

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
AND OF THE CO-OPERATIVE GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. 5. No. 2.

Purdy, Missouri, February, 1933.

75 cents per year.

## WHY GO TO CHURCH?

By Miss Linnie McCoy

A self survey as to "Why go to Church" reveals the following reasons:

1. Habit. Going to church, like learning to walk, has become second nature, thanks to the influence of Godly ancestors.

2. Custom—The example of the best people in every community in which I have ever lived convinces me that the most worthy and the most useful people in every community go to church.

3. Obedience—The spirit of loyalty to His Word and to His will makes it a duty as well as a great privilege to attend the services of His house.

4. Love—The inspiration and blessing that I feel in His holy temple prompt me to say, like the Psalmist of old, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

Back of all the above reasons are the real benefits which church attendance brings.

Information—In the course of my life I have never found any other regular and systematic opportunity for helpful contact and high thinking comparable to that afforded by the church.

Development—No other agency provides such a favorable setting for the discovery of the virtues and graces that enoble life.

Strength—In the atmosphere of God's house, I find the communion and fellowship that enable me to share His available power and purpose with Him.

Co-operation—Conscious of my own limitations and the wisdom of collective effort, I find in church attendance the preparation that I need for planning and working with others.

Service—Since service is the measure of success and the church is the most excellent agency for service, church attendance affords

the best possible means for preparation for expressing and enlarging my life in loving service to my Father and to His children.

The habit of church attendance is profitable because:

It Rests the Body—It is good for one's health to alter the routine of the week for attendance at the Lord's house. The rest and the quiet of the house of prayer will be a source of recuperation to any citizen.

It Refreshes the Mind—Church attendance invigorates the mental faculties by engaging them with the great themes from God's Word.

It Promotes Brotherhood and Democracy—The church is a training school for democracy. It stands for a brotherhood that overleaps all distinctions of race, blood, or nationality.

It Protects Secular Institutions—The permanence of our schools, libraries, hospitals, stores, mills, and factories depend on the godliness of our citizens. The spiritual institutions conserve the material.

It Conforms to the Practice of the Best Man that Ever Lived—Jesus went to church regularly, and if He was benefitted by the practice, we may well expect to be benefitted by it.

It Testifies to the Truth of Christ and Extends His Influence—Church attendance is a form of religious confession which bears witness before the world of Christ's goodness and power. Every religious meeting is a contribution of the Lord's followers to the Lord's cause. It is through this united testimony that impressions are made on the community.

Best of All, It Enables us to meet God—The church is the meeting place of the soul and its Maker. Where shall we look for God, assured that we shall find Him? Christian experience answers this question of heart hunger by calling us to the house of

prayer.

Dear readers, if you don't have the "Go To Church" habit, won't you begin now?

Phillipsburg, Missouri, R2.

## GOD'S TENTH

Mrs. E. G. Thorp

"Take heed to thyself that thou forsake not the Levite as long as thou livest upon the earth" (Deut. 12:19).

God had separated the tribe of Levi for special service and had given him no part nor inheritance with his brethren. Moses tells us (Deut. 10:9) that the Lord is his inheritance.

God required a certain portion to be given to the priests for their support, from the tithes and offerings, that the Israelites were required to give; and we find by reading the history of national Israel, when they failed to bring in the tithes and offerings, what happened.

Mal. 3:8 asks this question, "Will a man rob God?" then tells us how they had robbed: in tithes and offerings. Verse nine tells us, "Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation." Then verse ten tells us the remedy: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Now, dear readers, do not think that the obligation of tithing ceased with the closing up of Old Testament times, for Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 9:13-14, "Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach

the gospel should live of the gospel?"

You may be wondering why I have chosen to write on this subject. It is because of the crying need of the support of God's ministers, and I feel that no one is better acquainted with the circumstances of underpaid ministers than I, because I am the daughter of an old minister who wore his life out in God's service, and I want to tell you that some one has to pay the price. I believe that God's ministers today should be like the Levites of old, have no inheritance with their brethren (nothing to tie them down, or hinder them from giving their time to the ministry), and God's children can untie the hands of God's ministers if they will only bring in the tithes (tenth) and offerings. If we who profess to be God's servants will do this we will not only take care of God's ministers, but will be able to give to every worthy cause. We can, if we will, support an orphanage home. We can, if we will, support the old preachers who have worn out their lives in God's service. Then, too, we can help the poor and all out of God's tithes and offerings. In Proverbs 28:27, we find this statement: "He that giveth to the poor shall not lack, but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse." Then let us look at Prov. 11:24, "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." Then the 25th verse tells us, "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." Prov. 19:17 says, "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again." So let me beg you, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us get down on our knees and pray over this matter, and be led by the Holy Spirit; and if the Lord lays it on your heart to give a tenth, give it: and if more, give more! If we will be faithful stewards, and "render unto God the things that are God's," we will be intrusted with more. So let's swing out on His promises, try Him and prove Him. We are now entering a new year; let His servants serve Him! I know of no better time to begin tithing, so let's get

hold of the wheel, and start the load; and put over God's work in great shape.

### THE CHURCH

Elder N. E. Snyder

I have been criticised a number of times for the advice I give to young converts in regard to joining the church. I never hold a meeting that I do not tell the converts to unite themselves with some organized church. And have always said that if I can't give a Bible reason for a thing I preach, I will do my best to make it right.

So, the Lord being my helper, I will try to give my reason for giving the advice I do in regard to joining the church:

In 1 Cor. 15:44, Paul said, "There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body." The church is the body of Christ, so to say there is no organized body of the church would mean to say that Christ has not come in the flesh. But if Christ came in the flesh, there must be an organized body of the church.

Well, if there is an organized body, where is the record of the organization? Read Mark 3:3-20. Here we have the record of the organization. Mark 3:19 tells us that they went into a house. Most people think that was a home in which someone lived, but I have no reason to believe that it has any reference to a house to live in. Just let us see if we can find any place where it is called a house. Let us see 1 Tim. 3:15, "But if I tarry long that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth." Who was the first in the church? (1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 2:22) "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (1 Cor. 3:16) "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" Acts 16:4-5 tells us that "as they went through the cities they delivered them the decrees for to keep that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem; and so were the churches established in the faith and increased in number daily." To establish is to fix firmly, to organize is to arrange in effect-

ive order.

Next, what is its name? (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:2; 10:32; 11:22; 15:9; Isaiah 44:4-6). Members added (Acts 1:15; 2:41-47; 9:26-28; Rev. 3:4). Acts 9:26 tells us, "And when Saul was come to Jerusalem he assayed to join himself to the disciples, but they were all afraid of him and believed not that he was a disciple." To join means to unite, add or annex. We are told in John 17:16 that Jesus, in speaking of disciples, said, "They are not of this world even as I am not of the world," and in 2 Cor. 6:17, Paul advises us that we are the temple of God; "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you."

Members put out. In 1 Cor. V, Paul instructs the Corinthians to put away from among themselves that wicked person. If there is no organized body of the church, where will they put him? If the church is where the people come together, they will have to take him to some uninhabited island and if all of our churches were cleaned up, the island would be covered up so deep that all the first ones would smother to death. We have a number of people who tell us that God sets the members in the church and that no man can put them out.

But in 3rd John, verses 9 and 10 we read, "I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loved to have the preeminence among them, received us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church." Now to say that no man can put any one out of the church is to make God's word false, for John said this man cast them out. Christ, in Matt. 18:7-10, instructs us in regard to the offending members of the body, to cut them off.

Who is opposed to church organization? In Ephesians 5:30, in speaking of the members of the church, we are told that we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. And Jesus him-

(Continued on page 15)

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Published monthly at Purdy, Missouri.


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

Entered as Second Class Matter, June 4, 1930, at the  
Post Office at Purdy, Mo., under the act of March 3, 1879.

## TERMS

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

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

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

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

## MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. E. T. House,	Santa Rosa, Mo.
Ass't Mod.,	Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.,	Mt'n Grove, Mo.
Clerk-Treas.,	Eld. Winford Davis,	Monett, Mo.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. B. F. Brown,	Purdy, Mo.
Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.,	Mt. Grove, Mo.
Bro. J. P. McCullough,	Alton, Mo.
Eld. T. C. Ferguson,	Ash Grove, Mo.
Eld. Jas. F. Miller,	Flat River, Mo.

## EVANGELIST

Serving without salary

Eld. G. W. Scott, Sr.,	Mt. Grove, Mo.
------------------------	----------------

## GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS

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

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr.,	R4, Mountain Grove, Mo.
Eld. Winford Davis,	R1, Monett, Mo.
Eld. Melvin Bingham,	1023 N. St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.
Eld. H. M. McAdams,	307 N. Ohio St., Drumright, Okla.
Eld. E. A. O'Donnell,	523 W. Texas St., Denison, Texas.

## EVANGELIST AND FIELD AGENT

Endorsed by the Association

Serving without salary

Eld. T. C. Ferguson,	R2, Weatherby, Mo.
----------------------	--------------------

## THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

## WHAT MEANETH THESE THINGS?

What things? The things which are coming to pass and are manifest on every hand, the things by which men are depressed and distressed, the perplexing things which man's wisdom cannot explain nor understand.

Everywhere this depression is being keenly felt, and in some countries far more than in our own country. We are told that these conditions are the results of the World War; that history repeats itself and that prosperous times will return, but conditions exist now that never existed on earth before, they are signs of the end time.

In our own country dry laws are being repealed and strong drink is being legalized. Won't it be uplifting when those who manage the affairs of our nation, perhaps including our president, shall stand at the bar drinking beer and wine?

In Russia God is completely ruled out by the government. Millions have been slain and they are killing and exiling all those (thousands) who do not readily obey the bosses. The "Mark of the beast" is already impressed in Russia. "Obey, or you shall not eat," is the rule in Russia.

Italy is under a dictator who hopes to extend his powers to the ends of the earth. It is said that the whole population of Russia and Italy must serve in their armies without pay; it is awful, yet there are those in high places in U. S. A. who advocate a dictator for United States.

Jesus said, "And upon earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming upon the earth" (Luke 21:26). This about states the situation of today, and there is no promise of any change for the better. Jesus said this would be in the end time, and He said, "When ye see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors" (Mark 13:29). The conditions which now distress and depress the human race will not get better, but will wax worse to the end, which is nigh; for Jesus said, "These are the beginnings of sorrows" (Mark 13:8). These things mean that the end is near at hand.

Allegiance to the powers of darkness has brought on the conditions of today; and will soon bring the impress of the "Mark of the beast," even in our own fair country. The only hope and remedy is to turn about and give allegiance to the Prince of Peace, for there is hope in none other.

I thank God that there are some in almost every church who are true to the Lord, but it pains me to see so many all about us who are subjected to the powers of darkness. Even a large per cent. of church members are allied with the enemies of God and righteousness. The barren fig tree had plenty of leaves (Mark 11:13), but the Lord cursed it because it bore no fruit. A Christian bears fruit, but how about the church member who is Christian only in name? The ten virgins (Matt. 25) all had lamps (of profession), but only those who had oil in their lamps went in to the marriage. Really now, would you be glad to see Jesus coming?

**HARTVILLE, MISSOURI**

Dear Readers of the Gem:

It has been some time since I have written to the Gem, so with the Lord's help, I will attempt to write a few lines for my Master and try to say something that will help myself if no one else, but I would like to be able to help others. I am still trying to do the will of my heavenly Father. I am not tired, and find that each day brings me under renewed obligations to Him, but I am trying to be a good steward for Him and am praying for His believing children every day, that we as a little band of Christians may flock together and be as a city set on a hill, so that the unsaved may see that there is something to serving God. I am so glad that God has granted me the privilege of service. I have nothing at all to boast of, but am glad that I can do something for my Savior.

I have not found the Christian life easy at all, neither did I expect to, for Jesus told Paul He would show him how great things He must suffer; but with all the suffering and hardships there is real joy in serving God, and I would far rather suffer the trials and live for God, knowing they work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Paul said, "I reckon the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18), and I am praying God to help me to be willing to have my head severed from my body if it is necessary for His blessed cause.

My dear friends, many of us have never been put to the test as was Daniel or Stephen, we have never been cast into a den of lions nor stoned almost to death, nor cast into prison for preaching the Gospel as were Paul and Silas. Oh, may God help us to be more bold to go out and preach against sin; if it takes our lives, let's not be afraid of losing some earthly friend, a friend that cannot stand the truth is not much of a friend; let us cling to the One that sticks closer than a brother; let's not be afraid to teach and preach the truth, no matter what the world may say. Let us not be afraid of being criticised and persecuted. Jesus said, "It is enough for the

disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?" (Matt. 10:25).

Let us be like Shadrack Meshack and Abednego, let us stand firm for God and not fall down and worship the devil. Christian friend, let us be brave soldiers for Jesus; we know that if God be for us, none can be against us. But Jesus, when He was sending out the disciples to preach His word, said, "Fear not them that destroy the body, but rather fear Him that hath power to destroy both soul and body in hell." May God help us to be true to the cause which we represent, and to be true blue is my prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Lucy Deckard.

I WISH to take this means of publicly acknowledging my call to the ministry. I had felt the call before, but I was thoroughly convinced in the revival meeting at Pleasant Hill and asked God to make it plain to me if He wanted me to preach His blessed word and He did. I am not writing this boastfully, but I desire the prayers of God's people, for I feel the need of them. Pray for me, that I may be used of God according to His will.

Lucy Deckard.

**Revival Meeting Report**

Greentop, Mo., Jan. 18th.

Dear Bro. Brown:

We are still in the service of the Lord.

The meeting at Hazel Creek Union closed with 11 conversions.

We expect to begin a meeting at New Harmony Saturday night.

We have had wonderful weather, good attendance, and some real good services.

We expect to have baptizing in the near future.

Will give full report when we return home.

Elder Noel Turner.

**Report of Revival Meeting**

On Sunday evening, December 1st, I went to my appointment and started a meeting at our church in Carterville. The Lord was working with the people in a

great way. The first night we had a wonderful meeting with a few shouts for joy.

Bro. Johnnie Swaffar was then in a meeting in Kansas, but came to our aid that week. Conviction was manifested and souls were saved the first week. On the following Sunday evening the weather was bad, and Bro. Swaffar was sick, but we had a wonderful service with five souls saved by the power of God. We continued until Friday of the following week and the weather was so bad that we decided to discontinue until conditions of the weather were better. We are glad to report that ten souls were saved, and four additions to the church, with the revival spirit still high.

Pray for us.

Elders Johnnie Swaffar and  
Cecil Campbell.

Grove Spring, Mo., Jan. 15, 1933.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I am writing you again to let you know that I am still on the battle front for my Lord.

I certainly do enjoy reading the good letters from our brothers and sisters in Christ; it is so much help to us, and when the road of life seems dark and rough, oh, how helpful it is to read a good letter that some good brother or sister has written, telling about the many trials and temptations we may come in contact with. Then we know that when we go to our dear Lord in prayer, asking Him to lead us as we would go to our earthly parents if we were in need of anything which father or mother could do for us, but, oh, how willing our dear heavenly Father is to help us bear the trials and temptations we must face from time to time, if we will but ask His help. He will never forsake us if we stay close to His side and always be willing that His will be done, and not ours.

If we all, as Christ's children, would but let the dear Lord have His way in our lives, oh, what a world this world would be! The preacher today preached on the Second Coming of Christ to earth and as he preached, our minds wondered and the thought of what a glorious time that would be when we meet with our friends and relatives, never to part again! Then there will be no cripples,

none lame and no feeble minded, but all will be alike and we'll wear robes of spotless white. What a glorious thought it is and most of all we can see Jesus who gave His life a ransom for us all. Then, dear Christians, let us live so we can be in that number when the dear Lord comes.

May the heavenly Father's richest blessings abide with our dear editor and wife and with every reader of the Gem. Pray for me, that I may ever live humbly at the dear Master's feet, ever willing to lend a helping hand to those in distress or in sin.

A sister in Christ,  
Miss Daisy Raney.

### MISSION REPORT

Desloge, Mo., Jan., 1933.  
Dear Mission Workers:

Here we come with our New Year's report. We have had a wonderful stay in the Lead Belt. All during the Christmas holidays we were in meetings. Had 12 precious souls saved here in the Desloge church.

We had the privilege of meeting our Mission women here and telling them what we were doing in other places. Sister Franklin, our State Sec'y was with us as this is her home. We visited the Mine La Motte church where Bro. S. A. Hand is pastor, and organized two new mission circles there, and I never saw women more in earnest than these dear women. God bless them. We also visited the Fredericktown Mission that we organized just before the State Association, they are very much alive too; God be with them is our prayer.

We also visited Alsbury Chapel church, did not organize, but feel that we will later. Sometimes weather conditions and sickness hinder, but we don't let these things stop us.

We also visited the workers in Flat River, and it would have done you good to have seen this busy band of women. Sister Miller our Vice President, lives there, and she has the work at heart. We feel that, with real officers in the Mission work, it will go forward in a wonderful way. We visited Leadington church last night and had a wonderful service. BBro. Reeves is their pastor and they have a good band of mission

workers.

We organized another district mission. These district missions meet quarterly and have a President, vice president, secretary and treasurer. At the end of the year these secretaries send their reports to Sister Franklin and she makes up her yearly report from them.

We are leaving here today for the south part of the state and will visit churches there for the next few months.

Now, dear sisters, be sure to send your 10% of funds to Sister Franklin. Perhaps all of our workers didn't read our Constitution and By-Laws, so I will explain. When you raise \$10, \$20, or any amount, send 10 cents on the dollar for state work. The Stahl women were the first to send in their 10%. They served election day and made \$6.00 and sent 60 cents for state work. We have a wonderful band of women in that part of the country.

Now don't forget the last Friday in each month; it is fast day for missions and to visit the sick, the lost and every one that needs.

We are sending in the amount we have received for state work:

Desloge .....	55 cents
Mine La Motte .....	60 cents
Alsbury Chapel .....	50 cents
Flat River .....	\$1.10
Leadington .....	1.00
Total .....	\$3.75

We ask your prayers for a great Mission Work this year.

Yours for Jesus,  
Lizzie McAdams.

### MANSFIELD, MISSOURI

(Pleasant Ridge Church)

Dear Gem Readers:

On the account of sickness, I didn't get my subscription in on time and missed getting the Dec. copy of the paper, of which I am very sorry.

Enclosed you will find \$1.00 to renew my subscription for another year, for we love to read all the good letters from our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are still having a good Sunday school and church. Brother Scott is our pastor for another year, of which we are thankful.

May we all do more to help the cause during the coming year than we have in the past. May the Lord help the new con-

verts and young ministers to be faithful in their work, and may they grow stronger in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The worth of our service can never go beyond our personal experience with Him, dear ones.

We still get good out of our weekly Bible lesson meeting at each home. We have one more lesson and that will put us through the Bible again, ready to start again with the new year.

Our little church gets the Quarterly Meeting in this month and we are praying for a good meeting.

Your sister in Christ,  
Lula Crippen.

### Another Good Revival Meeting

Mt'n Grove, Mo., Jan. 24th.

Dear Bro. Brown and the Rest of the Gem Family: I will write you just a few lines. I have just got back home. I have been with Bro. J. G. Koch in a two weeks' meeting at my home church, about twenty miles north of where I now live. We had a good meeting, with twelve conversions and a good revival.

Elder Geo. W. Scott, Jr.

### Why I Go To Sunday School

By Miss Linnie McCoy

I go to Sunday school because I get acquainted there with Jesus Christ—the best friend a person ever had.

I go to Sunday school because I study there the best Book in the world.

I go to Sunday school because it is the best habit a person can form.

I go to Sunday school because it makes me happier all the week.

I go to Sunday school because it enriches my life.

I go to Sunday school because it strengthens my character.

I go to Sunday school because it improves my mind.

I go to Sunday school because I form there the best friendships in the world.

I go to Sunday school because I learn there the best songs ever sung.

Phillipsburg, Missouri, R2.

### Sand Springs, Oklahoma

I am glad to report that our work here is progressing fine.

We have several young preachers in this Association and they are making a great record.

We have preaching every Sunday and Sunday night at all of our churches in this Association.

I have received several orders for my new book on "Falling from Grace."

I am closing out my larger book, "Hand Book for Workers," at 25 cents each while they last. Those who have some of these books on hand may sell them at this price and keep your commission.

...I have other books that I expect to have printed just as soon as I can.

Your servant,

A. B. Talbert.

### Report of Revival Meeting

Dear Gem Readers and Friends:

I am glad to tell you of the meeting we just closed at Pieher, Oklahoma. God gave us a great victory.

We had fourteen nights' meeting and there were ten conversions. We will have baptizing in the near future. Some are going to join the South Pieher Free Will Baptist church.

The meeting was held in a hall. Father and I are still in the battle for God.

Yours for Christ,

Elders F. E. and Elda Crain.

### ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

First Free Will Baptist Church

Dear Gem Readers:

I will write you a few lines to let you know that we are still in the Lord's work, and still enjoying His good blessings, and praising Him from whom all blessings flow.

Our Sunday school is coming along fine and is increasing every Sunday. We had our entertainment Christmas, but owing to sickness part of the entertainment was postponed and will be finished Saturday night.

We had election of the Sunday school officers for 1933 as follows: Bro. Maxfield, ..... Superintendent Gladys Sweney, ..... Sec.-Treas.

Sister Sweney has held the office of secretary ever since the Sunday school was organized.

The young people have been having some wonderfully good meetings here of late and the attendance has been pretty good. We have been quoting verses at roll call with letters of alphabet, our next letter is "q."

Our church services have been pretty good of late, though we have had lots of sickness.

Bro. Yancey from Farmington was up for a few days. Brother Yancey is a great preacher and we all like to hear him. We hope he will call again soon.

Francis McCauley, 1200 S. 18th.

**PROCEEDINGS of the Executive Board of the Co-operative General Association, which met with the Eastern Conference of Free Will Baptist at Bryan, Tex., June 16, 17, 1932.**

**June 16, 1932:** The Executive Board of the Co-operative General Association met in the Free Will Baptist church at Bryan, Texas and proceeded with business as follows: Organized by electing Elder H. M. McAdams chairman and Elder Melvin Bingham, clerk of the Board.

Eld. A. B. Talbert had in our presence Eld. B. F. Rogers as his proxy who was agreeably received. A letter from Bro. Talbert was read in presence of the board in which he tendered his resignation. A motion was made and carried to accept Bro. Talbert's resignation as a member of the board. Elder G. W. Scott, Jr. was then elected a member of the board.

Discussion of property in Franklin County Arkansas was discussed by Eld. B. F. Brown.

Motion carried to formulate plans to consummate a union between the General Conference and the Co-operative General Association. Plans were formulated and accepted on motion.

Motion carried to have a call meeting of the Executive Board during the session of the Missouri State Association for further discussion on plans of consummation.

Motion carried to adjourn.

**June 17, 1932.** A joint session of committees was held at Bryan, Texas, consisting of the members

of the Executive Board, together with the moderator and clerk and advisory members of the Co-operative General Association, and a committee appointed by the moderator of the General Conference. The following business was transacted: Prayer by Elder B. F. Brown. Motion carried to work out and to take steps during the coming year to secure a name for an entire national body of the Free Will Baptist.

Motion carried to take steps for the adoption of a treatise and discipline for the national body.

Motion carried to have committee appointed from above named joint committee, each committee of joint committee to do its own appointing.

Eld. J. L. Welch of Nashville, Tenn. was appointed by the General Conference, Eld. Winford Davis of Monett, Mo. from the Co-operative General Association, S. L. Morse of Kenesaw, Nebr., and Eld. E. C. Morris of Bryan, Texas.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Elder Melvin Bingham, Clerk.

### Our Spiritual Lamp

By Mrs. Lizzie Turner

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and all the Readers of the Gem: I have felt impressed for several days to write to the Gem on the subject of having our spiritual lamps alight.

Jesus said in His wonderful Sermon on the Mount, "Ye are the light of the world." He was talking to the children of God, and not to unsaved people.

I am going to compare the sinner person to a dirty, empty lamp, with a dirty wick, with no oil in it; light it and what kind of a light will you have? But clean up the lamp, put in a new wick, fill it with clean oil and light it, and you will have a bright steady flame, that will be a joy to look at, and one you will not want to put under a bushel, but on the table where all that are in the house can see it. So is every unsaved person all dirty with sin and empty of the grace of God, but if they will come to Jesus in faith and repentance toward God, let Him cleanse the old body from all filthiness of the flesh He will give a new heart and fill it with the oil of



salvation and lit by the fire of love; then our spiritual lamp is ready to shine out in the darkness and be a joy to the world, and we can then do as Jesus said for us to do: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

But the trouble with so many is, that when the cares of life press, and the pleasures of the world call, and persecutions come, we fail to take all to God in prayer; so the devil gets in and the first thing we know we have become entangled with the things of this world again and our heart, which is the wick to our lamp has become dirty with hate, malice, strife and envy, because we have not kept it full of oil because we have neglected to pray and to read and meditate on God's Word, so He will keep us supplied with the oil of the grace of God from His bountiful storehouse, until our light has grown so dim we cannot shine as lights in the world, as Phil. 2:15 says we should shine; but if we will keep ourselves clean and unspotted before God and the world, we can shine more and more unto the perfect day (Prov. 4:18).

**Myrtle, Missouri, Dec. 27, 1932.**

Dear Gem Readers:

I feel impressed this beautiful evening to write a few words through the Gem, and before I go any further, I want to drop a word for this little paper. In all my reading the Free Will Baptist Gem is the best I have ever read. May God bless the workers who so willingly labor to get this wonderful paper circulated: it should be in every home.

We have had some real cold weather down here, with snow and ice, but the Lord blessed us. He sent us a good rain and melted the ice off. Christmas day was bright with sunshine, but we were sad at heart when one of our neighbor's sons was sent in for burial. He got killed in the north part of the state. I wonder how many of us stop to consider life as it really is. Life is a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away. We know that at the very best we have only a short time to spend here on this earth, for life on this earth is nothing when compared to eternity; then how necessary it is that we spend our time in a way that will be pleasing to God.

We heard a good sermon preached by our pastor at the eleven o'clock service. We asked God to heal the

broken hearted sisters and father that stood over the departed one. God is going to hold us responsible for the way we spend our days and how we devote our talents; may each of us strive to spend our time and devote our talents in a way that will be pleasing to God, so that when the flourishing days are over He may say unto us, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Most merciful Father who hast brought us into the beginning of another year, grant us so to remember thy gifts and so to acknowledge thy goodness, that every day and year which thou shalt yet grant us may be employed in the amendment of our lives, and in the diligent discharge of such duties as thy providence shall allot to us. Make us deeply sensible of our responsibility and help us to be faithful. We thank thee this evening 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 and His cross. May we know that thou hast planned our march for us and wilt heal the waters for us. May we know that every bitter stream has just before it the sweet wells of Elim.

Well, as I sit here this evening, thinking over my life, and as I look back I can thank God for all that has past and trust Him for all that is to come, for He's everything to me.

Wishing the Gem readers a happy New Year, and the editor and wife also, I bid you all good night.

Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

### COME

By Mrs. Lina Claxton

Hartville, Mo., Oct. 19, 1932.

Dear Editor and Wife and Readers of the Gem: As I stood on the porch this morning, facing the east, watching the beautiful rays of sunshine as it spread its rays of light over the little village of Hartville, over the autumn forest, the beautiful trees, the grasses, the flowers, all seemed to say, "Sweet summer is gone away, and winter is coming on," then as I stood there meditating on the wonderful scenery we noticed that the leaves that were on the trees, once so beautiful and green, are now changed to different colors and are coming down to the ground. Then I thought, So must man come down. Then we remembered Isaiah said (40:8): "The grass with-

ereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

What a precious word "COME" is to us: it is animation within itself. "All who feel the burden of their sins, COME unto me... all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest..." "If any man will COME after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me..." "I will not leave you comfortless: I will COME to you..." "If any man thirst, let him COME unto me, and drink." Jesus said, "No man can COME to me except the Father which hath me, draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day... And him that COMETH to me I will in no wise cast out." Jesus said, "I will COME again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also."

You COME and I will COME.

"Wherefore, COME out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty..." "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." Jesus said, Except ye be converted and BECOME as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven," and He said, "Suffer little children and forbid them not, to COME unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven..." "Behold, I COME as a thief, Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments..." "COME out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not her plagues..." "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will COME in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me..." "I, Jesus, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches..." "And the Spirit and the bride say, COME. And let him that heareth say, COME. And let him that is athirst, COME. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely..." "I will COME again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also..." "Think not that I am COME to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not COME to destroy, but to fulfil..." "For I am not COME to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance..." "All that the Father giveth me shall COME to me; and him that COMETH to me I will in no wise cast out..." "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so COME in like manner as ye have

seen him go into heaven." "Behold, he COMETH with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also that pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him, even so, Amen." "Behold, I COME quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." "This is just a few of the words "COME."

How sweet on a clear sabbath morning  
To list to the clear ringing bell;  
Its tones so sweetly are calling,  
Oh, COME to the church in the vale.

We hope to see you come to the church, we need your prayers.

"Let us therefore COME boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

As ever a lover of the Gem.

## MOUNTAIN GROVE MISSOURI

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I surely do enjoy reading our little Free Will Baptist Gem. I look forward every month to reading the good articles and letters written by the many Free Will Baptist over our country. I am really proud of our Free Will Baptist denomination and the great cause we are working for. I am also thankful that there are so many young folks as there are, that are really interested in the great cause of Christ, because, like our League lesson taught us, we young people of today will be the church of tomorrow. Then can we afford to drag down the great Standard of Christianity, which our forefathers have fought so diligently for? I am sure we can not.

There are many young people today who are saying they cannot be the Christian, because there are so many worldly allurements. But I hardly think that is a staple excuse, because God says His grace is sufficient, and that He will not allow us to be tempted greater than we can bear. So, therefore, if we have more temptations God will give us more grace and courage to overcome these temptations.

I was converted when I was ten years old, and I am now eighteen. I feel that I have done very in God's service, but we are re-

quired to do our best, even though it be a little. I intend by the help of God to go on and serve Him the rest of my life, for I owe it to Him. I wish that every young person could realize that we really owe our lifelong service to Him.

I ask an interest in your prayers not for me only, but for every other young person who is really interested in the cause of Christ.

Sincerely,

Cinda Hutsell.

## Report of Douglas County Q. M.

The Douglas County Quarterly Meeting convened with Pleasant Ridge church, east of Mansfield, Missouri, at 3:00 o'clock p. m. on Thursday, January 26, 1933.

Thursday evening we organized as follows: Elder Claud Smith was elected moderator, with Eld. Arthur Rich as assistant. Two committees were appointed, a Credentials committee and a committee on Divine service. Elder Charley Findley then preached the introductory sermon, using as a text, Matthew 7:21.

The stand was filled Thursday night by Elders Harry Johns and Charley Findley.

Friday morning the following were enrolled: Seven ministers, three deacons, six delegates, and two church clerks. This was the smallest enrollment on record for several years.

After the enrollment, the body discussed the topics prepared by the program committee. We sure had some wonderful discussions.

Elders J. F. F. Marler and L. M. Marler preached at the eleven o'clock services.

Friday afternoon we continued the discussions on the program, and came to a satisfactory conclusion on all but one subject, which was carried over until next quarterly meeting.

The pulpit was filled Friday night by Elders Claud Smith and Arthur Rich.

Saturday morning the regular routine business was attended to. The next quarterly meeting, which will convene on Thursday before the fifth Sunday in April, was sent to the Girdner church, south of Ava, Missouri.

Elder Elige Matney, with Eld. O. C. Keller as alternate, was elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Elder Harry Johns was elected to succeed John Marler as a member of the Executive Board.

The evangelist of the quarterly meeting reported that he had held no meetings since the preceding quarterly meeting.

The pulpit was filled at the eleven o'clock service by Elders Harry Johns and L. M. Marler.

We cordially invite and ask all who will, to attend the next quarterly meeting in April. We also ask an interest in your prayers.

Claud Smith, Moderator,  
Arthur Lund, Clerk.

## WHEN I ENTER HEAVEN

Let me live for Jesus,  
Let me be a light.  
Oh, to gather jewels  
For a crown so bright.  
Just to work and labor,  
I must do my best,  
If I enter heaven,  
That bright place of rest.

Give me just a corner,  
Say an "easy chair,"  
Just a place of comfort,  
In that home so fair;  
For I'm so unworthy  
As I travel here,  
But I'm seeking heaven  
And my Savior dear.

When I reach that glory land,  
Oh, what joy 'twill be,  
To meet my blessed Savior,  
Who hath died for me;  
Live in peace and blessings,  
Sorrow ne'er to share.  
When I enter heaven,  
'Twill be glory there.

## THE HEAVENLY WAY

There is a heavenly way  
That leadeth above;  
This beautiful way  
Is filled with God's love.  
It shineth so bright,  
And lighteth the way.  
We need not to fall,  
By night or by day.

Its beams penetrate  
Through darkness of night.  
And ever it shines  
On paths that are right;  
Though rugged may seem  
Our path to the goal;  
This heavenly light  
Shines deep in our soul.



# INTERNATIONAL Sunday School Lessons

First Quarter, 1933

Comments by B. F. Brown

## Lesson VIII Feb. 19, 1933

### Jesus Teaching by Parables The Growth of the Kingdom

Mark 4:21-34

#### Topic: The Spread of Christianity

**GOLDEN TEXT**—The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.—Isaiah 11:9.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—The kingdom of God should grow, both in our hearts, and in the world at large.

**TIME**—A. D. 28.

**PLACE**—Galilee.

**PARALLEL ACCOUNTS**—Matt. 13:31-34; Luke 8:16-18; 13:18, 19.

#### EXPOSITION

##### *Our Light Should Shine*

Our lesson begins with a number of pointed teachings, clothed largely in figurative form, the inner meaning of which will be grasped only after careful attention. When the Lord speaks of a candle and a bushel and a candlestick, He is thinking of more than the material objects. The light of the Gospel, which has been brought to us, should not be hid, but should be made known to the world. We should let our light shine in order that others may come to a knowledge of the truth that has been revealed to us. "For there is nothing hid which shall not be manifested." Likewise new inventions are not proclaimed to the public at first, but after they are patented, and sometimes after contracts are let for the manufacture of articles embodying them, then they are widely advertised. As it is not to the interest of the inventor to gain publicity for an invention too soon, so it was not best for the success of the Gospel for some truths to be made known to everybody at first. Further, if anything connected with the Gospel was temporarily treated as a secret and withheld from the public, as in the case of the truth concerning Christ's Messiahship or deity (Matt. 16:20), or in the case of revealing the church, composed of Jews and Gentiles (Eph. 3), it was so only that the Gospel might get a better start and that the truth might be more successfully proclaimed later and after Christ's resurrection. This same principle applies to any truth which Christ intentionally veiled in parabolic form, in order that opposers or those who were indifferent might not at once understand it.

##### *The Growth of the Seed*

We now pass on to the parables, which form the principle part of our lesson. The first one, concerning the growth of the seed, is the only one recorded by Mark alone. The story is very simple. A man plants seed and it springs up and grows, though he does not understand how. The farmer who planted the seed may sleep and rise day by day, living a rather a monotonous life while he waits for the harvest, as is the case in Palestine. He may aid the growth by irrigation, cultivation, etc., but he cannot make the seed grow and produce a crop less than its allotted time. The process of growth is mysterious and is according to a law of development—"First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." It is evident that the seed represents Gospel truth, and the ground, human hearts. The growth of the plant represents the Christian's growth in religious experience, though some think it represents the growth of a Christian community. The chief point seems to be this: As there is a gradual development in the growth of the seed until maturity is reached, so is there a gradual spiritual development in the hearts of men during their life as Christians.

##### *Spiritual Development*

We must not interpret this parable as teaching that the Christian life is gradual in its origin. That would contradict the rest of the New Testament, which teaches that we are born of the Spirit and justified by faith, not by growth, and which also gives us many examples of those who thru faith in Christ at once became Christians. But while this is true, it is also true that maturity in Christian character is a gradual attainment. As time goes on the Christian should increase in his knowledge of God and of spiritual truths. This is attained through prayer, through the study of the Bible and of religious literature, through public worship, and through his every day life, as he lives his religion and puts Christianity to a practical test. With an increase in knowledge there should be an increase in faith, steadfastness, and other graces and fruits of the Spirit. Paul prayed for his converts, that their love might abound more and more in all discernment. See Phil. 1:9. This attainment of spiritual maturity is the work of a lifetime.

##### *The Mustard Seed*

Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a mustard seed, which, when it is planted, is exceedingly small, but, when it grows up becomes a bush large enough for birds to lodge in its branches. Christ's hearers were familiar with the spreading branches of the mustard plant. It is said that, "In the proper season the traveler in Gennesaret may ride by mustard bushes as high as his horse, and alive with flocks of merry bulfinches or the rock-pigeons feeding upon the seeds." It is also said that the mustard of Palestine sometimes reaches a height

of fifteen feet, being like a tree in size. The contrast between the size of the seed and the full grown plant is very striking indeed. In this country one might contrast the size of the acorn and the oak, or of a maple seed with a lofty maple tree.

##### *The Expansion of Christianity*

As applied to the kingdom of God, this parable illustrates the smallness of the Christian group at first, and the later numerical expansion. Whether we consider the beginning of the Christian church as the few disciples who followed Jesus at the opening of His ministry, or the group of believers on the day of Pentecost, in any case it was small—utterly insignificant in the eyes of the world. Yet from this humble beginning came the mighty movement which has ever been the saving, purifying influence throughout the world, a movement which is still in progress. In uttering this parable, Christ showed himself to be an optimist, and also a true prophet, for this prediction has been remarkably fulfilled. However, there is still plenty of opportunity for heroic work in the extension of the Gospel. Every one should consider it a matter of personal duty to assist in this great and supremely important undertaking.

## Lesson IX Feb. 26, 1933.

### Jesus Shows His Power

Mark 4:35 to 5:20

#### Topic: The Power of Jesus in the World Today.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. (2 Tim. 1:12b).

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—Christ's power over nature and over demons is a proof of His deity.

**TIME**—A. D. 28.

**PLACE**—Sea of Galilee and vicinity.

**PARALLEL ACCOUNTS**—Matt. 8:23-34; Luke 8:22-39.

#### III INTRODUCTION

This lesson follows immediately after the lesson of last week. Jesus had been teaching the people many things by means of parables, His pulpit being a boat in the lake; and now He suggests that they pass over to the other side. Evidently He felt weary after a hard day's work, and wished to have rest and to be away from the crowd. Soon the boat is out in the lake, and Jesus is sound asleep in the stern. Nothing could impress us more vividly with the fact that Christ was truly man. He had bodily needs as other men, and one of them was sleep. The fact that He slept soundly in the midst of the raging storm that arose shows how utterly weary He was. And yet in the same connection His deity comes clearly to view, for He arises and stills the sea as none but God could do. Verily Jesus was both human and divine.

Probably the causes which produced the storm in today's lesson were natural, and such storms were frequent; and other ships suffered in the storm; but the marvelous difference in this incident was the presence of Jesus. He who had authority over the forces of nature when He was upon earth, has power over them still. Storms, pestilence, famine, and death favor none. What then can impotent man do? Some answer this question by suicide; others by pitifully yielding to fate. The Christian knows that the ship or the house where Jesus is will weather the storm; that Jesus can and will deliver them that trust in Him from all things which destroy life and happiness and kill the soul.

### EXPOSITION

#### *The Frantic Disciples*

After they had been on their way a while, there swooped down upon them one of the sudden and violent storms for which the Sea of Galilee is noted. Waves lashed the boat in fury and dashed over it until it was partly filled with water. The disciples did their best to manage the ship, and evidently hesitated to disturb Jesus until it was absolutely necessary. Finally, however, they saw that they must have help and have it quickly. As we say, "Man's extremity is God's opportunity." In a panic they awaken the Master, though it is doubtful whether they had any definite idea of what Jesus could or would do under the circumstances. But something prompted them to look to Him for help. He was their only hope. Nor were they disappointed. He arose from His sleep and rebuked the wind, saying, "Peace, be still," or literally, "Be silent; be muzzled!" as though He were talking to a raging animal.

#### *An Amazing Miracle*

Instantly the wind ceased, the waves subsided, and there was a great calm. Naturally after a storm the waves heave and swell for hours after the wind has gone down. The suddenness of the change after Christ's command made a profound impression upon the disciples and filled them with awe, as well it might. They had already seen many of Christ's miracles of healing, but this one was different. They—not some one else—were instantly delivered from a danger that filled them with terror. The result was that they were impressed with the supernatural character of Christ as they probably had never been before.

The sleeping Jesus amidst the storm was similar to the way Jonah slept during a storm when he was fleeing to Tarshish. Both were awakened by others; but Jesus made the sea calm with a command, whereas Jonah had to be thrown overboard to bring about a calm.

This miracle was, indeed, amazing in character. We do not understand how lifeless matter could obey His voice. Did the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Christ and who is everywhere, directly intervene at every point in that lake in producing the wonderful calm, Perhaps so. At

least, in some mysterious way, God has absolute control over matter. And He who can calm the sea can also bring peace to troubled souls in the hour of sorrow or distress.

Some people argue that Christ's ability to heal the sick was due to the influence of a strong and understanding personality over others, but was not really miraculous in character. Such a theory cannot explain His calming the sea, or any other "nature miracle." This miracle is recorded in all three of the synoptic Gospels, and bears on its face the marks of truth. Certainly the disciples knew, and never could forget, what happened on this occasion, and it is inconceivable that they should have lied about it. And if this was a real miracle, one might as well admit that Christ's deeds of healing were real miracles.

#### *A Demon-Possessed Man*

The latter part of our lesson tells of the cure of a demoniac who met Jesus on the east side of the lake. It is a remarkable story. Here was a violent madman who could not be bound or tamed. But he was not merely insane, "for when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshiped Him, and cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God." Such words reveal a perception of hidden truth which can not be ascribed to a mere madman. Jesus had not been proclaiming himself publicly as the Son of God. The demoniac could not have learned this from any one; rather, the evil spirit within him perceived it. In the conversation with the man Jesus assumes the reality of the demon possession, and finally gives the demons permission to enter a herd of swine near by. Did a panic happen to seize the herd just then, causing them to run down into the sea, without demons having anything to do with it, as some learned professors sagely argue? Was Christ himself deceived about the matter? Such a theory is loaded down with grave difficulties. Rather, let us admit the reality of supernatural powers in the universe as the Bible declares.

#### *A Happy Conclusion*

As Christ proved His power over nature, so He proved it over demons, by casting out the "Legion." The man was now clothed and in his right mind and sitting at the feet of Jesus. The change from his former condition was so great that people who saw him were amazed and filled with fear. They stood in awe of Christ's power, and wanted Him to depart from them, as Peter did on one occasion. See Luke 5: 8, 9. They may have been afraid of losses greater than that of the swine if Jesus stayed among them. The man who had been delivered, because of love and gratitude, desired to be in constant fellowship with Christ, but He directed him to go and do service for Him, by testifying to the grace and power of God. He obeyed, and spread the fame of Jesus throughout Decapolis, where He was probably little known.

## Lesson X March 5, 1933.

### Jesus Giving Life and Health.

Mark 5:21-43

### Topic: Christianity and Human Suffering.

**GOLDEN TEXT**—The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad (Psalm 126: 3).

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—We receive blessings from God in accordance with our faith.

**TIME**—Late in A. D. 28.

**PLACE**—Capernaum.

**PARALLEL ACCOUNTS**—Matthew 9:18-26; Luke 8:40-56.

### INTRODUCTION

We are introduced today to the mystery of mysteries—life, human and divine. Its reality is experienced by all self-conscious existence; but its origin and nature are mysteries too deep for human understanding. Some argue that life originated in "an accidental coming together of atoms;" others assign it to blind chance; others reduce it to a mechanical process of so-called organization; while others claim that life has developed from a "first cell," which appeared millions of years ago. But the Hebrews were never in doubt on this point; to them God was the answer. The New Testament starts with the same truth, but goes farther. "In Him (Jesus) was life" (John 1:4), and this life, through the incarnation, connected the infinite with the finite. Consequently, two aspects of life flow thru Christ to us: the natural and the spiritual. When once the idea that the divine creative activity of God though Christ, instead of being a completed chapter in world building, is immanent and continuous, then is appreciated the insight of Paul, "In Him we live and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). With this estimate of Christ as He Who upholds all creation, one does not doubt for a moment the bringing to life the daughter of the synagogue's ruler. Physical decay and death were entirely under His control, as well as were the mighty unseen spiritual forces. "For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?" (Matt. 9:5).

### EXPOSITION

#### *A Father Troubled*

When Jesus had crossed over the lake again to Capernaum, a crowd soon gathered. Many doubtless came thru curiosity, but one man was there on a definite mission, and he was desperately in earnest. He was a prominent Jew, a ruler in the synagogue. Perhaps he had been present when Jesus cast out the demon in the synagogue in Capernaum (Mark 1:23-26), or when He had healed the man with the withered hand (Luke 6:6-10); at any rate he was convinced that Jesus could help him in his hour of need. His heart was evidently torn with anguish, for he fell down at Jesus' feet, and implored Him to go with him and

heal his daughter, who was at the point of death. For a dignitary like Jairus thus to prostrate himself before Jesus in the presence of the crowd revealed not only his great sorrow, but his recognition of Christ's superior power. Jesus could not be deaf to an appeal like that, so He went with him.

#### *A Woman Healed*

On the way a miracle was wrought under peculiar circumstances. In the crowd was a woman who had suffered from a chronic ailment for twelve long years. She had spent all that she had seeking relief from physicians, and had suffered much at their hands, and now was penniless and hopeless. One of the blessings that those in Christian lands enjoy today is access to skilled physicians. Yet even our specialists can not cure everybody. Fortunately this woman came in touch with the great Physician, for whom no case was too difficult. With shrinking modesty and simple faith she said within herself, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole." Finally she succeeded in touching the border or fringe or tassel which Jesus wore to remind them of the law (Num. 15: 38, 39). Instantly she felt that she was cured, and instantly Jesus, perceiving what had happened, turned and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" This caused the woman to fear and tremble. Perhaps she felt that she had stolen a blessing without the Lord's permission, and thought His sudden question a mark of displeasure. But the loving Savior was not displeased. What He wanted was a public confession of her faith and of her cure. This was for the woman's own good as well as for God's glory. After she told Him the truth His very first word, "Daughter," revealed His tender sympathy, delicately expressed, and brought comfort to her heart.

#### *A Daughter Dead*

While Jesus was yet speaking with the woman, messengers came from the home of Jairus with the sad news that his daughter was dead. This seemed to end all hope, and doubtless would have been a crushing blow to the father had it not been for the reassuring words, "Be not afraid, only believe." In the midst of agitation Jesus was at ease, for He knew He had at His disposal all the resources of the Father. He chooses Peter, James and John to go with Him into the house of mourning. As He enters He finds tumult and wailing by professional mourners, and probably by relatives too. When He tells them, "The damsel is not dead, but sleepeth," they scoff at Him. This shows their certainty that the girl was really dead, and makes any attempted explanation unreasonable, other than that a real miracle was performed. However, Christ meant that her condition was only temporary, and that He would bring her to life; just as sleep, followed by an awakening, is temporary.

#### *A Damsel Raised*

Before Jesus would manifest His power He put the scoffing crowd out of the house. He would not cast His

pearls before swine; indeed, these unbelievers were unworthy to witness the wonderful event about to take place. When all was quiet He took the damsel by the hand and bade her arise, and she that was dead obeyed, for at that moment God caused her spirit to return again to her body. There is a mystery here that we can not fathom, and fortunately we need not do so. But the reality of the astounding miracle was evident to all. Jesus showed His thoughtful care in commanding that food be given the girl. This might easily have been overlooked in the excitement of the hour.

The raising from the dead the daughter of Jairus strikingly manifests Jesus' complete authority over the unseen world. He who could perform such a deed, with absolute confidence that the dead would arise at his command, surely has authority to tell us about the hereafter.

### **Lesson XI      March 12, 1933.**

#### **Jesus Ministering to the Multitude**

Mark 6:1-56

#### **Topic: Jesus Ministering to Human Needs.**

**GOLDEN TEXT**—The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and give his life a ransom for many.—Matt. 20:28.

**PRACTICAL TRUTH**—Jesus can supply every human need.

**TIME**—About the time of the Passover in the spring of A. D. 29.

**PARALLEL ACCOUNTS**—Matt. 14:13-23; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The feeding of the five thousand was one of the outstanding events in our Lord's earthly stay, and is important in the study of His life in more ways than one. From a purely historical point of view it is the best attested of all the miracles wrought by Him, not including His own resurrection. And aside from that it is the only miracle which is recorded in all four Gospels. It constitutes the chief landmark in Christ's life, as it occurred one year before His death, at the time of the Passover.

We have reached the time of Christ's greatest popularity. The feeding of the five thousand followed the return of the twelve from their preaching tour. The disciples were weary, so Jesus had taken them to a desert place, where they might rest and be instructed. The people were spiritually hungry, and were seeking for guidance. Their spiritual leaders could not give the help needed. They were also physically hungry and the disciples were concerned about it, but they were not able to supply the need. Jesus, then, faced the problem of meeting both their physical and their spiritual needs; but He was able. How about the needs of our country and the world today?

#### **EXPOSITION**

##### *Jesus Seeking Rest*

The disciples had been out on a preaching tour, whither they had been sent by Jesus; and after they returned and made report, Jesus suggested that they all retire to some country section for a well deserved rest. To be almost constantly beset by crowds, so that they scarcely had opportunity to eat, was very exhausting, physically and nervously. As Jesus and the disciples needed rest, so we need seasons of rest and meditation—more than some of us get. The attempt of Jesus to find a place of quiet retirement did not succeed, for when the people saw Him and the disciples leaving by boat, they ran around the north end of the lake to the neighborhood of Bethsaida Julius (Luke 9:10), and were on hand when the boat reached the shore. The following days were busy ones, and it was not until Jesus retired into Phenicia, soon afterward, that there was any opportunity for relaxation.

##### *Jesus Showing Compassion*

One of the most prominent as well as comforting characteristics of Jesus was the compassion which He felt for those who were in distress or in need. That He possessed this quality is comforting to us because we can be sure that He has the same moral temper now that He had then; and that, as the Son is, so is God the Father. Jesus had compassion for men who were in either physical or spiritual need. In our lesson, as on some other occasions, both of these needs were present in the people before Him. Their spiritual need was the greater of the two. They were as sheep not having a shepherd, and such sheep are helpless and stupid and defenseless. The people had little or no real spiritual help from their religious leaders, who were like blind men leading the blind. Jesus knew the deplorable lack of the people along this line, and their spiritual blindness, as others could not; hence He was willing to spend His time and strength in teaching them the fundamentals of true religion, as He did on this occasion. The whole ministry of Jesus and also His death on the cross, were prompted by compassion. This was His habitual attitude. Look up Luke 4:18 and consider the motive that would prompt to the kind of service there outlined.

##### *Jesus Facing A Problem*

After spending the most of the day in teaching the people, there came the great problem of what to do with the hungry multitude as evening approached. It worried the disciples. Apparently nobody in that crowd, including the disciples, had made any provision for dinner or supper, save one lad who had foresight enough to bring along his lunch. The earnestness of the people to be with Jesus had caused them to neglect their physical needs, but now the matter was becoming serious—especially so since they were at some distance from any town where they could buy food.

The wise thing to do, so it seemed to the disciples, was to send the people away quickly in order that they might obtain food somewhere dark. But Jesus was never at a loss in the face of difficulties. In this respect He differed from all other men. How many times in recent years have even the heads of great nations faced problems which they knew not how to solve! And how important it is that we, when facing difficulties that are too great for us, should come with our problems to Christ and seek His aid in their solution!

#### *Jesus Working A Solution*

At first Jesus put the disciples to a severe test by saying, "Give ye them to eat." This seemed to them impossible, and humanly speaking it was impossible, but "with God all things are possible." The sense of utter inability which this command expressed helped the disciples to appreciate and marvel at the amazing solution which the Lord worked out. Jesus quickly showed them that He could make it possible for them to fulfil His commands. He told the people to sit down upon the grass and commanded that the meager supplies on hand be given out. And as they were given out they multiplied until after all were fed, more was taken up than was on hand at the beginning. This miracle apparently marks the height of Christ's popularity with the masses, judging from the fact that they were about to take Him by force and make Him king at that time. Yet His discourses in Capernaum immediately afterward offended many people and caused greater opposition than ever before. Alas, how tickle is popular favor! One month the public may applaud a ruler, or popular leader, and the next month turn against him. We should strive to be right, rather than popular.

#### **PERFECTION IN LOVE**

Matthew 5:44-48

I would be glad, if I could, to help some one to rightly understand this lesson. A lot of folks feel their inability to comply with it, and therefore get badly hung up on it, especially the last verse, which reads, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Now a lot of folks make a terrible, useless bugaboo about the word "perfect."

Just what does this term perfect mean? Does it mean that we should be just like God in every respect? No, that is absurd and impossible. Does it mean that we should be above the possibility of sin? No. You may say that is the way it is stated, "Be ye perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect." Yes, it might be taken to mean that if considered

apart from the light of the context, but when the light of the context reflects upon it, there is a great difference. Now the word context means the scriptures just before or just after the passage upon which the thought is centralized, and which are closely connected with the subject under consideration. That is exactly the way a lot of folks construct their foolish arguments, they just pick out a verse here, one there, and one somewhere else, etc., and they are never considered in the light of the context. I can find a plain statement in the Bible which says, "There is no God;" but just before that it says, "The sinner sayeth in his heart." So the two statements put together greatly change the meaning.

The term therefore always is used as referring to something just before stated. This does not say to be perfect like the Father in every way; but to be like Him in the way just stated in the previous verse, that is, in the way of love. He says here in verse 44, "But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." This is something that a man can do, even though he is in the flesh. Not by his strength, but by the grace of God. Until a man attains this he is not perfect in love. God would have us all attain this perfection in love. God sent His Son to die for His enemies. He still loves the sinner, His enemy. He loves that man that takes His name in vain. Therefore let us strive to be like Him.

Some people will love only when they can get love in return. Some will love their neighbors only. Jesus said here in verse 46, "For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans the same? Verse 47, "And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? Do not even the publicans so?" The publicans are always classed with the sinners, and as sinners. When a man loves his neighbor only, he is doing no more in that respect than a common sinner. The Christian is to go a step farther than the worldly man.

So let us not get too badly

scared at that statement, it just means to be perfect in love. We might get to be a perfect man; but a perfect man is not an angel or a God, he is still a man. We can be perfect only in our sphere.

Sincerely,

Winford Davis.

#### **THE BUILDERS**

An old man journeyed a lone high way

And came at evening lone and gray;

To a chasm, vast and deep, and wide.

The old man paused in the twilight dim,

The sullen stream had no fears for him

But he turned when he reached the other side;

And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,

"You waste your time in building here,

Your journeying ends with the passing day,

Never again will you pass this way,

You've crossed the chasm deep and wide,

Why build this bridge at even-tide,"

The builder lifted his old gray head;

"Good friend, in the path I've come," he said,

"There follows after me today a youth Whose feet must pass this way;

This sullen stream has aught to me,

To that fair haired youth may a pit-fall be;

He too must pass in the twilight dim;

Good friend, I'm building this bridge for HIM."

*Contributed by Elder Noel Turner*

**THIS LITTLE SPACE**, being all that is left unfilled, will give just about room enough to mention what some of our brethren are doing.

Bro. O. T. Allred, assisted by Bro. Johnnie Swaffar, is in a meeting at Monett. This is the third week of the meeting, and it is really a good meeting. About seventeen have been saved so far and the interest still good.

Bro. Winford Davis, assisted by Bro. J. B. Rollins, is in a meeting at our Merl's Chapel church. This is the second week of the meeting. It is reported that it is a wonderful meeting, and that about seventeen have been saved up to date.

The Lord is truly blessing in Indian Creek Association. New churches are added each year, and new members are added to the churches. Then many of our young men and women have accepted the call to the ministry and most of them are doing well.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

### Report of Macedonia League

The revival meeting that our pastor, Elder Winford Davis, conducted at Macedonia has strengthened all efforts for the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God. Our Sunday school has grown wonderfully and our League is on the firing line—and advancing.

At the beginning of the year, we elected new officers; however, we did not adopt the new plans set forth by the General Conference of the East. The new president began work with more zeal for the cause. His co-workers are:

Audry Medlin, .....Group Captain  
Herman Opolka, .....Quiz Leader  
Oleta Davis, .....See'y-Treas.

The League lessons have been rendered with more vigor, thus making them more interesting. We hope to divide the class into two groups soon. Sister Gertie Davis was elected sponsor of the Junior League movement now being organized. She has eleven enrolled. Pray for us.

J. B. Rollins, Reporter.

### I'LL TRY

By Elder Elda Crain

I feel impressed to write a few lines on this subject; so I'll try to do so.

Too often we hear folks say, "I can't do this," or "I can't do that."

The devil is an enemy to God and His saints.

Sometimes the Lord wants us to do different things for Him; we're His servants and He wants us to work for Him in His vineyard. Maybe He wants us to sing, but Satan will say, "Now you can't sing like some one else," and very often we'll say, "No, I can't sing very well, so I'll just keep quiet." Maybe we are to pray in public, but the enemy will say, "You know you can't pray, because you can't think of anything to say," or maybe feel like testifying, but the devil don't want that either, so if he has his way we'll keep quiet during the testimony service.

But I have found in my case so much of the time that if I just try to do what the Lord wants me to do, I get a blessing.

When God calls one to preach the Gospel to a lost world, one feels his inability and the devil will say, "Now you can't preach, so there's no use to

try." He'll say you can't think of anything to say and if you would try to preach, why, folks would laugh at you, and I suppose every minister listened to him for a while, then said, "Lord, I'll try to preach."

No one knows the tears I shed before I gave up to preach, but God and myself. I told the Lord I couldn't preach and made lots of excuses. So after fighting the call for almost three long years, going under a heavy burden all the time, but one day I came to the place where I had to make a decision, whether to preach or not. So I told the Lord that I would try. And I find much enjoyment in trying, so let's not say, "I can't," but say, "I'll try," and I'm sure God will bless the effort.

### THREE THINGS ABIDING

By Elder Walter E. George

*"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity" (1 Cor. 13:13).*

Dear brothers and sisters and all the readers of the Gem: We have a great subject in this. Let us study the three words closely and see what they mean to us; so let us do as Paul said to do in 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." Now in order to divide the Word, we will take the subject of faith first and some of it to start with. Faith is a dependence on the voracity of another, thus trust is called faith, because it relies upon the truth of a promise. Now faith can be divided into four classes, but saving faith is what we have on our minds now. Faith is belief; you know every body has faith of some kind and a lot of church people will say they are all right because they believe God, but you never see them do anything for God. Now, what do you think, will they get to heaven on that faith?

Let us read James 2:19, "Thou believest that there is one God: the devils believe and tremble;" they are fully persuaded that there is one God and that Christ is the Son of God, will that faith save me? James says that faith without works is dead (Jas. 2:17) "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6). "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). There was a time when the people did not have faith, for it had

not been given under the law. But before faith came we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal. 3:23-24).

Now Christ says, "As your faith is, so be it unto you." Now the reason so many people come to the altar of prayer and don't get through is because they haven't faith enough in God; "For by grace are ye saved through faith" (Eph. 2:8). "And having an high priest over the house of God, let us draw nigh with a true heart in full assurance of faith" (Heb. 10:21-22). "For he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6). We must keep the faith to the end of this life to keep alive, but "the just shall live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). We need faith in this world and when we cross over we will lay our faith down, for we will not need faith there. Now the text is "Faith, hope, charity, but the greatest of these is charity."

Now we will say something about "Hope." Christian hope is a firm expectation of all promised good things, so far as they may be for God's glory and our good, but especially of Eternal Salvation and happiness in heaven where we shall be conformed to the likeness of the Son of God, which hope is founded on the grace, blood and righteousness. "Every man that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself even as he is pure" (1 John 3:3). We will endeavor to shun all sin. Hope is taken for Eternal Salvation which is the end or object of hope. "Looking for that blessed hope" (Tit. 2:13). We, as Christians, have this hope in us, for without it we can't be Christians; and we must keep it to the end of this life if we hope to make heaven our home. And at the time we cross over we can lay hope down the same as we do faith. "But let us hold fast that which we have, that no man take thy crown." Now to find out what hope is, let us read Hebrews 6:19, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Now Paul says that hope is an anchor of the soul. You all know what an anchor is and what it will do. It holds and there is no getting away unless that anchor breaks. You take the big ship out on the great ocean and anchor

(Continued on page 15)

## OBITUARY

**POSEY**—Elder James Allen Posey was born January 28, 1865, and departed this life Sunday morning, January 15, 1933, at 8:30 o'clock a. m., at the home of Martin Dunn, Treece, Kansas, at the age of 67 years, eleven months and eighteen days. He had been preaching the Gospel for 30 years.

He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Mrs. Celia Posey, four daughters, three sons, three sisters, ten grandchildren, besides a host of relatives and friends.

Bro. Posey was one of our old faithful Free Will Baptist ministers. The night never became too dark, or the weather too cold, or the sacrifice too great in any way seemingly for him to go and spread the Gospel, or do anything he could for the advancement of the cause he loved. No longer than on Wednesday night before his passing on Sunday he called the people into the home and then delivered a wonderful message to them, there being over a hundred people present. He used as a text, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Bro. Posey has been pastor of the Blue Front Free Will Baptist church for the past fifteen years. The church there will miss him tremendously as will his faithful companion who was always at his side. The two have gone together through weather, both fair and foul, in times of encouragement and in times of discouragement, untiringly and almost continually. He has been preaching the Gospel for 30 years, and will be greatly missed in our Indian Creek Association, as he was a regular and active attendant.

Bro. Posey has been a man of apparently almost an iron constitution, having labored in the mining district of S. W. Mo., Okla. and Kansas for years before he started out in such a definite way for the Lord. Seemingly the underground work never had any effect on him whatever. He was a man who acquainted with the roughs and toughs of a sinful life; but when he was converted he was converted indeed and made a loyal soldier for God to the time of his passing.

The funeral services were conducted at the Blue Front Free Will Baptist church at Treece,

Kansas at 11:00 o'clock a. m. on January 17, 1933, and at the Free Will Baptist church at Granby, Mo. at 3:00 o'clock p. m., by Elder O. T. Allred and myself. The body was laid to rest in the cemetery at Granby to await the glorious resurrection morning.

He lived a victorious life, died a triumphant death, and realizing our loss is heaven's gain, we can all look forward to that glorious reuniting of the redeemed of the Lord.

Written by a sincere friend and fellow laborer.

Elder Winford Davis.

**Hayward**—Louise Faye Hayward was born October 13, 1927, and departed this life December 27, 1932, age, five years, two mo. and fourteen days.

She leaves to mourn her passing father and mother and one brother, Ora Gene, besides grandparents and other near relatives, and a host of friends.

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

Funeral service was conducted by Elder Winford Davis at the home. The body was laid to rest in the Bethel cemetery.

**Jones**—Herbert Don Jones, son of Elmer and Grace Jones, was born July 1, 1926, and departed this life January 10, 1933, being six years, six months and nine days old. When about twenty-one months old little Don was stricken with Spinal-meningitis and remained an invalid until the Master called him home. All was done for him that loving hands could do, but he did not regain health.

He leaves to mourn his departure, a kind and loving father and mother, one little brother, Ivan, age two years, a grandmother, and a host of friends and relatives. Little Don was a kind and loving child and was loved by all who knew him.

Funeral services were conducted at McBride church Thursday, January 12, 1933, by Elder Wid McClanahan, in the presence of a large crowd of sympathizing friends and relatives, and burial in the McBride cemetery.

Our darling little Don

Now has from us gone,  
The angels came and took him  
To that bright eternal home.

It seems so sad without him,

But, oh, how sweet to know  
That he is now an angel,  
In a robe as white as snow.

His stay with us was very short,  
Only a very few years,  
But again we'll meet our darling,  
Where God wipes away all tears.

We feel so sad and lonesome,  
Without his smiling face,  
But God needed another blossom.  
So He took little Don to fill  
that place.

It's so sad to stay without him,  
But God the Father knoweth  
best,

And our darling boy will no more  
suffer;

He is in the land of rest.  
He suffered much, murmuring not;  
We watched him day by day,  
Until at last with broken hearts,  
We saw him pass away.

So we'll lay aside our burdens,  
And we'll look to God above,  
For we know He's always ready,  
To stretch forth his hand of love  
And let's live to please our Jesus,  
So when our earth's work is done  
We can go to little Don,  
To that bright and happy home.

Written by a friend who knew  
little Don and loved him.

**Willis**—George W. Willis was born March 16, 1857, and departed this life January 15, 1933, age 75 years, ten months and one day.

He has been a member of Hazel Creek Union church for about 25 years, and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

He leaves a wife and seven children, five of his children having preceded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted at the Methodist church in Greentop, Mo. by Elder S. H. Marcum.

**Ray**—Reta Violet Ray was born November 18, 1912, and departed this life January 15, 1933, at the age of twenty years, one month and twenty-eight days.

She leaves father and mother, and four brothers, besides a host of relatives and friends.

Reta has always been afflicted. We feel sure she has gone to be with Jesus and the angels, where her mind will be clear and free.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder S. H. Marcum at the Stahl Free Will Baptist church. Burial in Green Castle cemetery.



## THE CHURCH

*(Continued from page two)*

self said, "A spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have." So by this we see that the church which is the body of Christ, is more than just a spiritual body; so to deny the organized body of the church is to deny that Christ is come in the flesh. There are many people that are honest, but have let the wrong spirit lead them to do this very thing. But we are told in 1 John 4:1-3: "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know we the Spirit of God. Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God; and this is spirit of antichrist, wherof ye have heard that it should come, and even now already is it in the world." In 2 John, verses 7, 8, "For many deceivers are entered into the world who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh: this is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves that ye loose not those things which we have wrought, but that ye receive a full reward."

Now, these are part of my Bible reasons for telling young converts to join themselves to the church.

May God bless and seal truth, Huggins, Missouri.

## Three Things Abiding

*(Continued from page thirteen)*

it and the storms may come and beat upon it, but it stays there unmovable, unless the anchor breaks. Now hope does the same for the soul. Our souls are anchored in the haven of rest and we look forward to the time when we can be present with the Lord; as Paul said was much better. The text is "Faith, Hope, Charity, but the greatest of these is charity." Now as important as faith and hope are, and charity is the greatest; let us study what charity is and how great it is.

Here is my view of charity. I believe in two men, one within and one without. I believe in two baptisms, one with water and one with the Holy Spirit. I believe in two charities, one within and one without; but can we prove it? Yes, let's read 1 Cor. 13:1-3, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and

have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing."

Now that is the charity within, and you see what Paul says will happen if we have not charity without. The word become is where the change is made. Did anyone ever hear a sound of brass, how dead it sounds; and if we have not charity we are just as dead in the sight of God as the sound of brass. Charity is Love, and if we have love as we should have, we will help those in need. God's charity is as in St. John 3:16; and at repentance the love of God comes into our hearts—that is charity within.

Now someone will say, "If love is charity, why I love everybody;" and if that is what you think, have you ever done anything for the needy? Ask yourself and if you have not, you had better read 1 Cor. 13:1-2. Paul says in these verses that if you haven't got charity without, you are nothing. Now that is plain, but just let it soak in; it surely will do good. Now that is the reason that charity is the greatest, because it takes in so much. It is needful to have both kinds of charity, for without both you cannot get to heaven.

Some will say, "I have nothing to give." Let us read and see—Mal. 3:9-10—"Ye are cursed with a curse, for ye have robbed me even this whole nation." You can see what is wrong with this nation, for this is speaking direct to us. Verse 10, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Of course some will say, "O, we are not to give that way;" but I say that according to the good old Book we are. Let us read what the church in its early days did, and God blessed it, but when we backslide God withholds His blessings from us. See Acts 2:42, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship and breaking of bread and in prayers." Verse 45, "And sold their possessions and goods and parted them to all men as every

man had need." "Did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart," and for this work seven deacons were appointed and ordained (Acts 6:1-10). Get your Bibles and read Acts 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers to feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood." Some will say that means to preach to them, but the Bible doesn't say that. Christ told the Pharisees that these things they ought to have done and not left the other undone. Now Jesus did not stop the charity without, but said, "Ye ought to have done them and not left God out." Some people like to brag about giving, but the Book says not to let the left hand know what the right hand doeth. This charity I am speaking about is without. "But whoso hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (1 John 3:17). Now this brings my mind to a Free Will Baptist preacher that owes me and I surely do need it, but I can't even get him to answer letters that I write; I want to know what I ought to do with him. How can the love of God dwell in him?

I have heard people say that charity begins at home; that is okay, but many times we just leave it at home. "Faith, hope, charity, but the greatest of these is charity." Now some will say, "O, I am O. K.," but the Bible says that charity will cover sins, yet it doesn't say that charity will forgive sins, for it takes repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus; and that will bring charity into our souls. We may give all we have and it will not save us. Let us read 1 Cor. 13:3, "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." Now we will lay faith and hope down when we cross over Jordan, but the love or charity will last forever in that haven of rest. Let us do our best to get there, and if we do what the good Book says it will land us safely on the other shore where we wont need faith nor hope, but the Book says that charity never faileth, but everything in this world will fail.

One more verse of the Gospel and I will close for this time. Rom. 12:20-21—"Therefore if thine enemy hunger feed him: if he thirst, give him drink, for in so doing thou shalt heap coals

of fire upon his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

I will say in closing that I wish more of our preachers would write through the Gem. I am sure proud of our paper and do love to read it; for about the only way I have of hearing you preach is through the paper.

Dec. 19th will be a year since I was able to work and I have no way to go like I used to have; so please write to the paper.

1520 W. Atlantic, Springfield, Mo.

## TAKE NOTICE

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

of the

### Co-operative General Association.

In this issue of the Gem, you will find the report of our meeting at Bryan, Texas. Having heard nothing much since, I believe it is time we should get busy.

I am going to suggest that we have a call meeting of the board to meet at Purdy, Mo. April 1st, that being centrally located for the board members. If this meets the approval of the chairman and members, write me at once and we will make an announcement.

I also suggest that each member bring one or more advisory members, also the Moderator and Clerk of the Co-operative General Association, to be present and thoroughly discuss every vital point. Say, brethren, this will and must go down in history as our final decision. Shall we do it?

Let's meet our brethren of the East with much courage and a greater determination to forward our great denomination, known as Free Will Baptist.

"United we stand:" Let's go!

Eld. Melyin Bingham,

Clerk of Executive Board,

1024 N. St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.

The above notice calls attention to a very important matter, and what we do in this matter may vitally affect our denomination. The purpose of this suggested call meeting is worthy, and certainly the time and place are wisely chosen.—Editor.

## REMEMBER

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

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

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

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

### Blanks

Ministers' Ordination blanks, 10c  
Ministers' License blanks, .....10c  
Deacons' Ordination blanks, .....10c  
Evangelists' Cert. of Election, 10c

Letter from a Church to a Q. M., Y. M. or Association. Letter from a Y. M. or Association to State Association or General Co-operative Association, 5c ea., 6 for 25c.

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

**The Treatise of the Faith and Usages of the Free Will Baptist:**  
1 to 5 copies at 25 cents each  
6 to 12 copies at 20 cents each  
12 or more copies for resale, per dozen ..... \$2.00

We pay the postage

### Butler-Dunn Theology

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

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

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

## SUBSCRIPTION

### PRICES REDUCED

After carefully and prayerfully considering the matter, we have decided to reduce the subscription of the Gem.

The new prices are to be permanent, and we will be disappointed if we don't receive more subscriptions at these lower rates than we have at the old rate.

The new prices do not include anything for the linotype fund; but all who can and will, are urged to add something to the amount sent for subscription for the linotype fund. The linotype belongs to the Free Will Baptist of Missouri. If you are one of them, it is your machine and it is your duty to help pay it out of debt. Every cent you send more than is required for the subscriptions you send in will be applied on OUR linotype.

The price of the Gem from now on will be as follows:

Single subs for 1 year, 75c each.  
2 to 4 subs for 1 year, 70c each.  
5 to 8 subs for 1 year, 60c each.  
9 or more yearly subs at 50c each.  
6 month subs in any class at half the yearly rate plus 5c each.

It ought to be easy to get up clubs at these prices, and we hope many will send in club orders. We know that the depression is still on, but there's hardly a church that can't get up a club of 5 or a club of 10, if a real effort is made. If you think you can't, you will probably fail: if you think you can, the battle's half won.

Just decide that your church or community can make up a club of 9 or more subs at 50c each and just a little time and effort will win.

Brother pastor, do your church a good turn by getting 9 or more of them to take the Gem at 50c per year: it will help our cause.

Sample copies on request.

### A NEW BOOK

**Falling From Grace  
or the Theory of the  
Impossibility of Apostasy Exposed.**  
By Eld. A. B. Talbert

Price: 10c each, 15 for \$1.00.

40% Commission to Agents

Send orders to Eld. A. B. Talbert,  
Sand Springs, Oklahoma