

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
AND OF THE CO-OPERATIVE GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. 2. No. 5.

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The Christian's Inheritance

Sermon by Eld. E. E. Winfree at Union Hill, Arkansas, and reported by Mrs. L. M. W.

I shall take for my text this morning the first and second verses of the third chapter of 1st John, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: Therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

John is known as the Apostle of Love, and interprets God in terms of love. There are four great truths taught in our text:

- I. The Fatherhood of God.
- II. The Sonship of man.
- III. The unforeseen Future.
- IV. The Glorified State.

I. The Fatherhood of God is the foundation of all Christian Character.

It inspires our prayers. We have seen a great number of people that have been so permeated with the Spirit of God that their lives were a fountain of inspiration.

It assures us of His special providence. There are a great many of us that can look back over our past lives and see where God through His providence has brought us through many dangers both seen and unseen. It is marvellous how God, in his Fatherly love, can and will lead His children to deeper depths and higher heights of his love and favor.

II. The Sonship of man—I think when we speak of man's relation to

God, it has a twofold meaning. First, we are the sons of God's creation. I do not agree with some of the teaching of the day, that man was a Speck, and then turned a fish then to a frog, from a frog to a monkey, then the monkey climbed a tree, started to jump out and curled his tail to a limb and hung there until his tail came off, and then he (monkey) became a man; or that is the substance of the theory. We are the sons of God's creation, because he breathed into our nostrils the breath of life. Then we became a living soul. We are not the sons of God in the spiritual sense of His having created us. If that were so, the little bird that sits on the bough and sings his morning melody could claim the same sonship. No, neither are we the sons of God in the sense of His special providence, nor are we the sons of God because He loved us, but we are the sons of God because we are born of God through regeneration. When we as the sons of His creation come to Him by repentance through faith, and feel His pardoning love, we get into the fountain of joy and peace. We feel like a bald-headed bumble-bee in a thousand acres of clover. We feel so happy, that we think we are in a river of honey as deep as the ocean.

Brother, do you feel God's Spirit of peace in your heart today? No wonder the poet wrote,

There's a deep, settled peace in my soul,

Waves of God's holy love o'er me roll,

Every day, every hour I am kept by His power,

There's a deep settled peace in my soul.

III. The unforeseen Future. We do not know what is in the future. Sometimes we are anxious about the future, when we stand at the bedside of our loved ones and see the staring eyes and paling face. We wonder just what the future is like. We are tempted to accuse God unjustly, when He takes from us our loved ones.

I remember reading a story that illustrates this very beautifully. A very fine Christian lady had a husband who was an infidel. They had two very dear little girls. The Lord came and took one of them, and yet the father did not give his heart to God, so the Lord took the other little girl.

The husband with a broken heart said to his wife, "We are left alone and we have nothing to live for, so we will spend the rest of our lives in traveling." They started out, and as they were going on their way they came to a stream of water, and the noon hour being near, they decided to rest. While they were seated there, a man came along with a flock of sheep. He tried to coax them across, but they would not come. There was a mother sheep in the flock with two little lambs, so he took one lamb under each arm and started across. The mother sheep, seeing the master with her lambs, followed him across, and the rest followed over with her.

The broken-hearted husband said, "Wife, I have solved the problem." She said, "How is that, husband?" He said, "That man took those little lambs under his arms in order to draw that mother

across to the other side. So your Lord and Master has taken my lambs that He might draw me to the other side, and by His grace I will follow." Then that wife and mother knew that God's ways were best. He works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform.

IV. Jesus is coming back to earth again, and we shall see Him as He is, for we shall be like Him.

The Psalmist said, "I shall be satisfied when I wake in His likeness." That thought should thrill every heart. When we cross the mystical river, and step on the shores of the Eternal Land into the Celestial City and behold the face of my Father and hear His welcome, "Come in my redeemed and enjoy the rewards of thy labors," then I shall take my loved ones and roam over worlds and worlds of Heaven. Then will I lay my trophies down at Jesus' feet and praise him forevermore.

May God bless and keep every heart in Divine Presence is the prayer of your servant.

Unity

By Eld. Winford Davis

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" Psalm 133:1.

There is an old saying, and a true one: "United we stand, divided we fall." The work of the Lord, in this respect, is just like work of any other nature or line. For it to be a real success, there must be a oneness—a oneness of effort, of purpose, of mind, of heart. When good road projects, educational moves, political schemes, better farming organizations are wanted, to put them over the top, a spirit of unity in behalf of the move is sought for. If we Free Will Baptist are to advance, there must be that united effort.

David, in speaking these words of our text, no doubt had realized in his past experience the blessings derived from a spirit of unity. There may be little any of us can do, but when each one does that

little, it makes something big. I liked the piece so well that appeared in the Gem not long ago entitled "Every Little Helps." I thought, "How true."

The Israelites didn't go against Jericho with chariots, battering rams, or stone-throwing devices—such were their weapons of war in that day—but they went as a united band, each one in his place, under the leadership of a great God, whom they trusted to break down the walls. If we would see the structures of sin crumble, we must come with that same spirit of unity and obedience. How simple were the things they had to do and how few the requirements they had to comply with in order to overpower Jericho, and yet, God requires only the simple things.

(Continued on page 14)

Apostasy

By Eld. Thos. H. Dixon, Hector, Ark.

Dear Editor and Readers of the Gem: Here I come again on Apostasy. I hope all will read prayerfully.

My reason for being a Free Will Baptist is that they believe in the freedom of the human will, that when a man gets ready to repent and quit sin he does it of his own free will and accord. God doesn't force a man to repent. We can do as we like, repent and go to heaven or live and die in sin and go to hell. But I thank God that He loved us so that He gave His only begotten Son, with a free good will, that whosoever believeth in Him shall have everlasting life. "But if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My Lord delayeth His coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; the lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 24:48-51). It is plain from this that this man was once a be-

liever. I take the stand that when a man in sin is praying to God for forgiveness, he promises his Lord that he will do everything a Christian needs to do, if He will save him, and God saves him on condition.

Remember, dear reader, that God has always dealt with men on condition. God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and made a condition for them: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen 2:17). Ever since God made man He has given him law to govern him, and when man violates that law, he becomes a transgressor—he commits sin, and no sin can enter heaven. "He that sinneth is of the devil" (1 John 3:8) and the devil's servants cannot go to heaven. The true blue Christians are the ones that will walk the streets of gold. When Christ was telling His disciples of the signs of the times, after he told them that a nation should rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and that there would be earthquakes in divers places, and that there would be great tribulation, such as was since the beginning of the world. And men's hearts failing them with fear of the danger and the coming days; He said there would be great distress in the land. Jesus said Matt. 24:13, "They that endure to the end, the same shall be saved. Keep in mind that those that endure to the end shall be saved. Listen to the loving Christ, Luke 21:36, "Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them." We see the warning the Lord gives us here: if there had been no danger of us being deceived, we would not have this warning from our Lord, given in the good old Bible. Notice Luke 21:34, "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and care of this life, and so that day come upon you." (Continued on page 15)

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Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here  

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Editorial**Appetite or Inspiration?**

Many people say to themselves, if not to others, "I will not go to church, I don't feel like going." So they take a "stroll" instead, and return with nothing but an appetite, when they might have gone to church and received an inspiration.

A good appetite should not be despised. It is God's gracious gift, and is one of the blessings of a healthy body, but too much attention to appetite tends to make the flesh master over the spirit. Remember that Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. Afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected, and could find no place of repentance, though he sought it with tears.

We can "stroll" in more ways than one, and return with nothing but an appetite, when we might have come back with an inspiration. Sometimes when we feel called to prayer, we pick up a book and find something in it that interests us. We get a real appetite for reading and the desire for prayer is gone. God was waiting to commune with us; but He must hide from us the thing He intended for us, because we were not ready to receive it. We are sometimes so much interested and satisfied with the perishable things of earth that we cannot receive the gifts and blessings God would bestow upon us. It is not at all strange that so many church members are powerless.

Prayer meeting night is a real test to many church members. A "stroll" through some reading matter; an hour at the "movie;" a visit with friends; or something else that entertains is more to the taste, but these things only sharpen the appetite for amusements. But an hour at prayer meeting might bring an inspiration that would change the whole course of one's life, and enrich it.

A prayer meeting might prove more practical and more profitable than a church supper. Money is worth very little where there is no vision. The church supper satisfies the appetite, but doesn't help vision. Prayer meeting brings inspiration and enriches vision. Where the people have real vision church suppers are not needed: for such people are liberal givers.

We sometimes feel moved to speak to a person about his soul's welfare. Everything seems favorable but we allow ourselves to "stroll" along other avenues of thought, and the opportunity passes, and we are possessed with other things. We have gained nothing but an appetite, when we might have gained an inspiration and had the joy of winning a soul to God. Winning souls brings joy, and the more you win, the more you want to win. Get one and you want a crowd.

FROM THE FIELD

Fredericktown, Mo.

To the Many Readers of the Gem: I wish to report that, after leaving Ash Grove, Mo., I went to St. Louis, Mo. and preached three times for our F. W. B. Church at 611 Rutger St. Our church there seems to be getting along just fine under the leadership of their pastor W. C. Hill, and others.

From St. Louis Bro. Hill and I went to Mt. Vernon, Ill. to attend a fifth Sunday meeting. There was a large delegation of preachers and elected delegates. But Bro. Hill did not get to stay till the close; he took sick and had to return to St. Louis.

Last winter Elder Burton and others came to Mt. Vernon and secured an unused church house and held a revival meeting. It was a real meeting and a great victory was won. Many souls were saved and a Free Will Baptist church was organized. Throughout the fifth Sunday meeting large crowds attended every session, and souls were saved, and members added to the church. Dinner and supper were served in the church basement.

Mt. Vernon is quite a large town, and we believe that there is a bright future there for the Free Will Baptist church.

After leaving the fifth Sunday meeting I went to the little town of Ina, Ill. and held a five nights' meeting with the Free Will Baptist Ch. at that place. We enjoyed very much meeting these good people.

After leaving Ina I went to our Bear Point church, near Sesser, Ill. and preached four times, and witnessed six professions.

I was glad for the privilege of being in the homes of Eld. Porter and Eld. Bunton of Sesser, Ill. I enjoyed my trip through this part of Ill. very much, and I hope and pray that I did some good while among the good people of Ill. and I hope and pray that I may meet many of

them again before we go home to glory.

After leaving Sesser, Ill. I came back to St. Louis, Mo. Then I went to Wortham in St. Francois Co., Mo. and preached a few times. There were some professions and additions to the church. Eld. P. Hildebrand is the faithful pastor of this church, and seems to be liked by everyone.

Next I went to Fredericktown, the county seat of Madison Co., Mo., about 100 miles south St. Louis, Mo., and began a meeting. Already there has been some professions. When I got here I found Eld. Yancey the pastor of the church still on the job. When I, with the assistance of others, organized this church a few years ago Bro. Yancey became its first pastor, and we are sure glad to find him still on the job. The church now owns its church house free from debt.

On this trip I secured several subs for the Gem. Now that the Gem is moved to Mo. let's get behind it and get all the subs we can, so that Bro. and Sister Brown our beloved editors can pay expenses and have something left for themselves. Lots of people have failed to renew their subscriptions when their time ran out. This ought not to be; so let's get busy and do something; for Bro. and Sister Brown can't publish our paper and pay expenses on hot air and wind. Let us get out and get subs and not allow our paper to suffer because of lack of support. Every one try to send in at least one sub during this mo. Come on, let's go.

Yours for the Master,
T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist,
Ash Grove, Mo.

Flat River, Mo., April 8th.

Dear Readers of the Gem: I am very glad for the privilege of writing to you again. I am still living for God, although I have been unable to write on account of my work, but I prayed that others might write.

We find that many trials and tribulations come upon us, but we can overcome them if we ask God

for help, for He has promised that He will make a way of escape. If we will but look around us when dark trials come before us, and ask God to show us, we will always find that a way is prepared for us.

When I think of Peter, James and John, and Paul, and of the times God delivered them out of the hands of their enemies, through faith in God, I take new courage to work in His vineyard.

Brethren, why fear the trials of this life? The blessed Book says that God is the same yesterday, today and for ever, so God is the same today that He was then. Brethren, are we living close enough to God to trust Him in all of our troubles? Are we living just as He would have us to live?

We look about us and see sin on every hand, leading our boys and girls away from God and from everything that is good and pure. It is high time we were waking up for so many Christians of today are sleeping; the blessings which God blesses them with are like the dream of a sleeper, they are soon forgotten. What will our record be? The same hand that wrote Belshazzar's doom on the wall is writing your record, and mine, are we neglecting our duty toward God and our neighbor?

I desire your prayers that I may be used of God in winning souls. May God bless you all

Wm Reeves, B277.

Report of Cave Springs Quarterly Meeting

Myrtle, Mo. March 2, 1930. Cavespring third Quarterly Meeting met with Norman Church on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday March, that being the 28th day. Preaching by Eld. Milo Stanley.

Saturday morning congregation assembled. Singing by choir. Scripture reading, the 12 chapter of Ecclesiastes by Clerk. Prayer by Bro. Stanley.

Conference was then called session by Clerk. Elder E. Winfree was elected moderator. Elder N. Combs ass't moderator.

The regular routine of business was then taken up and went over. with some new business in preparation for the meeting of the State Association, as it is to convene in its next session with Norman Church.

The weather was fine which aided to a good attendance, and every thing went off lovely, with good meeting from start to finish.

Devotional services at 7:30 o'clock

SUNDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

Sunday morning at 9 o'clock a. m. the ministers convened, Moderator E. L. Brewer presiding. After part of the program was rendered, adjourned for devotional services. Elders H. C. Crase and N. Combs delivered the message and every one of God's children enjoyed a refreshing shower of God's grace, after which a sumptuous dinner was spread which everybody seemed to enjoy.

At 2 o'clock Conference assembled, remainder of program was rendered which was of very deep interest.

Our next and 4th Quarterly meeting will convene with Mill Creek Church, Myrtle, Mo., on Friday night before the 5th Sunday in June, 1930. Program will be arranged for Minister's Meeting on Sunday by committee.

Meeting closed with rejoicing. We had been permitted to meet again and with bright hopes for the future. Rev. Billie Rodgers to preach on Friday night.

Moderator { E. E. Winfree
 { E. L. Brewer

Monett, Mo.

(Left over from April issue)

Dear Gem Readers:— This is March 18th and the first night I've been at home at regular bed time since the spell of ice. While sitting around the fire a passage of scripture bears heavy upon my mind, so before I retire for the night I will try to drop a few thots to the Gem.

In Exodus 14:15 God commanded Moses to "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."

I can't help thinking how applicable this is to us Free Will Baptist. How we need to be on the move! out and doing! up and going! There are so many, many things to be done and so few to do them. What a wonderful opportunity we have in this age of hungering for heart-felt salvation; then the question arises, Will we take advantage of the opportunity? One of our greatest needs is that the sleepers be awakened from their sleep; there are too many Free Will Baptist at ease in Zion, too many preachers asleep on the job. When Moses commanded Israel to go forward, they went forward, and when they went forward God went with them as He always will; God helps those who help themselves. The Free Will Baptist can have things and do things if they will; but as Paul said on one occasion there must be first "a willing mind;" we must open our hearts, open our minds, and open our pocket-books. There are too many tight-wads, stingy, selfish, we hold the dollars till the eagle squeals. God help us to wake up, open up, get up, look up, move up, on, out, and away, get out of the old sluggish rut and do things in a worthwhile way—in a way that God will accept and, in return, will abundantly bless. So many don't go to Sunday school, don't go to prayer meeting, don't go to league don't help the mission work, don't pay your pastor, but let the burden fall on a few, and let your pastor get to his row's end and have to quit. I shall not be surprised if our people experience some of California's earthquakes or something worse. I feel that I could stand quite a shock myself, if it would be the means to awaken some others.

Just think of the thousands of Free Will Baptist in Missouri. If every one would do just a little, and give just a little, just think what it would amount to. We could buy a new linotype and equip our publishing house so that anyone could look on it with pride. We could enlarge the Gem so that in it could

be carried the League lessons, Sunday school lessons, and many other good and necessary things.

Listen folks, let's go forward: we must go forward! if we don't, we'll go backward. We can't stand still: we must grow, or we will die! Nature demands either advancement or stagnation, we must progress or retrograde; let's look up and not down, forward and not backward. Let's hold up and hold high and unfurl to a lost and sin cursed humanity the blood-stained banner of the Son of God.

I was made to rejoice not many days ago when I drove up to the gate of one of our F. W. B. members and he said to me, "From now on I expect to give the tenth of all my income." I said, "Praise the Lord. He will bless you for it," and God will bless him. I wish I had time and space to write for an hour on tithing, God's financial plan. The reason God don't bless a lot of folks is because they wont let Him. God wont bless a seat warmer, a stand still, a close grip. I once knew of a man down by the little village of Golden, across White river, who was at church one night when they were making up money for the church and he was asked to give \$2.50. No, he couldn't possibly do that; well he went home and, in the night an electric storm came up and killed his best cow. The next morning he arose and found the unexpected situation and said, "Well, I will skin the cow and sell the hide. The hide brought \$2 50, and the man said, "Well, there is the \$2.50 and the Lord took the cow for interest. God, in some way, will get His share. Sometimes it takes some faith to do this moving forward, for we walk by faith and not by sight, and before the Jordan river opened for Israel to pass over they had to wade in ankle deep. May God help us to launch out, move at His command, cut the shore lines and go forward as He would have us to.

Your humble servant,
Winford Davis.

FROM THE FIELD

Purdy, Mo.

Dear Gem Readers:—Well, we believe you dear sisters and brothers prayed for us when we were in the meeting at Purdy. There were about forty converted.

We are so glad to welcome our editor of the *Gem* to our home town.

We had a nice time the 4th Sunday in April at the place where we pastor the church, and raised over \$300.00 on a new church building. We would be glad to receive any amount of money to help erect the building.

Yours for Jesus,

Merl Robberson.

St. Louis, Mo. (4301 N. Br'd'y)

To the Readers of the F. W. B. Gem. Greeting:

We are passing through serious times. Our people, many of them, are scarcely making a livelihood and are deeply in debt. Many appeals are being made, which we are unable to answer. Family after family have been unable to send their children to Sunday School for lack of shoes or clothes. There has been much sickness also, among the children, all of which is a task upon the pastor to bring consolation and comfort in their distress. We had four professions of faith in Jesus during the past month (month of May) and are looking for baptisms.

Our Sunday School and also the Y. P. L. are holding their own. We admit of the struggle with the young people, but we will keep on "keeping on." Sister Hilliar has had a very hard time of sickness in the past seven months, till I am all run down, and I have not had the heart to write. I do hope to take up writing again. I find much joy in the themes of the Bible.

Elder Edward Hilliar.

Monett, Missouri

Dear readers of the *Gem*:—I Will endeavor to write a few words to our little paper. My mother has been a subscriber of the *Gem* ever since it has been published, and we all enjoy reading it very much.

I have been a Christian for about eight years, but I never really thought what it meant to be a Christian, until my father was killed last July. I see now the need of religion every day. I used to think that if I got along without committing a great sin every day, that was all that was necessary, but I realize now that, if I would work every hour in every day, I could never repay my blessed Master for what he has done for me. He died that I might be redeemed from my sins; not only me, but every one. He died for us all. He is a wonderful Friend indeed. Oh, if the unsaved could only see what a friend they would have, if only they would accept him!

Sometimes I wonder if I am doing all I could do for Jesus. The Lord knows I am perfectly willing to do all I can for Him if He will just make it plain what He has for me to do. Pray for me, that I may, in my weak way, help bring some lost one to the fold.

Oleta Davis.

I am sending a poem in memory of my dear father Clyde Davis, who went to heaven July 1, 1929.

There is a lonely, humble grave,
Beyond a large pine tree;
And he who lies beneath its sod,
Is Oh, so dear to me!

In the grave so peacefully sleeping,
Lies his body now at rest;
While his soul has gone to Jesus,
With the ransomed and the blest.

The days are sad and lonely
Without you, papa dear;
You always brought us gladness,
And words of hope and cheer.

Our home is not as happy now,
For there's your vacant chair;

Yet, papa, you deserved your rest!
We must not call you back here.

The burden of your loss is heavy,
How we miss you, none can tell,
Oh! so hard has been the parting,
But we know in heaven you dwell.

Yes, you rest from honest labor,
And your earthly task is done;
No more pain and no more worry,
Your noble life's race is run.

The greatest treasure we have left
Is our precious mama dear,
She is gentle, kind and loving,
Just as you were when you were here.

Dear papa, you have left us,
But we'll be true to thee;
Always as brave and honest,
As you would have us be.

We hope to meet you later,
And hold your blessed hand,
Then all will be together,
And all will understand.

Sleep on, our darling papa,
Till the resurrection morn,
Then we hope again to meet you,
Where parting is unknown.
Lucile and Oleta Davis.

A Pastor's Report

As there have been some interesting, and very profitable events which have taken place here in this field since the last issue of the *Gem* went forth, I feel disposed to write a brief report of some of them.

We had a wonderful four weeks, revival in Purdy, just preceding the moving of the press. About forty precious souls were saved, including one old mother eighty-two years of age. The Lord certainly poured out a blessing upon the little town, and we had a wonderful spirit of co-operation and unity.

Yesterday (Sunday 18th) was a glorious day for us at Macedonia. I can hardly find words to express the blessedness of the day. We had our regular Sunday School and

morning preaching service, and at the close of service I gave an opportunity for church membership and our editor and wife, Bro. and Sister Brown, and Sister Marbut came forward, and were gladly and unanimously received into the church.

At noon a bountiful dinner was spread, and from all appearances was enjoyed by all.

At two o'clock in the afternoon Elder Ray Scriviner from near Buffalo, Dallas county, Mo. brought us a wonderful message and sang us a good song.

At night the house was crowded with people, and after our League and regular preaching the ordinances of communion and feet-washing were duly observed, in which thirty-two participated, and was attended by a downpouring of the Holy Spirit that made everybody feel good.

And, Oh, say! I am about to forget to mention attending the Bible Class at Purdy from eight to nine o'clock Sunday morning, which has just been organized two weeks with Bro. Brown as teacher, to be held every Sunday morning from eight to nine o'clock. It is a Men's Bible Class, and looks very very promising, and I pray will prove a great blessing to the fathers of Purdy.

We observed communion and feet-washing at the Jones Chapel Church the first Sunday night in May, and at our Blue Eye Church the 2nd Sunday night in May. These services, with us, are invariably attended wonderfully by the Holy Spirit.

We have prayer meeting at Macedonia Wednesday night, and at Purdy Thursday night of each week. We have no church in Purdy, but there is a real nice vacant church building there, and those having control of it are letting us use it very willingly, for which we are thankful.

I am glad to report receiving some money along on the lineotype

fund, and only praying I will receive much more in the near future. Bro. Allred and myself made a little two nights' visit with the Rocky Branch Church near Rogers Arkansas a few nights back, and raised \$40.00 on the linotype, besides several subs. May God bless the good people at Rocky Branch.

Elder Noel Turner preached at Merl's Chapel, the church pastored by Sister Merl Robberson, one night not long ago, then at Macedonia one night. Noel is launching right out in the work, and I pray will continue to press forward. God give us more young and able ministers.

Eld. G. A. Garner of Jones Chapel was with us for a service not long ago, and Elder B. Clark of Joplin, Mo. was with us at Macedonia over Sunday, and preached for us Wednesday night of last week.

Yours for Jesus,

Winford Davis

Will a Man Rob God?

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." Mal 3:8.

Some would have us believe that this was only under the law, but please tell us when it was done away with. Christ, in speaking to the Scribes and Pharisees, said, "Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not leave the other undone" (Matt. 23:23). This don't sound much like He meant for them to quit tithing, even if there are weightier matters. If every Free Will Baptist were doing his duty toward financing God's kingdom, none of our God-called preachers would stay at home, having no place to preach. My Bible tells me that the laborer is worthy of his hire (Luke 10:7).

When we have given the tenth or tithe, we have only turned back

to God what belongs to Him, we must also bring an offering, and let it be a freewill offering: for God loveth a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7).

If every Free Will Baptist in Ark. would quit robbing God, we would see quite a change; we could have a State Evangelist, and many, many things could be done that we are not doing. Who is to blame for the plight we are in? Who must answer for it? Every one that is robbing God. Folks, let's get right, so we can receive of the blessing: for the Lord of hosts has promised to "open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10).

I, too, have heard the old, old story that salvation is free. To be sure it's free to you and me, but have you counted the cost, the most awful price ever paid for anything, the life of the dear Son of God? There is nothing free in the sense that it is not paid for. Someone is paying your pastor's bills: I hope it is not his wife and children. Don't understand me to say that we should give all the tithe to the preachers: for the Bible says, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).

May God help us to always be found at our post of duty.

Mrs. Dave Trammell,

New Edinburg, Ark.

If We Will

By Mrs. J. W. Allred

We have often heard the old saying, "Where there is a will there is a way." How much really depends on having a will?

We are stewards for God, and the parables of the talents and the pounds show conclusively that God has committed to each of us gifts, in fact all that we have that is worth attention comes from the Father. We are tenants on His domain. The reason why the one talented

man didn't use his talent in a profitable way was because he didn't have a will to do, backed by the right principle. How many there are of us who are acting very much like this one talented man! We simply keep our talent, and we are glad to have what the Almighty pours out upon us by His kindness, love and mercy. But God wants us to have an active will to do service for Him. He will one day call us to account, what will we say about the way we have used our time and opportunities for doing good and making the world better?

If we will, we may help to save many souls from sin. What are we doing about it? Will we go before the Judge empty handed, or will we help to garner souls into His kingdom? There are numerous things that we can do if we only will. It was through obedience to the heavenly Father's will and the love He had for a lost world that caused Jesus to come to earth, therefore hath He mercy on whom He will.

As God gives us the tasks, and as the opportunities come to us with the grace of God as a sufficient strength in our lives, let us use them to His glory. Jesus Christ is able to keep us from falling and will give us strength to overcome all evil with good. When He calls, what shall we answer? Can we say, "Here, Lord, I will follow?" Will we be ready, or will we faint at the thought?

"Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near."

I love the cause and the Free Will Baptist Gem.

I ask all those who know the worth of prayer to remember me and family.

La Rue, Ark, May 18th.

A Christian's Duty

By Gladys Irean Taylor

I wonder how many of us really stop to consider what responsibility we have as a Christian.

Did God save our soul just merely to keep us out of hell? No, he did

not. God expects us as Christians to be workers and witnesses for Him.

To be a true Christian, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7).

Let's not be just a Sunday Christian, or a revival Christian, but let's be an *every day* Christian.

We hear so many say, "I would like to be a Christian, but I can not live it." True we can't live it alone, but God will help us live it if we trust it all to Him.

God does not expect us, when we are saved, to idle our time away. He expects us as a Christian to be ever at our post of duty. (Matt. 5:14) "Ye are the light of the world." Jesus surely meant for us as Christians to be the light of the world, walk upright before the world, that they may see that we are serving Him day by day. We can not do this unless we have had a real experience with God.

We as Christians all have a duty, it may be great or small. We may not have the privilege of being a missionary in foreign lands, but we can be a missionary at home. Seems as tho we need more who love the cause of Christ in our own land. Friends and loved ones out in sin, on their road to an everlasting punishment! Whose duty is it to warn them of the place where they are going? Is it just the minister's duty alone? No, it is not. It is every Christian's duty.

May we ever be a true Christian, one who is ever ready to forgive, help those in need, lift up the fallen and work for the salvation of souls. May we not forget self examination:

Did I this morning devoutly pray
For God's assistance thru the day?

And did I read His sacred Word
To make my life therewith accord?

Did I, for any purpose, try
To hide the truth or tell a lie?

Was I obedient, humble, mild,
Such as becomes a Christian child?

Did I my thots with prud'ce guide,
Checking ill humor, anger, pride?

Did I with cheerful patience bear
The little ills we all must share?

To all my duties thru this day,
Did I a due attention pay?

And did I, when the day was o'er,
God's watchful care again implore?

If we, as Christians, will do our duty, there is a crown awaiting us, where there will be no more heart aches, sorrows, nor pain, in a world free from all toil and care.

Gladys Irean Taylor.

Separation

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing." (2 Cor 6:17).

Now there are many unclean things, but we will dwell on, or center our thoughts and remarks mostly on the things, which to our way of thinking, are tending to wreck the church.

Many times we hear of so called socials being held for the entertainment of the young people, and how were they conducted? On approaching such a scene one could hardly distinguish it from a real old time dance, and what is the result? What can we expect from the work when members, yes, even pillars of the church sanction, and even attend these parties? "Come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord." Where do we draw the line between the church and the world? "Ye are the temple of the living God: as God hath said, will dwell in them." If we, then, are God's temples and He dwells in us, how can we think of Him in these places of worldly amusement? "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." Are we walking after the Spirit when we are going out after the things of the world? "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but

he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Can we think of it as His will to be associating with the world or sinners? "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Are we letting our light shine for Jesus by attending these parties? What would we think or how would we feel if, when at one of these places of worldly amusements, we should hear some one say, "Jesus is coming?" Would we feel like going out to meet Him? Or if our pastor should accidentally drop in for some reason, could we meet him as heretofore?

Then there is the Sunday base ball game, which is one great evil of today; what good is to be derived from it? Then if there is nothing good, there is only one alternative—that is evil. And if church members, people who profess to be Christians, attend these Sunday baseball games, what is their influence doing for the church. And to the professing Christians and church members who tolerate such amusements, I want to quote a verse of Scripture found in Luke 13:3, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Let us put on the whole armor of God and don't let the devil spoil the church. As the Scripture says, "He is going to and fro seeking whom he may devour."

Again let me quote: "Come out from among them and be ye separate."

Following Jesus

By Mrs. Ora Mae McKinney Davis

"Follow me; and I will make you fishers of men"—Luke fifth chapter.

When Jesus was upon earth he stood in the midst of men and said, "John came neither eating nor drinking, and ye say, he hath a devil." Jesus was referring to a fact that John was in prison at this time. Poor old John, the man that "bare record of Christ," down in the prison house with his feet in the

stocks!

Jesus stood confronting a throng of scoffing Pharisees. They had said that Jesus cast out devils through Beelzebub, the prince of devils. Now he stood firm, defending the divine rights which belonged to John. These Scribes and Pharisees hated Jesus, and they also hated John. This Jesus knew, and he said, (warning us) "If they hate you, ye shall know they hated me, which was before you."

Oh, John was in such misery in the prison cell that he doubted. The old devil was torturing him, until it seemed almost unbearable. Poor John, suffering for the Gospel's sake, and the devil knew it. And so, John as he doubted called two of his disciples to him, and then he told them to enquire of Jesus saying, "Art thou He that should come, or do we look for another?" Jesus said, "Go tell John the things you have seen, the deaf hear, the dumb speak, and the blind receive their sight, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them." (Matt. 11:1-10) There were suffering throngs of humanity, afflicted and broken, that followed the Savior.

"All the prophets and the Law prophesied until John" but now the Messiah, the Christ has come! But the devil was watching both of these men; he would get one of them now, later he would put the other to death. And so the devil captured and betrayed to death "John the Baptist" at the cruel hands of a dancing girl! The blessed Gospel of Peace has carried with its trial of suffering the blood of martyrs, and the head of John the Baptist.

What sacrifice are we willing to make? If you are going to be a *soldier* I call you not to medals, but to muddy trenches. I would call you in the name of Him who said, "If any man will come after me, let him take up his cross daily and follow me."

How wonderful to be called a disciple of Christ! It changes the

whole incline of our lives. We dread not the foe of death. We do not shrink from the principalities and powers of this world, knowing that Christ is our refuge.

Jesus, the Son of the Living God was sent to the "lost sheep" of the house of Israel. His travel of life covers a scope of territory ranging "from Nazareth to Jerusalem." Think of this for a moment! Sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, Jesus was like a large tree standing in the midst of the whole earth, whose branches shelter the multitudes of suffering humanity, whose leaves never wither, yet, while he was sent only to fill a small territory, His influence, His love and His power has reached to the ends of the earth.

We find in the Scriptures that Esaias the prophet said, "He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets" (Matt 12:19). The sermons of Christ were always in a quiet way of management—to the multitudes of people who followed him, sometimes at the foot of a mountain, sometimes from a boat (out away from the water's edge) sometimes along the roadside or out in the woods. He was quiet, gentle, heroic, brave and true! We follow him through the cornfields on the Sabbath day, and because his disciples were hungry they began to gather the ears of corn and to eat. The Devil took occasion to scoff at the Lord through the scornful Pharisee who said, "Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do on the Sabbath Day." But Jesus turned with stern rebuke and said, "The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath Day" (Matt. 12:8).

Echoing down through the ages, amid the Babel of other voices today, the voice of Jesus is ringing clear: "Follow me." It is the same voice that called to Peter across the glistening waters of the Sea of Galilee nineteen hundred years ago: "Follow me, and I

will make you fishers of men."

Peter and Andrew his brother worked silently side by side, just ordinary fishermen, on the shores of blue Galilee. Time turns back the pages of memory and paints upon the canvas of the mind a picture of great beauty, so simple, yet so pure.

The blue waters of Galilee lay shimmering in the midsummer sunlight. Overhead fleecy white clouds drifted by. Riding upon the tide rocked a fisherman's boat, weatherbeaten with years of service. Simon (later called Peter) and his brother Andrew stood casting over the side of the boat their nets into the sea. They worked silently, side by side, with no sound to break the stillness of the summer day save the wash, wash, wash of the water as it lapped and splashed about their boat. They heard no footsteps, no voice close at hand—yet they became conscious of some one near them. Suddenly they looked up, and beheld a man unlike any other they had ever seen a short distance from them upon the sandy seashore. Their eyes opened wide, as they looked upon him standing in his shining robes, which fell in soft folds about him. How beautiful he looked as he stood there, with his soft tender eyes resting upon them, and his soft brown hair wind tossed about his lovely face. Simon and Andrew gazed with wonder, for they knew him to be the carpenter's son of Nazereth, the one everybody called "Master."

The first words the Master said to Simon Peter were, "Follow me," two significant, wonderful words which changed the trend of his whole life. Peter did not know he would some day be bound—crucified. It's a good thing in the Christian life we do not see what is out ahead. You must deny yourself. "Get out of here self!" (Job 42:5-6) "I have heard thee by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eye hath seen thee, wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust

and ashes.

Jesus said to Peter later, "Peter, you must deny yourself daily, take up your cross and follow me," but Peter said, "Lord, be it far from me." Peter did not like to be all muddled up. He knew there would be a lot of lies told about him and he would be persecuted. Jesus said, "I am sorry, Peter, but if you are going to follow me, you will have to take up your cross daily."

Peter and Jesus went walking, side by side; and Jesus said, "Peter, you can walk about now as you like, but when you are older, you shall be bound and carried whither ye know not." Such a mysterious remark!

Peter Imprisoned. Jesus said, "Peter, you must deny yourself!" He had called Peter to preach the Gospel, regardless of the consequence it might bring, or the price it would cost. Jesus could see farther ahead than Peter could; and well did he know the prison cell, without a doubt, was waiting for him. Jesus told Peter before he went to the cross, "Simon Peter, Satan hath desired to sift you as wheat, but I have prayed for you."

Peter could not fully understand what these words meant to him; but later he said, "Yes, Lord, I denied you before a little girl. Oh, it was so cruel, so mean! Peter wept, but later Jesus said, "Peter, the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. What you need is the baptism of the Holy Ghost! Peter, you go to the upper room and tarry. You stay there until the power falls on you."

Peter went in a hurry, and all the run was taken out of him. He was whipped and beaten by the power of God, and the salt of the Spirit was rubbed right into those raw wounds. But do you think for one moment he would have given up one of those welts? He was getting ready for real service. The prison-house was just ahead! Look out, Peter, if you preach this way, or that way, they are sure to get you! They will capture you, and

put you in prison!

"What of that? Let them put me in jail. I have something that is more powerful than dynamite, the explosive *power of God* which will break loose the jail doors! Why I am not afraid of the prison. I will preach Christ and Him crucified as much as God leads me to do. So I am not serving man!"

Peter was like wild fire. He left a streak of fire for God wherever he preached.

But not very long did he preach in this way. The Devil got after him and King Herod stretched forth his hand to vex certain of the church, and one of these "certain ones" was Peter. King Herod had killed James the brother of John with the sword and seeing this pleased the Jews, he had determined to take Peter also. It seemed as if the Devil was saying, "Now, Peter, you said you had something with which to defend yourself, but I have got you now! They are going to take you out of here tomorrow and kill you."

But Peter prayed, then he went to sleep. Oh, surely that is not Peter sleeping there between those two soldiers. Why that man is bound with two chains, and look at the keepers of the prison doors. Surely that is not Peter, for he is to be taken out of here in the next few hours!

But just a moment, please Stand aside and let me pass through here! There is a *light* in the prison. What can it all mean!

Well, I guess they are taking poor old Apostle Peter out now to kill him. But, look! There is an angel in there. Yes, that is Peter asleep. Look! The angel touched Peter and he is saying something, "Arise up quickly." Listen! the chains have dropped off, and his hands are loosed, and the angel said, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals," and so Peter did. Then the angel said, "Cast thy garment about thee and follow me." (Acts 12:1-8).

"Surely that could not be Peter walking out of there," thought the

Devil. I thought sure I had that fellow this time, but I believe that is an angel with him. There would be no use trying to get the guards awake, for if God is for Peter preaching the Gospel, I might as well let him go. God has sent his angel to deliver Peter. That man has proclaimed that he was not afraid of the prison, saying he possessed power from God. It must be true, for there he goes, walking right out of there with an angel. Yes, they have already passed the first ward. That sure is Peter with an angel, and they are going right past the second ward. They are coming near the iron gate. Well, if they pass through that gate, I might as well let Peter go."

The gate, of its own accord, begins to open, and Peter and the angel pass through. They pass through one street together, leading to the city, and the angel departs from Peter.—Acts 12:10.

But the devil did not follow them. "Now," thought he, "I will not wake those sleeping guards, but I will make Herod angry with them. Then he will examine them, and they will be put to death. Some one has got to die for this. I'm not going to let God's work go on in peace when even the angels are helping out in this matter. I dare not touch Peter for this, I am afraid to, for he claims some mysterious power of God that I am, really afraid of."

While the keepers of the jail slept on, the Devil pondered what he could do, to the most successful end of some mischief he might perform.

But out yonder in the night shadows Peter comes to himself. So long as the angel was with him he thought it was a vision. "But now," Peter said, "I know of a surety that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews" (They had expected Peter to be put to death that night.)

But yonder at the home of John

Mark, (the John that took care of Mary after the death of Jesus) were many people gathered together praying. Can't you almost get a vision of some strange thing that happened? As they prayed God heard! Out through the night shadows an angel was summoned to answer prayer. Without any question the angel obeyed. Peter was delivered, and led out into the streets of the city, leading direct to the source from which the prayers had ascended in Peter's behalf (Acts 12:12).

Inside Peter could hear a voice, praying. A voice that closely resembled that of his blessed Lord! It was no wonder that "the angel of the Lord" had led Peter in that direction. It was the mother of Jesus praying!

The angel of the Lord! The house of Mary, the mother of John Mark! Peter knocking at the door, and a little girl heard the sound. Yes, listen, some one is knocking at the door. As she came forward she heard the voice of Peter, and not taking time to respond, she ran in and told the others how Peter stood before the gate. They would not believe, but she affirmed it was so. But they still said, "It is his angel" (Acts 12:13-15.). Peter was to have been killed that night; and even though they had prayed for his deliverance, they could not as yet believe it to really be Peter.

That is like human "to doubt." God always gives us more than we really are expecting, when he answers prayer.

When they had opened the door and had seen it really was Peter they were astonished, amazed and happy. But he motioned to them with the hand to hold their peace; so much as to say, "Keep quiet. The Angel of the Lord has brought me out of prison, but I must not stay here. They seek to take my life, but go tell James and the brethren. Tell them the wonderful works of the Lord." And Peter departed and went into another place.

Now just a brief glance back in-

side the prison gate. The large iron gate was firmly closed. There were no marks of any prisoner breaking out during the long hours of the night. But, listen! What are they all talking about anyway? Such a stir! The King is angry at the soldiers. "Has any one around here seen Peter? Sure a fine bunch of soldiers to go to sleep on the job"

The soldiers were saying, "Why, Peter was to have been killed, why didn't you come and wake us."

"Well it was your place to watch on your job. Somehow I went to sleep too. I don't know how Peter ever got out of here, but he is gone. I'm going to have every one of you put to death for going to sleep on this job."

The Devil didn't get Peter, but he would do something mean anyway! So he came to Herod and told him to dress in his royal apparel and make an oration to the people, and this King Herod prepared to do. But the Angel of the Lord knew about this thing. Upon a set day King Herod sat upon his throne and made the oration to all the people. The people shouted and said, "It is the voice of a god, and not of a man." But the angel of the Lord reached out and smote him, because he gave not God the glory, and he was eaten of worms and gave up the ghost. Thus the Devil captured King Herod, first, by getting him to vex the churches, second by self-righteousness and third, by rebellion.

King Herod would have taken the life of Peter the first time the angel of the Lord passed through the prison house, but God brought about a way of escape—through the angel.

But God was merciful. He gave Herod a chance to repent of his evil ways after Peter was released. But this he would not—because the Devil had taken him captive at his own will.

God destroyed the wicked, but he saved and delivered the upright.

(Continued on page 12)

The Editor's Column

The Gem In Missouri

Moving has been a long, tiresome task, and it has been rather costly too: we paid the truck man \$219.38, of which the denomination has paid \$188.25, but we are here and have taken up our work where we left it off some weeks ago.

While it has cost us a great deal in money, labor and patience to get located at Purdy, yet we are glad we came. Our new home is comfortable and pleasant, and well adapted to our work. We have much yet to do and will be all summer doing it, but it will all add to what we already have. We like our new home; we like the town and, above all, we like the people.

Let us not forget that the Gem is a State paper and that each and every Free Will Baptist in the state is responsible for its support. It costs money to move, and equip, and maintain our publishing house, and some haven't done their part. I wonder how many are really concerned about how the editor is to meet the expenses incurred in giving you the Gem. We are informed that some of our F. W. B. people conclude that the Gem doesn't need their support, because the editor owns the press, but we think they must have sharpened their pencils wrong when they figured it out: we do own the press, but we are giving all our time and devoting the press to the F. W. B. cause, and paying our own expenses. If all you possess were devoted wholly to a denominational cause, you would feel that the denomination should support that cause—we think so too. We thank God for the faithful, loyal few who have, by their active interest in this work, enabled us to carry on thus far but, if we are to grow and fill our mission, we must have more co-operation.

We are not discouraged, but rather encouraged: for we get a vision of a greater work, a larger paper with far more readers, and more job printing to do. We just

feel that you are all interested in the Gem (your paper), and want to see it grow; and will co-operate in every way you can to enable us to go forward.

Our greatest present need is money. Wont you make an honest, earnest effort to send in a number of subscriptions this month?

The "Budget System"

Some have asked about the "Budget System," and whether the pastor or the church clerk should collect the money (10 cents per member) and send it to the State treasurer.

When the "Budget System" was discussed and indorsed at the State Association last fall, and the Association voted to adopt it and carry it out for the more efficient financing of our work in the State, it was understood that each pastor should be expected to bring this matter before each of his churches and make an honest effort to collect ten cents per member to be sent to our State treasurer and placed in a fund to be known as the "Budget."

This money is to be used only as the State Association may direct but, in case of need, the State Ex. Board may direct its use for our State work.

The church may elect to send the money it raises through its clerk or through its pastor, but it is the pastor's duty to see that each of his churches attends to this matter.

Is the State work worth ten cents a year to you? It should be worth many times that to each and every Free Will Baptist in the state. Just think what ten cents from each of the 11,000 F. W. B. in the state will place in a fund ready for the support of our work, don't you think it will be a great boost to our work? Come on, every one, with your ten cents each and let's take the reproach from our cause and, if ten cents is too little, give more.

All money for this fund should be sent to Eld. Winford Davis, R1, Monett, Mo.

That New Linotype

The State Association in its last session, agreed to buy a new Linotype and appointed the editor to raise the money to pay for it. Considerable money has already been raised on this fund, and we expect to install the Linotype by this fall.

Please send cash (or pledge payable by October 1st) direct to Elder Winford Davis, Monett, Mo. R1, and save field man's expense.

Sunday School and League LESSONS

Beginning with the July issue, which is the beginning of the third quarter, we will print the Sunday School Lessons as we printed them last year.

We hope also to print the League Lessons in the Gem, beginning with the July issue, if the League editor, Sister McKinney Davis can furnish the lessons.

Let's get everything lined up for a full year's work in the service of the Master.

Following Jesus

(Continued from page 11)

And we find the word of God grew and multiplied.

But the Lord had told Peter that some day they would lead him where he would not. We see Peter step out boldly to face the death execution. He was willing to die; his Lord had described his death, and stepping out firmly Peter said, "Do not crucify me as my Lord, I am not worthy! Would you mind just turning me upside down? Crucify me with my head downward?" So it is said Peter was crucified head downward.

I wonder how many are willing to die for the Lord head downward? I challenge you now; are you willing to die for Him? (Matt. 15:13).

Jesus said while here upon earth, "Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up" (Matt. 16:21-28).

(To be continued)

Obituary

Percival—Roena H. Percival, daughter of A. J. House, was born June 4th, 1873. Departed this life, March 8th, 1930. Age 56 years, 9 months and 4 days. She was united in marriage to Robert Percival, November 28th, 1895. To this union was born six children: four boys and two girls. She professed a hope in Christ at about the age of 16 years, and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Pleasant Ridge. She bore her suffering with patience, and called her family about her and said "I am ready to go, death is only a dream, meet me in Heaven." Besides her companion and six children, she leaves to mourn her departure, two brothers, Joe House, Boliver, Mo., J. L. House, Fayetteville, Arkansas. One sister, Rachel Bridges, Urbana, Mo. Six grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral service was conducted Sunday, March 9, at Pleasant Ridge, by Rev. W. F. Millard and burial in Pleasant Ridge cemetery, under the direction of J. B. Jones, undertaker.

Byrd—Richard Johnson Byrd was born January 30, 1860, in the county of Adair, Missouri, on the farm where he spent his life. He departed this life March 31, 1930.

On July 29, 1877, he was united in marriage to Sarah Morton. To this union were born eight children. Two children, Della and Jimmie, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah Morton Byrd, two sons, John W. and Willard O. Byrd who live at home, four daughters, Mrs. Everett Hatfield, Mrs. Jasper Western and Mrs. Roy Western of Greentop, Missouri, and Mrs. J. H. Sevits of Connellsville, Missouri. Two sisters, Mrs. C. Allen Tull, of Kirksville, Missouri and Mrs. W. S. Law of Brookfield, Missouri. Sixteen grandchildren and two great-

grand-children.

Early in life Mr. Byrd became a member of the Free Will Baptist church. On October 15, 1897 he united with the Hazel Creek Union church by letter and served it in the official position of clerk from February 25 1899 to April 13, 1911. He was a man well known and loved by the church and community.

Funeral services were conducted April 1, 1930 at the Hazel Creek Union church by Rev. C. E. Mann at eleven o'clock, in the presence of a large congregation of relatives and friends. The remains were laid to rest in the Hazel Creek Union cemetery.

In Memory of Brother Wm McKown

By request of the church at Carlow, Missouri.

To the many Readers of the Gem, and especially the many friends of our old brother, Elder W. H. McKown, of our Northwest Mo. Association, who is now dead and gone on to glory. I wish to say that his youngest son John has started out to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ at Carlow, Missouri, and I have been informed by people who have heard him preach, that he is making good. That is fine, John, just keep on. and may God wonderfully bless your work, is the earnest prayer of the writer, your many friends, and it was the prayer of your dear father who is now in glory.

The writer feels that he has quite a hand in getting this young Brother McKown started out to preach. The last time I saw him I told him I was praying that God would lay his hand on him and call him into his blessed gospel ministry, and thank God he has! His dear father, whom everybody loved, baptized over fourteen hundred people in his ministry.

T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist.

"Be ye kind, one to another"

By Mrs. Odelia Rice

I'd rather have one little rose,
From the garden of a friend;
Than to have the very choicest
flowers,

When my stay on earth must end,

I'd rather have the kindest words
Which may now be said to me,
Than to be flattered when I'm gone,
And life has ceased to be.

I'd rather have a loving smile
From friends I know are true;
Than tears around my casket shed
When I've bade this world adieu.

Bring ye all your flowers today,
Whether pink or white or red;
I'd rather have one blossom now,
Than a truck load when I'm dead.
Bonne Terre, Mo.

Love

By Miss Merl Robberson

One time some one asked the question: "If you should go to a place where all were strangers, how would you start in to win those people to Jesus? By love and being friendly. (1st Cor. 13)

We know Jesus came to this earth full of love for the people. We love Jesus because he first loved us.

"God is love." "A friend loveth at all times." "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Love never goes out of fashion. It is never cast aside like an antiquated robe. It is fit and beautiful in every time and season. It adds some light to the light of childhood; it adorns life's prime; it beautifies old age. We may take it with us through the "Valley of the Shadow," and we will wear it on the *Resurrection Morning*. It is always in fashion. "Love never faileth."

Unity

[Continued from page 2]

It wasn't numbers that gained the victory for Gideon, but it was the quality of those men, and their oneness. I used to hitch four horses for work in the field, and give the word to go: one would lunge forward and another fly back, then he would go and the other fly back. Then two would start and the other two come back, and all the time the load remained just where it was. Nothing was being accomplished and the grass and weeds were growing up, taking the field; but, when all the horses came to understand each other and all move together, how easy the load moved away.

Paul told the Ephesians to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace. You know it isn't the external things that hurt a church, so much as it is the internal things—not the things on the outside, but the things on the inside. All devils and organized forces of hell can't destroy the church that has and keeps that spirit of unity; but when we fail to stand as one, then look out for that curse Paul speaks of in Gal. 5:12: "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." It will happen just as sure as the disunion is kept up. Paul said in Col. 3:15, "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts." In every heart in this world there is some kind of a spirit ruling, predominating in power, holding sway. It would be well for us to stop and question self, is the peace of God ruling in my heart?

When the four men carried the poor palsied man and let him down through the roof to Christ, there first had to be an agreement, then preparation, then determination. It was a task one man couldn't do by himself. Just a few can hardly keep a church going, but how easy it is for just a few to destroy one. Just a few cannot make a denomination successful, but when every one lays a little fuel on the fire, what a burning and a shining light

it is to the world. What a warmth it is to those cold in the death of sin! What a light to the pathway of those groping in darkness!

We agreed a year and a half ago to have a paper, we purposed to have it; now are we determined by the help of God to see it over the top, through to a finish, to where we can shout the shout of victory in the name of our Christ.

May God bless our churches and our denomination. May the power of God burn out all the works of evil, and may the heavenly Spirit of oneness and unity prevail.

Let us pray.

Are You Prepared For Eternity?

By Stella Stark

Dear Reader, will you stop with me long enough to consider the above subject? Do you realize that each closing year, each setting sun, each tick of the clock is shortening your days on earth and swiftly, silently but surely carrying you on to eternity and to God? The hour will soon come that will close your life on earth; then, dear reader, will you begin your song in Heaven, or will it be your bitter wail in Hell?

Today your hands are busy at work, and you are thinking and planning for the future. Tomorrow all is still; the folded hands and the closed eyes remain, but you are gone—gone into eternity. Others were once busy as you are, healthy as you are and planned as you do, but they are gone—gone into eternity.

Dear reader, If you are unsaved, will you halt long enough to ask yourself the question, "Where will I spend eternity? Do you realize that just as you die, just so you are going to meet your God, and just so you will be found in the Judgment? In Psalms 95:7-8 we find, "Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart." I pray you, turn

from your evil ways and the haunts of sin and vice, to the presence of God. In John 3:3 we find these words, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Reader, has this ever happened to you? Have you been born again for an eternal Heaven? If so, all is well, but if not, the horrors of an eternal Hell are awaiting you, and do you realize that today you are nearer the unquenchable flames of torment than you have ever been before?

Listen sinner! Why will you meet God with an unsaved soul? God is pleading with you; it is not His will that you be lost. In Luke 13:3 he says, "But except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Today God is calling you, pointing you to the cross of Calvary with the Son of God uplifted, groaning, bleeding, dying, all for you. Yes, dear sinner, for you the crown of thorns was placed upon his brow; for you the cruel spear was thrust into his side; for you he cried in triumph, "It is finished!"

Dear sinner friends, the time is coming shortly when you too will enter into eternity, and will your life have been such that you can say with Paul, "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing," (II Tim. 4:7-8) or will you hear the sad words, Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:21). What could be sadder than this last pronouncement? Too late then to go back and retract your lost and wasted life; too late then to pray. May each unsaved soul that reads this, wake up and do *now* what they will wish they had done when they come to the Judgment.

Apostasy

(Continued from page 2)

you unawares." When we read the Bible and see the warnings given to men, we wonder how some men who claim to be called of God to preach, can hold to a doctrine and teach it to our children, that after they are saved they cannot be lost. May God help us preachers heed the admonition of Paul, recorded in Act 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he has purchased with his own blood." We are the feeders of the flock, and the flock is composed of men and women, and boys and girls, and we are responsible to God how we feed them. How must we feed the lambs, which are our boys and girls: must we tell them that they are saved and cannot be lost? born of God and cannot be unborn? are sheep and cannot become goats? children of God and cannot become children of the devil? I say no, we preachers and leaders, ought to teach them of the pit falls, hell holes, and traps the devil has set for them. I was once down in Texas holding a meeting and, at the close of the meeting, an old minister of the Gospel said, "Brother Dixon, I want to shake hands with you and, if the devil don't side track me, I will meet you in heaven," and the old brother said, "I am too old and have enjoyed the blessings of God too long to let the devil cheat me out of heaven." The brother was as Paul said in 1 Cor. 9:27, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." Note the Apostle Paul what a great preacher he was, and he says, "I bring my body under subjection, lest after I have preached to others I myself should be a castaway." There is danger of being lost after being saved. Why do I say this? Because the Bible teaches it, 1 Tim. 4:1-2, "In the latter times some shall de-

part from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron." These things cause men to depart from the faith. We are living in the last days, and in perilous times. Men are lovers of themselves more than lovers of God. We are living in a time when the world is full of doctrines and the devil is preaching through men and deceiving the people.

Read Hebrews 6:3-6. Here we find the possibility of apostasy, and should a man commit such a crime he is lost, lost forever—he has committed the unpardonable sin. This sin is spoken of in Matt. 12:31-32; Luke 12:10; Mark 3:28-29; 1 John 5:16; and we quote 2 Peter 2:1, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." May God help us to know the truth when we hear it. 2 Peter 2:12, "But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption." Verse 14, "Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls; an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children." Verse 20, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning." Note, dear reader, that those men had knowledge of Christ, and they were entangled again. This shows that they had once been free from the entanglements of the world and went back to them. Verse 21, "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy com-

mandment delivered unto them." Those men turned from the holy commandments: they had known the way of righteousness and turned from it. "These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever." These men have apostatized: they have gone back to the devil: they have sold their souls for the pleasures of the world. Wells without water means men without God. Clouds with no rain means men with no God, no Spirit. They have turned from the right way. Verse 15, "Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness." These must have known the right way or they couldn't have forsaken it. Jude speaks of this same class and says they are "twice dead, plucked up by the roots." For the reader's sake, I will explain Jude 12. "Twice dead, plucked up by the roots." Of course these men were once infants, they degenerated and died in sin, Death number one. They repented and reclaimed themselves, were regenerated and became alive unto God. Afterward they apostatized and died the second death. Then they were plucked up by the roots, gone, lost forever, died the second death by committing the unpardonable sin spoken of in the Scriptures. This sin damns men to the region of the damned.

I will say in conclusion to the readers of the Gem, please prayerfully read the references on this subject. There are a few that I know of who are seeking to know what the Bible teaches on this subject. If our good editor will give me space for one more write up.

I will close hoping that some will be benefitted by reading these writings. In my next write up I will use scriptures that they use who think men can't fall. I shall cite the readers to the references on both sides of the question.

(To be continued)

The Two Covenants

The Old Covenant

The first covenant: what it consisted of; whom it was given to; for what purpose and for how long it was to last, Exodus 34:27-28: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. And he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." Deut. 9:9-11, "When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the Lord made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water: and the Lord delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the Lord spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly.

In Deuteronomy 5:6-22 we read what was written on the two tables of stone. Please read it.

The feast Sabbaths were as binding as the seventh day Sabbaths. Leviticus 23:3, 27-32. "Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings," Vs. 27-32, "Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God. For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. Ye shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

It was prophesied that all of the feast days, new moons, and sab-

baths should be done away. Hos. 2:11 "I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts."

The Greek (New) Testament shows that they were all done away, and Theyer's Greek Lexicon, acknowledged as one of the standards of the world and accepted by all sects as the very highest authority, cites the following Scriptures: Matt. 28:1; Col. 2:16, 17 "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre." Col. 2:16-17. "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days; which are a shadow of things to come: but the body is of Christ."

The following is copied from the Greenfield Greek Testament Lexicon, a standard of the world, "Col. 2:16, Cessation from labor, rest, that is the Jewish Sabbath, the 7th day of the week, both in the singular and plural; Matt. 12:2, 5, 8; 28:11; Luke 4:16 A period of seven days a week, singular and plural, Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:9, et al, plural, all the sabbaths or times of sacred rest, Col. 2:16."

Paul taught positively that the old covenant was done away, 2 Cor. 3:7-13; Eph. 2:13-18. "But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: how shall not the ministration of the Spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. For that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech. And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished." Eph. 2:13-18. "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that are nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father."

The Sabbath, Temple and Furniture were holy because God made them holy: moral duties are not made, they exist.

The first time the Sabbath is mentioned is about 2509 years after creation. The Gentiles had no part or promise in the covenant, Eph. 2:11-13; 1 Peter 2:10; Rom. 9:24-26 "Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; that at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ." 1 Peter 2:10, "Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." Romans 9:24-26, "Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God."

The claim is made that the Sabbath was given to the fathers and kept on down, Deut. 5:2-3; 5:6-15; 6:20-21. Deut. 5:2-3. "The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day. 5:6-15. "Six days thou shalt labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt:

and that the Lord thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day." 6:20-21, "Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbor. Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbor's."

How to keep the Sabbath, Exodus 16:29; Deuteronomy 5:14; "See, for the Lord hath given you the Sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day." Deuteronomy 5:14, "But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou."

The penalty, Ex. 31:14-15: "Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death." Numbers 15:32-36, "And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. And the Lord said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the Lord commanded

Moses."

Why did they not know? The Sabbath had been in existence for 2509 years. If the Sabbath is binding, is not Numbers 28:9-10? "And on the sabbath day two lambs of the first year without spot, and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and the drink offering thereof: this is the burnt offering of every sabbath, beside the continual burnt-offering, and his drink offering."

The law dealt with the natural man, and made nothing perfect, Hebrews 7:19. "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

The New Covenant

The New Covenant is perfect and is written on the heart instead of on tables of stone, Jer. 31:31-33, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God and they shall be my people." Matt. 5:27-28, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery; but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." Heb. 8:7-10, "For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their

fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts; and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." Romans 2:12-15, "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified, For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another." 1 Jno 3:15, "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."

We cannot be justified by law, Gal. 2:16, "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." All of the third chapter of Galatians should be studied and especially vs. 11-14: "But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit

through faith." 4:4-7, "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." 4:21-23, "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise." 4:29-31, "But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free," Gal. 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

We are dead to the law through the body of Christ, Romans 7:1-4, "Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ: that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God." Rom.

8:12-14, "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Rev. 1:10 cannot be the seventh day, but the first day, and Pentecost, the day on which the church was born, Lev. 13:15-17, "And ye shall count unto from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave-offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat-offering unto the Lord. Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baken with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto the Lord."

Ps. 118:22-24, "The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Acts 2:1-4, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Rev. 1:10, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet."

The Holy Spirit coined a new word, "Kuriakos," to express new institutions, the Lord's Supper, 1 Cor. 11:20, "When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper;" and the Lord's day, Rev. 1:10, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet." It is found in no other

place in the Bible. Theyers Greek Lexicon says, "of or belonging to the Lord, the author of the supper instituted by the Lord." 2nd. "Relating to the Lord, the day devoted to the Lord, sacred to the memory of Christ's resurrection."

Not one of the apostles ever instructed the people to keep the 7th day, Gal. 1:6-9, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

These few references are given to show conclusively that we are not under the Old Covenant, but under the New Covenant.

The Call of Moses

(Continued from April issue)

It looked as if the apostles had made a failure, but see how much has been accomplished. Moses was not going, although Pharaoh said with contempt, "Who is God that I should obey him? He found out who God was—he found out that there was a God."

But Moses made another excuse and said, "I am slow of speech." "Slow of tongue," he said he was. "Not an orator," that is what Paul was thinking about when he wrote to the Corinthians, "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." Moses was slow of speech but he had a message and what God wanted was that he should deliver that message. But this slow of speech man became eloquent. Talk about Gladstone's power to

speak, here is a man one hundred twenty years old and he waxed eloquent as we see in Deut. 32:1-4. Now listen as he speaks. "Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass: because I will publish the name of the Lord: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he." So Moses turned out to be one of the most eloquent men the world has ever known. If God sends men and they deliver His message He will be with them. If God has given you a message, go and give it to the people as God gave it to you.

Next Moses said, "O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send" Ex 4:13. Did you ever stop to think what Moses would have missed if God had taken him of his word? Don't seek to be excused if God calls you to some service. What would the twelve disciples have lost if they declined the call of Jesus? I have always pitied those other disciples who went back and walked no more with Jesus. Think what Orpah missed by going back and what Ruth gained by cleaving to Naomi's God. Ruth's story has been told for 3000 years. Father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends, the grave of her husband, she turned her back on them all. What a wise choice: "Thy God, my God." Ruth come back and tell us if you regret your choice. No, her name shines one of the brightest among all the women that ever lived. The Messiah was one of her descendents. Moses you come back and tell us if you if you were afterward sorry that God had called you. I think when he stood in his glorified body on the Mount of Transfiguration, with Jesus and Elijah, he did not regret it. My dear friends, God is not confined to any one messen-

ger, we even read that He can raise up children of stones.

Someone has said that there are three classes of people: the wills, the wonds, and the can'ts. The first accomplish everything, the second oppose everything, the third fail in everything. If God calls you consider it a great honor, consider it great to have a partnership with Him in anything. Then do it cheerfully, do it gladly, do it with all your heart and He will bless you. Don't let false modesty nor insincerity turn you aside from the path of duty. Listening for God's voice we should hear the call and, if He sends us, there will be no such thing as failure but success all along the way.

Moses had glorious success because he went forward and did all that God called him to do. "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isa. 55:11).

God bless the editor and readers and help us to be faithful workers to gather sheaves and garner grain for the Master's use.

Eld. J. R. W. Harbison,
Myrtle, Mo., Box 63.

There Is No Difference

By Eld. Mike Cleaver

Dear Readers of the Gem:—

I wish to speak to you this time through the Gem from some language we find in the writings of the apostle Paul to the Roman brethren: "For there is no difference" (Rom. 3:22,

Now just as soon as a man begins to speak from this text in the light that God has given it to me, some will draw their filthy, self-righteous rags about them and say, "There is a difference." Now if I should hire a man to deliver a message for me and he, by changing it, would deliver a different message, and not what I ordered him to de-

liver, I think I'd change messengers at once and try to get one that would deliver it the way I wanted it delivered, wouldn't you?

In preaching the Gospel we must also bring in the law occasionally, and it was at this particular time that Paul wanted his congregation to listen while he spoke along this line. Now the law never saved anyone, but was used only as a school master unto grace. I suppose there is no other chapter in the Bible that man hates to read more than this third chapter of Romans. It is God's looking glass that He lowered on Mount Sinai for poor weak, fallen man to see himself in, and when we read this chapter to ourselves, we will not be telling our neighbors of our goodness. Then we can turn back and see what God is by reading the third chapter of St. John.

Now the people in general make a difference but God does not. We can get some light on this subject by reading the 23rd verse where it says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." So that takes in the atheist, the moralist, the infidel, and ALL. Now there wasn't ten different laws given to Moses on Sinai, but one law: man doesn't have to break all of the ten commandments before he is guilty. Break one and you are guilty of all. "For if he offend in one he is guilty of all" (James 2:10).

When God placed man in Eden he was fastened to heaven with a golden chain. By transgression he broke that chain and ever since then man has been at variance with God. Now if I should hang something up with a chain that had 100 links in it, all those links wouldn't have to break before that something would fall, break one link and it will fall. I wouldn't have to take up every railroad steel from here to Kansas City in order to stop the train, just one would do it. You wouldn't have to take all of the
(Continued on next page)

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We do minute work in first class shape, and want your work.

We print letterheads, envelopes, cards, circulars, posters, etc.

Ask us for samples of any work you are interested in, and get our prices; perhaps we can make you better prices than you can get elsewhere. Give your publishing house a chance to do your job printing; it will help us to meet our expenses.

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—o—

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Now that the Gem is located in Missouri, lets boost for it. Let's swell the sub list at least 200 during the month of June. Don't say, "I can't," but say, "I'll do my best," and send in at least one sub.

There is no Difference

(Continued from page 19)

electric wiring out of your house in order to cut out your lights, just one little break and you are in the dark. Now if you should go to Jefferson City you could find men that have been sent there for different offences: murderers, thieves, adulterers, and many other offenders. They were sent there because they broke the law of the State of Missouri. "There is no difference." When they arrived there their heads were shaved, all alike; and they put on striped garments, all alike, for there is no difference. Some one will jump up and say, "I know I'm not so bad as some of those folks." I'm going to say that possibly you are worse, for we are judged by the light we have on different things, and on the subject.

Now a person that is raised in the arms of a Christian father and mother knows that no want and suffering in the world to come will be no small thing. "For he that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Now we make a big difference in many cases. A man that is in court being tried for murder is no worse off than the man who goes about using God's eternal name in vain. The Book says, "Thou shalt not kill;" it also says, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." God have mercy upon that cusser. He is away from God as the murderer is. Let's not go around any more, telling folks we are better than our neighbors. If you haven't seen yourself in the third chapter of Romans, make haste to read it and see yourself. Then act upon your better judgment and abide by the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ by confessing your sins and taking up your cross daily, following Him,

This old Adam tree bears nothing but corrupt fruit: some branches may bear more fruits of sin than others, but it is all bad: "For there is no difference."

May God help us all is my prayer.