

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. 2.

Purdy, Missouri, February, 1932.

\$1.00 per year.

"The Lord Hath Need of Thee."

By Alta Rose Goodwin

How precious is the thought, that the Lord really needs us! The other phase of this truth we all know, that we need Him is beyond question. We need Him for light, help, peace, victory, power, yea for all things we need every moment of our existence. But that He needs us—how blessed!

Let us think for awhile about the passage which was quoted by our Master: "I am the vine: ye are the branches." Now you know, the branches need the vine, because it is the source of their life. From it the branches draw the tiny streams of life-giving sap that feeds and builds up their fabric of leaf and fruit. Apart from it they could do nothing, otherwise than perish. Let's see now, how that the vine needs the branches; you never see a cluster of grapes growing on the main stem, it is always on some tiny branch, shooting off from it.

"I have chosen you, that ye should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide." Christ is the living vine. We are the branches, therefore He is the source of our supply, but He bears His fruit through us. He needs us for fruit-bearing as surely as we need Him for life.

I think this is a very good illustration: A vine grows up behind a castle wall, no eye from without sees its large, sturdy stem, which is grounded deep in the rich soil. But it makes itself known by its thousands of branches which cover the wall with its foliage, and fruit, delighting the eye of every passer by. The vine is the source of the branches' life: the branches is the expression of the vine's life. So Christ is the living vine, He is hid behind the veil which separates the eternal from the mortal, and our life is "hid with Him in God." We do not see Him, for He

says in the blessed Book that "the world seeth me not." While He is the head in heaven, we are the members here on earth. Therefore the hidden vine makes Himself known through His countless fruit-bearing branches.

He stands no more in the streets and fields, and synagogues as of old, to preach the Gospel, but He does it through us. He does not minister to the sick and afflicted with physical hands, He does not comfort the sorrowing, cheer the fallen by word of lip today, but He does it through us.

How sweet it is when we can whisper to ourselves, "The Lord hath need of me, the Lord of heaven and earth hath need of me."

Dear friends, the time is short, the Lord is at hand. The tremulous veil that hangs between time and eternity, between mortality and glory, is swaying with the very breath of the Presence of the Coming One. For we know neither the day nor the hour that the Son of God cometh.

Blue Eye, Missouri.

"The Wonderful Christ"

By Miss Linnie McCoy

Christ is such a wonderful being that we use many titles to describe His character and work. He has one or more names for nearly all letters of the alphabet, but we shall mention only one for each letter.

Advocate—One who pleads another's cause. (Heb. 7:25)—"My little children, these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1).

Bread of Life—As literal bread feeds and strengthens the body, so does Christ feed and sustain the soul.—"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on

me shall never thirst" (Jn. 6:35).

Christ—Anointed One, or Son of the living God.—"And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16).

Deliverer—He came to "proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound" (Isaiah 61:1).

Emmanuel—"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matt. 1:23).

Friend—They called Him a friend of publicans, in derision, but it was true.—"He came to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).—"The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold, a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners" (Matthew 11:19).

Governor—A ruler, tutor, or guardian: Jesus is all that.—"And thou Bethlchem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel" (Matt. 2:6).

Holy One—He is "holy, harmless and undefiled."—"What have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? Art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art: the Holy One of God" (Luke 4:34).

Image of God—Then He must be like the Father who is described as being eternal, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, immutable, just, faithful, merciful, and loving.—"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Cor. 4:4).

Jesus—"And thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save

his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21).

King of Kings—A ruler of high authority, with a kingdom and subjects. Jesus is supreme, a king above all kings, and His kingdom shall never end.—"Which in his times he shall shew who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords" (1 Tim. 6:15).

Light of the World—"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Messiah—Anointed one, consecrated, set apart for a sacred purpose.—"He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, 'We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ'" (John 1:41).

Nazarene—So called because He was reared in Nazareth, a despised village in Galilee. Those men who said, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" and, "Out of Galilee ariseth no prophet," were mistaken. The greatest prophet, and the best of all persons came from Nazareth. "And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene" (Matt. 2:23).

Omega—The last. He is the last word, so to speak, in salvation work. Many prophets have been sent into the world, but Jesus is the last one. Those who will not hear Him are without hope.—"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (Rev. 1:8).

Prophet—Yea, more than a prophet. He has foretold all that is needful for us to know—how to get salvation, how to keep it, the reward of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked.—"Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and all the people" (Luke 24:19).

Redeemer—Redeem means to purchase back (as mortgaged property), ransom, or rescue from captivity. Satan has had a mortgage on the human family since he made the deal with Adam and Eve. But Jesus paid the mortgage on Calvary, and all who will

come unto Him shall be ransomed from captivity.—"And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord" (Isaiah 59:20).

Savior—One who rescues from danger, injury, or destruction. Christ is the only one who can rescue the soul, for there "is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).—"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

Truth—He is the embodiment of truth. He brought the truth that will make us free.—"I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6).

Vine—As a vine gives life to its branches, so does Christ, the true vine, quicken his followers.—"I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5).

Way—Yes, He is the way, the only way to God.—"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

We must have Him dwelling in our hearts in order to understand His wonderful character. Even then our finite minds cannot fully comprehend His true worth until we stand before the throne, and sing the new song with the redeemed from the earth. Have you received Him in all His fulness? "Today is the day of salvation."

Miss Linnie McCoy,

Phillipsburg, Mo., R2.

God is Love

By Hazel Robberson

"He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love" (1 John 4:8).

We talk about the wonderful things of this earth, of the great inventions of man.

There are so many things that man has invented, if we were told a number of years ago, would have been unbelievable, yet they are nothing new to most people now. The things of man soon become old with being used, and the desire arises for something new in their stead; so goes the inventions and desires of man.

But the most wonderful thing in the world is love (For God is love). No matter what we have or are, and have not love, it profits us nothing. "Though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity (love), I am nothing" (1 Cor. 13:2). We may do many things for our fellowmen, feed the poor and give to every charitable institution, pay the servants of God, and many more deeds of righteousness, but not love in our hearts, and it amounts to nothing, because it does not please the Lord.

So to please our Lord who has done so much for us, we must serve Him with clean hands and a pure heart. My desire is to be of service to my Lord, and to serve Him, we must help our fellowmen, with God's love in our hearts.

For God so loved the world; not just a few,

The wise and great, the noble and the true,
Or those of favored class or hue;
God loved the world. Do you?

—o—

TALENTS

By Eld. E. A. O'Donnell

Dear Gem Family: I feel that all the preachers can beat me preaching, the singers beat me singing, all contributors to this paper beat me writing, and all pastors beat me pastoring; but Jesus taught us to put our talents to use, and by doing so we would gain other talents: this I believe with all my heart.

I have a cousin in the U. S. Veterans' Hospital at Muskogee, Oklahoma, who twenty years ago started out as a young preacher. Also about this time he desired to become a school teacher; he succeeded and taught successfully for several years. But it seemed that he must venture out another step, this time into the profession of law. He studied law and passed the bar examination. He became so completely absorbed in his new venture that he forgot his first love, and high calling in Christ Jesus.

The last conversation I had with him (one that I am sure I shall never forget), he told me that he was now in the profession that just suited him. I wonder if it suited God for him to become a

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Organ of

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Eld. B. F. Brown, *Editor*.

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TERMS

\$1.00 per year, cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

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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THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

SUBSCRIPTIONS—For some months now we have been accepting subscriptions to the Gem at 75 cent per year, and really thought we'd put the price back to \$1.00 per year February 1st, but have decided to continue offering the Gem at 75 cent per year, 16 months for \$1.00.

Our subscription list is increasing some, but it isn't yet as large as it should be to make advertising profitable. To encourage others to help, we have cut the price as stated above; will you help this very important cause by sending your own subscription and others?

And remember that subs to Mothers Home Life at 25c each are still wanted. Bro. York's contract will not close for several months yet, and each 25c sub we send in will bring us \$1.00. Send subs either to Eld. W. H. York, Hannon, Mo., or to the Gem office. Both papers for \$1.00.

REVIVALS—We are glad that we can report that God is wonderfully blessing among the F. W. B. in this part of His moral heritage.

At this writing, Jan. 29th, Bro. O. T. Allred and Bro. Winford Davis are still carrying on their meeting at Monett. 81 have come to the altar and prayed through to victory. They have organized a F. W. B. church with has 52 members, a good S. S. and league.

Brothers Johnnie Swaffar and Kenneth Turner are in a meeting about 4 miles S. W. of Purdy. The interest is good, with lots of conviction, and 9 or 10 have been saved.

Brothers Noel Turner and Cecil Campbell are in a meeting at their home church (Jones Chapel). A good meeting is reported. We are not informed definitely as to the number of converts, but it was reported that 17 had been saved.

The four brothers just mentioned are not old experienced ministers. Bro. Noel Turner was ordained at our last Association and the other three were licensed. We are proud of them.

MANUSCRIPT—We made a little complaint last month about a shortage of manuscript for the paper; now we are rejoicing because we have plenty to fill this issue and have enough left for a good start on the next issue. Thank you. We expect to give you a larger paper soon.

MESSENGERS—At our General Co-operative Association messengers were elected to attend the General Conference, which meets in June, also the Texas State Convention, which meets early in November. Both of these will meet at Bryan, Texas. It was suggested that the F. W. B. bodies which make up the General Co-operative Association should contribute to help pay the expenses of these messengers, and send their contribution to Eld. B. F. Brown, Purdy, Missouri. The matter was discussed and several pledged their Association for at least \$1.00. We will be looking for some of those dollars, and June will be here before we realize, so let's act now.

STATE MINUTES—The Missouri State Minutes should be printed, and we expect to print them, but there is no money in the State Treasury for that purpose. May the Lord put it into the hearts of those who are able and should help their State work, to send in some money to our State Treasurer, Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

Monett, Missouri

Dear Bro. Brown: Am sending you a further report of the meeting at Monett.

Since the report of the revival, as given in the January issue of the Gem, 32 more souls have been blessed, making a total to date of sixty-four (64).

On January 7th a Free Will Baptist church was organized with twenty-four (24) charter members. Since then eleven others have come in.

The Officers of the church are: Pastor O. T. Allred
Clerk Marie Massey
Deacons, A. A. Calton, Fiske Eagle
Trustees, Ras Mathews, Jas. Alya

We have rented the church building formerly occupied by the Nazarene church. Meeting days, first and third Sundays. Prayer meeting each Thursday night. Sunday school each Sunday at 9:45 a. m. League at 6:30 p. m.

Yesterday, January 17th, was a busy day for us. We organized a Sunday school with 76 members present, had preaching service at eleven o'clock, then at 2:30 p. m. we met at the water's edge for baptismal services. Bro. Winford Davis joined us there, having been at his appointment at Macedonia Saturday night and Sunday at 11 o'clock. We baptized twelve (12) candidates, with the largest crowd present that I ever saw at a baptizing service.

Then taking the family and accompanied by Bro. Davis and his father and mother, and Eld. John Swaffar, we partook of a bountiful supper at the home of Bro. John McDunner in Monett. Two other families contributed to this supper and were present when it was served. There were Bro. James Alga and family and Bro. Claud Timmens and family, also Eld. Gus Minch, pastor of the Methodist church in the south part of town, was present.

We then went to the church, organized a League, ordained two deacons, then Bro. Davis brought us a wonderful message on the subject, "No Room for Him in the Inn" (Luke 2:7). When the altar call was made five seekers came to the altar. As these were saved, others came until 17 souls were blessed. As we left the church about midnight, we were tired in body, but rejoicing in spirit and feeling we could truth-

fully say, "Another glorious day spent in the service of God."

Would like for all who read this to pray that God will continue to protect and bless the little church at Monett.

Yours in the cause,

Eld. O. T. Allred.

Further Report, under date of January 25th. At this writing our number of converts and renewals have reached seventy-nine and the membership in the church to date is fifty-two (52). Number present at Sunday school last Sunday, 86, S. S. offering \$2.51.

We plan to continue the meeting this week. We also plan to have another baptizing next Sunday, January 31st.—O. T. A.

To The Preachers

Dear Brother Preachers: Why don't you report your work to the Gem? I have heard some complaint against the Gem because there wasn't more reports in it. Some of the ministers report pretty well, but so many never say anything through the paper. Why don't you tell the denomination what you are doing through the Gem? It won't cost you one penny and I know you can sit down with your pencil and paper and tell what you and your churches are doing, and you need not tell me you can't. I know and you know that, if we preachers don't stand behind this paper, then we can't expect the laity to do it, and another thing you know, that if we preachers don't take the lead, no one else is going to.

Somebody will read your reports and articles with interest. You say, "Nobody wants to hear from me;" and you know better when you say it. You know very well that someone wants to hear from you. Sometimes I get to thinking folks get tired of so much of my talking through the paper, but I know if somebody don't talk through it, we won't have a paper long. One reason I write so much is because you won't do it.

Folks would like to know about your churches, your revivals, your mission work, your young folks' work, your quarterly meetings, etc. Now brethren, I am talking from my heart, and you very well know that I am telling the truth. You say, "I just keep neglecting it." James says, "He that know-

eth to do good and doeth it not to him it is sin." Take it or let it alone, God said it, not I; and remember He said it to you, and to me. I know it is no more my business to make this appeal than it is yours, but I make it because God moves me to do it. I love the Gem and its purpose in the world and I love you, and if you ever get to heaven, you must love me.

Preachers, let's wake up! Much responsibility is resting upon us. Will we shoulder it and carry our cross, or will we cast it aside?

Sincerely,

Winford Davis

St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Readers of the Gem: The following is a brief history of the St. Louis church since its organization, in the Spring of 1926.

I was led by the Spirit to resign my work as pastor of the New Harmony church at Greentop, Mo. and return to St. Louis for the purpose of organizing a Free Will Baptist Mission. I left Greentop on April 7th. Soon after getting settled I began a systematic campaign for Free Will Baptist, and soon located Bro. Henry Rice and family who were members of our River church; and through them I learned of others from the Lo Belt.

One bright sunshiny Sunday morning I heard my door bell ring and when I answered the call, to my great surprise, I found Bro. J. M. Henderson standing on the door steps. Bro. Henderson stayed with me all day, and we talked over our plan of organization.

On the second Sunday in April 1926, we met at the home of Bro. J. R. Hughes and organized a Free Will Baptist church with seven members. The following is a list of the charter members:

Bro. J. R. Hughes, Bro. Henderson, Bro. Rice, Eld. J. R. Henderson, Eld. W. C. Hill, Mrs. J. R. Hughes, Mrs. Henry Rice, Mrs. W. C. Hill

Plan of Organization

We appointed a business committee of five, three men and two women. All money collected and expended passed through the hands of this committee. We pledged ourselves heavily to financial support of the work, and paid our first then and there. The following week the business committee made a note for \$50.00

rented a store building at 611 Rutger Street, and purchased lumber to make seats, and we all met each evening after coming in from work and made the seats, and prepared the place for worship.

Two weeks later on we had our first service. God poured out His Spirit upon us. We had converts right along almost every time we met.

Soon after our organization I was chosen pastor of the mission. I was at that time working for the Fisher Body Co. and could not work and hold a revival at the same time, so we got Eld. J. L. Yancey of Fredericktown, Mo. to hold us a revival, which was a great help to our work, but did not result in any addition to our mission. Bro. Yancey's preaching was to the point and laid the foundation for meetings that followed later.

In December, 1926, I wrote to Eld. T. C. Ferguson, one of our State evangelists, and induced him to come and hold some meetings for us. There were about sixty conversions in this meeting. My two youngest sons were saved in this meeting, one of them is now a deacon in the church and the other a teacher in our Sunday school. Bro. J. R. Hughes had three sons and one daughter saved in this meeting.

At the close of this revival Bro. Ferguson, with the help of others, organized the First F. W. Baptist Church of St. Louis, with a membership of 44. This was on February 28, 1927. Bro. Ferguson has been with us in revival work here several times since, and his work has been a success each time.

I was pastor of the church four and one-half years and resigned to take revival work. Bro. Chas. Miller, my assistant pastor, filled out my unexpired time and did some splendid work. At the close of the pastoral year Bro. Henry Buchanan was called to be our pastor. He is still our pastor and is doing some splendid work.

We are now located at 1301 Park Ave. This is the corner of 13th and Park. We have a splendid location here and a beautiful house to worship in. We moved into our present place of worship December 19th, which was on Saturday. Bro. T. C. Ferguson preached on Saturday night and the writer preached the dedica-

tion sermon December 20th, followed by Bro. Ferguson. We do not own the building, but have it nicely furnished, so strictly speaking we just dedicated the furnishings.

Bro. Ferguson is now holding us a revival. There has already been 25 professions and most of them are heads of families. We have had 14 additions to the church. Six baptisms so far, with more to follow.

Our Sunday school is growing and our Young People's Union is doing splendid work. We also have a splendid Ladies' Aid, which is doing much to help our finances along. Our place of worship is more than as large again as the one we vacated, and is filled to overflowing at many of our services. We really need a larger building now.

Bro. Ferguson will leave after church tonight for Santa Rosa, Mo. We wish he could stay with us longer. We pray God's blessings upon him wherever he goes. Bro. Ferguson is safe and sound, and a fearless minister of the Gospel.

Well I guess I had better close my letter for this time. Pray for us, that God may continue to bless us.

Your Bro. in Christ,

Eld. W. C. Hill
2626 Lafayette Ave., St. Louis.

Report on the God's Acre Plan

No doubt a lot of folks are wondering how we came out on the God's Acre Plan. Well I am now prepared to tell you. In spite of the terrible slump in prices we have taken in on this fund \$43.53. All of the products have not yet been sold on account of no market, and some of what was sold went at a very low price, and in the first place the dry weather burned up some of them. So I think we have done well, considering.

Following is an itemized account:
Luther Mayberry, Lenapah, Oklahoma,
Potatoes \$12.63

POTATOES

E. O. Callen, Blue Eye, Mo., \$1.00
Clabelle Roberts, Aurora, Mo., \$2.00
Mrs. B. F. Brown, Purdy, Mo., \$1.00
Ada Brendlinger, Monett, Mo., \$2.75
Theda Koch, Bucyrus, Mo., \$1.00

CORN

Joseph Turner, Granby, Mo., \$9.40
Eld. G. A. Garner, Stark City, Mo., 10.60

SORGHUM

Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo., \$1.87
Eld. Kenneth Turner, Monett, Mo., 1.87

Total amount received \$43.53

Now the question is, what are you going to plant for the press this next year? This \$43.53 is far better made than lost; let's swell the amount this coming year.

Winford Davis.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jan. 21, 1932.

Hello, Gem Family: Will write just a few lines. We are in a mighty hot revival here at Tulsa.

Our revival began Jan. 3rd, and up until now we have had twenty-four conversions. Sinners are falling under the mighty power of God. Last Sunday night we had 412 people present, and good crowds every night.

Our boy preachers are assisting me in this great meeting, and they are sure doing some wonderful preaching. And say folks, none of them are jealous: we esteem each one greater than ourselves. We put our lives on the altar, one for another; and if preachers everywhere would do that, and get rid of that jealous heart, we sure would have some good meetings.

Our church is going over the top: have received six new members already this month, and others wanting to join, some came to me last night and asked when they could join. We give them time to think things over, and let them get anxious to join. Keep the Holy Ghost falling and they will run to get in.

We are having old-time conviction, old-time shouting, old-time praying, and old-time religion.

We waded out in the cold water Jan. 3rd and baptized three. We may have to break the ice to finish up, did you ever see it done?

We are on the firing line to stay; pray for us.

Eld. Melvin Bingham,
1023 N. St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.

Santa Rosa, Missouri, Jan. 19th.

I am writing a brief report of the wonderful revival meeting in the Free Will Baptist church in St. Louis, Mo. The church where they worshiped at 611 Rutger St. was found to be too small for the congregation they had, so they moved
(Continued on page 8)

Chanute, Kansas

To our dear editor and wife and Gem Readers:—Will just say we have been taking the Gem for one year, and we get much pleasure and enjoyment in reading it and hearing about the Lord's work, and what his servants are doing in Missouri. That State was our physical, and also our Spiritual birthplace. I was converted in the South M. E. church at Mountain Grove thirty-three years ago. Husband was saved about a week later, in our home—in the old log house just west of Mr. John Coner's place—in the old log house that is a sacred place to both of us.

This Christmas will be dull and gloomy to many poor people, but thanks be to God, I haven't much of this world's goods but I am rich in the Lord. In Isa. 9:6 we find these words: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder." I am so glad for a Savior who was born 1931 years ago to save his people from their sins.

The Lord said, "I am the light of the world." In John 4:16 he said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Now, if we let our light shine, we will win souls for Jesus. It was through the efforts of Mrs. Joel F. Short in Mountain Grove, Mo. thirty-three years ago that I even thought of being a Christian. She let her light so shine before me that I knew there must be something better in life for me. I hope Mrs. Short will forgive me for using her name so personally, but I know if we let our light shine, as she did, we too will win souls. I want to live better each day.

We have been going and helping some in a revival. The Lord has wonderfully blessed souls and there were shouts of joy in the camp.

We are praying for the Lord to send us a buyer for our home so we can cut loose for the Lord. I

find, in this great depression, that the Lord is sweeter each day. Pray for both of us that we may do more for the Master.

Elder and Mrs J. B. Sparks,
R 4, Box 129, Chanute Kansas.

Just a little poem composed by myself
Mrs. J. B. Sparks.

As the old year has gone and the New
Year has come,

Some forty souls to the Lord we have
won,

To the dear Lord who saves us and
keeps us from sin,

If only we'll come and enter in.

As the years are fleeting into the past
From whence they never again will
return,

Hand in hand let us give love's greet-
ings to all

And work for the Master, new lessons
to learn.

But here is a truce to gloom and
sorrow,

A kiss of the hand to the dying year;
For every day has its bright tomorrow,
The Old departs, but the New is
here.

Sing a song of trust for the New Year,
Bringing hope anew to our hearts;
End the old year with carol singing,
Welcome the New as the Old departs.

Branch, Ark.

Greetings:

From Elmer Turner, Corresponding Clerk of the Arkansas State Association, and a minister of Jesus Christ, according to the commandment of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ who is our hope, unto the Free Will Baptist church in America, and our brethren in the faith, grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ.

Brethren, not seeing anything in the last two issues of the Gem in regard to our State Association, I desire to write a few words to let our great family of Free Will Baptist of America know that we are still alive, ever remembering God's cause, and at all times in prayer for the success of His Kingdom here on earth. We hope to not only say

that we are in the faith, but wish also to show our faith by our works.

Our last State Association was held near Rosebud, Ark with the assembly of Free Will Baptist at Turnip. We were all highly elated by being entertained by this community of good brethren. The Spirit of God and brotherly love seemed to control the whole action of the Body from the very opening service, conducted by Eld. A. N. Best, to the closing service, conducted by Eld. W. B. Maddox. There was a manifestation of the unity of the Spirit in the transaction of the business of the church, yet there was a greater unity of the Spirit toward the spread of the gospel manifested in the Divine Services conducted during the Association. Several souls were regenerated and some backsliders reclaimed; besides the Church as a whole was awakened to the fact that the door of opportunity stood ajar for our coming with the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Brethren, let us look forward to a greater unity of the F. W. B. Church, in the Spirit of our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord, and ever pray for a sweeping victory of the faithful over the evil forces of this world.

Brethren, if any State or subordinate Association wishes to correspond with us in regard to the church's affairs, or anything that may be of interest to the progress of the F. W. Baptists throughout America, they may reach me by letter addressed to Branch Ark. All correspondence shall be given immediate attention, and be passed on to the F. W. B. church of Arkansas.

To the moderators of the subordinate Associations of the state of Arkansas, I wish to call your attention to the fact that I have no record on file of the last minutes of your Associations. If you have your minutes printed for this year, please send me a copy so that I may be able to get in touch with your churches and preachers when

necessary. If you have no printed minutes of your last Association, please send me a list of your preachers and clerks of the churches within your Associations.

Finally, Brethren, let all that we do or say be for the exaltation of the body of Christ, which is the Church. Brethren, pray for us. Greet all the brethren with an holy affection. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you; Amen

Elder Elmer Turner.

Corresponding Clerk of the Arkansas State Association of F. W. B. Branch, Ark.

—o—

Mountain Grove, Mo.

To the Gem Family:—I haven't written since the State Association, as I have been pretty busy. Eld. G. W. Scott Sr. and I held a meeting at our Wolf Creek Church. Just had one conversion. Then I held a meeting in a neighborhood where I was born and raised, in a Baptist house. Sure had a good meeting. Bro. J. J. Postalwait was with me there. There were thirteen conversions. One man, forty-eight years old, had been a Catholic all his life.

From there I went to Douglas Co. at Denlow, a General Baptist Church with Bro. V. H. Kastning. We had twenty-two conversions and twenty-two joined the church. I baptized fourteen there, and ten at the other place.

Then I came to Mountain Grove. Bro. Kastning was with me there twelve days, but he had to go home. I just lacked one day of holding the meeting three weeks, and we sure did have a good meeting, thirty-four conversions and one of my own children was converted and I baptized her. I have baptized five of my children. We have three more, and I hope to live to see them all converted and baptized. I have seen about sixty people converted, since our State Association, but haven't seen any one healed bodily yet, and

would go a long way to see that done, as I never did in all my life, and I never have seen any one else that has seen any one healed that had an eye out or a leg off or had the leprosy. I believe my Lord is just as able to open the eyes of the blind as he is to cure the headache, and would do it just as quick. We have had people come through our country teaching just such doctrine, but I notice, when they get anything the matter with them they always fail. We have had so much false teaching through here it sure is hard to get people to believe the gospel.

Bro. Claud Smith and I are in a meeting at what is known as the Ashley Church, near Mansfield. Prospects look good. Pray for us. We need your help.

Your brother in Christ,
Geo. W. Scott Jr.

Hartville, Mo.

Dear Bro. Brown and all those that read the Gem:—This is my first attempt to write, but the Lord has been so good to me, and I am so thankful that the word of God is so true, and I know that He will stand the test. So I find that He must have a tried people, and I think it is high time that His people were waking up, and crying aloud and sparing not. The victory will come from God.

Bro. Levi Koch and I have just closed a two weeks' meeting at the Teague Schoolhouse in Webster County. The Lord was with us in great power, and there were thirty bright conversions. There was shouting and praising God in the old-fashioned way. Our baptizing was put off until the 5th Sunday in this month.

Pray for me that I may be faithful to my Lord.

Eld. C. D. Findley, R 3

Elizabeth, Ark.

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and Gem readers:—I am a reader of the Gem and love it very much. I think

all Christian people should take a religious paper.

I want to say a few words about our little church here at Davis Chapel.

Carl Davis is our pastor. We have preaching on the first and third Sundays and Saturday nights before. We have prayer meeting every Saturday night when there isn't any church. We have Sunday School every Sunday.

Our church is few in number, but our desire to do good is great. We had a wonderful meeting this summer, several conversions, and one of the boys that were converted, God called to the ministry. I am glad to say he is taking up the work.

This boy is eighteen years old. He is the son of Newt Davis and a grandson of Cisero Davis, an old minister who organized this church about thirty-five years ago. He has been on the firing line for God a long time. He has been the pastor of this church several years.

I am proud of our little church and the work it is doing. I ask the prayers of all you Christians.

A sister in Christ,
Orela Davis.

Grove Springs, Mo.

Dear Editor and Gem Family:—Will write a few lines, as I surely do enjoy reading the Gem. I believe the January number was the best I have received since I have been taking it. My time will not expire for a few months yet, and I intend to send in my sub before it does, as I don't want to miss one paper. I hope and pray that many more will subscribe for it.

Well, dear brothers and sisters, I am still serving the Lord, and am praying that we might get our feet planted on higher ground.

I am thankful to say we have prayer meeting started in this community, and it is getting a little better all the time. The Sunday School is doing fine. I also am thankful that I have a good Chris-

tian lady to stay with. We have our family prayer, one night one leads the prayer and the next night the other leads. I believe that if there ever was a time when we children of God should be on our knees, it is now.

I sure enjoy reading the good letters our brothers and sisters write and there are many other good things we read about our Heavenly Father.

I ask an interest in your prayers, that I may ever live down at the dear Master's feet.

A sister in Christ,

Daisy Rauey.

SANTA ROSA, MISSOURI

(Continued from page 5)

lately to a fine new location three times as large as the old place at the corner of Park Ave. and 13th St. and soon after they got moved I came and held them a two weeks' meeting. We had victory from the very start, and the crowd soon got too large for the new place of worship.

The church was greatly revived in the meeting, and the people sure did a lot of shouting and praising God. In the two weeks I conducted these meetings there were 24 professions, 14 joined the church and six were baptized. Others will join the church soon, and a lot more are awaiting baptism. They have more than 100 in Sunday school and a good young people's society, and an evergreen prayer meeting.

They do not own the building, but they have it nicely furnished, and they are free from debt. Eld. J. H. Buchanan, whose address is 1326 La Salle St. St. Louis, Mo. is their faithful pastor, and I believe that he is the man for the place. The future looks bright for this church. The pastor and the church planned to carry on the revival after I left.

Eld. W. C. Hill of 2626 Lafayette St., St. Louis, one of the founders of this church, and a former pastor of the church plans to send in a fuller report of this meeting, and a brief history of the church, so I will saw off now and let Eld. Hill tell the rest.

Eld. W. C. Hill will soon again be foot-loose to get out in the work again. So if any church wants a pastor or some one to hold a few days' meeting, or teach a ten day

Bible school, get Bro. Hill, he is all right and will deliver the goods Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist, Ash Grove, Green County, Mo.

NOTICE

Am desirous of corresponding with Sunday School Convention Secretaries relative to the work of all such organizations that may exist among the Free Will Baptist of the United States. This is of interest to the welfare of the General Conference of the Free Will Baptist denomination. Would appreciate all the information available concerning your Sunday school work, especially the size of convention in schools and members, the aims and activities of the organization. If no such organization exists in your association, will appreciate the co-operation of the association secretary or moderator.

Address all information to
T. B. Mellette, Hilton, Ga.

Desloge, Missouri, Jan. 26th.

Dear Gem Family: You will see by this that I am in Desloge, Mo. Have been called here to take care of Sister Franklin's work while she is in the hospital. She will be operated on tomorrow at ten o'clock. So we ask prayers of you dear ones for a speedy recovery.

We were called while in Tecumseh. The meeting there was a great success, with 56 conversions, seven baptized and over twenty united with the church.

The mission work was revived and the Sunday school built up. Bro. Arthur Claredy is pastor at Tecumseh now and they have a splendid pastor. We enjoyed working with Bro. and Sister Claredy so much. Bro. and Sister Fleet worked with us faithfully, also Bro. and Sister Herd: we had a wonderful meeting, considering the rain and mud. God blessed one and all.

We came back by home and found Mr. McAdams had a wonderful revival spirit in the church at Drumright, with seven additions and several conversions on Sunday night.

God bless the Gem family.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

BLUE EYE, MISSOURI, Jan. 18th

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and all the Gem Readers: I wonder how many of us Christians are doing the Lord's work. Let us awake and look around: we can find work to do that would please the Lord. There's so many people out in sin we might turn to the straight and narrow way if we would just speak to them. We might win them for this way that leads from earth to Heaven, the way God has planned for us, if we will but follow His word and do the things He would have us to do, we would be doing His will. May God help us to keep reading the Bible and praying. We will learn more from God if we will only read the Bible. Let us remember, if we follow the Bible, it will take us to Heaven, if we only believe.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, remember me, as I am one of God's weakest children and I ask an interest in your prayers.

THE BEULAH RAILWAY

God a great railway to heaven has planned:

He staked out the line with his dear loving hand.

A way back in Eden the grant was first given:

On Calvary's cross the last spike was driven.

The road was surveyed with a special design,

To make it a practical Holiness Line.

The grade was thrown up with the greatest of care:

Directly through Canaan, a country most fair.

Of fasting and prayer the ballast was made:

The ties are as solid as when they were laid.

The crossings are guarded, not a curve on the track:

Trains never take siding nor ever turn back.

The streams are all spanned by bridges of faith:

The last one we cross is the river of death.

Vestibuled coaches, God's chariots they are:

"Holiness to the Lord" is inscribed on each car.

Trains stop at all stations where signal is given,

And run to Grand Central Depot in Heaven.

Conviction's the station where sinners get in:

(Continued on page 12)

OBITUARY

Gourley—Hester Ann Matlock Gourley was born Dec. 18, 1853, and departed this life October 15, 1931, aged 77 years, 9 months and 27 days.

She professed faith in Christ and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church South when 16 years old.

She was united in marriage to D. F. Gourley March 30, 1871. To this union eleven children were born, three dying in infancy, and eight grew to manhood and womanhood; Mary Ellen Delk passed away March 20, 1902; Ada May Bohannon, Deliza Etta Webb, Evert Dixon Gourley, Rebecca Olive Allen, Elbert Wesley Gourley, Nancy Ruth Burket, and Marion Guy Gourley; also twenty-three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a host of friends are left to mourn her departure.

Being left without father or mother at a very tender age, just at the beginning of the Civil War, her life was a constant repetition of privation and hardship until she found a home with her aunt. She got but little education, but became an excellent reader and loved to read her Bible.

About two weeks before she died she had this vision: She saw a great throng of angels standing on the other side of a beautiful river and the rippling water looked just like silver, and they were holding their hands out to her and beckoning her to come to them. The angels were singing the song, "I will Sing a Song of that Beautiful Land, the Far Away Home of the Soul." She started to them and got to the water's edge, and was told she was ready to go, but would have to tarry just a little while. She looked beyond the angels and could see a great city of everything that was beautiful. She said there was a great halo of light around the face of the angels. She recognized several of the faces of the angels, and among them was her Uncle Jimmy Johnston who had been so good to her when she was an orphan girl. She said her soul was flooded with joy. Then her daughter said to her, "Perhaps it was a dream."

She said, "No, no, it was a vision and was just real."

A few days later she asked her children to sing this song for her. The life of this sainted mother has been well known by the writer for forty years. When we were children she patted us on the head and pointed us to the Christ. But now she is looking down from the pearly gates of glory, "beckoning come this way." Her sweet words and heavenly prayers, her motherly kindness will long linger in the hall of our memory.

Dear bereaved ones, weep not for her, but rejoice to see the day when you can meet her on that beautiful shore.

Her remains were laid to rest in the Coldwater Cemetery, and her funeral was conducted by Eld. Selph Jones and the writer, W. A. Burney.

Hightower—Nancy Jane Hightower was born October 17, 1853, and died August 18, 1931, at 9:25 a. m. at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fronia Atkinson, Kansas City, Kansas.

Nancy Hightower was united in marriage to Rev. J. M. Gardner March 26, 1871. To this union was born six children: Sallie, Leon, Fannie, Mary, Ola and Fronia. Of the six children only the youngest, Fronia lived to reach maturity.

At the age seventeen (17) Aunt Nan, as she is known to every one, was converted to faith in Christ and hope in God, at one of her husband's (Dick Gardner's) revivals. She united with the Free Will Baptist church at Macedonia.

After the death of her husband, Dick Gardner, Dec. 1, 1890, she married Rev. Dave Long, Sept. 15, 1900. To this union no children were born. Rev Long died April 5, 1928.

Besides her son-in-law, James Atkinson, her daughter Fronia and five grandchildren, Aunt Nan leaves a host of relatives and friends to mourn her departure, but rejoice in the belief of her home with Christ.

Aunt Nan never tired of praising Jesus and never seemed so happy as when she could shout and give praises to God.

After two o'clock Sunday morning, the day of her death, Aunt Nan called her children and her

friends to her bedside and told them how they should live to join her in Heaven. She also asked each one individually, as she told them goodbye, to meet her where there would be no more parting. She was conscious and seemed free from pain up to the very minute of her death.

A precious one from us is gone,

A voice we loved is stilled,

A place will always be vacant in our home,

Which never can be filled.

Funeral services were conducted at the Macedonia church by Eld. J. E. Burney, Eld. C. D. Findley.

Renegar—Mr. J. B. Renegar was born February 23, 1872, in Lincoln County, Tenn., and departed this life January 3, 1932, at the age of 58 years, 10 months and 12 days.

He was married November 24, 1894, to Miss Lourean Marrs, in Shelbyville, Tenn. To this union was born eight children. Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Lourean Renegar; four sons: Herman Renegar, P. E. Renegar, Joe Renegar, Scott Renegar; and two daughters: Miss Glydas Renegar and Mrs. Bessie Lattimore; eleven grandchildren; one brother; one sister, in Texas; many other relatives, and a host of friends.

He was converted at the age of 21 years and lived a consistent Christian life. He was at the time of his death, a member of First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, where he will be greatly missed; no one else can fill his place. But we feel and trust that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Eld. Melvin Bingham preached the funeral.

WELEETKA, OKLA., Jan. 11, 1932.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Would like to take up just a little space to let our neighboring churches know we are alive down at Allen church, and to let you know of our little Aid down here, besides the way our church is improving. Also would like to say a few words of praise for our pastor. He never misses seeing why all his members are not present every Sunday morning.

Rev. McGrady helped us organize our Aid and I wish every F. W. B. church could organize a Ladies' Aid.

(Continued on page 15)

A Dream of the Final Day

By Mrs. E. R. Heyne

It was on New Year's night when I had this dream. after we had family prayers at eight o'clock.

I went to bed and began to think about the way the world was going, at such a break-neck speed, and no one stopping to think about where they would spend eternity, so I just laid there and prayed for the Lord to keep me out of the snares of the devil, as there are so many wicked things on every hand. In about an hour I fell asleep, and at three o'clock I awoke in a fright, because I had this awful dream:

I dreamed that I lived on a hill, and was sent for to come and see the flood that Noah was in. I just walked right up to the edge of the water, and there was water as far as the eye could see. The top of the water was covered with bodies of drowned people, and there was a woman lying across a log with a baby in her arms, dead. There were cows and horses and all kinds of animals floating on top of the water. I tell you it was an awful sight to see.

As I started back home I met some going to the shows, some to card parties and some to the dances. I stopped each of them and told them of the final day that was at hand, but they went on and didn't believe me. Some were in the fields at work, and I told them the final day was at hand, but they went on and I went by the church. There were about twenty-five people there, and the preacher was preaching on the final day. I prayed for God to save the lost, and went on home. When I got home some of the folks were at work in the fields, and some were at the house near the door having a game of cards. In the next room they were dancing. I went to the door and told them the final day was at hand, but they mocked me and made light of me. They said that was an old story, and wouldn't believe it at all, so I dreamed I

went out and began to hang out clothes. Then I looked up toward the north and saw a great fire, and a man came by saying with a loud voice, "This is the end of the world. There comes the great fire, taking everything in its path!" I looked and saw the big green trees burned like weeds, and the men on horses wrapped in flames. I could see behind the fire the ground swept clean, just as if you had taken a broom and swept the floor. I went to the door where the folks were playing cards, and told them the great fire would soon be here. They just laughed and said, "It won't reach here. It is on the other side of the river and it will stop there." But I said, "This is the final fire and nothing will stop it. It is taking everything clean as it comes." So they laughed and went back to their card game, and I went back to see the fire again. It was coming right across the fields, and was close to us. I could see the people entering into the flames and dropping dead by the hundreds, and I gave a loud cry, "Get ready, it is almost here!"

Then they began to cry, "What must we do to be saved!" I told them to repent of their sins and believe on the Lord, and he would save them. Then some shut themselves in their homes, and some on the housetops and some up green trees. I was behind the house praying for the Lord to save my children that were lost in sin, and when I prayed aloud it awoke me out of sleep. It was three o'clock in the morning, and I did not sleep any more that night.

I have thought so much about this dream. Is it a warning—or it may be true! The Lord knows all things.

Brentwood, Calif.

—o—

"Be Ye Doers of the Word"

By Miss Oleta Davis

The greatest need of the world today is Christian people who live their religion. The world is getting

tired of hearing *talk* about religion. It wants to see the principles of Christ in action in the lives of those who say they love the Lord.

Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments, in other words, 'Express your love for me by living as I have told you.'"

The best place to begin living a real Christian life is at home. When Jesus said, "Keep my commandments," he did not except our conduct at home. We have been told many times that "Charity begins at home."

Not only at home are we to live a Christian life, but when we go out into the world. It is our Christian duty to let the world know we are Christians, then we must prove it to them. How? *By our lives.*

The unsaved of the world have no respect for the religion of those who fall in with the ways of the world, and fail to stand for the principles of their religion—if they have any—but they have all the respect in the world for the Christian man or woman who *lives* his religion day after day.

Jesus told his disciples over and over that a tree was known by the fruit it bore. Christian people let's *strive* each day to live lives that will bring forth good fruit. Let's be careful not to neglect any of our Christian duties, though they may be small, yet they are duties, and we are responsible for each of them.

Once there was a man who went to his pastor and asked to be released from the church. He said he wasn't getting any joy out of his religion. The pastor asked him to take a basket of groceries to a very destitute family in the community and pray with them before he left, then come back to him, and if he still wanted to leave the church he would release him. But when he came back, he came smiling and with a changed mind. He found that the joy of his religion was found in doing the little Christian duties.

So, Christian workers, let's keep wide awake, and on the job, never failing to do anything we find to be done in the cause of Christ. And most of all, let's remember the value of daily devotions.

Only True Christians Will Build in Accordance with the True Plan and the True Aim.

By Mrs. Alice Taylor

Those who are engaged in the erection of the Spiritual temple, are not to carry out their own ideas, but should ever be ready to fulfill the plan of God.

Jesus is the great, divine Master-BUILDER, who also superintends the work which He begun. Let us work always with *His* design in view. With the divine plan before us, and "working together with God," we are to erect a glorious church, "not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." The stones of the building "fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth" should make possible the growth of a beautiful and holy temple in the Lord. The workers will then build with the true aim, which is the glory of God.

It was for this end and no other, that the Jews returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt the temple. It was their zeal, love, and holy enthusiasm for the cause of God that made them forsake old Babylon and come back to Mount Zion with "songs of everlasting joy upon their heads," so much so, that so that sorrow and sighing had to flee away.

It was for the glory of God that Jesus left heaven and all that was pure and blessed, and came to this world to suffer and die that we might be saved. It was for the glory of God that the early disciples forsook all to follow Jesus. It was for the glory of God that they went forth everywhere, and that God worked in them and through them

to build up his church in the world. And because so much has been done to the glory of God, the church of God is here to stay, and the "gates of hell" shall not prevail against it, and God himself shall be with them and be their God, as builders of the true Spiritual temple.

Let us always seek and endeavor to do all things to the glory of God. Let us do our Christian work in the true spirit of obedience to God, with humility, patience and childlike trust in God.

Let us build this Spiritual temple so that God may be manifest everywhere, that God may be enjoyed everywhere, and obeyed and adored by every nation and kindred and people.

UNBELIEF

By Elder J. E. Phillips

I want to write a solemn impeachment to the unbeliever. The sin of unbelief is lightly passed over by many, yet the whole tenor of the gospel denounces it in terms so strong that all who read may understand. Listen to words of Gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation:

"He that believeth not God hath made him a liar" (1st John 5:10). Though the human race was lost, God in tender mercy gave us a salvation—not of works, for that could not have helped us,* and would only have mocked our sorrows and left the heart of man unsatisfied. God knew this, and for that reason it must be of faith placed wholly on the Son of God. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son" (1st John 5:11). Yet man is so depraved that he will not believe the record of God and the atonement of the blood of Christ for the saving of his soul, and by this has called God a liar to his face.

You may say, "Those are harsh words. That may be so, but they are the word of God. I don't want

to pity you, for we have had too much of that now. I want you to walk right up as before a looking glass, look yourself over and see in what relation you stand with God. It pays to know who we are, where we are, and where we are going.

You say, "I know I am the handiwork of God, (Heb. 2:7), that He loved me so well that He spared not His Son, that He supplies me with all the necessary things of life, yea even life itself," and with all this evidence you say, "I can not have faith enough in God to believe that I can be saved through his Son Jesus. Very well then, you have called God a liar to his face and I leave you to await your doom. You say, "I could not call God a liar," You may not in words, but by the life of sin you live and the things you indulge in proves it beyond a doubt. The sin of unbelief is the mother of all sin and the cause of all our ills. When Satan came to Eve and uttered these words, "Yea, hath God said," that was the beginning of our downfall, and caused us to travail in pain, and till the ground in sorrow.

Yet the worst is to come when Satan said "Ye shall not surely die." That was giving God the lie direct. Oh, sin of unbelief, you spit your venom at God, rob man of life eternal and the glory that God intended him to share!

Why was it, that out of the nine hundred thousand footmen that came out of Egypt, only two reached the Promised Land? The inspired Apostle tells us they could not enter in on account of unbelief. Then, I ask you what will be *our* fate, if *we* fail to believe on the Son of God. You say, "surely I will not be punished forever and ever by a God of love, just because I failed to believe!"

Listen to what the Word of God says, and I entreat you to heed it: "He that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16) Then listen again, unbelievers. "He that believeth not is condemned already."

Hear me, sinner, you continue in your sin and you will go to the Judgment with your doom sealed: the only way for your escape is to accept Christ and be born again and place your trust fully in Jesus, without one doubt and great will be your reward. But if you insist in disbelieving and say, "I have plenty of time yet, and I am not in so much danger as you seem to think. I will have plenty of time later on. After I have enjoyed the pleasures of sin a little longer." All right my Brother or Sister, these are the excuses of the devil and those that listen to them are going to populate hell, where there will be weeping and wailing for ever and ever. May the Lord help you, my sinner friend, to lay hold on eternal life and believe the word of God is my prayer. Amen.

J. E. Phillips, Marshall, Arkansas.

BLUE EYE, MISSOURI

(Continued from page 8)

Soon reaching Repentance, confessing their sins.
And Faith is the office where tickets are sold:
And baggage checked through to the City of Gold.
Registration comes next into view:
The heart is now changed and all things become new.
God's Spirit bears witness with that of our own:
That we are his children, joint heirs to his throne.
The gauge is quite narrow, with rails from above:
Salvation's the engine, 'tis driven by Love.
Following the Spirit along in the light:
The old carnal nature now comes into sight.
"Inbred Sin," the Porter cries out through the Train:
Put off the old man, he cannot remain.
But trusting in Jesus and reading his word:
The all-cleansing Fountain is seen in the Blood.
By faith we step in and its waters o'er us flow:
We rise from the pool and are whiter than snow.
What transports of rapture now sweep o'er the plain:
The music of Paradise filling the train!
Oh, ecstasy, ravishing fountain of Bliss:
Scenery celestial! is heaven like this?

Jesus the heavenly Bridegroom is near:

Making perfect in Love and casting out Fear.

Our hearts are made stronger as onward we glide:

Our strength is renewed, our needs are supplied.

All glory to Jesus! Hallelujah! Praise God!

Travel is Luxury on the old Beulah Road.

God's railway celestial, incircling the globe:

The good of all ages have traveled this road.

Elijah and Enoch, by official request,
Ran in on a special, not stopping at Death.

No accident has this Railway yet known:

The Dispatcher is He who sits on the throne.

Trains only move at Jehovah's command:

He holds the throttle with omnipotent hand.

The Holy Spirit is the head Light so clear:

Revealing the track to the wise Engineer.

The angels are Brakemen, so kind and urbane:

Adding much to the comfort of all on the Train.

Dying Love is a town in the Valley of Fear:

The backsliders' Repair shops are there.

Are your vows Broken, have you been untrue?

Step into these shops and be burnished anew.

Dear sinners take passage for Heaven today:

Make haste, there's danger and death in delay.

The Spirit is calling and so is the Bride:

Our Train is now coming, and you must decide.

The road you are traveling will land you well,

In anguish and torment with demons to dwell.

The fare is expensive, just think of the cost:

When Heaven and Jesus and all may be lost.

So many are taking the Try route to Heaven:

When God's great Believe is the only route given.

His word is the guide and its teachings are plain:

You'll surely be lost if you take the wrong Train.

Then be not deceived in making your choice:

But follow the word and the Spirit's small voice.

Take the Train they advise and then stay on board:

And you will ride home to eternal reward.

I've a ticket for Home Hallelujah, Praise God!

My baggage is checked, I'm now on the Road.

I said to the world and its honors, Good bye:

My soul's on the wing, I'm enroute to the sky.

Austin Humbard and wife.

Exeter, Missouri, Jan. 22, 1932.

Dear Gem Readers: I will attempt to write a few lines to the Gem this rainy afternoon. It has been a lonesome day for me.

I have just opened my Bible to the 5th chapter of Matthew, and Oh! as I read, I think of Jesus, such a wonderful Friend who blesses you and me in so many ways; a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother; a Friend that bears our burdens; a Friend that loveth at all times.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." He is the Friend that has answered so many dear fathers', mothers', sisters', brothers' and friends' prayers. Prayer is the key that unlocks the door of Heaven. Jesus said, "I am the door; by me, if any man enter in he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture." Jesus is the bread of life. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

I think of different ones having mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and friends sleeping beneath the sod, but this wonderful Friend, called Jesus, is preparing a place for His children, where the tears will be wiped from their eyes. No pain, nor sin, nor death will be there; and we'll see this wonderful Friend Jesus who has done so much for you and me.

May Jesus bless each and every one, is my humble prayer.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. Merl Wright.

TALENTS

(Continued from page 2)

lawyer. It may suit me to become a bootlegger, but it wouldn't please God. Two years ago this attorney's father was found dead after some fifty hours' search. When told of his father's death, he began to have violent convulsions. They removed him to the hospital, and later had to take to a mental institution. He is now in the Muskogee hospital, robbed of his mental faculties, with the pronouncement from mental specialists that he will never regain his active senses.

Friends, let us use the talents God has given us, for if we hide them away "in a napkin," the Lord may take them away from us and pass them on to another. He has given us material and tools to work with, bidding us to construct a life of service, and it certainly does not please Him for us to hide His talents away and go out independently for ourselves.

Beware lest He take your chosen profession, and also the gift He has bestowed upon you to honor Him with, leaving you without even a mind of your own to produce a livelihood for yourself and family. I am told that since the great calamity in the life of this one-time preacher, teacher and lawyer; that two of his younger brothers have entered the ministry. Did God take the talent that He had given to the older brother and give it to the two younger boys? It looks very plausible in this case. Eighteen years did God have that boy on trial, keeping constant watch over every turn of his life. Eighteen years of patient watching for a return, and then suddenly one day God came like a mighty rushing wind and took a Christian father, leaving in his path a wrecked life, a demented being to be watched like the demoniac of other days, lest he attack himself or some other with violence.

The carrying on of God's work is solely dependent upon His recreation. He has no other one commissioned, we are His authorized standard bearers. God had angels ordained to carry His messages in pre-Gospel days (Acts 7:53). But now He looks to His earth-bound children for the distribution of the glad tidings.

I have seen in large families where it was the duty of one of the children to milk the cows, of another to get in the wood, and of still another to see about the duties of the house. These are merely domestic chores, but God is more dependent upon you and me for His work than we are upon our children for our home duties: for we are His chosen agents to carry His great redemptive plan.

Has God called more preachers than He can use? Did He have a place for them? Has He given them a vacation? Who is to blame for this idleness in the ministry? We preachers sit back and wait for some one to come and offer us a good pastorate with a fat salary and, because we don't get it, we tell the world that we are taking out. I have been in the ministry for ten years. I have received up to the present every penny I was worth, with the exception of course of the pledges I have outstanding.

Notwithstanding I received \$2.50 for one meeting, that was when I first started out, and I think I'll send two dollars of that back when I get on my feet. Another place I preached three days and received 35 cents. I wish now they hadn't been so liberal, for I feel that they over paid me my board and the 35 cents. But here is about the best one yet: I drove over 1600 miles, paid all my expenses, had a fine meeting while there, organized a church with over twenty members, and paid \$35.00 to hold the meeting.

The parable of the talents does not mean that He will give us luxury and ease, but something that we can carry, that we can put to work for Him. A talent weighs about 93 pounds, quite a burden. This in money varied in value from \$375 in Roman small talents, to \$2000 silver in Hebrew money. When Jesus gives us our talent, its worth is a fortune within itself, far more than silver and gold. He gives us duties to perform, weighty duties, but we must first prove that we are able to carry the talents we have before receiving other talents: "He that will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me."

No doubt the heaviest Jesus had to carry while on earth was the

cross He bore to Calvary. O may we take up our several burdens and bear them for the Lord!

Jesus I my cross have taken,
I have all for Thee forsaken,
Let me carry greater burdens
Till I've crossed the stormy Jordan.

Let me be a soldier gallant,
Give me health to prove my talent,
With sword, and shield, and helmet
grand,
May I the evil foes withstand.

When evil forces deter me,
May I thy grace and glory see,
For when I'm weak, then am I strong
And feel the need of pressing on.

Up above the stars of glory
We'll sit down to hear the story,
The story old, but ever new,
Of how it saves us, through and
through.

Then away to life's pure river,
Let me see that crystal stream,
Where the tree of life grows ever,
And the light of glory gleams.

Let me drink its soothing waters,
Flowing from the throne of God.
It's prepared for sons and daughters
Who come from beneath the sod.

Be Not Deceived

Dear Friends: Let us not be deceived. You can hear people say that the Gospel is being preached over and over and they say they cannot tell that there is any difference now and years ago. When you hear people say this, they are only talking to the satisfaction of their own lusts. The Scriptures say that the day will not come till there be a great falling away.

We just want to say that if we will stop, look and listen, we can see danger ahead, if we do not accept God and do His will. How sad it is to see so many who once have accepted God, started walking with Him, and some one of the world has beckoned to them to come and go with them, and they are led off into sin and deceived by the cunning devices of Satan. Let us trust the Lord and walk with Him. We should look to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, and ask Him to help us to profit by our mistakes, that

(Continued on page 16)

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Opportunity for the F. W. B. L.

I have been thinking of the opportunity of the F. W. B. League work. Where is any opportunity? Look around you in all directions, as the Master said: "Look upon the fields, they are white already to the harvest." There are young souls dying of hunger for the want of soul food, that are losing their experience and relationship with God, for the need of Christian training and experience.

But how are we to help them? Paul instructs us to strengthen and encourage those that are weak. Let us league workers invite them to take part in our work and help them to grow in experience, and become useful servants of God.

Now is the opportune time that we should help to encourage others in the great warfare for God. I find by experience that the league is one of the leading organizations to strengthen young Christian workers. I have found this work to be the most helpful to me in preparing me for my work.

It does not only help Christian workers, but it helps us to lead others to God. If we apply ourselves to the work with interest, we can create a desire in other hearts for God, and we may win them too. I have witnessed a number of souls saved in league services, and to my knowledge several have been called to preach God's eternal truth, and have received wonderful experience from being active in league work.

Now is our opportunity, let us push the F. W. B. League work in the interest of souls, both saved and unsaved, and especially strive for the strengthening of young Christian workers.

God is calling young men and women every day, who have talent of great use, so let's help to train them for their calling.

May God bless every one for the cause. Pray for us.

Wm. Reeves, Flat River, Mo.

Purdy, Missouri

Dear Fellow Christians and League Workers: We are real proud of our league work, and thankful that our leagues are in as good condition as they are, but folks, there's a condition we are all aware of that pains my heart,

and I believe does every one that is trying to go forward for God. Is it because the condition exists and people are not aware of it? Read Prov. 29:18. Is that the cause? I don't believe it is, but rather the need of earnest, fervent, effectual prayers.

Not one consecrated F. W. B. will say there is a better or more worthy cause than the training of the young people for service. Not one servant of God who has a vision, and is reading the Bible as they should, will say that a time has existed from the foundation of the world, that a cause like this should be held out and pushed forward more than at the present time.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12). Never in a wrestling match is there any flowery beds of ease, but all who have wrestled know the adversary must be assailed with all the strength and courage one possesses: there's never a place for slackness or repose. For we wrestle to win the prize; we wrestle because we love the Father; and the powers of darkness and spiritual wickedness are wrestling to destroy the souls of men and set the cause of Christ at naught. Inactive leaguers are you wrestling, or are you letting the devil win? Do you know that the crown of life that awaits the faithful may be the greatest loss of all that is of interest to you? Are you failing because it costs too much, or takes too much study? Christ said, "He that taketh not his cross and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." Did you ever wonder if it cost anything for you to be a Christian? It certainly did cost heaven its most precious jewel, and unutterable suffering on the cross. Don't delay any longer, but rise up: consecrate your life to God, and put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Parents, quit leaving the work to the young people, saying, "It is their work;" for it is your indispensable duty to encourage and lend a hand whenever and wherever you can help.

Reporters, do you read the

league reports in the paper? are they what they ought to be? Please send them in, and leaguers, take it upon yourselves to see that it is sent in, and help the reporter and all the league officers in every way possible.

We hope to report a new league in the next issue, and hope to see reports from leagues that haven't reported.

Pray for us and co-operate with us, that we may be able to do more for the cause.

Johnnie Swaffar, Reporter.

Macedonia League Report

Dear Christian League Workers: We are glad to report that our league is still in the battle: still trying to hold up the banner of Christ our Lord.

While our league is not progressing as we would like to have it to, we are praying that it will come to the front ranks and become a real soul winning branch of the church.

We are starting the new year with a determination to do more than we have in the past year. We elected new officers Jan 3rd as follows:

President, Oleta Davis
Vice Pres., Pauline Henderson
Group Captain, Johnny Rollins
Quiz Leader, Troy Henderson
Sec'y-Treas., Lucille Finn

We now have an enrollment of twenty-six (26) members, but they are not all active members.

We ask the prayers of all league workers and Gem readers, that our league will grow and fulfill its purpose in the cause of Christ.

Oleta Davis.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jan. 5, 1932

Dear Readers of the Gem: We may be a little late getting our Mission League reported, but we are well started now and would like every one to know about it.

We organized our "Free Will Junior Mission League" November 15, 1931, with a membership of 40, and have had several additions since then.

Our Christmas program was enjoyed by everyone. The small children gave a short play, and we put on two, one being "The Three Shepherds."

We do not use League Quarters, but are studying the Bible

etc., learning the books, chapters, prophets, etc. We also ask questions and learn certain Scriptures from the Bible.

We have a nice bunch of young people and we're proud of them. However, we are open for suggestions from other leagues for the betterment of ours.

Calla Baumgardner, Sec'y-Treas.,
Tulsa, Oklahoma, Route 8.

Jones Chapel League Report

As our league hasn't had a report in the Gem for some time, we will try to give a brief report.

We are proud to say that our league is still improving. We have thirty-six Senior members and fifteen Juniors. The attendance is good. There was only one Sunday night during the past year that we didn't have league, and that was because of a heavy rain.

We are striving to make our league better each time we meet. We want God's approval stamped upon the work we are trying to do.

Dear leaguers and Gem readers, don't forget that we need your prayers, that we may be able to do more for the Master.

Otha Campbell.

Report of Monett League

We are glad to report a new league, and how wonderfully the work is reaching out! which shows what a consecrated effort and earnest prayer can accomplish in the name of our Lord.

We have great hopes in this new league, as God has manifested His power in a wonderful way, and these folks are moving forward in the great league cause, may we ever uphold them in earnest prayer.

We have a total membership of thirty-nine (39), 27 Seniors and 12 Juniors. The officers are:

President Marie Massey
Vice Pres. Jim Alyea
Sec'y-Treas., Gretchen McDunne
Group Captain Mae Moss
Quiz Leader, Marie Doty
Junior Sponsor, Mrs. Jim Alyea

Report of Merl's Chapel League

Cassville, Missouri, Jan. 25th

The Merl's Chapel League was organized October 31, 1931, with a membership of nineteen (19), and we now have thirty-three

(33), with an average attendance of twenty (20). Our membership has increased so that we are beginning to realize the need of dividing into Junior and Senior departments.

Our quiz leader, Mrs. Blalock, and our group captains, Ruby Brown and Novetta Wallace, are doing their parts faithfully.

While there is room for improvement, we are proud of our league and are expecting greater things in the future.

J. B. Jefferson, President
Evelyn Jefferson, Sec'y.

S. S. and League Report from Branch, Arkansas.

I want to say first, that I have been a member of the Free Will Baptist church for 39 years, joining the church when I was 18, and at that time we had a good Sunday school, and after about four years I was elected S. S. Supt. and served for two years, at what was known as the Old Oliver school house, which was a two story building, with Masonic Lodge hall above, and then the Arkansas Central R. R. was put through from Ft. Smith to Paris, and our depot was put on an old Bro. John Branch's land, for whom the town was named, and then everything had to be moved to town: the school, the church, Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges. Then the Methodist built a church; the Missionary Baptist and the Free Will Baptist, old Bro. Sanders being our pastor at that time, and for several years after Bro. Sanders went away, we didn't have any preacher or church service. Then we got hold of our good old pastor, Bro. J. S. Lovett, that was about 15 years ago, and he is still with us.

We went all these years without a Sunday school, so five years ago this coming April we organized our S. S., of which I was again elected S. S. Supt. I can say that we now have a thriving little S. S.

Last September we organized our League, with Bro. Charlie Lyles as President; Miss Jessie King, Secretary. So we are now doing very good work, both in the S. S. and the League. I think it will be of great benefit to our young people, and enjoyed very much by the older ones.

I would also like, if I had the time, the space, and brain enough to compose it, to comment at some length on the letter that Bro. W. G. Merrit of Sulphur, Okla. wrote last month, on the subject of Evolution. I would to God that more people would say more against evolution, and more for God. I don't see how any sane minded person can even think, or say, that man originated from the baboon, monkey or tadpole, for God created these things, and we still have monkeys and all the other creatures, and still have our people just like God made them, and if these develop into human beings, why are they not the last few hundred years? Not so, it is too foolish to think it could be so. Well as this is my first attempt at writing to the Gem, I will close by asking the prayers of all the people in behalf of Bro. Brown and staff, the ministers in their work, and the lay members, that they may do more for Jesus our Savior.

Pray for sinners everywhere.

Pray for me.

J. C. Robison, Branch, Ark.

WELEETKA, OKLAHOMA

(Continued from page 9)

We only organized two months ago, but we have worked and made better than fifteen dollars in this time of depression. That enables us to have cash on hand for our pastor, which we could not otherwise. And we have helped some poor families in our community, we were unable to help otherwise. We have been able to put 4 or 5 children in school who were not able to go, and now they can go to church and Sunday school. We have a membership of 20, and I think that is unusually good out in the country.

There are several women who never worked at all and since joining our aid have proved to be wonderful workers. They all seem so eager to be doing something, and it is having a good effect on our church. We are having a better attendance at church and they all want to work and take part.

I think that every church should organize an aid: it seems to be effective to the church and all to the good.

Pray for our continuing good work, and pray for our pastor, for we have a wonderful preacher and pastor.

Mrs. Carrie May.

REMEMBER

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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.

Be Not Deceived

(Continued from page 13)

we may climb higher and get out of reach of some of Satan's temptations.

God said His grace is sufficient in every time of need and the time of need is all the time, for God warns us to watch and pray all the time, lest we enter into temptation.

My friends, God is looking on us just like He looked on Peter when he denied Him. He is saying, "Let the wicked forsake his ways, and the unrighteous man his thoughts" (Isaiah 55:7).

Paul tells us not to be unequally yoked up with unbelievers. Some may say that we are too plain. We want to be plain, God's word is plain. God forbid that we should speak anything but the truth. It makes our heart leap for joy to know that the Lord is coming to earth again. Blessed are those whom the Lord finds watching when He comes. Let us awaken and spread the good tidings, that Jesus our Lord is the only hope of joy for weak sinful humanity. Praise His name forever! If any are discouraged, just hold on to God in prayer, for He is coming soon to gather His jewels.

So many people say that they can stay at home and read their Bible and pray. This can be done, but it is generally a pleasure ride or off to some place where people of the world are playing some kind of games, or off to some swimming pool or some other place of worldly amusement. We need to come together and pray more. Let us watch our actions, our tongue, that it speaks no guile, and our minds, that we cherish no evil thoughts. There is a saying, that "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." Let us not be idle, but keep a prayer in our hearts and a song of praise on our tongues, and redeem the time, for the days are evil. I am so glad that Jesus

came and brought grace that's free for you and me.

Dear unsaved friends, He came to save you too. Are you willing to be saved? Don't look at the ones who are falling away and say that you cannot hold out, but just lay your all on the altar and trust God with your whole heart and soul, and believe He will save you and He will. Our cross seems heavy sometimes, but praise God for His grace is sufficient. If we will only trust Jesus we can count our blessings all the way.

Dear Christian friends, let us get closer to the Lord, that we might not be so easily deceived. Let us not follow so far off from the Lord. Many that we meet show by their conversation and actions, and their dress that they are living close to the world, they have no sleeves, no stockings, and sometimes hardly anything on to hide their nakedness. Fathers and mothers of this fair land, it is time we were listening to the voice of our God and ever remember that His all-seeing eye is watching us.

If you should ask which is the most important, the past, present, or future, many would answer, "The future." But we say the present is most important. The future may never come; here is where we may be deceived, if we are not careful. We must seize the opportunities of the present. Some people disregard the present, intending to do better in the future. Our Lord said He would come as a thief in the night. Do we expect some day in the future to be honest, manly, Christ-like? If we do, let us begin now and not be deceived any longer by the idea that the devil offers, that we should wait till some time in the future. Let us realize that God would have us grasp the opportunities of the present.

The five foolish virgins postponed buying oil, thinking they would depend on the future and have plenty of time to buy oil before the bridegroom came, but while they slept the bridegroom came and they were unprepared to meet him. They were deceived, thinking they had time in the future, but their future time came as a thief in the night while they slept.

I ask an interest in your prayers that I might not be deceived.

E. O. Callen.