Wallace, MI
Jim Meek, MI
Harrison Satterly, KY
Gary Taylor, KY
Frank Riddle, KY
Gary Curry, OK
Rev. Alton E. Loveless, OH
S. E. Mills, WV
John W. Young, CA
Henry J. Nowe, NH
George Beal, OH
James Horne, GA
Caltry Harris, GA
Rev. Bobby Jackson, NC
Rev. Dennis Owen, Spain
Gilberto Triano, Cuba
Rev. Roberto Hernandez Diaz, Cuba
Jim Foster, CA
T. J. Armstrong, MS
Burl Hicks, MS
Ellie H. McMillan, II, MS
David Nicholson, MS
F. W. Shoemaker, MS
Theon Walley, MS
Danny Wigginton, MS
Rev. Billy D. Hanna, GA
Ricky Puckett, MS
Joseph Glenn Walley, MS
Bobby E. Birmingham, MS
Shawn Leckbee, AR

LifeFriends

Helen Judkins, MI
Geraldine Beal, OH
Mary Lee Fowler, GA
Arlene Farley, TN

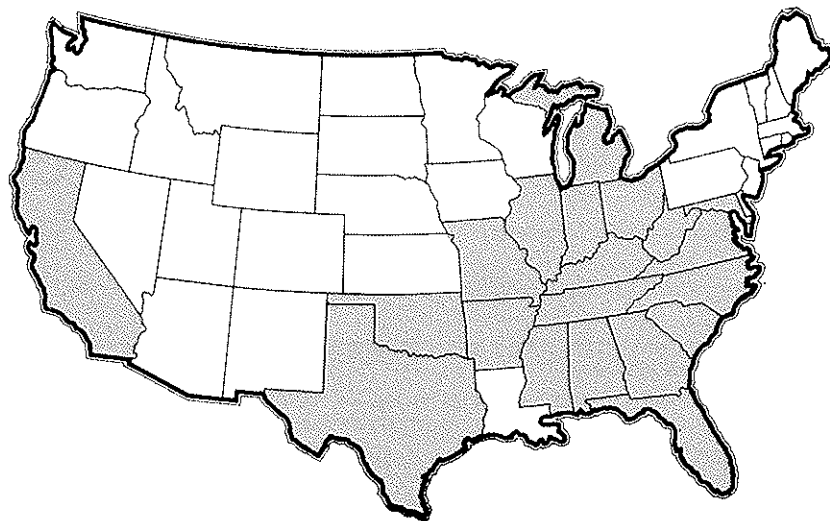
MINI GRAMS

Department of Home Missions and Church Extension
of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

The Department Pages

Planting Churches in Our Stronger States

By Roy Thomas



Free Will Baptists have strong works in 20 states. In fact, these states are strong enough to have state mission boards. In these 20 states are many cities without Free Will Baptist churches. The national Home Missions Board not only wants to build churches in isolated areas, but also has devised ways to help our stronger states plant churches. The following are ways our board assists state mission boards in carrying out this great objective:

The national Home Missions Board provides application blanks and reference forms to assist the state board in screening the applicant to make sure the man is capable of building a church. The board also has contracts which define the working arrangements between the missionary and the boards.

The national Home Missions office prints prayer cards for the missionary, provides him with faith promise cards and other tools to raise support.

Home Missions personnel keep computer records on his account and send reports each month to the missionary and to the chairman of the state mis-

sion board. If people send funds directly to national Home Missions, a tax deductible receipt is sent to the donor, and a computer printout sent each month to the state mission board chairman.

The national Home Missions office also sends quarterly reports to the government required by the Internal Revenue Service. Since the department operates under a federal identification number, it also issues the missionary a W-2 Form at the end of the year as the IRS requires. Under the new tax laws, the IRS now requires any mission board, whether state or national, to have a federal I. D. number if they pay a missionary.

Any board paying a missionary must send quarterly reports to the government and also send the missionary a W-2 Form at the end of each year. Some of these must be sent to the government on computer forms. Since most state mission boards don't have computers or don't have time to work with all the IRS reports, the national Home Missions Board can help in these matters.

Since the department has a full-time bookkeeper, it is usually easier for the national Home Missions office to handle these matters. It is also easier on the state board if the national Home Missions Board reimburses the missionary from his account for any itinerate expenses incurred.

National Home Missions prints and mails the missionary's newsletters. The department has thousands of dollars invested in equipment to do this. Home Missions employees type, print, insert, address and mail these newsletters. Secretaries place all mailing lists on computers and update them as address corrections are received from the post office. All of this is done for the missionary so he or the state mission board won't have to take time to do it. The missionary can use his full time building a church instead of keeping records and maintaining mailing lists.

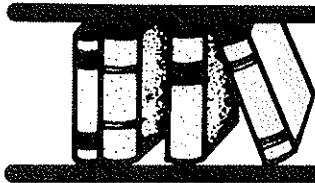
Home Missions provides free materials to the missionary during the time he serves. The missionary also receives at least one letter of encouragement and instruction in church growth methods each week from Home Missions personnel.

The state missionary has the privilege of borrowing money from the Home Missions Church Extension Loan Fund (CELFL) to build his building, and he also has the use of the Missionary Builder, Howard Gwartney, to build his church building.

State workers have used the Home Missions "Aquila and Priscilla" program to get dedicated lay couples to move with them to the city where God leads them to build churches.

Some of our strongest states have many large cities and entire counties with no Free Will Baptist churches. May we all work together to place "Missionaries in Every State for Churches in Every City."

Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



Lawrence O. Richards *The Teacher's Commentary* (Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books, 1987, hardback, 1,110 pp., \$27.95).

Sunday School teachers need all the help they can get. We welcome to the Christian book market a resource which can help them teach the Bible more effectively to all age groups. The fact that it is in its third printing indicates that many Christians of different denominations have already recognized the value of this book.

This is not another verse-by-verse commentary. There are several useful one-volume commentaries already on the market, and the Sunday School teacher should have access to one or more of them. This commentary is designed specifically for those who undertake to *teach* the Bible on a regular basis. The teacher must certainly understand the message of the passage he/she is teaching, but teaching involves more than understanding. It also involves presentation, motivation and communication.

This commentary will help the teacher organize, plan and present Bible lessons. The books of the Bible are divided into 174 teaching units called "study guides." Each study guide analyzes a specific scripture passage and gives the teacher an overview of the major ideas presented in the passage. It outlines the historical background and explains the meanings of difficult terms and concepts. It makes helpful suggestions about presenting the material in an understandable way to students of different age groups.

The author included a number of charts, graphs and maps which the teacher can use in the classroom. He also included important historical information which every Sunday School teacher should know. Study guide 79, for example, outlines the major events which happened during the 400 silent years between Malachi and Matthew. Study guides 173 and 174 discuss basic New Testament truths about God and man.

This is a fine piece of work. It presents outstanding scholarship, but it is not so technical that it cannot be used and appreciated by men and women without a great deal of formal education. It

would make a practical and useful gift for every Sunday School teacher.

This volume has one weakness which it shares with all other one-volume commentaries. There is simply no way to do justice to all 66 books of the Bible in one volume. There is just not enough space. Richards has done the best that he can with the space available. The book is most helpful, but it would be even more helpful if the author had included a brief bibliography of recommended works. ①

| U.S. Postal Service STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION <small>Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685</small> | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1A. Title of Publication Contact | | 1B. PUBLICATION NO. 1 3 0 - 6 6 0 |
| 2. Date of Filing 9-28-88 | | |
| 3. Frequency of Issue Monthly | 3A. No. of Issues Published Annually 12 | 3B. Annual Subscription Price \$9.50 |
| 4. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, City, County, State and ZIP+4 Code) (Not printers) 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee 37217-2215 | | |
| 5. Complete Mailing Address of the Headquarters of General Business Offices of the Publisher (Not printers) P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 | | |
| 6. Full Names and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (This item MUST NOT be blank) | | |
| Publisher (Name and Complete Mailing Address) National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc., P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 | | |
| Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address) Jack Williams, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 | | |
| Managing Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address) Melvin Worthington, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 | | |
| 7. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.) (Item must be completed.) | | |
| Full Name | | Complete Mailing Address |
| National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. | | P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 |
| 8. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities. (If there are none, so state) | | |
| Full Name | | Complete Mailing Address |
| None | | |
| 9. For Completion by Nonprofit Organizations Authorized to Mail at Special Rates (DMM Section 423.12 only) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (Check one) | | |
| (1) Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> (If changed, publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement.) | | |
| 10. Extent and Nature of Circulation (See instructions on reverse side) | | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months |
| A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run) | | 8,500 |
| B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales 2. Mail Subscription (Paid and/or requested) | | None 7,158 |
| C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2) | | 7,064 |
| D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies | | 972 |
| E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D) | | 8,130 |
| F. Copies Not Distributed 1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing 2. Return from News Agents | | 370 None |
| G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A) | | 8,500 |
| 11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete | | Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Jack Williams</i> Jack Williams, Editor |

TEEN Scene

Ohio Retreat

Ohio youth overflowed facilities at Canter's Cave State Park for their annual statewide retreat. Because of the 250 camp capacity, some late registrants were unable to attend.

Activities started as youth groups began arriving at the park around 6:00 p.m. Friday, September 30. Registration and cabin assignments were the first order of business.

Mark Price, Ohio Youth Board member, was in charge of the 8:00 p.m. service. The Youth Evangelistic Team from the Portsmouth, Ohio area ministered through music and drama. Ron Henthorne directs the team. The service concluded with a number of altar decisions.

Next on the schedule was pizza, pizza and more pizza—always a favorite with teens. The evening program concluded with a devotional time led by George Grice.

After fellowship time and a lengthy time of getting ready for lights out, all seemed peaceful and calm. However, the early pre-dawn quiet vanished with the practice maneuvers of the national guard unit also occupying the camp facility. Later in the morning the guard unit gave the youth a demonstration on self-defense. This seemed to fit right into the theme of the retreat, "Back to Basics."

The planned Saturday schedule called for breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

The featured speaker for the morning service was Carl Dunn, pastor of the Dailyville FWB Church. He used the account of Moses and the burning bush to present his message of "Delivered to be a Deliverer." He challenged the youth to make sure of their salvation and to be faithful witnesses.



The great weather and scenic beauty of the park made the morning nature hike a success.

After lunch the retreat rounded out with free time for the youth. Available activities included volleyball, basketball, football, putt-putt and canoeing.

Mark Leonard, the concession coordinator, made available souvenirs, books and other items. Bernard Wheeler, Ohio Youth Board chairman, coordinated the retreat.

Many favorable comments were made about the retreat. Perhaps this quote sums up the event, "It was a very relaxed atmosphere." After all, isn't that one of the reasons for a retreat?

Across the Denomination

Fall is traditionally a great time for youth retreats and conferences.

Oklahoma conducts a one-day youth conference each year in early November. Missouri scheduled their first statewide weekend youth retreat for mid-November. Georgia has a youth retreat during the Thanksgiving holidays. These events will be reported in future issues of Teen Scene.

If your local church, district or state has conducted a recent youth event, let us know about it.



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

Left Out in the Cold

Beep beep." Mr. Lane was telling the twins to hurry up. "Beeeeeep!" he honked the horn again.

Inside the house Megan twirled around in her angel costume. "How do I look?" she asked.

"Heavenly," said her mother with a grin.

Megan grabbed her halo and Marty grabbed his shepherd's crook. Then they hurried to join their dad in the big farm truck that belonged to an older man in their church, Farmer Nathan Donnelly.

"Pile in," called Mr. Lane cheerfully as Marty and Megan climbed into the back of the truck and wrapped up in blankets. "We've got lots more angels and shepherds to pick up."

It was Christmas week. Every night that week the children from church presented a live nativity scene on the church lawn. The church was on a busy road, and many people stopped to look at the scene. And it was a grand nativity scene. There were 20 children dressed in costumes, Christmas carols playing in the background, and a bright spotlight. The pastor, Brother Bill, read the Christmas story from Luke 2 while the children acted it out. And for special effect, Farmer Nathan hauled two cows, three sheep and a donkey into town from his farm.

Tonight was the last night of the nativity scene. Afterwards, the children would head out to the Donnelly's farm to present the Christmas story one more time. Mrs. Donnelly had fallen on ice and sprained her ankle. She had not been able to go see the nativity scene at church. So the children were bringing the nativity scene to her. Mr. Lane could return all Farmer Nathan's animals, and the Donnellys had invited everyone to stay and help celebrate

Christmas with a birthday party for Jesus.

While the children were acting out the nativity scene at church, Mrs. Lane and Jeff, along with Tony's mother, Mrs. Phillips, went ahead to the Donnellys. Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Phillips set out plates of cookies and candy and made hot chocolate. Farmer Nathan and Jeff decorated with balloons, streamers and a big banner that said, "Happy Birthday Jesus!" Mrs. Donnelly sat on the couch with her foot on a pillow and watched.

When they were finished, Farmer Nathan in his blue overalls sat down in front of the fire to wait for the children. He pulled Jeff up on his lap. They watched the dancing flames and listened for the sound of Farmer Nathan's big truck.

"I think I hear them," said Farmer Nathan.

Jeff ran to the window and looked out. "They're here. Let's have party!"

Farmer Nathan pulled on his coat and hat and went outside to help Mr. Lane get the cows, sheep and donkey in the fence. All talking at once and giggling, the children jumped down from the back of the truck and ran inside to get warm.

"Help yourselves to hot chocolate," said Mrs. Donnelly. "That will warm you up."

The children enjoyed the cookies and candy. Then they exchanged gifts with each other and gave presents to the Donnellys. Then Mrs. Phillips led them in some games.

Everyone was having a super time when Brother Bill said, "Hey, we've almost forgotten what we came for. The Donnellys want to see our nativity scene."

"That's right," said Megan. "Come on, Angels." and she directed them to a corner of the living room.

Marty and the shepherds went to another corner. Sally and Rob, who were Mary and Joseph, went to the kitchen to begin their long journey to Bethlehem.

The children had done their parts many times. In fact, Marty said he was sure he could do it in his sleep. Brother Bill narrated as he had done every night that week. And the children acted out their parts. Everything was going smoothly until Brother Bill said, "And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger."

Sally looked in the manger for Baby Jesus. She looked under the blanket. She looked under the manger.

"What's wrong?" whispered Rob.

"I can't find Baby Jesus," said Sally. Kneeling beside the manger, she looked all around the room—the room that was so festively decorated to celebrate a birthday party.

"Where can He be?" asked Rob.

Megan looked under the pile of gifts and wrapping paper. Baby Jesus wasn't there.

Marty looked all around the refreshment table. Baby Jesus wasn't there.

Tony looked through all the things they had used for their games. Baby Jesus wasn't there.

"Wait a minute," said Mr. Lane. I know I saw Baby Jesus somewhere. Now where was it . . . " Then he remembered. Mr. Lane went outside to the truck. Lying in the cold, dirty bed of the truck was the doll the children had used in the manger for Baby Jesus.


"We left Baby Jesus out in the cold," said Mr. Lane when he came back in carrying the doll.

"Oh, no," groaned the children.
 "How could we have left Him out?" asked Marty.

"He's the most important part of our nativity scene," added Megan.

"He's supposed to be the reason we're celebrating," said Brother Bill. "And we,

like so many people, left Him out. How would you like to be left out of your own birthday party?"

The children laughed, but they had learned their lesson. Then they started the nativity scene all over. And this time, Jesus was in the middle of it. 

Without Christ

By Floyd Wolfenbarger


If we could peek into that little outbuilding in Bethlehem the day before the first noel, what would we see? Could any theologian, scribe or prophet have sensed the richness of tomorrow's wonder? Did the donkeys or sheep have beginning halos?

The fact is that there was nothing significant about the ox crib until the Christ Child was laid there. There is nothing sacred about a sheltered watering trough. God sanctified it when He chose this humble place as His portal into humanity.

Later, if we could peek at a well-worn wood post outside Jerusalem there would be no wonder in our hearts to see a lowly donkey and her colt. What poet would be inspired at so commonplace a vision? God had chosen her foal as His royal coach. He rode the untried colt amid the Hosannas of Palm Sunday.

The transformation of the insignificant into the sacred is no great mystery. The difference is the presence of Christ. Just the day before the making of a saint is the wretchedness of a sinner. The metamorphosis is "Christ in you." St. Paul the apostle was, the day before, Saul of Tarsus the Grand Inquisitor.

No candle nor glittering tinsel could change an outbuilding into a nativity scene. Nor can elves and reindeer make a sinner into a saint. Therefore we mustn't celebrate "Candlemas" or "Marymas," but we must worship **CHRISTmas**.

To leave Christ out is to turn the place of nativity back to the dungpile it was before He came. Paul said that he considered all things he attained before Christ to be dung. Nothing without Christ is anything, and everything without Christ is nothing. He alone makes the difference. 

Merry Christmas!

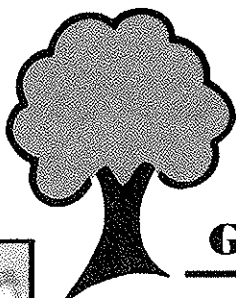
Cooperative Channel Contributions September 1988

RECEIPTS:

| State | Design. | COOP (Undesignated) | Total | Sept. '87 | Yr. To Date |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Alabama | \$ 210.19 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 230.19 | \$ 264.21 | \$ 5,698.88 |
| Arizona | .00 | 67.00 | 67.00 | 50.00 | 331.17 |
| Arkansas | .00 | 4,561.68 | 4,561.68 | 3,065.05 | 41,540.68 |
| California | 60.00 | 1,583.83 | 1,643.83 | 1,017.35 | 12,945.11 |
| Colorado | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 |
| Delaware | .00 | .00 | .00 | 335.46 | 3,348.36 |
| Florida | 187.78 | 777.95 | 965.73 | .00 | 18,846.58 |
| Georgia | 7,486.42 | 1,505.65 | 8,992.07 | 6,852.00 | 76,941.87 |
| Idaho | 95.72 | .00 | 95.72 | .00 | 490.15 |
| Illinois | 5,556.51 | 572.53 | 6,129.04 | 6,928.91 | 80,528.25 |
| Indiana | 485.43 | .00 | 485.43 | 521.04 | 4,895.86 |
| Kansas | .00 | .00 | .00 | 56.49 | 759.53 |
| Kentucky | .00 | .00 | .00 | 107.60 | 1,165.90 |
| Maryland | .00 | 113.25 | 113.25 | .00 | 3,258.04 |
| Michigan | 4,135.56 | .00 | 4,135.56 | 7,016.19 | 51,394.29 |
| Mississippi | 125.29 | 226.52 | 351.81 | 576.71 | 5,520.21 |
| Missouri | 8,549.66 | .00 | 8,549.66 | 8,155.91 | 61,090.76 |
| New Mexico | 50.84 | 4.22 | 55.06 | 17.42 | 247.16 |
| North Carolina | 1,186.10 | 998.35 | 2,184.45 | 1,372.37 | 16,648.40 |
| Ohio | 2,861.87 | 2,609.60 | 5,471.47 | 2,552.07 | 35,704.60 |
| Oklahoma | 28,954.61 | 6,768.01 | 35,722.62 | 28,522.55 | 328,131.13 |
| South Carolina | 19,891.51 | .00 | 19,891.51 | 8,556.44 | 95,270.39 |
| Tennessee | 977.78 | 1,681.57 | 2,659.35 | 1,812.12 | 19,781.24 |
| Texas | 25.00 | .00 | 25.00 | 5,241.09 | 64,171.10 |
| Virginia | 196.55 | 10.00 | 206.55 | 125.00 | 3,699.37 |
| West Virginia | 2,397.14 | 176.19 | 2,573.33 | 1,931.24 | 21,679.49 |
| Canada | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | 545.98 |
| Northwest Assoc. | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | 169.80 |
| Other (Computer) | .00 | .00 | .00 | .02 | .32 |
| Totals | \$83,433.96 | \$21,676.35 | \$105,110.31 | \$85,077.24 | \$954,804.62 |

DISBURSEMENTS:

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Executive Office | \$ 2,237.82 | \$15,907.93 | \$ 18,145.75 | \$17,782.08 | \$163,311.75 |
| Foreign Missions | 60,849.51 | 1,326.73 | 62,176.24 | 44,240.23 | 527,954.12 |
| FWBBC | 4,509.46 | 1,326.73 | 5,836.19 | 6,810.64 | 64,957.20 |
| Home Missions | 12,715.08 | 1,038.31 | 13,753.39 | 12,178.63 | 136,182.72 |
| Retirement & Insurance | 125.61 | 807.58 | 933.19 | 640.00 | 15,196.14 |
| Master's Men | 378.84 | 749.91 | 1,128.75 | 764.43 | 16,180.41 |
| Commission for | | | | | |
| Theological Integrity | 69.02 | 57.67 | 126.69 | 89.06 | 1,483.28 |
| FWB Foundation | 511.64 | 346.11 | 857.75 | 172.66 | 7,617.06 |
| Historical Commission | 64.38 | 57.67 | 122.05 | 86.52 | 1,456.81 |
| Radio & TV Commission | 66.55 | 57.67 | 124.22 | 191.51 | 1,732.20 |
| Hillsdale FWB College | 1,567.38 | .00 | 1,567.38 | 1,718.53 | 15,526.53 |
| Other | 338.67 | .04 | 338.71 | 402.96 | 3,026.40 |
| Totals | \$83,433.96 | \$21,676.35 | \$105,110.31 | \$85,077.24 | \$954,804.62 |



Green Tree Bible Study

Robert E. Picirilli

Galatians 2:16, 20



'Living By the Faith of Christ'—Eternal Security?

Some time ago I heard a man use Galatians 2:20 as an argument for unconditional security: "The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the *faith of the Son of God*," "That settles it," he said, "I'm not kept saved by my faith, but by *Jesus'* faith. And you know *He* won't lose faith!" How will you answer an argument like that?

The first thing is to understand that there is a very important and technical point of grammar involved. Whenever you have a noun with action in it, followed by an "of" phrase, the person (or thing) in the "of" phrase can be *either the doer or receiver of the action in that noun*. In Greek, this is even more clear than in English. The "of" phrase is a Greek genitive, and it can be either a "subjective genitive" (doing the action in the noun it modifies) or an "objective genitive" (the object of the action in the noun).

Here "faith" is the action noun, and "the Son of God," grammatically, can be either the one exercising faith or the one who is the object of the faith. The "of" phrase alone (like the Greek genitive which it translates) does not tell you, by itself, which it is. Technically, then, the words by themselves could mean either the faith that Jesus has or the faith that has Him for its object, faith in Him.

How are we to determine which it means here? Simply by the context: which makes the best sense in context? And that's the second thing to understand in interpreting this phrase. The words aren't by themselves. The key, here, is v. 16, where Paul says, "a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the *faith of Jesus Christ*." This is the same kind of construction exactly:

grammatically, "Jesus Christ" could be the one doing the believing or the one believed in.

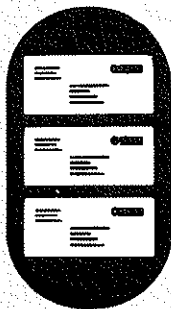
But now we are not left in doubt at all, because Paul himself explains: Because we know that a man is justified by the faith of Jesus Christ, we have believed in (put faith in) Jesus Christ. Clearly, then, "the faith of Jesus Christ" means *our faith in Jesus Christ*. It obviously means the same thing in the rest of the context, v. 20 included.

The truth is that Bible scholars who really understand this Greek construc-

tion will not use Galatians 2:20 as an argument for unconditional security. Kenneth Wuest, for example, takes every opportunity he can to argue for eternal security. But on Galatians 2:16 he says, "The expression, of *Jesus Christ*, is an objective genitive, [meaning] in *Jesus Christ*." Consequently he renders v. 20: "That life which now I live in the sphere of the flesh, by faith I live it, which faith is in the Son of God."

It's interesting that the very same construction occurs in Mark 11:22, literally, "Have (the) faith of God." Correctly, the KJV translates, "Have faith in God." They could properly have done the same thing in Galatians 2:16, 20. Other versions do.

By the way, the same grammatical question is involved in interpreting II Corinthians 5:14, "The love of Christ constrains us." "Love" is the action noun. Is Christ the *doer* or the *receiver* of the love here? Does His love for us constrain us? Or does our love for Him constrain us? Study carefully the context; it will answer the question for you. ☉



OUR READERS COMMENT

SWINDOLL'S HOUSE GOOD INVESTMENT

My letter concerns the October article regarding the new retreat home that Mr. Chuck Swindoll is preparing, and the controversy it aroused. I think that careful study of *all* the scriptures will teach us one certain thing—we are to not be upset when others do different things. Our job is to encourage each other and keep spreading the news that *each person* needs to get to know God.

In the Old Testament we read that Joseph's brothers told the truth to Pharaoh and were rewarded by being blessed materially with excellent land to live in. They also prospered. Joseph lived a favored life from his father before coming to Egypt. He found his circumstances could change drastically, suddenly. Many years later, when his brothers in God's timing, were in need,

he had two choices. He could have been unforgiving or gracious. When he saw their changed attitudes and character, they were invited to enjoy life in Egypt.

When we see blessings bestowed on others and not ourselves, perhaps God is testing us in obedience and whether we will be covetous. He already knows, but we don't.

Having extra gifts can sometimes be a real drag—the message of substances we may have is often a big invitation for others in great need (through their own fault or otherwise) to come to our door for help. This also tests us.

God promises we will have homes and lands in this world and the next, and a mansion prepared for us. We are to pray that it will be on earth as it is in heaven. We are also promised persecution. And we are promised that God is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him, and that we will have abundant living and the desires of our hearts met. God is faithful in all.

Let us commend people who look to the future. Perhaps a large home to sell later will be security for finances for Mr. Swindoll's family. It seems that real estate is a good investment many times. I'm not defending his actions, just noting that God's men who have a heart for Him are rewarded.

We must also guard against the attitude of the prodigal's brother and not be resentful of the blessings of others. The Christian life isn't easy, is it?

Mrs. Janet Swick
New Castle, Delaware

Index

Volume XXXV

Jan.-Dec. 1988

KEY TO INDEX: Articles, author, columns and Newsfront items are arranged in three separate divisions.

In part one, articles are listed in order of title, author, issue and number of the page on which they appear. The author's division's alphabetized according to last names. Columns are listed in chronological order. The Newsfront index is alphabetized in four main sections: churches, ministers, state ministries and national ministries.

—Compiled by *Contact Staff*

A

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Albany Sluggers, The, Tim Jordan | October, 7 |
| Angels as Persons, Malcolm Fry | February, 8 |
| Angels as Protectors, Malcolm Fry | March, 10 |
| Angels as Postmen, Malcolm Fry | April, 6 |
| Anniversary Insects, The, Alton Loveless | April, 26 |
| Are You a Real Christian? William S. Deal | July, 11 |

B

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Back to Basics in Kansas City, Thomas Marberry | September, 2 |
| Black Sheep Welcome Here, Douglas Little | March, 24 |
| Burglary and Your Church, Dan Farmer | August, 12 |

C

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Can You Lose Your Salvation? Bobby Jackson | July, 2 |
| Church Nursery—Your Service Niche? The, Joy Corn | January, 6 |
| Curing the Not-Enoughs, Ruth Mullen | February, 2 |

D

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Dealing With Life's Surprises, Delois Loveless | October, 8 |
| Dear Son . . . , Paul J. Kettelman | June, 2 |
| Death and Dying, Larry Hughes | June, 6 |
| Did They Survive? Steven R. Hasty | July, 12 |
| Does Your Church Want This Family? Pat Creech | November, 27 |

E

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Elected in Kansas City | September, 32 |
| Empty Nest, The, Malcolm Fry | October, 2 |

F

| | |
|---|------------|
| Feet Washing: Free Will Baptist Distinctive, Wade Jernigan | July, 9 |
| From Whence I Came, Jayne Cash | March, 4 |
| Full Hands, M. J. Pritchard | January, 4 |

G

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Getting In Without Going Under, Greg McAllister | July, 10 |
| God Help the Children, A. J. Looper | April, 8 |
| God's Protection, Alton Loveless | February, 9 |

H

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Harrier Pilot Down! James Pittman | June, 4 |
| He Got Three Today, Alton Loveless | August, 13 |
| History: Important or Impotent? Steven Hasty | March, 9 |
| Home or Hatrack? Ruth Creech Mullen | August, 2 |
| Hour of My Time, An, Alton Loveless | November, 9 |
| How to Write Church News, Bert Tippet | March, 6 |
| 'Hungary' Child Receives the Bread of Life, A, Marianne Ennis | November, 10 |

I

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Impact! Alton Loveless | March, 11 |
|------------------------|-----------|

J

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Just for the Joy of It, Brenda Evans | December, 8 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|

L

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Leaning on the Staff, James McAllister | August, 8 |
|--|-----------|

Index . . . (from page 25)

Let My People Go! David Joslin October, 12
Looking Back on 1910, Steven R. Hasty January, 8
Lord's Mysterious Ways, The, Fay Ratcliff February, 4
Lost Man of Christmas, The,
Dennis Henderson December, 2

M

Man Behind the Merger, The, Steven R. Hasty May, 4
Marriage Made in Heaven? A,
David Copeland March, 12
Maximize Potential—Work Together,
Herbert Waid July, 8
Meet D. L. Moody, Alton Loveless December, 30
Meeting the Original Mormons, Steven Hasty April, 7
Merger—75 Years After, The,
Steven Hasty February, 10
Missionaries are Real People, Robert Bryan,
Janice Banks April, 2
Mistress, The, Jonathan Yandell July, 14
My Good Name, David Copeland October, 15

N

National Convention Program June, 7
New Occupation? A, M. J. Pritchard December, 4
No Plant for Mother's Day, Gertrude Bowe May, 2
NYC '88 Report, Jim Lauthern September, 14
NYC Program June, 11

P

Pastor, Would Your Wife Marry You Again?
Sandra Atwood August, 10
Pastor and His Other Job, The,
David Shores August, 6
Pastoral Authority, Larry Hampton August, 9
Preach It, Brother! Len Davenport April, 28

Preying Professionals, R. F. Smith, Jr. October, 11

R

Room for the Next Guy, Larry Hampton April, 4

S

Saved on a Golf Course, Bob King November, 4
Seven Ways to Help Your Pastor,
Wendell M. Leckbee August, 14
'Show Me' Folks Show Us a Convention,
Marilyn Pritchard May, 6
Spared! Dan Farmer October, 6
Star Trap, The, Robert Roberg August, 4
Starting from Scratch, James Munsey November, 2
Stewardship of Our Time, Allan Crowson February, 6
Stranger Among Us, The, Lucy Hyman November, 6

T

Team Work, Judy Puckett January, 13
Tearing Down Fences, Douglas Little February, 16
Thanks for the Hand! Bob Lewis November, 12
They've Stolen Baby Jesus!
David Copeland December, 7

V

View from the Tent, The, Carlos Kelsey November, 8

W

Wanted! Men! Bobby Poole October, 32
What About Angels? Malcolm C. Fry January, 2
What's in a Name? David Joslin July, 6
WNAC Wrap-Up, Lorene Miley September, 13
WNAC Program June, 13
Write for Your Audience, Kathy
Tippett Henderson March, 8
Write to Be Read . . . And Published,
Norman B. Rohrer March, 2

AUTHORS INDEX

Atwood, Sandra August, 10
Banks, Janice April, 2
Bowe, Gertrude May, 2
Bryan, Robert April, 2
Cash, Jayne March, 4
Copeland, David March, 12;
October, 15; December, 7
Corn, Joy January, 6
Creech, Pat November, 27
Crowson, Allan February, 6
Davenport, Len April, 28
Deal, William S. July, 11
Ennis, Marianne November, 10
Evans, Brenda December, 8
Farmer, Dan August, 12;
October, 6
Fry, Malcolm C. January, 2;
February, 8; March, 10;
April, 6; October 2
Hampton, Larry April, 4; August, 9

Hasty, Steven R. January, 8;
February, 10; March, 9;
April, 7; May, 4; July, 12
Henderson, Dennis December, 2
Henderson, Kathy Tippett March, 8
Hughes, Larry June, 6
Hyman, Lucy November, 6
Jackson, Bobby July, 2
Jernigan, Wade July, 9
Jordan, Tim October, 7
Joslin, David July, 6; October, 12
Kelsey, Carlos November, 8
Ketteman, Paul J. June, 2
King, Bob November, 4
Lauthern, Jim September, 14
Leckbee, Wendell M. August, 14
Lewis, Bob November, 12
Little, Douglas February, 16;
March, 24
Looper, A. J. April, 8
Loveless, Alton February, 9;
March, 11; April, 26; August, 13;

November, 9; December, 30
Loveless, Delois October, 8
Marberry, Thomas September, 2
McAllister, Greg July, 10
McAllister, James August, 8
Miley, Lorene September, 13
Mullen, Ruth Creech February, 2;
August, 2
Munsey, James November, 2
Pittman, James June, 4
Poole, Bobby October, 32
Pritchard, M. J. January, 4;
May, 6; December, 4
Puckett, Judy January, 13
Ratcliff, Fay February, 4
Roberg, Robert August, 4
Rohrer, Norman B. March, 2
Shores, David August, 6
Smith, Jr., R. F. October, 11
Tippett, Bert March, 6
Waid, Herbert July, 8
Yandell, Jonathan July, 14

EDITORIALS

BRIEFCASE

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Men Who Mislead | January, 5 |
| Expand Your World | February, 5 |
| The Agony of Writing | March, 5 |
| The Missionary Hobo | April, 5 |
| Five Reasons to Attend the National Convention | May, 5 |
| Facts About Fathers | June, 5 |
| Can't Get There from Here | July, 5 |
| Thank God for the Pastor | August, 5 |
| The Cookie Minister of Antioch | September, 5 |
| That's True Value! | October, 5 |
| When Life's One Long Monday | November, 5 |
| Cowboys, Co-op and Catfish | December, 5 |

THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Leading in Loyalty | January, 31 |
| The FWB Symbol | February, 31 |
| Minister with Money | March, 31 |
| Accent the Ascension | April, 31 |
| The Education Challenge | May, 31 |
| Back to Basics | June, 31 |
| Ambassadors in Africa | July, 31 |
| Homiletics Anyone? | August, 31 |
| Stewardship in September | September, 31 |
| Hymn Book Dedication Day | October, 31 |
| Go Vote! | November, 31 |
| No Other Name | December, 31 |

COLUMNS

ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PREACHERS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| How to Conduct a Business Meeting | January, 29 |
| Hospital Visitation | February, 29 |
| How to Be a Blessing to Church Members | March, 29 |
| Your Relationship with the Woman's Auxiliary | April, 29 |
| How to Make Your Clothes Last Longer | May, 29 |
| Attend the National Association | June, 29 |
| Some Ways to Improve Your Services | July, 29 |
| Make Missionary Conference a Blessing | August, 29 |
| Be Careful, Young Preacher! | September, 29 |
| Preparing Your Congregation to Face the World | October, 29 |
| Things You Can Do That an Older Minister Cannot Do | November, 29 |
| The Church Bulletin | December, 29 |

FLOYD WOLFENBARGER

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| A Modern Parable | January, 24 |
| Go for the Gold! | February, 25 |
| Why I'm Thankful | March, 27 |
| The High School Graduate | April, 25 |
| Memories I Never Had | May, 14 |
| 12 Ways to Communicate in Marriage | June, 3 |
| Politics in the Wilderness | July, 7 |
| Without Christ | December, 23 |

GREEN TREE BIBLE STUDY

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Paul, Waging War on God's Side, Studies in II Corinthians | January, 25 |
| Paul, A Clear Conscience about the Character of His Ministry, II Corinthians | March, 25 |
| Meditation on the Circumstances of Sinners, Psalm 73 | April, 24 |
| The Two Books of God's Revelation, Psalm 19 | May, 27 |
| Refuge of the Godly, The, Psalm 91 | June, 30 |
| Three Pairs of Hands, Psalm 28 | August, 28 |
| A Hymn to the Word of God, Psalm 119 (Part One) | September, 27 |
| The Beauty of the Word of God, Psalm 119 (Part Two) | October, 24 |
| God's Word: Blessings and Response, Psalm 119 (Part Three) | November, 28 |
| 'Living by the Faith of Christ'—Eternal Security? Galatians 2:16, 20 | December, 24 |

ON LITTLE LANES

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| More Than Enough | January, 26 |
| A Lost Prize | February, 26 |
| Thank You, Lord, for Everything | March, 26 |
| Marty Pays, But Still Profits | April, 27 |
| A Skunk Goes to Florida | May, 26 |
| Big Fish, The | June, 27 |
| Winning Through Losing | July, 27 |
| No Power, No Light | August, 25 |
| The Small Giant | October, 26 |
| Ready and Waiting | November, 26 |
| Left Out in the Cold | December, 22 |

TOP SHELF

| | |
|---|---------------|
| 'I, II Corinthians' in The Randall House Bible Commentary, Robert E. Picirilli | January, 24 |
| Telling Yourself the Truth, William Backus, and Marie Chapian | February, 25 |
| Survive and Thrive After Fifty-Five, Vada Lee Barkley | March, 24 |
| Meditations for the Divorced, Judy Osgood | April, 25 |
| Facing Death and Dying, Cleo Pursell | April, 25 |
| Triumph Over Suffering, Cleo Pursell | April, 25 |
| Confidence, How to Succeed at Being Yourself, Alan Loy McGinnis | May, 15 |
| Patience . . . Miracle in Progress, Sue Winget | June, 3 |
| The Integrity Crisis, Warren W. Wiersbe | July, 4 |
| The Wedging, Marie Butler | August, 26 |
| How to Prepare Bible Messages, James Braga | September, 26 |
| Offense to Reason: A Theology of Sin, Bernard Ramm | October, 27 |
| Involvement: Being a Responsible Christian in a Non-Christian Society, John Stott | November, 24 |
| The Teacher's Commentary, Lawrence O. Richards | December, 20 |



NEWSFRONT

Churches

FLORIDA

Harmony FWB Church,
Lake Butler March, 14

MICHIGAN

Philadelphia FWB Church,
Mt. Clemens January, 13

NORTH CAROLINA

White Oak Hill FWB Church,
Bailey January, 11

Ministers

Cousineau, Frank May, 16
Dudley, Jerry March, 13
Gibbs, John March, 14
Gilliland, John June, 14
Isbell, W. S. May, 16
Keener, Elmer March, 14
Lindsley, John January, 11
Loveless, Alton E. December, 11
Thompson, Bailey October, 14
Whaley, Lee August, 15
Wilkinson, Sam July, 17

Laymen

Barnard, Laura Belle October, 14
Cronk, Trula February, 14
Daniel, Mildred September, 15
Fry, Mae April, 14
Renegar, Jess
Eldridge December, 10
Ryder, Jennifer October, 14
Trotter, Angela December, 10
Welch, Leta January, 12
Wolfenbarger, Angela July, 17
Wright, Glen October, 15

State Ministries

Alabama—January, 11; November, 14
Arizona—June, 14
Arkansas—November, 15
Atlantic Canada—September, 17
California—August, 16; December, 10
Florida—January, 11
Georgia—February, 13
Illinois—June, 14
Indiana—September, 16
Maryland—September, 15
Missouri—September, 16
New Mexico—July, 18
North Carolina—January, 13; April, 13,
14; May, 16; August, 16; September,
16, 17; November, 14
Northwest Assoc.—August, 16
Ohio—September, 16
Oklahoma—January, 10; August, 16;
September, 15; November, 15
South Carolina—May, 16
Tennessee—February, 13
Texas—September, 17
Virginia—September, 15
West Virginia—August, 16

National Ministries

All-Boards Conference to Meet in
Nashville November, 15
Bible College Graduates
47 August, 15
Bible College Schedules Christian
Schools Conference January, 10
Bible College Seniors Elected for
'Who's Who' January, 13
Bible College Team Wins Ohio
Basketball
Tournament February, 14
Bible College Welcome Days
Draws 193 February, 14
Bible College's Basics Conference
'Practical and
Challenging' December, 10
Board Approves I. C. Trip by Special

Committee April, 13
Board of Foreign Missions Response
to Report of Special
Committee July, 17
Bob Shockey to Direct Torch
Campaign February, 13
College Announces Bible College
Speakers January, 12
Committee Says Palmer Charges
Unsubstantiated January, 10
Convention Steering Committee
Meets in Tampa November, 14
'Enlarge Your Vision' Winners
Announced February, 14
Foreign Missionaries to Speak at
FWBBC
Conference November, 15
Foreign Missions Study Committee
Reports Ivory Coast Findings July,
16
Four From Bible College Approved
as Student Missionaries March, 13
Free Will Baptist Bible College
Enrolls 286 November, 14
Leadership Conference Sounds
'Loyalty' Note February, 12
NC Team Wins Bible College
Tournament April, 14
New Hymn Book Delayed,
Dedication Sunday Set
March 27 January, 10
Randall House Announces Eighth
Annual Softball
Tournament May, 16
Randall House to Sponsor Eighth
Annual Writers
Conference January, 12
Soldiers of the Cross Winners
Announced July, 17
Sunday School Enlargement Thrust
Set for Spring February, 13
Target 90 Committee
Update April, 14
Target 90 Update November, 15
Writers' Contest Winners July, 16

Beyond Belief



Especially
For Young
Preachers

The Church Bulletin

One of the most effective tools for keeping the congregation informed is the Sunday bulletin. The pastor uses it to teach, train, challenge, encourage, warn and motivate his flock.

However, a bulletin worth taking home cannot be prepared late Saturday night. Sunday morning's printed page can be a planned, well-laid-out piece of literature that benefits the worshipper the entire week.

1. Determine the style bulletin you want: the color-pictured bulletin with your church name printed on front, the locally printed form with the church picture on front, or the plain sheet of paper.
2. Collect sample copies from other churches. Keep a file.
3. Place a file on your desk for bulletin information. Regularly put news, names, information, announcements, etc. in that file. Leave nothing to memory.
4. Purchase bulletin cut-outs. Pictures, scripture, sayings, add to the bulletin. However, don't overuse.
5. By Thursday, lay out the bulletin on a blank sheet of paper. Arrange information and pictures for clarity and interest. Let someone proofread the layout.
6. Use names in the bulletin. List the nursery workers, ushers, Sunday School and Church Training Service teachers/workers, deacons, etc.
7. Recognize people. School, civic, community and church awards should be placed in the bulletin.
8. Keep the congregation informed. List the week's activities. State coming programs and special services. Include a calendar of the month's activities.
9. Include material of value. A poem, illustration, sermon outline, puzzle or quiz will motivate many to take the bulletin home.
10. What can you leave out? Is the church name used twice? Is the order of service necessary? Why print the nursery list if the schedule is on the nursery door? Are ushers' names essential if you use the same ones every service? Is it necessary to list service times every week? Evaluate the bulletin. Get the most material for the space allotted.
11. Consider using large print. Some newer typewriters allow different print size and style. Older people appreciate the larger print.
12. Encourage the congregation to take the bulletin home. Ask them to tape it to the refrigerator for a week and then file it. Extra bulletins should be distributed by visitation teams. Ask a volunteer to mail bulletins to college students, armed service personnel, shut-ins, delinquent members.
13. Set a goal to produce a well-accepted, used bulletin. Don't waste time producing a piece of literature that members find no use for two minutes after reading it. The bulletin can be a means of accomplishing much more than announcements or pleas.

Dennis Wiggs



NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

DOCTOR REPORTS THAT PRAYER FOR THE SICK GETS RESULTS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (EP)—According to a doctor's report in a medical journal, prayer for the seriously ill has a measurable therapeutic effect.

Dr. Randolph C. Byrd's conclusions, which appeared in the July 1988 issue of *Southern Medical Journal* were drawn from observing about 400 people admitted to the coronary care unit of San Francisco General Hospital over a nine-month period.

According to the study, active, born-again Christians from several denominations prayed for 192 patients. Another 201 patients made up the control group, for whom no one was known to be praying. "The intercessory prayer was done outside the hospital daily until the patient was discharged from the hospital," the report specified. Intercessors were assigned randomly to patients, who only knew the patient's first name, diagnosis and general condition, and were given only brief updates on condition from time to time.

At the conclusion of the study, Byrd reported that those who received prayer had "significantly lower severity" scores. Those who were not part of the 192 required more "ventilatory assistance, antibiotics and diuretics." Patients were rated good, intermediate or bad by hospital personnel other than Byrd, who had no personal contact with any of the patients, all of whom were selected at random. Eighty-five percent of those who had been prayed for received a rating of "good" as opposed to only 73 percent in the control group. On the other end of the scale, 14 percent of those being prayed for were ranked as "bad" while 22 percent of the control group were rated the same.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SUES BAPTIST CAMP

RICHMOND, VA (EP)—A Southern Baptist conference center violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964 when it refused to allow a group of Mormons to use its facilities, the U.S. Justice Department has charged.

In a suit filed August 3 in the U. S. District Court in Lynchburg, Virginia, the Justice Department argues that The Master's Inn is a public accommodation and must abide by the Civil Rights Act, which forbids discrimination in accepting lodgers on the basis of religion.

But the inn is not a public facility, according to Larry Ferguson, president and director of the Christian conference center. Ferguson said that the center is open only to Christian groups holding Christian retreats and conferences. Advertising is done exclusively to Southern Baptist churches, he said, adding that a person could not simply stop at the inn and ask for lodging or a meal for the night.

Ferguson explained that the Master's Inn holds Christian retreats that anyone may attend, and while most of the retreats are sponsored by Southern Baptists, members of Lutheran and Presbyterian churches have also used the center.

"To open our doors to cults would mean that we'd have to propagate beliefs that are against our gospel," Ferguson said. "Their [Mormon] beliefs are anti-Christ. If we were forced to open our doors to the Mormons, we'd have to open them to the Church of Satan . . . We do not allow groups that are the antitheses of Christ to come in here and teach anti-Christ doctrines."

Ferguson said the center's board of directors, all of whom are members of Southern Baptist churches, had voted to "fight this all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary." Ferguson has asked the Rutherford Institute to take the case.

'IN GOD WE TRUST' ON CURRENCY IS TARGET OF ATHEIST OPPOSITION

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—"In God We Trust." This affirmation of faith was put on U. S. currency at the urging of a Christian preacher, and may come off U. S. currency at the urging of atheists, according to the National Legal Foundation, a group organized by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson.

In a full-page ad run in *USA Today*, the National Legal Foundation claimed Madalyn Murray O'Hair is preparing to renew her attempts to have the slogan stricken from U. S. currency. No lawsuit has been filed yet, but National Legal Foundation Executive Director Robert Skolrood explains, "We called, and she said she was going after it again. She said she was devoting the rest of her life to getting 'In God We Trust' off U. S. currency."

In 1978 O'Hair sued the federal government to have the phrase removed from currency. She lost that lawsuit in a federal district court, and her appeals of that decision were turned down.

Skolrood said the ad in *USA Today* was intended to give Christians warning to unite in their support for the motto, so they're not surprised as he says they were with O'Hair's school prayer lawsuit.

John Murray, president of American Atheists, said "In God We Trust" is a hot issue for the group. "We do want to refile," he said. "We have an all new Supreme Court. They are more conservative, but you never know. If we can't get [a hearing], then we can wait another 10 years and try again."

Murray told *Baptist Press* his organization's goals include removing "under God" from the pledge of allegiance, removing "In God We Trust" from currency, and changing the national motto from "In God We Trust" to "E Pluribus Unum." He said, "We're going to keep at it until [laws] are changed, until those public arenas are secular. We want a nation with a government that is completely neutral about religion."

Meet D. L. Moody

By Alton Loveless

My wife had been invited to speak at a mother-daughter banquet where the men of the church were supposed to serve.

The time had arrived for the occasion to begin, but only two men were present to do the honors for about 100 ladies.

Rather than sit in the car for two hours, I removed my tie and coat and joined the male union. My presence soon attracted the attention of a lady at the head table sitting near my wife.

Her first words to me were, "Who are you?"

I never spilled a spot of coffee as I replied, "I'm D. L. Moody."

The dear soul became awed and sincerely exclaimed, "I've always wanted to meet you. I'm so honored!"

I hardly had time for more until returning again I overheard her say to a neighbor, "That's D. L. Moody!"

Since I was headed in that direction

I couldn't miss, "No, that's Alton Loveless, our state something."

Well, I wasn't ready for my next trip noticing her awe had turned to anger.

"You lied to me! Our pastor says jesting is a sin."

"But I was only teasing. I thought you knew who I was. I'm sorry. Please forgive me for any offense."

"No, I didn't. And no, I don't."

What a terrible lesson. And my wife spoke to me twice that night.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Alton Loveless is Promotional Director for the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists.



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

No Other Name



Controversy erupted during 1988 surrounding the film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*. The major concern was the calloused indifference to the Christian faith which this film evidenced.

The film contradicts the clear teachings of scriptures. The Bible presents Christ as the Son of God and the Son of man. Both the deity and humanity of Christ surface in the scriptures, and yet Christ did not sin though tempted in all points like us.

The film's implications strike at the very heart of Christianity—the person and work of Jesus Christ. We believe that Christ, the God-man is the only mediator between God and man. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. No man can come to God except through Him.

The History

The birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem was no accident. It was the fulfillment of God's divine promise. Beginning with Genesis 3:15 the Bible speaks about the coming of the Lord Jesus. The Mosaic sacrificial system pictures the person and work of Christ. Peter declares that Jesus is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. John calls Him the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world. Paul says that in the fullness of time Christ came.

The person, passion and preaching of Christ became part of the historical record. His birth, life, death and resur-

rection are all part of that historical record. We do not have to suppose, speculate or view with suspicion the Lord Jesus Christ. The record is clear.

The Hymns

Countless songs have been penned expressing the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. Hymns extolling the name of Jesus include, "His Name is Wonderful," "What a Lovely Name," "Praise the Name of Jesus" and many others. These beautiful hymns emphasize the views of song writers regarding the person and work of Christ.

An analysis of Christmas carols reveals the proper attitude toward Jesus Christ. These hymns give us tools by which we can sing and share the Christmas story, the birth of our Savior.

The Hope

The scriptures declare that Jesus is the eternal hope of human beings. No other name will do.

Acts records, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

There is no other name through which pardon for sin comes. There is

no salvation apart from Him. He is the mediator between a holy God and sinful men. Whosoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

John said, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

Luke records Christ's words to the disciples prior to the ascension when He says, "And that repentance, and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). In Acts 5 the apostles were admonished by the authorities not to preach in the name of Jesus and yet they continued to teach and preach Jesus Christ in the temple and every house.

There is no other name through which we can pray. When we pray to God we pray in Jesus' name. Jesus declares, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14).

There is no other name by which we can praise. Paul reminds us of this truth when he says, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20).

There is no other name in which we can trust. We have the history, the hymns, the hope. Join with me in celebrating Christ this Christmas season.

The Secretary's Schedule

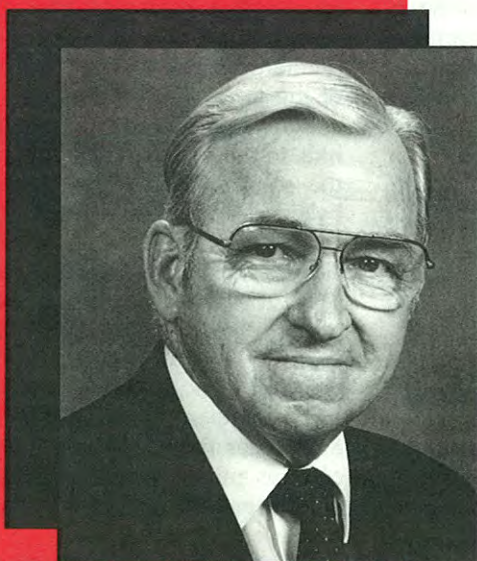
December 5-6 All-Boards Conference
Nashville, Tennessee
December 6-8 Executive Committee
Nashville, Tennessee

CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee



**Paul J. Ketteman
1924-1987**

Mr. Ketteman served for 25 years as the college's Public Relations Director. The annual Christmas drive, which he began in 1976, was one of his favorite events of the year.

Please send a gift today in honor of this very special servant.

Paul Ketteman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive

All December gifts to Free Will Baptist Bible College will be counted toward the goal of:

\$125,000.



Pastors, plan a special College Day in December. If you have young people attending the college, schedule them to preach, teach or testify while they are home.



Parents, help your children at FWBBC to bring back an offering for the drive by asking friends to sign a checkbook or make a special gift.



Friends, send a special gift to FWBBC in December in honor of Paul Ketteman.

Send all gifts to:

Free Will Baptist Bible College

3606 West End Avenue

Nashville, Tennessee 37205-0117