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Winford Davis  
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Monett, Mo.

# 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. 4. No. 1.

Purdy, Missouri, January, 1932.

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## PRAYER

By Miss Linnie McCoy

Prayer is a 'reaching out' of the soul for God, or a deep longing of the soul, expressed or unexpressed, for help which can only come from above. It is not only a petition, but includes praise and adoration, confession, supplication, and intercession.

We think of Abraham as an example of persevering prayer, Moses of intercessory prayer, Nehemiah of confession in prayer and Daniel of regularity in prayer. On one occasion the children of Israel became convicted of their sin and said to Samuel, "Pray for thy servants unto the Lord thy God, that we die not." In his answer to them he said, "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you."

The earthly ministry of our Lord was begun in prayer (Luke 23:34). The heavenly ministry of our Lord was begun in prayer (John 14:16), and is now continued in prayer (Heb. 7:25). Prayer was more important than rest, for "in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place and there prayed" (Mark 1:35). Prayer was more important than sleep, for "He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12). Prayer was more important in securing workers than either money or machinery, for He said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:38). Prayer is as important as His other ministries, for "He ever liveth to make intercession for us" (Heb. 7:25).

In reading the Bible we find several instances where the Lord rejected the worship of the Jews because they were not sincere. Saying a multitude of words will

not insure an answer from God if the heart is wrong. Being right with God is the first essential for effective praying. A careful study of the Bible and a willing obedience to its commands are also necessary. When that is true in our lives, then the Holy Spirit will lead us in our praying.

We are taught in the model prayer in Matt. 6:9-15 that the true order of prayer is God first and man second. His glory should come before our personal wants. Prayer is communion with God and much of our praying should be for the ear of God only. We can better resist the attractions of the world and tell our urgent needs to God when we are alone with Him. We are admonished time after time in God's Word to pray, and many and precious are the promises which God gives to His praying children.

What a tremendous responsibility is ours! What a unique privilege! For all the power of an omnipotent God is ready and waiting to be put in action at the prayer of His children. Prayer is an exercise of the Spirit in which everyone can take part who knows anything about God. Even the most unlearned can pray, but there is so much to be learned about prayer, that it is always in order for us to say as did the disciples of old, "Lord, teach us to pray."

How sweet the hour alone with God,  
In earnest prayer we spend,  
Alone with Him who knows our needs,  
As friend would plead with friend.

We tell all our needs to Him,  
Assured that He will hear;  
The faintest, feeblest cry we raise,  
Will reach His holy ear.

No care too great, no need too small,  
He would not have us tell,  
E'en though assured we are, those needs  
To Him are known so well.

Then oft toil and conflict here,  
Our hearts would turn aside  
To be in company with Him  
Who once was crucified.

As in faith to Him draw nigh  
And make our wishes known,  
He bends His ear to hear our cry,  
Though high upon the throne.

No prayer of faith will ever be  
By Him our God unheard.  
We know the answer's sure to come,  
For this He tells us in His Word.

Is it worth while to study the Book,  
That brings Heaven to earth if we  
will but look?

Is it worth while to awaken each day,  
Praying for guidance each step of  
the way

Is it worth while to look up to God,  
And ask Him to solve our problems  
hard;

Ask Him to guide us—Come what  
may,

Is it worth while to kneel and pray?  
Oh, yes, my friends, I say that it is,  
'Tis truly worth while to know we  
are His,

How do I know?—why, I've tried it,  
you see,

And God has come down and brought  
Heaven to me.

Phillipsburg, Missouri, Route 2.

## Standing the Tests

How are we going to stand the tests?

Dear Christian friends, the only way is to center our heart and mind on God and let Him lead and guide us in every thing we do. We often find people who have the mistaken idea that those who go with God will have a smooth, easy path to tread and they always quote the verse, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Do you think it would be easy to spend a period of years in prison for refusing to commit a crime, as did Joseph? We wonder how easy it would be to be thrown to

the lions for praying, or cast into a burning, fiery furnace for refusing to bow down to the devil. Would it seem easy and prosperous to be covered with boils from head to feet as Job was? and God said he was a perfect man. He also buried a large family of children, and lost his large property; his wife also turned against him and advised him to curse God and die, but Job stood every test, and kept true to God; and came out all right, with more than he had to begin with.

We might mention many more in the Old Testament who didn't find the path any easier.

Jesus trod a thorny road, and He said, "The servant is not above his master." We read that they accused Him of many things. They also spit in His face, and struck Him with their hands. They mocked Him and counted Him with thieves, and hung Him with them.

There were Paul and Silas who started out to do some missionary work together, and found themselves in prison with their feet in stocks and backs bleeding from the terrible whippings they had suffered. Did they grumble and growl, and murmur at the hard time they were having? No, instead, they prayed and sang praises unto God, and deliverance came.

The saints in Bible times had it no easier than we do. On the contrary, the greatest tests we can possibly go through are not to be compared to theirs. Jesus did not say He would show Paul what an "easy prosperous time" He could give him, but He said He said He would "show him how great things he must suffer."

Dear Christian friends, we must bear the tests if we ever get to Heaven. Shame on us that we ever had a thought of having an easy time! God wants some real soldiers, that will stand the fire, and not flinch. He says, "Quit you like men, be strong." There is no excuse for weakness, when we have the strength of God to back us. Weakness is sin; when God says, "Be strong," and provides the strength for. We should consider it a high honor to be among those who endure the greatest test, for God does not test worthless souls. When we

find ourselves in a furnace of seven-fold heat, it is because God sees something in us worth purifying; and only the purified ones are to shine forever in the kingdom of our God. The Bible tells us that it is through much tribulation that we are to enter in.

We all need to learn obedience, the obedience of faith, and this we can learn only in and through Jesus Christ. He learned obedience by the things He suffered; if we are truly His disciples, we will be willing to suffer, that we may learn even as He learned. If we are Christ's, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him.

Pray for me, that I may stand all the tests and be true to my Savior.

Mrs. Lizzie Shipman.

**Blue Eye, Mo., Dec. 18, 1931.**

Dear Readers of the Gem: As I sit here this morning, I am wondering how many of God's children are reading God's word, for it is through the Bible He talks to His children; and through prayer we talk to God. We need to study His word in order to learn more about Him.

The majority of our people are too busy to ever find time to read God's word, but they can find time for parties and other worldly things; yet never have time to go to Sunday school, prayer meetings nor preaching services. We can't expect the people that are out in sin to read God's word, when we find that His children do not read it as they should.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let me ask of you for the sake of your own souls, to study God's word more each day, for

**What is Home without a Bible?**

"What is home without a Bible?"

'Tis a home where day is night.

Starless night, for o'er life's pathway

Heaven can shed no kindly light.

**What is home without a Bible?**

'Tis a place where daily bread

For the body is provided,

But the soul is never fed.

**What is home without a Bible?**

List and ponder while I speak:

'Tis a home with Bibles in it.

But not opened once a week.

Monday comes and goes and

Tuesday comes and goes, Wednesday too.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday,  
Book not opened whole week through

Lost! The Bible, lost! its teaching,

Lost! Its help each day in seven;

Lost! to live by; Lost! to die by;

Lost! What lost? The way to heaven.

Your sister in Christ,

Mrs. Wilborn Taylor.

—o—

## Clinchers for Your

### Temperance Lesson

From The Sunday School Times  
So-called Temperance Sunday was never passed over lightly in the Tourist Bible Class, a part of the First Presbyterian Church of Miami, Florida, and taught by the late William Jennings Bryan. As a "clinger" to his own arguments, Mr. Bryan used to have distributed cards on which was printed a red hot arraignment of the "saloon" and liquor traffic. One such card had the following "remarks" by a great lawyer spoken in a court room.

"The saloon cuts down youth in its vigor, manhood in its strength, and age in its weakness.

"It breaks the father's heart, bereaves the mother, extinguishes natural affections, erases conjugal love, blots out filial attachments, blasts parental hopes, and brings down mourning age to the grave.

"It produces weakness, not strength; sickness, not health; death, not life.

"It makes wives widows; children orphans; fathers fiends; and all of them paupers and beggars.

"It feeds rheumatism, nurses gout, welcomes epidemics, invites cholera, imparts pestilence, and embraces consumption.

"It covers the land with idleness, misery, and crime.

"It fills your jails, supplies your almshouses, and demands your asylums.

"It engenders controversies, fosters quarrels, and cherishes riots.

"It crowds your penitentiaries and furnishes victims to your scaffolds.

"It is the lifeblood of the gambler, the element of the burglar, the prop of the highwayman, and

(Continued on page 5)

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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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## THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

## What Wilt Thou?

"What wilt thou, queen Esther?" (Esther 5:3)

Perhaps queen Esther had dressed herself with great care and looked her best; for she was appearing before the king, not only uninvited but unexpectedly, and it would be too bad if her appearance should not please the king who deposed whom he would. But Esther's people the Jews were, according to an unchangeable decree, soon to be exterminated. Esther loved her people and would save them, even at the risk of her own life; so she intruded herself into the king's presence, that she might provide a way of escape for them. She knew that the decree which would on a certain day bring death to her people could not be changed, but the Jews could be warned and given the right to defend themselves, and fight against their enemies.

While the Lord's name is nowhere found in the Book of Esther, Esther and her uncle Mordecai must have been led and helped by the Lord. Sleep departed from the king, causing him to consider matters which brought Mordecai into favor. And Haman, the king's favorite, was exposed and deposed and hanged, and Mordecai the Jew was put in his place. Queen Esther obtained favor with the king who granted her petitions. Letters were written to the Jews in all the one hundred twenty provinces, permitting them to "gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them."

So on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month (Adar), when the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, the Jews gathered themselves together "and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people." So the Jews wrought a great victory against their enemies and gained great favor in the kingdom of Ahasuerus.

So the Jews had rest from their enemies and to commemorate their great victory, they instituted the feast of Purim, to be kept on the fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar (the twelfth month) each year through all their generations.

The answer queen Esther was able to give to the question: "What wilt thou?" meant freedom and a blessing to her people; but if we should be asked the same question today, I wonder what the answer we could give would mean to ourselves and to others. Much depended on queen Esther, and perhaps Mordecai was right when he signified that Esther had come to the kingdom for just such a time as they had to face, when he asked: "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Let us remember that the whole human race is under Satan's decree of death, except those who have received and obeyed the word of the King, signed and sealed in His name. There are a few who can appear before the King and, if they are willing to be used to deliver others from the ways of death, they may hear the question: "What wilt thou?" and the answer they can give will mean so

(Continued on page 9)

**HARDY, ARKANSAS**

To the Gem. Dear Readers:

As I have not written for some time, I thought this morning I'd write and let you know I'm still in the battle for God.

Since I returned from the State Association, I have had some splendid revivals.

Just after I got home from the State Association, I had Eld. W. P. Millard of Buffalo, Mo. with me at my Rose Hill church in Mo. We had a splendid meeting. We did not have very much visible results, but we left our church in good condition.

I have just returned home from Ravenden Springs, Ark., from a two weeks' meeting. Had nine conversions, God showered blessings down upon His people in a wonderful way. Hardened sinners were moved by the Gospel that had never moved before. Fathers and mothers came to the altar with their children and prayed through to victory. We organized a good strong church with a good Sunday school and midweek prayer meeting. We left the people singing God's praises—with Bro. J. A. Sprague as pastor of the church.

Wife and I desire that you pray much on our behalf, while we labor in this field, that we may be able to push this battle to the gate and after the battle, that we may be able to shout the praises of our blessed Master.

E. E. Winfree.

Centralia, Okla., Dec. 1, 1931.

Dear Gem Readers: I thought I would write a short letter for the Gem about our church at Notch Mound. We are having a good meeting now. We have a good Sunday school every Sunday and we have preaching once each month. Sister Elda Crain is our pastor. May God help us to keep on praying.

This is my first opportunity to write to the Gem for I have just started to work for the Lord, and I want the prayers of all you Christians, that I might hold out faithful to the end.

Miss Beulah Ivie.

GRANBY, MO., Dec. 8, 1931.

Dear Gem Readers: We are glad to report another victory for

Jesus. We have just closed a meeting at our Notch Mound church, near Centralia, Oklahoma, where we had a wonderful meeting, beginning November 16th and closing December 7th.

The Lord was present in every service and we enjoyed some old time shouting and singing by the good people of Notch Mound who have old time religion.

There were thirteen souls saved by power divine, and thirteen united with the church, which makes a total membership of 27. We believe this church will soon be among our strongest in the Indian Creek Association, for it has only been organized about eleven months and is growing fast.

Sunday, December 6th, we enjoyed a wonderful baptismal service, when nine of the new converts followed Jesus in baptism.

We will never forget the good people of Notch Mound community who were so kind to us while we were there, and who, in spite of the rainy weather and muddy roads, were faithful in attending the services.

We mustn't fail to mention that Bro. E. E. Crain and Elda Crain, who is the faithful pastor, were with us in the last week of the meeting, which was a great help and encouragement to us. Elders Kenneth and Noel Turner.

**EVANGELIST'S REPORT**

Since leaving the Macedonia church, and the General Co-operative Association, as field agent and evangelist, I have been visiting several of our churches and spending a few days at each church. The first church I visited was our Sylvandale church, near to Nevada, Mo. This is the church where I hold my membership. This church has no pastor and is badly run down in membership by removals and death. Since I, with the help of others, organized this church a few years ago, the church has lost eleven members by death alone, four women and seven men. There were two professions and two joined the church at this visit, a man and his wife. I baptized the man and his wife will be baptized later on. They are land owners and permanent citizens, and we believe will be a great help to the church.

Arrangements were made to try to get a pastor for the church. Mrs. Ross Thomas of Hannon, Mo. one of our young preachers will visit this church soon and it is hoped that she can be secured as pastor, and we hope that she will be able to preach for the Eldorado Springs church also.

I preached one night at our Eldorado Springs church to a good congregation of people.

After spending Thanksgiving with my children at Ash Grove, Mo., I went to Mansfield, Mo. to Elder Selph Jones' and went out on Saturday night to our Wolf Creek church and preached to a large congregation of people. We had several mourners, but no conversions.

Sunday at eleven a. m. we went to our Ashley church. I preached at eleven o'clock. There were several mourners and two conversions, a man and his wife. Elder G. W. Scott, Jr. is the faithful pastor of these two churches.

Then I went with Bro. Jones to the town of Hartville, the county seat of Wright Co., Mo., and held a few nights' meeting. There was one profession. Eld. Selph Jones is the faithful pastor of this church. I came to Hartville a few years ago and held a meeting and souls were saved, and with the help of others, this Free Will Baptist church was organized and now they have the finest and most up to date church house in the town, and free of debt.

I am now holding a few nights' meeting with our Black Oak church, near Niangua, Mo. Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist, Ash Grove, Missouri.

**Mansfield, Missouri**

Pleasant Ridge Church

Dear Gem Readers: It has been some time since I have written to the paper, but I am always glad to read so many good letters in our little Gem. We are still having a good Sunday school. Each class has memory verses, also birthday offerings every Sunday. We sure are thankful for such good work going on for our Lord and Savior, and there is always something to do.

We haven't had our revival meeting yet this year, but we are praying it won't be long now till

Bro. Scott, Jr. will be ready to hold a meeting. Our State evangelist, Eld. T. C. Ferguson, and Eld. Selph Jones, visited our church and Sunday school at 11 o'clock on Sunday. We heard a wonderful sermon by Bro. Ferguson, and two souls were saved, a father and mother, and we hope to see more souls saved in our neighborhood, for there are so many out in sin, that need to be working for the Lord.

We are still having our Bible lesson each Wednesday afternoon. We have prayer meeting every Sunday night, for prayer is the key that unlocks heaven's door. "For He is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto Him. For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith, and he that taketh not his cross and followeth after me is not worthy of me."

We are looking forward to the next quarterly meeting, which will meet at our church Jan. 28th. We invite all who wish to come, and will welcome them to our little church. We hope to have a large delegation and a good meeting.

Wishing all the Gem readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your sister in Christ,  
Mrs. Lula Crippen.

—o—

### Vance Chapel Church Report

Just a few words in regard to the good work that is being carried on by the church, Sunday school and mission at Vance Chapel. We have a large church building and it is crowded at almost every service. We have 145 members and have an average of 125 in Sunday school, and our mission is doing some good work. We have an average of 65 in the Junior mission. We have just recently bought and paid for a parsonage. So I am planning for some good preacher to take charge of this church after the next Association.

If we, as pastors, had the love toward each other that we should have, we would try to have our church in the very best of condition when we leave it, especially in regard to the finance. Vance Chapel has always been paid up in full at each Association.

Eld. W. L. Bean.

### Drumright, Oklahoma

Dear Mission Workers: Little did I think when I organized the mission work that I would be dependent on them so soon. I have not been able to work for the last year and am not yet able to preach but the mission workers bought me a new suit and my friends have been mighty good to me.

A while I did without things I needed, but I know that it was only for the lack of someone to let my needs be known.

I am hoping to be able to preach and, how glad I will be! for I do want to do something for Him who did so much for me.

I have just returned from a visit to Denison and Ft. Worth, Texas. These are two good churches. Bro. O'Donnell is pastor of our church at Denison. He has some wonderful members in his church. Bro. Sutton is pastor of our Ft. Worth church. He has built up a great work there. Bro. and Sister Sutton's friends should be proud of them, for they have made good at Ft. Worth.

Now may God bless every one of you.

I ask to be remembered at the throne of grace when you pray.

Yours in Christ,

Eld. A. B. Talbert.

### Notch Mound Revival

Dear Gem Readers: I wish to say a few words on paper about the wonderful revival at the Notch Mound church. Elders Noel and Kenneth Turner began the revival Nov. 17th and closed Dec. 7th.

There were thirteen saved, nine baptized and thirteen united with the Notch Mound Free Will Baptist church, and we have the promise of more uniting with the church later on. We now have a membership of 27.

I certainly thank God for this meeting; also glad I had the opportunity to attend this meeting a part of the time. Father and I went to Notch Mound on Tuesday before the meeting closed on Monday night.

The weather was bad and the roads were muddy, but folks came to the meeting in wagons, on horseback and on foot.

God's power was felt in preaching, praying, singing and shouting. I know the church received much spiritual food and was greatly

helped.

I am thankful for the ones that were saved during this revival, but there are still others at Notch Mound that need salvation. So I pray that God will give us more old time revivals at Notch Mound and elsewhere.

Elda Crain, Pastor.

### Clinchers for Your Temperance Lesson

(Continued from page 2)

the support of the midnight incendiary.

"It countenances the liar, respects the thief, esteems the blasphemer.

"It violates obligations, revenges fraud, honors infamy.

"It defames benevolence, hates love, scorns virtue, and slanders innocence.

"It incites the father to butcher his helpless offspring, helps the husband to massacre his wife, and the child to grind the patricidal axe.

"It burns up men, consumes women, detests life, curses God, and despises Heaven.

"It suborns witnesses, nurses perjury, defiles the jury box, and stains the judicial ermine.

"It degrades the citizen, debases the legislator, dishonors the statesman, and disarms the patriot.

"It brings shame, not honor; terror, not safety; despair, not hope; misery, not happiness; and with the malevolence of a fiend it calmly surveys its frightful desolation, and unsatisfied with its havoc it kills peace, ruins morals, blights confidence, slays reputation, and wipes out national honor, then curses the world and laughs at its ruin.

"It does all that and more,—it murders the soul.

"It is the sum of all villainies, the father of all crimes, the mother of all abominations; the devil's best friend, and God's worst enemy."

### Report of Cavespring Q. M.

Cavespring Quarterly Meeting met in its first session in conference year ending 1932, with the Smyrna church, on Saturday night before the fifth Sunday in November, 1931.

Clerk not being present, conference was opened by the standing moderator, Eld. Billie Rogers.

Scripture reading the 14th chapter of St. John. Prayer by Elder H. C. Crase.

E. L. Brewer was elected clerk pro tem, J. P. McCullough, Ass't.

Though it was a rainy, disagreeable day, when the letters were called for thirteen churches represented with a good delegation. Routine business was taken up and disposed of until time for the eleven o'clock service.

At eleven o'clock the stand was supplied by Elders Harry Beatty and Elbert Vaughn. Soul-stirring messages were delivered and much rejoicing in the Lord.

Business was again taken up at two o'clock.

Bro. Cleveland Pierce was ordained deacon for Cavespring church, Elders Elmer Hodges, W. P. Stogdill and H. C. Crase, Com.

Our next meeting was set with Rosewell church, six miles east of Thayer, Mo., to begin on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in January, 1932. Pastor to preach the introductory sermon. Every body cordially invited.

I also report seven dollars and five cents (\$7.05) collected at this meeting and turned over to me to place on linotype fund, which I have forwarded to treasurer and received receipt.

Dear brethren and readers, I report the passing away of another member of our body, whose obituary I am enclosing with this report.

J. R. W. Harbison, Q. M. Clerk.

TECUMSEH, OKLA., Dec. 28th.

Dear Gem Family: Greetings in Jesus' name.

You will see by this letter that we are at Tecumseh. We closed the meeting at Drumright with 117 conversions. The meeting was a great blessing to many. Twenty-three were added to the church. We certainly love the dear people of Drumright and ask your prayers, that the work may grow.

We came here three weeks ago and have had forty-one (41) conversions. The meeting is glorious and the town is being stirred. The different churches are lending a helping hand. It seems that the time has come to revive the work here. God is surely blessing. Pray much for us here, that many more will be saved.

We will give a full report at the close of the meeting.

Mr. McAdams and Naomi came over from Drumright last week and spent Christmas with us, and have been a great blessing to the meeting.

God bless our many friends, and may the New Year bring new blessings to all.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

### About the State Budget System

We are receiving some money all along for the State Budget fund, from the different churches. Has your church made up and sent in its budget yet? Remember it is just ten (10c) per resident member, and half of that amount is to be sent to the Treas. of your own Association and the other half is to be sent to me for State expenses.

Make up your budget now and it will be off your hands for the year. Think how small that 10c is, but when we all put our dimes together it makes a big sum. My, how it would swell the budget fund if every church would pay their budget now!

We certainly thank all the churches that have paid their budget, and we are living in hope that many of the other churches will pay their budget soon.

If you want to know any particulars whatever about the budget plan, why, don't hesitate to write and ask us, and we will gladly answer and tell you at once.

Winford Davis, Treas., Monett, Mo

—o—

### Vance Chapel, Oilton, Oklahoma.

Dear Gem Family: Have you heard yet of the wonderful Young People's Mission that Vance Chapel has?

At present we have 89 enrolled. We are making a friendship quilt. Have bought 30 new Hartford song books. Last week we made up six dollars worth of groceries for baskets and distributed them to people we knew needed them, then we gave our pastor, Bro. W. L. Bean, a grocery shower and a scarf for the pulpit, and we make sick calls to all people who are sick.

We have two great leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Tate Kirby. They

take a great interest in their young people and we love to work with them.

We find with a class as large as ours that we can do many useful things and we get great pleasure in doing them. (Eccl. 12:1)—“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them.”

You will hear from us again next month.

Midge Sehuler & Burdette Rider, Reporters.

CENTRALIA, OKLA., Dec. 11th.

To the Readers of the Gem:

I will appreciate every prayer that may be uttered from the lips through the heart of any brother or sister that will pray, that Jesus might dwell within me all the rest of my life.

The twenty-fifth evening of November turned into day when I started to walking in the light. I was led to believe He was the only true way in a revival meeting at Notch Mound, held by Brothers Noel and Kenneth Turner. God led Bro. Noel to speak that message every creature should hear and receive. I accepted Jesus as my Master and I hope and pray He will dwell and walk with me forever.

All day long God is true.

Sing the song: “He Loves You,”  
Lest your steps sway or sidetrack.

He will never turn you back.  
Keep the right pace, measure every step.

Mind everything you should accept  
And then, when that day shall come,  
He will come and conduct you home.

ROLLY WAGONER

BRANCH, ARKANSAS, Dec. 12

Dear Editor & the Gem Family: I have just finished reading a copy of the Gem, handed me by Bro. I. J. Wilson, and to whom I gave my subscription, and think it is a fine little Gem. It is full of good things—has some fine sermons in it, which are instructive to all who like to read, and things that will do us all good to read, if we would accept the truth.

I want to tell of our revival at old Antioch church here at Branch

Branch is a nice little village, thirty miles east of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, on highway No. 22. It has several business houses, consolidated school, three churches: Free Will Baptist, Missionary Baptist and Methodist. Most of the Free Wills being on farms, our meeting was postponed until the busy season was over and the other meetings were over. Our meeting days are every second Sunday and Saturday before in each month. Bro. J. S. Lovett is our faithful pastor.

The meeting began on the 8th and closed on the following Sunday the 15th. It was of short duration, but was a real revival from start to finish. The third and fourth days were spent in testimony meeting—every one wanted to preach; some shouting and some praising God, all at the same time. Some conversions, some reclaimed. There were four additions to the church. The other churches took part in the meeting and all seemed to enjoy it, as it was a great spiritual uplift.

There still some unsaved people here, old grey headed men; they don't seem to stop and consider where they are going; but we hope and pray that the Lord will reach them in some way. They won't go to church and hear the Gospel preached, and it seems impossible to reach them when they stay away from the services of the house of God, and are probably engaged in some worldly amusement that may send their souls to torment. Some don't seem to fear God at all. The time is here now that people should be on their knees to God in prayer and thinking more about salvation than of the things of this world, for if we miss heaven, we miss it all.

Our church membership is eighty (80). We have a good Sunday school and a league, running in high.

The Arkansas Association will meet at Branch next September, hope some of you good people will be with us then.

For fear I make my letter too long, I will close for this time, for I don't want to break the rules.

Your brother in Christ,

R. P. Robinson, Church Clerk.

VAN BUREN, ARKANSAS, December 30, 1931.

Dear Brother Brown and Gem Readers: I will make a brief report of our Association to let you know about us. Moses said one time: "Who is on the Lord's side, let him come unto me." Jesus said, "If ye do these things, shew thyself to the world." Again Jesus said, "Let your light so shine."

Zion Hope Association No. 2 has eight churches and sixteen preachers. Preachers' names follow: Ben Pixley, Rudy, Ark. Charley Graham, Rudy, Ark. Steve Smith, Rudy, Ark. Tomie Nolan, Rudy, Ark. Henry Hart, Alma, Ark. Tom Conyer, Alma, Ark. Loyd Weese, Van Buren, Ark. Tom Robertson, Charleston. Arthur Joslin, Van Buren, Bro. Simpkins, Van Buren. Bro. Rose, Davidson, Ark. Bro. Burkley, Charleston. C. M. Church, Hacket, Ark. John Pittscoe, Hacket, Ark. W. S. Coplin, ..... Redland, Okla. John Swansenburg, ..... Evansville, Ark.

I am sending you one of our songs, which we sing before we take the Communion and wash feet. I wish that you would please print it in the Gem.

## A SONG

Composed by Rev. J. K. P. Davis.

I am a poor pilgrim and stranger,  
Turned out in this world to roam,  
I have no continuing city,  
Or one I can call my own.

I have heard of a Heavenly Railroad,  
I have heard of a Heavenly Train,  
Where Jesus alone is the Agent,  
Salvation by Faith is His name.

Sometimes I am sorely tossed and driven,  
And know not where I roam,  
I have heard of a city called Heaven,  
I have started to make it my home.

Our fathers and mothers crossed over,  
Our brothers and sisters are there,  
No money could purchase their tickets,  
For Jesus paid all their fare.

This track was decreed in Heaven,  
Before our world began,  
The rolling stock is the free agent,  
"By Grace" and "through Faith" is the plan.

The Agent, He wrote me a ticket,  
When I was about sixteen,  
He never did charge me a penny,  
But told me to always keep clean.

The world and the flesh and the devil  
Tried hard our train to derail,  
We hear the sweet voice of Jesus,  
My word shall not utterly fail.

My good old companion has left me,  
She boarded that Heavenly train,  
When Jesus comes after His jewels,  
He'll bring her back with Him again.

Repentance and faith our condition,  
Baptism to all a command,  
If you fail to wash feet after supper,  
You are building your house on sand.

And now before taking the Supper,  
Examine yourselves one and all,  
Then freely partake of the emblems,  
Was the great admonition of Paul.

Be sure to take oil, my brother,  
In vessels along with your lamps,  
We all have to pass through the tunnel,  
For the Devil has Robbers and Tramps.

Dedicated and presented the Free Will Baptist church, in session with the Ford's Chapel church, at Jensen, Arkansas, at their 5th Sunday meeting, November, 1919.—J. K. P. Davis.

Yours for our Master,

Rev. Arthur Joslin.

### Report of Revival Meeting in Monett, Missouri

On November 27th Eld. Winford Davis and myself following the leadership of God's Spirit, began a meeting in Monett. We have no church there and when we began to talk of a meeting, we were promised the use of a church building which formerly belonged to the Nazarene Holiness people, but after our meeting was announced, we were informed that we couldn't have this building, so we rented an empty store building and launched the battle. Eld. Johnnie Swaffar of Purdy was with us from the first to play the piano or lead the singing, which ever fell to his lot.

The devil put up a strong fight, but God has been with us all the way through. Some came seemingly to satisfy their curiosity, others that were willing to work and pray for an old time revival got to work and pretty soon God began to work on the hearts of the unsaved. Time and space would fail us in describing how wonderfully God has worked in this meeting, and we would like to mention all the good people that have helped in the meeting. We will take time to mention the good people of the Protestant Methodist church in the south part of town. Their pastor being the only pastor in town that has been to the service, the others probably considered the meeting beneath their notice, but praises be to God, God came and visited us in as great a way as I have ever seen in any meeting. At different services we didn't get to preach at all, God's power was so wonderfully demonstrated that an altar call was made following the praise service.

Thirty-two (32) precious souls have been blessed up to this writing and the meeting still going strong.

Eld. O. T. Allred.

### Report of Fifth Sunday Meeting

LENAPAH, OKLAHOMA, December 29, 1931.

On November 29, 1931 a part of the Indian Creek Association met with the South Picher Free Will Baptist church in their regular Fifth Sunday Meeting. Due to unsettled weather, a small delegation was present, with two churches represented.

The morning service was opened with songs and prayer by Eld. T. E. L. Curry and Bro. Jones.

The stand was filled at eleven o'clock by Bro. Curry who brought us a real Gospel message. These are the times when we sit in heavenly places and enjoy the real blessings of God. After this service a basket dinner was served on the grounds and was enjoyed by all.

The afternoon service opened with prayer and singing and the Spirit of God was with the people.

The stand was filled at this time by Bro. Nichols of Picher. He brought to us a real interesting and encouraging message. It is good to sit in the house of the Lord and hear the message from God's own Book, unfolded and taught in our presence. This service closed with old time songs and a hand shake, to meet at 7:30 p. m. for the evening service.

The evening service was opened with prayer and songs, and the Lord's Supper and feet washing was observed.

Due to the unsettled weather and small attendance, the next Fifth Sunday Meeting will be held at South Picher church, at Picher, Oklahoma.

Luther Mayberry, 5th S. M. Clerk, Lenapah, Okla.

BLUE EYE, MISSOURI, December 25, 1931

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and all the Gem Readers: Greetings in Jesus name.

It hardly seems that another year has rolled by, but as we look back and begin to study, we can see that we have made so many mistakes and let so many opportunities slip by, that it seems almost enough for two years. One year ago today we were having a wonderful revival meeting at our Mt Olive church. We have not had a revival yet, but we are hoping to have a good meeting soon. Bro. Winford Davis is our faithful pastor. He has been our pastor since our church was organized in February, '28.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us down to this present time, and as we enter into the New Year, we are praying that He will continue to bless us and give us laborers to work in His vineyard here. No matter what the old year brought, we see the New one stands illumined. The thing for you and me to do is to sow on each day, content to know that all our flowers bloom somewhere on the shining way. If we sow on through "thick and thin," till sowing days are done, we'll find more flowers when we get home than we have ever counted on.

This is the year for us to keep close up to the firing line, as the enemy is approaching from every side. Let us sow as we have never sowed before, with faith looking to the reaping time.

May the Lord bless all throughout the New Year, in my prayer.

E. O. Callen, Blue Eye Missouri.

MACOMB, MISSOURI

Dear Editor and wife and Readers of the little Gem: I never did think the Gem more than just a little pamphlet and nothing much to it until Sister Thursia Findley let me have a copy of it to read, now I think it the most wonderful little paper I ever read. It is small in size, but large in value.

I notice that one can get the Gem for 75 cents a year, so enclosed find 75 cents for which send me the Gem for 12 months. I have only read one copy but I got so much good out of it that I want to be one of your happy circle of the Gem readers.

We belong to the Free Will Baptist church at Pleasant Ridge. Our church conference on Saturday at eleven o'clock is good. Bro. G. W. Scott, Jr. is our pastor. Our Sunday school is good.

As this is my first attempt to ever write, we will ask an interest in your prayers, and wishing you all a happy prosperous New Year.

Your brother and sister in Christ,

D. C. Bennett and wife.

MOUNTAIN GROVE, MISSOURI, Dec. 26th.

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown: Will write a few lines and give a brief report of my work since the State Association. I came home on Friday from the Association and went into a meeting on Saturday.

(Continued on page 10)



### What Wilt Thou?

(Continued from page 3)

much to others! "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Have you an ear? and do you hear the voice of the Spirit? Some do not have an ear, so do not hear.

Alas too many professed Christians do not have an ear to hear the Spirit calling them to service, but need first to hear Jesus say, "Wilt thou be made whole?" Again too many of us are not willing to be made whole, it would increase our responsibility. We ought to be so ashamed that we'd vow never to meet our fellowmen again until we have made it all right with God, and become willing to do anything or be anything He may require of us. Instead we go on in "our weak way," in the way of death because we want to go that way.

Several times Jesus asked: "What wilt thou?" and every time the thing they cried out for was what He was pleased to give them. Even now the Lord wants to give us all the good things we are able to receive, but we don't desire them; so we go on weak and miserable, poor and needy, walking in darkness, not desiring the light, when we might be strong in the Lord and happy, and be rich in grace with all of our needs supplied, and walking in the light, rejoicing because of the love and goodness of God which we realize and enjoy every day. Then we'll be glad to hear the Lord say, "What wilt thou?" and we'll be ready to obey Him in whatsoever thing He requires of us.

No wonder so few Christians really care about those who are lost and on their way to hell; they are not far from that way themselves. Lord, help us to really come unto You, that You may break all the bands which bind us for Satan and hell; and may we be bound for Thee and eternal glory, ever keeping where we can hear and ever willing to be used for others, even willing to die if need be.

ST. LOUIS, MO., 4301 N. Broadway, Dec. 17, 1931.

Dear Free Will Baptist Friends and Gem Readers: It is now more than twenty-seven months since Sister Hilliar was able to get around with any certainty at all. She has been under treatment and care of the Baptist Sanitarium constantly, although at home most of the time.

Just about two months ago it became very clear that it would not be safe to leave her by herself, except at great risk.

Christian friends, here is the sad part about it: Her sons and daughters being dead, her grandchildren are not following their grandmother in the Christian life; simply worldly, so it has been very clear to me, that my duty was to her first, which by the grace of God I have endeavored to faithfully fulfill my vows before God.

I am compelled to let my active work go, no time to visit, just to care for my wife, and that only.

Personally I am in a run-down condition, needing rest badly.

When we commenced our work in this field there was not any religious orthodox body represented on Broadway, but now three are within a block of our place and has been for a long time (false

teachers). Macedonia Free Will Baptist church is known for plain preaching. Sin is made to appear exceedingly sinful, there is no compromising with its preacher, you can't get whitewashed at 4301 N. Broadway; conviction is not to be taken for conversion, it won't work; you'll come clean or the Lord will reveal it to His servant.

I hope, if the Lord spares me, to once more contribute reading matter for our friends and readers of our Free Will Baptist Gem.

May the Lord bless and keep, guide and direct His own through this very distressing period, and preserve us from the evil one.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Elder Edward Hilliar.

### BLUE EYE, MISSOURI

Dear Editor and Gem Readers: I have been reading so many good letters in the Gem for some time now; so I will endeavor to write a few lines. This beautiful Monday morning I am thankful that God has spared our life to see the light of another new day.

But Oh, how sad when we think about so much sin in this world! We can look around us and see sin on every hand. How sad when we think about the three old grey headed fathers that passed our home in an intoxicated condition, and breaking the law of the sabbath! I just wonder if they ever stop to think about what kind of a life they are living before their children, and where they will spend eternity. I sometimes think: No wonder our young boys are led astray when they see so many of the old grey headed fathers indulging in the sinful things of the world!

I wonder how many of the Christians are awake to the fact that something needs to be done. If ever we needed to pray, it is today. Let us all try to do our part and stamp out some of the sin of this world and make it a better place in which to live.

Let us, as Christian people, be careful what kind of a life we live before our children, before the public, and before God. Let us remember there's an all-seeing eye watching us and one we cannot deceive. Let us live a life that people will have confidence in us, and one they can see by our daily walks that we are serving the true and living God.

Lord, let me live from day to day

In such a self-forgetful way,

That even when I kneel to pray,

My prayers shall be for—Others.

Help me in all the work I do

To ever be sincere and true,

And know that all I'd do for You,

Must needs be done for—Others.

And when my work on earth is done,

And my new work in heaven's begun,

May I forget the crown I've won,

While thinking still of—Others.

Others, Lord; Yes, others,

Let this my motto be,

Help me to live for others,

That I may live like Thee.

A Gem Reader.

MT. GROVE, MO. (Continued from page 8)  
day. Had a wonderful revival and souls were made happy by the power of God.

Closing there I went to Dallas county, near Buffalo, and preached nine nights. Had ten conversions, had a wonderful meeting and the Lord blessed the effort. I found good people up there and in time of this I went to Buffalo with Bro. George and he baptized eight and the Lord blessed both the preacher and the candidates.

When I came home from this meeting, Bro. Geo. Scott, Jr. and Bro. Castening were conducting a revival at my home church, so I attended this meeting and conducted the singing. We sure had a wonderful meeting. The meeting closed Christmas eve night with thirty-four (34) conversions, young and old. Eighteen (18) joined the church and fifteen (15) were baptized last Sunday.

I am going to start a meeting at Glendale the first Sunday night in January and am praying that God will bless and save souls in this meeting, and I want your prayers too.

Yours for Jesus,

Elder G. W. Scott, Sr.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Johnnie Swaffar Reporter

Macedonia League Report

I have just been thinking and studying about our league work, and wondering what could be done through the winter months, when the weather is cold and bad, and people become dilatory and wont come out to league, to keep our league work going for God. In my mind the devil is pleased to see this time of the year roll around, because when he can make people think it is too cold or too rainy, etc. to go out to the house of God, what better does he want as long as he can keep us thinking in this manner? he has us just where he wants us. This is one of the devil's plans to hinder the progress of God's cause. If he succeeds in getting the young folks to lay out of league a few nights, he knows they will lose interest to some extent, and many times it results in that person being led astray, and the devil leads him on out into deeper sin.

Let's not let this be our case, but instead, let's keep right on with the work, rain or shine. Don't please the devil by staying at home, when you know you should be in the service of God.

Kenneth T. Lier.

## Mount Olive League Report

Blue Eye, Missouri

At the present time we have fifty (50) Senior members, and twenty (20) Junior members, which makes a total membership of seventy (70). This number isn't as large as it has been in the past, for several have left, besides the ones who have dropped out. Nevertheless we still have a sufficient number to keep it divided into four groups, with a group captain at the head of each group. We are still proud to say that our League is in good condition, although there is always room for improvement, and in some places to a great extent, espe-

cially in getting the members interested enough so they will learn their parts, and be present regardless of whether they are on the program or not.

Dear leaguers, let's not fail to pray for each other and pray for our league, that it may become a larger and stronger league in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alta Rose Goodwin.

## FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

I am very thankful for the interest that is being manifested in our league work, and for the progress that is being made.

I am pleased to read of new leagues being organized, and of the many good suggestions that should be deeply considered in preparing programs that will create interest for the young people, that God will bless the efforts of our work.

Let's get behind these new leagues and encourage them, help them to get established, show them that we are interested in them. So often when our work fails, the question is, "Why?" Because we fail to encourage them, and interest them, and do not co-operate with them. So let's work with them and help them get started.

In Paul's letter to Timothy, he was instructing Timothy to feed the church, to nourish and encourage it, that it would be established in the power of God. I sincerely believe that when we organize a league, we should think that Paul was talking to and instructing us, for we should consider a new league as we do a new church, for it is a branch of the church and if they fail, we have failed.

I praise God for the work that is established all over the State, and praying that we will be able to see each Association of the State enrolled in the work by next fall.

Yours for the cause of Christ,

Wm. Reeves.

**THE TIME** in which you were to get the Gem for 75 cents per year is up. We can tell that our sub list is larger than it was, but is not large enough yet, we still need more subs; so we are going to offer the Gem at a reduced price for a while yet. During January we will accept subscriptions to the Gem as follows: One year, 75c; 16 month, \$1.00; 8 months, 50c; 4 months, 25c. This applies to old as well as new subscribers, but is only for this month.

**THE CONTRACT** which Bro. York has with the Mothers Home Life Publishing Company is still open, and will be until August 10, 1932, and Brother York is still working for subs, but he wont get as far as he ought to unless we help him. You know the magazine is 25c per year and that every sub we send in brings us \$1.00 for our publishing fund. We are offering the Gem and the Mothers Home Life both one year for \$1.00. You can send your subs to Eld. W. H. York, Hannon, Mo., or to B. F. Brown, Purdy, Mo. This is our opportunity to get the money to better equip our publishing house and have a bigger, better paper. Come on, let's go!

**WE ARE LATE AGAIN** getting the Gem out, but folks, it is not all our fault. This issue should have gone out by Dec. 25th, and it is now Jan. 5th, and we still have some of it to print. Just look over the paper and see when most of the items were written, and we have nothing on hand to begin on next paper. We are glad for the manuscript we get, but want more, and want it earlier in the month. Matter for the February issue should reach us not later than Jan. 20th. Anyone may write and we'll be glad for anything that's good and will make our paper better

HARTVILLE, MISSOURI, December 17, 1931.

Dear Editor and wife and Gem Readers: As it is almost Christmas again, and I am still not able to go to church nor visit with my neighbors; I thought I would tell you that I sure would like to visit the sick, and we have so many poor little children that are almost destitute of food and clothing; how I would like to administer to their needs! I sure do sympathize with them, for I know what it is to be poor. Doing deeds of kindness would be my motto. While I read about some folks that celebrate Christmas by dancing all night; but this Book I have been reading tells me about what dancing leads to.

Read Matthew 14:6 and see who this woman was that danced to please Herod and was the cause of John the Baptist's head being cut off, and her old mother instructed her daughter what to ask. I am sorry to say it, but there seems to be just such mothers today. Please begin at Mark 6:22 and read the remainder of the chapter. Now some people say there's "no harm" in dancing, even some preachers favor it, church members go too, but this Book tells us Christians not to go.

I am thinking just now about some good women. I have been reading about things they did that was pleasing to the Lord Jesus. First it was a good woman that gave birth to the dear Son of God and her name was Mary. All little Sunday school children know this. We find Mary at the marriage in Cana of Galilee with Jesus, where He did His first miracle, and His disciples were bidden too. Jesus' mother said to the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." Jesus told them to fill up the water pots with water, the water that was made wine, which the master of the feast "knew not whence it was: but the servants which drew the water knew."

I was at a temperance meeting one night and the question was asked: "When may we drink this wine?" One man in the audience rose to his feet and said, "When Jesus comes back to earth again and turns the water into wine." After this Jesus went down to Capernaum, He and His mother, and His brethren, and His disciples. You see His mother was staying with Him.

Read the second chapter of St. John and see what He found going on in the temple. If you will read this Book, you will find that they were there at the crucifixion (Matt. 27). Many women were there which followed Jesus from Galilee and the women also which came with Him beheld the sepulchre, and how His body was laid. They prepared ointments, and rested on the sabbath day, according to the commandment. (Matt. 28) "And the angel

answered and said to the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead." So the women departed from the sepulchre, "and did run to bring his disciples word."

Then we read about Mary and Martha in this great Book, that they too were good women, and Jesus visited them. He loved them, and He said, "Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42). "And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman" (John 4:39). And think too of Dorcas and how, when she died they brought Peter from Lydda and took him to an upper chamber, and all the widows stood by him, weeping and showing him the coats and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. She might have made them for some poor little children, perhaps for some poor little orphan. It might have been for Christmas gifts. You have one of those Books, read Acts 9:36-43.

I don't want to forget to mention Phebe, that was my dear old mother's name: it sounds good to me. Paul says, "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: that ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints" (Rom. 16:1, 2). Elizabeth was a wonderfully good woman, and many others we read about.

Read Acts 21:5, "And they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down and prayed." That was sure a prayer meeting, but where do you suppose Herodias and Jezebel, and others were at that time? Perhaps preparing themselves to go to the dance, show, bridge party, or some other worldly amusement. I have known folks to do that.

Mary Magdalene was neither sick nor was she an immoral character: she simply had the devil in her. Numbers of good women have the devil in them; and they are vastly improved when he is cast out. Mary had seven demons in her, and the writers of the New Testament intended that the world should not forget it. Even Mark, when he is telling of the fact that Jesus appeared first to this good woman must add that it is the same Mary from whom Jesus had cast seven demons (Mark 16:9). A woman with just one devil in her can make a world of trouble in a community, what must have been the condition with Mary who had seven? But when they were gone, what a transformation! A woman whose life is dominated by the devil is about as bad as anything can be. A woman whose life is dominated by the Lord Jesus Christ is as near perfection as a human being can be on earth. Mary, with the demons gone, was a blessing to the world. She was right on the ground helping at every opportunity. She was there when they led Jesus to Calvary.

I guess I have already stayed and talked too long, but there is one more thing I want to mention and that is, If we women want to look pretty, instead of going to one of those beauty parlors, as they call it, go to Jesus Christ and be cleansed from all sin, and let the world see Jesus in you, is the only thing worth while.

Mrs. Lina Claxton.

## OBITUARY

**JENSEN**—Addie McCloughn was born at Saint Paul, Nebraska, July 30, 1896, and departed this life December 9, 1931, near Purdy, Missouri, being thirty-five years of age.

She was married to Jens Jensen August 23, 1913. To this union eight children were born, all of whom survive her. She also leaves her husband, mother and father, six sisters, six brothers, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her departure.

She was converted to Christ in March, 1930, in a meeting in Purdy, Missouri. While she had lived here only about four years, she had made a host of friends and was loved by all who knew her. She has been a faithful companion and mother and will be greatly missed in the community where she lived.

While she will be needed in the home with her family, yet we bow in submission to the will of her Heavenly Father, realizing that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Funeral service was conducted by Eld. Winford Davis, at the M. E. Church, Purdy, Missouri, Blankenship Undertaking Company in charge.

**WILLIAMS**—Willis Harrison Williams was born in the State of Alabama, August 4, 1861. Departed this life September 27, 1931, aged 70 years, 1 month and 23 days.

He moved with his parents to Franklin County, Tennessee, where he grew to manhood. He was converted at an early age. He there married Miss Susan Miles and moved with her to Myrtle, Mo., where to them was born one son. She soon died of fever. He was married again to Miss Mary Jane Betts, January 13, 1887. To this union eight children were born, of whom four are living and four are dead. The living children are: Walter J. Williams, by his first marriage, a Methodist minister at Smithville, Ark.; Charley Williams; Clement Williams, minister in the Free Will Baptist church; Amos Williams, all of Myrtle, Missouri; one daughter, Mrs. Leatha Doran of Granite City, Illinois. He leaves his wife, four sons, one daughter, eleven grandchildren, many distant relatives, and a host of friends to mourn his death.

He joined the Free Will Baptist church in January, 1899. He was elected to the deaconship of Bethany church which office he held at his death. He was active in the church until sickness disabled him. He was a sufferer for several months. He served his church as deacon for most 32 years and was worthy of the trust committed to him. He will be missed by all who knew him. He was a faithful Christian, a loyal citizen, a good neighbor. He bore his suffering patiently, many times expressing his desire to depart to the beyond.

He was laid to rest in the Walnut Grove Cemetery September 28, 1931. Funeral service was conducted by Eld. H. C. Crase, assisted by Eld. J. R. W.

Harbison, in the midst of many friends.

Written to the Free Will Baptist Gem by J. R. W. Harbison, Quarterly Meeting Clerk.

**SOPER, OKLAHOMA, December, 1931.**

Dear Editor and Gem Family: After a few months, here I come again. I surely do enjoy reading the Gem—I love to hear of the good work going on over the different States.

Just closed my last revival meeting at Center Point church, thirteen miles west of Antlers, Okla. Had a fine meeting with eleven conversions, seven additions to the church. This closed my evangelistic work for this year. I have been pastoring two churches this year, and doing evangelistic work.

Will just give a brief report of my work for the past year: Meetings held, 14; conversions witnessed, 232; members received, 140; baptized, 48. Some churches where I held meetings, the pastors would extend the privileges of the church and do the baptizing. I'm just giving the report of the ones I helped to receive into the church and baptized myself. I have enjoyed the work fine.

Bro. H. C. Croger has been with me the past six months. He is only 76 years old, not a preacher, nor a deacon—just a power in the services of God.

If the Free Will Baptist had a finance system to carry on the work, it would move on in a mighty way. The doctrine will take anywhere—I have tried it for ten years and have never sold out, nor backed out either; but financially I went broke, and was forced to leave the field, and take pastoral work close home. Finance is the thing that stopped me in the evangelistic work. Cold weather, snow banks, rain, mud holes, and the devil with all his false reports didn't do it. I spent all the money I had, borrowed \$1000.00 on my farm and spent it, helping to put the work over and went as far as I could go. I'm not selling out now, but am forced to go back to my old job, farming and dealing in stock, and as long as you hear from me, you will hear of me preaching the same doctrine that I started out preaching ten years ago. I hope that the way will be opened up, so that all the rest of our preachers will be able to stay on the field.

I am now pastoring two churches, my home church at Hall, four miles south and two miles west of Antlers, Oklahoma, and our Non church at Non, Oklahoma. May pastor one more church near home. Several are calling for me.

I'm not giving this report to get the sympathy of any one, but to let people know the reason that I'm not out in the evangelistic work. I spent five weeks in Alabama last summer, but my revival work this year will be close home.

I love the Gem and want to see it go on to success. Now you folks send in your reports to the paper, so I can read them. While I am farming and driving cattle I will want to hear from the field. And come and see us, not all at once, but come.

Yours for the cause,  
Eld. M. M. McKee, Antlers, Okla.

### Earnest Worship at Free Will Baptist Church

Church Workers are Making Preparations for Christmas Season Now.

(From a Cushing, Okla. paper)

Earnest, interested worship characterized the Sunday school and church services held yesterday at the Free Will Baptist church, located at 1100 East Main street. There were about eighty present at Sunday school and a few less at the church services.

The church itself is a plain, wooden structure, its furnishings unpretentious, but its interior roomy and comfortable. It was well heated, the floors were cleanly swept and there was a piano to furnish accompaniments for the singing and a neat pulpit desk.

At the Sunday school hour the teachers were most diligent and the pupils seemed alert and responsive to the teachings. Practically every class reported an increase in attendance. The school has been offering attendance banners and badges which seem to have accomplished much toward promoting better attendance.

Oscar Taylor is the Sunday school superintendent and seemed to show much interest and devotion to the work of the school. Mrs. Dean Rogers acted as substitute pianist for the Sunday school yesterday. Mrs. S. O. Johnson is the regular pianist.

The adult Bible class is taught by W. T. Cook and the lesson discussion showed evidence that several members had devoted much study to it and were following their Bible texts closely.

The Sunbeam class, taught by Miss Louise Payne, had the attendance banner yesterday with a total of 26 present. They were the object of much comment by teachers of other classes.

The Intermediate class No. 2 is taught by Mrs. Dean Rogers, and the Intermediate class No. 3 is taught by Mrs. H. B. Walker. This class also reported good attendance and interest. The Young People's class reported an increase of ten yesterday. Mrs. J. F. Clark is the teacher. Miss Pauline Clark is Sunday School Secretary.

There was a short discussion of plans for the Christmas program and the question box was opened and several questions on the Bible

were read and answered.

The church pianist is Mrs. Jim Payne.

The superintendent in closing urged that all present invite those in the eastern part of town not affiliated with any other school to attend the services and find help there.

Eld. B. H. Perkins, pastor, preached at eleven o'clock. He took his text from the eighth chapter of Mark, the thirty-sixth verse,—“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” The same idea, he pointed out, is stated a little differently in Matt. —“For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?”

The pastor reviewed the parable of the rich man who asked the Master what he should do to be saved? who, when he refused, was told by Christ, “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee.”

A part of Eld. Perkins' sermon is quoted here:

“When we come to the last hour of life, we would give everything in this world for peace with God. I would rather have God in my home and heart and life than all of this world's goods that you can pile up. The rich man in torment could only lift up his eyes, but it was too late.

“What can a man get in exchange for his soul?” “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.” My brethren, today I hope that you will take things into your hearts and open them to God.

I know that you have a hard time—I know that many of us have a hard time, but there is only one way to make it easier, and that is to have your heart right with God.

You, my friends, might wonder why I should choose such a text as this to preach upon to this congregation. You may say, ‘but there are no rich people here, why not preach to us about something we know more about?’

“But, brothers, even though men are not rich, you know that every man has in his heart a desire for things of this world,—a desire which crowds out the thought of God.”

“In taking this text I want to show you the difference between serving God and striving after the things of this world. Why are there so few people serving God today?”

“Because too many people find time for everything else in this world before they find time for God. That, my brothers, is the reason why we are living in the greatest depression of the age. People's hearts are going out for worldly things and putting God and prayer in the background. In other words we are just leaving God out of life and going straight to hell, and that's the reason for this great depression.

### Money No Help Hereafter

“It makes no difference if we accumulate a great sum of money in this world—it will not help us in the next. If we sow of the flesh we must reap corruption and if we sow of the Spirit we shall reap life everlasting.

“You find many instances of this among characters of the Bible King Nebuchadnezzar came to be a great king—the ruler of a great nation. But one night an angel from heaven came down and wrote upon the wall and the words of the writing were fulfilled and because Nebuchadnezzar had been proud and left God out, he was driven from his kingdom and had to go and live with the beasts of the fields. All this came to him because he had left God out.

“Great as Nebuchadnezzar had become, all his greatness availed him nothing. Why? Because he had left God out. How many are there today who realize that the God of Heaven is looking down upon their every word and act? How many have been giving God credit for this?

“The same God is ruling in this day and this time who always ruled. God is the same, yesterday, today and forever. He may have to strike you down to call your attention to your ingratitude because too many of us have failed to praise Him for food and raiment. Remember what Christ said to the rich young man who asked Him, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said, ‘Sell what you have and give to the poor.’

### Hold Nothing From God

“Now you may not be so rich,

but if you are holding one thing back from God you will not inherit eternal life. And so it was that the rich young man went away sorrowfully and we do not find any record that he ever was saved. Remember the text, 'Hoard not up for yourselves treasures in earth where moth can destroy.'

"There is too much lust and striving after things of this world. We should get down to business and talk to God."

### The Beginning of a New Year

The month of January is named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings; which was a two-faced god, looking both ways, backward and forward.

As we come to the threshold of a New Year, it would be well for us to take both a retrospective and a prospective view of our own life, the of our church and of our denomination. We should study carefully the past; what have we accomplished? what have we failed to accomplish? what results do we now see? what mistakes have we made? what have efforts been? have we done our best? do we have to look back over the past year of our Lord, 1931 with a remorse of conscience, because of our neglect, our unfaithfulness, and our compromising with the world? have we been faithful stewards of the things God has entrusted in our care? or have we abused and misused the good things from God: for instance our Christian integrity, our health, our finance, our talents, our reputation, our opportunities, etc? Have we been loyal to the support of our church and denomination the past year, or have we been letting the other fellow bear the burden, and causing others to suffer under their loads because of our neglect?

If this year, exactly to the day, should write the word "finish" upon the last page of the history of our life and career upon earth, and we should not be privileged to see the oncoming New Year's day, could we go out to meet our God with a prayerful soul and a satisfied mind, and hear the blessed pronouncement: "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, enter thou into the joys of thy

Lord?"

Oh, that we with bowed heads, in solemnity before God, would seriously and prayerfully study the past year as to our individual efforts, the work of our local church, and that of our denomination.

In all places of business they have their check up times, a time to balance up, figure up, and find out if they are gaining or losing. Our government takes the census every ten years to get an estimate as to our population. Even our great railroad lines, and bus lines have their terminal points; they realize the danger and cost of going carelessly on without stopping to check up.

The dawning of a New Year is an ideal time for man to check up with his God. Let's figure up on the past so we can best know how to make the future more profitable. Then, as the New Year comes on, let's resolve to be the best Christian, the best church member, the best supporter of the cause that we have ever been. Let's profit this coming year by the mistakes we may have made in the past year. That is one way, and the only way to make a mistake a blessing to you, that is to grasp and hold the lesson that there is in it for you.

We must not be hampered, hindered and subdued by the past, but we must look forward to a grand and glorious future. If we are overbalanced by our failures of the past, then it means utter defeat. On the other hand, if we can outstride the discouragements of the past, it means a victorious triumph. However, if your life in the past year has been a life of faithfulness, a life of victory, etc, then you are prepared to make it more so the coming year.

Will you resolve to better support your church paper the coming year? Say, "I am going to be a subscriber at the very least, and then give all I can to further its success. I am going to make my church paper one to be proud of. I am going to better support my pastor and church work this coming year. I am going to win more souls to Christ. I am going to do more giving, be a better church goer, do more praying, more preaching, more labor for the cause. If God lets me live to

see 1933, I am going to come to another New Year with a better report than I have this time.

Let us bear this in mind, that the incoming year will be another one, entirely new to us, one we have never seen before, one in which we have never lived, filled with new privileges, opportunities, and possibilities for us.

What is the New Year going to mean to you? and what are you going to mean to the New Year? May 1932 be one of the greatest years for our cause we have ever seen.

Yours in Jesus' name,  
Winford Davis.

### Hits Evolution

As a close student and an impartial searcher after truth, and a faithful comparison of the teaching of the advocates: as Spencer, Darwin, Haeckel, and various other agnostic writers whose sole object seems to be the destruction of the generally accepted belief of the Divine origin of man. By a careful analysis of the contradictory theories of these so-called scientists it is hard to determine just what they really believe about the origin of the human family. I am constrained by the plain statements set forth in the Bible to contradict the unsupported theories advanced by the advocates of the God-dishonoring and soul-destroying doctrine of evolution. I am not one to be carried about by every specious plea of the theorist and the unproven claims of that class who would discard the word of God and, by false assumption, would seek to destroy the faith of mankind in the authenticity of the Book of Genesis, for therein we find the only reasonable, logical account of the origin of man and the creation of the world. Why should we cling to an unproven theory as to the source of all animal and human life in the plain declaration of Jehovah as set forth in the Bible, which we accept as the testimony and will of God? In Gen. 1:24 we read, "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after its kind, cattle and creeping things, and beasts of the field after their kind, and it was so." In the 26th and 27th verses of the same chapter, we read, "God said, Let us make man

in our own image, after our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over every creeping thing that creepeth forth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the likeness of God created he him, male and female created he them." In the 100th Psalm, David said, "Know ye that the Lord, He is God, it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves." And again in Ecclesiastes 7:29, Solomon said, "Lo this have I found, that God hath made man upright, but they have sought out many inventions." Gen. 2:7: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul." Evolution in effect denies the inspiration of the Scriptures, thereby invalidating the moral responsibility of man. An egotistical writer once criticised Bryan, the relentless foe of evolution, "As the champion so he conceived it, of the common man's religion, he was about to lead an other campaign and once more with the wisdom of the world against him." As a sufficient answer to the above, I quote 1 Cor. 3:19: "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God, for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness." I had rather stand with that great multitude of faithful men and women who have never denied their faith in the Bible and the promises of God, which have sustained them in life and will comfort them in death, than to have fellowship with that egotistical, worldly-wise, self-conceited crowd that seeks to destroy the faith and confidence of godly men and women.

Rev. W. G. Merrit, Sulphur, Okla.

### The Withered Flowers

#### Or A Withered Soul

By Mrs. J. G. Weems

There was once a sweet Christian girl who received a beautiful bunch of flowers. She loved them very much, but in time they began to fade and wither away. As she started to throw them away she thought of a friend she had spoken to many times about her soul's salvation, but Mary always put it off. She said, "I am young

and beautiful, and am going to have a good time; when I am older, I will accept Christ."

Ella took the withered flowers and said, "Mary, I have brought you this bunch of flowers. They were very beautiful and I enjoyed them very much, and I thought I would bring them to you."

Her friend got angry and said many hard things to her, but Ella was patient, and said, "Mary I have only treated you like you are treating my Lord." Mary gave her heart to God.

Dear unsaved friends, if you have been rejecting God because you want to have a good time, just remember that the best time you can ever have is when you accept Christ, take Him into your life, and go out to win other souls for Him. This joy is something the world cannot give. A young life that is devoted to God can have so much influence over sinful people. Don't wait until your life is all withered before you give it to God.

Just a word to the Christians. Let us live very close to the Lord. It seems that so many of the Christians go to the worldly amusements instead of going to the house of God. We should not do this if we expect to have any influence with sinners. Read 1 Jno. 2:15-16.

Hoping these few lines will help some one, I ask the prayers of all you Christians.

A sister in Christ.

### Our Difficulties—

How shall we face our difficulties,—as though they were imaginary, or real? Shall we consider them small, or large? The illustration has often been cited, of a farmer who plowed around a rock in one of his fields for over five years, and broke a mowing machine knife against it because it was too large to remove. But one day he took a crow-bar to poke around it and find out its size once for all. To his surprise he discovered that it was little more than two feet long. The first time he really faced his trouble he conquered it." That method is well enough when a difficulty is really small, or when it is only imaginary, as sometimes happens. But the method fails when the difficulty is so real, and so large, as

to be utterly beyond us. All the will power and vigor that we can summon, then, will be of no avail. Just here, God comes in. The message of Christianity is, not that difficulties are always small or imaginary, but that difficulties are often gigantic and terrible, and too much for the natural man; and yet, "with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matt. 19:26). Where the utmost human strength must fail, God's omnipotence is offered to us through Christ as Savior and Lord. Then—"Who art thou, O great mountain?... thou shalt become a plain" (Zech. 4:7).

—The S. S. Times.

### The Prospect for Peace—

It does not take a Bible student, today, to discover that the prospect for peace among the nations, by human plans and agreements, is small. Every ruler and statesman on earth, whether Christian, Mohammedan, Buddhist, or atheist, knows this. The hoped-for disavowal of war by all civilized nations, as the great result of the last war, has not materialized. The Toronto Globe recently said: "Today, while the world is nominally at peace, the potentialities of war are probably infinitely greater than at the beginning of the fateful year of 1914. With the creation of new States and new Kingdoms at the conclusion of the war, the standing armies of Europe have increased until now, even with the reduction of Germany's huge army to a handful, the men under arms in Europe today number over one million more than in 1914." And it quotes Earl Gray, in his recent book, "Twenty-five Years," as saying, "Fear begets suspicion and mistrust and evil imaginings of all sorts, till each government feels it would be criminal and a betrayal of its country not to take every precaution, while every Government regards every precaution of every other Government as evidence of hostile intent." In the evil of war, as in all evils, our hope is not men, but God. The Son of God, the Prince of Peace, will establish peace on earth, as He has promised, by His personal return. That is our prospect of peace, and it is "as bright as the promises of God."

—The S. S. Times.



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**The Coming Christ**

By Eld. E. A. O'Donnell

O, tell me of the Savior,  
And why He died for me!  
Just why He had to suffer  
To set my spirit free.

Why did He live a pauper,  
And die without a tomb?  
And then be raised in glory,  
Dispelling doubt and gloom?

He purchased my salvation  
And set my spirit free.  
I'm in the new creation,  
His blood atones for me.

O, don't delay my brother!  
Your time is drawing nigh.  
There cannot be another  
To wait your soul on high.

When Gabriel sounds the warning,  
You'll be too late to call.  
The saints will rise that morning,  
But wickedness will fall.

The earth will quake and tremble,  
When Jesus shall appear.  
The righteous will assemble,  
And have no doubt or fear.

He'll break up sea and fountain,  
When on the cloud He comes.  
His feet rest on the mountain,  
When JUDGMENT has begun.

The world will be excited,  
On that eventful day;  
When all will be indicted,  
They'll have no time to pray.

But give me your attention,  
For just one moment's time;  
I have a word to mention  
About the Christ divine.

He'll save you from your horror  
Of Satan's binding power,  
And drive away your sorrow,  
Amidst the dying hour.

**Chips From Sermons preached by Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist.**

Self praise is not praise, but conceit.

It is hard to find fault with people when you are praying for them.

Forget each kindness you do as soon as you have done it.

Forget the praise that falls on you the moment you have won it.

Forget each slander that you hear before you have time to repeat it.

If you fall, don't stay down.

Some people will not be friends in this world, but I will guarantee that they will be **warm friends** in the next world.

Remember praise by others won and pass it on with pleasure.

Don't try to clean yourself up, you will only spread the dirt; just let God clean you up.

If you don't know anything, make lots of noise, but if you know anything, you don't have to make a noise.

Some people have to be made mad before they can be made glad.

Subscribe for the Gem and you will feel better.

**Jesus First**

An old black woman, in Africa, said to the missionary who had come to open a school in which the people would be taught to read, "I want you to teach me to spell 'Jesus' first. Please, missus, do!" The teacher said, "Why do you want to spell 'Jesus' first?" "Cause if I learn that first, everything else will come easier." She was right. Putting Jesus first, all else becomes easier.