

# 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. 3. No. 12.

Purdy, Missouri, December, 1931.

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**AURORA, MO., Nov. 15, 1931**

Dear Readers of the Gem: I enjoy reading your paper very much, and I especially enjoy reading Bro. Winford Davis' article on "Sunday Baseball."

If you will permit me, I will give you a short article, which I think is good:

## **An Ever Living Christ**

Woe to the world that vainly tries to escape from Jesus Christ! They may deny His deity, dispute His power, disbelieve His resurrection, explain away His existence, deride Him as a phantom, insult Him as a "Spirit Medium," philosophize over Him as a myth, accept Him as a mere human teachers, misquote His words to sustain their opinions, pervert His teachings, and despise His precious blood; but when all this is done, their difficulty is not removed, for Christ the King still lives at God's right hand.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever;" the Christ "who is, who was, and who is to come;" He who had glory with the Father "before the world was," but shame with man during His earthly pilgrimage; and who, having suffered these things, has entered "into His glory"—that same Jesus still lives in all the majesty of His divine character, and in all the power of an everlasting life.

Herod could not kill Him, Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him, the sepulcher could not hold Him; and yet He stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of heavenly glory, pro-

claimed of God, acknowledged by angels, adored by saints, and feared by devils, as a living, personal Christ; rejected, crucified, exalted, glorified, and coming again in like manner as He ascended; to raise the dead, to judge the world, to save His people, to be glorified in His saints, to crush the usurper, to destroy His foes, and to reign forever as the Lord of all.

I trust the Gem readers will study the above truths.

R. A. Ellis.

## **The Birth of the Christ Child**

There are many things which make this birth the greatest of all births; but we shall name only three of them here:

First. His birth was the fulfillment of prophecy.

Second. He had no earthly father, but was conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Third. His birth was announced by the angels.

We talk of our great men, and bestow much honor upon them, and true it is that we have both in presence and history some really great characters; but Paul said of Christ: "God hath highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name."

Was there ever before, or has there ever been since, the birth of any man prophesied of as was the birth of Christ? I know it was true of that of John the Baptist, but not as that of the birth of Christ.

Isaiah said His name should be called Immanuel, and Matthew

said that this, being interpreted, means, "God with us."

Again Isaiah says, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given." Notice that in all this he says "us." Oh, how the world's idea of God was changed when Christ came into the world! They had thought of God in His independence, sitting yonder in the universe ruling and governing with supreme power; but they never had thought of Him as coming down here and suffering with men, sorrowing with men, rejoicing with men, eating with men, drinking with men, and living with men, taking little children into His arms and blessing them, etc.

"The old prophets lived, prophesied, and made their exit, yet hundreds of years elapsed before the child was born; but in the fulness of time He came into the world. History says that He came when the world was all in readiness for Him, but I say He came when the world needed Him most. If the world was ready for Him, why didn't it give Him a better reception? When the Christ child was born the world, for some time had been in darkness; religion was running at a low ebb; but when the Christ child was born, it was as the sun bursting forth at the midnight hour.

Was there ever, or has there ever been a conception which was exclusively of the Holy Ghost? I know others, according to the word, were ordained to particular places in life before they were born, but they were all born by the will of man; they were regu-

larly conceived. The birth of the Christ child was irregular, extraordinary, supernatural, convincing, genuinely divine. We may boast of great men; but their births were common. Children may boast of their royal blood, but this child was the first and only Son of Jehovah God. Can you imagine Joseph's embarrassment, his trials? How the public frowned and scorned, talked and scandalized, but, Oh, Joseph the just man had heard a voice the scornful public had not heard! God had talked to him in a way that Joseph knew things the frowning world did not know. Can you imagine Joseph's feelings when the voice of God whispered to his spiritual understanding in low but distinct tones, saying, "Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife."

Was there ever or has there ever been a birth since then that was annouced by angels? God knew beyond a doubt about the birth of every great man that has ever been born; but never before did Heaven become so concerned or display so much interest as at the birth of the Christ child.

Heaven's choir came down to sing,

And to tell the world of the birth of a King.

If ever there was a time that heaven and earth met it was the night of this miraculous birth. The Father deposited the most costly jewel of Heaven down here in a most humble depository, the manger, in this unsafe, sinful world of men; all that the lost might be found. So as we celebrate this Christmas time, let's celebrate it in a way that might assist in carrying out the great purpose of this supreme sacrifice, that is, that sinners might be saved; that the world might be made to know this great Redeemer and what His birth means to them.

Eld. Winford Davis.

### Keeping Jesus in Sight

Whenever you have an impulse to do something beyond yourself, that is the Simon Peter in you. A fellow with red blood will not always be content to stay inside the bounds of the tried and proved. There is a thrill in pioneering. Each of us has in him to some degree the urge to break through his limitations. We would be dead or dying if we

didn't have it. It is a symptom of life. When a baby makes his way through the front door and out into the street he is showing early evidence of this natural desire for adventure. It is not a bad impulse. Rather it is good. But like so many other good things which tend to thrust us out of ourselves, it must be wisely guided, and there are times when it must be restrained or it will get us into trouble.

Now, I think it was fine for Peter to want to walk on the water. No mere man had ever done that. It was an exploit that probably would never have occurred to the other disciples. It was characteristic of Peter to attempt it. He realized it was a feat that would require supernatural power—a power he did not possess. He knew the Master possessed that power. He saw Him at that moment exercising it. He believed Jesus could give him that power. "The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits" (Dan. 11:32). So Peter only wanted the Lord's word bidding him to come. When he got it he climbed over the rail and set his feet down on "solid water"—he was doing the thing; his faith was justified! That must have been a thrilling moment for Peter. With his eyes fixed upon Jesus he felt himself borne up by the power that came from Jesus. Just thinking of it as an exploit, wouldn't it have been wonderful if he had walked right out to Jesus and returned with Him in the same manner to the ship! But Peter made a bad mistake very soon after his brilliant start. He looked at something else. A big wave was bearing down upon him. The wind drove its spray into his face. Peter saw the wave, and for an instant lost sight of Jesus. That was enough. Peter began to sink, and in terror he cried out, "Lord save me." Then Jesus reached forth His hand and lifted him, saying, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

The simple but very necessary lesson to you and me in this incident is to keep both eyes on Jesus. We want to venture for Him and He wants us to do this. But there is only one way: Never lose sight of Him. Which is just another way of saying: "Keep in mind,

—His presence, His power, His wisdom, His love. We do this by using all the means He gives us by which to do it. He shows Himself to us in these wonderful attributes through the printed pages of His Word. Read it daily. He causes us to hear His voice and to see Him as we pray. Talk to Him and listen to Him regularly. Cultivate the association of those who love Him and are serving Him. Attend regularly the ordained services of His worship.

If you will be faithful to these ordinary practices, you will be able to do large things for Him, and your heart will thrill with the joy of it. Yes, the waves and the wind will buffet you, but they will not terrify you, because you will be constantly sensing the presence and power of your Lord. You will not be so foolish as to stop looking at Him and to gaze in fear at the boistrous threats of His enemies.

This is what makes all the difference—sensing the presence of Jesus.

"I cannot do it alone, the waves run fast and high;  
The fogs close chill around, the light goes out in the sky;  
But I know we two shall win in the end—Jesus and I.

"Coward and wayward and weak  
I change with the changing sky;  
Today so safe and brave, tomorrow too weak to try;  
But He ne'er gives in, so we two shall win—Jesus and I."

—Sunday School Times.

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### A GREAT SIGN:

**Immanuel, the Virgin's Son**

"Moreover, the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good. For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings" Isaiah 7:10-16).

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

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
Eld. B. F. Brown, Editor.

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## TERMS

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We will be glad to change your address for the Gem, if you notify us. Please give the old address with the new.

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

We are always glad to receive articles, letters, reports, etc. from our readers for publication in the Gem, along any line that will help the cause.

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## Editorial

## Good Tidings of Great Joy

The angel said unto the shepherds: "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" (Luke 2:10).

The good tidings then, and is still, for all people; for God is not willing that any should perish, yet but few have ever received the "good tidings" and known the "great joy." The coming of the Savior on this first Christmas night of long ago brought fear, hatred and malice to some: the Savior only comes with joy and gladness to them that watch and work; yet the influence of the Gospel brings good to every one, even to those who hate God.

Yes, there were watchers on this first Christmas night of long ago. The angels and the hosts of Heaven were watching, and the wise men were watching, and Mary and Joseph were watching, and the shepherds watched over their flocks; the rest of mankind, so far as we know, were unmindful of the wonderful thing that was taking place at Bethlehem: but to all them that watched there was great joy and gladness. Mary and Joseph understood that this babe was the Son of God, and of course they rejoiced. The host of Heaven praised God and sang that wonderful song. The shepherds heard the words of the angel and the angels' song, then went to see the thing that they knew had come to pass at Bethlehem. And for the wise men who waited and watched, a special star appeared to guide them to the Christ child.

As it was at the beginning, so it is now: the Lord reveals Himself only to them who work and watch, and worship God. The Lord appeared to Gideon on the threshing floor; He took Elisha from the furrow as he followed the plow; many of the apostles were called from their fishing; Matthew was called as he sat collecting the tax; and many others we could mention were called from their work, to a greater work and worship.

We, perhaps, cannot explain the difference between the natural life and the spiritual life, they are so closely related, but we who are Christians know that when Jesus made His advent into our lives He brought joy and peace, and all the other blessings and Christian graces, which we did not have before.

St. Luke takes us back to the infancy of the Christ child, that we might see the beginnings of things, the Divine purpose wrapped in swaddling clothes, as it once was set adrift in an ark of rushes. Back of the message he puts the man, and back of the man he puts the child—for is not the child a prophecy of the man?

So the Child grew to manhood amid the influences which surround other children, and when He was about thirty years old He was baptized, not for His own sake, but for the world's sake. Coming to redeem man, He would identify Himself with men, sinful as they were. The Son of God would become the true Son of man, that through His redemption all other sons of men might become true sons of God.

"Behold, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Such was John's testimony of Jesus. He saw in Jesus, not a learned rabbi, but a lamb, "the Lamb of God," who should go to the cross, bearing the sins of the whole world.

May the message of the Christ be "good tidings" bringing "great joy" to all who read this, as you celebrate His birth this year, and may that celebration really help to bring "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace."

## FROM THE FIELD

DRUMRIGHT, OKLAHOMA, Nov. 22, 1931.

Dear Gem Family: Greetings in Jesus' name. We are glad to report victory through the blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. Ninety-four precious souls have been saved and the meeting will run another week.

We were glad to have Bro. Johnson and Bro. McAdams back again before the meeting closed. They brought back a good report from Missouri, both of the revival and of the Co-operative meeting. It is wonderful that God is still saving souls in the different States, and it is also wonderful that His servants can come together in these wonderful conventions and transact business for our Master. We regret very much that we had to miss the Co-operative Association, but some have to fight the battles while others are preparing the machine guns and different kinds of weapons of war. Praise the Lord it won't be long now till many of our old warriors will quit going to associations and fighting battles, but instead will be in Heaven, enjoying the things that God has prepared for them that love Him.

We had a wonderful service here today. Bro. A. B. Talbert preached the dedication sermon of the Drumright Church. The house was filled with the glory of the Lord, and it was a beautiful sight to see the church kneeling around the altar in prayer, and consecrating their lives anew to God.

We feel that the Drumright Church has a great future, so help us pray and do all we can to see it build up and go forward in the Master's name.

God bless the many readers of the Gem.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

### OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

*A Brief Report by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell of Denison, Texas*

The Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptist is in the annals of fond memories.

Lowering clouds were threatening all day Wednesday, October 21st, but didn't break until about three hours before the first session was slated to begin. Eld. J. A. Claxton Forded it all the way from Crowder City, Oklahoma, with Eld. W. D. Higgins and Bro. J. A. Barnett. This delegation was found by the side of the road, the driver working the ears of his Ford up and down, but she refused to accelerate. Upon close investigation, it was learned that his throttle rod was disconnected. By the time this was replaced, black clouds were whirling and bursting overhead, these were streaked with forked lightning, and to make the picture more dreadful, the low mumbling of thunder seemed to voice their discouraging testimony to the incoming delegates; however homes were found for all.

Thursday morning session opened with songs and prayer. This being preachers' and deacons' day, a committee was appointed to prepare a program. Elders E. E. Bristow, T. C. Ferguson and E. A. O'Donnell were appointed and arranged the following subjects:

1. What should be our Attitude toward our Ministerial Brethren?
2. How can we Help the Dying Church?

3. How can we awaken the Laity to a Greater Responsibility for Service?

4. What is Ministerial Courtesy?

5. If Jesus Christ was the Sacrifice for sin from the Foundation of the World, why did He not Atonement for sin Immediately after Adam sinned?

6. What is the Duty of a Christian toward God? (2) Toward the Brethren? (3) Toward his Family? (4) Toward the Nation? (5) Toward Sinners?

Most of the ministers present took part in the discussion of the above subjects.

Elders T. C. Ferguson and W. E. Dearmore were chosen to preach Thursday evening. The congregation was small on account of rain.

Friday Morning Session was spent in registering, seating delegates and organizing. The organization was deferred, on account of rain, until Friday.

Eld. W. E. Dearmore was elected Moderator; Eld. I. B. Dunaway Ass't Moderator; Eld. E. A. O'Donnell Clerk; Bro. Frank Purser Ass't Clerk.

Eld. I. B. Dunaway brought an interesting message at 11 o'clock service, followed by Eld. J. A. Claxton.

Eld. Earlin Haskins read a letter of correspondence from the Missouri State Association of General Baptist; and a corresponding messenger was elected to the State Association of General Baptist.

The various committees began reporting their findings in the afternoon. We had been negotiating a State organization for the Young People's League for some time. A motion was placed to appoint a committee for the purpose of formulating plans to perfect this organization. The following were appointed to serve on this committee: Elders I. W. Yandell, I. B. Dunaway and E. A. O'Donnell. This committee reported their plans and the organization was completed. State officers are: Elder E. A. O'Donnell, President; Eld. I. B. Dunaway, Vice President; Eld. Earlin Haskins, Sec'y-Treas.

The Committee on Credentials reported that the Canadian Association had Eld. E. A. O'Donnell charged with embezzling \$12.00 minute money. Eld. I. B. Dunaway was the only witness called in this case. He explained the transaction thoroughly and Eld. O'Donnell was cleared of the charge, and the Canadian Association was advised to drop the charge, also to redress Eld. O'Donnell.

This was the greatest Association ever held since the State organized some 12 years ago. Greater interest was manifested in every line than ever before. New churches are being organized all over the State. Able sermons was one of the outstanding features of the State meeting.

Eld. T. C. Ferguson reported the denominational work.

I find myself at a loss for the proper words to express our gratitude to the good people of Summers Chapel for the hospitality shown us while in that community. May Heaven's blessings be upon them throughout their lives, and eternal life in the end.

The Association adjourned in the afternoon to meet with Non Church, nine miles south of Calvin, Oklahoma, Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in October, 1932.

Eld. W. E. Dearmore, Moderator  
Eld. E. A. O'Donnell, Clerk.

## BLUE EYE, MO., Nov. 12, 1931.

Dear Gem Readers: I have never written to the Gem, but have been thinking for a long time I would.

I have only been a member of the Free Will Baptist church one year, but I sure do enjoy reading so many good letters in the Gem.

I was sitting here this afternoon and a little story came to my mind, I once heard a minister tell.

"Once there was a father and mother that did not believe there was a God and didn't want their little child told one thing about Jesus. They told her that if they heard of her going to church they would punish her very severely.

And the little girl's teacher and friends would tell her about Jesus and how He loved her and the little girl became interested and wanted to learn more about Jesus. One Sunday morning as she was going down the street, she passed by the church and heard the people singing and talking about Jesus, and she stopped and listened, and wanted to go in, but she remembered what her parents had told her, and she passed on.

All week she could hardly keep from thinking about Jesus and how they said He loved her.

The next Sunday morning she decided that she would go to church, and not tell her father and mother. That morning at church the people began telling her about Jesus and how He loved every one. She was saved, and could hardly wait to tell her father and mother what Jesus had done for her. And they beat her and bruised her until there were drops of blood on her dress.

As she lay on the bed, she called for her mother to bring her the scissors, and she cut the drops of blood from her dress. Her mother became more angry and asked her what she was doing, and she answered: "Jesus shed His blood for me and I am taking them to Heaven with me to show Jesus that I shed my blood for Him."

If we, as Christians, were willing to sacrifice our lives to Jesus as the little girl, we would each be happier. I ask an interest in your prayers.

Breezie Newman.

## Revival Meeting Report

Dear Gem Readers: I will send a brief report of our revival which was held with the Verdella Free Will Baptist church, near Liberal, Mo. My father and I began the meeting October 17th and closed it November 1st. Eld. W. H. York is the faithful pastor of this church, and I will say that the Verdella church is a spiritual one.

There were three saved and two united with the church. Sister Roena Thomas of Hannon, Mo. was licensed to the Gospel ministry while we were there. God showered His blessings upon us. We had some wonderful sun-rise prayer meetings.

Every Christian that attended the meeting seemed to get spiritual food and each one did their best in the meeting.

There is something else I wish to say. During the meeting several families erected family altars in their homes, which will add much spiritual strength to them.

May God bless the Gem and its readers.

Eld. Elda Crain.

## HANNON, MISSOURI

Dear Readers of the Gem: I want to write this in behalf of Bro. Winford Davis. When he closed the revival meeting at Hannon, Mo. it was reported that he had given a bad check to Davidson Filling Station at Liberal, Missouri. I want to say that it was a false report, and will certainly bank on Bro. Davis under all conditions.

Carl Strong.

## BRONAUGH, MISSOURI

As a member of the Free Will Baptist Association, from Hannon, Mo., I feel that I should be a writer to the Gem also.

I have been attending the General Co-operative Association, the first I have ever attended, and wish to say that it was a complete success. There was a large delegation from several States, and thank God they were of the noisy kind. There was one soul saved during the meeting and many others were blessed. Folks, this meeting was not in vain and will be long remembered by those attending.

The Macedonia church is located in the Ozarks, just northeast of Purdy where it is pretty rough and hilly, but the folks really worship God there and are friendly as can be.

I also wish to say a few words in behalf of Bro. and Sister Brown and the Free Will Baptist Gem. Now folks, this is our paper and it is our duty to help keep it up. Bro. Brown is just a plain old-fashioned, poor man like we are and has to have our co-operation to make the paper a success.

You may ask: "How can we help to make the Gem a success?" Bro. Brown has put on a subscription drive from now until January first, in order to get more subscribers and get this wonderful paper in more Christian homes.

Friends, let's boost our paper by writing, subscribing, getting subscriptions, and in every way that we possibly can.

A brother in Christ,

Maurice Young.

## HANNON, MISSOURI, Nov. 14, 1931.

Dear Christian Friends: I am only a new subscriber to the Gem as well as new convert. This is my first time to write for this paper, and I certainly take great pleasure in this opportunity; and I certainly hope, though I am not a good writer, that what I do write will help some soul, if only my own.

I want to say that this week has been one of the greatest and happiest weeks in my life, it has been a week of joy to me.

This is the first Association I ever attended, but if I had known before what they really are, I would have been several ahead. I have certainly gotten several blessings out of this one. I could feel the Spirit of God and it seemed almost real in the flesh.

I have heard some of the people say that a certain minister brought the best message, but there were so many good messages brought forth and all with the Spirit of God in them, so that I wouldn't be able to pick any certain one.

I want to express my sincere thanks to God, my

heavenly Father for the great privilege of being at the Macedonia church at the wonderful services that have been held there, and I want to thank Him again for the privilege of meeting all the good people of the Macedonia community. I will say that they are certainly nice people that I met, and also the good people from other places and other States.

God be with you till we meet again.

Carl Strong.

### PRESS and PUBLICATION

Now as to the Gem, our official organ. We wonder why it is so small and issued only once a month?

I will try to answer this question. First. The Gem is small because we, a Free Will Baptist ministry and laity, are not willing to sacrifice, as a whole, and subscribe to the paper and contribute to its columns valuable instructions and information concerning each other and our Lord's wonderful plan of salvation. We know of a very few who are really considering and contributing as they should. Second. The Gem is a monthly, so gotten up and started as such.

We saw a great and wonderful spirit manifested in our last Co-operative Association at our Macedonia church, near Purdy, Mo., but there was one proposition that came before the Association that seemed to be misunderstood, and that was the \$500 printing stock to finance the printing of Sunday School and League Literature. I did not expect to just start and print promiscuously, but to start on a small scale and sell orders in advance, and print just a few over each time until we can enlarge the circulation. Now there are printers making a living doing job work, such as booklets, pamphlets, minutes, letterheads. If quarterlies are printed and sold at 7c and 5c each. 2000 copies of the 7c quarterly can be printed for \$80.00 and sold for \$140.00, making a profit of \$60.00. 2000 of the 5c quarterly can be printed for a little less and sell for \$100.00, making a smaller profit. These figures are not official and may be far from right, but I know whereof I speak. There are too many Free Will Baptist who will order union and other literature to save a few pennies in price, and go wholly on bright colors and elastic comments, not knowing how much higher criticism and atheistic evolution is contained along with hallowee'n witches, bats and cats, jack-o-lanterns, jokes and tales.

If each church in Oklahoma and Missouri would order a small number of quarterlies, say ten to the church, it would take 3000 to go around, and if they ordered three dozen to the church, it would take 9800 copies to supply the demand for the two states alone. Until we western people awake, I want to recommend to you our own Sunday School and League Literature, printed in our own printing house, owned and operated by Free Will Baptist, at Ayden, N. C.

God be with you until we come again.

Your brother in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
Eld. H. M. McAdams.

STARK CITY, MISSOURI, Nov. 23, 1931

Dear Editor and Gem Readers: Have thought for some time that I would try to write a few lines

for the paper, but everything I would write hit me so hard that I couldn't get up courage to send it off.

As some of you know, God has called me into His work and, after so long a time, I said I would do my best to do His will. Some of you also know what one has to go through when he is trying to fight it off. I thought I could write some and send it in to be printed in the paper, but as I said, everything I would write didn't read as I wanted it to.

Even now Satan is trying to get me not to write, and he has been trying me in many ways. As yet I haven't preached any. It has been two weeks today since I acknowledged the call. I certainly have received some blessings since then.

It seems that I acted in such a manner before then that I caused every body trouble that I met with. I hope the ones that I have brought trouble to will forgive and forget. Pray for me now, that I may do just as God would have me do, for I certainly need your prayers.

I haven't written much but a part of my experience, but I hope it will be a help to some one.

I am a reader of the Gem and find it interesting.

A servant of God,

Lee Weems.

### Report of Revival Meeting at Pleasant Ridge Church

URBANA, MISSOURI, Nov. 10, 1931.

Dear Editor and Readers of the Gem: We began a revival meeting here October 27th and continued it two weeks, with Elders G. H. Johnson and H. M. McAdams of Drumright, Oklahoma conducting the meeting. We are glad to report the wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The congregation was small the first week, but it seemed to be God's will, for on the first Sunday we had six conversions, then on Wednesday night the revival broke out anew and God continued to save souls. We had thirteen professions in all. Eight were baptized on Sunday and nine united with the church. A sick girl was not only saved, but healed bodily. Three were saved the last night. Seven school children and their teacher were among the saved. All are young boys and girls and attendants of our Sunday school and League. The entire community was wonderfully revived.

We were proud of the State Association and the wonderful messages that went forth, and for the good people who came to our community.

Immediately after the State Meeting we organized a League with nineteen (19) members and are encouraged to see the interest taken.

One of the new converts, when asked to define "Religion," replied, "I don't know just what it is, but I know what it will do for you." We had a wonderful lesson Sunday night on "Regeneration."

Bro. G. H. Johnson and family and Bro. H. M. McAdams left here Tuesday morning for Purdy, Mo. to attend the General Co-operative Association. They delivered some wonderful sermons while here, and we recommend them to any church that wants a meeting. Our pastor, Eld. Arthur Baily, was with us part of the time.

Remember that God will answer prayer. We prayed for the sick to be healed and for sleep to be

taken from the eyes of sinners so they could not rest till they found peace with God; both were answered.

A servant of the King,  
Louis Jorgensen.

### Report of T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist.

It has been several months since I last reported my work in the Gem, and since it has been extensively reported that I was dead, I guess I had better report to the Gem again and let people know that it is not true. This is one report on me that I know was a lie, for I am still very much alive.

The most of the summer I have spent in Texas and Oklahoma, holding meetings, as an evangelist of our General Co-operative Association. I have tried to cover as much of the Association's territory as possible. The past year I have held meetings in four different States: Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma. I held meetings in many churches that I hadn't held meetings in for over twenty years.

God has wonderfully blessed my work, and I have seen many people profess faith in Christ and be baptized and join the churches, but the most of the converts were baptized and received into the churches by the pastors and other preachers, and sometimes this was done after the meeting had closed and I had left the community.

I helped to organize one church. I also helped pastorless churches to get pastors; and helped to get Sunday schools and young people's societies organized, and prayer meetings started.

I have had the pleasure of attending West Fork Association in Texas, and the Oklahoma State Association.

T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist, Ash Grove, Missouri.

### THE GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

When the General Co-operative Association met at our Macedonia church two years ago, there was a feeling that it had about "run its race;" and there was talk of disbanding. The delegation was rather small, but we had a blessed time: the Lord was there and there was real rejoicing. The business was all transacted and we adjourned to meet at Tulsa, Oklahoma one year later.

One year ago, when we met at Tulsa, there was a feeling that the General Co-operative Association had come to life again. The delegation was larger and every one seemed to realize that we could and should do things to help our denomination to go forward. Business was transacted amid a spirit of revival—there was a revival on and many souls were saved. But the time came that we must adjourn, so we adjourned to meet at Macedonia church, about four miles northeast of Purdy, beginning on Tuesday night before the third Sunday in Nov., 1931.

This year we were expecting a larger delegation and we were not disappointed. Tuesday afternoon delegates bound for Macedonia church began to drop in at the Gem office and before time for the conference to meet in its introductory service, about thirty had called. Of course we welcomed them, not just in form, for we were glad away down in the deep of our hearts. These folks were on a mission for the Lord, to transact business for Him, and we

are co-laborers together; why shouldn't we rejoice together? The beginning was sweet, but not any sweeter than in was during the conference.

The introductory sermon was delivered Tuesday night by Elder Melvin Bingham of Tulsa Oklahoma. Text, Acts 1:27.

Wednesday morning session opened with a devotional service conducted by the Moderator, Elder W. E. Dearmore.

Letters were read and delegates seated. Three States were well represented. As I remember: Texas had seven representatives, five men and two women; Oklahoma had eighteen delegates, ten men and eight women; Missouri had twenty-one delegates, thirteen men and eight women, making a total of forty-six who had all the privileges of the Association, besides many others who were seated in council.

After the hand of fellowship was given officers were elected as follows:

Moderator,	Eld. W. E. Dearmore,	Tribbey, Okla.
Ass't Mod.	Eld. Winford Davis,	Monett, Mo.
Clerk-Treas.,	Eld. B. F. Brown,	Purdy, Mo.
Ass't Clerk,	Eld. O. T. Allred,	Monett, Mo.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. A. B. Talbert,	B947, Drumright, Okla.
Eld. H. M. McAdams,	307 N. Ohio Drumright, Okla.
Eld. Melvin Bingham,	705 N. St. Louis, Tulsa, Okla.
Eld. E. A. O'Donnell,	523 W. Texas, Denison, Texas.
Eld. Winford Davis,	R1, Monett, Mo.

Preaching at 11 o'clock by Elders W. J. Pierce and H. M. McAdams. Subject, "The Sure Foundation."

A verbal report of the Texas State Convention was given by Eld. E. C. Morris of Bryan, Texas, and Bro. Morris and wife and Eld. J. L. Bounds were seated as corresponding messengers from the Texas State Convention.

Elders E. A. O'Donnell, B. F. Brown and E. T. House were elected messengers to the Texas State Convention which meets at Bryan, Texas on Tuesday night before the first Sunday in Nov., 1932.

Elders W. E. Dearmore, Winford Davis and H. M. McAdams were elected messengers to the General Conference, which meets at Bryan, Texas on Wednesday night before the third Sunday in June, 1932.

Preaching Wednesday night by Elders E. T. House and M. L. Sutton. Text, Psalm 11:3.

Committees began to report Thursday morning, and some important matters were recommended and adopted. We can't report all of them at this time, but some of the most important ones that need to be announced.

The Committees on Publication and Sunday School both recommended that steps be taken to create an interest in the printing of our own Sunday School and League Quarterlies, and that a plan be formulated and adopted to finance the publication of these quarterlies and such other literature as needed.

A committee was appointed to investigate and see how many Sunday schools will use our own literature, and when enough has been pledged to insure the cost of printing, to report to the Ex. Board.

Committee—Elders E. T. House, Melvin Bingham, E. A. O'Donnell, Winford Davis and Hattie Newman.



A resolution from the Committee on Resolutions recommended, and it was adopted, to change the form of Church Letter of Dismission in the Treatise to read:

This Certifies that.....is a regular member of the Free Will Baptist Church at....., in good standing as such. We recommend .....to the fellowship of God's people everywhere. This letter dismises.....from us, .....now has no connection with this church. Done by order of.....Church assembled in conference, this.....day of.....19..... Moderator. ....Clerk.

Remarks .....

The Committee on League work recommended, among other things, that all our leagues use Free Will Baptist literature for class work, and that the older people of our churches be urged to support the league work with their attendance and prayers, and that our pastors encourage this work where it is organized, and where leagues should be organized to, organize them.

The Committee on Denomination reported progress with all of our church auxiliaries—Home Mission, Sunday Schools, Leagues, tithing and the Budget System. We feel that the interest manifested in these things indicate that our denomination is moving forward, and to further bind our efforts together, we recommend that all our people subscribe to our denominational paper.

Two resolutions from the Resolutions' Committee: Be it Resolved, That we recommend that all our churches, wherever practicable, adopt the Budget System of raising finance for our churches.

Be it also Resolved, That we urge our church membership to adopt the Bible plan of tithing, so we will have more money for the support of our preachers and to carry on all our church work, and to help the poor and needy.

Preaching services at 11:00 o'clock Thursday by Elders J. L. Bounds and E. C. Morris. Lesson, Acts 12:1-5. Subject, "Prayer Changes Things."

Preaching Thursday night by Elders Hattie Newman and E. A. O'Donnell. Text, 1 Peter 1:21.

Friday at 11:00 o'clock Elders Cecil Horner and T. C. Ferguson brought the message. Text, Isaiah 55:1.

Bro. Ferguson preached Friday night.

Devotional and testimony services were regular throughout the Association. All these services, as well as the preaching services, were uplifting and inspiring, all together they made up a feast.

On Thursday night two young ladies came to the altar and one prayed through to victory.

Eld. T. C. Ferguson was endorsed as evangelist and field agent for the General Co-operative Association for the next three years.

Eld. Winford Davis was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at our next regular session, Eld. B. F. Brown alternate.

Closing Resolution: Be it Resolved, That we express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the good people of Macedonia church and community for their kindness and hospitality in caring for the

delegates and visitors during this session of our Association, and pray God's richest blessings upon them, and the Lord lead and keep us all in touch with Him and faithful until we meet again.

Adjourned to meet with Denison Free Will Baptist church, Denison, Texas, on Tuesday night before the third Sunday in November, 1932.

Eld. W. E. Dearmore, Moderator  
Eld. B. F. Brown, Clerk.

## ENCOURAGEMENT

I don't want to fail to say something in this issue of the Gem about the grand Co-operative meeting which has just closed at Macedonia church. Words suffice not to express on paper what it really was. You should have been there. We had a good delegation from over Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri. The spirit of unity was wonderful, and the Spirit of God prevailed throughout. I feel that it was a great blessing to our church and community to have the many ministers and delegates come into our midst, and our church certainly appreciated it and feels a great uplift as a result of it.

Prospects certainly look bright for our Co-operative Association, and may God continue to bless us in every way. I hope all you good brethren and sisters will have occasion to come our way again.

Winford Davis.

## MANSFIELD, MISSOURI, Dec. 1, 1931.

Dear Readers of the Gem: I am sending a report of the Douglas County Quarterly Meeting, which convened with the Star church, east of Seymour, at 3:00 p. m. on Thursday, November 26th.

Although the weather was stormy, there was a good delegation from six churches. These six churches were represented by twelve ministers of the Gospel, eleven delegates and three deacons.

We heard some wonderful sermons, and some good discussions on several different topics. Everybody greatly enjoyed the meeting and received many blessings for their part in the services. The people of the Star community opened their doors to us and treated us with the best of care. They also served dinner Friday, everybody had plenty to eat and there was enough left for many more.

The meeting closed Saturday noon, and we returned home, feeling that our time and effort was well paid for. We are looking forward to the next quarterly meeting which is to be held at the Pleasant Ridge church, east of Mansfield. This meeting is to convene on Thursday, January 28, at 3:00 p. m. We hope and pray for a good meeting, one that much good and lasting benefit may come from. The introductory sermon is to be preached by C. M. Dauber and Claud Smith. We cordially invite all who wish to attend.

Your brother in Christ,  
Arthur Lund, Clerk of Douglas County Q. M.

## BLUE EYE, MISSOURI, November 30, 1931.

Dear Gem Readers: I have not written a letter to the Gem readers for some time, but have been reading some very interesting letters from the ones



who are taking the paper and are serving God; so I will try and write a short letter.

I have just finished reading the Gem and want to say that we sure have a fine paper. My subscription is out the first of the year, so I am sending in the money for another year. I would not do without the paper, because there are so many good letters from the brothers and sisters in Christ.

As I sit here this morning, thinking, I wonder how many are readers of the Gem. Many are, but there could be many more if they were interested in their souls' welfare enough to get right and be workers for the Gem. They would be interested enough to take the paper and see how others are living for God, and read the good letters that mean something to their souls, something that would fill them with power from on high. There is so much in the Gem that would interest you, and the paper doesn't cost so much, if we only think about it.

We realize it is hard times in financial affairs, but we ought to realize what the Gem means to us. I am going to take it as long as I am able to. I realize that I am weak and come far short of doing His will at times, but God is rich in mercy and will forgive us if we will only believe and confess our sins to him.

Christian friends, if we will let the Savior lead us, we will be found having pleasure in living for Him. So let us all live and do well each day.

As I close I ask an interest in your prayers.

Mrs. Stella Humbard.

#### NOTICE

The pledges on the Merl's Chapel Free Will Baptist church building, being erected near the Quaker school, are due, and would be appreciated any time they can be paid, as the building is started and the money is needed. You can pay your pledge to Mr. Olen Edie, church treasurer, Cassville, Mo., or turn it to me and I will hand it to him.

Yours for the cause,

Winford Davis.

### FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Johnnie Swaffar Reporter

#### WHY STAND WE IDLE?

I feel at this time that I must again ask each local league for its co-operation and league reports for our paper, having been elected reporter for another year; for which I am glad and thankful, as I sincerely desire to be in some way beneficial to so great a cause as our league work is.

We see that some of our leagues have not reported for some time; but we hope to get in touch with them immediately, and feel sure that we shall soon have the good reports coming in again, to fill all our space in the paper, and hope we shall soon need more.

We can plainly see that the league work has advanced greatly the past year; someone has put forth an effort; someone in duty has been blessed; the word of God has attained that, "whereunto it was sent: now let us thank our blessed Savior and put forth a greater consecrated effort and, at the close of the year, rejoice in a glorious cause advanced in

the name of God, to the benefit and salvation of the lost world.

League workers, I see greater things ahead, what are we going to do? The Lord said to Moses: "Speak to the people, that they go forward." The people of one accord said to Nehemiah: "We will rise up and build." Young Christians, let's consider diligently this great work. Let's pray earnestly one for another. May I ask an interest in your prayers? as I need the prayers of God's people more than ever in life.

Please send me a report on condition and membership, that I may report to State Secretary.

John Swaffar, Reporter.

#### REPORT OF MACEDONIA LEAGUE

On this 12th day of November, I am glad to report that there are things being done to add to the interest of our league. A few days ago I was conversing with Professor Jackson of Purdy, Missouri along the line of league work, and he consented to address our league in the near future, when they desired. The league was ready and anxious to welcome him. So last Sunday evening, November 8th, he came with a wonderful talk on "Character Building." He presented so many good thoughts along this line that I wish it could have been possible that everyone, especially the young folks, could have sat in the audience that enjoyed his discourse that night. I also wish there were more men and women who had the young folks at heart, who were willing to visit our meetings to talk and to encourage as Mr. Jackson did. I want to say here that our league will welcome any true Christian to come to our league any time to help carry on the work.

Kenneth Turner.

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#### REPORT OF BLUE EYE LEAGUE

I am thankful that our league is still progressing and growing. And by the help of God I pray that it will continue to improve.

Dear Christian league workers, let's strive to make our league programs each Sunday evening, a service that God will look down upon with a smile, and not a frown.

By working and doing service in the league is one way, among many others, to advance the cause of Christ; and that's the duty of every Christian today. We should by all means do our part, whatever that might be, whether great or small.

Each person that has surrendered his or her heart and life to God becomes His servant and, if you fail to do the service that He asks you to do, you disobey Him; and lose the spiritual blessing that you might otherwise have received, if you had obeyed. So Christian friends, if the Lord leads you to do something, or say something, don't stand back and let the devil cheat you out of a blessing, but step out on the promises of God, and He will most surely guide you and lead you on to victory.

May the Lord bless and guide each and every one is my prayer.

Alta Rose Goodwin.

**To All Interested in Free Will Baptist League.****Special Notice:**

Dear Readers: Just a line in regard to all leagues which do not belong to any Association in the State, or within the bounds of our State Association, or any one knowing of a league please let us know of it,, that we be able to get in touch with them. I have heard of some of late that I would like to get in touch with.

I want to see this work spread out over the State and am ready for service in any way that I can help. Do not hesitate to write; we want to hear from all.

Yours for His cause,

William Reeves.

**NEW LEAGUES ORGANIZED**

We are glad indeed to receive a report from our State League Secretary-Treasurer; and we are indeed fortunate to have one for this office that is so faithful and devoted to the cause as Sister Melba White. She submits the following:

October 25—I helped organize a league at Union Third Fork church, near Easton, Missouri, with a membership of eleven (11).

President, ..... Walter Kerns  
Vice President, ..... Mrs. Clifford Kerns....  
Sec'y-Treas., ..... Mrs. Mildred Baker

October 18—Field worker, Louis Jorgensen and Eld. B. F. Brown organized a league at Free Will Chapel No. 1 (Pleasant Ridge church) with a membership of nineteen (19).

November 5—Field worker, Louis Jorgensen, organized a league at Buffalo, Missouri with a membership of ten (10)..

Yours for Jesus—Melba White.

We wish also to report that on October 30th our league President, Eld. Cecil Campbell, and Eld. Winford Davis organized a league at Merl's Chapel church, near Cassville, Mo. with a membership of twenty (20), of which we are proud to say, knowing each member, that they are fine young people, and have eagerly accepted the league work. We are thankful to have them in the Lord's league family. The officers are:

Bro. J. B. Jefferson, ..... President  
Evellyn Jefferson, ..... Sec'y-Treas.  
Mrs. Arthur Blalock, ..... Sponsor  
Miss Ruby Brown and Miss Ruby Wallace, Group  
Group Captains.

We are glad for all these new leagues; let's pray God to bless them, and pray one for another, doing our best in this Christian work to the salvation of precious souls.—Johnnie Swaffar, Reporter.

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**DEDICATION SERVICE**

We are glad to report a glorious time at the dedication of our church building at Blue Eye, Mo., Sunday, November 29th. In spite of the bad weather a large crowd was present, and a bountiful dinner was spread at the noon hour, and then a wonderful dedication service in the afternoon. We have refrained from dedicating the building because of some indebtedness, but the church paid the debt

all off Saturday, November 28th, and then we proceeded to dedicate the building next day. We are thankful that God has helped so wonderfully in paying out the building and now that it is entirely turned over to Him, we feel like saying with Samuel of old, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Winford Davis.

**COMPLAINING**

We hear so much complaining  
About this present time;  
But very few proclaiming  
The pow'r of Christ divine.

Don't try to dodge the issue,  
The tribulation's on;  
But heed the Spirit's PLEADING,  
And cease this day to roam.

Don't go about complaining,  
Lift up your heads and smile.  
We're nearing earth's transplanting,  
We're on the last long mile.

Don't waste your time in grieving  
O'er what you have to eat,  
But serving the Lord believing,  
In HIM we stand complete.

We're in a great depression  
Money, work and friends;  
We need old time confession,  
Repenting of our sins.

And then hard times will vanish,  
Our skies will clear again,  
And souls will feast, not famish  
Within God's great domain.

For here's the holy mountain,  
Where stands the cross of Christ,  
Here flows the cleansing fountain,  
That makes us pure and white.

Ho, come ye to the waters,  
That flow so rich and free;  
Ye earth-bound sons and daughters,  
Come gaze upon the tree.

The place where Jesus suffered  
Such pain and agony,  
Is where the soul must succor  
To gain eternity.

Give me that great salvation,  
That "Hebrews" tells about,  
It brings us consolation,  
And we can sing and shout.  
—By Elder E. A. O'Donnell.

## OBITUARY

### Mrs. G. W. Lawrence Gone Home

It is with a sad heart that we announce through the Gem the death of a loved friend and co-worker, Mrs. Angelia Lawrence, wife of Prof. G. W. Lawrence, at her home at Unionville, Ohio.

Sister Lawrence will be greatly missed. She was one of those cheerful, happy Christians who loved her Lord and served Him faithfully. She loved children and usually taught the primary class in Sunday school, and children loved her dearly.

Sister Lawrence was associated with her husband, Prof. G. W. Lawrence, in teaching in our Free Will Baptist school at Unicoi, Tennessee, and also at Tecumseh, Oklahoma. They gave years of faithful service to those two schools. They were also very earnest temperance workers. Sister Lawrence was County President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union for a number of years.

She was a faithful church worker, seldom missing a service. She always enjoyed the Young People's services, and was very helpful to them in their work.

She will be sadly missed by friends and loved ones, but we know she is with the dear Lord she loved so well. May He be the comfort and stay to the companion she has left behind. —Mrs. B. F. Brown.

**EDWARDS**—Mr. Cass Edwards was born July 21, 1859, in the State of Illinois, and came to Missouri when eleven years old.

He was converted at the age of forty years, at McMillan, and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Coy, Missouri.

He was united in marriage in 1883 to Sarah Kin-slow who departed this life June 24, 1923. He was afterward united in marriage to Dora Meador Nov. 16, 1925. He leaves to mourn his departure, his companion and six children, three boys and three girls, besides grandchildren, relatives and friends.

Four children preceded him in death. The children living are as follows: Anna Butler, Blue Jacket, Oklahoma; Nellie Nichol, Commerce, Okla.; Margaret Bennett, Kimberly, Idaho; Clifford, Kimberly, Idaho; Fred and Leaford, both of Anderson.

Bro. Edwards has lived a consistent Christian life and will be greatly missed in the community.

We bow in submission to the will of the heavenly Father, realizing that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Funeral services were held in the Pleasant Grove church, near Anderson, Missouri, conducted by Eld. Winford Davis. Williams Undertaking Co. of Goodman, Missouri in charge.

**HILBURN**—Mrs. Carrie Hilburn was born Nov. 19, 1901, at Coweta, Oklahoma, and departed this life November 2, 1931, at the age of 29 years, 11 months, 14 days. She was converted at the age of 19 and united with the Perry Free Will Baptist church, of which she remained a member at time of her death.

She leaves to mourn her departure: her husband and three daughters; her loving parents, Mr. and

Mrs. L. C. Florence; one grandmother; one brother, Marvin Florence of Idaho; four sisters: Clara Willis of New Mexico; Minnie Johnson, Marie Williams, and Marjorie Florence all of Tulsa. Many other relatives and a host of friends will feel her absence, but we trust our great loss is Heaven's gain.

Carrie was laid to rest at Garland Cemetery, near Stigler, Oklahoma.

Funeral services were conducted at the cemetery by Eld. Melvin Bingham of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**JONES**—Little Erma Maxine Jones was born November 1, 1931, and departed this life November 10, 1931. Her days were few, but she was a jewel in the home.

She is survived by her father and mother, Bro. and Sister C. H. Jones, who are both members of Notch Moud Free Will Baptist church, also five brothers and three sisters.

Funeral services were conducted by the writer in the home. She was laid to rest in the Timber Hill Cemetery to await the resurrection of the dead.

—Eld. Elda Crain.

### FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

Dear Free Will Baptist Leaguers: Just a line this evening in regard to the good reports in the Gem, and the good topics on the work, they were fine

I am sure glad for the new names which are appearing in the work, as well as the others, which sure looks good to me. Say, Free Will Baptist League workers, this is the beginning of a new year. Let us all get our shoulders to the wheel and then all push, and not be as the story goes: "A preacher was pastoring a church illustrated in this way: The church started up the hill with a wagon. They put the pastor between the shafts, and every body started up the hill; but after they had gone a ways up the hill, the pastor looked back and all the rest were up in the wagon, riding." Let's not do that way; but let's all work with patience till we get to the top of the hill, then we can all ride down hill together.

I am praying that we may be able to have each Association represented at the next State Ass'n.

We have, by the help of God, made good progress in the past year and, if we will do our best, God will not be slack in His promises; and the prayer of a righteous man availeth much. I am sure our work will grow.

Our Free Will Baptist League work is sure growing in S. E. Missouri. I was down to their quarterly League Association, it sure was good. The church house was full of both old and young. Our next meeting will convene with Park View F. W. B. L. at Desloge, Mo., on Tuesday evening before the first Sunday in February, at 7:00 o'clock p. m.

A servant for the cause,

William Reeves.

HARTVILLE, MISSOURI, Nov. 24, 1931.

Dear Editor and wife and Gem Readers: It is almost Thanksgiving Day, and it seems we have more to be thankful for than ever before. Well it is wonderful the blessings that have come to us since last Thanksgiving Day. Best of all was His loving Spirit that guides us into all truth. Luke 21:33—"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Again Joshua 24:15—"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve." Again in Luke 16:13—"No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other; ye cannot serve God and mammon." That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God. Again Proverbs 6:16-17—"These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are abomination unto him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood." Proverbs 11:2—"When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom." Dear readers, I have been reading about Jezebel and find that she was a very bad woman. 2 Kings 9:30—"And she painted her face." What became of her? She did this when she heard that Jehu was coming. Read the remainder of the chapter, then read Ezekiel 23:40, then read Jeremiah 4:30—"And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life." Matthew 5:36—"Thou canst not make one hair white or black." But men will try to deceive you and will sell you all kinds of paints and powders, and declare unto you that it will give you a fair complexion; it is all in vain: "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?" (Jer. 13:23). Revelation 2:20—"Not withstanding, I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols: and I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not." Isaiah 55:2—"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness." Now in reading this wonderful Book, we find it even tells us how we should clothe ourselves. Read Deuteronomy 22:5: "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garments: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." The reference to this takes us to 1 Cor. 14:40—"Let all things be done decently and in order." Just a short time ago there were two women going through the country selling all things to beautify the face and hair and one woman asked me if I would buy some hair dye, seeing my hair had turned to grey, and I said, "No indeed, if I had money, I could spend it in a better way than that; I would not use it if she would give it to me." Proverbs 16:31—"The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness." "Pride goeth before

destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" Prov. 20:29—"The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head." Now this book is the Book of all books. This Book is the way-bill from earth to Heaven, and if we miss Heaven, we miss it all.

Do you think it safe to follow Jezebel fashions? This is as plain a lesson as could be written, what do you think? What are you going to do about it? Why, ten or twenty families could be reared in comparative comfort upon the amount thus expended in wastefulness. Yet many women professing godliness are shockingly extravagant, and can never be happy till their heads are decked out with fashionable millinery and their bodies with strange gear; they little think how much they degrade themselves and grieve the Spirit of God.

The first peal of thunder that shook Siani declared: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." So you will have to choose between the goddess of fashion and the Christian God. There are a great many seats in Heaven, and they are all easy seats; but there is not one seat for the devotee of costume. Heaven is for meek and quiet spirits, Heaven is for those who think more of their souls than of their bodies.

Now dear readers, you all have this Book in your homes, and no doubt, you may read this Book more than I do, but this is on my mind and I wanted to talk to you about it, and hope we all study seriously.

Don't your pastor need your money that is spent foolishly? or don't you know of some little children that you could make glad by giving them food and clothing? and I even know of some old folks I sure would be glad to help. There could be enough said on this line to fill the Gem. If I get to talk to you any more it will be, I think, on good women and their lives.

Hoping you all make some one happy on Thanksgiving by your kindness, I ask the prayers of all of God's saints. I need your prayers. God bless the editor and wife and all Gem readers.

\* \* \* \*

He who borrows trouble, pays big interest.

He who offers excuses, offers something no one wants.

You can tell a man's religion by the way his money talks.

Only the man who is willing to die for Christ is worth much living for Him.

A false pastor's first thought is, what can the church do for me? A true pastor's first thought is, what can I do for the church?

The devil never takes a vacation because he doesn't need it; he has so much help from men that he doesn't get tired.

You can never get ahead of the devil in intellectual vigor, but you can excel him a hundred-fold in heart power.

## FROM NOW UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1932

Between now and January 1, 1932, we hope to double the circulation of the Gem. To do this, we must have your co-operation and your help. We are now in the last half of the third year of our publication: for more than two and one-half years we have sent out the Gem once a month, feeling that it was appreciated by most of its readers, and praying that God would bless it to the upbuilding of His kingdom. We have not just existed: but we have done good. We have a good linotype and, thanks to Bro. York; his Subscription Campaign for Mothers' Home Life will more than finish paying out on the linotype, and yet there is need. You may not believe it, but the editor of the Gem needs money.

During our six years of experience as publisher of a church paper, three years or more with the New Morning Star and nearly three years with the Free Will Baptist Gem, we have learned something about what it costs to publish our paper; and about how far the money received for subscriptions will go toward paying that expense; and we find that any paper that doesn't carry advertising, must have help from some source other than subscriptions at so much per year. During all these years, and especially during the last year, we have realized that, if we really succeed with our paper, we must carry advertising. Of course the advertising must be clean and wholesome. We can't advertise anything that a real Christian could not approve. We know where we can get suitable advertising: it is ready for us when we get the circulation.

During the financial depression, which still continues, we have been sorely taxed to keep the paper going. Several months ago, when we had around 650 paid up subs to the Gem, we had hope of increasing our circulation to 1000 or 1200 in the regular way, but we have lost 100 or more from the 650, and still losing, for we have to drop more names each month than we add during the month. If we can increase our circulation to 1000 or more, we can advertise enough to pay the expense of publication: our present circulation is not sufficient.

We are not asking you for a gift or donation: only asking for your subscription and all the subscriptions you can get between now and January 1, 1932. Come on folks, let's put on a real campaign for subs the rest of this year. To show you that we mean just what we say, and to encourage all who are willing to work for subs, we have reduced the subscription price of the Gem for the rest of this year to 75 cents per year.

You can get the Gem for a whole year for only 75 cents; 16 months for \$1.00; two years for \$1.50.

Get three yearly subscriptions to the Gem at 75 cents each (new or renewal) and have your own sub for one year for your trouble: get six subs and

get the Gem for two years.

Now, when you have read this announcement, don't think it is only for the other fellow: it is for you, and for every one to act upon. How much do you care for the welfare of OUR paper? You should care at least 75 cents worth: then you have a chance to save one-fourth on the price, or get your paper for just a little time spent in an honest effort to help in a good cause. If you are already paid up, send in your sub anyway; if we are to take in advertising, we must keep up the circulation.

### THE GEM FOUR MONTHS FOR 25 CENTS

The Gem needs more readers and more supporters; and this offer is made, hoping that we will gain at least a few more regular subscribers and supporters for the Gem.

This offer is especially for new subscribers, but no one is ruled out; whosoever pays the 25 cents and sends name and address will get the Gem for 4 months.

Now, we are looking to our friends to tell those who do not take the Gem about this offer and ask them to subscribe, otherwise only a few will have this opportunity to become acquainted with the Gem. Pastors, present this matter to your churches and see how many trial subs at 25 cents for four months you can get. We will appreciate what you do to help your paper and you will be blessed for every honest effort you make, for God knows when you try to help His cause; and we will add four months to your own subscription for every dollar you send in on this proposition.

JUST ONE more month and the price of the "Gem" goes back to \$1.00 per year. Quite a number have gone back to \$1.00 per year. Quite a number have subscribed at the 75c rate and several have sent in clubs. We are thanking Bro. I. J. Wilson of Charleston, Ark. for a list of 19 subscriptions sent in at one time. We are glad for all that we have received, but we are disappointed because certain of you have neither sent in subs for others nor renewed your own, yet we are still hopeful.

NOW is the time to subscribe: if you wait until tomorrow, you may never subscribe—then WHAT?

BLUE EYE, MO., Nov. 8, 1931.

Dear Brother Brown: I will attempt to write a few lines for our Free Will Baptist Gem this evening. I wish every one could get as much good out of our paper as I do. I get so much good help out of reading the articles and the letters from our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I have a beautiful story that was published Dec. 20, 1903. Though it is old in years, it is still beautiful in meaning and, as I have gotten some good thoughts out of it myself, I thought I would pass it along to others.

A sister in Christ,

Agnes Cornelison.

### CHRISTMAS BREAD CRUMBS

At last dinner was ready, it had been longer and slower work than usual, not because there was so much to be gotten, but because the workers were heavy hearted and slow motioned.

The truth is it was the last Christmas dinner they ever expected to eat in the little old house to which

the mother had come twenty-five years before as a bride and in which all the children had been born.

As for the father, he had been born in and buried from the dear old home, which made it doubly precious to them all.

No wonder Jennie sighed heavily as she cut the bread, and Mary felt as though there was such a lump in her throat that she could not swallow even the Christmas mince pie.

What was the trouble? O, the old story! a mortgage on the home, which there was no money to pay, and now it was to be foreclosed. They had feared it all the fall and, on Christmas eve, came a letter which made it sure. No, the man would not wait until spring for his interest—would not even wait two months, so it seemed impossible to get away from their trouble.

I think the knock which was presently heard at the side door was a relief to them all, the little house was set far back from the road and they had few callers, Reuben sprang to open the door and admitted an old man who stamped the snow from his boots and entered with a familiar air, though none of them had ever seen him before. Yes, he said, looking all about him with a satisfied nod, 'This is the very place. I remember everything about it quite well and you have kept it in good repair, I'll say that.' Mrs. Webster concluded that here was an old acquaintance of some body, perhaps her own husband, and made haste to be hospitable. They were just eating their Christmas dinner, wouldn't he join them? 'Well now, I don't care if I do,' he said, drawing up his chair, 'it was in this very identical room that I got a supper and breakfast that I never have forgotten.' Mrs. Webster and her children looked interested, Did he know her husband? the mother asked, while Reuben helped him generously to chicken and potatoes and turnips. Yes ma'am, I knew him, though he was a mite of a boy when I saw him; he had red cheeks and curly hair, and couldn't have been a day over ten, if he was that, and it is forty-three years ago today since I saw him. He sat over there where that pretty girl sits now and ate his Christmas breakfast and I ate mine, pretty near the first one I had ever had in my life. This was very interesting. Here was a man who must have taken breakfast with grandfather forty-three years ago. What a long time to remember a breakfast! Reuben hinted as much and received an eager reply: 'Remember it, I guess I do. I guess I was pretty near your age—how old are you? Well, I didn't lack six weeks of being your age and I had been knocked and kicked and cuffed about the world and never had a decent breakfast nor a decent word said to me till your grandfather picked me up on the road the night before Christmas and brought me home with him and gave me a supper and a bed and a breakfast, the like of which I had dreamed about many a time, but never expected to have. I hinted something of the kind when I tried to thank him. O, I haven't told you half of it, there were kind words that were worth even more than the bed and the breakfast and the whole silver dollar and the stage ticket that took me fourteen miles on my way; and when I tried to thank him, he said he was only scattering a few bread crumbs on the water and

didn't need any thanks. I was struck dumb with that, for there wasn't any water anywhere around and I couldn't imagine what he meant. "Don't you know the promise, my boy?" says he, "Cast thy bread upon the waters." I didn't know that promise nor any other, for I hadn't heard much Bible where I came from. Well he told me the whole verse and explained it to me and his Rubie—that's your husband ma'am, I take it. He gave me a Bible with the verse marked, which I studied as I rode along in the stage, and fitted it into my memory. I says to myself: Bill Dumps, if you don't do your very best to help find those bread crumbs again, you don't deserve to live any longer. Well ma'am, I meant it, but for a long time ill luck followed me, then I went out of the country and was gone for years and to make a long story short, I never got back into this part of the world until last week, then I began to inquire around and I heard a good bit of news and some things which it took me a little while to straighten out, but I'm thankful to say I've done it at last, and here ma'am is a few of the crumbs I promised myself to find. He's gone where he doesn't need them, but I reckon he'll be glad to have the children and grandchildren have them."

As the last mouthful of mince pie was swallowed, the stranger guest drew from his pocket a formidable looking paper and presented it to his astonished hostess. "I don't understand," she said, as the trembling fingers received it, while Reuben's eyes fairly blazed with excitement. "What is this, ma'am, is it the mortgage which I understand has been making more or less trouble? I should like to see anybody foreclose it now, the old home belongs to you and the children, ma'am, without a cent of debt on it."

To attempt a description of what followed is beyond me. Reuben and Jennie and Mary tried to talk at once, and as for the mother, she did what she had not done through all the trouble, broke down and cried. When they reached the point where they tried to stammer out some words of thanks, the guest would hear none of them. "You needn't thank me," he said, "I've nothing to do with it; it's just Christmas bread crumbs coming back according to promise."

## LOVE

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and all the Readers of the Gem: What I want to suggest this year is the oldest thing in the world, but the most wonderful thing: and that is just love. The Bible tells us that God "so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son" to redeem us from the sins and the errors that we have made in our attempts at living. And so that makes the little child that was born at Bethlehem with the stars standing still in the heavens to point out the location and the worshipping shepherds and the wise men gathered around, just the gift of love, the gift that the Almighty God of the universe made on this first Christmas night. God gave us His only begotten Son, earth's first Christmas gift, to point out to us a way of life that can be attained only through self sacrificing love. The plan that God made for the salvation of this



world is not a plan that can be consummated with war, nor with gold, it can only be accomplished through love. It was love that Jesus Christ preached each hour of each day of His ministry—love of God, love of our fellowman, love of our native country, love of clean living, the love that puts our God and our neighbors and our family above ourselves always. But the one thing that stays stable and sure is just love, that kind of love that was in the heart of God when He gave His only begotten Son to bear upon His shoulders the burdens of the whole world, when really the only thing that does any particular good, that makes any lasting difference in the hearts of men is just love, that love which made God give His Son, that love which made the Son acquiesce in being the gift of the Father even to the extent of allowing His own person to be spat upon and crucified, it is the thing which today all of us appreciate the most of any one elemental gift.

What people are pleased to consider love nine times out of ten is pure selfishness. Often our friends talk about loving us and very frequently what they love us for is the things that we can and will do for them. It is not what you can do with money that will accomplish very much. The thing that they cannot live without is just plain, simple, old-fashioned love, love of the kind that was in the heart of God when He gave His Son as our ransom, the biggest thing and the best thing that any of you can possibly give to your families, to your friends, to your neighbors, to your country and to your God is just love, that love which forgets self and thinks of others; that love which reaches clear around the circle of the globe, that remembers the high things and the holy things, the things that are right, the things that endure, while customs change and governments rise and fall.

I appeal to every man and woman to try this year to give more largely of the gift of love than ever before. Try to give love so perfect and so deep that it tightens the lips on the cruel, cutting words that stab deeper than the thrust of a knife; try to give tenderness; try to give fellowship; try to give help; try to

give comradeship; try to give to your family and your fellowmen love, just plain, old-fashioned, God-given love; and when your heart is filled with the radiance of this love, then surely for the sake of the crucified little Child of the manger, for the sake of your own little children and those of your neighbors, with all your heart and might, try to win the lost to Christ.

So this, then, is the thing that I would suggest that all of us try for the coming holidays, when we celebrate the birth of the baby in the manger, the one great outstanding fact of history. Since He was a gift of this kind to us, let us try for a more perfect Christmas than we have ever known before, giving in an unusual degree the greatest gift in the whole world, the gift that can be had without money and without price, the gift of kindness, the gift of self-sacrifice, the gift of a loving heart, just the gift of which we talk most and truly give least—the great, shining, outstanding gift of love.

Your sister in Christ, one that loves the Lord.

Mrs. Lizzie Shipman.

### SERVICE

God is sure to lead into service, the life that is yielded to Him. Such servanthip is our lofty privilege here. When we yield, we yield ourselves servants to obey Him, and henceforth His servants we are." To become a servant and find no service would be strange indeed. Therefore, if we patiently wait, He will surely bring us into our appointed life's work; for we are members of His body and He desires to work through us, His purpose for a lost world. It may not be the active service which we have planned, but the highest form of service is to be in His will, whatever that may be for us.

The religion of Jesus is pre-eminently humanitarian. There is no conflict between God and duty to our fellowmen. The highest spiritual achievement comes thru faithful performance of common place duties to those around us.

Those who are trying to get away from work and service to those around them are running

away from God and missing their opportunity for spiritual achievement. There is no substitute for this. The Christian theory of life is that we find God and develop our spiritual lives only through hard work and helpful service to others.

Spiritual achievement of the highest order is a by-product of thousands of common place work activities directed in the interest of the general welfare of those around us. Work and service in the home should become easy when we remember the words: "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The so-called drudgery of the busy country home is regarded by many women as an unfortunate hardship that interferes with life. As a matter of fact, this so-called drudgery is a stepping stone to the very highest spiritual achievement.

"There's a work for Jesus

Ready at your hand,

'Tis a task the Master

Just for you has planned;

Haste to do His bidding,

Yield Him service true;

There's a work for Jesus

None but you can do."

Alta Rose Goodwin, Blue Eye, Mo.

—o—

### Remove Not the Old Land Mark (Proverbs 23:10)

By Roena Thomas

Let us consider for a moment some of the old land marks of the Christian religion, which our forefathers were so zealous about. And then let us view them as the modern world does today. Let us see if we, as a nation, have not been trying to remove some of the old land marks.

The creation of the earth, man and all other creatures of the earth, as told in Genesis, is ridiculed by hundreds of educated people today. They bring us the theory of evolution and try to tell us that we are descendants of a race of monkeys. Friends, if we believe part of the Bible, we must believe it all. Because there are things in it that we can't understand, is a plain proof to me that it is a "Divine Book." Mysteries belong unto God. "As the heavens are high above the earth, so are my ways higher than your

(Continued on next page)

**REMEMBER**

That the Gem office is well prepared to do your job printing.

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

That we print letterheads, envelopes, cards, circulars, posters, and most anything that you may want printed, and the price is as low as you can get anywhere.

Ask us for samples of any work you want done, and get our prices. We will appreciate your work and need it. If we can do your work cheaper than you can get it done elsewhere, we will both be ahead; so don't fail to REMEMBER us.

**Blanks**

Ministers' Ordination blanks, 10c  
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Letter from a Church to a Q. M.,  
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Association, 5c ea., 6 for 25c.

All these blanks are 8½x11 in.  
and the Ordination and License  
blanks are suitable for framing.  
All sent postpaid at prices quoted.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The announcement of your Association, Yearly Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, 5th Sunday Meeting, Revival Meeting, or any other important meeting should appear here. Send in your announcement so it can be printed in next issue of the Gem.

**Butler-Dunn Theology**

The Butler-Dunn Systematic Theology, the standard book on Free Will Baptist faith and doctrine, is now reprinted, and every minister and Christian worker should have a copy. This is an important book in the SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE, conducted by Eld. John H. Wolfe. Ministers and Christian workers, wishing to better prepare themselves for Christian work, should have this book, and should take the correspondence course offered by the "School of the Bible."

The book is well bound, has 476 pages, at \$2.00 postpaid.

Send orders to the F. W. B. Gem, Purdy, Missouri or to Eld. John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Neb.

**Remove Not the Old Land Mark**

(Continued from page 15)  
ways," says the Father. It is impossible for the weak human mind to understand all of God's Eternal Word. But I am so glad that we can understand enough that we may know how to come to the Father and, if we are willing to accept Him on His terms, we may have a hope in Christ that reaches beyond this life.

But we even see the world trying to deny the Christ as a divine Savior. They deny the holy birth of Jesus; and tell us it was impossible. "But God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." In spite of all unbelief, Christ Jesus is the hope of the world today. "There is no other name given under heaven or among men, whereby we may be saved, save through the blood of Jesus."

Another old land mark which is being removed today is the observance of the Sabbath. God says, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." My grandfather used to tell me that when he was a boy, Saturday was spent getting things in readiness, so as little work as possible, in any way, would have to be done on Sunday. Wood was split, enough for two days instead of enough for one. And all other things arranged in accordance with this. And that you very seldom saw a team in the field on Sunday. But what are we, as a people, doing today with the "Lord's Day?" It is a common thing to see men at work in their fields. We can hardly tell Sunday from any week day by driving along the highways. The only difference is, the traffic is greater on Sunday—they are out seeking the pleasures of the world. They don't stop to think that the Lord whose law they are ignoring, gives them the very breath that they breathe; and if He would withhold His hand for one moment, they would be in eternity. Oh that we, as a people, saved or unsaved, would realize our dependence upon God! "The eyes of our Lord are ever upon the earth, beholding the evil and the good." How it must grieve the heart of God to see us!

The United States of America claims to be a Christian nation.

Even our silver coins say to the world, "In God we trust," and we going on in open rebellion against God's laws, removing the old land marks on every side.

One other very essential land mark that has been removed in so many of our churches, is the old-fashioned, Holy Ghost revivals. Some tell us that revivals were all right in their day, but the day of revivals is past. But thank the Lord a lot of us know better, but we can't have old time revivals in our churches if we, as members, have only a form of godliness and deny the power thereof. We must come the way of the cross, have an experience with God that we may know that we have passed from death unto life. When the Lord Jesus comes unto men He changes them. Old things pass away and all things become new. Christians can't go along partaking of every thing the world does and then have any influence over the unsaved; they will say: "We are as good as you are." Christian friends, the world expects us to be different from them; and if we are not, they lose confidence in us as Christians. We must be careful where we go and what we do. If we are a little in doubt about this thing or that being becoming to us as Christians, go to God in prayer, earnestly inquire of Him about it and follow His leading and I'm sure you won't go anywhere you can't take Jesus with you, or transact any business He would not approve of.

May God help us to "Let our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works and glorify the Father which is in heaven."

The more pains you take with your health, the less pains you will have; and your spiritual health is of most importance.

Christ works through His body and that body on earth is His Church; the Christian that prays for Christ to reach his brother, must be a hand for Christ to reach with.

Work is a large part of worship.

The peace of God is most often found in the pain of sacrifice.

No action is worse than reaction.