

COMFORT ONE ANOTHER

By Eld. Winford Davis

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thes. 4:18).

The first thought that presents itself in this text is our duty toward each other, in the way of comforting each other as brothers and sisters in this life, and helping to bear one another's burdens in this vale of sorrow.

Comfort one another with *these words*. What words? The words just previously spoken. "*These words*," as referred to here began to be spoken by the apostle in the 13th verse. From this down to the text, inclusive, are words of real comfort, in spite of what the trial may be here below. No greater comfort could be found within the lids of the Bible than in these verses when we are lowering the lifeless form of a loved one into the silent tomb. These words keep us from sorrowing as do others who have no hope. In this lesson we are assured that our loved ones, when they pass away, do not go with the body to the cold silent tomb. Verse 14—"For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." We are also assured of a glorious reuniting of both the living and the dead in Christ, and of the great coming of our Lord in the air, and also of the resurrection which means so much to us.

Verses 15, 16, 17—"For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent (R. V. precede) them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

This also brings out the wonderful transformation of the righteous living.

These last three verses coincide with 1 Cor. 15:51, 52, "Behold, I shew you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised, incorruptible, and we shall be changed." Also with Matt. 24:31, "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

There is, oh, so much comfort and consolation to be found in these passages! Did you notice that it said the Lord would descend with a shout? We find folks here who do not believe in shouting, but we know from this that Jesus does. You know I am afraid we do not talk enough about the return of the Lord. He is coming to catch away the bride, and all indications are that it will be soon. In my mind this notable event is coming on apace. It is comfort indeed for God's people to talk together of these words, as spoken by Paul to the Thessalonian brethren. If folks would spend more time in talking of what Jesus is to us, both here and hereafter, we would find life much easier to live. Even the little bees get honey from nettles and bitter herbs; so can we find sweetness in the midst of sore trials by keeping the eye of faith upon Jesus. A soldier boy returned from the war, having lost an arm in an engagement; his friends coming in to see him would say, "What a pity you lost your arm." He said, "Why don't you help me praise God for the one that is left?" Did you ever stand on the seashore when the wind was blowing strong, and watch the sea gulls raise themselves by facing and encountering the strong wind? Perhaps you have noticed other birds do the same thing. They were being raised, not in their own strength, but by the strong confronting gale. So may we, if we will but lift our pinions of faith, be raised to higher planes of living by the struggles which we encounter here. These are perilous times; but

let us find comfort in considering the words which speak so plainly of the return of our Lord, and of the events which are so closely connected with His return.

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP

By J. M. Doughty

When the chief captain of the Roman garrison asked the apostle Paul if he were a Roman citizen, Paul answered, "Yes."

The chief captain replied: "With a great sum obtained I this freedom."

What is the price of your citizenship? What does your citizenship mean to you? Are you meeting the obligations that citizenship places upon you? The Roman captain purchased his citizenship with money, but your American citizenship, was purchased with the blood of your forefathers, and by the sacrifice and suffering of your forefathers.

Most of us are not required to sacrifice to the extent that our forefathers suffered, but we must defend the freedom which they left us.

For more than a century American citizens of high ideals have been working to free our nation from the curse of drink. During the World War, but before America entered the war, Congress passed the Eighteenth Amendment which was soon ratified by forty-five states. The Prohibition amendment gave the American people a greater measure of freedom than any nation had ever known. When the World War closed and England and France were rejoicing over their gains of territory and trade concessions, the war premier of England stated that although America had not received any territory, that American people had received prohibition which was the greatest gain of all.

This great heritage, Prohibition, is now in danger. The wets have taken advantage of the depression, which is an aftermath of the war, and exists in all countries, and are trying to have prohibition repealed.

Continued on page thirteen

HOW BUILDEST THOU?*By Miss Linnie McCoy*

In a certain city lived an old carpenter. Day by day he toiled hard for his master. One evening when the last rays of the setting sun shone through the little window, and his devoted wife wiped the last dish after the evening meal, a tall man appeared in the doorway. It was his master coming to see him.

"Jim," said he, as he produced from his pocket some papers and handed them to Jim, "here are the plans for a new house, and I want you to start tomorrow. Do your best Jim," and he was gone.

The following day when Jim was digging hard, building the foundation for the new house, the tempter came in his car, "Why dig so deep Jim?" and Jim obeyed the tempter. Then came the time to build the walls, and again the tempter whispered in Jim's ear, "Why be so particular? The master will not see it." And Jim went on with the building, but always listened to the tempter's voice and cheated in the work.

At last the house was completed. The master came to look it over, and then, he set his two piercing eyes on Jim, and said: "For thirty years you have served me, Jim, and it is very fitting at this time that you should receive your reward for faithful work. I present this house to you and your wife, and may it be a blessing to both of you in your old age."

It came as a great shock to Jim and with his eyes full of tears, he went and told his wife. "Oh, if I had only known that he would give us the house, I would have done better work; but now it is too late!"

As I read the words of that story, I beheld in my imagination the Judgment day. I saw God sitting on His great, white throne, and around Him the bright and glorious angelic host. Men and women were coming from all parts of the earth to be judged. And among them were great men—men who were well acquainted with human philosophy and tradition; men who had taught the people to disregard God's holy law, "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Now their faces were pale as they looked at the great Lawgiver holding the two tables of the law in His hands. Then came the separation. A great multitude was placed on the Judges left hand and a small company was arrayed on His right. Then it seemed as though the heavenly host pointed to the little company on the Judges right hand, and in sweet accord rang out the words, "Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Rev. 14:12).

Dear reader, to which company will you belong? I appeal to you in the name of Him who died that you might live. Follow not human traditions. Study the plan that the Master Builder has laid down for you. Study your Bible and follow its precepts, and you will be like the "wise man which built

his house upon a rock; and the rains descended, and the floods came, and the wind blew and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock" (Matt. 7:24-27).

Let us stop and think about the building of our lives. Are they as clean and beautiful as the Creator intended they should be? If not, why not? Surely it is not because the divine plan was a faulty one! It is because we, as builders of our lives and characters, have not built true to His plan. In building a life each one of us should endeavor to truly build a beautiful temple. We should endeavor to be wise master builders, that would build something that will give us joy and satisfaction and be a real credit to our efforts.

Then in order to build a life we must be sure of a good foundation. There is a foundation on which to build, God Himself, manifested in Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer. St. Paul said: "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11).

Then a wise master builder must be very particular in the selection of materials to use in the building. One of the most important is personal righteousness. We may have other virtues in abundance, but if we have not genuine righteousness we have not the enduring and acceptable material of which to build a life that shall be a temple of God.

E. Christian Service is also essential, for any good in us that does not find expression in action, has not entered into the structure of our lives. The wise master builder is particular about good workmanship and gives special attention to details. The eyes of man might not see the defects in the building, but the eyes of God can. The things that no one sees, or knows, except God, are the things that test our fidelity, and the things a good master builder will consider.

"We are building every day
In a good or evil way,
And the structure as it grows,
Will our inmost self disclose.

Till in every arch and line
All our faults and failings shine;
It may be a castle grand
Or a wreck upon the sand.

Build it well whatever you do,
Build it straight and strong and true.
Build it clean, and high, and broad,
Build it for the eye of God."

Phillipsburg, Missouri, R2.

Charleston, Arkansas, Feb. 22nd.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Just this winter I have become acquainted with your Gem magazine. I have enjoyed many inspiring articles from persons who I am sure are godly people.

Besides daily newspapers, I seldom read any other literature, other than that pertaining to God's Word. When I start to read anything else, something seems to tell me I am wasting

time, and I know it must be God telling me that I must be reading His word, and learning more about Jesus and the way He wants me to live.

I live in Oklahoma City, at 401 W. 22nd St., but have been with mother and daddy, I. J. Wilson of Charleston, Arkansas through the winter months. I surely have enjoyed being here away from the bustling traffic of the city, where I can see God's own works, and not man's, a place of quiet retirement where I can rest and meditate.

God has given us a beautiful place to live here on earth, and He has promised us a beautiful home after we leave this one, if we will only live for Him, love Him with all our heart, love our enemies and pray for them that spitefully use us. God wants us to love every body, not only our kindred and friends, but every body and all races—you might find this hard to do, but if you really love God it won't be too hard. Love is dying out of so many hearts and that is why the world is so full of sin.

Just remember friends that God is in every tomorrow and, if we will just keep looking up, though darkness seems to crowd in, the light of love shall fill our souls. Dear ones, pray more and more that God will fill your hearts so full of love, that you'll sing with joy, love every body, unless you do, God can't love you to His fullest extent.

"God is in every tomorrow, therefore I live for today, certain to find at sunrise, guidance and strength for the way. Power each moment for weakness; hope for each moment of pain, comfort for every sorrow, sunshine and joy after rain."

Love to all you unknown.

Mrs. Nora M. Wilson.

NOTICE**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS of the Co-operative General Ass'n.**

We have decided for a call meeting of the Board, to meet at Purdy, Mo. March 30 and 31, 1933.

Arrangements will be made for services at our Macedonia church on Thursday night and Friday night.

Every Board member is expected to be there, and bring as many advisory members as possible.

Many things will be discussed.

Subjects to be discussed:

1. Shall we unite with the Eastern Conference?
2. Disbanding Co-operative General Association.
3. Organizing a New Western Conference.
4. Home for Old Retired Ministers. Already under way by First Mission Association.
5. Our Publications.

These are all important subjects, and must be given close consideration. Discussion all day, Friday, Mar. 31st. Eld. Melvin Bingham, Clerk. 1024 N. St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Published monthly at Purdy, Missouri.


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

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TERMS

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

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

Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

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

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THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

Now Past Four Years Old.

Who or what is so old as that? Why, the Free Will Baptist Gem, which made its first appearance in January, 1929, at Tecumseh, Oklahoma; so this is the third issue on its fifth year of publication.

During this time the Gem has gone out every month except one. When we moved from Tecumseh, Oklahoma to Purdy, Missouri, we had to devote the whole month of April getting moved, so we did not print any paper for May, 1930.

Some thought the Gem wouldn't last long when it started, but a few have stood by us, in every way they could help, so we are still printing the Gem each month, not just holding our own, but gaining all the while. We are better equipped and more established than ever before, and have no thought whatever of quitting, but ever planning for better things in the future.

As many of you know, we have a good linotype, which belongs to the denomination, and many have contributed of their means to help pay out on this machine. We still owe about \$430.00 on our linotype, which we should pay out this year, and we are looking to our friends for contributions to this fund. Give what you can and the Lord will bless you.

I am wondering how many realize how much the welfare and growth of our denomination depend upon our paper. Evidently many of our people never give this matter a thought, for there are so many who not only do not read the Gem, but know little or nothing about it. Some seem to think that the editor is well paid, even rich, but that is a great mistake. All the editor gets is the money sent in for subscriptions and for the job work he does. If those who think thus really knew how very few subscriptions reach the Gem office, they would not think such things, and, if loyal Free Willers, would send in their own sub and get others to subscribe. These subscriptions would help the editor to give you a better paper, but if you withhold it, it helps to weaken the denomination. But while the people fail to support their paper, the Lord doesn't forget the editor; who then, is the loser?

One of our greatest needs is more, many more subscriptions. We have, after careful, prayerful consideration, reduced the price of the Gem, as you will see on page sixteen. These new rates are bringing us more subscriptions. Bro. O. T. Allred of Monett, Mo., Bro. I. J. Wilson of Charleston, Ark. and Bro. Johnnie Swaffar of Purdy, Mo. have sent in good club orders, and others have sent in smaller numbers, then several others that we know of are getting up club orders. For all this we are very **THANKFUL**.

Then Bro. C. A. McBride of Christopher, Illinois is our authorized representative for that section, to solicit subscriptions and get our Treatise, etc. into the hands of those who need them.

Come on brethren, let's boost our GEM until it fills its place and accomplishes its intended mission throughout our denomination. Do you care enough for the welfare of your brethren, your church and the cause in general to devote a little time and effort getting subscriptions to the Gem?

Stahl, Missouri, Jan. 30, 1933

Dear Gem Readers:

I was just thinking over the Scripture, Matthew 7:16, "By their fruits ye shall know them." I wonder if we couldn't illustrate that by a garden. For instance we may have two gooseberry bushes growing, and to all appearances they are much alike. They both have the same situation, the same soil and sunshine, and the same care. But when the fruit season comes on one bush has large, finely flavored fruit, while the other, close beside it, bears hard, tart and green fruit. They are two different varieties. Until the fruit comes on, you couldn't tell which was which: you can tell them only by their fruits.

People are very much like trees in an orchard. They are planted there by the gardener who sets them in place and in soil he thinks best for them. There are good people and bad, and they are not unlike to look at. How shall we know them? Our Lord told His disciples how when He said, "You will know them by their fruits." If a man finds apples growing in an orchard, he says, "This is an apple tree, for apples grow only on apple trees." If he finds plums, he knows he has a plum tree. So if you know some one who does good, you say, "He is a good man;" but if you know some one who does wicked things, you say, "He is a bad man, for good people do not do such things." You know people, like trees, by their fruits, that is, by the deeds they do, because these show their character.

But if we apply this test to other people, we must apply it to ourselves also. Perhaps you think you are kind and loving at heart, and your grapes quite sweet. You may be a little cross sometimes, but it is nothing to speak of, a few pickles don't matter, yet a grape vine does not have thorns. Other people will judge you by your fruits. They may be saying, "I can not ask anything of that boy or girl, he is so disobedient," or She is so selfish." While you may be thinking you are a vine, they may think you are a thorn. It is a good thing to test ourselves by this: "How do I look to others? Do they gather good fruit from me?" We will be known to all by our fruits, for by them we prove our character.

God knows us by our fruits also. He is the Gardener who has planted the orchard of this world, and He has planted His trees that He may

have fruit. If He does not have fruit, He knows He has a poor tree. What kind of fruit does He want? St. Paul has told us of nine "fruits of the Spirit." They are: Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. The best we can do is poor enough, but God sees the promise of what we shall be hereafter, if only we are really and honestly doing our best.

Within the folded seed,
God sees the flower,
And in the will the deed.

Miss Velma Gates.

Drumright, Oklahoma

Dear Readers of the Gem:

As I sit in my study this cold Feb. day, I wish to send in my report to the readers of the Gem.

The Lord is blessing us here at Drumright. We have been working on our church, doing some painting. We painted the ceiling ivory, the side walls a light tan and the wood work a dark brown. We have a new pulpit stand, new curtains around the stand and altar. The floor was painted a dark gray, the roof has been repaired, new seats have been added for our choir, several new seats have been added for the congregation, now we are trying to get enough to fill the entire church. We can't begin to tell you how much it improved the looks of our church, so you will have to come and visit us and see for yourselves. We are indeed proud of our improvements.

We are glad to report that our Mission is doing a wonderful work. We also have a Junior Mission that is on fire for God. They have a Mission program to present to the church on Wednesday night, which we think is a wonderful play to bring out the important facts about the mission work. The title of the play is "The Tightwad Family."

We are glad to report our church and Sunday school in good condition. We had a wonderful service Sunday night; two souls were saved and one addition to the church. We went into the icy water a few days ago and baptized two, one of them, Sister Mary Herriman, was moving away to the State of Missouri and wanted to be baptized before leaving, and Sister Nattie Nelson said she wanted to be baptized too. I got a wonderful blessing in the ice water that day.

We ask the prayers of all good people for us in our work here.

B. F. Rogers, Pastor.

Norwood, Missouri, Feb. 10, 1933

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I feel impressed this evening to write to our dear paper, for which I am so thankful. I am so glad that we have this way of communicating with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I have in mind a verse of Scripture which is found in 1 Cor. 15:19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." I wonder if we ever think how wonderful it is to have that hope. I'm sure that if we did not have hope beyond this life there would not be much to live for. Although we receive many blessings in this life, if we did not have that sweet hope it surely would be very miserable.

If we could only think of death as something dark, and beyond death no resurrection, life would be very sluggish. But we have the sweet assurance that Christ is risen from the dead and made clear the way for us. We know He died for our sins, and oh! such suffering and pain just for us, yet many will reject His great love.

Here we have a great responsibility of holding up the cause of Christ, and there are temptations to overcome, but still we have that hope that beyond this life of sorrow we can again unite in heaven where there will be no sorrow, if we will only do His will.

I'm sure the space I have taken could have been filled by a far better writer than I am, but others can not do our work, even though it be small.

I ask an interest in your prayers.
Marion Smith.

Bryans, Missouri, Jan. 29, 1933

Dear Readers of the Gem:

Wife and I have just returned from our Quarterly Meeting. Had a good meeting, with good interest all through. Brother and Sister McAdams were with us in the close of our Q. M. We enjoyed meeting them again.

Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr. and myself recently closed a two weeks' meeting at our Union Chapel church. Had a glorious meeting; twelve souls saved; five obeyed the Lord in baptism at the close of the meeting January 22nd.

We enjoy the Gem and would like to get it in every Free Will Baptist home, but it seems that most of our people must have the daily and weekly papers; and magazines first, then we are broke and can't spare the money for our church paper.

Am enclosing \$1.00 for a sub.

Yours for the Master,

Eld. J. G. Koch.

Report on Subscription Campaign

Hannon, Mo. Feb., 1933.

Dear Brethren:

After a long silence I am ready to give a report. We have had a lot of sickness in our family this winter, which has caused delay in my writing, but the Lord has blessed and spared us, so we are very thankful.

Perhaps out over the field are many who are expecting to hear from me in regard to the Subscription Campaign carried on some months back. Now, brethren, space in one writing would not permit a full report, so will be brief and clear as possible.

In the first place the contract with the Paper or Magazine Company was made direct to me, and I offered the opportunity to fulfill this contract to our beloved denomination. Some of the brethren accepted my offer with the understanding that when the contract should be fulfilled, \$1,000.00 would be paid to the denomination. I failed to read the contract correctly, and understood that we had only ninety days to fulfill the contract, accordingly I urged all co-workers to that end, and we secured 1687 subscriptions, 687 paid in subs. and 1000 free subs, or in plain words, I sent in 1000 names and borrowed \$250.00 and sent them free. In due time, after the ninety days, I was notified of my misunderstanding. This matter completely mortified me, seeing the awfulness of this error; for I was aware that some would lose confidence in the matter and refuse to further help, when some doubted anyway. I was heartless at this stage of the affair, but some of the brethren urged that I renew the campaign, which I did. I wrote to 160 preachers in the state, and I believe that some sixteen or eighteen letters returned "Unclaimed." Out of the remainder only four preachers answered me and pledged support, and only one of them sent in any subs to me at any time during the campaign. I also have an apology to make here, for I boasted that I could put the deal over by myself, but I was offering anyone a chance to help. I little realized when I made that statement that hard times were knocking at my door; for when I should have been out on the field my auto tires were in bad condition and no money in sight to buy any until too late. My statement may have had a tendency to weaken the desire of some who might have helped. I feel that I did wrong in that. So you see that, with no help from the many who might have helped, and my helplessness to carry the burden alone, the contract was not fulfilled according to requirements.

The contract called for 1000 subs to be in circulation from their office at the expiration date. Here is the

solution—All except a few of the 1687 subs sent in during the first ninety days were one year subs. The few were two, three and four year subs; so it is plain to see that all the one year subs would expire at least ninety days before the contract was due, as we had one year and three months for the work, instead of three months. The number of subs that expired before the contract was due was 1060, leaving 627 to our credit, of the two, three and four year subs. Bro. Brown, Bro. Davis and a brother in Oklahoma and maybe one other, sent in enough in the last drive to make a list of 160 subs. I sent in 70 of these and deposited the money in my home bank for the other 90 subs, but the bank closed never to open again, so I could not raise the money to replace the subs. So we sent in 697 all told, which was to our credit; but we had failed, or rather I had failed to fulfill the contract as per agreement, consequently lost our chance to get any money.

I appreciate the brotherly and confidential help from those who untiringly assisted, and while the denomination has lost more than all, I spent \$60.00 of my own money and realized nothing in return. Some will lose confidence in me over this deal and it will hurt my influence in the denomination generally, so I am the real loser and am greatly discouraged and embarrassed over the matter in several ways. I humbly ask the forgiveness of any who are offended in me because of this matter.

Prayerfully submitted to all concerned,
Elder W. H. York.

WACO, TEXAS, 602 S. 10th St.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

I have enjoyed reading the Gem for the last two years or more and have contemplated all along to write and let the Gem family know something of my activities in the service of the Lord, but just kept neglecting until now.

It was my privilege to serve our church in Bryan, Texas for three years and the Lord wonderfully blessed us in the work there, but seeing the great need of spreading the doctrine, which we believe to be that of the Bible, I felt impressed to decline the work there another year and to go out and preach the Gospel where our denomination is not established. Our State Convention, while in session last November, employed me for half time to do extension and evangelistic work wherever an opportunity was offered.

At the present time we are located in Waco, Texas where an effort is being put forth to establish a church. We have secured a hall for part time in which services can be held and the few services which have already been held have been attended in a very encouraging way. It is our purpose to secure a tent in a short time and put on an evangelistic campaign. We greatly desire an interest in the pray-

ers of God's people everywhere, for we realize that there is a great battle to be fought, if we should win, but by His grace we can. Our efforts to extend the cause will not be confined to Waco, nor even to Texas, but wherever the Holy Spirit may lead us we want to go. Any one who may desire to communicate with us can find us at the above address.

May the Lord wonderfully bless the entire Gem family and our efforts for the Kingdom.

Yours in His service,
E. C. Morris.

REPORT OF REVIVAL MEETING,
Held at Pilgrim Rest Church, Sonora, Arkansas.

We just closed a good meeting at this place, and wonderful interest and work was done by the young people. We were glad to see Bro. Davis McCoy acknowledge his call to the ministry.

We went to the Fifth Sunday Council meeting which was held at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist church, and truly enjoyed ourselves throughout the day.

Eld. T. O. Hutchinson, Neosho, Mo., R2

BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I have felt impressed for some time to write a few words to our good paper, and I have written two or three letters, but never had the courage to mail them, for fear they would find their way to the waste-basket, as there are so many writers better than myself.

But when we Christians feel burdened to do something for the cause of Christ, and we know it is the Spirit of God talking to us, we should not hesitate in doing it, for fear of being laughed at, but go ahead and do the best we can. "For God's Spirit will not always strive with man." And I believe that refers to the saved as well as the unsaved. If we fail, just try again, for no man is perfect on this earth; and if we never make mistakes we never will amount to anything. Anyway I have made many mistakes in my life, and I am sure we all have, but I have learned to profit by my mistakes, for each one that I make is a stepping stone to the good for me, for it helps me to watch my step a little closer in these trying times.

I had never realized until about two years ago what it means to be a real Christian, but praise God, I have my eyes open at last; and with His help, I live for Him, not only Sunday, but seven days out of every week. I have that sweet peace of contentment that the soul craves, and a longing desire to draw closer to Jesus and do more for the advancement of His cause for the laborers are few over this big field of His, and the unsaved by the millions are going out into eternity unprepared. How my heart does ache for them!

It seems that the preaching of God's

word has no effect on them, they will go to church and sit like statues, and their hearts seem to be like stone.

What is the matter, folks? Is the fault in the Christian people not doing their duty? Is there something we are leaving undone or unsaid?

I attend the Church of God here at Bristow, as there is no Free Will Baptist church here. I find some real true Christians here, and they are lots of encouragement to me. I am so thankful that I can serve Jesus any place I live, and that I don't have that prejudice in my heart, and just sit at home and hold my hands, just because there is no Free Will Baptist church here. It isn't the church that saves people anyway, it is Jesus, the One who was hung on that old cross, suffered, bled and died to save us all from sin.

The only pleasure I have in life is serving Jesus, and I am satisfied living for Him, but I often ask myself the question, Is He satisfied with what I am doing for Him?

Bro. Brown, I noticed that the last copy of the Gem was marked Sample Copy, so I am sending one dollar to renew my subscription for one year, the balance to be applied on the linotype. Hope I am not too late to receive the March copy. I read it from cover to cover, and the only fault I find with paper is that it isn't large enough. I think it is the best church paper I have ever read.

I need your prayers, that I may stay true and humble to God.

A sister in Christ,
Mrs. Zula Lewis.

CHARLESTON, ARKANSAS

Dear Bro. Brown and all the Gem Family: I am asking for a small space in our wonderful little paper, which I enjoy reading so very much.

I had the pleasure of visiting Pots church the first Sunday in this month. I met old Bro. J. S. Lovett, their pastor, who has a fine congregation and a fine people to preach to. We enjoyed two fine services.

We are sending you a club of nine yearly subscriptions, all from Pots church, and asking you to send the pastor's sub free. May the Lord bless all the good people of Pots and all the good brothers and sisters every where.

Bro. Brown has given us a real rate on our paper, so come on and get up a club, and let us make it go.

Hoping to hear from more of you people in Arkansas, I am,

Yours for the cause,
Elder I. J. Wilson.

CHETOPA, KANSAS, Feb. 13, 1933

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

As I haven't written to the Gem for some time, I will try in my loneliness of heart to say a few words of comfort to those who have lost loved ones in the past year.

My heart surely goes out to those

who have had their hearts and homes broken as mine has been the past year, yet we read in God's word that He doeth all things well, so the only hope we have of our ever being reunited is the hope of the home over there, where there is no more parting and all tears are wiped away. I sometimes get homesick for heaven, as I can see faces shining out of glory and beckoning for me to come up higher. I am still trying in my weak way to serve my Lord and let my light so shine that my life will be pleasing in His sight, and at last gain a home in heaven. I know the Lord is able and His grace is sufficient to carry us through every trial of this world.

I sure enjoy reading the Gem and think it ought to be in every home.

Asking the prayers of every member of the Gem family, I remain,

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. Gracie Mayfield.

MANSFIELD, MISSOURI

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I will try in my weak way to write a few lines. It does my heart good to read so many good letters from our dear brothers and sisters in Christ, and to know that there is still a faithful few standing on the precious promises of God. We are told in the Scriptures that these exceeding great and precious promises are given, that, by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:4). As we read the promises of God our faith is strengthened so that we are enabled to climb higher spiritual heights. Standing on the promises of God we are enabled to meet the difficulties, trials and temptations of life as we could not meet them depending upon our own strength.

"Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18). "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isa. 40:31). "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

I ask the prayers of all of God's people to pray that I and my dear companion may always be found standing on the promises of God. Pray for our church, Wolf Creek church. We have as our pastor, Bro. G. W. Scott, Jr.

I want to say that we enjoyed having Bro. and Sister McAdams visit in our home Monday and Tuesday of last week. We certainly enjoyed the prayers and songs we had during this stay. May God bless them in their work and give them souls for their labors.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. Lewis Moody.

HUGGINS, MISSOURI

Dear Readers of the Gem:

While I have been reading the Bible this evening, I find so many promises that the Lord has promised us, if we will follow and obey Him. I can't understand the Bible as I would like to.

"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Sam. 15:22). "Obey my voice and I will be your God and ye shall be my people" (Jer. 7:23). "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshiped with men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things" (Acts 17:24, 25). If we obey God we will grow stronger in His service.

"Therefore if thou bringest thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift" (Matt. 5:23, 24). I find that every time I obey I receive a blessing.

"Will a man rob God?" (Mal. 3:8). We all owe our life service to God, and just as sure as we get out on the devil's playgrounds, we are robbing God, and the devil has his campground all around us; let's be careful where we go and what we say.

"And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's" (Luke 20:25). "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). I was sure proud to hear of the good quarterly meeting; surely people obeyed God in the services.

I wish also to report about the revival meeting at Union Chapel, conducted by Elders G. W. Scott, Jr. and J. G. Koch. Both did some good preaching. There were twelve converted, five baptized and four united with the church. May the Lord bless and keep the young converts.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (St. John 14:27).

A sister in Christ,
Mrs. John Ratterree.

MISSION REPORT

Hartville, Mo., Feb. 20, 1933

Dear Mission Workers:

Here we are again. Another month has gone and we are away down in the Ozarks. We have visited several churches, and reached Wright County Quarterly Meeting at Big Creek church before it was over, and met a number of our preachers, and made dates to visit several churches. We stayed over Saturday night and Sunday morning, also the Koch Brothers. We all had a wonderful time with the assistance. We organized a Mission Sunday school and prayer meeting. We sure enjoyed being with the

dear brothers in the Lord. Bro. John Koch brought a wonderful message Sunday morning and Bro. Levi gave up Sat. night for us. We had a good service and one soul was saved. God bless the dear people at Big Creek church, they are fine.

We visited Mountain Grove church Sunday night where Bro. George Scott, Jr. is pastor. Had a wonderful service, and one young man was saved. There was a down pouring of the Holy Spirit. We also organized a mission band with 20 members. There were a few young ladies present and, on investigation, we found that they wanted a mission for the girls, so we gave Sister Cinda Hutsell instructions to go ahead and organize. Last Sunday afternoon we gave a temperance lecture in Mt. Grove, and found she had organized with 15 members and they had met twice and was going right ahead. We visited the Sunday school and had a wonderful time in the Lord, made an altar call and two came forward and one was saved.

We went from Mt. Grove to Cordial church, near Norwood, where Bro. Charley Findley is pastor, and had two wonderful services with three saved, and we organized a mission. Bro. Findley is a wonderful man of God, is young in the service, but is a power in God's hands. God bless the Cordial church.

Next we went to Oak Grove church, one of Bro. Selph Jones' churches, where we had three powerful services, with one saved, and we organized a mission.

From Oak Grove we came to Hartville for two services. This is another one of Bro. Jones' churches, but it was so cold that we didn't have the success we had in other places, so we will try Hartville again. While there we enjoyed meeting dear ones we had met in other days. We made our home with dear Bro. and Sister Claxton, and truly it was home-sweet home. They just let us do as we pleased and it reminded us of years ago when we stayed with them. May God bless these two saints is our prayer.

We then went to Wolf Creek, another one of Bro. Scott's churches, and right here we want to say that Bro. Scott is some of the salt of the earth that the Master spoke of. He has some live wires in his churches. But on account of the awful cold blizzard, we only had one service. Good Bro. and Sister Lewis Moody took us home with them and there we sheltered in the time of storm. The years may come and go but we will never forget those two days spent in that dear home, God bless them.

We were dated for the Ashley church next, but on account of the extreme cold, we could not have services, so the next best thing we thought of was to visit Bro. and Sister Selph Jones, and truly it was a wonderful blessing to be in Bro. Jones' home, he has a dear wife and three sweet children and a dear mother-in-law, and we will never forget that two days' visit. If any of you preachers ever get in a blizzard, just hunt Bro. Jones', it is a

fine place. We sure thank the Lord for men like Bro. Jones, he is loved in all his churches. God bless his work is our prayer.

We then came to Pleasant Hill church, near Hartville. Bro. York, whom we have known for years is pastor here, and how we would like for him to be with us, but he is too far away to come only on his appointments. We reached here late Friday evening and snow was all over the ground, and it was cold, but praise the Lord two precious souls were saved and we have had five up to date. We will be here a few days yet. We know Bro. York will be glad to hear of the good results.

Sisters, don't forget the last Friday in each month.

Financial report for state work:	
Big Creek	\$1.00
Cordial10
Oak Grove10
Hartville35
Pleasant Hill35

Total, \$1.90

We understand that Mt. Grove has \$2.25 for state work that will come in next report.

Pray for us.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

Novinger, Missouri, Feb. 10, 1933

Dear Bro. Brown:

Please find enclosed one dollar to renew my subscription to the Gem. Thanks for sending me the paper this month. I am anxious to read it and find out all I can about the churches and their work.

I joined this church about twenty-six years ago, (it may be longer ago), when Bro. Tom Ferguson first came to this part of Missouri. He organized a church at a coal mining town, Connellsville, and he baptized me in Nov. I remember. It seems the church there has been deserted, though the building is still there, and several families live there and close by. It seems a pity we haven't a preacher there, also at our Jewel church a few miles east of there, which Bro. Ferguson organized, had a building erected, and named it for his daughter.

I put my membership in the Bethel church about six miles northwest of Novinger where I live. Bro. George Miller is our pastor. I never get to go out there to hear him, but everyone speaks well of him and his preaching. He has called on me and I have met him several times, I believe him sincere and anxious to please God and work for Him, he has a sweet little wife.

We need a pastor at the Green Grove or New Hope church, about four miles from Connellsville. This church is on the new farm to market highway from here. We (Novinger) is on highway No. six, which joins 63 at Kirksville, seven miles from here. Money is scarce here, as at most places, but rent and living is cheap, surely there is approach for these churches. I think he

could get a church for each Sunday.

Novinger has a new \$45,000.00 Consolidated school house. This district takes in Connellsville and Bethel, and comes near to New Hope and Jewel churches, so if a pastor had children for high school it would not cost him anything for tuition.

I hear that Elder Noel Turner is having a wonderful meeting at New Harmony (it may be closed now). He is well liked I hear, and I wish the Free Wills would get him on this side of the river (Charitan) and have a revival.

I didn't think of making this letter so long, but will close. I pray for you all and ask an interest in your prayers.

Your sister in Christ,

Goldie Elsea.

Hartville, Missouri, Jan. 31, 1933

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I am thinking tonight of two great evils that are abroad in this beautiful land of ours, that God has created and blessed us with. It is a shame how our laws are disobeyed, "Strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Is tobacco really harmful? The Boys' International Anti-Cigarette League of 58 West Washington Street, Chicago, has prepared some interesting and significant statements from data in their possession. Among the facts presented are the following:

A boy's ability to learn is immediately injured when he begins to smoke.

The same boy will immediately improve when he stops smoking.

Cigarette smoking handicaps boys for all games of endurance.

Cigarette smoking handicaps boys for all games of skill, and this is not the worst, he is no longer able to earn his living by manual labor.

Tobacco increases the death rate from heart disease, and the death rate from cancer.

Why don't they say something about the girls? I never saw but two girls smoking cigarettes until last summer. There was one at Mammoth Springs, Arkansas, she appeared to have a cap on like the boys wear, and wore it on one side of her head. She had on pajamas and a cigarette in her mouth, blowing the smoke out at her nostrils, and, as I looked at her, I wondered if she had a mother living; and if she set the example for the daughter. One of the other girls lived here in Hartville. She went crazy. After she lost her mind she took up this awful habit. She was in Nevada the last we heard of her, and the other died and was buried.

Mrs. Lina Claxton.

Education and Publication

We, the Education and Publication Committee of the Southeast Missouri Quarterly Meeting of Free Will Baptist wish to submit the following report:

We believe it the duty of each one, as Christian parents, to educate our

children in the principles of Christian character, and to patronize our own Free Will Baptist schools and colleges. We recommend the Correspondence course as taught by Bro. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Nebraska for our young ministers who are not able to attend college.

We also recommend Butler-Dunn Systematic Theology as a companion to the Bible in home study.

We believe it the duty of all Free Will Baptist to patronize our own publishing house, and to read our denominational paper.

We recommend our Gem paper published by Elder B. F. Brown at Purdy, Missouri to all, because it is our own, and because it is a safe literature and keeps us in touch with our work in the state and elsewhere.

We recommend that some move be made for the publishing of our own Sunday School Literature in this state.

We recommend that each Sunday School Superintendent act as a committee with his Sunday school and league in regard to this matter and report to the Quarterly Meeting Clerk.

Committee	Eld. Wm. Reeves;
	Eld. W. C. Hill,
	Eld. Eva Gross,
	Bro. A. Fosha,
	Bro. Chesley Hill, Bro. Wayne Hughes.

Report of Revival Meeting.

Report of Revival Meeting with our Free Will Baptist Church in Monett.

The meeting began January 15th and continued until February 7th.

Eld. Johnnie Swaffar was with us in this meeting, also some of our preachers here did part of the preaching, especially in the day services. From the beginning of the meeting to the time of this report twenty-five (25) souls were converted or renewed (two of these were saved in our prayer meeting last week). Twenty-three united with the church, fifteen were baptized Sunday, February 19th and five others are to be baptized in the near future.

Words would fail us in expressing the praise to God for the wonderful way in which He has blessed the work here. From the meeting beginning in November, 1931 in a vacant store room on Broadway God has established a church with more than 100 resident members, five of these have acknowledged the divine call to the ministry and are launching out in the work.

We have a splendid Sunday school with an average attendance of about 110. Our prayer meeting meets each Thursday night, with about 75 average attendance. We also have a Gospel team from this church and God is blessing their work.

We had the privilege of attending the revival at Merl's Chapel last Friday where Bro. Winford Davis and Bro. Johnnie Rollins and Bro. Johnnie Swaffar are in a meeting. We will leave it for them to tell about the wonderful service we had that night.

Oh, yes, just a word. Bro. preachers, have you sent in that club of nine subs to the Gem yet? Just think what it would mean to our cause if every active minister of our ranks would get nine (9) subs for the Gem within the next thirty days. Don't say, "I can't," for we know by having given this a test that it can be done.

I desire the prayers of those who read this, that I may be able to lead this church on to greater victory.

Your humble brother in Christ,

O. T. Allred.

REPORT OF CAVE SPRING Q. M.

Cave Spring second Quarterly Meeting met with Shilo church on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in January, 1933, being the 28th day. Congregation assembled with singing by choir. Prayer by Eld. H. C. Crase.

Neither moderator nor clerk being present, the assistant moderator took charge of the conference.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, there was not the attendance that might have been, but an average delegation. E. L. Brewer was chosen clerk protem, with R. J. Wischart as assistant.

There were ten churches represented by letter and delegates. Elder Tallie of the General Baptist was a visitor and delivered the eleven o'clock message Saturday. It was an inspiring sermon.

Committee on Divine Service appointed Elders H. H. Beatty and E. E. Simpson to fill the stand at night, Elders N. Combs and Elmer Hodges to supply at eleven o'clock Sunday. A most glorious meeting was had from beginning to ending.

We are very sorry that the writer could not be there and enjoy some of the soul feasts of these services and help partake of those fine eats that were spread each day for body nourishment; but we are praying that Shilo may enjoy many more such feasts to both soul and body.

Our next meeting will be held with Cotton Creek church, near Jobe, Mo., beginning on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in April, 1933. The pastor is to preach the introductory sermon on Friday night. All are invited and welcome. Come praying that Cotton Creek may have a most enjoyable meeting.

Eld. H. C. Crase, Moderator,
Eld. E. L. Brewer, Clerk protem
R. J. Wischart, Ass't Clerk.

Stahl, Missouri, Feb. 21, 1933.

Dear Mission Workers:

We want to report our fifth Sunday meeting, which convened with Stahl church. There was a large crowd, considering the roads and the weather.

Bro. Marcum preached a wonderful sermon at eleven o'clock. His text was Isaiah 54:2, "Enlarge the place of thy tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitation, spare not, lengthen thy stakes."

A nice dinner was served at noon. Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p. m. by singing, "Washed in the Blood of the Lamb." Prayer by Bro. Noel Turner. Song, "Sunlight," by congregation.

Program by the league workers, which consisted of reading the reports and a special number from each league.

The report of each mission was read by the secretary.

Song Shibley's Point.
Reading by Ruby Lawson of Green Grove.

Song by Velma Gates, Louise and Eileen Buchanan of New Harmony.

Song Stahl.
Singing by Eileen and Annabelle Buchanan.

Bro. Noel Turner gave a very interesting talk on the work of the mission and league.

We were wishing that Bro. and Sister McAdams could have been with us in our first meeting after we were organized to see the great interest and hear the good reports from both old and new missions. They were greater this time than they were the first fifth Sunday; and we are praying to our Lord and Savior that they will be far greater next meeting.

Meeting was closed by an old fashioned hand shake, and dismissed by Bro. Brookbanks.

Next meeting will be with the New Harmony church.

Grace Lawson, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MINISTERS CONFERENCE OF THE UNION ASSOCIATION

Mt'n Grove, Mo., Feb. 27, 1933.

The congregation met Jan. 2, 1933, at the Mountain Grove church, and was called to order by singing. Prayer by Bro. Ora Keller. Introductory sermon was preached by Eld. C. M. Dauber. After service we adjourned until Tuesday, January 3rd.

Conference met Tuesday morning and was called to order by singing. Prayer by Eld. J. E. Burney. Scripture reading the 1st Psalm.

Bro. G. W. Scott, Jr. was elected temporary chairman, and afterward was elected moderator.

Eld. L. J. Gearing was elected secretary-treasurer.

Bro. C. M. Dauber was elected assistant moderator.

ENROLLMENT

G. W. Scott, Sr.,	G. W. Scott, Jr.,
Ora Keller,	H. T. Edwards,
John Oxley,	J. E. Burney,
George Higby,	Charley Findley,
C. M. Dauber,	H. C. Smith,
John Ratterree,	Henry Higby,
O. L. Allen,	L. J. Gearing,

Two committees were appointed: Divine Service—G. W. Scott, Jr., G. W. Scott, Sr., and L. J. Gearing.

Constitution and By-Laws—G. W. Scott, Jr., C. M. Dauber, J. E. Burney, Homer Smith and G. W. Scott, Sr.

Stand filled at 11 o'clock by H. T. Edwards and Ora Keller. After ser

Continued on page fifteen

INTERNATIONAL Sunday School Lessons

First Quarter, 1933

Comments by B. F. Brown

Lesson XII March 19, 1933

The Effects of Alcoholic Drinks

Proverbs 23:29-32; Isaiah 28:1-4;

Daniel 5:1-4.

Topic: The Curse of Intemperance

GOLDEN TEXT—Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.—Mark 8:34b.

PRACTICAL TRUTH—Christians should be willing to sacrifice for Jesus' sake as He sacrificed for us.

TIME—Summer of A. D. 29.

PLACE—Vicinity of Caesarea Philippi

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matthew 16:13-28; Luke 9:18-27.

INTRODUCTION

The use of alcoholic drinks has been a problem since the dawn of history. Noah was deceived by wine and became drunken and suffered humiliation, and even until now the results of its use are the same. But there is this difference: 5,000 years ago, or even 100 years ago, drunkenness did not endanger the lives of others as it does now. Then there were no automobiles or buses, or street cars to be driven by drunken drivers, no locomotives to be driven by drunken engineers, no aeroplanes to be piloted by drunken aviators, no high-powered machinery to be managed by drunken mechanics. And as society has become more complex, drunkenness has become more dangerous and more harmful to the social welfare. A man under the influence of alcohol riding or driving a horse is a far different problem than the same man at the wheel of an automobile or bus, or at the throttle of a locomotive.

The ability or power of the person who drinks intoxicating liquor is reduced according to the amount used, and it doesn't take very much to show its effect on the walk, talk and actions of the user. Great claims are made for the benefits of alcoholic drinks, especially as a medicine. I quote from Dr. Howard A. Kelley of John Hopkins University:

"There is no disease in the world for which alcohol is a cure. More to the point is the fact that while it can not cure any disease, it does undeniably cause thousands of cases of disease, all of them fatal in the long run.

Its use is to ruin kidneys, liver, heart, and smaller blood vessels, and gives rise to that most common fatality, high blood pressure.

"All this has been proved by innumerable tests. Two men may play tennis or chess equally well. Give one of them a single glass of beer and he will easily be defeated by the one who abstains. Start ten men of comparable vigor up a mountain side, five of whom have taken drinks as a stimulation. These five will fail in the climb. So mild a drink as beer will lessen their physical and mental powers by ten to fifteen per cent.

"Alcohol is a habit-forming drug. Its high potency as a dangerous drug is a million times more harmful than any conceivable accruing advantage. It has no place in medical practice."

EXPOSITION

Alcohol and the Individual

The section of our lesson from Proverbs describes the effects of alcohol upon the individual. It brings woe and sorrow and contentions and babblings and needless cuts and wounds, together with reddened (bloodshot) eyes and red noses. This catalogue was written more than 2,600 years ago, yet the effects of strong drink are the same now.

Recent experiments have demonstrated many facts concerning alcohol and its effect upon the human system, and it has been proved that alcohol is not a food, but a poison. Beware! Be not deceived: "When it sparkleth in the cup, when it goeth down smoothly" (R. V.). Let it alone! It is deceptive, for it is habit-forming and gradually enslaves. Wine is like the subtle poison of a serpent and it produces the most fatal results.

It is strange that man should be addicted to strong drink, when animals are not tempted, does it show the depravity of human nature?

But alcoholic liquors are not the only dangerous enemy we have to fight against. Among other enemies is opium. It is estimated that a yearly production of 350 tons of opium would amply supply the medical and scientific needs of the world. But the annual production is nearly 8,000 tons. This means that at least 7,500 tons are consumed by addicts, known as "dope fiends." It is thought that there are more than 150,000 such victims in America alone. These are some of those wounds without cause.

Alcohol and the State

The section of the lesson from Isaiah plainly sets forth the effects of drunkenness upon the state. These words were written not long before the overthrow of Samaria, which occurred about the year 722 B. C. They indicate the chief vice of North Israel as being drunkenness, and it was fast hurrying the country to its doom. In only a few more years at most the Assyrians would overwhelm the nation like a flood of waters, and the drunkards of Ephraim would be powerless to resist their onward sweep.

Drunkenness in Israel was accompanied with various other vices, as is usually the case.

If drunkenness was a curse to the state in the eighth century B. C., it is even more so under the modern conditions of the twentieth century A. D. Of course, the welfare of a nation depends upon the welfare of its individual citizens. This is why modern governments are giving more and more attention to matters pertaining to the health, education, safety, and the economic well-being of its citizens. Now the use of alcohol is harmful in every one of these respects. Its general use would lower the vitality of a whole people and tend to impoverish them. It would interfere with the revenues of a nation and would decrease the public safety. The death rate is a matter of vital concern to a nation, and under prohibition there was in 1930 the lowest mortality rate in the history of the United States; does that indicate that prohibition has been a failure? The plea that alcoholic drinks should be licensed to obtain revenue, especially in times of depression, is most unreasonable, for many times the amount of the revenue received would be spent for something that is not only useless, but positively harmful. It does not help economic depression to buy beer with money that should be spent for food.

Alcohol and Religion

The last portion of the lesson brings to our attention alcohol in its relation to religion. Belshazzar had made a great feast at which wine was consumed in abundance. He was probably well drunken when he gave the order that the sacred vessels from the temple at Jerusalem should be brought that they might drink wine therein. To use these holy vessels in furtherance of their drunken orgy was profanation enough; but as they drank wine from them they praised their beathen gods, and virtually defied Jehovah. Alcohol has always been an enemy to true religion. Paul plainly declared that no drunkard can inherit the Kingdom of God. Some people may think that what they drink makes no difference with regard to their soul's welfare, but it makes a lot of difference; for if they become enslaved to alcohol or to "dope" they are forever lost unless they humbly come to God for deliverance. There is an intimate and mysterious relation between the soul and the body, and we cannot abuse our bodies, which are designed to be temples of the Holy Ghost, without hurting our religious experience. The man who loses control over himself and becomes a slave of evil habits is not a free man in Christ Jesus. Rather, he is headed for destruction. It is a religious duty for us to combat everything which we know to be harmful to spiritual well-being, and certainly this includes intoxicating liquors.

Lesson XIII March 26, 1933

Review

Jesus Our Example in Service

(Reading Lesson: Acts 10:36-43.)

Topic: Jesus Our Example in Service.

GOLDEN TEXT—Jesus of Nazareth . . . went about doing good.—Acts 10:38
PRACTICAL TRUTH—To the best of our ability we should follow Christ's example in His service for others.

INTRODUCTION

During this quarter we have covered by means of a few rapid pictures some of the important events of our Lord's ministry up to one year before His death. According to the usual chronology the baptism of Jesus occurred in January, A. D. 27. This chronology is based on the feasts recorded in the Gospel of John. John mentions three Passovers and a feast (5:1), which probably was a Passover, which would make Christ's ministry nearly three and one-half years in length. However, the chronology of Christ's life is a secondary matter. His teachings, His deeds, His sacrificial death, all of which reveal to us—the Jesus way of life. This Jesus way of life is often missed, owing to the fact that Christians too often follow the man-made, modernistic way of life, instead of seeking earnestly to know Jesus as the way of life. Just what would result if Christians should all practise the precepts and the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount? What changes there would be in society, in business, in the church, if Christians should dare to live the Jesus way of life! The kingdom is waiting for the time when those who follow Jesus will suffer to make real His Spirit in their lives. The deadliest foes of Jesus were actors of religion—those devoted to a system. Yes, the machinery of the church may go right on, but unless warmed by the Spirit it will have no power to win souls. The Jesus way of life is inspired by the Holy Spirit, out of which are the issues of life. Then, if Jesus in this quarter's lessons is our example in service, we should live as He taught and lived. He lived for others, suffered and gave His life for others; what, then, is our duty as Christians?

SUMMARY

Lesson I. John Prepares the Way for Jesus. The prophets had predicted the coming of John the Baptist, and had set forth his mission and the nature of his work. His work was to preach, and to baptize those who showed fruits of repentance. His message was directed against sin and brought conviction to many, and he also gave definite witness concerning the coming One, who was about to manifest Himself, and would baptize with the Holy Ghost.

II. Jesus Begins His Work. After being baptized by John, Jesus went

into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. After overcoming Satan in every temptation, Jesus returned to where John was baptizing, received five followers and went into Galilee where He made the water into wine, then for about eight months He preached and baptized in Judea. Then after John was taken and beheaded. He returned to Galilee where He spent more than two years of His ministry. Jesus called many disciples and out of those who chose to follow Him, He chose and ordained twelve to be with Him as apostles.

III. Jesus at Work. Jesus not only taught with authority, but cast out demons, healed all manner of sickness and disease, and raised the dead to life, but back of it all was His long prayers in solitude. In this lesson a demoniac recognized Him as the Son of God and began to call out to Him. Jesus cast out the demon, and after the meeting went home with Peter and healed his mother-in-law who had a great fever. That night He healed many people, then in the morning was found in prayer.

IV. Jesus Forgiving Sin. In this lesson, four men persisted in bringing a friend sick of the palsy to the feet of Jesus, by making a hole in the roof and letting him down where Jesus was. The faith of the four and the faith of the invalid brought not only bodily healing, but forgiveness of sins to the afflicted one. This marvelous miracle put to silence those who thought He was uttering blasphemy when He said, "Thy sins be forgiven thee."

V. Jesus and the Sabbath. God had given the Sabbath for man as a day of rest and as a day in which He Himself would be remembered. Certain prohibitions had been laid down to protect the day from misuse, but the Pharisees had covered them with their traditions so that when the disciples, walking with Jesus, through the grain field on the Sabbath day, plucked some heads of grain, rubbed off the chaff, and ate the grain, the Pharisees accused them of breaking the Sabbath. Later, during this Sabbath day, Jesus healed the man with the withered hand. They tried to condemn Him, but He showed them that the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for Sabbath. He also taught that it is right to do good on the Sabbath day.

VI. Jesus Chooses the Twelve. From among His disciples, Jesus chose twelve, ordained them, instructed them, and brought them into fellowship with Himself and with each other. The Christian is a "called" person—called to be with the Lord, learn of Him, know Him, and have fellowship with Him and with each other; if we love the Lord, we will love each other. The professed Christian who courts the fellowship of sinners and loves the things of the world does not know the Lord, nor rightly serve Him.

VII. Four Kinds of Hearers. The four kinds of soil in this lesson represent four kinds of hearers: those

who are indifferent to the word; those who are earnest at first, but shallow; those who allow the cares of the world to choke the word; and those who receive the word and bring forth fruit. Our business is to cover the earth with the Word of God, remembering that even some of the wayside soil might be redeemed, that the stony soil might be broken up, that the thorny soil might be cleared, and that the good soil might be made to yield more for the Lord than it now does.

VIII. The Growth of the Kingdom. The spiritual growth of a Christian is like a seed that springs up, grows, and brings forth fruit. the growth or spread of Christianity is like a mustard seed that is very small at first but grows until it becomes like a tree. but this spreading out of branches may not mean that the tree is what it should be. The birds of the air, agents of Satan, will come to its branches, not to be changed to be like the tree, nor to be benefitted by it, but to befoul the tree, and be sheltered by it.

IX. Jesus Shows His Power. The disciples in the midst of a storm, which was about to wreck their boat, did everything they could to save the boat and themselves from destruction. Perhaps they didn't know that Jesus could still the storm, yet, in their extremity they awoke Him, hoping that in some way He could help them. Jesus "arose and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." This manifested power caused the disciples to fear, and to marvel greatly, because of the power manifested by the Lord.

The next day Jesus showed His power over demons, to cast them out, when He healed the man possessed with the devil. Those who saw it marvelled, and the man Jesus made whole wanted to stay with Jesus, but He bade him go and publish "how great things the Lord hath done for thee." Has the Lord done any great thing for you? then what should you do?

X. Jesus Giving Life and Health. A prominent man, Jairus, besought Jesus to go with him and heal his daughter. On the way Jesus healed a woman who touched His garment. Word came that Jairus' daughter was dead; but Jesus went to the house and raised her to life.

XI. Jesus Ministering to the Multitude. When Jesus and the disciples crossed the Sea of Galilee they found a multitude awaiting them. Jesus taught them, and late in the afternoon fed them. Five small loaves and two fishes multiplied as they were given out until 5,000 were fed, and twelve baskets full left over.

XII. The Effects of Alcoholic Drinks The passage from Proverbs says that the wine drinker has woe and sorrow and contentions and red eyes. The passage from Isaiah says that Samaria was going to be destroyed, largely as a punishment for drunkenness.

Lesson I **April 2, 1933.**
Second Quarter, 1933.
Jesus Ministering to Jews and Gentiles.

(World Friendship Lesson)

Mark 7:1-37.

Topic: The Ministry of Jesus to All Races.

GOLDEN TEXT—Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.—John 10:16.

PRACTICAL TRUTH—The blessings of the Gospel, though they came to the Jews first, are intended for all men.

TIME—May or June of A. D. 29.

PLACES—Phenicia and Decapolis.

PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 15:21-31.

INTRODUCTION

After feeding the five thousand, Jesus persuaded the disciples to get into the ship and go over the sea unto Bethsaida, while He sent away the people. Then Jesus went up into a mountain to pray. About dark a storm came upon them, with which they battled until three o'clock in the night, when Jesus came to them walking upon the water. Of course they were troubled when they saw this, for they knew not that it was Jesus; but Jesus said, "Be of good cheer: it is I, be not afraid." Then He went up into the ship and the wind ceased. This is the time that Peter walked on the water. The disciples needed this experience, for they had not understood "the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened." After landing in the land of Genessaret, Jesus healed many that were sick. Then the Pharisees came and began to find fault because the disciples failed to wash their hands when they ate, which was contrary to the traditions of the elders. Jesus condemned their traditions and taught them many things they could not see because of their traditions: and He declared that He Himself was that Bread of life which came down from heaven. After this Jesus and the disciples went into the region round about Tyre and Sidon, and what happened there is recorded in the printed portion of this lesson.

Many were greatly offended at Jesus and opposed Him because of the things He said in these discourses, and it may be that this growing opposition caused Jesus to go outside of Jewish territory. After this He spent very little time in Galilee, but retired into Phenicia, Decapolis and Iturea, which extended northward on the east side of the Jordan. Soon after this His Perea ministry began. Another reason for leaving Jewish territory may have been to secure rest.

EXPOSITION

Jesus Testing Faith

A Gentile woman, who evidently had heard about Jesus' power to work miracles, came to Him with a crushing burden upon her heart. She fell

at His feet and besought Him to cast a demon out of her daughter. Before He granted her request, Jesus put her to a severe test, both for her own good and as an example to others. God delights in tested character and in tested faith. The parallel account in Matthew relates four distinct rebuffs which the woman received. At first Jesus ignored her and answered her not a word; then the disciples gave Jesus the heartless advice to send her away. When Jesus broke His silence, He seemed only to blast her hopes with the words, "I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Finally, He uttered the words recorded in our lesson, "It is not meet to take the children's bread and to cast it unto the dogs," meaning, as she well understood, that it was improper to deprive the Israelites of blessings in order that they might be bestowed upon Gentile dogs. We can not regard Jesus' words as a real refusal to help her because she was a Gentile, for afterward He did grant her request and also commended her faith (Matt. 15:28). Perhaps Jesus tested her so severely because He perceived how much she would endure. Naturally if she was desperately in earnest she would press her request and not easily give up. So it is with people today. One main reason why many fail to receive all they should in a spiritual way is that they are not enough in earnest. Usually God quickly answers the prayers of earnest seekers. The answer will come if we obey and believe.

Jesus Honoring Faith

The reply of the woman to Jesus was remarkable. "Yes, Lord"—I acknowledge my place as a dog, and I would not deprive the children of bread in order that I might be fed—"yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs." This saying was not only shrewd, but it was true. As dogs are fed without interfering with children's rights, even so a little assistance given her would not rob the Jews of blessings. It is true that He confined His work almost entirely to the Jews, because they were best prepared to receive His message, they were God's chosen people and to them Jesus was sent. However, this did not imply that it was improper for Christ to relieve human suffering and distress wherever He found it. He healed a Samaritan leper, preached to Samaritans, cured the servant of a Gentile, and in the parable of the Good Samaritan taught the obligation of giving help to anyone in need. Surely it was proper for Christ to follow His own teaching by helping this poor woman; and when she made her clever reply, Jesus was filled with admiration. Her faith was honored, and she received the crumbs for which she asked—yea, a whole loaf. We should learn the lesson of persistent faith, even in the presence of difficulties that seem too great to be overcome. Sometimes seekers after God seem to be in earnest, but they lack faith. We must trust God if we receive anything at His hands.

Jesus Healing a Deaf-Mute

The man who was brought to Jesus in Decapolis, though deaf, was not entirely dumb, but spoke with difficulty. Perhaps he was able to make inarticulate sounds, which could not be understood. People who are deaf from birth are not able to speak intelligibly, unless scientifically taught. The manner in which Christ healed the deaf mute is very unusual. The miracle was performed privately. Because the man was deaf, Jesus used sign-language. He put His fingers into the man's ears, probably to indicate that He was about to open them to give him hearing. He touched his tongue, probably to indicate that He would enable him to speak plainly. All this was probably done to arouse faith and expectancy on the part of the afflicted man. Jesus looked up to heaven, probably in prayer, and also to impress the man that all good things, including his own cure, are gifts from God above. Then Christ spoke the word which brought immediate healing. No wonder the people stood in great astonishment at the miracle that was wrought.

Lesson II **April 9, 1933.**
Second Quarter, 1933.

Jesus Requires Confession and Loyalty.

Mark 8:1 to 9:1.

Topic: What Jesus Expects of His Followers.

INTRODUCTION

In our lesson of last week we left Jesus in Decapolis, where He healed a deaf-mute and performed other miracles. He had taken the disciples and had crossed over to the east side of Jordan, that He might work in that region. It was in that region that the four thousand were fed. Then after crossing the lake to Daimanutha on the west, and again to the neighborhood of Bethsaida Julius, near the northern shore, Jesus and the disciples start on a trip to the region of Caesarea Philippi, and Mount Hermon, about thirty miles to the north. That section east of the Jordan was known as Iturea, and was ruled over by Herod Philip, brother of Herod Antipas. Jesus withdrew to this section where He was little known perhaps to find rest and to teach His disciples privately some of the fundamental things concerning His mission, and to prepare them for the duties that would soon fall upon them. The time of His passion and death was drawing near, and no doubt He thought of it a great deal, for He well knew what was coming upon Him, so certain things were impressed upon the disciples. He warned them against the leaven of the Pharisees and sought to strengthen their faith and open their understanding, for He would have them to know Him beyond doubt, that He was the Son of God. The printed portion of our lesson shows how He led them to confess Him as the Christ.

A Question

Jesus asked His disciples the question, "Whom do men say that I am?" Various answers were given, none of them sufficient, yet all agreeing in viewing Jesus as an unusual character. Even skeptics today regard Him as an extraordinary character, but that is not enough. An extraordinary man, unless he be truly divine, cannot redeem a lost world. Probably this first question was asked to prepare the way for the more important one to follow: "But whom say ye that I am?" It is not necessary to suppose that because this question was asked, the disciples had no definite idea who Jesus was before this. According to John they believed He was the Messiah from the beginning of His ministry. Read John 1:41, 45, 49; 2:11. They had not followed Him for nothing. Jesus had declared that He was the Messiah to the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, and the disciples evidently heard it. Unclean spirits had declared it in the presence of the disciples. Several months before this the disciples had explicitly addressed Jesus as the Son of God, as in Matt. 14:33, "Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped Him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God." However, since opposition against Jesus had increased, and many had been offended at Him and walked no more with Him, it was natural that He should test the faith of His followers and confirm and strengthen it. It is still true that giving expression to our beliefs helps to strengthen them and make them bright and clear. Testimony has an important place today.

An Answer

The reply of Peter was definite and clear: "Thou art the Christ;" Matt. adds the words, "the Son of the living God." No matter what other men might think or do, Peter was thoroughly convinced of this truth. A week later when he heard the voice from heaven at the time of the transfiguration, his faith was unalterably confirmed; for he makes this plain in his second Epistle, chapter 1, verses 16 to 18, "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eye witnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory. This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount." This confession of Peter is important, not merely because he made it, though Peter's estimate of Jesus should have great weight, but because Jesus accepted the confession, thus definitely claiming to be the predicted Messiah. However, the time was not ripe for this truth to be publicly proclaimed, so He charged them to tell no man.

An Interpretation

The disciples were convinced that Jesus was the Christ, but they did not understand what Messiahship involved. They were expecting a Messiah who

would lead the nation to victory over their Roman overlords, and in whose cabinet they would have places of prominence. Jesus now tries to tell them what Messiahship really means. He had given earlier hints of His tragic end, but now in the plainest language He tells them that the Son of man must suffer and be killed and rise again. By "must" He certainly did not mean that His enemies would take His life amid circumstances which He could not avoid. Rather He meant that it was necessary for Him to die in order to accomplish His work as Messiah, as He explains when speaking of giving His life in John 10:18, "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." The "must" expressed an inward constraint, more than an outward constraint. This conception of a suffering Messiah was clearly described by Isaiah, but the Jews, because of their unbelief, could not then accept it, neither can they yet. It so shocked Peter that he undertook to rebuke his Master, but Jesus regarded his suggestion as a temptation which He must put behind Him.

An Application

Jesus did not stop with showing that self-denial and death were to be His lot. He drove home the truth that all who would be His true disciples must be willing to follow in His steps. They must deny themselves; yea, must be willing to lay down life itself if need be for their Master's sake. Often martyrs could have saved their lives by recanting, but they would have been lost eternally. By being true they found their lives eternally. This principle still holds good. People who seek to save their lives by taking an easy path and living for selfish ends will lose them. They will have little or nothing to show for their life work. But the person who is willing to lose his life, as it would seem in the eyes of the world, by sacrificing temporal interests for Jesus' sake, will find his life in the good he does, in the souls he wins, and in the eternal reward that awaits him.

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Report of the Northeast Missouri Association of Free Will Baptist Leagues.

We convened (as was appointed) the fifth Sunday in January, 1933, with Stahl Free Will Baptist League.

The president took charge of the meeting and called for reports from the local leagues, and minutes to be read by the assistant secretary, the secretary being absent on account of illness.

Each of the five local leagues were represented and reported as follows:

I. Name and Address of Officers.

STAHL
Pres., Miss Georgie Epperson, Stahl, Mo.
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Rowena Hughes, Stahl

Sec'y, Mrs. Dorothy Ray, Stahl, Mo.
Treas., Mrs. Dorothy Ray, Stahl, Mo.

BETHEL

Pres., George Weber, Novinger, Mo.
Vice-Pres., Vina Brown, Stahl, Mo.
Sec'y, Miss Bertha Summers, Stahl,
Treas., Ralph Casey, Stahl, Mo.

NEW HARMONY

Pres., Willard Swanson, Greentop, Mo.
Vice-Pres., Ethel Peterson, Greentop, Mo.
Sec'y, Leona Thompson, Greentop, Mo.
Treas., Mabel Fugate, Greentop, Mo.

HAZEL CREEK UNION

Pres., Harvey Nell, Novinger, Mo.
Vice-Pres., John Filkins, Novinger, Mo.
Sec'y, Ethel Newcomer, Greentop, Mo.
Treas., Mary Peterson, Greentop, Mo.

MARTINSTOWN

Pres., Mabel Buster, Worthington, Mo.
Vice-Pres., Marie Hodge, Worthington.
Sec'y, Ruby Leonard, Worthington, Mo.
Treas., —Vacancy.

II. Total Membership.

Stahl,	32
Bethel,	25
New Harmony,	15
Hazel Creek Union,	30
Martinstown,	27

Total, 129

III. Amount in Treasuries.

Stahl,	\$1.35
Bethel,	1.42
New Harmony,	1.95
Hazel Creek Union,	1.30
Martinstown,	2.03

Total, \$8.05

Type of Literature Used.

Stahl—The Holy Bible.
Bethel—B. Y. P. U. Quarterly.
New Harmony—The Holy Bible.
Hazel Creek Union—The Holy Bible.
Martinstown—The Holy Bible.

V. No. of Departments, Jr., Sr., Int.

Stahl has two Departments, while the other four have one each.

The following includes the period of time from first Sunday in December, 1932 to third Sunday in January, 1933:

VI. Amt. Received under By-Law X.

None from any league.

VIII. Amt. Sent to State Secretary.

Stahl,	None
Bethel,	None
New Harmony,	\$.50
Hazel Creek Union,75
Martinstown,	None

Total, \$1.25

VIII. Amt. Sent to Ass'nal Sec'y.

None from any league.

IX. No. of F. W. B. L. Visitors.

Stahl,	3
Bethel,	0
New Harmony,	10
Hazel Creek Union,	15
Martinstown,	0

Total, 28

X. No. of Sick Calls Made.

Stahl,	5
Bethel,	10
New Harmony,	7

Total, 22

XI. New Members Received.

Stahl,	3
Bethel,	0

Continued on page fifteen

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP

Continued from page one

One wet congressman recently stated that twenty-one million people voted for repeal. Twenty-one million people voted for a change of administration, but I refuse to believe that a majority of American citizens are wet. The voting precinct where I live voted Democratic. I have been making an effort to find a Democrat who favors the return of the saloon and I have been unable to find one, no not one. This wet and dry conflict is not a political conflict. In Congress wet republicans voted with wet democrats for repeal and the beer bill; and dry democrats voted with dry republicans against the wet bills, although the dries might be in the minority, should they be discouraged?

President Wilson, in talking with a friend in regard to the League of Nations and World Brotherhood said: "We are right, that's enough. Don't fear the outcome. We are right. You can't fight God."

Human slavery was blotted out during Abraham Lincoln's administration and yet Lincoln did not receive a majority of the votes in 1860.

It has been stated that all the great reforms have come from the minority, most of them from less than five per cent of the people. In some cases an individual has stood out against the great majority, as when Martin Luther alone defied the entire priesthood of the corrupt church of his time.

Thank God we still have men who are willing to stand alone and will not follow the multitude to do evil. I quote from the Congressional Record of December 5th a part of the speech of Congressman Stalker of New York State:

"Everyone knows that prohibition enforcement has not had a fair chance. With all the wet propaganda from the hour that the Volstead Act was passed the wet interests began their tirade, lying and villifying concerning its enforcement for the purpose that has brought us to this hour. I made my campaign on the basis that prohibition was not a failure. I said that if I am the only one in Congress to vote against the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, I would stand. I was not defeated. For one in this Congress I do not propose to stultify my conscience by voting for a resubmission to the states until this law has been given a fair chance for enforcement, nor do I intend to vote for repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment."

There were 143 other congressmen who voted with Mr. Stalker against repeal. Among these was the Honorable Joe Manlove of the Fifteenth Missouri District, in which the Gem is published. The good people of Missouri should be very proud of Mr. Manlove, for as I understand he is the only member of the House from Missouri that has voted against all the wet bills.

Some may say, What can we do to help in this prohibition crisis? Your church can ask your congressman to vote dry, and you can write or wire your approval when he votes right. Individual citizens can also give their congressman encouragement, approval, or disapproval. The individual should keep well informed and put the cull mark on those officials who vote or work against prohibition.

We should all remember that our nation is safer in the hands of men than in the hands of politicians. The Christian's duty is to be a citizen first and a partisan second.

A PARABLE

*Lest Ye Forget**By Mrs. Lina Claxton*

Then shall the kingdom of Satan be likened to a grain of tobacco seed, which though exceeding small, being cast into the ground grew, and became a great plant; and spread its leaves rank and broad, so that huge, vile worms made a habitation thereon.

And it came to pass, in the course of time, that the sons of men looked upon it, and thought it beautiful to look upon, and much desired to make lads look big and manly.

So they put forth their hands and did chew thereof; and some it made sick, and others to vomit most filthily.

And it farther came to pass, that those who chewed became weak and unmanly; and the mouth of all that were enslaved became foul and were seized with a violent spitting; and they did spit, even in ladies parlors, and in the house of the Lord of hosts; and the saints of the most high were greatly plagued thereby.

And in the course of time it came also to pass, that others, even women, made brushes of willow switches, and there was a mighty dipping of snuff throughout the land, insomuch that their mouths and breath were defiled, and they were no longer fair to look upon.

And yet others cunningly wrought

it into rolls, and did set fire to one end thereof, and did suck vehemently at the other end thereof, and did look very grave and calf-like, and the smoke thereof tormented the saints of the most high with very sickening torment. And the cultivation thereof became a great and mighty business upon the earth, and merchants waxed rich by the sale thereof.

And it came to pass that the saints of the most high defiled themselves therewith; even the poor who could not buy bread, nor shoes, nor books for their little ones, gave their money for it. And the Lord was greatly displeased therewith and said, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? Harken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."

"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father (and before his angels" (Rev. 3:5).

PROHIBITION

By Mrs. E. G. Tharp

"Who hath uoc? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babblings? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine" (Proverbs 23:29, 30).

Dear readers, we are living in the "perilous times" spoken of in 2 Tim. 3:1; a time when we are again called on to face a great issue; a time in which men and women are going to be tried by "fire" as it were. And who is going to be able to stand? Surely not those who tarry long at the wine, or other alcoholic drinks. The issue of today is not "Democratic" or "Republican," but for or against the Eighteenth Amendment. How are you going to meet it? Let's be careful and prayerful. Away back 1490 years before Christ the Lord spake unto Aaron, saying, "Do not drink wine nor strong drink, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations"

Continued on page sixteen

OBITUARY

SHARPE—Norma Dene Sharpe was born September 21, 1925, and died November 30, 1932, with that dread disease, diphtheria, after only a few days' illness.

She is survived by both parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Sharpe, and one brother, Leaman Sharpe.

She was taken away from this life to live in a world where there will be no troubles, sickness nor separation. The many relatives and friends are striving to meet her sweet and smiling face on the streets of the great world beyond.

—By Elizabeth Kile.

Life is the most precious thing on earth,
And many its sorrows and its mirth;
Only death with its sting can snatch life away,
And leave hearts aching for many a sad day.

A dear little one has been called from this life,

To rest in peace where there is no strife.

She now calmly sleeps, in peace does she lay,

Where no sorrow can enter to darken her day.

—By Lucille Sharpe.

"We watched her breathing through the night—

Her breathing soft and low,
As in her breast the wave of life,
Kept heaving to and fro.

Our very hopes belied our fears,
Our fears our hopes belied—

We thought her dying when she slept,
And sleeping when she died.

—Selected.

How we miss our Norma Dene,
No human tongue can tell!
Since she has gone to live with Jesus,
In her home where all is well.

Oh, how very sad and lonely,
Are the long and dreary days,
Without her sweet voice to cheer us
Along life's steep and rugged ways.

We miss her sweet and loving smile,
About our breakfast place,
But some sweet day after while,
She'll greet us at the Golden Gate.

Some sweet day we'll go and see her,
In that land so bright and fair,
And we'll never more be parted,
There'll be no diphtheria there.

A broken-hearted mother,
Mrs. Everett Sharpe.

A Tribute to Brother Taylor

Dear Readers of the Gem:

As pastor of the Free Will Baptist church at Drumright, Oklahoma, I want to offer this tribute of respect to our deceased Brother William Andrew Taylor.

Bro. Taylor was born June 5, 1868

in Decatur County, Alabama, and died at Drumright, Oklahoma December 12, 1932, age 64 years, six months and ten days.

He was married on Dec. 29, 1888 to Mrs. Angie Brown, at Coopville, Texas, where they resided until about the year 1894, when they moved to Oklahoma, where for the past fifteen years he had been employed by the Prairie Oil and Gas Company.

He leaves to mourn his departure his loving wife and eight children, one son, C. H. Taylor, having preceded him Feb. 24, 1930. His remaining children are five sons: Rev. W. T. of Otis Orchid, Wash., C. L. of Idabel, Okla., J. M. of Shawnee, Okla., V. L. of Kansas, L. R. of Kilgore, Texas, W. O. of Cushing, Okla., and two daughters: Rev. Hattie Newman and Mrs. Everth Lawson of Drumright, Oklahoma, four brothers in Texas and one sister in Louisiana.

In early life he became a Christian and has been an active worker in the Free Will Baptist church where he was a deacon, and was a great inspiration to many who worked with him. For many years he was choir leader, and many times he quoted the poet:

"All preaching here on earth will cease
And praying will be done;
There'll be no need of praying there,
But I'll keep on singing."

He also leaves besides his relatives many friends who will mourn his departure, and he will be greatly missed, but we must be submissive as our loss is heaven's gain, and He doeth all things well.

His funeral was conducted by Eld. M. M. McKee who had known Bro. Taylor for some time. The singing was conducted by the Free Will Baptist quartet, Rev. B. F. Rogers, Bill Fincher, Rev. Toyal Adair and Jeff Hunter, and a solo by Mrs. Tuck Moore. Afterwards his body was laid to rest in the Cushing cemetery, under a mound of beautiful floral tributes.

Tears from our eyes are falling,

And sorrow shades our brow;

Cold in his grave he's sleeping,

We have no Bro. Taylor now.

Our life is, oh, so lonely,

Our hearts are troubled so;

His dearest presence only,

Could make us weep no more.

By Rev. B. F. Rogers.

In Loving Memory of our Dear Companion and Father who passed away one year ago Mar. 8, 1933.

He bade no one a last farewell,

He said good bye to none,

His loving heart had ceased to beat,

Before we knew it he was gone.

His cheerful smile and kindly ways,

We pleasantly recall,

He had a kind word for every one

And died beloved by all.

Gracie Mayfield and children.

ROBERTS—Aurora Jean Jenkins Roberts, daughter of D. E. and Mary

Jenkins was born July 26, 1911, and departed this life November 13, 1932 at the age of 21 years, three months and seventeen days.

She was converted at the age of thirteen and joined the Free Will Baptist church at Cotton Creek. She lived a faithful Christian life and bore her sufferings with patience to the end.

She was married to Floyd E. Roberts in 1929. To this union was born one son, Donald Lee.

She leaves to mourn her death, her husband, son, four brothers, Fraley, Hugh, Adrian and Wilbur Jenkins of near Jobe, one half brother, Homer Jenkins, and three half sisters, Mrs. Attie Lance of Many Springs, Mrs. Ruby Sanders of Wheaton, Illinois and Mrs. Lydia Bell of West Point, Miss., also two aunts, Mrs. Lucy Conner of Jobe and Mrs. W. F. Childers of Springfield, Mo., and three uncles, J. A. and Willis Fraley of Thayer Mo., and Bud Fraley of Mountain Grove, Mo., also a host of friends and other relatives.

Our hearts are sad because of her going, but we know that she is in a land of peace and rest with father and mother who have gone on before.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. H. C. Carey, and burial in the Cotton Creek cemetery, Nov. 15, 1932.

She passed away like morning dew
Before the sun was high;

So brief her time, she scarcely knew
The meaning of a sigh.

As round the rose its soft perfume,
Sweet love around her floated.

Admired, she grew, while mortal doom,
Crept on, unfeared, unnoted.

Report of Fifth Sunday Meeting

Picher, Okla., Jan. 31st.

Dear Readers of the Gem:

The following is a brief report of our Fifth Sunday Meeting, held at the South Picher Free Will Baptist church of Picher, Oklahoma.

The meeting began on Friday night, January 27, 1933. It opened with good attendance and was a good spiritual meeting all the way through.

Eld. T. E. L. Curry preached the introductory sermon Friday night.

Eld. Elda Crain brought the message Saturday night.

Eld. F. E. Crain delivered the eleven o'clock message on Sunday.

Basket dinner was served at noon.

In the afternoon talks were given by Bro. Paul Presell, Eld. Arthur Schooley and Eld. Elda Crain.

Eld. T. E. L. Curry was re-elected moderator.

Eld. Elda Crain will preach the opening sermon at the next fifth Sunday meeting, which will convene at Notch Mound church, in Oklahoma, on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in April, 1933.

Besides regular services on Sunday, we enjoyed:

Two special songs by Bro. Paul Presell.

Song by Sister Bertha Bailly.

Reading by Miss Clarabelle Roberts

of Aurora, Missouri.

Mrs. R. E. Wagoner, Clerk protom.

REPORT OF N.E. MO. LEAGUE ASS'N

Continued from page twelve

New Harmony,	7
Hazel Creek Union,	11
Martinstown,	4

Total, 25

XII. No. of Members Dismissed.
None from any league.

XIII. Total Amount Received.

Stahl,	\$4.77
Bethel,	2.86
New Harmony,	2.25
Hazel Creek Union,	2.14
Martinstown,	2.03

Total, \$14.05

XIV. No Services Held.

Stahl,	18
Bethel,	5
New Harmony,	6
Hazel Creek Union,	6
Martinstown,	11

Total, 46

XV. No. Services Postponed.

Stahl,	4
Bethel,	3
New Harmony,	1
Hazel Creek Union,	1
Martinstown,	0

Total, 9

XVI. Total Expenses.

Stahl,	\$3.42
Bethel,	1.47
New Harmony,29
Hazel Creek Union,84
Martinstown,75

Total, \$6.77

XVII. Average Attendance.

Stahl,	21
Bethel,	12
New Harmony,	12
Hazel Creek Union,	20
Martinstown,	15

The entire association has an average per cent of attendance of 62% plus. The membership of the entire Ass'n has increased 19% plus.

After the business part of the session was attended to, the following program was given, which was very interesting:

Song, Martinstown League
Reading, Mabel Fugate of N. H. L.
Song, Stahl Senior League.
Music, ... Geo. Weber, Pres. Bethel L.
Song, Stahl Junior League.

We dismissed to meet again the fifth Sunday in April, 1933, with the New Harmony F. W. B. League.

Pray for the N. F. Mo. League Ass'n.
Miss Esther Peterson, Ass'n Sec'y.

Cartersville League Report

Cartersville, Mo., Feb. 21, 1933.
Dear Editor and League Workers:

I will try to send in a report from the Free Will Baptist League of Cartersville, Mo. We are still on the firing line for God. Our league is doing much better work than it has in the past year. Each member seems to take great interest in the work. We would like to tell the others leagues about work Christmas. The Seniors

each brought a white package, containing groceries or fruits, and the Junior girls made dolls and the boys made wagons and bird houses. These were distributed by the welfare workers to the little orphans and the needy.

While we have waited a long time, we want to thank all the leaguers for their attendance at the league rally at Cartersville, and we greatly appreciated their help in the program, and we would like to have the rally meet at Cartersville again some time.

Our membership in the Senior league is 35, and in the Juniors, 22. Our officers in the Senior league at present are as follows:

President Helen Strech
Vice Pres. Bertha Johnson
Sec'y-Treas. Lorraine Harper
Chorister Elmer Johnson
Pianolist Velma Ellis
Quis Leader .. Esther Broadhurst
Group Captains Alta Johnson
and Lloyd Johnson.

The Junior officers at present are:
Sponsor Velma Ellis
Sec'y-Treas. Lola Anna Brown
Group Captains .. Rose Simpson
and Gallard Brown.

Many of our league members were converted during the revival that was held here in December by our pastor, Bro. Cecil Campbell. Most all of our Senior members and most of the Juniors are now Christians.

We ask the prayers of all Christians, that our league may grow stronger, and we hope to make 1933 the banner year of the Cartersville league.
Lorraine Harper.

Martinstown League Report

Again I feel that it is time I should write the report of our league work, that others may know we are still working for Christ. It seems that time is going at a high rate of speed, and it won't be long till time on earth will be no more, but while time is going on, let all the Christian people unite in a great band of hard and fast workers for that bright goal, that we might bring more to the fold.

Since I last wrote to the Gem, our league has been making good progress. Seven of our members met in the Northeast Missouri Association at Stahl with four other leagues. We enjoyed meeting with them very much. We are now looking forward to the next quarterly meeting to be held at New Harmony April 30, 1933. Before the next Association we hope to have new white suits to wear, also to have studied our Bible much more. We are now studying the last half of the tenth chapter of St. Matthew.

Because of the fact that we study the Holy Bible, we have "Bible Reader" badges for each member. We also have badges for the new members that join our league.

Two of our members have moved away, one being our treasurer, and a new one was elected. I, the secretary, and writer of this report, was elected to the office.

Our pastor, Bro. George Miller, Bro.

Willard Byrd and Bro. Johnnie Ewing were here last Sunday, February 19th, that being Bro. Miller's appointment. They gave us much encouragement and a "want to work hard" idea back of it.

Pray for our league, as we also pray for other leagues.

Miss Ruby Leonard, Sec'y.

REPORT OF MINISTERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF UNION ASS'N.

Continued from page eight

vices we adjourned until 3:30 p. m. Called to order by moderator at 3:30 p. m.

The Constitution and By-Laws were read and adopted.

Stand filled at night by Elders Chas. Findley and George Higby.

Adjourned until Wednesday morning

Wednesday morning we were called together by singing. Scripture reading a part of the 7th chapter of Matt. Prayer by Bro. Herbert Vandivort.

Minutes of previous day read and approved.

Motion carried to amend article 10 of the By-Laws.

Business Committee appointed by the moderator: Charley Findley, John Oxley, G. W. Scott, Sr., Geo. Higby, and Ora Keller.

Stand filled at 11 o'clock by Bros. John Oxley and Homer Smith.

Adjourned until afternoon.

After noon we were called to order by singing. Scripture reading Psalm 116. Prayer by Bro. H. T. Edwards.

Query No. 1. "What is the Purpose of our Meeting and What Good Should We Derive From It?" was taken up, discussed and decided, that it is for the good of the ministry.

Stand filled at night by Bro. J. E. Burney.

Adjourned until Thursday morning.

Thursday morning we were called to order by singing. Scripture reading a part of the 5th chapter of the Acts. Prayer by Sister Edwards.

Query No. 2. Passed by.

Query No. 3. "What is the Duty of the Pastor to the Church?" Taken up, discussed and passed by, satisfied with the discussion.

Stand filled at 11 o'clock by Bro. Ora Keller.

Afternoon called to order by singing. Scripture reading Matt. 23rd chapter. Prayer by Sister Gearing.

This conference chose Union Grove as its next place of meeting. Bro. John Oxley to preach the introductory sermon, Bro. Homer Smith alternate.

Collection taken amounting to \$1.44.

Committee appointed to prepare program for next conference: Homer Smith, J. E. Burney, John Oxley, G. W. Scott, Sr., and H. T. Edwards.

Query No. 4. "What is the Bible Name for a Church?" Taken up and discussed. Motion carried to table this query.

Adjourned with prayer by Brother Homer Smith.

Stand filled at night by Bro. C. M. Dauber.

Eld. G. W. Scott, Jr., Moderator,
Eld. L. J. Gearing, Sec'y-Treas.

PROHIBITION*Continued from page thirteen*

(Lev. 10:9). Then in the 28th chapter of Isaiah, the 7th and 8th verse, we find these words, "But they also have erred through wine and through strong drink and are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink; they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment. For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean." (Must have been open saloons in those days). Now let's see what Habakkuk 2:15 says, "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drink also."

We can all see the evils of strong drink. I do not suppose there is anyone who has lived back in the days of the open saloon, who can not call to mind the things that happened then. I remember very distinctly that back in my school days, father moved to town so that we might have the advantage of high school. As the town was not the county seat, there was no jail house there, but a substitute, they called the "Calaboose" or "Cooler." When a drunken fellow got too funny, they locked him up. But people got tired of drunkenness and voted whiskey out; yet they could not get it shipped in. That was not quite so bad, but still a menace.

But with the Eighteenth Amendment in force, there is no need for the small town calaboose.

It seems to me that we are living in such "perilous times," we must needs go careful. Oh, so very careful! for God's servants shall serve Him. Let us be careful that we have the "seal of the living God" in our foreheads, and not the "mark of the beast."

Soon after March the 4th next, we will be called on to vote our sentiment on the Eighteenth Amendment. Let us say with our vote that we shall keep the Eighteenth Amendment in our Constitution.

Merciful God thou seest,

Open thy people's eyes;

Help them like doves to harmless be,
And as the serpent wise.

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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.
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9 or more yearly subs at 50c each.
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