

JUNE 1994

CONTACT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

We
Preach

Christ

58th
Annual Convention
National Association
of Free Will Baptists
July 17-21, 1994
Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

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Busy Dads

.....
Satan's Limits

.....
Convention Program

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NYC Program

.....
WNA C Program

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JUNE 1994

VOLUME 41, NO. 6

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Melvin Worthington

Why We Preach Christ

Christians have a unique message and ministry in this world to serve as models of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. Described as witnesses, ambassadors, epistles, light, salt and soldiers, they stand in Christ's stead and beseech sinners to be reconciled to God. Christians do not preach themselves but Christ.

Preaching Christ requires patience and power. The god of this world has blinded the mind of sinners through malice, errors and prejudice lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ should shine into their hearts. The forces of darkness keep those who have refused to believe from seeing the light of the gospel, thus blinding them to the truth of God.

In the midst of changing attitudes toward sin and salvation, we must not change, compromise or cloud the message of redemption, regeneration, reconciliation and resurrection. Paul did not preach himself, that is, he did not preach the devices and imaginations of his own heart. He refused to advertise his own ideas, gifts or personality.

Hodge says, "To preach one's self is to make self the end of preaching, that is, preaching with the design to attract to ourselves the admiration, the confidence or homage of men." The truth, text, theme and thrust of the gospel is Christ.

The *person of Jesus Christ* serves as the basis for His redemptive work. He was both God and man. The New Testament affirms the truth that God became a man in the person of His only begotten son—Jesus Christ. The very essence of the gospel is that Christ became a man in order to be a propitiation for sins of all humanity. The Jesus who walked on this earth was the Christ, the anointed Messiah, Immanuel—God with us.

The *portrait of Christ* is clearly presented in the Old Testament sacrifices which characterized the Mosaic system. This begins in Genesis 3 when God slew animals and clothed Adam and Eve with coats of skin. The animal sacrifices pictured the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

The epistle to the Hebrews affirms this fact. Jesus Christ was the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world. His sacrificial death on the cross paid the sin debt. He is pictured and foreshadowed in the rituals and ceremonies of the Levitical system of worship.

The *prophecy that Christ* would come is a vital element when we preach Christ. His coming fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament and confirms the truth of revelation. When we preach Christ, we emphasize that He was sent from God in accordance with the promise of the prophets.

The *presentation of Christ* takes place in the fullness of time. The person pictured in the Old Testament is presented in the New Testament Gospels. Conceived by the Holy

Spirit in the womb of Mary, He was born in a lowly stable in Bethlehem. The long anticipated Messiah had come to this earth. The Gospel writers record His works, wonders and words.

The *power of Christ* remains an essential ingredient in the gospel message. He lived a sinless life and died for the sins of all the world. On the third day He rose from the dead and ever lives to make intercession of us. The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead quickened us when we were dead in trespasses and sins. His mighty power made us alive, raised us from spiritual deadness and enables us to walk in newness of life.

The *promise of Christ* brings comfort, courage and cleansing to the Christian. Jesus promised that He would return. The truth of His second advent can be described as a comforting, compelling and cleansing hope. One day Jesus Christ will return for His church. Preaching Christ must include His promise to return.

We preach that Christ came, was crucified and is coming again. We preach that Christ is our Lord. He is our message, our theme.

Lenski correctly says, "Christ Jesus as Lord is not only the center but the entire sphere; not only the central doctrine but the sum of all doctrine, omitting none. . . . What a pitiful thing to be preaching ourselves in any manner or degree over against preaching nothing but Christ Jesus as Lord! To devote ourselves wholly to His interests and those of the gospel, that is blessedness indeed; to substitute our own little temporal interests is the height of folly." ■

The Secretary's Schedule

June 6-7	North Carolina State Association
June 6-9	Missouri State Association
June 8-10	Texas State Association
June 10-11	West Virginia State Association
June 16-17	Virginia State Association
June 17-18	Kentucky State Association
June 23-25	Maryland State Association
June 24-25	Ohio State Association
June 26	a.m. Urbana FWB Church Urbana, Ohio p.m. Heritage Temple FWB Church Columbus, Ohio
June 30-July 3	Atlantic Canada District Association

A young father examines his role.

In The Trenches With Dad

By Mark McPeak



Some days I get up before six, but don't start my workday until after nine. Why? Kids! It's like this, Andrew's fifth birthday fell on Wednesday this year. Since my wife works on Wednesdays, we had to plan carefully. So, we got

up really early before Mom left at 6:15. Andrew opened his presents and Mom was off.

At about 6:30 the phone rang. "Mark, the car is spazzing out on me. I just barely got off the interstate without being killed!"

She told me where she was and the race was on. Feeling pressure to rescue Mom, we started the morning ritual of dressing, brushing and combing, only this time at breakneck speed.

I'm sort of like a working supervi-

sor on these mornings. In addition to getting myself ready, I feed, clothe and groom Matthew, our 15-month-old.

Amy, our seven-and-a-half year old, is allergic to mornings. Ideally she needs about two hours to transition from sleep to activity. With her, I use verbal cattle prods along with the typical charts and motivational tools common to people who've read too much about parenting.

Andrew's heart is pure. He really means to get dressed. It's just that as soon as Dad leaves the room his belt turns into a weapon, his shoe becomes a jet airplane or the sink becomes a place where experiments need to be performed with soap and tooth paste. Life is too interesting to miss just so we can hurry away to the daily routine.

On this very special morning, the pressure kept building. The more I tried to hurry, the slower we went. Andrew wanted to wear his new cowboy boots, then he didn't, then he did again. Amy couldn't get started. Matthew wanted to be held or he screamed.

About 45 minutes after Mom's call, we finally arrived to "rescue" her. We arranged her transportation and we were off again. We quickly grabbed the ideal breakfast, doughnuts and milk, and got Amy to school just before the bell.

After returning home to retrieve the diaper bag I forgot, I dropped the boys at daycare.

I sighed as my adrenaline level and blood pressure returned to normal on the way to the office. I looked at my watch, 9:15. I'd been up and active for over three hours. Now, I could start my work day.

Overwhelmed

I'm sure I wasn't the only dad feeling that dreaded feeling—I felt overwhelmed. The flow of events swelled into a giant tidal wave and I nearly drowned in them. Everything I believed about being a good dad—being patient, taking advantage of teachable moments and modeling my faith even in crisis—got lost in the flood. I hate to admit it, but I get that feeling a lot.

Two factors bring on the overwhelming feeling: responsibilities and regrets. Every day has its own

invisible to-do list. I must get up and go through the routine with my children three mornings a week. I must work hard to serve the people of my church. I must care for our house and the cars, pay the bills and lots of other stuff. Responsibility is endless, like the surges of an angry sea.

Then there is the subtle torment. I *ought* to spend more time with my children individually, and have more dates with my wife. I *ought* to pray more. I really *ought* to exercise regularly, write my mom, eat less fat and more fiber, witness to more people, continue my education, save more money, call my congressman and read a book every week.

Regret is deceptive, like the undertow which slowly pulls you away from safety and into the depths.

Young dads need a survival strategy. Too many of us are drowning. Up to our necks in responsibility and emotionally fatigued by regrets, we're easily pulled under. The results of this cycle are all around us—young families torn apart by the sin of a young father, wives and children whose pain leaves scars only God can heal. We need a simple plan that can serve as a sort of spiritual and emotional compass when life starts getting crazy.

Surviving

The first step is to figure out where you are. Stop. Read a book like *Ordering Your Private World* or *Man in the Mirror*, get on track personally.

Open yourself up before the Lord, pray Psalm 139, "Search me, O God, and know my heart . . ." He will cleanse your heart and ready you for obedience.

Establish some personal accountability with a good godly friend or two (Prov. 27:7, James 5:16). You will drift into dangerous waters if you refuse to drop anchor and get your bearings.

Step two is to establish priorities. Make a list of important things and people. The Lord, your wife, your children, your job, your house, your ministry at church and your favorite hobby may all be listed. Ask yourself this question, "Which of these can I live without?"

I can survive without my job or my house or lots of other stuff. But I can't make it without the Lord and my

family. Put to this test, the priorities are obvious. List them in order of importance. Priorities set the course for successful living.

Step three is the hard part. Follow the course—live by your priorities! Psalm 139 ends with these words "... lead me in the way everlasting." I can't claim that I love God when He's crowded out of my schedule. If work gets my best and my family the leftovers, I can't credibly say they come first. When my wife feels like a single parent, she cares little about empty words and promises.

If I value the Lord, I'll make time to spend with Him. If I value my wife, she'll come before Monday Night Football or looking good at work. If I really love the children God has given me, I will treat them as precious gifts—even when they unroll the toilet paper just to see how long it is!

All right, all you dads. It's time for us to get real. In Jesus' lesson about the wise and foolish builders, the man who built on sand was destroyed when the storm came, but the edifice on the rock was unmovable. If you are faking everyone out, you may look good for now, but watch out! When it gets rough, you're going to crumble.

Being real requires a lot of demolition. We're always building walls around our lives. We shut God out when we sin. We alienate our wives because of our selfishness and pettiness. We grow distant from our kids when we don't spend time with them.

Break down the walls. Humbly ask God to forgive you and make you real every day. Open up to your wife every night before going to sleep. Make time to read to, talk to and play with your kids. And, be real with all of them! ■



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Mark D. McPeak is minister to adults of Donelson Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

Principles on Pain IV:

Satan's Limits

By Tom McCullough

The American church is notorious for its extreme swings in doctrinal emphasis. For years the invisible world of angels and demons was virtually ignored in evangelical preaching and writing. Someone who believed in a real and active spirit world was considered superstitious and definitely not God-centered in his thinking. Now we have swung, perhaps, too far in the opposite direction. We see Satan behind every bush and ascribe to him power that is not his.

The divine dialogue in Job's first two chapters makes it clear that Satan is limited in his ability to provoke pain and suffering by the protective hedge God places around His children (1:12; 2:6). Satan had the power to touch Job's life only in proportion to the permission given to Him by the Father. He can never go beyond God's hedge.

This is a truth to be cherished by the suffering Christian. As someone said, "Nothing comes to us that hasn't first passed through the nail-scarred hands of God."

Paul assured the Corinthians of the same truth in 1 Corinthians 10:13. In other words, nothing would happen to them that God would not supply the means to confront.

Some believers have swallowed the lie of eastern mysticism that says there are two equally powerful "forces" at odds in the universe: good and bad, ying and yang, darkness and light. This is a lie straight from hell.

The devil would love for us to believe that he is as powerful as God. God threw Satan out of His Kingdom once and will do it again in that final day. The Father has never shared equal power with the devil, who's forever a self-important opportunist.

Yes, we should be involved in spiritual warfare, especially in our prayer closet trenches. But we should not be so preoccupied with Satan that we give him authority that is not rightfully his. We should keep Christ in focus at the center of our vision but still see Satan at the margin with our peripheral vision.

A. W. Tozer wisely said, "The sheep need not be terrified by the

wolf, they have but to stay close to the Shepherd. The instructed Christian whose faculties have been developed by the Word and the Spirit will not fear the devil. When necessary they will stand against the powers of darkness and overcome them by the blood of the Lamb and the word of His testimony. He will recognize the peril in which he lives and will know what to do about it, but he will practice the presence of God and never allow himself to become devil conscious." ■



ABOUT THE WRITER: Tom McCullough is a Free Will Baptist missionary to France.

Learning from Big Blue

By Jerry Norris

All my life I have heard the statement, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." I have sincerely used that statement. If something is going along all right, just leave it alone. As long as it does well, don't tamper with it. It is only recently that I have come to realize the folly of such a statement. I don't know whether we realize it or not, but every company that does well fixes it *before* it breaks. If you wait until it breaks, you have waited too long.

In the business world, we can cite IBM, long the dominant force in its field. "Big Blue" feared no one; everyone feared them. However, last year we saw IBM take a nosedive. They began downsizing for the first time. They cut their dividends for the first time. Their stock tumbled more than 50 points. It was not a pleasant experience for this mighty company, but *they waited until it was broke to fix it.*

What am I saying? We must improve something, even when it is doing well. It might do our churches well to have a research and development department. We should be constantly asking ourselves *how can we improve our Sunday School, music program, Master's Men, Woman's Auxiliary, senior adult program, youth ministry?* Let's don't wait until it's broken, and then try to fix it. Let's keep improving it to the point where it won't ever get broke!

Industry Revolution

I think one of the present and future trends is *quality*. I do not believe future generations will be as forgiving for shoddy workmanship as past generations. This whole concept is illustrated in our U.S. automobile industry. In the 50's and 60's "Made in America" meant quality while "Made in Japan" meant cheap junk.

However, in the 50's, an American named W. Edward Deming went to Japan to sell his Total Quality philosophy. Why did he go to Japan? Because America wouldn't listen to



him. Remember, *If it ain't broke don't fix it.* The auto industry in America was the best in the world. It didn't need fixing. *But it was broke in Japan*, and they listened to Deming.

We saw what happened in the 70's and early 80's. Our American auto industry was drowning in red ink. Japan became the world leader in the auto industry. Why? Because they embraced Deming's Total Quality concepts. To this day they give an annual "Deming Prize." Their automobiles outperformed ours by incredible margins. America tried to explain it away, but the bottom line was, *Japan was building better automobiles than we were!*

When this finally dawned on us, we began to emphasize Total Quality. The result? *Today, America is selling cars to the Japanese.* We have once again become a leader in the industry. What put us there? *Quality!*

Local Church Creativity

But we are involved in a far more important business than making computers or automobiles; we are in the business of reaching and teaching men and women for the Master.

I do not believe that a church can reach this current generation with shoddy workmanship. I believe that when people come to our church

they want to see clean facilities, a well-staffed nursery, prepared teachers, a well-prepared sermon, well-presented music, good programming, and more. You get the idea?

We may not be able to do all the great programs like megachurches do, but we must do what we do well. That is difficult for those of my age niche and older to comprehend. We see church the way we have always seen church, *but I think we must see church through the eyes of the people we are trying to reach.*

Many people make their decision to return to a church *before* they even park their car in the church parking lot. Directional signs, parking facilities landscaping, the outward condition of the buildings all play significant roles in whether or not they return.

I read a phrase the other day that has stayed in my mind—"continuous improvement." It doesn't have to be tremendous improvements as long as it is gradual and continual. I believe that is what we must always be doing if we are to be successful in building a church that will glorify God.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Jerry Norris pastors Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Fenton, Missouri.

The stage was set in Louisville, Kentucky in July 1993. It was to be the largest Free Will Baptist gathering of the year. We called it the National Association of Free Will Baptists—the one time of the year when Free Will Baptists from all walks of life and geographical places gather to worship the Lord and seek to further His kingdom—or was it?

The usual tension was present in everyone's mind concerning upcoming business sessions. Hearts were on edge as decisions were made on everything from music to missions, but among the confusion a few men were planning noble efforts for unification.

Singing groups from all four colleges carrying the Free Will Baptist name were scheduled to come together on one unforgettable Tuesday night to lead the denomination in worship. Joint practices were planned and songs selected, but as the week's events unfolded, something more began to happen.

As practices were held and time shared together, members of the four ministry groups discovered something special and expected. Group members found each other to be more than names and faces, more than just someone from "that other college" who sang the same part or the same song.

They found that they truly enjoyed each other's company and fellowship as believers. They had a bond that was more than musical—much more!

The students bonded through their faith and love for Jesus Christ. They bonded through their belief in Free Will Baptist doctrine. They bonded through a burning desire to worship Jesus Christ and to lead others in worship. As they came to know each other better, they found that they shared the same hopes, dreams, problems, pains and desires. They weren't as different as they had assumed.

A miraculous thing called friendship wove its way into their lives to form a strong bond. They found themselves seeking each other's company for recreational times and other times of sharing throughout the day. Each night after services, they

were naturally drawn together at the River Grill or whatever restaurant was still open at such a late hour. But regardless of time or place, the fellowship was wonderful.

Friendships—good Christian friendships—were made that would probably last some a lifetime, and a valuable lesson learned that would hopefully carry on for generations to come.

They learned a lesson of Christian love and unification that is meant for all believers. They were not adversaries but members together in the Body of Christ (Romans 12). They learned that the Body is much more functional and useful when all its members work together.

This seemingly simple lesson impacted them in a way that they had never before felt. Together, they brought hearts and minds to worship on that Tuesday night in a way that

no group could have done alone. They experienced worship as they had never experienced it. Their night together on that national stage was not the end, but a springboard for a bright future and more events to come in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

It was a dream come true for attendees when students from California Christian College, Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Free Will Baptist Bible College and Southeastern Free Will Baptist College stood together in worship that Tuesday night in Kentucky. My dream is that the spirit of unity between those students will survive and grow until we stand together in heaven to worship the King of Kings for eternity! ■

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ABOUT THE WRITER: Terry Skiles is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The Lesson from Louisville

Sweet Harmony

By Terry Skiles

Hotel Reservation

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Little Rock, Arkansas

National Convention

July 17-21, 1994

- Requests for reservations made after 6/17/94 will be returned to you with a list of availabilities.
- All reservation requests will be made through the NAFWB Housing Bureau--NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTELS.
- Complete this housing form selecting your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice hotels and mail to the Housing Bureau. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1994. Send one form for each room request. Duplicate this form if necessary.
- Changes and cancellations must be made in writing to the NAFWB Housing Bureau in Little Rock.
- The hotel will require a deposit. Complete the credit card information on this form or send a check directly to the hotel AFTER you have received your confirmation.

Cutoff Date:

Received by
June 17, 1994

MAIL TO:





NAFWB Housing Bureau
c/o Little Rock Convention Bureau
P. O. Box 207
Little Rock, AR 72203
or FAX to
501/374-2255

YOUR NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ (WK) _____ (HM) _____
CREDIT CARD TYPE _____ CC# _____ EXP. _____

By signing below, I authorize the hotel confirmed to charge my credit card for one night's deposit, which is non-refundable 48 hours prior to arrival.

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____ SIGNATURE _____

HOTEL REQUESTED (Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.):

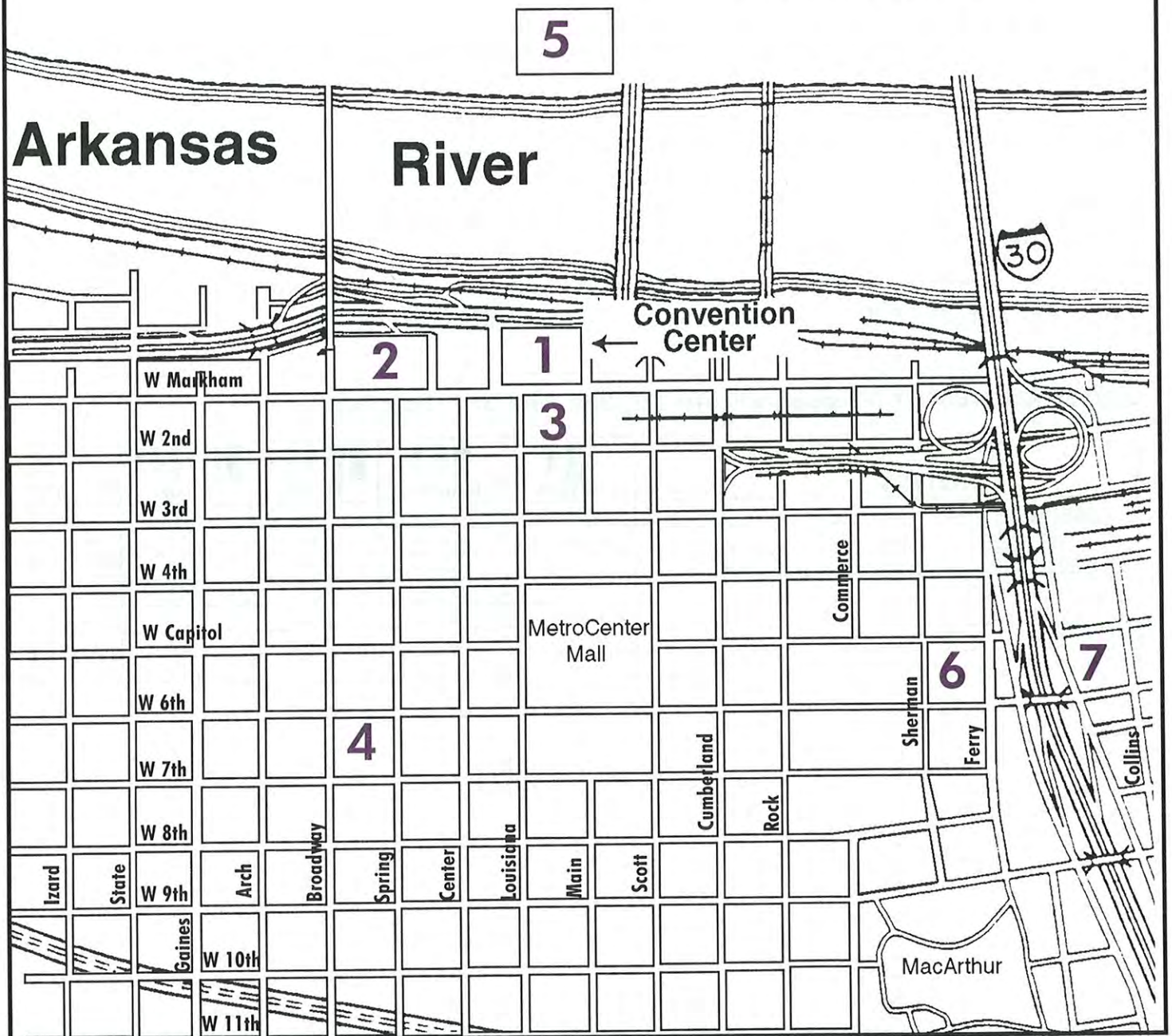
*Rates do NOT include 10% sales tax.						
HOTELS	Choice	Single 	Double 	Triple 	Quad 	Parking
Arkansas' Excelsior-Headquarters Hotel		\$76	\$76	\$76	\$76	Free
Camelot Hotel-NYC Headquarters		\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	Free
Capital Hotel		\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$5/day
Riverfront Hilton		\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62	Free
Holiday Inn City Center		\$61	\$61	\$61	\$61	Free
Best Western Inn Towne		\$52	\$52	\$52	\$52	Free
Master's Economy Inn		\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	Free

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____
TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED:
SINGLE / 1 PERSON _____ DOUBLE / 2 PEOPLE _____
TRIPLE / 3 PEOPLE _____ QUAD / 4 PEOPLE _____
NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM _____

PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:

1. Arkansas' Excelsior (headquarters)
2. Camelot Hotel (NYC headquarters)
3. Capital Hotel
4. Holiday Inn City Center
5. Riverfront Hilton
6. Best Western Inn Towne
7. Master's Economy Inn

North Little Rock



Pre-Register by June 24 and Pick up Your Convention Packet on Saturday!

**Early pick-up available at
Statehouse Convention Center
for those who pre-register:**

***Saturday, July 16
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.***

***Sunday, July 17
1:00 p.m.***

Pre-Registration ends June 24, 1994

Meal Information

Children's Banquet / \$7.00
Monday, July 18 / 5:00 p.m.
Robinson Center / Exhibition Hall

Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon / \$15.00
Tuesday, July 19 / 12:00 noon
Excelsior Hotel / Ballroom / Salon C

Youth Banquet / \$12.50
Tuesday, July 19 / 9:00 p.m.
Robinson Center / Exhibition Hall
Note: Until June 24, Youth Banquet tickets will be sold only to those in grades seven to age 24 and youth workers accompanying their group. Others may purchase available tickets at the convention.

Music Ministries Breakfast / \$9.50
Wednesday, July 20 / 7:00 a.m.
Riverfront Hilton / Silver City III, IV

Youth Workers Reception / \$6.00
Monday, July 18 / 9:00 p.m.
Camelot Hotel / Plaza West

WNAC Fellowship Dinner / \$15.00
Tuesday, July 19 / 5:00 p.m.
Excelsior Hotel / Grand Ballroom

FWBBC Luncheon / \$11.00
Wednesday, July 20 / 12:00 Noon
Excelsior Hotel / Ballroom / Salons A-B

Master's Men Dinner / \$18.00
Wednesday, July 20 / 4:45 p.m.
Excelsior Hotel / Ballroom / Salons A-B

Only one person per form.
Make additional
copies if needed.

Pre-Registration Form

for
National Association of Free Will Baptists
Women Nationally Active for Christ
National Youth Conference
Little Rock, AR / July 17 - 21, 1994

By completing the Pre-Registration Form, you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, proceed to a special registration area where you will receive a packet containing your pre-printed name tag, tickets and materials.

Please Print

Name: _____
First or Name Desired on Badge Last

Address: _____

City: _____

Church: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Hotel (if known): _____

Phone #: (_____) _____ - _____
Area Code

☐ Male ☐ Female

State: _____ Zip: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Completed form(s) and fees must be mailed to

Convention Registration

P. O. Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011-5002

and received on or before **June 24, 1994.**

You may register for all three conventions on this form.

I If you want to register for the **National Association**, complete Section I.

District Association: _____

Minister: ☐ Pastor ☐ Ordained ☐ Licensed

(I certify that I am a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)

MISSIONARY: ☐ Foreign (Country) _____

☐ Home

DELEGATE: ☐ Ordained Deacon

☐ State

☐ Local Church (\$10.00)

☐ National Board Member

☐ National Officer

VISITOR: ☐

Meal Tickets:

Quantity

Youth Workers Reception _____ x \$6.00 = _____

Music Ministries Breakfast _____ x \$9.50 = _____

Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon _____ x \$15.00 = _____

FWBBC Alumni Luncheon _____ x \$11.00 = _____

Master's Men Dinner _____ x \$18.00 = _____

If Local Church Delegate _____ → \$10.00 = _____

SUBTOTAL _____

II If you want to register for **WNAC**, complete Section II.

(Check only one of the following:)

DELEGATE: ☐ Local (\$5.00)

☐ State

☐ State President or Field Worker

☐ National Officer

VISITOR: ☐

Meal Tickets:

Quantity

WNAC Fellowship Dinner _____ x \$15.00 = _____

If Local WNAC Delegate _____ → \$5.00 = _____

SUBTOTAL _____

III If you want to register for the **National Youth Conference**, complete Section III.

(ALL those in 1st grade through age 24 must register to attend NYC.)

Are you a youth worker? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Grade completed Spring 1994: _____ Age: _____

Birthdate: _____ / _____ / _____

Parent's (or Guardian's) name: _____

Youth Leader's name: _____

Registration Fee

Pre-Registration Fee

\$13.00 = _____

On-site registration fee is \$15.00

Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees.

You MUST register for NYC to purchase meal tickets/attend banquets (unless age 25 and up).

Meal Tickets:

Quantity

Children's Banquet (grades 1-6) _____ x \$7.00 = _____

Youth Banquet (must be in grade 7 _____ x \$12.50 = _____

to age 24 or an accompanying youth worker)

(limited - 1 ticket per form)

SUBTOTAL _____

For Office Use Only

Rec _____ Ck/MO # _____ AMT \$ _____

CK _____

Make ALL checks payable
to FWB Convention.

**No refunds mailed after
June 24, 1994.**

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Check/Money Order MUST accompany this form.
Enclose ONE check to pay all fees and tickets.

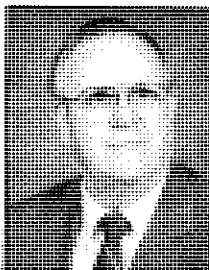
The National Association of Free Will Baptists



Gary Fry
Moderator
Missouri State Association



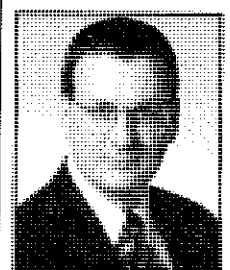
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Pastor
Pleasant Acres FWB Church
New Bern, North Carolina



Don Guthrie
Pastor
Collin Creek FWB Church
Plover, Texas



Mark Paschall
Missionary
Côte d'Ivoire
West Africa

Theme: *We Preach Christ* 58th Annual Session / July 17-21, 1994 Statehouse Convention Center Little Rock, Arkansas

Theme: "We Preach Christ"
Moderator: Ralph Hampton
Music Coordinator: Randy Sawyer
Organist: Richard McDonald
Planist: Jerry Carraway
Registration Coordinator: George Harvey, Jr.
Headquarters Hotel: Arkansas' Excelsior Hotel
Convention Office: Statehouse Convention Center/Caraway II, III

SUNDAY MORNING / July 17

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL (Adults)	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Presiding: Nathan Ruble Song Service: Tim Murfin Music: Stanley Jones Singers Adult Teacher: Daryl Ellis	
10:00-10:45	Sunday School (Youth)	
	Primary / Junior Class	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight
	Teen Class	Robinson Center Music Hall
10:45	Intermission	
11:00	MORNING WORSHIP (Adults)	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Presiding: Nathan Ruble Song Service: Tim Murfin Music: Sounds of Praise Offertory: Sounds of Praise Message: Gary Fry	

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP (Youth)
Primary / Junior Church
Teen Church

Camelot Hotel
Silver Knight
Robinson Center
Music Hall

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:00	Early Registration (Pre-registered only)	Convention Center Caddo Room
1:30	Registration Orientation	Convention Center Osage Room
3:00	REGISTRATION for National Convention, WNAC and NYC	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
5:00	Usher Orientation	Convention Center Caraway I
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III

SUNDAY EVENING / July 17

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Presiding: Charles Cooper Song Service: Daron Dwyer Music: Men's Trio Offertory: New Life Singers Duet: Lange and Jamie Patrick MESSAGE: Kenneth Frisbee	

7:00-8:30	NYC Worship Services	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
9:00-10:00	NYC Judges' Reception	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel
9:00-10:30	Youth Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel

MONDAY MORNING / July 18

7:30	General Board Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel River Valley Room
8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room
8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
8:30	NYC Assemblies (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
9:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
9:00-10:30	Foreign Missionary Orientation (For Exhibit Schedule)	Convention Center Caraway I
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Excelsior Hotel Tennis Hall of Fame
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
9:00-12:00	GENERAL BOARD Convenes	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-A

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
1:30	General Board Reconvenes	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-A
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar (See WNAC Program)	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-B
1:30-2:30	WNAC Ministers' Wives Seminar (See WNAC Program)	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-C
2:00-3:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Robinson Center Main Lobby
3:00	Exhibit Area Opens	Convention Center Hall - I

3:00-4:00	WNAC State Officers Meeting (See WNAC Program)	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-C
3:00-5:00	Free Will Baptist Camp Meeting Speaker: Richard Adams	Convention Center Halls II, III
5:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
5:00-6:30	Children's Banquet	Robinson Center Exhibition Hall
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III

MONDAY EVENING / July 18

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Halls II, III
Presiding: David Joslin Song Service: Scott Bullman Session Called to Order and Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk Appointment of Committee on Committees: Ralph Hampton, Moderator Welcome to Little Rock: David Joslin, Promotional Director, Arkansas State Association Mass Adult Choir: Doug Little, Director Offertory: Pruitt Family Solo: Joy Henderson MESSAGE: Dean Dobbs		
7:00-8:30	NYC Worship Services	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall I
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
9:00-10:00	Board of Retirement Information Meeting	Excelsior Hotel LaHarpe Room
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel
9:00-10:30	TEAM Mission Program (See NYC Program)	Robinson Center Music Hall
9:00-10:30	Youth Workers' Reception	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
9:00-10:30	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Robinson Center Camelot Hotel
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

TUESDAY MORNING / July 19

7:30-8:30	State Promotional Personnel Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel River Room
8:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall I
9:00	WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST (See WNAC Program) Presiding: Mary Neal, President	Convention Center Halls II, III
9:00-11:00	PASTORS' CONFERENCE	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom A-B
9:00	Presiding: Carl Cheshier Speaker: Glen McGriff	
10:00	Presiding: Carl Cheshier Speaker: Glen McGriff	
9:00-12:00	Master's Men Board Meeting	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
11:10	WNAC Missionary Service Speaker: Robert Bryan	Convention Center Halls II, III

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19

12:00-1:30	Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon Speaker: Terry Stafford	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-C
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes (See WNAC Program)	Convention Center Halls II, III
1:30-3:00	Theological Trends Seminar Speaker: Wendell Walley Subject: "Amazing Grace and Plain Morals"	Convention Center John Pope Room
1:30-3:00	Music Commission Seminar	Excelsior Hotel River Valley Room
1:30-4:30	Master's Men Congress Presiding: James Vallance	Convention Center Fulton Room
2:00-3:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
3:30	Truth & Peace Alumni Reunion	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
5:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
5:00-6:45	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Speaker: Lorene Miley	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom

TUESDAY EVENING / July 19

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Presiding: Waldo Young Song Service: Randy Sawyer Music: Mini-concert with combined college choirs Victory Campaign Offering Offertory: Master's Peace Quartet Music: Master's Peace Quartet MESSAGE: Don Guthrie	

7:00-8:30	NYC Worship Services	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Halls II, III
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall I
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel
9:00-11:00	Youth Banquet	Robinson Center Exhibition Hall
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 20

7:00-8:30	Music Ministries Breakfast	Riverfront Hilton Silver City III-IV
7:30	State Leaders Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel LaHarpe Room
8:00	NYC Competitive Finals (Bible Competition)	Robinson Center
8:00-12:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall I
9:00-11:45	CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION Moderator's Message: Ralph Hampton	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Report of Credentials Committee and Seating of Delegates Partial Report of General Board Partial Report of Nominating Committee	
	REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (Board members elected at conclusion of each report.) Executive Office: Melvin Worthington Home Missions: Roy Thomas Master's Men: James Vallance Board of Retirement: William Evans Free Will Baptist Foundation: William Evans	
11:30-12:30	NYC Awards Ceremony (See NYC Program)	Robinson Center Music Hall
12:00	REGISTRATION CLOSES	

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

12:00-1:15	Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-A,B
1:30	NYC Seminars / Activities (See NYC Program)	Camelot Hotel
1:30	CONVENTION BUSINESS Reconvenes Scripture Reading and Prayer Assistant Moderator: Carl Cheshier	Convention Center Halls II, III

1:35 **REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (continued)**
 Sunday School and Church Training: Alton Loveless
 Foreign Missions: R. Eugene Waddell
 Free Will Baptist Bible College: Tom Malone
 Commission for Theological Integrity: Leroy Forlines
 Radio-Television Commission: Bob Shockey
 Music Commission: Vernon Whaley
 Historical Commission: Mary Wisehart

2:00-3:00 Children's Activities Camelot Hotel
 (See NYC Program)

3:30 General Board Final Report Convention Center
 Partial Report of Nominating Halls II, III
 Committee
 Election of General Board Members

4:00 Business Session Recessed

4:00 Men's Chorale Rehearsal Convention Center
 (Or immediately following Halls II, III
 business session)

4:45 Master's Men Dinner Excelsior Hotel
 Speaker: Don Wagner Ballroom-A, B

5:00 Music Rehearsal Convention Center
 Halls II, III

6:00 Music Rehearsal Convention Center
 Halls II, III

WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 20

7:00-8:30 NYC Worship Services Camelot Hotel
 (See NYC Program) Robinson Center

7:00-9:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Convention Center
 Halls II, III

Presiding: Milton Worthington
 Song Service: Vernon Whaley
 Recognition of Missionaries: Milton Worthington
 Men's Chorale
 Missions Offering: Milton Worthington
 Offertory: New Covenant Quartet
 Solo: Lisa McGee
 MESSAGE: Mark Paschall

8:30-10:00 Exhibit Area Open Convention Center
 Hall I

9:00 NYC Awards Ceremony Robinson Center
 Music Hall

10:00 Exhibit Area Closed

THURSDAY MORNING / July 21

7:00-9:00 Foreign Missions Board Breakfast Excelsior Hotel
 Tennis Hall of Fame

7:30-9:00 Sunday School Board Breakfast Excelsior Hotel
 Finley Vinson Room

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Convention Center
 Hall I

9:00 **CONCLUDING BUSINESS** Convention Center
SESSION Halls II, III
 Scripture Reading and Prayer
 Assistant Clerk: Keith Burden
 NYC Report: Dean Jones
 WNAC Report: Mary R. Wisehart

Report of Committees:

--- Registration

--- Budget

--- Resolutions

Nominating Committee Final Report

Election of General Officers

11:45 Adjournment

12:15 Exhibits Closed
 (30 minutes after convention adjournment)

LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

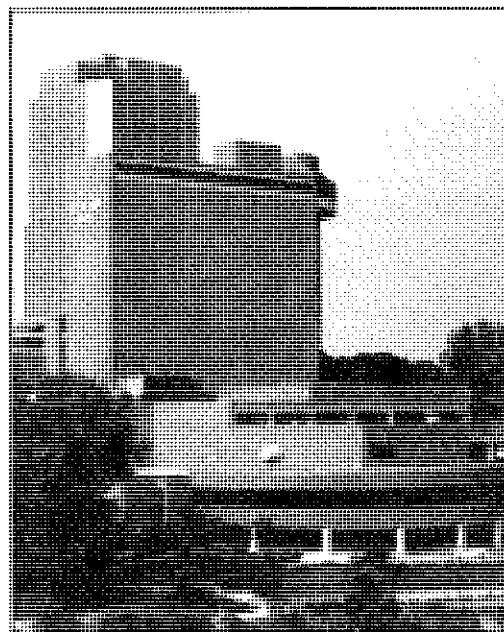
THIS CERTIFIES THAT _____
 is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free Will
 Baptists _____

(Name of Church)

_____ of _____, _____
 (District Association) (City) (State)

_____ (Pastor) _____ (Clerk or Secretary)

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



Arkansas' Excelsior Hotel-Headquarters Hotel

National Youth Conference

27th Annual Conference / July 17-21, 1994

Camelot Hotel - Robinson Center / Little Rock, Arkansas

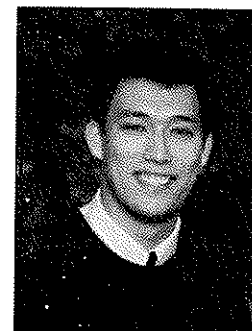
Theme: "Be Strong and Courageous"
Conference Director: Dean Jones
Conference Coordinator: Donald Myers
Children's Coordinator: Lisa Jones
Office Manager: June McVay
Registration Coordinator: Jill Pointer
NYC Office: Camelot Hotel / Arcade East
Practice Rooms: Robinson Center / 401 & 403

Robinson Center- RC
 Camelot Hotel - CH
 Statehouse Convention Center - Convention Center

(NYC operates under the auspices of the Sunday School and Church Training Department.)



Dean Jones



Donald Myers

SUNDAY MORNING / July 17

9:30-9:45	Morning Devotion	Robinson Center Music Hall
10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
	Primary/Junior Class	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Teen Class	Robinson Center Music Hall
10:45	Intermission	
11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
	Primary/Junior Church	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Teen Church	Robinson Center Music Hall

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

3:00	NYC Registration	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
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SUNDAY EVENING / July 17

7:00-8:30	NYC Worship Services	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
	Children's Worship	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Teen Worship	Robinson Center Music Hall
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

9:00-10:00	NYC Judges' Reception	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
9:00-10:30	Youth Activities	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight

MONDAY MORNING / July 18

8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
8:00-5:00	Art Gallery Open	Robinson Center Gallery III
8:00-6:30	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Robinson Center Gallery II
8:15	Morning Devotion	Robinson Center Music Hall
8:30	NYC ASSEMBLIES (Required of ALL Competitors)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
	Music and Arts Assembly All Entries and Coaches	Robinson Center Music Hall
	Bible Bowl All Teams and Coaches	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe All Teams and Coaches	Camelot Hotel Plaza East
	Sword Drill/Memorization All Entries and Coaches	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
9:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
	Music and Arts Section 1 Keyboard	Robinson Center Music Hall
	Music and Arts Section 2 Vocal Duets	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight

MONDAY MORNING / July 18

	Music and Arts Section 3 Oral Communications Individual Entries	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight
	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Camelot Hotel Plaza East
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 4	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
10:00	Bible Memorization Grade 1	Camelot Hotel Arcade West

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
	Music and Arts Section 4 Vocal Solos - Male	Robinson Center Music Hall
	Music and Arts Section 5 Vocal Trios	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Music and Arts Section 6 Vocal Quintets	Robinson Center 102-103
	Music and Arts Section 7 Oral Communications Poetry/Prose	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight
	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Camelot Hotel Plaza East
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 5	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
2:00	Bible Memorization Grade 2	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
2:00-3:00	Children's Activities	Robinson Center Main Lobby
3:30-4:30	Turning Point/Horizon Pre-Test Session #1	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
5:00-6:30	Children's Banquet	Robinson Center Exhibition Hall

MONDAY EVENING / July 18

7:00-8:30	NYC Worship Services	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
	Children's Worship	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Teen Worship	Robinson Center Music Hall
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

8:30-10:00	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Robinson Center Gallery II
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
9:00-10:30	TEAM Mission Program	Robinson Center Music Hall
9:00-10:30	Youth Workers' Reception	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
9:00-10:30	Music and Arts Section 8 Oral Communications Duet Acting	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight
9:00-10:30	Music and Arts Section 9 Oral Communications Readers Theater	Robinson Center 102-103

TUESDAY MORNING / July 19

8:00	Morning Devotion	Robinson Center Music Hall
8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
8:00-5:00	Art Gallery	Robinson Center Gallery III
8:00-6:30	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Robinson Center Gallery II
8:15	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
	Music and Arts Section 10 Vocal Solos-Female	Robinson Center Music Hall
	Music and Arts Section 11 Vocal Quartets	Camelot Hotel Black, White, Silver Knight
	Music and Arts Section 12 Keyboard/Instrumental Solo	Robinson Center 201-202
	Music and Arts Section 13 Oral Communications Skits (A-C)	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
	Music and Arts Section 14 Oral Communications Puppetry (Live)	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight
	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Plaza West
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Camelot Hotel Plaza East
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 6	Camelot Hotel Arcade West
	Turning Point/Horizon Pre-Test Session #2	Camelot Hotel Arcade East
9:30	Bible Memorization Grade 3	Camelot Hotel Arcade West

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
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Music and Arts Section 15
Chorales Robinson Center
Music Hall

Music and Arts Section 16
Choirs Camelot Hotel
Black,White,Silver Knight

Music and Arts Section 17
Oral Communications
Puppetry (Recorded) Camelot Hotel
Golden Knight

Music and Arts Section 18
Instrumental Ensembles
Brass Solos Robinson Center
201-202

Music and Arts Section 19
Oral Communications
Skits (D-F) Robinson Center
102-103

2:00-3:00 Children's Activities Camelot Hotel
Plaza West

3:30 Truth & Peace Alumni
Reunion Camelot Hotel
Plaza West

TUESDAY EVENING / July 19

7:00-8:30 NYC Worship Services Camelot Hotel
Robinson Center

Children's Worship Camelot Hotel
Black,White,Silver Knight

Teen Worship Robinson Center
Music Hall

8:30-10:00 NYC Registration Continues Convention Center
Caddo/Osage

8:30-10:00 NYC Exhibit Area Open Robinson Center
Gallery II

9:00-10:00 Children's Activities Camelot Hotel
Black,White,Silver Knight

9:00-11:00 Youth Banquet Robinson Center
Exhibition Hall

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 20

8:00 Morning Devotion Robinson Center
Music Hall

8:00-12:00 Art Gallery Robinson Center
Gallery III

8:00-5:00 NYC Exhibit Area Open Robinson Center
Gallery II

8:00 NYC Registration Continues Convention Center
Caddo/Osage

8:15-10:15 Final Bible Competition Robinson Center
Music Hall

10:30-11:30 Turning Point/Horizon Competition Robinson Center
Music Hall

11:30-12:30 NYC Awards Ceremony
(Bible, Arts, Writing) Robinson Center
Music Hall

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

1:30-2:45 Youth Workers' Seminar Camelot Hotel
Golden Knight

1:30-3:00 Youth Seminar Camelot Hotel
Black,White,Silver Knight

2:00-3:00 Children's Activities Camelot Hotel
Plaza West

3:00-4:00 Youth Workers' Seminars
Christian Camping Camelot Hotel
Plaza West

Involving Your Kids in Ministry Camelot Hotel
Golden Knight

WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 20

7:00-8:30 NYC Worship Services Camelot Hotel
Robinson Center

Children's Worship Camelot Hotel
Black,White,Silver Knight

Teen Worship Robinson Center
Music Hall

9:00-11:00 NYC Awards Ceremony Robinson Center
Music Hall

This program is subject to change.



Camelot Hotel- NYC Headquarters

Women Nationally Active for Christ

59th Annual Session / July 18-19, 1994

Statehouse Convention Center Little Rock, Arkansas

Theme: "The Bible: Light on the Way"
Scripture: Psalm 119:105
Hymn: "Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart"
Music Coordinator: Joyce Little
Organist: Tena Stahl
Pianist: Sue Patton

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:30	Registration Orientation	Convention Center Osage Room
3:00	REGISTRATION	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

MONDAY MORNING / July 18

8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Excelsior Hotel Tennis Hall of Fame
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar Theme: "Light on the Way" Presiding: Mary Neal Speakers: Lila Faye Morgan Dawn Sweeney Carol Reid	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-B
1:30-2:30	WNAC Ministers' Wives Seminar Presiding: Everyl Getz Speaker: Winona Riggs	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-C
3:00-4:00	WNAC State Officers Meeting Presiding: Mary Wischart	Excelsior Hotel Ballroom-C



Wischart



Neal



Miley

TUESDAY MORNING / July 19

9:00	WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST CONVENTION	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Presiding: Mary Neal Congregational Singing Devotion: Deleen Cousineau Special Music: Pastors' Wives Trio Welcome: Mary Kelton Creative Arts Awards: Melissa Riddle Credentials Committee Report/Seating of Delegates Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Mary R. Wischart Resolutions Committee Report Appreciation Committee Report	
11:10	WNAC MISSIONARY SERVICE	Convention Center Halls II, III
	Congregational Singing Offering Special Music: Levan and Vicki Hubbard Message: Robert Bryan	

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19

1:30	Congregational Singing Music: North Little Rock Women Registration Committee Report WNAC Special Feature: "Don't Say That Name" Speaker: San Dee Stone	Convention Center Halls II, III
3:00	Adjournment	
5:00	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Invocation: Eugene Workman Speaker: Lorene Miley Benediction: Dwight Fletcher	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom

FREE WILL BAPTIST NEWSFRONT

Bible College "Welcome Days" One of School's Best

NASHVILLE, TN—After registering 372 visitors from 75 churches in 17 states, Free Will Baptist Bible College's recruitment director Neil Gilliland observed that the recent Welcome Days would probably be described as one of the best the college has held. "Evidently, we made a good impression," he said. "We had more than twice as many applications for enrollment as from any Welcome Days group we've ever had." The event was held at the college March 31-April 2.

President Tom Malone told the

FWBBC student body, "Those young people are the kind we want to have here someday."

President Malone had reason to be pleased since his home state of Illinois was represented by the most visitors—93. The largest church group also came from Illinois: Decatur FWB Church.

Other states with large representations were Tennessee (40), North Carolina (45) and Georgia (36). Large church groups came from Emmanuel FWB, Wabash, IN (15); Bethel FWB, Kinston, NC (11); and 10 each from First

FWB, Russellville, AR; First FWB, Walnut Ridge, AR; and Peace FWB, Wilson, NC.

A number of young people rededicated their lives during services that included ministries of the college choir and the Evangel Players. They also enjoyed a North-South men's basketball game that saw the South victorious for the sixth consecutive year, according to Coach Byron Deel.

Two Welcome Days are scheduled for the 1994-95 school year: November 17-19, 1994, and March 30-April 1, 1995.

Master's Men Set Golf Tournament

ANTIOCH, TN—The second annual Master's Men fund-raiser golf tournament gets underway August 11, according to Jim Vallance, general director. The cost is \$65 per player or \$240 for a foursome that register together.

Tournament play begins at 7:00 a.m. at the Old Fort Golf Course. The course is located 18 miles east of the National Offices Building off I-24 at Exit 78-A.

Jim Vallance said reservations and fees must be made prior to July 29. Contact the Master's Men office for registration forms and motel information.

Master's Men Department

P. O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002
615/731-6812

Michigan Welcomes New Church

DOWAGIAC, MI—The newest Free Will Baptist church in Michigan organized November 7, 1993, with 12 charter members, according to Pastor John Kruger. Good Shepherd FWB Church of Dowagiac began in August 1993 after a small group of people met to discuss starting a Free Will Baptist church in Cass County, Michigan.

Two weeks later the group was able to rent a building from another denomination with the option to buy. Monthly rent for the 140-seat structure was \$300. The structure included four classrooms, two offices, an 80-seat fellowship hall and a \$35,000 purchase price.

Pastor J. D. Tolbert and members from First FWB Church in

South Haven assisted with remodeling. The Good Shepherd Church joined the West Michigan Association just six days after it organized.

Pastor Kruger said the church has given more than \$1,200 in cooperative funds through the association. The group has doubled in size since its organization and hosted the West Michigan Association in May.

Good Shepherd FWB Church is located at 309 Dewey Street in Dowagiac.

**Last chance to
pre-register for
this year's convention.
(See page 12.)**

Discount Air Fares to National Convention Available

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the 1994 National Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, July 17-21, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. Ambassador Travel, Inc. in Nashville has been selected as the agency of record to provide members attending the convention with discount travel services.

Ambassador Travel, Inc. has secured discounts for air travel

to Little Rock. These fares cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airlines. These are contracted group airfares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

Ambassador Travel, Inc. has contracted for travel dates starting two days prior to the convention and two days after the convention.

To book your airspace at the offered discounted rates, call Ambassador Travel, Inc. toll-free at 1-800/489-2009. This is a dif-

ferent number than last year. Ask for **Janice Jakobik** and identify yourself with the Free Will Baptist National Convention.

Advise the Ambassador agent of your name, number of passengers traveling, city of originating flight, correct mailing address, telephone number (home and business). For easy billing, have a current credit card ready at the time of booking. Ambassador Travel Inc. will process and mail the tickets to you.

All services from Ambassador Travel, Inc. are free.

Illinois Re-Elects Clyatt Moderator

BENTON, IL—Moderator Larry Clyatt was elected to his sixth consecutive term by delegates at the 34th annual Illinois State Association. Clyatt pastors First FWB Church in Benton where the March 18-19 session met.

Clerk Larry Cook, elected to his 10th term, reported that 170 registered for the two-day meeting. This included 50 standing delegates, 30 elected delegates, 4 local church delegates and 86 non-delegates.

The business highlight focused on upbeat reports on mission works in Chicago and Springfield where missionaries David Potete and Ken Doggett pastor. Delegates also adopted a \$170,000 state budget.

Four men preached during the meeting. Illinois pastors Randy Scott and Ronnie Mitchell preached along with FWBBC professor LaVerne Miley and foreign missionary Fred Hersey. The association theme was, "The Open Door," from Revelation 3:8.

The 1995 state association will meet March 17-18.

Virginia Children's Home Full

DUFFIELD, VA—Since its opening in August 1993, the newest Free Will Baptist children's home has served 32 children and has had more than 60 additional applications for admission. Harvest Child Care Ministries went from being an idea in co-founder Newl Dotson's mind to a func-

tions division indicated a two-year delay before the ministry could receive a license to operate in the Commonwealth. However, one year later, Harvest had a license in hand. At this point only lack of space prevents Harvest from serving more children.

Harvest is currently under the



Main building for Harvest Child Care Ministries

tioning institution in 12 months.

Advancement Director for Harvest, Chris Dotson, said the ministry "has developed a broad base of support across Virginia in churches, businesses, civic organizations and social service agencies."

Initial contact by Harvest officials with Virginia's social ser-

vice management team of Newl Dotson, executive director, and Teresa Tilson, program director. Their motto is "Serving Christ through Kids." For more information about the home, call:

703/523-2315

or write:

Harvest

Duffield, VA 24244-0259.

CURRENTLY...

Fifty years ago, some nice people started a Free Will Baptist church in **McAlester, OK**. Today, that congregation celebrates its golden anniversary—50 years of ministry—as **First FWB Church**. Pastor **Ernest Harrison, Jr.** said the two-day celebration began Saturday, April 23, with an all-day singing. Sunday morning the group broadcast a live 30-minute broadcast from their sanctuary. All former pastors and charter members were recognized and honored. **Tillie Oliver** gave a review of the first fifty years in the church's history. Former pastor, **Lynn Wood**, delivered the keynote address.

Pastor **Wylie Perkins** reports seven baptisms and six new members at **Samantha FWB Church** in **Leesburg, OH**.

The **Friendly FWB Church** in **Columbus, OH**, witnessed six conversions and welcomed two new members. **Alan Wright** pastors.

And here's more good news from Ohio. Pastor **Curtis Booth** notes 17 conversions, five baptisms and a number of rededications at **Gahanna FWB Church** in **Gahanna, OH**.

The fifth annual **Teen Leadership Conference** sponsored by the **Oklahoma FWB Christian Education Board** met in March with 16 churches participating. Some 38 teens (grades 9-12) and eight adults met at **New Home FWB Church** in **Tulsa** for the event. Two Oklahoma pastors—**Jerry Banks** (Cushing) and **Bob Thomas** (Locust Grove)—spoke on subjects ranging from leadership to Christian duties. Board member **Brad Ransom** and promotional secretary **Paul Allen** directed the event.

They sure do things different in **Florida**. **Margaret Merkh**, member of **Ryanwood Fellowship FWB Church** in **Vero Beach** and retired FWB foreign missionary backed her car into a new Lincoln Continental at a shopping center. She brought the owners of the damaged car home with her to discuss the matter and led them to the Lord. They have been baptized and joined the church. Pastor **Randy Bryant** said he's thinking of commissioning Sister Merkh to back into as many new cars as pos-

sible in order to continue her outreach as a smashing evangelist.

Pastor **Roger Ballard** at **First FWB Church** in **Tecumseh, OK**, led **E. J. Cope** to the Lord on March 1. He then baptized the 74-year-old man on March 4. Brother Cope joined the church on March 6. That night while he was sleeping, the Lord called E. J. Cope home. What an incredible five days!

While members were working on the new building at **Eggville FWB Church** in **Tupelo, MS**, an anonymous donor gave a surprise gift of a new steeple for the building. Pastor **Gerald Gann** said that an ice storm in early February forced the congregation to meet by candlelight, using kerosene heaters to keep warm during one Sunday in February.

Members at **First FWB Church** in **Pearl, MS**, celebrated 20 years of service to their community. Pastor **Dickie Dees** said 209 people attended the 20-year celebration. Former pastor and founder, **Rev. J. L. Gore**, returned just in time to help them celebrate completion of the foundation and floor for a new auditorium to seat more than 400 people.

Congratulations to **Randy Jackson**, assistant pastor at **New Hope Fellowship FWB Church** in **Cocoa, FL**. Brevard County officials awarded Brother Jackson the Excellence in Public Service Award for his contributions in community outreach.

Contact welcomes **The Messenger**, publication of **Townsend FWB Church** in **Townsend, DE**. Pastor **Richard Atwood** said the congregation has been averaging 200 in attendance on Sunday morning. The congregation voted unanimously to build new church facilities. They intend to raise \$75,000 in cash during 1994.

The **Oklahoma State Woman's Auxiliary** has established a state Woman's Auxiliary scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, according to President **Mary Alice Bridgeman**. The scholarship fund was established to assist young women from Oklahoma who attend Free Will Baptist colleges.

First FWB Church in **Mt. Vernon, IL**, began publishing a newsletter called,

Keystone. **Ronnie Mitchell** pastors.

When thieves break through and steal, about the only thing they leave behind is frustration. That's the feeling now at **Bethel FWB Church** in **South Roxana, IL**. Pastor **Randy Corn** said thieves stole the church safe and all its contents including the Sunday offering. Thieves also ransacked the pastor's office and the office of the church secretary.

What is 16 feet high and sits on a roadside in **Granite City, IL**? It's the new sign at **Peace FWB Church**. Pastor **David Malone** said the church has designated 1994 as the "Year of Challenge."

Something's happening in **California**. Pastor **Doice McAlister** reports 27 baptisms and 29 additions at **Turlock FWB Church**. **First FWB Church** in **Stockton** baptized 24 converts, welcomed 22 new members and began a new building project, according to Pastor **Matthew Upton**. Pastor **Jim McAlister** reports 58 conversions last year at **Harmony FWB Church** in **Fresno**.

Members of **Rocky Pass FWB Church** in **Nebo, NC**, honored their pastor, **Milton Hollifield, Sr.** for his 14 years as their leader. During his ministry at the Rocky Pass Church, he led the group to build a 400-seat sanctuary with additional educational space. A "This is Your Life" program, love offering and fellowship dinner honored Pastor Hollifield for 45 years in the ministry without missing a Sunday service.

Pastor **Earl Dean Morris** reports seven conversions at **Christian Home FWB Church** in **Hindsville, AR**. ■

**Capital Stewardship/Victory Campaign
March 1994
Update**

State	Goal	Gifts	Balance
Alabama	\$ 76,397.63	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 74,847.63
Arizona	1,228.93	1,905.00	(676.07)
Arkansas	76,860.94	28,976.44	47,884.50
Atlantic Canada	1,570.51	.00	1,570.51
California	17,216.76	160.00	17,056.76
Colorado	789.18	1,105.00	(315.82)
Florida	20,703.30	3,103.62	17,599.68
Georgia	38,179.19	18,088.46	20,090.73
Hawaii	184.54	500.00	(315.46)
Idaho	353.37	.00	353.37
Illinois	16,176.29	1,055.00	15,121.29
Indiana	7,868.27	1,400.00	6,468.27
Iowa	266.99	.00	266.99
Kansas	1,287.82	.00	1,287.82
Kentucky	35,454.34	2,992.29	32,462.05
Louisiana	94.23	1,300.00	(1,205.77)
Maryland	6,812.10	250.00	6,562.10
Michigan	15,116.19	3,990.00	11,126.19
Mississippi	15,559.86	1,360.35	14,199.51
Missouri	60,484.40	29,332.87	31,151.53
Montana	27.48	50.00	(22.52)
Nebraska	102.08	.00	102.08
New Mexico	596.80	.00	596.80
North Carolina	59,118.06	2,464.00	56,654.06
Northeast Assoc.	883.41	.00	883.41
Northwest Assoc.	1,087.58	100.00	987.58
Ohio	40,923.66	10,316.81	30,606.85
Oklahoma	92,271.60	3,767.58	88,504.02
South Carolina	18,335.75	570.00	17,765.75
Tennessee	78,557.09	26,847.97	51,709.12
Texas	11,547.20	5,295.52	6,251.68
Virginia	24,323.33	675.00	23,648.33
West Virginia	46,204.51	500.00	45,704.51
Wisconsin		55.00	(55.00)
Other		2,978.85	(2,978.85)
Totals	\$766,583.39	\$150,689.76	\$615,893.63

Directory Update

FLORIDA

Bill Wilson to First Church, Deerfield Beach

GEORGIA

Jeff Lunsford to First Church, Thomaston

David Horper to Patmos Church, Leary

OKLAHOMA

Jeff Plunkett to Straight Street Church, Norman

Bill Barton to Bethel Church, Picher

Jimmy Waldrop to Christian Grove Church, Pocolo
from Bethlehem Church, Van Buren, AR

John Risley to Silver City Church, Jennings

Gorlond Davidson to Broken Arrow Church, Broken

Arrow



March 1994

RECEIPTS:

State	Designated	CO-OP	Total	March '93	Year To Date
Alabama	\$ 15,324.42	\$ 74.15	\$ 15,398.57	\$ 239.32	\$ 30,522.05
Arizona	706.13	82.00	788.13	858.25	808.13
Arkansas	16,390.20	7,831.54	24,221.74	25,939.82	79,130.23
California	155.00	828.58	983.58	1,311.85	1,691.06
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	6,325.83
Delaware	100.00	.00	100.00	.00	100.00
Florida	682.82	.00	682.82	1,556.10	1,428.27
Georgia	9,230.41	1,579.55	10,809.96	8,907.05	32,692.82
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Illinois	6,052.27	1,854.01	7,906.28	14,926.70	35,651.63
Indiana	1,581.60	310.53	1,892.13	.00	2,475.62
Iowa	90.00	.00	90.00	90.00	180.00
Kansas	.00	26.95	26.95	48.03	37.84
Kentucky	165.00	97.93	262.93	363.14	1,638.34
Louisiana	80.00	.00	80.00	40.00	300.00
Maryland	.00	75.00	75.00	150.00	1,262.71
Michigan	26,757.68	4,026.97	30,784.65	15,098.85	46,171.38
Mississippi	396.80	449.49	846.29	376.71	2,081.55
Missouri	11,075.18	26.00	11,101.18	9,763.36	38,318.18
Montana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Jersey	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Mexico	260.25	5.75	266.00	47.84	832.88
North Carolina	2,096.00	550.00	2,646.00	2,042.70	9,192.34
Ohio	3,082.85	6,733.10	9,815.95	4,037.88	18,238.74
Oklahoma	36,345.65	.00	36,345.65	45,503.94	121,330.65
South Carolina	18,768.67	188.31	18,956.98	15,471.65	52,753.27
Tennessee	10,069.76	1,359.24	11,429.00	10,269.94	28,723.81
Texas	10,249.77	501.35	10,751.12	11,168.82	29,468.57
Virginia	1,134.11	50.00	1,184.11	275.57	3,915.58
West Virginia	7,188.89	118.49	7,307.38	3,151.92	13,261.93
Wisconsin	55.00	.00	55.00	.00	55.00
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	100.00	.00	100.00	.00	100.00
Other	.00	.01	.01	.00	.06
Totals	\$178,138.46	\$26,768.95	\$204,907.41	\$171,639.44	\$558,688.47

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 8,706.90	\$18,494.83	\$ 27,201.73	\$ 25,323.10	\$ 81,605.14
Foreign Missions	99,798.37	1,903.04	101,701.41	90,382.63	272,781.65
FWBBC	12,082.08	1,903.04	13,985.12	11,313.81	40,352.99
Home Missions	34,702.30	1,489.34	36,191.64	31,559.74	108,014.38
Retirement & Insurance	842.90	1,158.40	2,001.30	2,575.23	6,169.14
Master's Men	1,908.13	1,158.40	3,066.53	3,724.76	9,347.84
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	100.50	41.36	141.86	149.18	414.68
FWB Foundation	1,251.18	496.46	1,747.64	1,624.67	4,332.23
Historical Commission	67.63	41.36	108.99	143.54	358.30
Music Commission	70.50	41.36	111.86	149.18	352.81
Radio & TV Commission	98.50	41.36	139.86	149.18	398.83
Hillsdale FWB College	2,023.90	.00	2,023.90	1,455.75	5,782.67
Other	16,485.57	.00	16,485.57	3,088.67	28,777.81
Totals	\$178,138.46	\$26,768.95	\$204,907.41	\$171,639.44	\$558,688.47



MASTER'S MEN

Ministry in the Marketplace!

By Jim Vallance

From my heart today, I say, "It's time to wake up. You are about to lose the only ministry this denomination has for the laymen." The Master's Men Board met in April to discuss cutting this work back to a part-time effort. You know that isn't the direction any of our ministries need to move. Yet, pastors and church members possess the only key to unlock the potential of this national department for continued ministry.

I thank God for the men and churches who gave to this work in 1993. Many have active Master's Men groups that contribute to the outreach of their churches.

The column of figures on the right shows the 1993 gifts from your state. Several states with large amounts reflect that we have a limited number of churches within its borders. One notable exception is Michigan. Those dear folks gave \$2.19 per member from just 43 churches. And the major portion of those gifts came from less than a dozen churches! So, they even have room for greater stewardship for this ministry. Every state can improve.

The secular world sets before our nation and world such an array of ungodly men lifted up as heroes and perpetuates these individuals as models. Christian men are mocked and ridiculed in society today. An overemphasis on the material has diminished recognition of godliness and character. More than ever before, Free Will Baptists need a ministry of, by, for and to the laymen!

Free Will Baptist laymen unite to form a powerful force for evangelism, ministry, service to church and community, fellowship and personal spiritual growth. Men unite across the nation through annual membership or as Lifemembers to form a coast-to-coast and international ministry. The local church chapters and State Master's Men tailors a program to the needs of the men in the congregations and community. These activities may include . . .

- ◆ Men's prayer and fellowship breakfasts
- ◆ Monthly meetings for spiritual challenge and growth
- ◆ Church Construction Teams for home and foreign missions, and local churches
- ◆ Assistance for senior citizens, widows and shut-ins
- ◆ Fund-raising projects, including tools for missionaries
- ◆ Sporting and recreational activities
- ◆ Visitation
- ◆ Men's retreats—local, state, regional and national
- ◆ Lay recognition through Layman of the Year award

. . . all this and much, much more.

How can you become involved? A simple phone call will speed up the process of mailing information on how to tap into the ministry for laymen. You may also join in our ministry through prayer and financial support. . . our two most imperative needs.

One special project for 1994 is the "Build a House" Campaign. Each church and man is asked to give the building cost of one square foot of a house. When we receive donations for 2,000 square feet of space, our volunteer laborers will construct a house, sell it and give the profit to the department. The initial funding will be available to do it again and again. Sounds like good stewardship. The cost of one square foot of building is the current market value of construction for homes, just \$35. Your donation will work for the Lord over and over again. ■

1993 Giving

State	Gifts Per Member
AL.....	\$.30
AZ.....	.71
AR.....	.51
CA.....	.32
CO.....	.00
FL.....	.32
GA.....	.42
HI.....	3.23
ID.....	1.78
IL.....	.77
IN.....	.19
IA.....	5.07
KS.....	.03
KY.....	.04
LA.....	2.14
MD.....	.04
MI.....	2.19
MS.....	.19
MO.....	.32
MT.....	.00
NE.....	.59
NJ.....	.00
NM.....	.91
NC.....	.05
OH.....	.20
OK.....	.43
SC.....	.10
SD.....	.00
TN.....	.54
TX.....	2.02
VA.....	.09
WV.....	.20
CD.....	.00

1993 Average 36¢
1992 Average 39¢

Spendable Income
1993
\$75,162.31

Spendable Income
1992
\$80,175.33



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Woman's Window on the World

From My Window

"Get those feet off that board!" I can still hear Mrs. Fort, my swimming teacher, "encouraging" me to dive into the water. I was afraid of the risk. After all, if I hit the water flat, I risked water burns on my exposed midriff. If I didn't keep my head down and let it follow my arms into the water, I'd burn my face. I stood on the diving board contemplating the risk, and I never learned to dive well.

Are we afraid to risk? Too often we make a quiet, comfortable nest for ourselves. Then, like invisible fences, we post invisible signs: *Do Not Disturb. Do Not Intrude On My Space!*

Reach out to a troubled teen? Oh, no, we may get hurt. Get involved with someone who has a terminal illness? Too much risk.

Reach out to those with special problems or needs? They really will not appreciate it anyway. And we'll only be rejected and hurt.

Risk takers! We need more of them.

Risk takers are willing to expose themselves to hurt. Risk takers may be fearful, but in spite of fears, they plunge into situations that may mean failure. They are willing to risk their stuff, their wealth, even life itself for something bigger, more important, more valuable.

Does our Christianity demand that we be risk takers?

"When he had found one pearl of great price, [he] went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Have you found the priceless pearl? Then it's worth all you have to risk.

"Cast thy bread upon the waters." Watch it float away. Who knows where it will go?

What are we risking when we give ourselves fully to God and in His service to others? Actually we aren't risking anything at all.

The bread? "For thou shalt find it after many days."

All we are and have for the precious pearl? "Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

A life of service? "Forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Risk it all for Him.

Preregister for WNAC in Little Rock

You may still preregister for the convention in Little Rock, July 18-19. Notice that those who preregister may pick up their materials

Saturday in the Statehouse Convention Center registration area.

When you register, be sure to order your tickets for the WNAC Fellowship Dinner.

If you wish to pay for tickets to the dinner for missionaries, enclose the money and name the missionaries to receive them.

Preregistration forms must reach the National Offices Building by June 24. Forms that come in after that date cannot be accepted.

Local Delegates Pay \$5

Local women's groups may send one delegate to the convention in Little Rock. The local delegate fee is \$5.

The fee should be enclosed with the preregistration form or paid at the registration desk in Little Rock.

Secretaries' Reports Are Crucial

For the last few years the WNAC office could compare reports from the state conventions with the actual dues recorded for the year from that state. This year, since the \$10 dues became effective January 1, 1994, dues may vary from district to district.

The annual report will show only the members recorded on the secretary's report. Secretaries should be as accurate as possible in reporting membership.

Reports must be in the WNAC office July 1.

A hundred years from now the researcher will know us only by the written record.

Plan Now for WNAC Emphasis

Although WNAC is included in the Rest of the Family Offering in September, women are asked to plan a special emphasis among the women of the church for this year. Until there is solid support in the September offering for all the agencies included, the WNAC office will need the extra gifts for the support of the work.

Plan a special program for August, highlighting the purpose, history and achievements of WNAC, especially for the women of your church.

Plan a special offering for the national office. Quarter folders are available from the WNAC office. ■



BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Retired and Happy!

By William W. Evans

Recently, during the same week, two men visited my office. Each had served local churches and a national ministry. They were pioneers in their own right. Each was very much an individualist but at the same time committed to our Free Will Baptist work.

During the past year, each of these men had made the decision to retire. After 40 years they chose to step down from full-time service, but not without facing some tough questions.

How will I like retirement?

Do I have enough to get by on?

What will it be like to no longer be in the "main stream" of a church or ministry?

What will I do with my time and abilities?

Where will I live?

Both men struggled with these and other questions over an extended period of time. Yes, these men of faith wrestled with these questions. Their focus was not the same, but both confessed to struggles in all these areas.

What were their conclusions? Their answers were not the same for each question.

One chose to relocate; the other remained in the home he had occupied for several years.

One had several assets to support himself and his wife; the other had somewhat less. Both receive Social Security and a retirement from our Free Will Baptist Retirement Plan.

Both have found new places of service in the Body of Christ, however, neither serves in a formal position. One man is developing a ministry to the grieving; the other is continuing an active soul-winning outreach. There is no end to their opportunity for service.

But these decisions and new activities are not what captured my attention.

Both men proclaimed without reservation that they were as happy as they had ever been. Both were convinced that they were presently in the will of God.

So far, both men testified, their funds were adequate to meet their needs. Neither was so bold as to claim sufficient funds for any emergency, but each expressed faith in his heavenly Father for the unknown of their tomorrows.

Were they just trying to convenience themselves? I don't think so. I worked with both men during their decisions to retire. There

were several changes evidenced to me in this last visit. Now the clouds and shadows were gone from their eyes, the tension gone from their facial muscles.

Both men shared how God was using them in new exciting ways. They were no longer "professional ministers" but men who love God and seek to please Him.

What do they have to tell us?

There are several things. One is that time relentlessly pushes all of us into aging, therefore we should plan for it as best we can. (Both these men said they wished Free Will Baptists had provided a plan earlier, and that they had participated more generously.)

The shock of retirement is not nearly what they feared.

They are not in storage, but have many more options for service than they previously thought.

They are depending on Social Security, pension benefits from our Free Will Baptist Plan, personal savings and investments and the Lord for daily needs (not necessarily in that order).

They are happy because they have found the place God wants them now. They are content because they have done what they could to prepare for this hour. They are confident because their faith is still intact.

Oh, yes, they also told me of their interest in the ministries they had retired from. There was a tone of awesome appreciation for what God was doing without a hint of jealousy or regret. It was really refreshing.

Your personal clock of service is running. What will you be like when you retire? ■



FOREIGN MISSIONS

Encouraged!

By Geneva Poole

Elated? Happy? Disappointed? Encouraged? Discouraged?

Missionaries are certainly human, so they do experience these emotions.

At one time, it looked like our work in Brazil was moving in the wrong direction. Attendance was down and enthusiasm was low. We were discouraged! Although we tried to rebound, something seemed to keep us from snapping back.

The Lord Knew

The Lord knew just what would help! He brought this story to our attention:

One night in the early days of our ministry in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, a fairly well-dressed man wandered into the small meeting hall after the service was well underway. He listened, but appeared to be perplexed. After the service Bobby talked to him for just a few minutes, got his name (Sr. José, I think) and the address of the boarding house—his temporary lodging.

The very next day Bobby sought to find Sr. José. He knocked several times on the door. It seemed like no one was in, but Bobby persisted and the man finally came to the door.

The two men began to talk, and soon, Sr. José's account of personal agony gushed forth! He told Bobby he had been on the verge of taking his life as the knock came on the door. He had been a pastor with a lovely wife and family. But somehow he fell into sin and everything went sour. He felt he had lost everything. In fact, life seemed no longer worth living.

God's Word at Work

Bobby took God's Word and explained to him that it was not too late. After some time, Sr. José prayed and asked for God's forgiveness. Then, with a promise to call again, Bobby left.

A day or two later Bobby did call again, but the room was vacated. No forwarding address had been left.

For a time we continued to pray for the man, but we heard no more from him.

Then, some years later, Dona Maria from our church went to visit some of her family who lived in the state to the north of us. She was originally from that state. After some time in the area where she was reared, Maria felt impressed to visit a relative who lived in "the interior" of the state.

A Timely Visit

Since she was there on a Sunday, she located a small Baptist church near her relatives and visited it. As in most small congregations, every eye turned in her direction as she entered and seated herself. The people seemed happy to have her. During the announcements, the pastor recognized the visitor and asked Dona Maria to stand, give her name and where she was from. This welcome made her feel very much at home.

As soon as the service ended, the pastor made his way to Dona Maria to find out more. He questioned, "Did you say you are from Ribeirão Preto and your church is the Free Will Baptist?" She quickly answered affirmatively. He then responded, "I really don't know if a pastor I once met is still there or not, but perhaps you know him. His name is Bobby Poole."

Maria's eyes lit up to find someone so far away who would know her pastor. She responded, "I certainly do! He's my pastor! How did you know him?"

The Story Revealed

Then his story tumbled from his lips. As he unfolded events in his past and his encounter with her pastor, he added, "Be sure to tell Pastor Bobby I owe a lot to him. The day he talked to me there in Ribeirão Preto, I got my life right with the Lord. Afterward, I made things right with my family and with my denomination. God has already used me to start two churches."

When she returned to Ribeirão Preto, Dona Maria carefully related to us the story, just when we needed it!

Elated? Yes.

Happy? Naturally.

Encouraged? Indeed we were! ■



Geneva Poole and her husband, Bobby, have labored in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, since 1962. They are currently on furlough.



Thomas Marberry

A Summary of Christian History

By Robert A. Baker, revised by John M. Landers

(Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1994, 413 pp., hardback, \$24.99)

The late Robert A. Baker was regarded as one of the outstanding Baptist church historians of his generation. The opportunity to study under him in seminary was one of the highlights of my academic career.

This book, first published in 1959, was designed to serve as a textbook for introductory church history classes. It was Dr. Baker's opinion that most textbooks designed for introductory classes contained such a mass of historical detail that the beginning student soon became lost.

In this book, he concentrated on the most important people and events. In the classroom, he supple-

mented the text with lectures in which he introduced additional historical information, much of it drawn from original sources.

Baker wished to revise the book but was unable to do so because of ill health during the last years of his life. Prior to his death he approved this revision by John Landers, one of his former students.

Landers made several changes in the book which make it more useful for today's students. He included quotations from 52 important Christian documents, both ancient and modern. Dr. Baker used many of them in his lectures.

In the original edition, Dr. Baker

gave only brief attention to events in this century and almost none to events since World War II. Landers rewrote the last two chapters to include a much more comprehensive analysis of the most important events of this century. He has also given greater attention to the contributions of women and minorities to Christian history.




A Summary of Christian History has been an outstanding introductory volume to the field of church history for many years. This revision by John Landers will enable it to continue serving the needs of the Christian community for years to come. ■

Sign up Your Friends for Contact

Friend #1 Friend #2 Friend #3



Complete the form below and send a FREE 3-month *Contact* subscription to any of your friends. Allow *them* the opportunity to read for themselves the magazine that keeps Free Will Baptists involved and in touch.

<p>My Name is:</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p>	<p>My Friend:</p> <p> Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p>
<p>My Friend:</p> <p> Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p>	<p>My Friend:</p> <p> Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p>

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YOUTH UPDATE

THE 1994 NATIONAL YOUTH EVANGELISTIC TEAM



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The 1994 NYET consists of winners and top-scorers from the 1993 National Youth Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. These twelve high-school students will be touring for ten days this summer in Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Their program, **Be Strong and Courageous**, will focus on the power of the cross, through modern-day and Biblical testimonies. Please uphold them in your prayers and make plans to attend a service in your area.



Jack Williams

Now, That's Different!

I imagine this ad appearing in the classifieds of the *Jerusalem Chronicle* about 800 B.C. *Position Available: International firm seeks versatile, open-minded prophet to conduct 40-day evangelistic crusade in large Assyrian city. Send resume to Main Gate, Nineveh.*

If such an ad had appeared, the one man who absolutely, positively would *never* have answered it was the very man who got the job—a certain son of Amittai named Jonah. What on earth was God thinking?

If I'd been in charge of pastoral placement in Israel, I'd have sent a guy like Daniel to that rough crowd in Nineveh—a man with diplomatic experience, a man gifted with prophetic insight, a man who knew how to keep the big cats calm.

But God who knows all knew better. Instead, God deputized a man to do a job who hated the job so badly that he thought he preferred drowning in the Mediterranean Sea to preaching on the streets of Nineveh.

A mistake? Hardly. After a three-day prayer retreat at the Moby Dick Inn, Jonah suddenly became cross-cultural in his outlook and Nineveh had a revival that swept from the king to the kitchen.

The point being: God follows His own timetable, and He seldom does anything the same way twice. God let Samson jerk the gates off the walls of Gaza with his bare hands in order to escape the Philistines. But when the Romans had Simon Peter locked in the Jerusalem pokey, God didn't send old Muscles to rescue Peter; He sent an angel with a passkey. Same God, same problem, different solution.

At times it wasn't jails but water that created barriers. When the Red Sea prevented Israel's exodus from

Egypt, Moses stretched out the rod and dried a road across the sea bed. But Jesus didn't need the dry road when the Sea of Galilee threatened the disciples. He walked on the water to reach them. Jonah, on the other hand, tried to use the Mediterranean Sea as a hideout from God and ended up going tourist class *under* the sea in the belly of a whale. It was all God's plan done God's way in God's time.

Luke the beloved physician would have been as out of place calling down fire on Mt. Carmel as Elijah the prophet trying to act as cupbearer for Artaxerxes. We'd best leave the assignment of duty posts with God.

With God, when a lamb is enough, a lion is too much. David's hands killed the giant, but those same hands could not build the Temple. Samson's strength destroyed the temple of Dagon, but Paul's preaching bankrupted Diana of the Ephesians. Be what you are, and God will use that.

We're so caught up in the idea that in order to be successful we all must *see* it alike, *say* it alike and *sing* it alike that we ignore reality. Does God want you to build a megachurch? Then build one. But don't criticize the man God sends to pastor a rural church with 50 in the community.

Remember, the dinosaur and the horse fly were created the same day. Neither could claim credit for his uniqueness but both had been touched by the same Hand.

God intends for some of His people to disappear into society like salt in food. They quietly change the taste of workplaces and homes and communities. Their praise must wait until judgment day.

On the other hand, God intends that others of His people stand out like cities on hills, as flares against

the darkness. They make daring statements and boldly call society to repentance in public displays.

Which of these methods is correct? Both! The difference is God's choice. Those who listen to the voice of God know when it's time to hold on like a branch hugging the vine. They also know when it's time to turn loose like the Antioch Church (Acts 11:1-2) and fling themselves away from home and hearth.

When God tells us to stay put, it's because we need to wait for His power (Acts 1:8). When God tells us to scatter, it's because His timetable has come full circle (Acts 8:1).

One day the order of business for the church is feeding widows (Acts 6). The next day it's dealing with doctrinal heresy (Acts 15). Which is the right way? Both! Social concerns are important, but they must never be so important that they push aside doctrinal purity.

Benjamin Disraeli once observed, "How much easier it is to be critical than to be correct."

When life takes a turn we did not foresee and can not explain, we frequently resort to the error of Jeremiah and attempt to "humbly" lecture the Almighty as he did (Jer. 12:1-4).

That's when the response of God explodes like a thunderclap: "If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? And if in the land of peace, wherein thou trusteth, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" (Jer. 12:5).

We have enough on our plate without second-guessing God. God told Jeremiah to keep his mind on his own duty and He would take care of the big stuff. Hmmm. Now, that's different. ■

CONTACT

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