

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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WHAT SHALL I DO WITH JESUS?

By Miss Linnie McCoy

"What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" (Matt. 27:22)

There are so many today who do not know anything about Christ, and they have no time to study about Him! Their time and interest are taken up with many other things. They find time to study philosophy, history, poetry, and all the other writings of the world; but is it not true that the entire philosophy of the world cannot forgive a sin, reform a sinner, smooth a burning pillow, dry a tear of sorrow, or win a faltering brother?

The world may need philosophy, demonstration and logic; but each of these, or all of them combined, avail nothing unless they are linked up with Jesus Christ. Separate and apart from Him, they are powerless. Love for the Lord Jesus produces love for our fellow men, and leads us to them with the words of eternal life.

It was Pilate who cried in pitiful weakness at the trial of Christ, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" O, cowardly Pilate, it does not make any difference what you do with Him! You may scourge Him, deride Him, spit upon Him, drive cruel nails through His hands, and plunge the terrible spear into His side; but you cannot crucify truth, you cannot annihilate the Christ, you cannot destroy the love of the human heart for Him. Three days hence the sealed tomb will burst asunder, and the risen Lord will come forth in garments of celestial light; and the multitude will hurry to His wounded side, and look upon His pierced hands and feet, and with amazement and love cry, "My Lord and my God!"

What will you do with Jesus dear unsaved reader? The world cast Him out. Poor, finite man rejected the Prince of Life; but God, the sovereign ruler of the universe, welcomed Him into the very heavens. Helpless, lost men crowned their Lord with a cruel crown of thorns. The heavenly

host crowned Him with glory and a royal majesty. Will you follow the way of the world and reject the Christ? or will you choose God's way and receive the Son as your personal Lord and Master? Will you think about Christ and let Him rule, or will you reject Him and choose Barabbas?

Remember that blessed One who once stood before Pilate, crowned with thorns, is now standing before the throne of God in the heavenly court, clothed with glory and everlasting light; standing there as the friend of sinners, making intercession for lost humanity. We feel that we have no time to think of Him; but He, the blessed crucified One, ever lives to intercede for all who love and think of Him.

I stood alone at the bar of God;

In the hush of the twilight dim,
And faced the question that pierced
my heart,

What will you do with Jesus?

Crowned or crucified? which shall it be?

No other choice was offered me.

I looked on the face so marred with
tears,

That were shed in His agony;
The look in His kind eye broke my
heart,

'Twas filled with love for me,
"The cross or the crown," it seemed
to say,

"For or against me, choose thou
today."

He held out His loving hand to me,
While He pleadingly said, "Obey.
Make me thy choice; for I love thee so:

And I could not say Him, Nay,
Crowned, not crucified thus must it be;
No other way was opened to me.

I knelt in tears at the feet of the
Christ,

In the hush of the twilight dim,
And all that I was, or hoped, or sought,
I surrendered unto Him.

Crowned, not crucified, my heart shall
know,

No King but Christ who loved me so.

Miss Linnie McCoy,
Phillipsburg, Missouri, R2.

YOUR CHURCH AND YOU

By Eld. Winford Davis

Did you ever ask yourself the question: If every member were just like me, what kind of a church would my church be? If you never did, then do so now. You are a part of your church, and your church is made up of you and others. Are you loyal to your church? Do you attend its services? or are you to be found off at the places of the world when service is being held at your church? If every member paid the pastor like you do, how would the pastor fare? Do you just let the pastor come to his appointments and pay his expenses as best he can? Do you by your neglect compel your pastor to dress in a way that is scorned at by the world? Do you, by your neglect, compel your pastor to drive an old worn out car, or maybe have to go on foot, or just any way he can?

Get in with your finance and prayers and help your pastor to be himself. Help him to be what he would be if he just had an opportunity. Give him a chance. Are you just a church member only? or are you a church member and a Christian both combined? If so, it is a fine combination.

Are you a spiritual church member? or are you formal and mechanical? Are your feelings easily ruffled? or can you stand just lots of persecution and still keep sweet about it, and go right on and be a good loyal worker? Do you have a passion for souls? Do you feel a spiritual weight and sense of responsibility resting continually upon you? Can you leave your church when some service is being held there, and go off with the world without feeling any effect? If so, there is something wrong.

Are you a backslider and your name still on the church book? If so, you ought to get right; but if you do not intend to get right, then you should ask the church to remove your name from the list. You owe that to the church. It is expected of you. It

would save the church lots of embarrassment.

Are you in accord with your church doctrine? If so, then you are right in the church where you belong; work for it. But if you have taken up with some other doctrine, then wouldn't it be better for you to just quietly have your name removed. We need to be just what we are. Would you want to see your church become extinct, and be positively no church work there at all? If not, then be a loyal substantial supporter from every angle, and prove by your earnest efforts that you want your church to stand, and not only stand, but grow and flourish. Let us not be church members in name only, but members in reality.

Yours for the church and church loyalty, —

THE GREATEST NEED IN THE MODERN HOME

By Miss Oleta Davis

The dear mothers of our homes are the ones to realize sooner than all others just what is the greatest need in our homes today. What? Our modern equipped homes incomplete?

Dear Christian friends, sometimes we are made to shudder when we see how incomplete some of our homes are. The most vital need is absolutely omitted and that is the need of spirituality.

The children of today are given everything except the very thing they need most, that is more knowledge and teaching of the Spirit. Proverbs 22:6 reads like this: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

I'm very sorry to say it, but I don't believe that some of our modern mothers have taken the time to think about this little verse of scripture. They are too busy at clubs and bridge. They have no time to speak constantly to their children of the higher principles of life, or to live those principles of conduct which would make the road easier for their children; but by their worldly indulgence the children's future is made more complex and difficult.

If we had more religion in the home, we would have more happiness in our land today.

The quotation, "The Home is Where the Heart is," should be written like this: "The Home is Where the Heart Should Be." Why is the home not the center of attractions? It seems

that home is the last place on earth we want to go, unless we can fill it with a crowd and forget that we are at home. Surely the home lacks something; if it didn't we would want to be there.

People are not like they were a few decades ago. They built their homes and decorated them and furnished them with different things for entertainment. But now we have no need for pictures, the modern apartment is much too small for them. We don't need a piano to move around, a radio serves every purpose of entertainment. We don't have time to take a good wholesome book and read it—just pick up a magazine and read a short story in just a few minutes, it takes too long to wade into a book.

Why all this hurry? What is the cause of all this unrest? It has been laid to the automobile, the war and other things, but I fully believe it is the lack of religion in our homes.

When old time religion is restored in homes peace and happiness will rule and reign in the world.

TREASURES LAID UP ABOVE

By Maggie Turner

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:19-21).

Most every normal person has a desire and ambition to acquire a portion of this world's goods which is well and good, in so far as an honest living is concerned, for as is recorded in Gen. 3:19, God expects man to work for a living, and I believe with all my heart that God intends to bless the efforts if we put forth any, but we must not forget that all we have and are belongs to God and if we are inclined to take to ourselves honors or credits for anything we possess, let's think of the scripture found in Deut. 8:18: "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth." But I am wondering as I consider this scripture, Matt. 6:19-21, how many are laying up their treasures in heaven.

We look out over the world and see so many who are striving and struggling for fame and honors by heaping to themselves earthly treasures, never

thinking or seeming to realize that in a few moments it could be taken from them, or that in one breath God could snuff out their lives, then what would their earthly treasure amount to? I believe that they would have the same experience that the rich man had as is related in Luke 16. Some people who have an ample living are laying up more in earthly storage and are letting God's cause suffer from lack of support which they could so ably give. Oh, the pity of such a condition of circumstances when it could so easily be controlled by the united efforts of those who are, or should be so deeply concerned!

It is not altogether the ministry that is neglected or that is the object of this subject, but it is other charitable institutions, and conditions of humanity which really demand our attention and one of these, and by no means of least importance, is our linotype. Yes, our linotype, because it is the property of the Free Will Baptist; so why not say OUR?

Some people seem so eager to help to advance the cause, but when something arises that demands financial attention they hug that earthly treasure a little closer to their hearts and with almost tears in their voice, so to speak, they will declare that they have given such an amount and are not able to give any more. Give? Why, yes, they call it giving to the Lord when it is already the Lord's, and He has only loaned it to them to use. To all who are guilty of so doing, I just say, Read James 5:1-3, "Go to now ye rich men weep and howl, for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered and the rust of them shall be a witness against you. Ye have heaped treasures together for the last days." Also read Mal. 3:8, and ask yourselves, Guilty, or not guilty? Then answer it yourselves, honestly, and see how you are measuring up to the standard that God has laid down in His Word.

If people could only realize how far short of the Scriptures they are falling, it seems that they would become alarmed.

In further consideration of the subject that is so near our heart, the linotype, let me urge that we, as Free Will Baptist, should support it, for it is our property: and considering this we should feel it a duty to help lift the obligation from those who have so willingly and loyally undertaken

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Eld. B. F. Brown, Editor.

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TERMS

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

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

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

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THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

I herewith quote from what assumes to be an advertisement in BREWERY INDUSTRY, November 19, 1932, published in New York City.

HALF THE EXPECTED MARKET FOR BEER DOES NOT EXIST TODAY

"When beer comes back, what is the first step brewers will take to restore temperate drinking among the youth of our land? It is a responsibility the brewers must assume under the new order.

"Obviously, there must be a campaign of education and the one field in which this can be conducted is, fortunately, the most important of all for our immediate and future business—the colleges.

"Not one-tenth of one per cent of the youth in college know what good American beer tastes like. To them it is little more than a name. They will have to be educated.

"But beer can be restored to its former favor in colleges, which means the youth of the land. It cannot be done over night.

"So it seems that elemental reasoning makes it plain that the brewers should begin their publicity campaign in the College Newspapers as soon as it can be done."

The Wets in the above ad, admit that our young people are free from the destructive appetite. They admit that there is no demand for beer. They admit that practically all the old soaks and toppers are gone and the only way to create new ones is to invade our colleges and debauch our children; ruining the wonderful young people who are the promise and hope of our land.

Colleges, like churches and homes, are sacred for our young people. Are you willing to allow their future to be ruined by the awful propaganda of such a destructive element?

I have heard many times that more young people were drinking, and that more booze was drank in prohibition days than in saloon days; but the Wets know that they must corrupt our young people by a campaign of education, if they are to have a market for their intoxicating liquors. They are telling us that 3.2% beer is not intoxicating; but there are some people still living who know that 3.2% beer used to intoxicate, it will yet, and the Wets know it.

I was talking the other day with a captain of the Salvation Army, and asked him if they had to care for many drunks. He said, "Only one now and then." Evangeline Booth who is at the head of the Salvation Army in United States says that in saloon days in New York City they cared for as many as 1300 drunks in one night, but under prohibition they seldom have over seven.

I tremble to think that it is almost certain that an unrestrained flow of alcohol will soon return to our own country. If conditions were bad before the Eighteenth Amendment was added to the Constitution they will be much worse after next March if the Roosevelt policy becomes a law.

Looking at the situation from a political point of view it is very discouraging indeed. But we must not leave God out! Prayer still works, and with this powerful weapon it is possible to overthrow even the mighty brewers and the mighty-hidden powers behind the scene. Jesus said, "According to your faith, be it unto you."

MYRTLE, MISSOURI

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I am glad this morning that I am on the sunny side of life and feeling fine. I have been attending a revival at Myrtle, Mo. It was conducted by Bro. Harry Beatty. He is a young preacher, but he knows how to preach. When he takes the stand, he comes with a message from God and hands it out with the spirit.

There were nine saved, three added to the church, and a great renewing of the Spirit among the Christians. It was food to my soul and gave me courage to press on; I never felt more like going on and mean to go through by His grace and help, and mean to see the inside of heaven. The devil is doing everything to hinder, but God is fully able to defeat him, and I am standing on His promises, I have my eyes fixed on Jesus this morning.

It makes my heart sad when I see the love of many waxing cold, dropping out here and there and they do not seem to realize what it means to stay true to God and His cause. If there ever was a time we needed to shake ourselves it is now. I feel sometimes that I am here in this wicked world alone, and thank God for keeping me in the strait and narrow path, but oh, how sad to think of the young generation that is coming on, and for the mother who would love to rear their children in the right way, but the awful styles have come upon our country! I do not think any good mother wants her girls to follow such fashions, but it is just to keep up with the styles; my prayer is that the Lord will come to our help before it is too late. I know that God is able to make a way where there is no way, and am praying to that end. I feel that we ought to get busy, for the Lord is soon coming, when we least expect Him, and I want to be ready. I have had some very hard trials, but Jesus says He will not put upon us more than we can bear. As we think of all kinds of offerings that we could make, we think of prayer and life, the two greatest offerings. I feel that I need the prayers of you Christian people; so please offer a prayer for me. As we think of the soldiers that died in the World War, and how mothers offered their prayers to God for their sons, as Jesus' mother did, and how the people of the nations all offered their prayers. We feel the prayers were all offered in love and as one prayer, but when we get to heaven we will be through praying: we will see Him

face to face. Just think what a victory! I love that song, "Victory Ahead"

Now, Jesus offers a beautiful home above where there is no sin, and life forever with loved ones who have gone to be with Him. I have some dear ones over yonder and many loved ones, but I am not satisfied in my journey, for I want others to go with me to that beautiful home which Jesus has prepared. A smile of glory and victory must have encircled the sweet face of Jesus, the pangs of death had been tested and the grave had been swallowed up in victory, and there Jesus stood in the presence of the angels. He was slain, killed in the midst of two thieves. He died bearing the reproach of them that sinned, our shame was upon Him, the sins of the whole world were upon His dying soul, and our cares and perplexities encircled His innocent head amidst the wreath of cruel thorns. Such a death of shame and sorrow, but now the victory. He had made a way for them that slept and for those who would fall asleep even afterward, for Jesus is coming for those that remain, will you hear His voice, though your body has moldered back to earthen clay? Our journey through life will lead by the way of the cross, for He went that way; then over life's rough hilltop of sorrow into the grave, the day of rest, we fall asleep in death's embrace. So did Jesus, but He went before, the graves opened, and when He comes back again, the graves will open and no place on land or sea will have power to hold those who fell asleep in Jesus, having eternal life through the blood. He went before us, bearing our sins and reproach.

We are deaf to the spiritual things of God, some of us lie dormant, yet we are the salt of the earth, something to salt down a decaying world of sin and sorrow. Only God's children hath He quickened, yet many of them are scattered abroad, dead or dormant and many are trees with leaves only, but where is the fruit? We need a spiritual awakening, we need a latter rain of God's love and power to fall on us, and when we receive a real downpour of the rain of salvation we will spring forth with a face of glory, praising the Lord, and a sorrowing for lost souls will bring us to our knees.

May God help us to abstain from all sin. Some people say there is no harm in the Sunday ball game, but the same God that said, "Thou shalt not steal," said also, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy," and Jesus said, "If ye keep all the command-

ments, yet offend in one Point, ye are guilty of all;" so if we refuse to hear Him that speaketh from heaven, what will the end be? Now, dear readers, let us lay aside these things and serve God: and let us begin now to pray for a great revival of meetings, and let us go with prayers on our hearts that God will save lost souls, let's not depend on the pastor to do all, but let us work with him and help him to lift high the blood stained banner of Christ.

Well, I want to ask all you Gem readers to remember me in your prayers, for I need your prayers to help me along this journey. We thank Thee this morning that Thou hast been with us as a nation through all the years; we ask Thee to give to the United States and to all other nations added sense of world responsibility, in telling the story of Jesus Christ and His cross.

May the Lord bless the editor and his wife and all readers of the Gem.

Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

MONETT, MISSOURI, R1

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and all the Gem Family: As I haven't written to the Gem in so long, I feel this morning like I wanted to write a few lines. I am in my weak and humble way, trying to do what the Lord wants me to do. My heart is burdened, not only for sinners, but we see so many Christians that seem to be at ease, not only our neighbors, but our own home. Oh, how my heart aches when I think that the day will soon come when our eyes will open.

There is one question I want to ask the Gem family, who preached the first sermon ever preached? I will look for an answer in the Gem.

Pray for me, that I may always live humble and try to get others to live right.

Mrs. Mary Haney.

The Way: The Good Way

By Mrs. Lina Claxton

Hartville, Mo., Sept. 30, 1932.

Dear Editor and Wife and Gem Family: I have been reading about the WAY that Jesus speaks of. He said, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Sure He was talking to Thomas, but it is for us even today just the same. I have been thinking about the high ways men have built, leading to so many cities and towns, and each highway

Continued on page fifteen

MISSION REPORT

Dear Mission Workers:

The time is so swiftly passing by, and here I am with another report.

After leaving Martinstown, we visited New Harmony for a few nights, and had splendid services. The Mission is growing in interest and numbers. We were assisted by ten of the New Harmony girls in rendering a service called "The Closed Door." The girls acted as the ten virgins of Matthew 25, and demonstrated our Mission work in a number of places and we had several conversions in the homes.

Afterward we were called back to Kirksville, and a woman who was present at the service given there was saved, she and her household, too. While we are speaking of being in Kirksville, we want to mention a dear Sister Vice, a real saint of God, who has been an invalid for several years. Her room where she spends her long sleepless nights in meditation and prayer is a real "Bethel." Oh, how the power of God comes down when you go and talk with her concerning Jesus and His blessed coming. We never leave without prayer, and in one of these services, she had a precious sister visiting her from Ina, who had never been saved, and in that service God gloriously regenerated her soul. If you ever go to Kirksville, call at South Halliburton St., and you will have no trouble finding the place. We would like to mention all who reside there, but time and space will not permit, but this saint of God is doing her work, though she can't get out. No one comes and goes without hearing about Jesus.

We went to Hazel Creek Union church after leaving New Harmony and had some precious services, organized a mission with over 20 members, and had one conversion Sunday morning. Bro. Sam Marcum is pastor at this church and is doing a great work.

We were called back to Shibley's Point and organized a mission with 20 members. All these dear women are doing their best to make the work a real blessing.

On the first Sunday in December we had an all day service at Bethel church and organized a District Mission Meeting, also a league. The officers of the mission are:

Sister Ora Gates, President
Sister Silva Sevits, Vice President
Sister Graco Lawson, Sec'y-Treas.
Sister Maurine Wayman, Asst Sec'y.
The next meeting will be the fifth

Sunday in January, at Stahl. These meetings are to get our women together and find out what each circle is doing and they, with the assistance of the young people, will put on a program each time. The meeting at Bethel was wonderful for the first. At the last meeting before the State Association delegates will be appointed to the State Association. We want to get these district meetings all over the state where they don't have them.

We closed out our work in the Northeast Yearly Meeting with good results and the good preachers and people certainly stood by us, and we thank them so much. We left Kirksville Friday before the second Sunday in December and reached our Philadelphia church and preached that night and over Sunday. Bro. W. R. Rush is pastor there and we sure enjoyed being with him and his good church. We organized a mission band there, or at least when we find a Ladies' Aid, we just let them change the name and keep their officers. I believe we had 13 in all. The weather began to get real cold about the time we left. But on Monday we had a meeting with the precious sisters and they all lined up in a wonderful way.

We next went to visit Center Point, one of Bro. House's churches. We were glad to meet Bro. House again, for we had worked with him one whole winter down in the Ozarks a few years ago. He is a man of God. We were not able to get the women all together at Center Point on account of the very cold weather, but Bro. House will line them up later.

We next visited Third Fork and Mt. Zion, but the weather got so awful cold we only had two services at each church. But on Sunday morning we had a precious service at Third Fork and Bro. and Sister Kerns' oldest son was saved, and that was worth it all. We were at Mt. Zion Monday and Tuesday nights, only a few out; and after services Tuesday night we left for Desloge, Mo. to spend Christmas with our girl and Sisters Franklin and Reed.

We reached here in time for prayer meeting and had one precious soul surrender his life to God. We will be here for a few days then go south to work in the Ozarks the rest of the winter.

Mission Workers, don't forget the last Friday in each month, and if God only leads you to fast one meal that day, do it and pray for me, that God will help me get a work established that will stand till Jesus comes, and

try to dress in uniforms that day, and visit in homes where there are unsaved ones, or sick ones, just as God leads.

These are the places that have given for state work:

New Harmony,	\$3.25
Hazel Creek Union,	1.95
Union Service,	1.00
Center Point,	1.05
Philadelphia,	1.55
Third Fork,30
Mt. Zion,35

In the course of a year, this will count. Pray for us.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams

Report of Oklahoma State Ass'n

Non, Oklahoma, Dec. 27, 1932.

Dear Readers of the Gem:

Since a more gifted writer has not sent in a report of our Oklahoma State Association, I will endeavor to do so.

The Association met with our Non church on October 19th. The delegates began to arrive just after noon, and by night the country around was full of them. Bro. Earlene Haskins preached the introductory sermon, after Bro. B. C. Munkus had conducted the devotional service. The house would not hold all that came the first night. Services were fine from the start.

Met on Thursday morning at 9:00 for the organization and business session. Bro. W. E. Dearmore of Waunette, Okla. was elected moderator and Bro. E. E. Morris assistant moderator. Bro. E. E. Bristow of Gerty, Okla. was elected clerk and Bro. Frank Harker assistant clerk, and Bro. Earlene Haskins of Stratford, Okla. treasurer.

The different committees were appointed, and the session adjourned for divine service.

At eleven o'clock Bro. Rogers of Drumright, Okla. brought a fine message on "The Grand Reunion," followed by Bro. Melvin Bingham of Tulsa. Bro. Bingham is a fine preacher. He is pastor of the Tulsa church.

We met at 2:30 p. m. for the afternoon session started off fine and harmony prevailed throughout the session.

Thursday night Bro. J. E. Yandell of Red Oak, Okla. brought the message after a fine devotional service, followed by Bro. F. C. Jones of the Grand River Association.

Friday was preachers' and deacons' day. Bro. John Bean of Oklahoma City and Bro. E. E. Morris of Blanchard delivered two more fine sermons.

Friday night Bro. Dixon of Checo-

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Report of Revival Meeting

We began a meeting at our Jones Chapel church December 5th, that being the regular monthly appointment.

The services were well attended and the Christian people went right to work, but when the cold weather came, a few nights later, it seemed impossible for the people to get to services, so we stopped the meeting, expecting to go on when the Lord tells us to.

The Lord gave us some wonderful blessings in the services and one soul was saved.

Elders Kenneth and Noel Turner.

Buffalo Springs, Texas, Nov. 22

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I wonder how many of us are looking forward to Christmas as we should, and really appreciate the day as we ought to.

It is wonderful to think of the beautiful gift God gave the world. When we bestow our gifts to each other, they only make one, or at most a few hearts happy, but the gift God gave makes the millions happy, or the whole world if they would only accept the gift of the blessed Christ child.

It is sweet to just sit down and meditate over the lovely night when Mary and Joseph were made to rejoice over their beautiful child and the lovely mother knew He was the Son of God. I often wonder about her, the many joys of her heart, of the Son of God, then how many sad hours she spent when He was mistreated, and crucified. I want to live pure, that I may meet Him and see the nail prints in His hands. How beautiful heaven must be with Christ and the angels and our Father, and the beautiful City! I feel so very unworthy of ever living in a place so wonderful.

God has been so good to me all the days of my life. I had good old Christian parents. My father Rev. J. W. Shults, preached the Gospel many years. He died six years ago in April. Mother is still left with us. My husband, Tiff Covington has been preaching for more than three years.

We are proud of our home. We have four sweet children, two boys and two girls. We are trusting God to care for us thru

these trying times and we are believing that our children will accept Christ as soon as they become accountable.

I am sorry to say that one of our dear old preachers, Bro. Holliway, died lately. He lived in Arkansas, but he has a daughter near Decatur, Texas. He was one of the best men I ever knew. He could read the Bible for hours at a time and never open it, he had such a wonderful memory.

I hope to see a great revival next summer. Pray for us.

Mrs. Carrye D. Covington.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dec. 17, 1932.

Dear Gem Family, and Editor:

Just a word, as this is the last article I will get to write in 1932.

This year has been very successful for us here at Tulsa. Just closed a wonderful revival here December 6th with 76 conversions and 41 additions to our church. I baptized 44. So we are hoping for a great New Year.

Of late the flu has been raging and I have been one of its victims. I got up too early and suffered a comeback of the enemy, but praise the Lord I am able to rally to the front again. I was very sorry that I was not able to attend Bro. Taylor's funeral. He was Sister Newman's father, and one of our ablest deacons and song leader. He has departed, but has just moved to Heaven to be with the redeemed. Bro. Taylor was one of our foremost leaders in our Association. We have no words to express how he will be missed in our Association. We have lost: but Heaven has gained. We will say with Paul, "To live is Christ: to die is gain." God bless and comfort the bereaved, our beloved Sister Taylor and children.

Just received a letter from Bro. Marvin P. Dalton, reporting a wonderful revival at Osage, Okla. Twenty-two conversions so far, and going right on through this great storm, so you know he is doing some good preaching. He is one of our young preachers. He started out from Jerusalem, too—the Tulsa church—and we are certainly proud of him.

Bro. Harry Staires reports a good meeting at our New Home church where he is pastor. He, too, started from the Tulsa church

as did his brother, O. H. Staires, who is pastor of our new church, near Collinsville, Okla. where we had a wonderful revival in Aug. with 102 conversions and 82 additions to the church.

We have other preachers who are doing fine. Our beloved Sister Pruitt, our woman preacher, is sweeping stakes. She fights the enemy hard and is a real live wire.

Bro. Edmondson, one of our licensed preachers, left for Mo. some time ago, sure would like to hear from him and know of his work. He, like Gideon, is a fighter for God.

Our beloved Bro. Earl Hough, who recently left for Fort Smith, Arkansas, is a devil fighter, and exposes his work. He, too, is from Tulsa church, the Jerusalem church. Space will not permit me to mention them all.

Just a word for our good editor and our paper. We have the "best" and most spiritual publication I know of and our editor is eligible and efficient for the job; let's hold his hands up; we must not have any detours.

As ever, "The Kingdom First."

Melvin Bingham,
1034 N. St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.

Mt'n Grove, Missouri, R4, Dec. 19

Dear Gem Family:

I will write you a few lines to let you know that I am still in the fight. Several whom I thought were much stronger than I have quit and gone back home, but I know in whom I have believed, and am still determined to go on through for the Lord.

I received a birthday card this morning from an old veteran of the cross, who has been of much help to me, and she said she expected me to continue to preach the Word. (I hope I never will betray your confidence Aunt Lina)

I feel encouraged since I went to the State Association and saw and heard so many of our young ministers. I saw them take the stand against sin, heard them condemn sin in all of its forms; it makes me know that there will be someone who is not ashamed of the Gospel, nor afraid to preach it when we older ones are gone. I certainly was well pleased with the church and the people at New Harmony. A Christian

preacher by the name of Lind was in our town (Mt'n Grove), holding a series of meetings, from Queen City, Mo., who spoke very highly of the New Harmony church and people.

Well, I have been listening for Bro. McAdams to call a meeting of the Executive Board of the Co-operative Association, for the purpose of us people and the F. W. B. of the East trying to get together. That has been my goal since I was at Bryan, Texas last June. I want to see us with one General Conference for all F. W. B. in the U. S. A. and am willing to help make it so.

I have just closed a two weeks' meeting in Mountain Grove. We had a good meeting, but not as many conversions as we hoped for, only seven. We have a right good church in Mountain Grove.

Your brother in Christ,
Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.

New Edinburg, Arkansas

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

If you'll permit me space, I'll try in my weak way, by the help of the Lord, to say a few words in His name and for His cause.

I thank God that I am still on praying and pleading terms with my blessed Savior.

I have experienced and witnessed things since I last wrote to this grand little paper, I never have experienced before. But I thank God that I came out victor over these things.

As some of you know, I've been in ill health for several years. August 5th I underwent an operation for appendicitis and got along fine, but there's one thing that grieved me most, which some may say, "Guess it was being away from companion and baby." No, indeed, I left them in the Lord's care. But this was it, During the two weeks I stayed at the hospital I never heard a word spoken for my blessed Master. Oh, how awful that folks get so carried away with the things of this old world that they never think of their Creator who so mercifully blesses them day by day, and if their lives should be cut off suddenly, just think, dear people, what their portion would be.

Well, time went on until the time of our State Association. I didn't think I was physically

able to attend it, but one of our delegates, old Bro. Job, a man of God, insisted that I go, so I, being so near starved for some spiritual food, decided to attend. I thank God for things I saw during that Association. It was so strengthening, both physically and spiritually, that my "cup" didn't just get full, but it ran over, bless the name of the Lord. I saw so many witnesses stand and testify that they loved the Lord that it was a real feast to my soul. This made my determination stronger to go all the way.

And since that time God saw fit to take from our home two precious infant twin boys. It was hard to give them up, but God knew best. It only made heaven nearer and dearer, it means more to me today than it ever has.

I'll close by asking all who read this to pray for me, that I may ever live a consecrated life for Jesus.

A sister in Christ,
Mrs. Iva Mae McClellan.

Hannon, Missouri, Dec. 14, 1932.

Dear Gem Readers:

As it has been some time since I have written to our little paper, I feel that I would like to send in a few lines. I have many friends who read the Gem and wish to let them know I am still enjoying the blessings of God upon my soul; and trying to do my little bit in His vineyard. I love His work and want to see it prosper.

There is nothing that gives me more real joy than trying to tell others the "Old, Old Story of Jesus and His Love." What a wonderful message to bring to those who are in darkness and despair!

Nearly two thousand years ago man began to realize the proof of our Father's love, when He sent the Savior. Angels first told the story on that Christmas morn. Angels would fain tell the story of salvation today, but God has called us, His servants to do that; and I am truly glad that I can have a little part in the great work.

Since I answered the call something over a year ago, I have tried to keep busy in His service. I'm so glad I can say that God has blessed my weak efforts. Nearly every Sunday has been full. Have

had regular days each month with our Sylvandale and Bluff churches also at a community church near my home, McKill Chapel, for most of the past year.

Since our Association I have been called to pastor Sylvandale, Independence, Wagoner and McKill Chapel churches for this year. I feel the great responsibility, but I want to stay under the leadership of God's Spirit, for I know "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

I also want to say a few words about the wonderful revival God gave us at the old Bluff church, a few miles east of Hannon. Just after the Association we went over to assist Sister Lottie Chandler, a real woman of God, in the meeting there. It ran five weeks and twenty precious souls found the Lord precious to their souls, and since then we have been able to see the little church reorganized and prospects are fine. Sister Chandler and Sister Edith Mayfield preach for them each month.

Sister Mayfield and I held a two weeks' meeting at McKill Chapel, beginning the first of Nov. Though we didn't see the results we had hoped for, one soul was saved and we hope seed were sown that may be harvested later.

I ask an interest in your prayers that I may always stay where the Lord can use me, for if He can get any glory from my life I want Him to have it. May God bless His children everywhere.

A sister in Christ,
Eld. Roena C. Thomas.

Monett, Missouri, Dec. 1, 1932

Dear Gem Readers:

I want to make a report of the five weeks' meeting we have just closed at Blue Eye, Mo. There were only about fifteen saved, five added to the church, and three baptized, but I have never held a meeting where the church was helped so much as in this meeting. The church was really needing a meeting, and this meeting certainly did serve the purpose in lining things up. The church there is in the best shape it has been in for some time. We have some real F. W. B. at Blue Eye, and they love their church too; not only that, but they love the Lord. There are lots of fine people in that country, and I feel

that I have many warm friends there, even outside the church.

Eld. John Swaffar helped us in the meeting all the way through, except a few nights on the last, when he was obliged to go to a meeting in Kansas at the church he is pastoring. He made many friends while there and was a great help in the meeting.

I expect my next meeting will be here at my home church, Macedonia. Most all of our preachers here in the Indian Creek Ass'n are just as busy as we can be, and then it seems that we can't keep caught up.

Many of the dear faces are still fresh on our minds that we met at the State Association, and I trust the Lord is blessing you all. I spend lots of time thinking of our denomination here, there, and everywhere. I like to see loyal Free Will Baptist and pray for its continued success, even in a greater way.

I desire an interest in all your prayers. Love to all.

Winford Davis.

Report of Revival Meeting

We began a meeting at Oak Grove church, November 18th and closed December 5th.

The people were truly ready and anxious for a meeting, and God poured out His Spirit upon us, in the old time way. When you come to Oak Grove, don't be afraid to shout, if you feel like it, for the people there often shout and praise God, as only true Christians can.

There were 18 souls saved, 6 united with the church, and 11 were baptized. Most of them were men and women who lived in the Oak Grove community. This, we feel sure, will be a great benefit to our church at that place and also to the whole community. Elders Kenneth and Noel Turner.

Conduct a Revival

Elder T. O. Hutchinson of Neosho and Charles Fredrick of Monett closed a successful four days' revival meeting at the Free Will Baptist church at Pleasant Grove, six miles west of Anderson, Sunday night.

They are now in charge of a revival which opened Thursday night at the Lone Hill school house, southeast of Monett.

REPORT OF OKLA. STATE ASS'N (Continued from page five)

tah delivered another fine sermon on "The Church."

Saturday morning we met at 9:00 for business. Committee reports were received and a number of resolutions were adopted.

At 11 o'clock Bro. I. W. Yandell of Stratford brought the finest sermon on "The Establishing of the Church." the writer has ever listened to. I believe if someone had started some old soul stirring song, the house would have gone into a roar.

The singing was fine from the beginning. Good song leaders at each service, such as Brothers Florence, E. A. O'Donnell, W. P. Scott, and several others. One thing Non boasts of is good singers. Bro. Geo. Miller of Tulsa was another good singer.

The Association voted at the Saturday afternoon session to send out Bro. I. W. Yandell as State Evangelist.

Our pastor, Bro. M. M. McKee had to be away on the account of sickness.

Ten different associations were represented here; it was the largest attended association of any that had been held in the state according to a statement of the moderator. The church took care of the delegates in fine shape; everyone did their part, and it was not hard on any one. We were sure proud to entertain the Ass'n. I wish I could name over all the preachers and delegates and deacons present. Twenty-five preachers were present, some I have not mentioned, because I have forgotten their names, but anyway they were a fine lot of men and women. We wish we could have the same ones again, also others to come.

As this is getting lengthy, I had better give space to a more gifted writer. I could tell about other happenings, but will close.

Yours for Christ,

Frank Purser.

Saint Louis, Missouri

First Free Will Baptist Church

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I am writing again to let you know how our league is getting along.

We are having a fine time and have pretty good attendance every meeting. We are studying the 20th chapter of Acts, and at roll call we read a verse beginning with "O." We started with "A" and sometimes we have to hunt for a word starting with certain letters. Bro. Eaves was up a couple of

weeks ago and made us a nice little talk in regard to young peoples work and about the contest that is going on in the young peoples' league.

Our Sunday school is very busy now getting up their entertainment for Christmas. We hope to have a good program for two nights, and are having pretty good crowds.

Our church services are well attended and we are getting along fine. Bro. Yancey was up some time ago and held a revival meeting and quite a number were saved. Our pastor has been sick, but he is getting along fine now.

Francis McCauley.

Baxter Springs, Kansas 2044 S. Lincoln Avenue.

Editor Free Will Baptist Gem:

For years there has been a plaint going out from the churches of the falling off of attendance at services. Various reasons have been assigned for this falling away, such as the automobile, the picture show, the radio, etc., and doubtless each has contributed its share.

However, I am persuaded that there is still another cause of this condition even more potent than either of these. Whatever may be said the fact remains that the churches for several years past have been drifting into politics. This together with many of our church papers filling their columns which should be devoted to religious interests, with advice to their readers to vote for this or that, and the fact that some of our ministers join hands with worldly forces in an effort to coerce people into morality by enforcement of law, constitutes the principal reason why the church is losing its power of appeal to the unsaved.

Let the church once separate herself from worldly things and declare to the world that henceforth she is determined to know nothing among us save Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and she will soon find herself enthroned again upon the lofty seat which she occupied before she began to dabble in the sordid things of politics. And when all of our ministers go back to the Bible and center their activities on the work of carrying out the charge in the great commission—"Preach my Gospel"—the giver of that command will bless their efforts, and the church will again attract the masses, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against her.

W. J. Edens.

INTERNATIONAL Sunday School Lessons

First Quarter, 1933

Comments by B. F. Brown

Lesson III Jan. 15, 1933.

Jesus at Work

Mark 1:21-45

Topic: Jesus Meeting Human Needs.

GOLDEN TEXT—My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.—John 5:17.

PRACTICAL TRUTH—Christ has power to meet every human need.

OUTLINE—I. Jesus teaching with authority (vs. 21, 22).

II. Jesus casting out demons—vs. 23-27.

III. Jesus healing the sick (vs. 28-34).

IV. Jesus praying in solitude (v. 35).

TIME—Early in A. D. 28.

PLACE—Capernaum; towns in Galilee

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 8:14-17, 2-4; Luke 4:31 to 5:16.

INTRODUCTION—In Mark's record of the life of Jesus we have the account of miracle after miracle in quick succession, Jesus is shown as the mighty worker. A larger portion of the Gospel is devoted to the supernatural deeds of Christ than is the case with any of the others. If one should cut out the miracles from Mark, together with the discourse material that is connected with them, he would have left nothing but shreds. This Gospel, and the others, give evidence of many miracles in the life of Jesus, yet we have no means of knowing how many miracles He performed. They probably ran into the thousands, as Mark gives us several general descriptions of a great many miracles wrought, as in verse 34 of this lesson.

EXPOSITION—I. JESUS TEACHING WITH AUTHORITY (vs. 21, 22). When, on a certain Sabbath, Christ went into the Jewish place of worship in Capernaum and taught He was probably invited to speak by the chief ruler of the synagogue, who had charge of the service. This was a courtesy commonly extended to distinguished visitors. His address made a profound impression, partly because it contrasted with the teachings of the scribes. They spoke from tradition, their discourses being largely made up of quotations from the rabbis. Their teaching was dry and legalistic. They lacked independence. On the other hand, "Jesus was like a breeze from the hills in his originality, outlook and freshness of statement" (A. T. Robertson). He spoke with divine authority and with perfect understanding of the truth. He needed to quote no one to support His doctrines, for He was directly taught and instructed by the Father. Look up John 12:49, 50; and 14:10.

Jesus was both a teacher and a preacher, but in the Gospels He is usually spoken of as teaching. Ministers today should be teachers as well as preachers and their messages should ring with authority—not because they speak as being inspired, but because their messages are based on the Word of God.

II. JESUS CASTING OUT DEMONS (vs. 23-28). While Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, a demoniac interrupted Him by crying out, "Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God." This was a peculiar occurrence, but it was one which often occurred. These people perceived at once what others failed to grasp—that Jesus was the Son of God. They perceived His holiness, and His authority over them. This knowledge cannot be explained on the theory that the supposed demon possession was mere insanity or sickness. How could crazy men or sick men know these hidden truths? That demon possession is a reality, even today is indicated by an abundance of evidence, especially in the Orient. Missionaries have told of cases, and of cures as wonderful as those recorded in the Bible. A uniform evidence is that demoniacs are greatly agitated at the name of Jesus. They could not endure His presence of old, and they cannot endure even His name today. The power of Christ over demons is a striking manifestation of His supernatural authority. Even on the insanity theory, real miracles were performed, but the insanity theory is insufficient. One liberal scholar in a recent book, says, "I believe in the possibility of the invasion of alien spirits only because of evidence I could not evade" (Elwood Worcester, in "Was Jesus an Historical Person?").

"Not as the scribes"—The highest praise for a scribe was that he resembled a cemented cistern which lost no drop of water put into it. He was bound never to teach anything but that which he had been taught. Jesus, as a teacher was not a cistern, but a spring, clear, abundant, and perennial.

III. JESUS HEALING THE SICK (vs. 29-34). When Jesus left the synagogue, He went to the home of Peter and Andrew, Matthew and Luke call it Peter's house. Andrew very likely was a bachelor who lived with his brother. Peter's mother-in-law lay sick of a fever—Luke says it was "a great fever." Jesus raised her up, and at once she ministered to them. Here is some force acting which is far more potent than mere mind cure. Who ever heard of mind cure stopping a great fever and all its effects in an instant?

That evening, when the Sabbath was past, Peter's house was fairly mobbed by a vast crowd that assembled and brought their sick and demon possessed to Jesus. No doubt the cure of the demoniac at the synagogue that morning had become known throughout the city and had created great excitement. Jesus healed every sick person in that crowd, as Matthew and Luke expressly declare. Such results demonstrate the supernatural character of the cures.

No healer connected with any cult of mind cure has ever been able to cure all cases attempted. We know that with human doctors there are many failures. But Christ healed all kinds of sickness and diseases, and healed every time. To have failed even once would have shaken the faith of the disciples in Him. The latter part of our lesson tells of a leper whom He instantly cured. Let any scientist or healer match that if he can.

IV. JESUS PRAYING IN SOLITUDE (vs. 35-45). Busy men sometimes have difficulty in finding time for their devotions. Jesus was busy, but He felt His need of communion with the Father. To escape the crowds He arose before day and went out to a solitary place to pray. Though He was the Son of God, He felt His need of the added spiritual strength that comes through prayer. He needed to receive spiritual refreshment from God in order that He might effectively give forth of Himself to men—and so do we. Possibly a reason for special prayer at this time lay in the fact that He was about to start on an evangelistic tour of the villages of Galilee. However, there is an element of mystery in connection with Jesus' need of prayer.

Lesson IV. Jan. 22, 1933.

Jesus Forgiving Sin

Mark 2:1-12.

Topic: Jesus' Power Over Sin.

GOLDEN TEXT—The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sin—Mar. 2:10

PRACTICAL TRUTH—The fact that Jesus forgave sins shows that He is divine.

OUTLINE—I. Persistent efforts—vs. 1-4

II. Vicarious faith (v. 5).

III. Sins forgiven (v. 5).

IV. Critics answered (vs. 6-12).

PLACE—Capernaum.

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 9:2-8; Luke 5:17-20.

INTRODUCTION—In last lesson Jesus went to the home of Peter and Andrew, where He raised Peter's mother-in-law from her sickness of "a great fever," and that night He healed all manner of sickness and disease.

In today's lesson He is again teaching in a private home, perhaps that of Peter and Andrew, when the four men carrying the paralyzed one let him down through a hole they made in the roof to be healed. What sort of house was it? What did it look like? From what searchers have told about the remains of homes in ancient Capernaum, and from a description of the houses in Palestine at the present time, we can get a fair idea of the house and the scene pictured in today's lesson.

The walls of the house were probably of stone hewn just enough to make them fit together by using plenty of mortar. There was but one door,

hardly wide enough for four men to enter carrying a cot. The small opening in the walls about two feet square served to admit light and air. The roof would be flat. It was constructed by laying branches of trees across from the top of one wall to the other, and this covered with a network of smaller branches, over which was plastered about a foot of mud. After it had been in place for a year or more it would be quite substantial.

On the outside of the wall, stone steps led up to the roof. These flat house tops afforded an excellent place for the family to enjoy the cool breeze at evening, and it afforded a lookout.

The average house contained but one room, sometimes quite large. There have been a hundred, may be two hundred people crowded in and around the house in which Jesus was teaching. The only thing the four men who bore him who was sick of the palsy could do was to climb the stairs and dig a hole in the roof, then let their sick friend down before the Lord to be healed.

EXPOSITION—I. PERSISTENT EFFORTS (vs. 1-4). The story of the undaunted efforts of the four men to bring a paralytic to Jesus is interesting indeed. Alas, it seemed a hopeless undertaking to even get near the door, and impossible to get on the inside where the Master was! The house was filled, the door crowded, and a throng surged outside. But these four men were determined. It was a matter of life and death. Their friend must be brought to Jesus. Such being the case, they were justified in not waiting for the usual way of entrance to be cleared and even in tearing up the roof of Peter's house. This was an exhibition of perseverance which one who saw the scene could never forget.

If people were as earnest to find Jesus today, or as earnest to bring their friends to Him, as were the men in this lesson, our churches would be filled to overflowing. The trouble is that many people, though they may be concerned about bodily welfare fail to realize the importance of finding Jesus as one's personal Savior. That, too, is a matter of life and death—not physical, but of eternal life and eternal death. Well may we seek, and seek persistently, until they find Him!

II. VICARIOUS FAITH (v. 5). "When Jesus saw their faith"—primarily the faith of the four men—He attended to the needs of the one they brought. This did not exclude faith on the part of the invalid. He must have had faith also, or the Lord would not have forgiven his sins; but that of his friends is especially noteworthy. Probably this palsied man never would have been saved and healed had it not been for their faith and determined efforts in his behalf. They proved their faith by their works. Likewise there are many people today who owe their salvation, humanly speaking, to the faith and prayers and efforts of others. In fact this is the rule. Then how great is our responsibility! We are workers together with God in this all-important business of saving men.

No doubt bringing the paralytic into the presence of Jesus increased his faith and expectancy. Likewise, while our faith and prayers and efforts can never take the place of repentance and faith on the part of one who needs salvation, they may produce conviction for sin and may influence them to seek God, and also may greatly assist them in "praying through."

III. SINS FORGIVEN (v. 5). No doubt the men who brought the paralytic were concerned primarily about his bodily healing, and had no thought of anything beyond this. However, Jesus knew that his greatest need was something else. His most deadly malady was sin, and Jesus saw that his attitude of mind and heart was such that forgiveness could be proclaimed. So He uttered the pregnant words, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." They sounded strange to those present. Never had they heard anything like that before. The scribes who were there were amazed and shocked. "Blasphemy!" they thought within themselves. "Who can forgive sins but God only?" The question was pertinent. Their theology was correct. If Christ were not God He would be guilty of blasphemy, for He was assuming authority over sin such as God alone possesses. The very fact that He undertook to forgive sins is proof that He was God, or else that He was an imposter or mentally unbalanced. But Jesus did have "power on earth to forgive sins," and brought relief to the people of His day by lifting the load of sin and guilt, and certainly His power is as great today as ever.

IV. CRITICS ANSWERED (vs. 6-12). Whether the countenances of the scribes revealed their thoughts to the Lord or whether His perception was wholly intuitive and supernatural, it would be difficult to say. At any rate, He read their minds, and He made a sufficient defense. To convince the people of His authority over sin He demonstrated His authority over disease by instantly healing the paralytic before their eyes. While this miracle was not a formal or complete proof of Jesus' right to forgive sins, it involved such supernatural power that those who saw it were convinced that it supported His claim to authority over sins as well as over disease. The people were amazed and glorified God; and whatever the scribes may have thought or felt, they were unable to openly criticize Him. The transforming power of God manifestly operating among men in any church or community constitutes a convincing answer to unbelieving critics.

Lesson V. Jan. 29, 1933.

Jesus and the Sabbath

Mark 2:13 to 3:6.

Topic: The Lord's Day.

GOLDEN TEXT—The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath (Mark 2:27, 28).

PRACTICAL TRUTH—Deeds of mercy and deeds of necessity may be per-

formed on the Sabbath Day.

OUTLINE—I. The example of David. II. The Sabbath for man (vs. 27-28). III. The spying Pharisees (vs. 1-4). IV. An effective answer (vs. 5, 6). **TIME**—About the spring of 28 A. D. **PLACES**—Capernaum and vicinity. **PARALLEL ACCOUNTS**—Matthew 12:1-14; Luke 6:1-11.

INTRODUCTION—Of all the foolish and petty traditions, or rabbinical interpretations, which clustered about the Mosaic law, there were none more senseless or more subversive of the true spirit of the law itself than those pertaining to the Sabbath. These traditions were eventually written down, and may be found in the Jewish Talmud. In one place in the Talmud, for instance, there are extensive directions as to just what may be saved if a fire should break out in a house on the Sabbath. If it occurs on Friday night one may save food for three meals; if on Saturday morning, for two meals; if on Saturday afternoon, for one meal. If one were allowed more he might become so anxious for his possessions and so forgetful of the Sabbath that he would go so far as to extinguish the fire! If one has saved fine bread out of the burning house, he is not allowed to save afterward coarse bread, but if one has saved first coarse bread, he may save afterward fine bread. If the Sabbath should come on with bread that has been baked yet in the oven, one may take out enough for three meals for one's self, and may tell others that they may come and do likewise; but it must not be taken out with a baker's shovel, which is the every-day way of doing, but with a knife.

The busy ministry of Jesus in today's lesson was spent amid the suspicious gaze of the "regulars," the "old guards," of religious piety. They virtually said, "Under no condition shall you disturb the traditions, even though men must go through life with withered hands, blind eyes, emaciated bodies, and sin-sick souls." But Jesus saw through their merely "acted religion," which He called hypocrisy.

EXPOSITION—I. THE EXAMPLE OF DAVID (vs. 23-26). It was because of their peculiar traditions that the Pharisees criticized Jesus' disciples for picking and rubbing in their hands the heads of grain as they followed a footpath through a grain field. The picking of the grain was reaping, and rubbing it to get rid of the chaff was threshing—and Jesus had permitted this to be done on the Sabbath! But Jesus answered this absurd criticism by referring them to their national hero, David. He violated the Mosaic law, and not a mere tradition of man, when he took of the showbread to satisfy his hunger and that of his followers. He rightly judged that the letter of the law must be relaxed in the presence of human need. The Pharisees did not find fault with the conduct of David, and why should they with the act of the disciples in satisfying their hunger on the sabbath? This principle of the letter of the law giving way before human need or distress is fundamental and well rec-

ognized. An ambulance rushing to a hospital will ignore the speed limit. If an automobile should turn over, passing motorists would stop and render assistance even if the street were lined with "no parking" signs. They would be criticised if they didn't.

II. THE SABBATH FOR MAN—VS. 27:28.

Christ uttered a great and fundamental truth when He said, "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." God intended that the Sabbath should minister to man's physical and spiritual welfare by providing a day of rest, which would also furnish time for public worship and spiritual culture. By their petty rules and regulations, the rabbis had turned it into an oppressive day, in which it was considered unlawful even to relieve a sufferer on that day. Of course Christ could not agree in such a perversion of a divine institution. He steadily pursued His course and relieved distress wherever and when ever He came in touch with it, even though it were on the Sabbath. Surely the world honors Him for it today; yet this was one of the main reasons why the Pharisees became bitter in their animosity against Him, and finally brought about His crucifixion. It should be a matter of concern on our part to make such use of the Sabbath that the purpose of God in its institution will be realized. Parents should direct the activities of their children on Sunday along religious lines. Simply telling children what to do is insufficient; parents should plan for them and go with them to Sunday school and other religious activities, and not just send them.

III. THE SPYING PHARISEES (vs. 1-4).

Already, at this comparatively early period in His ministry, Jesus had aroused the antagonism of the Pharisees and was being spied on by them. The latter part of our lesson tells how He was "in the synagog" again on the Sabbath. The people in Capernaum had great reason to be grateful for what Christ had done for them; but the Pharisees present were in no sympathetic mood. They were looking for something to criticize, and they found it. Probably some of them had been sent from Jerusalem to Galilee for that very purpose. There was present a man with a withered hand—a pitiful case, for whom there was no human hope of cure. Jesus knew the antagonism that an act of mercy on that occasion would arouse, but He could not quail before His enemies and preserve His dignity and self-respect. He faced them with true heroism.

IV. AN EFFECTIVE ANSWER (vs. 5-6)

According to Matthew, Jesus' critics asked Him whether it were lawful to heal on the Sabbath. The scene that followed was exciting. Jesus told the man to stand forth, and then asked the Pharisees some questions which were pointed and searching and appealed to the conscience. They could not answer without giving their case away, and so they kept still. Jesus was indignant at their malice and obstinacy and their cowardly refusal to speak. He answered their question

and their silent criticisms by boldly healing the man on the spot. Yet this act of mercy, which was clearly wrought by the power of God, so filled them with madness that they went out to plot Christ's death. It is difficult, however, to see how the letter of the Pharisees' own regulations had been broken by the Lord; for He had performed no work in healing the man, and had not even touched him. But Jesus' spirit of independence and failure to bow down to their authority cut them to the quick. Both Pharisees and Herodians, inveterate enemies, joined in plotting against the Lord. Strange combinations have been made in opposition to righteousness.

Lesson VI.

Feb. 5, 1933.

Jesus Chooses the Twelve

Mark 3:7-35.

Topic: Discipleship and its meaning.

GOLDEN TEXT—I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit (John 15:16).

PRACTICAL TRUTH—Fellowship with Christ is an essential preparation for effective Christian work.

OUTLINE—I. The cause of Jesus' popularity.

II. Jesus choosing disciples.

III. Jesus training the twelve.

TIME—A. D. 28.

PLACE—Galilee.

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 10:2-4; 12:15, 26, 22-32, 46-50; Luke 6:12-19; 8:19-21.

INTRODUCTION—We have in this lesson striking proof of the profound impression made by Jesus upon the people. His fame spread far and wide, until large numbers came to see Him, not only from all parts of Palestine, but from the countries round about. This evidence of Christ's popularity is the more striking when we remember that there were no newspapers, radios, telegraph, fast mail, or even the telephone in those days to herald His achievements far and wide. Rather, the reports concerning Him must have passed on, if at all, by word of mouth. The various accounts of how great multitudes gathered quickly when Jesus' presence was discovered, illustrate the swiftness with which an Oriental crowd can assemble. Men were not engaged in occupations which held them until a certain hour by the clock; hence when some special excitement was on, they would quickly gather together from all directions. However, the people who came from far, as related in verse 8, did not gather in an hour or in a day. They were willing to take time and put forth effort in order to see this wonderful man who was being talked about in all the surrounding country.

EXPOSITION—I. THE CAUSE OF JESUS' POPULARITY (vs. 7-11). The

chief cause of the excitement is plain. We are told that the multitudes came out unto Him "when they had heard what great things He did . . . For He had healed many; inasmuch that they pressed upon Him." It is only natural that the numerous and astounding miracles which Christ performed should have this effect. They would have the same effect if performed today. Unless the police interfered, the jams would doubtless become as great and as dangerous as those that pressed upon Him at that time. Jesus had much experience with surging masses of humanity, but He tried to avoid crowds when possible. At the time of our lesson, He escaped the pushing of the throng by entering into a boat upon the Sea of Galilee. In spite of tendency today to minimize the evidential value of miracles, they were unquestionably what attracted and convinced the people of Christ's day. Many came to be healed, and pressed upon Him that they might touch Him, and large numbers came through curiosity to see what was going on, and some came to see what they might find to criticize; for all of these reasons people go to church now.

II. JESUS CHOOSING DISCIPLES (vs. 12-19).

The plan which Jesus adopted for the propagation of the Gospel was wise and effective. If Christianity was ever to make much impression upon the world, men must be chosen and trained to carry on the work which Christ began. The choosing of the men to do this was a very important matter. According to the account in Luke just before Jesus chose the twelve disciples, He spent the entire night in prayer. We can easily believe that part of those prayers, at least, were with regard to the important decisions He was to make in the morning. Look up Luke 6:12, 13. It is evident that there was a considerable group of disciples who were with Jesus more or less, and we know that some of these men aside from the twelve, accompanied Him much of the time until the close of His ministry. For proof of this see Acts 1:21, 22. Indeed, it is difficult to think that Christ would turn any away who really desired to be with Him and learn of Him and serve Him. Even a group of women accompanied Him on at least one of His tours. See Luke 8:1-3. However, Jesus chose twelve men to be His more constantly and to have authority in a peculiar sense. They were to teach with authority, as the official representatives of the Master. They were also given power to work miracles. Paul indicates that this was one of the signs of an apostle, though this power was not entirely limited to the apostles. One can easily learn the names of the disciples by memorizing the following rime:

Peter and Andrew and James and John
—The men He most depended on;
Philip and Bartholomew.

Matthew next, and Thomas too;
James the less and Judas the greater,
Simon the zealot, and Judas the traitor.

III. JESUS TRAINING THE TWELVE (vs. 20-35). Men who were to bear such a great responsibility would need a thorough training. This is exactly what the Lord gave them. The apostles were men of humble rank, and unlearned in the schools; yet we must not jump to the conclusion that they were untrained. A theological course is usually three years in length and that is just about the length of the course these apostles had, or that some of them had, at least. During that time they listened to the greatest theological teacher that the world has ever seen. They listened to words from Christ and saw deeds performed by Him many fold more in number than those found recorded in the New Testament. Verily, these men were trained.

One of the most valuable elements in training in schools is the personal influence of teachers of strong character upon the students. To make such influence strongly felt, the students need to be much in the presence of the teachers, and here the small schools have an advantage. Christ's School of Religion was a small one. "He ordained twelve that they might be with Him." How much is involved in these words! The twelve had abundant opportunity not only to be instructed by the Master, but also to learn of Him. They were profoundly impressed by His marvelous personality. To a certain extent, at least, they absorbed His spirit. Just to be with Him was the greatest privilege in the whole world, and was the best preparation for their future work. In addition to their training during Christ's ministry, the apostles were guided by the Holy Spirit in the subsequent development of their ideas. It is the fact of this subsequent guidance which the Lord promised unto them, and as shown by the historical record, by the apostles' own claims, and by the character of their writings, that causes us to accept their teachings as authoritative.

Lesson VII. Feb. 12, 1933.

Jesus Teaching by Parables (Four Kinds of Hearers)

Mark 4:1-20.

Topic: Fruitful Christian Living.

GOLDEN TEXT—Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples (John 15:8).

PRACTICAL TRUTH—We should so prepare our hearts that they will be good soil for the Gospel seed.

- OUTLINE**—I. The Wayside Ground.
II. The Stony Ground.
III. The Thorny Ground.
IV. The Good Ground.

TIME—A. D. 28.

PLACE—Capernaum and vicinity.

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 13:1-35; Luke 8:4-15.

INTRODUCTION—One is fascinated with the simplicity of Jesus' teaching materials. To the learned scribes of

His time, who with knitted brows and contentious language tried to tangle Him in a net of overlapping and contradictory questions, Jesus' clearness of insight and mastery of thought enabled Him to borrow the commonplace scenes and customs of daily life to give simple answers to their inquiries. Among other important things, Jesus observed closely. How many persons even in rural communities ever familiarized themselves with the kinds of soil so thoroughly that they were present in mind for making illustrations? Yet with Jesus it was not soils merely, but flowers, birds, sheep, bread, clothing, wine, hens, swine, etc.—a wealth of commonplace things of life which shallower minds overlook in their efforts to be profound. And this was all for a purpose. Jesus' message clung to people's minds because He taught in the terms of daily life. Who of those who heard Jesus give the illustration of the sower and the seed would fail to be reminded of its meaning whenever they saw a sower afterward? Bishop Edwin Holt Hughes said that one Sunday evening while pastor of a Boston suburban church, he illustrated how the spirit of Jesus must be an integral part of one's life, by reference to commutation tickets which must be torn from the book by the conductor and which have printed across them in bold letters, "Worthless if detached." Many of his congregation were commuters and years later told Bishop Hughes that they seldom afterward used their tickets without thinking, "That is the way it is with the spirit of Jesus—worthless if detached from our lives."

EXPOSITION—I. *The Wayside Ground* Jesus likened the hearts of men to different kinds of soil. Some hearts are like the footpath across the field that has become hard through the tread of many feet: Seed sown there is wasted. It never gets into the soil. The birds that hover about quickly devour it. Likewise many people, usually as a result of sin, or neglect, or rejection of light, have reached such a condition of indifference regarding spiritual things that the truth makes no impression upon them. They may go to church, but the truth "goes in one ear and out the other." They do not seriously consider the matter of their spiritual welfare. After listening to a sermon that ought to stir them to action, they stand on the church steps and talk about the weather, then very much pleased with themselves go on their way as though nothing had happened. Matthew's account suggests that there is also an application to people who fail to understand the Gospel message, and who for that reason receive no permanent impression therefrom (Matt. 13:19). Probably many such people heard Christ's parables, and there are people of this sort still.

II. *The Stony Ground.* Another class of people is compared to stony ground, by which is meant soil that thinly covers underlying rock. Seed falling into such soil springs up quick-

ly after a rain. Later, when the sun is hot, the thin soil dries out and the plant withers. The roots cannot penetrate down and get a supply of moisture. Just so some people are of a shallow nature spiritually. Shallow-ness and impulsiveness are often present together. A person hears the word, seems greatly moved, becomes very enthusiastic and perhaps is really converted. But he has not fully counted the cost and lacks depth of character and deeply rooted convictions. Something happens ere long that he had not reckoned upon, and then he becomes discouraged and quickly gives up his religion. This superficial type of person is all too familiar to every Christian worker. If people are led to understand from the first what it will mean to be a Christian, and if they make their decision after fully considering the cost, there will be less withering away after the sun is up. The Gospel should be preached in such a way as to inspire loyalty to Christ.

III. *The Thorny Ground.* Still another class of people is symbolized by thorny ground. Some seed fell upon soil which already contained the seeds of thorns, and when it grew the thorns grew also and choked it. The soil was rich, but it was preoccupied. This soil represents people who are so busy with worldly affairs that they do not take time enough to nurture their spiritual life. The number of such people is legion. They are all around us. Many people are busier than they ought to be, and in that fact lies a grave danger. Some one has truly said that the person who is too busy to pray is busier than God ever intended he should be. In these days of hurry and rush it is surprisingly easy for one to allow the cares of life to monopolize his attention; but God has a right to a portion of our time, and we should make sure that He gets it. Even being busy about church activities may become a detriment if it interferes with prayer and meditation upon the Word of God. Jesus would not allow even His ministry of preaching and healing to deprive him of the spiritual strength that comes through prayer.

IV. *The Good Ground.* Finally, there is the good ground. After one has been working amid stones and thorns it is a relief to find some good, rich, clean soil that is producing a satisfactory harvest. Such soil symbolizes the person who attentively listens to the Gospel message and then sincerely acts upon it. After making his decision, he will not be turned aside by trials or persecutions or worldly affairs. He attends to his devotions, and he brings forth abundant spiritual fruit. Fortunately, in the spiritual realm it is possible for defective soil to become good soil, as it is sometimes possible in the natural realm. It is possible for an indifferent person to shake himself out of his spiritual lethargy and seriously consider his spiritual welfare. It is possible for a shallow person to count the cost and become desperately in earnest. May God help us to properly prepare the soil of our hearts.

OBITUARY

LANSFORD—Rhoda Brasel was born in Fayette County, Illinois Mar. 18, 1843, and departed this life Dec. 12, 1932, at her home in Stark City, Missouri, age 87 years, eight months and twenty-four days.

She was united in marriage to Jas. W. Lansford March 31, 1864. She was mother of six children, three of whom preceded her in death.

She was a member of Mt. Olive Baptist church for a number of years.

She leaves to mourn her departure three children, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. Noel Turner, the Dungy Undertaking Company incharge.

THE OLD MAN

Just a Little Story

Once, many years ago, I visited a cousin away in another state from where I lived, one whom I had never met, and I understood he had a nice modern home. It was after night when I arrived at the little city where this cousin lived, so I got a taxi to take me out to my cousin's, as he knew just where he lived. I went up to the door, rang the bell, and a man some forty-five years of age came to the door. I introduced myself, and he invited me into the parlor, invited me to a chair, and said he would call the old man. Very soon an elderly gentleman came into the room, a man about 75 years old, introduced as the cousin I was looking for. So he said to come and go with him, stating that he and his wife lived in the back. I followed him and to my surprise he lived in a little two room shack at the back. So they had turned the old man out into the back yard.

Too many children have turned father back, even to the back yard, but we do not stop at the children, for the most of our industries of our beloved U. S. A., the proud land of the brave and the free have turned the old man into the back yard. He no more gets a jot, but on election day, they do not forget the old man, but after election he will have to call on his children, if he has any, if not, he must beg, or go to the church. But the church does not take care of its poor old widows, no, our good deacons do not understand that part of their calling. Oh, yes, and the sick; Well, well, we are about to forget

the old man, and the old pastor or preacher, the one that has gone through the cold and the heat, and has been the bone and sinew of the church.

But, listen, we love the young preachers, we are proud of them, for the destiny of the church and country hinges upon these men and women. And we have some fine young preachers in our churches, but I do not think that the old pastor should be turned down or back just because they are old. At the last two Associations the old man was ignored.

Then we come on down to the local church, there they have turned him down to the bread line and the soup house. David said, "I once was young but now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." But the church people are different today from the days of David.

Father, I stretch my hands to thee,

No other help I know,

If thou withhold thyself from me,

Ah, whither shall I go?

Yours for glory,

A reader of the Gem and a F. W. B.

THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE

The question, many times, has been asked as to when was this department of work started, and by whom, and who has sponsored it all this time? This work has been blessing scores through all these thirty-five years of its existence.

Now as to when and by whom was this work started: To fill a great want and need, the Nebraska Yearly Meeting of Free Will Baptists first placed a short study course for each of its annual meetings, and from it has steadily broadened in its field of operation till it has covered nearly every state in the Union even reaching to other countries. Its one object has always been to help equip workers where they have not had the opportunity of more thorough training so that they might the better win souls for their Master. **THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE** does not attempt any thing more than to thus help a person to be a little more able to "give a reason for the hope that is within him."

The writer has been honored to be its Dean for all these thirty-five years, and when he went to Tecumseh, Okla. to assume the Presidency of the College, this part of the work was taken along and it became a part of that Institution. When the writer's work closed in the College, it was deemed

best to bring **THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE** work back to Nebraska. Since then it has been under the care of the two Yearly Meetings of Free Will Baptists—Kansas and Nebraska jointly.

As stated above a Correspondence Department does not assume to furnish a complete education, but supplemental, and is beneficial to both the ministry and laymen in helping to make them of more value for the Master.

Five years ago, nearly all of the students having finished their work, it was thought best to enlarge this work so that instead of One Course, we now have Four Courses, covering twelve books covering the following, viz: Doctrinal, Historical, Ministry of the Word, and Devotional. One of its aims has been to make it possible for anyone, no matter how poor, to enter this work. The teaching has always been absolutely free, the only cost, outside of that for the books, is the Registration fee of \$2 to cover postage.

To make the work of more practical value, a list of Study Questions goes with each book to better aid in the study. At the completion of any book, an Examination List of Questions are sent to which answers are written, being returned to the teacher to which a grade is given, and at the completion of the full Four Courses a Certificate-Diploma is issued which is also free. Privilege is granted to take one or more of the books using their own time for its completion. The Lord has wonderfully put His seal upon this work and it is hoped that many more may take advantage of this opportunity.

John H. Wolfe, Dean,
Pawnee City, Nebraska.

DIFFICULTIES & HINDRANCES

By Mrs. Asberry Davis

While sitting here watching it rain, I feel impressed to write a few lines in regard to Difficulties and Hindrances. If they are met in the right spirit and manner, they will cast the soul upon God, call forth much, stimulate faith and bring our all-conquering God upon the scene, and we come to take pleasure in infirmities and necessities, because they shut us to the power of Christ. Conference with our fellow workers cannot take the place of intercourse with our Master. We run in many directions for aid and counsel instead of turning to our omnipotent Lord and Leader, so that even in so called Christian service

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FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

LEAGUE REPORT

By Mrs. McAdams

Dear League Workers:

I am writing you separately this time. We have organized two new leagues since we last reported, one at New Harmony where the State Ass'n met, and one at Hazel Creek Union, and then at Bethel we organized a district league. It will be fine to get these district league meetings throughout the state and have delegates appointed at the last one for the State Association.

We are glad to find our young people anxious for new leagues to be organized where we don't have any.

We spent our last few days in N. W. Missouri with Sister Melba White, one of our state officers. We had a wonderful visit in the White home and talked of the league work, and mission work. We wanted to get a league organized at Mt. Zion, but the weather was so bad that we only had a few out.

We ask our young people to pray for 1933 to be the best year we have ever had. God bless our dear boys and girls everywhere. We pray daily for you and the great work.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

MARTINSTOWN LEAGUE REPORT

The young people of the Martins-town community met Sunday, November 20, 1932, at the hour of 2:30 p. m. to organize a Free Will Baptist League.

Meeting opened by singing, "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing." Prayer was offered by Bro. Miller.

Sister McAdams explained the By-Laws of the Free Will Baptist League.

Bro. Miller appointed the following officers:

President, Mrs. Mabel Buster
Vice President, .. Miss Marie Hodges
Secretary, Miss Ruby Leonard
Treasurer, Miss Lois Crooks

Bro Willard Byrd gave a short, but interesting talk, and promised to come and help us with our first meeting, held November 27, 1932.

Meeting closed by Bro. McAdams.

A short meeting was held Sunday night, Nov. 20th, for the purpose of getting new members.

An introduction was given by Bro. Miller.

Meeting incharge of Sister McAdams.
Minutes read by secretary.

Special song by Bro. McAdams.

Twenty-three (23) members enrolled, counting the officers.

Meeting closed with all members approved.

Our last meeting was held Nov. 27th, Meeting opened with song, "If Jesus Goes With Me."

Prayer by Bro. Harry Neff.

Song, "I Am Thine, O Lord."

Secretary made report.

Bro. Willard Byrd explained the work of each officer and gave much advice as to how to carry on the work of the League.

Lesson assigned for the next Sunday night, the first chapter of Matt.

Bro. Johnny Ewing delivered a good message from the text, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the Son of man, that thou visitest him?"

Closing song, "Just As I Am."

In our next business meeting we shall appoint the committees necessary to carry on our league work.

Miss Ruby Leonard, Secretary

TREASURES LAID UP ABOVE

Continued from page two

it, that we might keep in touch with our sister churches through the Gem.

And now as it is nearing the season when we are to celebrate the birthday of our Savior, and as it is an age old custom to give gifts on birthdays, why not do so this year by submitting a sum to be placed on the linotype, as a birthday gift to our Savior, and by so doing we will be helping to lift the burden from others, and when (if we are faithful in other things) we come to the judgment the Lord will say, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me."

May the Lord bless and keep us all faithful to Him, is my humble prayer.

I ask the prayers of all who read this, that I may live closer to the Lord and do more for Him in the future than I have done in the past.

Maggie Turner.

DIFFICULTIES & HINDRANCES

Continued from page thirteen

we are in peril of bringing upon ourselves the curse that is threatened against him that trusteth in man.

Believer, take your difficulties to the throne of grace, consider them in the light of God's word, ask your delivering God to meet you in them and show you His salvation; so you will come to know Him in a fashion that will fill your heart with joy unspeak-

able. The worth of your service is fixed by the measure of fellowship with Christ, that it represents urgencies that drive you to God, are among life's best blessings and these days of money making, we are apt to forget the praise which our Lord gave to the widow who threw in her living, and Mary who gave the precious ointment.

In all life there is a carefree, almost reckless extravagance. In the picture which the Scripture gives us of our Lord it is for us to recapture that first rapture of the Christian church. We are in the rut, can we climb out? That we can never do of ourselves, but thanks to His precious name, Jesus will never fail us if we go to Him in the right way, but life has brought struggles and trials and tunnels as dark as could be, yet praise His name, when I have trusted, Jesus has never failed me. Loved ones have failed me and left me; no star in my sky could I see, but when my grief was bitter, Jesus has comforted me.

Battles I have fought with the tempter when victor it seemed he would be. But when despairingly I have called Him, Jesus has conquered for me. Roses may brighten my future, or thorny may be my pathway, if I walk close beside Him, Jesus will never fail me. Whether it be thorns or roses, sunshine or shadow, Jesus will never fail me.

MOSES ON MOUNT NEBO

By Mrs. E. G. Tharp

"And the Lord spake unto Moses that self same day, saying, Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I gave unto the children of Israel for a possession; and die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people; because ye trespassed against me among the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah-Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin. because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the children of Israel" (Deut. 32:48 to 51).

Deut. 34:1 to 7 and 10 to 12.

v. 1. And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the Lord shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan.

2. And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all

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THE WAY: THE GOOD WAY

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is numbered. No. 5 runs through the little country town of Hartville, the county seat of Wright county, Mo. We live half a mile off this highway, and it sure is wonderful to see these highways that lead over these rocky hills all through the Ozark mountains, and I am just now thinking about what was taking place three years ago. I am still rejoicing that I was sent to Flat River to the Missouri State Association and met with so many kind friends, and they treated us so kindly that we certainly did enjoy the singing, the preaching, the prayers, the food we ate and the water we drank. Listen, folks, my son that drove for us, what do you think he did before we started on that trip? He got a map showing us the way to go, the number of the highway to take, as you know we didn't want to get on the wrong road. Well, do you think we put it in the suit case with the rest of our belongings? No, he kept it in his pocket, what time I wasn't looking to see if we were going right. Well, this is nothing to compare with the HIGH WAY of holiness Isaiah tells us about in Isaiah 35:8, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness: the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein, but the redeemed shall walk there." Read the 9th and 10th verses. Now, if you were going on a long journey, you would get one of those way bills, even if it cost you a price. Well, is it not strange that we have the Bible for our way bill, leading from earth to heaven and seldom look to see if we are going right, but ask some one what they think; is it wrong for church members to play cards, dance, drink, get drunk, smoke, play ball on Sunday, and numerous other things? Some say, "No harm, if you go to Sunday school and church first, then see a good time the rest of the day." But, listen folks, the Bible says that you cannot serve God and mammon. When you are traveling the highway that man has built and you see the sign, "turn," you turn because you know, if you go on stiff-necked, you will perhaps get killed. When they say, "Stop!" you stop. When they say, "Go!" you go. Look out! the road is narrow; you had better be careful! Oh, how we listen to man, and not to God! We are on our way to that city not made with hands,

eternally in the heavens. The Lord is our Judge, the Lord is our Lawgiver, the Lord is our King, He will save us.

Matthew says, 7:13, 14, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." "Let the wicked forsake his Way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord" (Isaiah 55:7). "And I will give them one heart, and one Way, that they may fear me forever, for the good of them and of their children after them" (Jer. 32:39). "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the Ways, and see and ask for the old paths, where is the good WAY, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer. 6:16). "All the Ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirits. "There is a Way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the Ways of death" "The Highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his Way, preserveth his soul" (Prov. XVI). "In the WAY of righteousness is life; and in the pathway thereof there is no death." "But the Way of the transgressor is hard." Jesus is the light on this Highway of holiness—"He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness." This light never grows dim, but the same yesterday, and today, and forever more. "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away; oh, wont that be glory, by and by, over there!

I have stayed too long again. I sure don't want to weary you with my poorly written letters, neither do I wish to come so often as to wear my welcome out.

I do enjoy all the letters in the Gem. It seems a long time to wait from one month to another. Mrs. R. M. Edwards gave her age as 73 and I thought it a wonderful letter for an old lady to write. God bless all and let us not neglect to look at our way bill often, that we may be sure to reach heaven.

MOSES ON MOUNT NEBO

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the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea,

3. And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm

trees, unto Zoar.

4. And the Lord 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

5. So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord.

6. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

7. And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

10. And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face,

11. In all the signs and wonders, which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,

12. And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel.

Here we have the closing chapter of a long and useful life on earth. We note in the fifth verse that Moses died, according to the word of God. He was not permitted to lead the children of Israel over the River Jordan into the promised land, because he disobeyed God's command. He smote the rock, instead of speaking to it as God had told him. You will find an account of this in Numbers, chap. 20. Aaron and Moses both were told that they could not enter the promised land. Had you thought about it, dear reader? had you thought what it means to disobey, ever so little? We might say, What difference does it make? When God had given Moses instructions for the tabernacle, and all the things that pertained to it, He said, "And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount." Moses did all this according to the instructions of his God: yet rebelled against God's word at the waters of Meribah. God told him to speak to the rock; but Moses was so vexed with the murmuring multitude that he smote it; so failed to have the privilege of entering the promised land. How careful ought we to live! How prayerfully we should study God's Word! Why, you can get to talking with some Christians, and they will quote you a lot of scripture that is not inside the lids of God's Book. They have heard it quoted for scripture, but it is not; so let us be

careful and search the scriptures daily. In St. John 5:39, the Savior said, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." We find Paul instructing Timothy, 2 Tim. 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Let us contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Please get your New Testament and read "Jude." What a wonderful sermon written in just twenty-five verses!

Pray for me: I need your prayers.

LA RUE, ARKANSAS

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and all the Gem Family: Greetings in Jesus' name:

As I sit here alone this beautiful New Year's day, my thoughts wander back to childhood days, and I can realize that God has been good and merciful to me all along life's pathway, even when I was out in sin He cared for me, and kept me from dangers both seen and unseen; and I can realize at the close of each day that I am one day nearer that blessed home which Jesus has gone to prepare for me. I am just praying that I may be able to do more for my blessed Savior the coming year than I have in the past.

Bro. Brown, I noticed a blue pencil mark on my December issue of the Gem, so I am sending one dollar for renewal, hoping that I will not be so late as to miss the January number. I surely do enjoy reading the Gem, it is food to my soul. I think the Gem should be in every Free Will Baptist home.

Wishing each one a happy New Year, I ask that you remember me and my family in prayer.

Mrs. J. W. Allred.

The Editor is truly thankful for the thought, desire and purpose in life which Sister Allred has expressed, and for the spirit of the expression. May we each one so live each day, that at its close, we may realize that we are one day nearer our Eternal Home.

May the year 1933 be a happy prosperous year for each of you, because of the blessings which the good Lord shall bestow upon you in answer to your love and obedience to Him, and your loyalty to His cause.

REMEMBER

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Minute Work

We will appreciate your minute work this year. Patronize your Free Will Baptist publishing house, Purdy, Missouri.

If you want your minutes out early, send in your manuscript early.

Write us for information and an estimate on the cost of your work.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yes, we need subscriptions; and YOU can help us to get them, will you help?

We made an agreement at our State Association to put the price of the Gem at \$1.00 per year, six months for 50 cents, and give 25 cents out of every dollar received for subscriptions to the linotype fund until the balance of the debt on the linotype is paid off. About \$160.00 was raised at our State meeting to apply on this debt, but we still owe above \$400.00, which draws 7% interest.

It will take 1600 subscriptions at 25c each to raise the \$400.00. That seems like a lot of subscriptions to get in one year, but we ought to have them, and we CAN get them if we ALL work for them.

If you think this method is too slow, just add something (25 cents or more) to the dollar you send for your subscription; but let us have your subscription at \$1.00 and as many more as you can get. If your subscription is paid up for some time, would you urge others to subscribe?

Remember that the linotype belongs to the Free Will Baptist of the Mo. State Association.

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We are thankful for the manuscript furnished by our friends. We are also very thankful for the articles left over for next issue. May the Lord bless you through all your life.