

# 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

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Purdy, Missouri, September, 1932

\$1.00 per year.

## Could One Afford to Give a Large Donation to the Gem?

*By Elder Winford Davis*

Men who give of their money, in anything like a large sum, usually want to know that it is going into safe hands, and to a worthy cause, and into a work that will be a benefit to humanity and the cause of Christ. Well, they are not to be censured for that; they should have that feeling about it. I believe God would condemn us for scattering our money around unthoughtfully about as quick as He would for hoarding it up.

Now we have plenty of Free Will Baptist who are able to make the work of our church paper, the Gem, move in a far greater way than what it is, if they would, but I am not going to fall out with them for not doing so until they are convinced that it is a worthy cause and a place where their money will do good. It is my purpose in this short article to show you that you can really afford to do it, and that your money will by no means fail to do much and lasting good.

First, you can afford to give to the "Gem" because it is largely the hope of the Free Will Baptist, especially in the west. No denomination can get along without a means of communication, and the Gem serves exactly that purpose, along with many others. The Free Will Baptist denomination is one of the greatest in these United States in many ways; let us name some of them: It is one of the greatest because of the principles for which it stands; it is one of the greatest because it is holding its integrity with God in a wonderful way in these days of falling away; it is one of the greatest because it is standing for the faith once delivered to the saints; it is one of the greatest in numbers, though many outsiders don't think so, but it is simply because they fail to understand; really we can say it and tell the truth—we are large in number. Then why should you hesitate to give your money for the support of a denomination that stands for the

very principles which are the hope of the nation?

Second, you can afford to give to the "Gem" because there is no great mortgages or debts to drink it up. Our printing establishment is not threatened with failure in that way, nor in any other way that I know of. A small debt on our linotype machine is absolutely the extent of our indebtedness; and the linotype alone is worth several times the amount we owe on it. We have a good linotype, a servicable linotype, and a modernly equipped linotype. When you give your money to the Gem office, instead of it going to pay off large delinquent debts (except the small amount mentioned), it will be used to better equip the plant, build an office building, place more help in the office, etc. You see the editor personally owns all the equipment in the office except the linotype machine. What we need to do is to buy him out, then in case Bro. Brown should cease to be editor, we would have the entire equipment to place another man in charge of and the work could keep moving right on. Bro. Brown is getting up in years and according to nature cannot hope to hold up under the work so many more years; though he is an extra good hand at the business, and a worthy man, and I know his work is highly appreciated. Why not give your money where you can see present results, instead of it going to pay past obligations?

Third, you can afford to give to the Gem because there is all prospects for its continuation. The Gem will continue to be published whether you donate to it or not. Of course, in order to have a larger paper with lithographed front cover, a larger better equipped publishing house, our Sunday School and League literature printed, man help in the office, etc., it will take donations to do it; but beyond any doubt we will continue to have the monthly Gem and other printing work done whether you donate to it or not. Some thought the Gem would fail when it first started out, but now

it is going away along in its fourth year and much better established than at the beginning. A person can't be blamed for not giving their money to an institution that looks like it will fail in spite of everything; but you have not that to fear about the Gem. If the paper was just hanging by a claw you would not want to risk your money with it, but we are thankful it is not in that condition.

Fourth, you can afford to give to the Gem because in placing your money there it will be of great service. The paper goes into a number of states, I am unable to say just how many. It is the leading Free Will Baptist paper of the middle and western states. A vast number of our people as well as as people of other faiths read it, cherish it, and depend upon it. It is the recognized official organ of not only the Missouri State Association, but of the Co-operative General Association; also nine substantial Free Will Baptist of the state of Mo. have the management of it in charge; so you see there are more than just a few interested in it. You can rest assured that your money placed with the Gem will be absolutely safe and will be used to the last penny for the moving of the cause.

If the Lord leads you to do it, and I feel that He will, why not lift a heavy load from the shoulders of others by giving a liberal donation?

## The Intermediate State of Life or Where Are the Departed Souls?

*By Eld. P. H. Coffman*

There has always been a question in the minds of the human family about where their loved ones will await the resurrection or the general Judgment. Some of our preachers will say, "If we live a true Christian life here in this present world, we will at death pass on to perfection, or the second step in life, and be privileged to walk the streets of gold, and enjoy all the beauties of Heaven." Brethren, we should not be deceived in our ideas

like that. I do not believe that we can substantiate a thing like that from God's holy word.

There are three (3) steps in life: (1) the mortal; (2) intermediate or immortal; and (3) we come into the stage of perfection.

First we wish to study the mortal stage of life. When we are born into this world, according to the flesh, we are fallible beings, and our bodies are subject to pains and all manner of disease, and ever since the transgression in the garden of Eden, death has been pronounced upon the human race. "But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen. 3:3). So in this mortal life we are dying day by day, our bodies are wasting away, and after a while our bodies will be placed in the silent city of the dead, and our spirits will go back to God who gave them.

So then we are ushered into the immortal state of life, and then comes the question, "Where are the departed souls?" We find in Luke 23:43 that the Lord said, in answer to the thief on the cross, "Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Webster says that Paradise was a place: as the garden of Eden, in which Adam and Eve were placed immediately after their creation. Or Heaven the blissful seat of sanctified souls after death. So we see that the immortal man or soul has a place reserved in Heaven where they wait in a state of happiness and are conscious of the things that are going on here on earth; then Paradise is located in Heaven.

Now let us see if the departed souls are conscious of the things here on earth, while they are confined to this paradise home in Heaven. "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled." "But man dieth and is laid low, yea, man giveth up the ghost and where is he?" (Job 14:10). We see Job is asking the question and he realizes the fact that the soul has taken its flight, for we hear him saying in the 21st verse, "His sons come to honor and he knoweth it not, and they are brought low, but he perceiveth it not of them." Why? Because the body is all that is left in the grave. But my brethren, I believe that the time is fast coming to a close when those that are now in the immortal state of life will be released. And here is another wonderful promise for all who are alive and remain at the second coming of Christ, that we will be caught up to meet Him in the air,

and be changed in the twinkling of an eye.

So we will have the privilege of being ushered out of the mortal state into perfection, without seeing death. We can look back to the time when our forefathers had to carry the yoke of bondage and keep the law of circumcision. But thanks be to God, He perfected a plan through the blood of His dear Son, that we might be redeemed from that burden, and so it will be a release to all of us, that are alive when He comes.

From the second stage of life we will be ushered into a life of perfection. There are three steps in life, just as there are three in the Godhead. I read of three old patriarchs that the Lord saw fit to let step across the span of immortal to the perfected life. "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him" (Gen. 5:24). "And it came to pass as they still went on and talked, that behold there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which parted them both asunder, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven" (2 Kgs. 2:11). And last but not least we see Moses: the great law giver at the age of one hundred twenty, when God took him upon the mount and let him view the Promised Land, and he said his eyes were not dim. He got to look away beyond the River Jordan into the land of Canaan, and see the beautiful fields of waving grain and a country that flowed with milk and honey, then God told Moses that he could not go over there. "And Jehovah said unto him, This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed. I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither: so Moses died there in the land of Moab, and the Lord buried him there in the valley in the land of Moab" (Deut. 34:4). Some people say that is the last account they have of Moses, but I have a later account than that. "And behold, there appeared unto them, Moses and Elijah talking with Him" (Matt. 17:3). So here are three that we have record of that had the privilege of being translated by the power of God out of this mortal life to a glorious life of perfection.

I trust that everyone that may read this may get a blessing and be able to understand more about our state in life than ever before, and realize that we will come into possession of a perfect life at the general Judgment when the great separation is made. We are subject to mistakes in this mortal life, but there will be no mistakes made after this life; so let us all be as near perfect in this life as we know how to be and when we come to the end of the race, it will all be well.

401 W. Hull, Denison, Texas.

### Sweetening the Air

By Mrs. Metta Black, Non. Okla.

I once heard a sermon that impres-

sed me very much. The preacher used for his subject, "Sweetening the Air." I have studied some along this line and would like to express my thoughts.

The child of God who lets the love of God shine out in his or her life, sweetens the air about them; one who can give the world a smile, who tries to help humanity to a higher, better life, one who is ready to be used to God's glory and honor, these are they that sweeten the air with God's love.

Paul said, "For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ in them that are saved, and in them that perish." We, the children of God, should show unto the world the good that's in us, and withhold the evil. Why should we ever show strife, hatred, jealousy, selfishness, etc., when the world is brimming full of such? Then let us sweeten the air with kindness, joy, longsuffering, forgiving one another, and giving the sweetest treasure on earth. Love is a priceless joy that we can give unto the world—a gift that will endear us to humanity and hold our names in remembrance long after we have passed on to eternity.

False friendship is a thing to be despised. True friendship blossoms only from a noble and self-sacrificing heart, love is its foundation. A home may be ever so humble, but God's love can sweeten the air in that home. Or a home may be ever so grand, but if we don't find love there to sweeten it, it's a failure.

When we see boys and girls who have gone deep in sin, we should not kick them on down the line (as the world does), but give them a chance, by trying to lead them into the fold of our loving Savior. If they refuse God's love, then we can say, "We have done our best." If they do come into the fold of God, then we can feel that we have sweetened the air with God's love.

Let us try to get out of that narrow channel of selfishness, love our neighbor as ourselves, and try to "sweeten the air" with God's love.

### What is a Christian?

"And the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch" (Acts 11:26).

By Elder W. G. Merritt.

Following the stoning to death of the martyr Stephen, the disciples were wildly scattered by persecution. But everywhere they went, they preaching the Gospel of Christ. The hand of the Lord was with them, and multitudes accepted their message and were saved. In Antioch especially converts were made in great numbers. Possibly in derision or in the blindness of their benighted minds the term Christian was bestowed upon them. So the disciples were called Christians, first at Antioch.

While the question as to how they came to be called by this name, and why, is not revealed in the Bible, and an interesting one, yet on this holy Sabbath morning, I shall, for a short (Continued on page 14)

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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

Some Wonderful Meetings

Perhaps most of you would like to know of the good times at some of our Associations, which you didn't get to attend, so I will try to tell of some of the refreshing times we have had from the presence of the Lord at some of our Associations.

On Thursday before the fourth Sunday in August we, Brothers O. T. Allred and Johnnie Swaffar and myself, went to Hannon, Missouri to attend the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association. Brother Winford Davis was there and delivered the message Friday night. Bro. Allred had been pastor of Hannon church for two years and was chosen to preach the introductory sermon on Thursday night. The Association started out well and was good all through. Nearly all the churches were represented and much interest was manifested.

Bro. W. H. York has been elected pastor of Hannon church and Bro. Allred has accepted the Monett church for full time. We drove back to Monett Sunday p. m. and had a good service there Sunday night, then drove on home after services.

Our home Association, the Indian Creek, met on Wednesday night, August 31st, at our Merl's Chapel church about four miles northeast of Cassville, Missouri. Bro. Cecil Campbell delivered the introductory sermon, which was really introductory. The meeting started off in high and continued to grow better to the end. There was much rejoicing, for the Spirit of the Lord was poured out on His people gathered at Merl's Chapel.

Three preachers were ordained and five were licensed, and several deacons were ordained. Two new churches were received into membership. Merl's Chapel church have their new building almost completed. It was ready for services on Thursday night of association week. Bro. Winford Davis is pastor at Merl's Chapel.

Bro. W. H. York and family and his father of Hannon, Missouri were with us until Friday morning. They were corresponding messengers to Union Association; so early Friday morning we left Purdy to attend Union Association. I hated to miss even a little part of our home Association, but I was so strongly impressed to go that I went. We found a very large delegation in attendance, and much interest manifested in the transaction of business as well as in the divine services.

Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night we were at Pleasant Hill church, it being Bro. York's regular appointment there. It was very hot, and dry and dusty, yet we enjoyed every minute of the time spent in these associational services, and in the church services.

And we are very glad that people are showing more appreciation for our paper. We received a nice lot of subscriptions at these Associations, which we appreciate very much, not because of the money we received, but because it will help the paper and helping the paper helps our denomination.

The depression may be hurting our work in certain ways, but spiritually speaking, I think we are up to normal or a little above. But I learn that some churches are not calling pastors this year, and that some pastors have quit because of non-support. Is it true that this had to be? Could it have been possible for these churches to have managed to support a pastor? God is just as powerful as He ever was and, if it was ever necessary to keep the church fires burning, it is now. Let go, and let God!

**Picher, Oklamoma, August 2, 1932**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

For some time I have felt led to write and tell you some of my experience, and I trust the Lord will get glory out of this testimony.

My mother left this world when I entered, leaving the assurance that she was prepared to go, and she had committed my care and keeping to the One who is able to care for that which is committed to Him.

As any other orphan, I found that the world was sometimes cruel, cold and indifferent. Oftentimes I wondered why God did not take me home when I was born, as my childish mind could not comprehend why I was denied a home and parents.

When older people would explain to me that I had a life's work to accomplish, and God had spared my life for a purpose, whatever it might be, that every one had a time to go and that God had not turned His back on me, but was merely permitting me to undergo a period of suffering, that I might learn obedience and be fitted to pursue the course He intended for me.

The brightest sunshine that filled my young life was the comforting words of God's children, the Christian instruction, the way I was sent to school many years and the privileges to work and be of service to those who befriended me. Once a kind old lady asked me what I intended to be when I grew up, and I replied, "A millionaire, so I can pay you and all the others for helping me." She explained that she had only done her duty and when I finished school, and had the opportunity, she wanted me to be a friend to others as she had been to me and that would be reward enough for her. I promised to carry out this request, but could not see where she could get any reward by this arrangement.

The Lord gave me a Christian companion who has been an inspiration to me, a home and children were added, completing the vacancy in my life. Love reigned supreme in the humble home and, after nine years of harmonious life, the angel of the Lord marvelously revealed to me why I was here.

The depression had swept over the mining camp, leaving men, women and children crying for food on every side, no one was exempt, but all were undergoing some kind of sorrow, and I joined the corps of relief workers ready to do anything for suffering humanity.

The breadline which swung into existence seemed to have no end, but every type and class of people lined up. They were all broken hearted and tears were a common sight, homes had been lost in many cases and the necessities of life had raised out of the reach of the people. The authorities provided a house of worship and no one was compelled to attend, but all were invited. Many walked as far as eight miles and carried a baby to get food. They found the mission warm in the winter and a comfortable chair to sit in while one hour was spent in prayer, singing Gospel hymns

and a soul-stirring evangelistic message delivered by one of our local preachers. The altar call was then made and we saw many souls saved.

Registration then took place and my work was to write the names of those who received food. 600 families took advantage of the free supply of daily rations.

It was in this field that my ministry began. Besides meeting the people and hearing their troubles when they registered, I planted Gospel quotations in the fertile soil of those who were of a broken and contrite spirit, and the dear Lord let me lead in praise and testimony services, also preach the Gospel each Tuesday and Sunday in the mission to these people, and fill appointments in between times at other breadlines and churches. Many people heard the Gospel preached who never gave Christianity a place in their thoughts before. I met many learned and Spirit-filled preachers who came to preach to these people.

It was through the influence of Bro. and Sister W. B. Tipton, who pastored the Picher church at that time, that I united with the Free Will Baptist church here and feel I have found the exact type of people with whom I will love to labor as long as God sees fit to let me work in His vineyard.

In conclusion I want to state that in the days of our youth is the time to begin serving the Lord. A young mother with babes in her arms has no alibi whatsoever, but should let God reveal to her what her talents are and where she would best fit into the work, then she should prepare to fill that place by prayer, sacrifice and service. Whenever she lets these things come first, her home duties will be accomplished automatically, work that was once a drudgery will now become a pleasure.

May God bless each one of you is my humble prayer to God. I ask an interest in your prayers, that God may get glory out of my life and that my every effort may go forth for the benefit of humanity. Amen.

Mrs. Annabelle Craig.

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**Branch, Arkansas, July 30, 1932**

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Gem Family: I wonder if you could make room for another old sister in your circle, as I would like to chat with you a while, as Christian friends. I don't know that I can say anything that would be of any help to any one, but I will try not to say anything that would harm anyone. I am a reader of the Gem and I get so much comfort reading those letters, that I wish it would come once a week. It passes off the lonesome hours with me, for I like to talk about God and to talk with Him.

I was converted when I was seventeen years old and now I am 73; so you see I am an old soldier of the cross, and at times my cross seemed hard to bear, but thank the Lord He has always been with me through all my trials and troubles; and the heavier the burden, the more I prayed and trusted Him.

Friends, I believe in prayer. If we would all pray more, instead of complaining of hard times or something like that, it would be much better for us. God has promised never to forsake us, if we will only trust Him. O, ye of little faith, take the name of Jesus with you wherever you go. That was always such a sweet name to me and wherever I see that name, it looks so sweet to me, and sounds sweeter than any name on earth.

In raising my family I would often wish that I had a motto inscribed, "My home is for Christ," and put it over my door, for I wanted it to be that way. I raised seven children to be grown, six are still living, one has said farewell to this old world, passed over to that peaceful shore, and is waiting and watching for us loved ones to come. All my children have professed faith in Christ but one and I am praying daily for him, and I hope that he will be saved before it is too late.

My dear husband died two years ago last March. Since then my life has been a lonely one, which everyone knows that has lost a companion. I sometimes think, "Why am I left here?" but then I think that maybe God has something for me to do and I am willing to do anything for His cause. If I could just go out and gather those that are still in sin and bring them to Him, how glad I would be and, if I can do anything for the poor and needy, I am so glad to lend a helping hand.

I love all Christians wherever they may be. We are commanded to love one another as God has loved us and we must have a forgiving spirit. If others do or say things to us that we think are wrong, we ought not to say hard things about them, but should forgive them and only think that God will settle that with them. Some will say it is so hard not to tell them of things that they have said about us, but dear friends, it will be harder when our record is read up yonder and we are charged with something that we have said or done to others, in a passion that did not please God. Remember that Satan is watching around the corners, and he will find a place to creep in and fill your heart with wrath and cause you to do and say things that would not please God; let us get Satan behind us, tell him that we don't need any of his advice, that we follow our Leader which is Christ, and wherever He leads we will follow. Let us go forth with the banner of Christ lifted high, with palms of victory in our hands, and be ready to go forth to meet Him when He cometh.

Well, dear friends, I will bid you all farewell. I have no place to call my home since I am left alone, but I know that I have a home not made with hands up in Heaven, and one of these days I am going to that home. Yes, I'm going home and am ready and waiting. I am only visiting here, and I invite all you good people, both old and young, to go with me. What a happy meeting that will be, when we all meet to part no more! Will He be watching from the window when we

cross to the peaceful shore? Will He know us when we are coming? Will He meet us at the doors? Yes, He is always watching.

With love and best wishes for all.  
Mrs. R. M. Edwards

#### REPORT OF CAVESPRING Q. M.

The fourth Quarterly Meeting of Cavespring Association met with the Cavespring church, Friday night before the fifth Sunday in July, 1932. Congregation assembled with singing and prayer.

Eld. Milo Stanley delivered the introductory sermon to a large crowd.

Saturday morning conference was called together with singing by the body. Scripture reading by the clerk. Prayer led by deacon, E. L. Brewer. Moderator not being present, assistant moderator took the chair and presided over the body until time for devotional services, when Elders H. H. Beatty and J. R. W. Harbison filled the stand. After this a sumptuous dinner was served and conference began business immediately after.

Eighteen churches were represented with thirty-one delegates, including eleven deacons, nine ordained ministers, and one licensed minister.

Business being completed, conference adjourned until eight o'clock, when Elders N. Combs and E. L. S. Pentecost delivered soul-stirring messages. Adjourned to meet at nine o'clock Sunday morning, when Ministers' conference was called in session with moderator, E. L. Brewer presiding.

Subjects were discussed until time for devotional services, at 11 o'clock, when Elders Billie Rodgers and T. J. Dunkin brought soul-stirring messages which caused much rejoicing in the Lord. After this soul feast another literal feast was spread and everybody partook and all were refreshed in both soul and body.

Discussions were completed, a song was sung and the parting hand was taken; another enjoyable meeting had passed in a time of refreshing from the Lord.

Our next quarterly meeting will be held with Walnut Grove church, four miles N. E. of Myrtle, Mo., near Elmstore, Ark., beginning on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in Oct. The pastor to preach the introductory sermon on Friday night. Everybody cordially invited to attend.

Gem readers are requested to pray for us. With sorrow we submit the obituary of Bro. W. H. Williams.

Elder H. C. Crase, Acting Mod.  
Elder J. R. W. Harbison, Clerk

**Tulsa, Oklahoma, Aug. 18, 1932**  
(1023 N. St. Louis St.)

Hello, Gem Family: As I have been silent for some time, I will try to give some encouragement.

We have just closed a seventeen nights' meeting, 30 miles northeast of Tulsa with 102 conversions, and 82 additions to the church.

When Bro. O. H. Staires and I went there there were just eight members, organized about a year ago, by

Bro. Austin and Bro. W. M. Wilson. We were called there by Bro. Austin, and we started fighting the devil. Bro. Austin left after the first week to another appointment. Sister Pruitt also assisted us. She has started preaching, and is a mighty power for God. The good part about this meeting was, they prayed through, came from the altar shouting the praises of God, and claiming the redeeming power of the blood of Jesus Christ, as His word says, "His blood cleanses from all sin." The mighty power of God was present right from the start. Not a night but what there were souls in the altar. Twenty-five were saved one night; so I say the Free Will Baptist are going over the top.

Bro. O. H. Staires was elected pastor for another year.

Some say the depression is too hard to have revivals, but God says, "Call unto me, and I will shew you great and mighty things." The good people gave us \$22.65, and we had to take a Ford truck and trailer to haul the offerings off the land, and the people signed and pledged to give us several bushels of corn, besides hogs, potatoes, wheat and sorghum, and anything we could eat; so you see God will still feed His preachers. We are also proud to have this church to come into our association. Last Sunday, Aug. 14th, we baptized 42, and will have another baptizing next Sunday, Aug. 21st, several more to baptize. So preachers, let's be encouraged, and go forward.

Your brother in Christ,  
Elder Melvin Bingham.

**Greentop, Missouri, Aug. 15, 1932**

Dear Bro. Brown and Wife and Readers and Writers of the Gem:

I thought I would write a few lines to our dear paper. To say we enjoy reading the Gem is putting it mildly. We have five children that live away from our home, and we try to see to it, that they all have a chance to read each issue of the Gem. We have met quite a number of those that write for the Gem, and it is almost like getting a personal letter from them, and we sure believe that many of the others that write have met our Lord.

We think our church is in the best shape it has been in for some time, due largely to the tireless efforts of our faithful pastor and wife, Bro. and Sister Marcum. We are to have the State Association to meet with us in October, this year, and hope and pray that our church will be built up spiritually thereby. All that can, please come and work to that end, and those that cannot come, please pray for us. Those coming to the State Association, come to Greentop, which is on Federal highway No. 63, go to the Morgan Oil station, then go west as near as you can for 2 1/2 miles, take right hand road and you are soon there. We will try to have a warm welcome and some other necessities of life for you. In ringing off, I will send a verse I learned when I was a child:

We may write our names in albums,  
We may trace them in the sand,  
We may scribble them in marble,  
With a firm and steady hand;  
In the Book of Life, God's album,  
May you pen your life with care,  
And may I who here have written,  
Write my name forever there.

Now, if these few lines miss the waste basket, I may write again.

Pray for us

Respectfully,

John Peterson.

**St. Louis, Missouri.**

*First Free Will Baptist Church*

Dear Gem Readers and Friends:

I am writing you again to let you know how our young people are getting along. Our last meeting was well attended, with a good lesson and a good time. Our young people have gone into the league, but we don't know just what kind of a study we will take up yet.

The church had their business meeting and elected Bro. Buchanan for their pastor for another year, and everything is getting along fine. They had a woman preach a few sermons and she sure was a fine talker. Bro. Hall and wife of Sullivan were down and they were at church. We hope they can be with us often. We like to have visitors.

Our Sunday school is coming along fine. Many of our children have been away on vacation, but they are coming home again, and we hope to have a fine crowd again.

Francis McCauley.

**Mountain Grove, Missouri**

Dear Gem Readers:

I feel impressed this beautiful Sabbath evening to write a few lines to our much beloved Free Will Baptist Gem.

I am a young Christian, trying to do all for my dear Lord that I can. Sometimes the road of life seems dark and rough, and we sometimes become discouraged, but then we realize that there is light just ahead, and a rich reward that is worth working for here in this life. Here we have the opportunity to prepare for Heaven and immortal glory where our Savior has promised us a home, if we will only love and serve Him. We should let our light so shine, that others may see and know that we are Christians. We know that our dear Savior will never forsake us so long as we stay close to His side. Let us set our affections on things above, and not on the things of the earth; let us all, as Christians, go to the Bible and read it every day, and let's not only be readers of God's word, but doers also.

Dear Christian friends, let us put on the whole armor of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, and let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with

patience the race that is set before us.

This is my first time writing to the Gem. I sure do enjoy reading the many good letters from our brothers and sisters in Christ. I will say before I close that father, Eld. Geo. W. Scott, Jr. and Bro. Gearing are now in a revival meeting at Oak Grove, north of Cabool, in Texas Co.

May God help us all to be brave and faithful soldiers for Him who hath chosen us to be soldiers. I ask an interest in all your prayers.

Miss Bessie Scott.

## PROGRAM

For The Wright County Quarerly Conference—To Be Held With  
WOLF CREEK CHURCH  
October 27, 28, 29, 1932.

1. Have we any Bible or Treatise showing that a deacon can hold church conferences?  
Opened by Elder J. G. Koch.
  2. Shall we give each one on the program thirty minutes to talk?  
Opened by Elder Joy.
  3. Explain Revelation 22:2.  
Opened by Elder Selph Jones.
  4. After being saved, what is demanded to keep saved, and how will we know?  
Opened by Bro. John Oyley.
  5. How is the world to know the difference between the True and the False Plan of Salvation?  
Opened by Elder D. R. Royster.
  6. Who baptized these person? Why baptized again? Acts 19:5.  
Opened by Elder Neal Moore.
- Com. | Eld. G. W. Scott, Sr., Pres.  
      | " John Ratterree, Vice-Pres.  
      | Ben Owens, Member  
      | " Jeff Postlewait, "  
      | " N.E. Snider, Secretary.

### Desloge, Missouri.

As our church here at Desloge has not contributed to our much appreciated paper for many months, we will try at this time to give an account of some of our doings and report as to how the Lord has blessed our efforts:

We always enjoy reading reports from all our churches through the paper, so often those of our acquaintance—We love our denomination and want to see it grow and prosper.

Our church here is just a little over four years old. It was organized at the close of a revival held in a dilapidated church building, with fourteen members. During these four years we have experienced several good meetings, and numbers have been added, so at our last quarterly meeting a membership of 214 was reported, though I am sorry to say that not all are active members, but some are splendid workers too.

Soon after the organization of the church a Sunday school was organized and a league the following September, both are evergreen and have increased in numbers and in interest. Our average attendance in Sunday school last quarter was 124, 178 enrolled, 46 cradle roll members. We use Free Will Baptist literature in both organizations and feel that we should labor faithfully to build up our Sunday schools and increase attendance as the future membership of our churches will in great measure come from our Sunday schools.

A S. S. convention composed of the schools of our Southeast Mo. Ass'n meets each fifth Sunday. The last one, at the Ausbury Chapel church, had an estimated attendance of 600.

A League convention precedes each quarterly meeting, so Aug. 2nd we met with Leadington F.W.B. church. Six leagues represented with a fine group of young people and much interest manifested.

August 4th our quarterly meeting convened with Wortham church, with delegates from all but one church of the Association. Two members from Leadington church, Bro. Oda Halbrook and Sister Eva Gross, were licensed to preach. Reports showed that every church was going forward, numbers had been saved and baptized during the quarter.

Just a little more about our Desloge church. During these four years our church building has been repaired and remodelled, also the parsonage which is in the same inclosure, with only a small indebtedness at present.

We have lost only one member by death and she was not a resident member.

We have been persecuted much, mostly on account of women preachers, but the promise, "Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake . . ." has proved true as things have moved on in spite of all opposition, and the ladies are still in charge.

Sister Lizzie McAdams was our first pastor, for two years, then Sister Tommie Franklin was called and with the co-operation of the faithful ones, a great work has been accomplished.

Many times souls are saved in our regular services and especially is our mid-week prayer meetings a spiritual uplift.

We give God the praise for everything accomplished, and under the leadership of His blessed Spirit, may the good work continue.

Our church contemplates sending a delegation to the Yearly Meeting at Fredericktown in September, also to the State Association in October where we hope plans will be made for the further advancement of the cause and our beloved denomination.

Anna Reed.

### Do You Know?

By Elder Winford Davis

(According to statistics)  
That the American and British Bible Societies alone are publishing Bibles at the rate of one every five seconds?

That the house where Voltaire wrote the words, "One more century and

the Bible will be abolished," is now owned and used by the French Bible Society?

That, as used, the Bible was the best seller among all books in 1931?

That there are 22,371 theatres in the U. S. with a seating capacity of 11,000,000? Figure a little: these filled one time at an average of only 25 cents per occupant means over \$250,000,000.

That in the last ten years 1,500,000 farmers in the U. S. have lost their farms by foreclosure?

That in 1931 the following nations spent the following sums for ornaments?

United States	\$707,425,000
Russia	578,942,707
Germany	171,934,040
France	466,960,000
Great Britain	466,255,000
British Dominions	266,560,065

That ten percent of the population of the U. S. own and control 90% of the wealth?

That consumption of cigarettes in the U. S. decreased over six billion in 1931 as compared with 1930?

That in the Roman Catholic church a wafer is used instead of bread in the Lord's Supper? This change was made by Pope innocent III, 1215 A.D.

That there are now not less than 100,000 speakeasies and open saloons in the State of New York?

That while we are howling, "Depression!" the theatres of this U. S. have a regular weekly attendance of 75,000,000?

That 80% of the boys in the state institution at Booneville, Mo. were not raised up with any church affiliations whatever?

### La Rue, Arkansas

Dear Gem Readers:

This is my first attempt to write to the Gem. The thought comes to me, that I must write a few words. I just can't tell you all how happy I feel. If you all could know I've shouted and sang the last two months, you might know.

I was converted during Bro. O. T. Allred's revival at Rocky Branch in 1927. I am glad that I started to live for Jesus. Every day grows brighter and sweeter, and I thank God for the Savior who died for our sins. I thank God for my dear husband, that He has called to preach.

I've had poor health for some time. Since my husband has acknowledged the call, I feel better, and thank God; for I have enough to make me feel better. My home is so happy! What we need in this world is more of Jesus Christ in our homes.

God has something for us all to do. I tell you it is a task to live a life for Jesus, but what is sweeter?

Pray for me and my husband, that we may do what God would have us do  
Mrs. Cecil Garrison.

### Cushing, Oklahoma, Aug. 22nd.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

This being the close of this year's work here, we wish to report our work as the best that has ever been done

at this church. We have won more souls and have had more additions to the church than in any previous year.

Sunday was a wonderful day for us all. A number of our brothers and sisters from Drumright were with us, and we always enjoy them. But we were sad in a way, for Bro. Perkins, our pastor, preached his last sermon Sunday night. We have never had a pastor who has done more for our church than Bro. Perkins; and, as he takes his leave of us, he has the true friendship and love of all the Cushing church, as well as the community here. Sister Perkins has been a true devoted worker and a faithful companion, always ready for anything the Lord called her to do. We are thanking God for their lives, and they say that they will still be with us a part of the time. Their reward has been small here, but it will be great at the end of the race. The mission workers and friends presented to Bro. and Sister Perkins a nice quilt and a canned fruit shower Sunday afternoon.

Bro. J. L. Waltman will be our pastor for the coming year. We are very glad that we can have Bro. Waltman. He is well known here. Bro. and Sister Waltman could not be with us in the services Sunday on account of the sickness and death of a dear friend, and we missed them. We ask all to pray for our new pastor and that we, as a church, may uphold him.

Now, at this time, we will try to tell you about our Juniors. They started here in February with five members, now they have 80. They have cottage prayer meeting every two weeks and someone is saved at nearly every meeting—they are a wonderful band of workers. But we still have some who are unsaved; and we ask that you pray, that we might be able to win them for Christ. All officers are changing. May God bless the old ones as they go out, and help and bless the new as they take their places.

This is my last time as reporter to the paper. Bro. Oscar Taylor will write during the coming year.

May God's richest blessings rest on all His children, is my prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Mae Waltman.

### Fredericktown, Mo., Aug. 24th.

Dear Gem Family:

We are so glad to report another victory over sin and the devil.

We were in Flat River eight weeks, and the first two weeks we were in the church, but the weather got so warm that we put up the tent. I don't think I ever saw a crowd of men work any more faithful than Bro. Miller and his helpers. It was announced on Sunday night that they would try to have the tent ready for Wednesday night, so on Monday Bro. Miller made a survey of things, and Tuesday they started work, and Tuesday night we had services under the tent. We had some powerful services where the power of God came down. And we had old fashioned shouting, and oh, such crowds! people had to stand lots of times, seats all taken.

Eighty-three (83) precious souls were saved, forty-one baptized, and I

failed to get the number of additions to the church, but perhaps fifty or more joined our church. Bro. Miller and wife have done a splendid work in Flat River. We ask special prayers for that place, for they have felt the depression very keenly. So many good people are out of work and they need our prayers. We met one morning at sun rise and prayed for the unemployed and God has been answering prayer ever since. People, let's pray much for the rulers of our land. If we have the wrong men at the head of our nation, and wrong ones are apt to get in; let's pray! God can raise up a Joseph at this time if necessary. The thing we all need is to be ready for the coming of the Master.

We desire special prayers for a great revival here in Fredericktown. These dear people have been hit hard too, as many other places have. We are glad to have Mr. McAdams back with us in this meeting. He and Naomi got back from Texas three weeks ago, but Naomi will not be with us, as she will be in school again this year. We are glad the vacation was a help to our dear companion and he is ready for the battle here.

Yours for Jesus,

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

### Fifth Sunday Meeting Report

I suppose everyone would like to know something of the fifth Sunday meeting which was held at our Shiloh church in Kansas.

Bro. Noel Turner and myself went with Bro. Winford Davis to the meeting on Saturday. On arriving we found that they had had services the night before. Though there were no Free Will Baptist ministers present on Friday night, they reported a good service conducted by Bro. Clarence Rowland, a young Nazarine minister who has just lately started out in the ministry.

The crowd began to gather early Saturday night, which afforded us a good opportunity to meet and get acquainted with a number of people whom we had never met before. It was my first time to ever visit the church, so I met with a number of people I had never seen.

After a good song and prayer service that night, Sister Craig from the Picher church in Okla., delivered a good message, taking for a text, 2 Tim. 2:3. After the preaching service, the body organized with Bro. T. E. L. Curry as moderator and myself as clerk protem (as the clerk, Bro. Luther Mayberry, could not be present until eleven o'clock Sunday. A pulpit committee was also elected.

Services opened Sunday morning with a wonderful Sunday school lesson entitled, "The Giving of the Manna." After the Sunday school, Bro. Winford Davis preached a wonderful sermon on the subject, "Christ the Arbitrator," followed by Bro. Rowland.

A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour, which was enjoyed by every one.

The afternoon was taken up in a preaching service, as there were several ministers present. This was arranged by the pulpit committee as follows:

Bro. Noel Turner, Subject, "Gathering Fruit;" Bro. Schooley, Sub., "The Church;" Bro. Kenneth Turner, Subject, "Destruction;" Bro. Posey, Subject, "The Samaritan Woman."

These services were concluded about 4:30 o'clock, and services were arranged for night, but we, Bros. Noel Turner, Winford Davis and myself, could not stay for the night service, as Bro. Davis had to be at Monett for services that night.

Kenneth Turner, Clerk protem.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

### Merl's Chapel League Report

Dear Gem Readers:

Our league is still doing splendid work, but there is plenty of room for improvements yet.

We haven't received any new members since our last report. We have a membership of thirty-one (31) now, and we are proud of the faithful ones who are always there and ready to do their part.

Twelve (12) of our league members attended the League Rally at Monett on the third Sunday in August, which we enjoyed very much. We feel that our league has been greatly strengthened by all the league rallies we have attended.

We believe our leaguers will take more interest in their work when we get our church house finished.

Remember us in your prayers.

Cordelia Blalock, Reporter.

### Report of Monett League

We are very glad to report the success of the League rally, which was held with our church August 21st.

Six leagues were well represented and all had splendid programs. We are so thankful that God has given us the opportunity of associating with our fellow leaguers, for we surely enjoyed their presence, and hope that they may again come to visit us in the near future. I am sure that each one who attended the rally received a lasting benefit from the inspiring talks, songs, and readings that were given.

The next rally is to be held with the Jones Chapel church on the first Sunday in October and, if God is willing, we intend to be represented there.

Our leaguers are still doing their bit, but we are hindered by a lack of interest. In Romans 12:11, Paul says, "Be not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." If our leaguers were more fervent in spirit and in serving the Lord, they would not be so slothful in giving their topics and Bible readings. Several suggestions have been given on how to create interest, but I think one of the best ways is to pray more earnestly for our leagues; for James says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

our leagues, is my prayer; and in closing I want to again extend the invitation to our leaguers to come and visit us again at any time.

Elsie Keeton, Reporter.



# FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Johnnie Swaffar, Reporter

## JONES CHAPEL LEAGUE REPORT

Stella, Mo., August 20, 1932.

Dear Gem Readers:

How is the interest in your league holding out? Our league is still going up grade. We have had fairly good attendance during the past month, and exceptionally good interest. We have found the lessons so very interesting that we could hardly wait for the next.

Our Juniors continue to improve their ability in the service.

As a rule they all recite their topics in their own words, which is a great help to them.

We are all looking forward to the rally at Monett, where we hope to meet all our fellow-leaguers. We feel that these meetings bring about a greater degree of co-operation and a desire to press forward in the work.

Yours for the Kingdom First.

Jewel Lewis, Sec'y.

## Slavery or Freedom?

Blue Eye, Mo., June 16, 1932.

To see what Jesus taught about the slavery of sin and the freedom of the truth:

The truth shall make you free. "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." All sin binds one down. A bad habit is a fetter upon the soul.

"The idea that vice is slavery is common in all literature; frequent in all classics"—Cambridge. "Dream not of freedom while under the mastery of your desires."—Plato. "No one committing deeds of wickedness can be free"—Arrian. "Guilt may bear the name of untrue, but it is base bondage"—Epictetus. "A good man, though he were a slave, is yet free; whereas a wicked man, though he were a king, is yet enslaved, nor is he enslaved to one master only, but, which renders his case so far worse, to as many masters as he has lusts."

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). By abiding in Christ's word, making it the rule of their life and accepting Him as their Guide and Teacher, they would come to that knowledge of the truth which only experimental testing of it can bring; and the truth regarding their relation to Him and to God would turn all service and all life into liberty.

Jesus said that whoever obeyed an evil impulse was "the servant of sin." Acts frequently repeated become habits; habits form character; character determines destiny. Intemperance is one of the most common illustrations of the slavery of sin. It restrains a man from doing what he knows he ought to do, and often wants to do, the drunkard longs to be sober, respected, and happy, but his habit forbids. He cannot even do wrong freely; friends, conscience, and the fear of punishment never cease to oppose him

in the downward path. As long as God reigns and the moral universe exists, man cannot do wrong without feeling these restraints. Against his will, and therefore in bondage he is compelled to bear the consequences of his sin, health lost, will power weakened, character destroyed.

In the hour of trial, Jesus plead for me,

Lest by base denial I depart from thee;

When thou seest me waver, with a long recall,

Nor, for fear or favor, suffer me to fall.

Should thy mercy send me sorrow, toil and woe;

Or should pain attend me on my path below;

Grant that I may never fail thy hand to see;

Grant that I may ever cast my care on thee.

A lover of League work,

Maxine Dodgen.

## OBITUARY

DICKEY—Martha Ellen Dickey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dickey, was born at Hannon, Missouri, June 13, 1913, and departed this life after only a few days' illness, following an operation for appendicitis, at Mt. Carmel Hospital, Aug. 7, 1932 being only nineteen years, one month and twenty-five days of age.

All was done for her that loving hands could do, but God saw fit to call her home.

She was converted two years ago and joined the Free Will Baptist church at Hannon, Missouri, and had lived a faithful Christian life.

She leaves a loving father and mother, two sisters and two brothers, one niece and one nephew, one grandfather, two grandmothers and one great grandmother, and a host of other relatives and friends to mourn for her.

Funeral services were held at the Christian church in Liberal, Mo., at 2:00 o'clock Monday afternoon, conducted by Eld. W. H. York of Hannon, Mo. Scripture, Psalm 23. Two songs were sung by the Hannon choir, and Elder York and L. C. Wade sang "Where the Soul of Man Never Dies." Ecclesiastes, 12th chapter was read at the grave. There was a large attendance and many beautiful flower offerings.

Burial was at I. O. O. F. cemetery, under the direction of the Arcadia Undertaking Company.

Written by Ida F. Ball.

## IN MEMORY OF ANDREW EARL PHILLIPS

The Grim Reaper entered our midst and removed to the heavenly garden, Andrew Earl Phillips, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Phillips, August 9, 1932, being at the time of his death,

twelve years, five months and thirteen days old. He was born February 27, 1920, and departed this life August 9, 1932, at Mt. Carmel Hospital at Pittsburg, Kansas.

He leaves a fond mother and father, three brothers, two grandfathers and a host of other relatives and friends and schoolmates by whom he will be sadly missed. He was an active member of the True Blue Sunday school class of the Verdella Baptist church.

All was done that loving hands could do, but God saw fit to take him in his youth, and we know that he is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Funeral services were held at the Verdella Free Will Baptist church, Wednesday, August 10th, at 2:00 p. m., conducted by Eld. W. H. York. Scripture reading, the first seven verses of the 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes. The text was taken from Matt. 19:13-14.

Services were in charge of Berkey Undertakers of Mulberry, Kansas, and burial at the Barton City cemetery.

Written by one who loved him.

## IN MEMORY OF JOHN BUTLER

John Isaac Butler was born March 26, 1858, and departed from this life August 2, 1932, at the age of 74 years, 4 months and 6 days. He was united in marriage to Miss Nancy High Feb. 6, 1879, and to this union were born 13 children, seven girls and six boys. Two sons and one daughter have preceded him in death. He was converted at the age of 29 years, joining the Missionary Baptist church and has lived a devoted Christian life.

He leaves to mourn his departure, his wife, ten children, Mrs. Callie Dugger of Green Forest, Ark., Mrs. Demerice Flowers of Rupert, Idaho, Mrs. Altie Harryman of Jay, Okla., Elbert Butler and John Butler of Blue Eye, Charlie Butler of Oak Grove, and Nealy, Verlie, Verdine and Ellen of the home. He is also survived by two brothers, Ruben and Allen, and one sister, Mrs. Ellen Dodgen, all of Blue Eye, sixteen grandchildren, three great grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was loved by all who knew him and will be sadly missed by his loved ones and friends. All of his children were at his bedside when the end came, except Mrs. Flowers of Rupert, Idaho, who could not be present. Mr. Butler had been in ill health for some time, but he bore his suffering with patience and smiled, and was ready to go when the summons came.

Funeral services were at the family home by Rev. W. A. Bailey of Oak Grove, Ark. and Eld. Winford Davis of Monett, Mo., and were attended by a large crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends. Interment was in the Blue Eye cemetery with a Berryville undertaker in charge.

Earth has lost its look of gladness;

Heaven to us seems more bright,

Since the spirit of dear papa

Took its happy homeward flight.

—The Family.



# INTERNATIONAL Sunday School Lessons

(Third Quarter, 1932)

Comments by B. F. Brown

**Lesson XII September 18, 1932****The Reports of the Spies**

Numbers, chapters 13 and 14.

**Topic: How Faith Gives Courage**

**GOLDEN TEXT**—The Lord is the strength of my life: of whom shall I be afraid?—Psalms 27:1.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—Unbelief is a major cause of failure.

**OUTLINE**—I. Men sent to explore Canaan. II. The report concerning Canaan. III. Israel's rebellion and Moses' prayer. IV. Israel turned back into the wilderness.

TIME—B. C. 1490.

PLACE—Paran; Canaan.

**INTRODUCTION**—From Sinai to Kadesh-barnea—In our last lesson we saw Israel setting out from Sinai to journey toward Canaan. As this vast multitude journeyed through a wilderness country where there were no roads of any kind, they complained. Their murmuring and complaining displeased the Lord and He sent fire among them which destroyed many of them. The Lord quenched the fire at the prayer of Moses, and Moses called the name of the place "Taberah," which means a burning.

Then the mixt multitude that came with Israel out of Egypt fell to lusting; and Israel was made to remember and to desire the "good things" which they had in Egypt. But they found naught but "manna," which they gathered and prepared, knowing that the Lord was supplying their real need in the manna which He gave them for food. Let us beware of the mixt multitude, not to follow their counsel to feast on the things of the world.

The people wept sore and cried unto Moses, saying, "Give us flesh to eat," until the Lord was angry against them. When Moses heard their cries and knew the Lord's anger because of their cries, he complained, that his burden of caring for and nursing the people was too great. Was Moses justified in his complaint, or was like we are sometimes when, in pity for ourselves, we conclude that the burden is too heavy, forgetting that the Lord's grace and power are sufficient for us?

God heard Moses cry of distress and appointed seventy elders to help him bear the burden. In their murmuring and crying for flesh to eat the people despised the Lord; yet He gave them flesh to the full for one month, saying, "Until it come out at your nostrils,

and it be loathsome unto you." It wasn't best for them to have flesh to eat. But the Lord sent quail in great numbers, round about the camp on either side and extending out a day's journey, flying only two cubits (about three feet) from the ground, so they could be easily knocked down with clubs, or even caught with the hands. The people showed their lust in gathering the quail: "he that gathered least gathered ten homers (about 86 gallons)." Because of the lust of the people, the Lord sent "a very great plague," and many people died.

Then the difficulties of the journey were increased by jealousy toward Moses, which came into the hearts of Aaron and Miriam, and the excuse was, "the Ethiopian woman whom he had married." They claimed too, that the Lord had spoken by them as He had by Moses. By test Moses was found true, as one to whom the Lord spoke mouth to mouth. But Miriam and Aaron failed to establish their claim, and Miriam was stricken with leprosy. God heard Moses' prayer for her healing, and the people remained in camp seven days, until she was pronounced clean again, then they moved on to the wilderness of Paran.

Here was a people journeying to the promised land. They were supposed to be pilgrims and strangers to the world through which they were passing, but they desired the things of the world, so had trouble all along the way. How like them are professed Christians of today: instead of having victory in a separated life, they are in defeat because they are conformed to this present world.

**EXPOSITION**—I. MEN SENT TO EXPLORE CANAAN (13:1-24). The people had now come to the southern border of Canaan. The land was before them and Moses said unto them, "Go up and possess it," but the people said, "We will send men before us, and they shall search us out the land" (Deut. 1:20,22). So God allowed the people to have their own way, and He spake unto Moses, saying, "Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan." So the spies were appointed and sent forth: their names are given in verses 4 to 16. This was another thing with which God was not pleased; the people might have entered into their land, but because they must have their own way, they must wander for forty years, then it was a new generation that entered in.

The spies were sent with particular instructions. They were to observe:

1. The land itself, its soil, fertility, rainfall, the woods produced and the fruits grown.

2. The people, their strength or weakness, and the number.

3. The manner of dwelling, whether in tents, or in cities, and if in cities, if they were walled or fortified.

II. THE REPORT CONCERNING CANAAN (13:25-33). The twelve men were gone forty days and returned to report to Israel through Moses and Aaron, and showed them of the fruit of the land. They reported a land flowing with milk and honey, a very desirable land. It was right for them to report what

they had seen, but they, lacking faith in God, thought the strongly fortified cities could not be taken, nor the giants, sons of Anak, be overcome.

Caleb was one of the spies and he saw what the ten who brought back an evil report saw, but Caleb had faith in God; so he said, "Let us go up at once and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it." But the ten who saw only in the wisdom of man contended that they were only as grasshoppers compared with the giants of Canaan. Isn't it strange that only two or three in all that vast multitude were able to understand and trust God to take them into the land He had promised them, did they think God didn't know what He was doing? or did they think they knew more than God? Some people now, in their own estimation, know more than God.

III. ISRAEL'S REBELLION AND MOSES' PRAYER (14:1-20). The hosts of Israel lacked faith in God, so believed the evil report of the ten spies. Here they were at the entering in of the promised land and not able to enter in. To their minds there was nothing for them to do but perish, unless they could return to Egypt, so they wept and they cried. The appeals of Joshua and Caleb had no effect upon them, and they even desired to slay them for bringing back a good report. Israel could have believed the good report and gone into Canaan, but they believed the evil report and were shut out. God threatened to destroy His unbelieving children, but Moses made a powerful plea in their behalf; and the Lord pardoned them.

IV. ISRAEL TURNED BACK INTO THE WILDERNESS (14:21-45). The people who had refused to trust God and had rebelled at every move to enter Canaan were given their own CHOICE. They were turned back into the wilderness where all the people over twenty years old, except Caleb and Joshua, were to die without seeing the Promised Land.

**Lesson XIII Sept. 25, 1932****Review:****Moses Honored in His Death**

Deut. 32: 45-52; 34: 5-8.

**Topic: What the World Owes Moses.**

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.—Psalms 116:15.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—Living and serving as God wills, prepare the way for dying happily.

**OUTLINE**—I. Moses' last address. II. Moses permitted to view Canaan. III. The death of Moses.

TIME—B. C. 1451.

PLACE—Plains of Moab E. of Jericho

**INTRODUCTION**—At last, after forty years of wandering, the children of Israel had reached the Jordan and were ready to enter in and possess the Land of Promise, but for Moses the journey was at an end. Back at Mer-

ibah, when the people had been clamoring and complaining, Moses for a moment had been impatient and God-forgotten, and had taken to himself some of the credit for the thirst-quenching waters. For this sin of impulse, vital because of his responsibility as a leader of his people and the representative of his God, Moses had lost the earthly reward for which he had toiled. But he found no fault with God's wisdom and justice, and, believing in his own high destiny and in the goodness of God, he now in the closing hours of his life was all-concerned for his people and for their welfare after his death. So he addresses them for the last time, reminding them how, like a father, God had loved them, and urging them to put their trust in Jehovah their Rock. That self-same day Jehovah commanded Moses to go up into the mountain there to give back his spirit to God.

"There hath not arisen a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses." Moses was honored in his death because he had honored God in his life. His death was in keeping with his life. From the time he had received his call at the burning bush in the desert, until the hour of his death, his life had been obedient to Him who had called him to be the leader of his people, with only one failure, so far as we know. During the wilderness journey when the children of Israel so frequently manifested their selfishness, their short-sightedness, and their stiff-necked rebelliousness, Moses had proved his independence of the crowd and his freedom from its low ideals. Likewise, his initial consecration separated him from the self-centered life, while in the desert experience he had learned how to become a God-centered man. In the desert discipline, in its solitude, its temptations and crises, he had received an assured knowledge of God, and thus had been enabled to be the mediator and interpreter of God's will to the people. To him the people had turned in their consciousness of the need of a revelation from God. They had said: "Go thou near, and hear all that Jehovah our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that Jehovah our God shall speak unto thee: and we will hear it, and do it." And Moses had given them the most wonderful system of law and ethics the world has ever known. He had finished the task God called him to do—to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, organize them into a nation, and bring them to Canaan. His great career was at an end.

**EXPOSITION—I. MOSES' LAST ADDRESSES (32:45-47).** This marked the close of a series of addresses which Moses gave before all Israel as they were encamped in the plains of Moab near the Jordan, over against Jericho. The wilderness journeyings were ended, Moses was ready to lay down his work, and the people were about to cross over Jordan and take possession of land toward which they had set out from Egypt forty years earlier. These final addresses of Moses comprise the book of Deuteronomy.

All those who were twenty years old and over, except two, at the giving

of the law at Sinai nearly forty years before had died in the wilderness and Moses was now talking to a new generation. He earnestly appeals to them that above all things they should keep the law. He had repeated the Ten Commandments and had mentioned sufficient points in the ceremonial and civil laws to make it plain that he was emphasizing obedience to the whole law. And the parents were reminded of their responsibility for their children's knowledge and observance of the law. The law they had received from the Lord must not be looked upon lightly, or as a vain thing: it was their life. No other law was ever enacted having such importance attached to it as this. History shows that long life and obedience to God's laws are bound up together.

**II. MOSES PERMITTED TO VIEW CANAAN (32:48-52).** No doubt the Lord had directed Moses to speak unto the people; anyway the Lord called him as soon as he had concluded his addresses to the people, and commanded him to go up unto mount Nebo in the land of Moab, just across the river from Jericho, and from there behold the land of Canaan. Moses was permitted to see the land, but was not permitted to enter it, because Moses at one time had been disobedient. At Meribah, the Lord told Moses to speak to the rock and water would come out of it, but Moses displeased the Lord by speaking harshly to the people and by striking the rock with his rod instead of speaking to it. He also took to himself and to Aaron credit for the new water supply. For this failure, God told Moses and Aaron that they could not enter Canaan with the rest of the people when they went in. (Num. 20:1-12). God forgave Moses' sin, but he forfeited his right to enter Canaan. Now his work was finished and God was about to take him out of this life: he would soon enter into the joys of his Lord, but could only see Canaan from outside its borders.

Moses was not to return to the camp of Israel after viewing Canaan, but must die in the mount and be gathered to his people, as Aaron "died in mount Hor and was gathered to his people." Aaron was barred from entering Canaan, as Moses was. He went up into mount Hor where he died at the command of the Lord (Num. 20:23-29). The death of Aaron marked the end of the wanderings. The wilderness experience was necessary, but not the years of wandering. The wanderings were wholly due to the unbelief of the people at Kadesh-barnea. Moses was rewarded with the Lord's presence in his death because he had had His presence in his life. Moses lost the reward for which he had toiled, but he made no complaint. He cheerfully owned the justice of God.

**III. THE DEATH OF MOSES (34:5-8).** "The servant of the Lord" is the exalted title which was applied to Moses. "That man who is able to overcome all things is the servant of the Lord. No one can be called the servant of the Lord who does not conquer the world." He died there on the mount in Moab and the Lord buried him. Death is one of the facts of life, and

blessed is he that dieth in the Lord. It was a wild and desolate region in which Moses was buried: perhaps God hid his burial place to prevent a superstitious veneration of the spot.

The Lord must have specially kept and nourished Moses, for he retained to the end of his 120 years the keenness and vigor of ripe manhood.

The period of mourning for men of high rank was thirty days. They mourned thirty days for Aaron as they did for Moses. To Israel it must have seemed as if a father had died, as well as a leader and mediator between them and God.

## Lesson I October 2, 1932

### The Christian's Devotional Life

Psalms 1:1-6; 119:9-16; Dan. 6:10; Matt. 6:5-15; 2 Tim. 3:14-17.

### Topic: The Means of Christian Growth.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—2 Peter 3:18.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—The more we meditate upon the Scriptures, the more natural does prayer become.

**OUTLINE**—I. The satisfactions of a life of devotion. II. Cultivating the devotional life. III. Jesus' directions concerning the devotional life. IV. The Scriptures and the devotional life.

**INTRODUCTION**—*Devotions.* The word devote means "to give or to surrender completely, as to some person or end." When the term is used in connection with a person who is entirely surrendered to God and to Christian duty, it means to set apart, dedicate, consecrate. To be devout in the Christian sense is to be ardent, zealous. Sometimes the word devotion is applied to a single act of worship. We speak of attending to our devotions when we mean our prayers. And we may speak of our devotional life when we mean our prayer life. Our devotional life in this lesson means the whole realm of our thinking and acting which has to do with developing and practising our spiritual relationship to God.

**Prayer.** Since our devotional life has reference to our spiritual alliance with God, prayer at once becomes a most potent factor in that life. The practise of prayer is as old as the race. The Jews, following the teachings of Moses and the example of their fathers, had become a people of extensive prayer habits. The teachings of Jesus did not introduce prayer, but taught men how to pray; for to pray right is to pray effectually.

**The Scriptures.** No system of religion or philosophy, expressed in literature or otherwise, has ever helped the world as has the religion which has expressed its teachings and doctrines in the Bible. It is here only that the saving power is found. Sin is the tragedy that cut the soul off from God and put an end forever to any devotional life unless a solu-

tion for sin could be found. It is in the Bible only that we are taught how sins can be canceled, and sin's power in the life destroyed. Other religions have all failed because they could not cope with sin. The Bible forever settles the sin question in the atonement which Jesus made. The Bible then is the Father's book of instructions to His children, to direct and encourage them in living in union with God.

**EXPOSITION—I.** THE SATISFACTIONS OF A LIFE OF DEVOTION (Psalms 1:1-6). Some of the satisfactions that come to the person who refuses to be guided by the counsel of the ungodly, avoids the paths that sinners take, and departs from the way of the scornful, are: spiritual blessedness, delight in the law of the Lord, growth, fruitfulness, prosperity, and everlasting life.

**II. CULTIVATING THE DEVOTIONAL LIFE** (Ps. 119:9-16; Dan. 6:10). The devotional life may be cultivated by giving careful attention to the Scriptures, by seeking the Lord with the whole heart, by obeying the Lord's commandments, by avoiding sin of every kind, by declaring His judgments, meditation in His precepts, respecting His ways, and by remembering His word.

**III. JESUS' DIRECTIONS CONCERNING PRAYER** (Matt. 6:5-15). Because hypocrites pray is no indication that good people should not pray. It is not the hypocrites' praying, but the manner and spirit of his praying that should be avoided. They who pray to be seen of men may gain the reward they seek but it will be very small. No amount of public praying can make up for the omission of private prayer. Shutting the door against all intrusions when at prayer is here enjoined, and those who really know and love the Father will seek to be alone with Him in prayer. Prayer is communion with God, so the possibility of our praying is based upon the Fatherhood of God. Some great praying is done in simple words, or no words at all. Jesus gives us here a model for all prayers. It begins by addressing God as Father, then follow six petitions, closing with praise. We may have more petitions or less, but in prayer God should come first in our thoughts and desires, and praise is due unto Him. Let God's will be done and our wills in submission to His will.

**IV. THE SCRIPTURES AND THE DEVOTIONAL LIFE** (2 Tim. 3:14-17). According to Jewish rabbis Jewish children should begin to read the Scriptures when five years old. Perhaps that is what Paul had in mind when he said to Timothy, "From a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures." The Bible was written by about forty men, of various walks and callings in life, and extended over a period of 1,600 years, but the Bible is not the word nor work of man, for "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God." Hence the Bible is profitable to God's children as a book of instructions, for it is the Father's word to His children. Those who work for God are not only to be morally complete, pure in heart, and baptized with the Holy Spirit, but are to take "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

## Lesson II October 9, 1932

### The Christian in the Family

Gen. 50:17-21; Luke 2:40-52;  
Luke 10:38-42.

#### Topic: Making the Home Christian

**GOLDEN TEXT**—I will walk within my house with a perfect heart—Psalms 101:2.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—No family life is complete without Christ in the midst.

**OUTLINE**—I. Joseph's Christian attitude toward his brothers. II. Jesus in the Nazareth home. II. Jesus in the Bethany home.

**INTRODUCTION**—In the discussion of this lesson the home in which Jesus lived is brought to our attention, also the home of Mary and Martha. We see also something of the family of Jacob of which Joseph was a member. We see also something of the family of which Jesus was a member, and of the family where Jesus loved to visit. We cannot think of the family without thinking of the home.

The fact that Jesus as a boy grew up in a human family, tenderly cared for by a human mother, forever enables motherhood with all its perplexing cares and anxieties. What can be a higher calling in this world than Christian motherhood? There are no limits to the power of a Christian mother. When parents get true joy and blessing from family devotions and from regular attendance at the house of God, the children are apt to be moved by the same attractions.

The first requisite of a Christian home is that its members, at least the adults, be Christians—not mere church members, but people who have been born again, and are truly following Christ. Consider the obligation of parents to set a Christian example before their children and to put forth earnest efforts for their salvation as they reach the years of understanding. Many children go out into sinful ways because the parents are not Christians or do not live the Christian life. A few of the young people saved in our meetings come from homes that are not Christian, but far more of them come from the homes that are Christian.

**Illustration:** The wife of a prominent lawyer gave the following account of her conversion: "Last evening my little girl came to me and said, 'Mama, are you a Christian?' 'No, Fannie, I am not!' She turned and went away, and as she walked off, I heard her say, 'Well, if mama is not a Christian, I don't want to be one!' And I tell you my friends, that went straight to my heart. I then and there gave my myself to Christ."

If the rising generation has gone wrong it is largely because the home has lacked a family altar and a Christian influence. The home may have every luxury and convenience, but cannot be a real home, and a happy one, when Christian influence is not there. Perhaps the greatest weakness in our family life is a lack of real, sincere piety. Martha would have let her household cares absorb

all her time. Mary desired to learn more of Jesus, and she took time to listen to Him. How different our family life would be if we always had time for Jesus, and all our activities were done as in His sight!

**EXPOSITION—I.** JOSEPH'S CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD HIS BROTHERS (Gen. 50:17-21). More than fifteen hundred years before Christ, Joseph manifested a Christian spirit toward his brothers who had sold him into slavery. When they finally realized that they had committed a great sin against their brother, they feared and went to him asking his forgiveness. Joseph forgave them and promised to nourish them in Egypt. How like Jesus who keeps and nourishes, in this world, all who trust in Him.

**II. JESUS IN THE NAZARETH HOME** (Luke 2:40-52). Jesus had a human body and a human mind and He grew as other healthy boys grow. What a blessing the boy Jesus must have been to His family. He was "filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him." And Jesus remained at home and helped support the family until he was thirty years old.

All Jewish boys were required to attend Passover after they were twelve years old. So Jesus was not only subject to his parents in the home, but was obedient to the law. When twelve years old he went with his parents to the Passover feast, then tarried behind when they took their journey homeward. But when the family came together in camp at the end of the first day's journey, Jesus was not among the children. We can imagine how troubled and anxious they were, as for three days they searched for him. Then they were surprised to find him "in the midst of the doctors," the word says, "They were amazed." They understood not and perhaps marvelled when he said, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" But if his heart drew him to the temple the voice of duty called him back to Galilee; and perfect even in childhood, he yielded perfect obedience to this voice, and remained with his parents eighteen years longer.

**III. JESUS IN THE BETHANY HOME** (Luke 10:38-42). As Jesus went about Palestine with His disciples, teaching, healing and doing good among the people, He came to Bethany where Martha received him into her house. Martha was anxious to provide suitable and timely entertainment for our Lord and His disciples. This was in her favor, but it is sad when the ambition of a secular duty crowds out the more important spiritual duties. Every child of God has the privilege of sitting at Jesus' feet to receive "that good part," that cannot be taken from them. Every day, every hour, we are choosing; let us be very careful what we choose.

"Babylon, Greece, and Rome  
Held earth their prey;  
They were the lords of earth,—  
Now, where are they?"

"America, England, France  
Rule land and sea;  
When time has gone its round,  
Where will they be?"

## The Healing Touch

Text, Mark 5:28.

By Elder W. C. Hill

Three notable miracles are recorded in this chapter. The first one, the healing of the maniac of Gadara; the second, the healing of the woman who had been sick for twelve years; and the third, the calling of Jarius' daughter back from death to life again. These three miracles were great because each one upon whom the miracle was wrought, seemed to be a hopeless case. The fact that Christ was able to master the situation, is proof positive of His divinity. None but God could perform such great miracles.

We have before us at this time the second miracle for our lesson.

### I. The Sick Woman.

1. She had suffered many things at the hands of many physicians; robbed of her money, and punished by strong medicines, and reduced to direst poverty, hope was gone and she was in despair. A pitiable case indeed, but once she heard about Christ.

(1) She believed the report.

(2) She believed He would heal her, if she could only get to Him. Her faith was well founded.

### 2. The Essentials of Faith.

(1) We must hear. How can we have faith in that of which we have not heard, and know nothing about? Therefore knowledge by hearing is the first essential to faith. Paul says, "How can we hear without a preacher and how he preach except he be sent? So faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:14,17).

(2) We must have some evidence that the things which we hear are true. This woman heard, and she had sufficient evidence to produce faith. We are not told just how she heard about Christ, but it must have been through the testimony of friends. We know however, that she heard, and that she believed.

### II. Faith Experienced.

1. She sought Him. "If I can but only touch the hem of his garment, I shall be made whole." So she started out to find Him.

(1) We notice that she felt her need of Him; and (2) she was persevering in her search for help. She sought until she found the much needed Helper. We must feel our need of Him, else we will never seek Him. We must also seek until we find Him, if we expect to get the blessing. "In the day we seek him with all our heart, we will be found of him" (Deut. 4:29). We note however, that we must seek him with all our heart to find him. Zacchus sought to see Christ, and saw him, and was saved. "This day salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). Bartimaeus sought the Christ, and he found him, and his blinded eyes were opened, and he saw the face of his benefactor and lived. We must seek Him to find Him.

### III. Faith Rewarded.

She found Him. The reward for her persevering efforts was now close at hand. What did she do? Did her heart fail her? With an excited mind

and a throbbing heart she elbowed her way through the great concourse of people that thronged Him. She stretched forth her hand and touched the hem of His garment. Like a flash of lightning from a clear sky, a healing stream passed from the Son of God, and into the sick body of this seeking woman, and the object of her search was attained—she was healed. Likewise, when Christ touches our sin-sick souls we know it. It becomes a part of our life experience.

### IV. An Important Question.

Who touched me? Why did He ask this question? Was it because He did not know? No. Then why the question? There is a deep spiritual lesson here. "Who touched me?" Christ wanted to get her to make a public confession. If He had not asked the question then, the great multitude never would have known that a notable miracle had been performed. If we are ashamed of Him before men, He will be ashamed to own us before the heavenly Father and the angels.

### V. The Healing Power.

Was it in His garment? No. Was it in the touch? No. Then where can we locate the healing power? Press the electric button and a connection is made between the globe and the power house, and the result is, the room is filled with light. By the touch of the woman a connection was made between her sick body and the divine power house, and she was healed. Her touch was faith exercised and her healing was faith rewarded.

### VI. Lesson Learned.

This beautiful story is a type of how we are saved.

1. She felt her need. This corresponds to conviction.

2. She had exhausted all of her resources, and grew worse all the time. This is just like a life of sin. We cannot save ourselves, but grow worse all the time.

3. She heard about Christ. We must hear about Him before we can believe in Him.

4. She believed what she had heard, that what He had done for others, He could do for her.

5. She acted on her faith. Like the prodigal son, she arose and went. She found Him and was healed.

"Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isa. 55:6-7). Amen.

## Wine is a Mocker

By Mrs. Lina Claxton

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babblings? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine;

they that go to seek mixed wine—(Some may mix it with beer or liquor) "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright." "He shall separate himself from wine and strong drink, and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes, or dried" (Num. 6:3). "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them."

Speaking of John the forerunner of our Lord Jesus, "For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb." "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." "Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." "The Lord gave the word: great was the company of them that publish it" (Ps. 68:11). May God help us to stand firm and step out on the promises He has left on record for us.

Let us thank God for Frances E. Willard and other good women, and some men who helped to organize the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. They got so disgusted with the open saloon, hearing mothers pleading, wives pleading, even little girls saying to the bartender, "Please don't sell father another drink, he is reeling already, you see, and when he gets home tonight, he will beat poor mother and me." Oh, God forbid, it will ever be so again!—Frances E. Willard National Temperance Hospital and Training School for Nurses, in successful operation since 1886.

*Light Wine and Beer Law Unenforceable!* Judge Broyles of Atlanta, Georgia who had experience with a law exempting beer from prohibition is quoted as saying, "A light wine and beer law is practically unenforceable, as you cannot have a chemist with every barrel to see that your beer is light. Everything would be sold in a beer saloon, besides, men do get drunk on beer, if they take enough of it."

Dear Gem readers, I cut our Church Covenant out of an old minute of the Association and pasted it in my Bible to remind me of our church: it is fine, if lived up to. Then I signed the W. C. T. U. card something like thirteen years ago, paid \$1.00 and wore the white ribbon bow. I read the Union Signal, also the Missouri Counsellor, and it advises us to vote for a dry candidate, regardless of politics, and that is what I have tried to do. The law is all right if only enforced. We do not want light wine and beer, we want men who are totalitarians, who

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# OBITUARY

## RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

Bro. W. H. Williams was born in the State of Alabama August 4, 1861, and departed this life September 27, 1931. Words cannot express the loss of Bro. Williams. He lived a devoted Christian life, and was always ready to help in time of need. He would always encourage the young Christians, as he wanted to see the Lord's work grow and prosper.

He was a kind and loving husband and a loving father. He departed this life and fell asleep in Jesus; our loss is his eternal gain. We bow in humble submission to the One that doeth all things well.

We extend to his wife and children our sympathy and pray that God will comfort them in this trying hour, as it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment.

Done by order of the church at Bethany.

Elder T. J. Dunkin, Pastor.  
Tim Crawford, Church Clerk.

**PHILLIPS**—The grim Reaper entered our midst and removed to the heavenly garden, Andrew Earl Phillips the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Phillips. Andrew was born February 27, 1920 and departed this life Aug. 9, 1932, at Mt. Camel Hospital, Pittsburg, Kansas, being at the time of his death, twelve years, five months and thirteen days of age.

He leaves a fond father, mother and three brothers: Donald, Clifford and a sweet baby brother, Roger Clinton, whom he was privileged to know but a short time, also two grandfathers, Mr. Vete Phillips and Mr. C. W. Ball, a host of other relatives, schoolmates and friends, by whom he will be sadly missed.

He was an active member of the "True Blue" class of the Verdella Baptist Sunday school and was being trained up for his Master's service by the loving hands of his father and mother who are both active members of the Baptist church and Sunday school.

All was done that loving hands could do, but God saw fit to take him in his youth, and we know he is safe from the world's temptations and corroding care, for we know he is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder W. H. York, at the Verdella Free Will Baptist church. Bro. York spoke some very consoling words from the following text: "Suffer little children to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

"Tis hard to break the tender cord,  
When love has bound the heart,  
'Tis hard, so hard to speak the words,  
We must forever part.

Farewell darling boy, but not forever,  
—There will be a glorious dawn,  
When we shall meet to part, no never,  
On the resurrection morn."

Words are inadequate, and we can only commend all to the Heavenly Father who doeth all things well, and Himself said, "Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted."

Written by his former school teacher,  
Mary L. Fast,

**BROWN**—Ella Logsdon was born October 16, 1863, at Newton, Iowa, and departed this life July 27, 1932, at the age of 68 years, nine months and eleven days. She moved to Cartilage, Mo. from Iowa, with her parents when about six years of age, where she lived until early in 1879, when she came to the Fair View district, southwest of Melrose, Kansas.

She was united in marriage to Dan Brown on December 21, 1879, and has lived in this district since that time. Eight children were born to this union, two of whom died in infancy, and one son, Ralph, passed away about nine years ago.

She was converted in 1913 and has lived a faithful Christian life since that time. She was a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Fair View. The following children are left to mourn her passing:

Mrs. Nellie Bender of Bartlett, Kans. Clyde Brown of Parsons, Kansas, Mrs. Cora Black of Cardin, Okla., Dewey Brown and Mrs. Dora Mead, both of the Fair View district, also sixteen grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and hosts of friends.

She was loving and patient, never complaining and always thoughtful of the welfare of others, and will be sadly missed by her children, grandchildren, neighbors and the church.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder W. H. York of Hannon, Missouri, at Fair View, July 28th, at 2:30 p. m. A quartet composed of Mrs. Earl Shipley, Mrs. Clarence Wedding, Mr. W. H. Holley and Elder York, accompanied by Mrs. Ralph Roten, sang, "The Last Mile of the Way," "My Savior First of All," "Going Down the Valley" and "Does Jesus Care?" Burial was in the Fair View cemetery beside her husband's grave.

"A sad heart is in our breast,  
A loneliness is there,  
Death has come into our home,  
And left a vacant chair.

We know she is better off,  
Her soul has gone to rest,  
We know not why she had to go,  
But God knows best.

We'll miss her presence here,  
The counsel she has given,  
But if we follow in her path,  
We will meet her up in Heaven."

Mrs. G. V. Lamb,  
Clerk of Fair View church.

**HAWKINS**—Benjamin Franklin Hawkins was born in Newton County, Missouri, June 12, 1856, and departed this life July 14, 1932, at the age of 76 years, one month and two days.

He was married to Belle Jones, Jan. 29, 1891. To this union were born two

children, who preceded him in death some years ago.

He leaves his wife and one grand-daughter, and many relatives and friends to mourn his departure.

Funeral service was conducted at the North Methodist church at Carterville, Mo. by Elder Cecil Campbell.

Uncle Ben was an old resident of Carterville and was well known and loved by many people. While he did not take an active part in church work he was always thoughtful of other people's need and happiness, always ready to help the poor and needy and to encourage Christians to go on in the work.

Life is made up of so many different things, as sadness, disappointments, heartaches and sorrows, but now Uncle Ben has gone out of this life, to his reward where he is at rest.

Cecil Campbell.

## The Church

By Miss Lena Butler

The thought came to me of what this world would be if it were not for our churches and Christian people. How terrible if all of this world were a world of sin and no Christian people that know the worth of prayer.

If every man, woman, boy and girl were persons saved by power divine and belonged to some church, how different every life today would be!

The one great cause of so many sinners today, they see so many church members shake hands one Sunday and the next stand back in the congregation, feeling that they are not worthy to shake hands with God's people. That is a pretended Christian, and they are found in every church the world over; but let us remember that we have our own lives to live. It is sad when the old gray headed men say it is all untrue on the account of us Christian people, that do not do our duty.

If every one were an active Christian (not just a church member), ever at the post of duty, every part of the church would grow, and sinners would come to shout praises to our Father which is in Heaven. How wonderful it would be if every pretended Christian were an active member of some church. To have an active church, we need a group of active members and a pastor devoted to God's cause.

Christian people become dilapidated as stone walls do. The mortar rots and the stones fall apart. Human nature crumbles and character goes to pieces. The virtue of the soul goes asunder and they need to be rebuilt. This is a work which Christians must do one for another, and it is a service in which the apostle exhorts them to abound. Let us seek, that we may abound in the work of building up.

The pastor is to be the builder of his church. The first and greatest of church builders styled himself a "masterbuilder." If Paul gave himself to the building of some small,

## Wine is a Mocker

(Continued from page 2)

taste not, touch not, handle not.

I have heard some women say they were not going to vote. Yes, I plead with you to go and vote dry and don't forget to get on your knees and pray fervently to God for help in this great time of need. We know that we can come out more than conquerors with His great power to help us. Some say Prohibition is a failure; this is not true. All laws are violated to a great extent. The great trouble is, there is so few men on either side, Republican or Democrat, who are straight, truthful, honest, dry men. It is said that the most of the candidates drink and gamble. Men were once elected because of their honesty and truthfulness. Fathers once taught their children out of the Bible, "A good name is rather to be chosen, than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold," but it don't seem to be so today. If you haven't the money to buy the office you are seeking for, you had just as well not ask for the office. They buy votes, they sell votes and violate the law just the same as the bootlegger, and they that buy are just as mean as they that sell; it is violating the law, and no gentleman will do those things. If you tell a man you are for him and will vote for him, you had better be careful. "He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight" (Ps. 100:7).

God help us to live right, vote right, do right, and the greatest thing is to die right.

I ask an interest in your prayers.

Yours for law enforcement,

Mrs. Lina Claxton.

## WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from page 2)

time, speak on the more vital theme of what a Christian really is, and the presumption is that every member of this church has been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, and I affirm that no unconverted person has any right in the visible church of Christ on earth.

Therefore, I. A Christian is one who has accepted Christ as a personal Savior.

We call ours a Christian nation, but in reality it is not. We speak of our community as a Christian community, but in a strict sense it is not.

People do not like to be classed as heathens, infidels, skeptics, agnostics, and would resent being so called, but this nation is largely composed of this ungodly class. There is a great spiritual dearth abroad in the land today, and those who are on the Lord's side, and who stand boldly for righteousness, and for plain teachings of the Bible, are in a small minority. But they have this encouragement, for Jesus said, "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." If I had a silver dollar in my hand this morn-

ing, on one side I would find the Latin inscription, "E Pluribus Unum," which in English reads, "For the good of many," and on the reverse side, "In God we trust," which statement is absolutely false, for it is the dollar in which we trust. The great mass of the human family today are bent on laying up their treasures on earth.

To be a Christian implies more than being called one by name. To become a Christian means a personal transaction between the soul and Christ. A Christian is one who, realizing his sinful and lost condition, has put his trust in Christ for salvation.

II. A Christian is one who is entitled to bear the name of Christ; "Not every one that crieth unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Many who bear the name today do so unworthily, for while having a name to life, they are spiritually dead. They are cumberers of the ground, and stumbling blocks in the way of honest inquirers after the truth. If we are entitled to bear the name of Christ, if indeed we are the children of God, we should never be ashamed to confess the Master under all circumstances and conditions; "He that is ashamed to confess me before men, him will I be ashamed to confess or declare before my Father in heaven." If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed. In the language of the poet, "Take the name of Jesus, ever as a shield from every snare, it will joy and comfort give you; take it then where'er you go." No particular sect or denomination has any exclusive right to adopt the name, and exclude other Christians from their fellowship, as the term Christian can properly be applied to every redeemed child of God under heaven.

III. A Christian is one who is trying to follow in Christ's way. He studies to learn Christ's will and to do whatsoever He has commanded him to do. He strives faithfully to improve the talents with which he has been endowed. He may not succeed as well as he would like, but he "presses toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." He may often become discouraged, because of the trials and difficulties that beset his pathway, but realizing that the Master has said, "I will never leave nor forsake thee," he presses on in the divine life, having an abiding faith, that he will overcome and at the end of life's journey, receive a crown of life that fadeeth not away. People may expect perfection of him, but perfection does not belong to the flesh, and amid all the trials and temptations through which he may be called to pass, he is conscious of the fact that he is known of his Master as one who is trying faithfully to be what He would have him to be, and to do what He would have him to do.

IV. A Christian is also enlisted in the cause of Christ. He not only strives to be himself like Christ, to heed His instructions and imitate His character, but to actively promote His cause. He enlists heartily in His service, and strives to get his friends

to enlist in the Master's cause. He does this because he knows the value of salvation from experience. He is not disposed to find fault, or criticize the members of the church. We all have our faults, and have different views about how the business of the church should be conducted, but every member, if he is actuated by the Spirit of the Master, is always ready to meet in harmony and reason together about the Lord's business. There should be no big I's and little you's, but let each one esteem others as equal or better than themselves. A true Christian will always act in this way, because he loves his Master and his Master's cause. He makes Christ's interest his interest, Christ's cause his cause, Christ's glory, his glory.

V. A Christian is one who will be admitted to heaven. Having accepted Christ, Christ will accept him in glory. Having acknowledged Christ, Christ will acknowledge him before the angels in heaven. Having enlisted in the cause of Christ, Christ will give him part in the final triumph. Having been faithful unto death, Christ will give him that crown of life which He has reserved for all who love His appearing.

## What It Means to Follow Jesus

By Elder G. W. Scott, Jr.

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24).

With all the places I go, and with all the evangelists and pastors I hear preach, there seems to be a lot of lamenting over the conditions in the churches. David said, "Is there not a cause?" and surely there is. I think evangelists and pastors are responsible in a measure for these conditions. A certain man said to Jesus, "I will follow thee wheresoever thou goest." But Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." Have you considered what it means to say, "I am a child of God?" I think it is the duty of us preachers to tell people what it means to follow the Christ.

You hear a lot of people tell how easy it is to be a Christian, and many of them are not denying themselves of the world and the pleasures of the world. Where is the king that is going to take 5,000 men and go out to fight with another king who has an army of 10,000, that doesn't first sit down and count the cost, and see if he is able to meet the enemy? We like for folks to say we are a wonderful preacher, and get great praise of men, but are we willing to be called the least for Jesus sake, After we have received a large number into the church, and then preach on the ordinances, and begin to tell what Christians ought to do to follow Christ, right there some of them go back.

I say that, to be a Christian, we must be born again, born into the



kingdom of God. To stay a Christian, we must follow in baptism and the Lord's Supper and feet washing; lay down these worldly things and put on the whole armor of God. We surely need to teach folks that there is something to do to be a Christian. If any one is contemplating joining the church and can't quit swearing and getting drunk, backbiting, or committing adultery, one of the greatest sins anybody can commit, I say in the language of our text, "They have not denied themselves, and are not fit to belong to the church. Christ looked people in the face and asked them how they would escape the damnation of hell. Let's preach the Word and stay with the truth.

*M'n Grove, Missouri, July 26th.*

P. S. I am glad to hear of the good being done up in the northeast part of our state. Bro. John Pryor, Jr., one of the ushers at the State prison, told me the other day that some folks from Greentop, Mo. were visiting the prison and said they knew Bro. Marcum (Sam), and that he was doing a great work up there. Bro. Sam is one of our Free Will Baptist preachers, fighting sin. These folks who told Bro. Pryor about Bro. Marcum were Missionary Baptist.

### The Old and the New

*By Sister Annabelle Craig*

*"And no man putteth new wine into old bottles, else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles perish" (Luke 5:37).*

Jesus was taking an illustration they were all familiar with to unfold a great spiritual truth to these people. Pigskins were cleaned and sewed up to be used for bottles or containers in those days. When the skin bottle was filled with new wine, the fermentation caused the skin to expand, and then the bottle became hard, so if they put wine in it again the bottle could stand no more expansion and the result would be breakage and the loss of both bottle and wine.

These people had kept the law and still placed their hope and confidence in the sacrifices they offered at Jerusalem and bitterly rejected the Son of God who had come to fulfil the law and instruct them, that the law had expanded and covered as much territory as God intended it should. No longer was it necessary to go to the temple at Jerusalem where God had dwelt among the Cherubims, the temple was like the old bottle, it served a purpose in its time and was essential then, but now all old things had passed away and something new had taken its place, necessitating a new container.

Here's where the trouble of today arises, most people believe in the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ and expect to be saved some time, like Felix, "when a more convenient season arrives," or whenever the time

comes to die, but will not consent to let their faith get a hold on them and bring about the birth of a new body or "bottle" to contain the Holy Spirit or the new wine of God, that they might be preserved against the wrath of God on that great day when we are ushered into His presence to give an account for everything we never did straighten up here, and also account for our stewardship. People of today are not thinking along this line of reasoning, but would rather treat religion as a spare tire, have a little faith like Felix and strap it on any place so it won't be in the way and interfere till the time comes when they need it, and depend on using it then. That's fine for the automobile, for the spare tire might get you home some time. The devils believe with fear and trembling, and our belief will not take us home to Heaven, unless we let it come on the inside of the new body it is possible for us to have and guide our every thought and movement.

Jesus is the true vine. We discard the things of the world, as we cannot serve God and mammon, and hover near Him, that we may be filled with power as the vine is filled with sap, then we can branch out and bear fruit. The Father being the husbandman, as Jesus has said, will cut us off if He sees no fruit. What father would want a child that was always loving him just to obtain some favor and never offered to turn a hand to help out its father? Wouldn't he soon see the condition and refuse the child? We must not accept religion for personal gain, but must die out to self and offer our soul, body, mind, strength and possessions as a sacrifice, that God may get glory out of it all.

"Give unto the Lord glory due unto His name" (Ps. 29:2). "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31). When the handwriting appeared on the wall and the doom of a nation was sealed, it was all because they were partaking of the mercies of God and took no thought that glory was due Him.

We owe Christ the debt of obedience. "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:14). Can we hear His commands if we are not near Him? He is sending us forth into the world as sheep among wolves to strengthen and encourage the brethren and, by all means, let our light shine before men, that some might be born into the kingdom. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," is His beckoning cry, that His way may be known upon the earth and His saving health among all nations (Psalm 67:2).

Jesus taught in the same chapter that one should not take new cloth to mend a worn garment, rebuking the hypocrites that religion is not a patch to cover up a gap in our lives, but it is the very thread out of which the garment of life is woven. The sins of the past can be forgiven and forgotten and whosoever will has an

opportunity to seek salvation while the door of mercy is still open and the Spirit is still striving with men upon the face of the earth. Jacob strove all night with the angel and refused to let go until the angel blessed him, so no one can rob us of the blessing but ourselves, when we fail to seek and accept and then come short of feeding the sheep or strengthening and encouraging the brethren.

There's nothing that can be covered that will not some day be uncovered and revealed to all.

Sinner friend, get mercy and pardon while it can be found, leave off the lusts of this world and seek a new habitation, that Jesus may come in and dwell with you, and give you the wine, therefore satisfying your thirst and preserving both body and soul together (Luke 5:38).

### Abiding in the Vine

*By Miss Lucy Derkard*

"Abide in me and I in you, as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me" (St. John 15:4). These words were spoken by our Lord Himself, and dear friends, to abide in Him we must be willing to be led by His Spirit and to do the things He has commanded—"Abide in me and I in you." Friends, if we would bear fruit for our Lord, we must read His word and apply it to our everyday lives. Not the hearers of the word shall be justified, but the doers shall be justified; so my dear friends, to abide in Christ is to be like Him and do the things that are pleasing to Him. We know that a branch of a grape vine could not bear fruit if it were severed from the vine; so if we would bear fruit for our Lord, we must abide in Him. Then if we would bear fruit, we must find out how to abide in Him and there is just one way, that is to read His word and pray for guidance of His Holy Spirit. "Abide in me and I in you;" to abide in Him is to live for Him; "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." If we abide in Him, He is sure to always be near us; to abide in Him we must deny ourselves of every worldly pleasure. Now, some may not agree with me, but God's word says, "Whosoever will be a friend to the world is an enemy of God."

May God help us to abide in Him, that we may bring forth fruit to His honor and glory. The Lord further says, "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered and men gather them and cast them into the fire and they are burned." So dear friends, if we would not be cast forth as a dead and useless branch let us abide in him, that he may purge us, that we may bring forth much fruit. Friends, we have been made clean through His blood, let us follow the example He left us, that others may know that we abide in Him, and may they be attracted to the Lord by the light which we shed forth.



scattered churches and counted this building of churches his chief concern and his greatest glory, surely no preacher in our day will count his task beneath his dignity or unworthy of his best effort. "Like priest, like people;" as the preacher finds here his highest service, so every believer is to find in the building of his own church his central duty. The noblest of Christ's preachers said, "Let everything be done unto building."

"The house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and stay of the truth." The church is the pillar, the strong column, the mighty, on which rests the truth.

I love thy church, O God!

Her walls before thee stand,  
Dear as an apple in thine eye,  
And graven in thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall,  
For her my prayers ascend;  
To her my cares and toils be given,  
Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy

I praise her heavenly ways;  
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
Her hymns of love and praise.  
*Blue Eye, Missouri.*

### Let the Redeemed Say So

*By Miss Oleta Davis*

Has Jesus saved your soul? Are you one of the redeemed? Then say so! If we never tell to the world what Jesus has done for us, then how is the world to know about His wonderful power? We are His witnesses. It is a Christian's duty to tell about Jesus and His wonderful love and mercy.

When we were lost in the dark, deep gutters of sin, Jesus, through His mercy unto us, picked us up, set our feet on the sure foundation and the light of Jesus Christ was made to shine around us, which made us realize, to the greatest extent, the power there is in the love of Christ for us.

Why don't the redeemed glorify and exalt His name for His wonderful works to the children of men? Let's make His praises ring throughout the whole wide world.

I'm wondering if too many times we, as Christian people, take the praise for some kind deed instead of giving it to God. I wonder sometimes if we don't forget that had it not been for God, we would not have had the grace to do the kind deeds, and therefore we forget that praise belongs to Him. Christians, let's praise God more and more each day we live, and let's give all to Him that is due Him, while we live here in this world, and He will not forget to repay us twice, yea thrice that amount when we leave this world to go live with him on high. "Oh, praise the Lord all ye nations, praise him all ye people; for his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord" (Ps. 117).

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The announcement of your Association, Yearly Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, 5th Sunday Meet-

ing, 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.

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DIBBLE Association will be held with Bridge Creek Church, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1932. Eld. E. E. Morris to preach the Introductory sermon.

Birdie Drennan, Clerk, Tabler, Okla.

—o—

HOPEWELL Association will meet with Murray Hill Church, three miles east of Colbert, Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1932.

Ernest Pierce, Clerk, Wilson, Okla.

—o—

TEXAS F. W. B. Association will meet with Harper's Union Church, beginning on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1932. Rev. Ira Harper will preach the Introductory sermon.

T. D. Ross, Clerk, Carthage, Texas.

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MISSOURI STATE Association will be held with New Harmony Church, at Greentop, Schuyler County, Mo., beginning on Tuesday night before the third Sunday in October, 1932.

Introductory sermon to be preached by Eld. C. W. Scott, of Purdy, Mo. Eld. Winford Davis, Clerk, Monett, Mo.

Eld. Winford Davis, Clerk, Monett, Mo.

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### Subscriptions

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